

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

actionnews



Volume 14 No. 8

October, 1988

Where's the Cable??

**Come to our next
meeting and hear
from BQ Cable about
installations in
Bellerose**

**At House of Hope Church
Thursday October 6, 1988
at 8:00 PM**

We meet the first Thursday of each month at the House of Hope Church, corner 246th Street and 85th Avenue at 8:00PM

NEWS FOR SENIORS

by: Jean Biancaniello

Evelyn Durham of NYC Department of the Aging (DOA) and Linda Leest of Services Now for Adult Persons (SNAP) shared with us many facts and programs that we think will be of interest to many of you. The senior population is growing larger all the time and Queens now leads all the boros with over 400,000 senior citizens. The NYC DOA was organized to provide funding to neighborhood organizations for

the benefit of retired persons, to coordinate programs and most importantly to answer questions from concerned parties and direct them to appropriate agencies or organizations for assistance. Queens office of the DOA is located at Boro Hall (120-55 Queens Blvd.)

It was most interesting to note that services provided by SNAP and DOA are not charity: they are entitlements. These are programs that our seniors worked hard for all their lives and there is

President's Gavel

September's meeting featuring NYC Department of the Aging and SNAP had a terrific turn-out. A lot of information was passed on and covered below. Its budget hearing time at Community Board and the BCCA will be representing you to push for major reconstruction of the PS133 playground and to establish a new police precinct in the south side of the Board so we may expect greater police presence here in the northern fringe of the 105 Pct. We hope these are successful and we are forming coalitions with neighboring Civics to ensure the strongest possible arguments.

We will be selecting a Slate Committee this month to propose officers and directors for the BCCA for next year. The slate will be announced in November and elected in December. Please let me know if you are interested in becoming active or if you would serve on the selection committee.

Richard C. Hellenbrecht

no relationship to wealth to qualify for these programs. SNAP was founded in 1980 at 263 Street and Union Tpk. in St. Paul's Church. The center is now opened daily with activities such as languages, arts & crafts, dancing and bingo. A balanced hot meal is available every day for a suggested contribution of only a dollar and transportation is available. Help is available in filling out tax forms, getting Medicaid and lots of other subjects. Transportation

GRANTS continued on page 3

COMMUNITY BOARD NOTES- SECURITY

Captain DiStefano of the 105 Precinct reported to the Community Board recently that we have been experiencing significant improvement in some categories of major crimes. Robberies are down 37% and burglaries are down by 47%. However, grand larceny auto theft is up considerably, making this precinct the second highest in the city for this crime. In fighting crime, the Captain has been successful in bringing manpower up

to 191 officers, from 154, but he reminded us that the precinct patrols 331 miles of street from the Grand Central Parkway to Kennedy Airport - that's some chunk of real estate.

Captain DiStefano is recommending a new program, Combat Auto Crime (CAT) to alleviate some of these problems. The CAT program involves placing an identification decal on your vehicle. The decal indicates that your vehicle should not be in use between 1AM to 5AM and the owner is required to sign a document giving the Police a legal right to search the vehicle if it is found in use during those hours.

If you are driving during those times, your proper identification, license and registration documentation would prevent a search, but the decals would probably be some deterrent to crime.

The Captain commented that the root cause of all this crime is drugs which pervades the area. Every town in the area has drug hot spots and he advised close vigilance of parks and other gathering spots. Narcotics sale is the only crime which the precinct will accept anonymous reports, so please notify the 105 Pct. of known areas.

FUN FOR ALL

by: Eileen Damore

The NYC Department of Parks and Recreation is sponsoring a two day event at the Belleroose Playground (PS133). The events will include general games as well as arts & crafts the dates are October 15 and 16 at 10AM to 4PM.

We hope the neighborhood families, children and friends will participate to make this event successful. We are a little short of details so far, but see signs posted in the park for additional information.

IMMUNIZATION

by: Jean Biancaniello

New York State law requires children of school age to be immunized against five diseases: diphtheria, polio, measles, mumps and rubella. Children should not be admitted to school (private or public) without proof of immunization.

HALLOWEEN AND SEASON TIPS

by: Eileen Damore

Halloween is coming and all of the neighborhood goblins and gremlins will be out looking for goodies. We would like to ask drivers in the neighborhood to be especially cautious that day and for all parents of young to accompany them on their rounds. Given problems of tainted halloween treats in recent year we suggest you think about house parties for the smaller children rather than the traditional trick-or-treat.

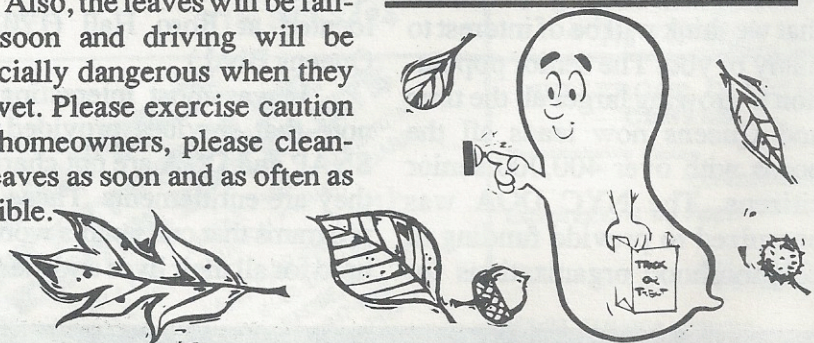
Also, the leaves will be falling soon and driving will be especially dangerous when they get wet. Please exercise caution and homeowners, please clean-up leaves as soon and as often as possible.

GRANTS FOR SENIORS

by: Jean Biancaniello

Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP) provides grants from the New York State Energy Conservation Bank to make energy-saving improvements to homes of seniors and disabled owners or renters. Grants range from \$2,500 to \$3,500 depending on the number of dwelling units. For information call (212)577-0266.

Seniors, see other important phone numbers on page 4.



GRANTS from page 1

can be arranged for shopping and doctor's visits and over 60 meals are sent out in the Meals on Wheels program to qualified individuals

unable to prepare their own meals. Trips are arranged to Atlantic City (at minimal charge) and other exciting places and it's a great way to get active and meet new friends.

Seniors and children of seniors should contact SNAP or DOA for further information. Don't be afraid or shy to ask for help!

CHARTER BALLOT QUESTIONS

The Charter Revision Commission has recently concluded the wording of their proposed revisions to the New York City Charter. The Charter is the absolute authority of city government which determines the powers and limitations of officers, agencies and legislative bodies. The major original objective of this review commission was to revise the structure of the City's Board of Estimate in light of a court ruling against this body due to violation of the one-man-one-vote principle, but a pending Supreme Court review has postponed this important decision. The Commission decided to seek voter approval for following issues this November. You should be familiar with the contents before the November ballot, particularly since, in a presidential election year, little media attention will be paid to local issues (note: Question 1 refers to a state transportation bond issue):

Question 2: Shall the Board of Ethics be renamed to Conflicts of Interest Board, be made up of three independent citizens with no ties to government or political parties, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by City Council, and be given the power to enforce prohibitions that shall both

be strengthened and clarified, as proposed by the Charter Revision Commission?

Question 3: Shall city agencies prepare and update plans for maintaining bridges, streets, parks, buildings and other major capital assets, and shall the mayor request funds for such maintenance or explain the reasons for not doing so, as proposed by the Charter Review Commission?

Question 4: Shall the following changes to the charter, as proposed by the Charter Review Commission, be adopted:

-Require all city agencies when adopting rules which regulate the behavior of individuals or businesses to solicit public comment and regularly publish such rules in order for them to remain in effect, and provide due process for formal hearings held by city agencies;

-Require the mayor and top city administrators to establish controls to ensure the effectiveness and integrity of agency operations;

-Create an independent tribunal to hear and decide appeals concerning those city taxes for which there is currently no independent administrative appeal;

-Reorganize the charter to make it more coherent, make technical changes, and eliminate inappropriate gender references in revised sections?

Question 5: Shall the following changes to the charter, as

proposed by the Charter Revision Commission, be adopted:

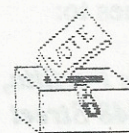
-Provide an orderly process for determining when a mayor is temporarily or permanently unable to carry out the duties of office;

-Require that vacancies in offices of council member, council president, comptroller and borough president, currently filled by designees of the council or comptroller, be filled by the voters in special elections?

Question 6: Shall the following changes to the charter, as proposed by the Charter Revision Commission, be adopted:

-Establish a panel of city officials and representatives from community and civic organizations to oversee a nonpartisan program to encourage voter registration and voting;

-Establish the powers and duties of the Campaign Finance Board, including (i.) publishing and distributing a nonpartisan voters' guide with information on candidates, ballot proposals and referenda, and (ii.) administering any voluntary system established by local law that limits campaigns in the 1989 elections abiding by such limits receive the matching grants earned under such law?



CURB YOUR DOG

Nothing can be more disgusting than finding dog droppings on the street, especially if you find it with your shoe. Remember, it is the law to clean up after your dog and keep them off of other's lawns, tires and other property. This is a common courtesy and obligation that dog owners take on for the protection and companionship of their "best friend."

DUES

Time has come again to dig down and find \$3 to keep your Civic Association working for you. Once again, despite rising costs we have decided not to increase our dues and we are still the least expensive association in the area. Unfortunately the 1987-88 year had the least members of any recent year. We feel that we have been working very hard for you and we urge you to help support our program.

Many blocks are covered by Block Captains but frequently they are unable to make the collections; many other blocks do not have captains and we must mail letters at high cost and inconvenience. We desperately need Block Captains for the many blocks that are not covered, so if you are interested in being a Block Captain please call John Reh at 347-5756 for more information. Dues can also be paid in person at the monthly Civic Association meeting.

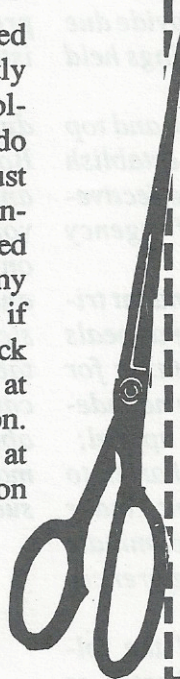
Send dues to:

BCCA

c/o Ross Fertitta, Treas.

87-28 248 Street

Bellerose, NY 11426



HELP FOR SENIORS ONLY

Here is a list of important numbers for seniors. Please clip and save for future use:

- o Social Security Information 526-8600
- SS - NYC Regional Office 1-(212)264-2500
- o Medicare 526-8200
- o Medicaid 1-(212)594-3050
- o Senior Citizen's Hotline 1-(800)342-9871
- o NYC Dept for the Aging 544-1265
- o Home Energy Assistance Program Applications 1-(212)577-0266 544-1265
- o Legal Services for the Elderly 897-2515
- o Real Property Tax Exemptions 658-4608

Please call these numbers for office locations, hours and appointment information.

SAFETY CROSSING

by: Mary Ann Hellenbrecht

PS 133 is seeking adult volunteers to assist student crossings at 248 Street and 86th Ave-

nue, as well as at 85th Avenue until the traffic light is installed. Coverage would be either in the AM or PM as many days as you can handle. If you are available please leave a message for Mary Ann at PS 133, call 347-3360.

OTHER IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergencies	911
Community Board 13Q	718 464-9700
105 Precinct(general)	718 990-0240
105 Pct Comm. Affairs	718 990-0940
Arson Hotline	718 403-1300
Battered women assist	212 577-7777
Bd of Education info	718 596-5030
Child abuse Info	800 342-3720
Dept of Envir. Prot.	212 966-7500
HiWay, Street Emerg.	212 566-3406
Home Energy Assist	212 334-9774
Mayor's Action Center	212 566-5700
Parent Help Line	212 925-8002
Poison Control	212 340-4494
Police Crime Stoppers	212 577-TIPS
Rape Assistance	212 732-7706
Sanitation Complaints	212 334-8590
Subway/bus Info	718 330-1234
Suicide Prevention	212 532-2400
Traffic Light/Sign Repairs	718 830-7666
Victim Svcs Assist	212 577-7777

TEEN SUICIDE PREVENTION

The third leading cause of death among teenagers is suicide. We know of no identifiable enemy - criminal or bacteriological - from which we can defend them. Yet, every day fifteen young people die and a minimum of 800 narrowly escape death in this plague, leaving in their wake broken families, distraught parents, confusion and despair.

A recent study reported in congressional testimony found that by the time America's teens graduate from high school fully 50% have seriously considered killing themselves. The experts estimate that one in ten have actually planned their death.

We urge greater attention in

the home to danger signals and that concerned parents should seek professional help for their children. Also, we would urge development of a good program in Junior High and High School to help teenagers to sort out their problems and help them to understand their changes and challenges during this difficult period of their lives.

PROPERTY AUCTION

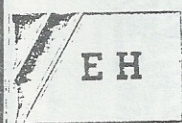
New York City Real Estate will hold an auction on October 13 at 1:30PM at One Police Plaza. The railroad spur property located on the east side of Commonwealth Boulevard between 87 Drive and 88 Road will be auctioned at this time. This is a very attractive parcel and it could

be a great opportunity for someone to obtain property and build a house at reasonable investment. We would much prefer to see a neighbor build and live there rather than see an absentee landlord or speculative builder.

Please call Real Estate at (212)566-7550 for additional information on lot number 11, block 8639. You must be prepared to pay a minimum cash requirement.

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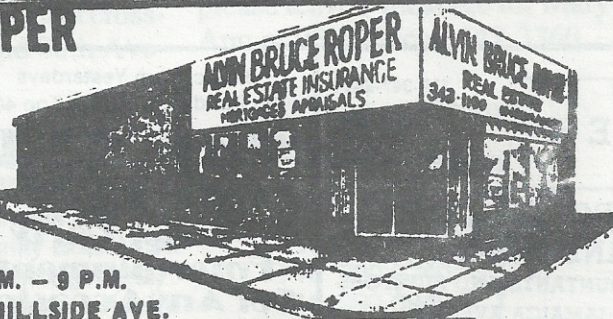
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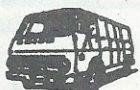
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