

bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

action news



Volume 16 No. 8

OCTOBER 1990

Candidates Night

co-sponsored by Queens Colony
Civic Association

Meet the Candidates:

For State Senate:

Frank Padavan

For State Assembly:

Doug Prescott

James Wrynn

Refreshments Served

House of Hope Church

Corner 85th Ave. & 248 St.

Thursday October 4, 1990

at 8 PM

We meet the first Thursday of each month at the House of Hope Church, corner 248th Street and 85th Avenue at 8:00PM

President's Gavel

I'm pleased to announce that our next two meetings will be very special. The October meeting will be our (almost) annual candidates night and November will feature our brand new commanding officer of the 105th Precinct. Unfortunately, there has been a sudden rash of burglaries and car thefts in our neighborhood and this will be an important opportunity to speak up for equal (or any) protection by the 105. Mark your calendars for November 1.

Inside are reports on: the roadway work we've been subjected to, particularly the Commonwealth Boulevard project; our upcoming recycling project; initial results of our *ActionForm* initiative; and neighborhood security.

I'm particularly pleased to present our first Block Captains **Roll of Honor** to recognize those of you who have devoted substantial time and effort in the annual membership drives of the association. Check inside for your name.

I strongly encourage all of you to come to the Candidates Night. The candidates always enjoy the closeness of neighborhood meetings and are very approachable. It's a very good opportunity for students to observe civics in progress.

R.C. Hellenbrecht

Roadway Update

By: R. C. Hellenbrecht

As we go to press Commonwealth Boulevard has just been completed - but that's the *only* good news. In a meeting this week with NYC Departments of Highways and Environmental Protection and contractor Grace, I was advised that due to significant, unanticipated problems with sanitary and storm sewers, there will be little progress on our project until next Spring.

see Roadway page 2

Inside:
Block Captains
Roll of Honor
Security
Recycling

We were told that this project was rushed to construction because it was part of the Westway trade-in of several years ago. Therefore, the City took some additional risk and completed project plans and contracts before a thorough evaluation of the sewers was completed. Unfortunately, the videos recently indicated that many of the sewer pipes in the area are cement pipe sewers that have outlived their usefulness and must be removed. They have determined that it is critical to replace the old pipes before the additional load of the new roadway causes serious damage.

Since this work is not provided in the contract and funding is not available in the city budget, an appropriation process must be completed before Grace can continue the work. It is estimated that the appropriation and negotiation process with Grace will take approximately six months, bringing us into the next construction season next spring before the project will resume.

It is currently known that about 1000 feet of sewer must be reconstructed and another 1300 feet is still being reviewed. About 250 feet of this replacement is on 248th Street and a few hundred feet are at intersections of Commonwealth Boulevard.

The bigger problem is on several streets west of the Cross Island Parkway. The streets are still open and sidewalks have not been poured yet. Graced has promised that all sidewalks and curbs will be completed before the end of October, however, roads will only be "made safe"-ie. open craters will be filled with asphalt, forget about comfort.

Sidewalks

The sidewalks and driveway finishing was a disgrace (get it?) Many homeowners have been seriously affected by the new grade of the sidewalks, leaving some driveways inaccessible and many front walkways with ugly asphalt patches.

Letter to the Editor

From Mrs. Patricia Fitzsimmons

I am writing to let you know that quite a few people were very disturbed by your article concerning Gregorian Festival. The money does not go to the church, it goes to the school. Secondly, you unfairly represented the situation about fights. I've been there every night each year and I've never seen a fight. The clean-up crew is very efficient and everything is well taken care of.

Parking does present some minor problems for the 11 nights, but if it wasn't for St. Gregory's our neighborhood wouldn't be as prosperous and spirited as it is. I think we can all survive a few small inconveniences like parking, but litter and fights don't exist.

I really don't think you should have presented it so negatively in light of all the good the Festival does for the School and the neighborhood.

[Editor's Note: Due to space limitations, letter was shortened slightly, but is substantially unchanged - M.A.H.]

Reply by R. Hellenbrecht

I must note for the record that the article was my own composition and in no way represents the editorial opinion of the BCCA. I recognize the good that the Festival does for the School. But, that doesn't change my feelings about the affect on the neighbors nearby. I only intended to raise some consciousness about the surrounding community.

"No" to Left Turn Signal Request

At the suggestion of Board member Bernard Wechsler, BCCA wrote to NYC DOT to request a left turn signal from eastbound Hillside Avenue onto Littleneck Parkway. Bernie indicated that it is extremely dangerous to make that turn and there

are long queues at most times of the day.

We have heard back from DOT: "We have conducted traffic engineering studies including AM and PM rush hour volume counts for both approaches. Results of these studies indicate that special left turn signals are not warranted."

Sorry folks, we'll try again.

CIP Sign

We had long ago requested new directional signs onto the CIP at Jamaica Avenue. We are now advised by Assemblyman Prescott's office that they have been fabricated, but the installation contractor went out of business and now there's a jurisdictional dispute between the City and Nassau County. Maybe soon!

BLOCK CAPTAINS ROLL OF HONOR

LEGION OF EXCELLENCE- At or near 100% every year:

Janet Gramlick	8
Ed Korzeniowski	9
Georgia McGuire	17
Ruth Weikert	14

LEGION OF HONOR - 90% or better collection each year:

*Gertrude Berninger	24	Curran/Mucaria	13
John Langone	14	*Ruth Nouza	36
Brenda Pecoraro	18	*Betty Platania	22
Eugene Sprenger	10	*Donald West	30

SIGNIFICANT PARTICIPATION -85% or better collections:

*Sylvia Delaney	32	Francis Gallagher	19
*Melanie Ngai	26	Roseann Reinhart	12
*Florence Schneider	30	*Rose Maria Waibel	30
Bernard Wechsler	14		

HONORABLE MENTION - Over 60% each year:

Jean Ahlemann	9	Jackie Budds	26
*Molly Caruso	24	Jack Lotto	12
Alvina Regalbutto	20	*Virginia Slaney	26

* = larger blocks, over twenty homes

We salute all of you for your excellent performance and selfless devotion to the BCCA. I would like to add Mrs. Silva, who recently moved from Bellerose, to the Honorable Mention list. Congratulations and our deepest appreciation to all of you.

A Glimpse of Light

by: Ben Finn

On October 28, a professional theater company from Manhattan will travel to our neck of the woods to present a musical play. The group is the newly-launched THEATER OF THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE. They are touring with the musical A GLIMPSE OF LIGHT, which received a 20 performance Equity Showcase run at Manhattan's Riverwest Theatre. The play is based upon the events leading to the birth of the state of Israel.

Now, why don't we just tell you where and when the production will take place and let it go at that? Well, the *When* is on Sunday, October 28 at 3 PM - nothing unusual there. The *Where*, however, is not at one of our several Jewish centers. A GLIMPSE OF LIGHT will be performed at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church at Union Turnpike and 263rd Street.

A musical about the birth of Israel at a Lutheran Church, "Why not?" replies Pastor Arlo David Peterson. "As we are all citizens

of this planet earth, we need to know the sources of our humanity and the struggles necessary to achieve it. We can all learn from the historic birth of Israel."

An important note about A GLIMPSE OF LIGHT is that the book for this musical is by Ben Finn, a Bellerose resident, and Joseph Cahalan. The music and lyrics are also by Ben Finn. Tickets, priced at \$12, will be available at the door. For further information, call Ben at 343-1052. *Congratulations Ben, and thanks for the article - M.A.H*

Recycling

By: R.C. Hellenbrecht

Representatives of the Department of Sanitation addressed a large crowd at our September meeting on the recycling program scheduled to start in Bellerose (and all of Comm. Board 13) on October 28. It is important to note that this is *not a voluntary program*. All of us will be subjected to it and after a six month break-in, summonses will be issued for non-compliance.

By next week, each house will be issued one blue recycling can and cover. Materials to be recycled include bundled newspaper and magazines (18" high), aluminum cans, most plastics (bottles OK, but no bags), glass and aluminum foil. Several materials can not be included, like waxed milk containers and flat cardboard (pizza boxes, shirt cardboard, etc.). All recyclable materials must be recycled. Two and three family houses will only get one recycling pail, but will be

subject to citations for not using it. It is important to note that you will only get one pail and cover.

Immediately mark containers and covers with paint in case of loss. Decals will be issued if you must replace the container.

The Department will issue more detailed instructions by mail early next week. Collections will be once every other week on Thursday or Saturday and it won't reduce normal pick-ups.

BCCA Board and Officers

The BCCA Board and Officers follow. Officers serve one year terms, Directors serve for two years. Nominations are in November; elections December.

Richard Hellenbrecht	<i>President</i>
Vacant	<i>Vice Pres.</i>
George Wolf	<i>Treasurer</i>
Richard McGuire	<i>Rec. Secy</i>
L. Anzalone	<i>Corr. Sec</i>

Directors:

M. Ngai	S. Platania
J. Delaney	H. Slaney
R. Fertitta	B. Wechsler
J. Reh	F. Olton

Security

by: G. Wolf

The BCCA has received several complaints in the past three weeks about burglaries in the neighborhood. During the summer, there were numerous car thefts reported in Bellerose. This trend is very disturbing. Most of the burglaries seem to be in homes with bedrooms on the second floor. Access seems to be through windows, including louver windows.

The burglars seem to be looking for cash and pocketable valuables. The burglars are not deterred by dogs or people at home. They seem, in fact, to be looking for pocketbooks and wallets for cash, and have avoided TVs, VCRs, etc.

BCCA has written to Capt. Dansky and requested a CPOP patrol officer. The Captain will be at our November 4 meeting.

Please protect yourselves by locking doors and windows, alarm your house, and garage your car!

Advertisers

A bunch of great local retailers and professional services support the BCCA by their Ads in *Action News*. Please show your appreciation by patronizing these businesses for all of your needs. Let them know you saw it here!

Action Form

Congratulations Bellerose! I've been overwhelmed with responses to our *Action Form* printed in last month's *Action News*. As of mid-September I have 28 forms I'm still trying to figure out what to do with. Next

month I'll summarize all of the comments, complaints - and even a few compliments.

Congrats Greg

Gregory Berka was the other St. Greg's winner of the BCCA Citizenship Award last June. Keep up the great work!

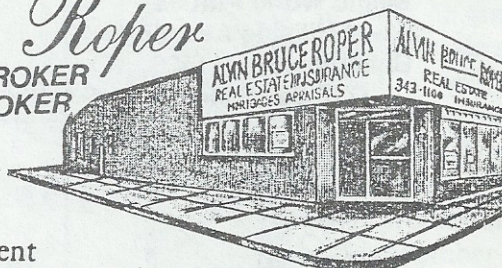
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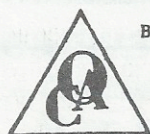


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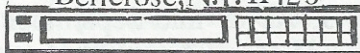
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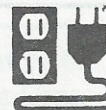
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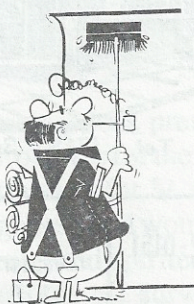


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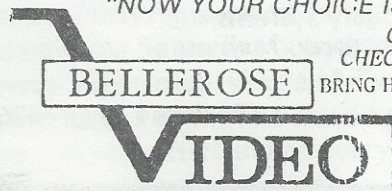
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