



action news

Volume 29, Number 8

October 2003

General Meeting

October 2, 2003

8:00 pm

House of Hope Church

**Corner 248th St. and
85th Ave**

Free Refreshments

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

8:00 PM

Get Involved!

Happy Halloween



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President's Letter-By Lourdes V. Hartrick

September went by so fast, with the kids going back to school and getting back in to routines. We have been working with Community Board 13, Senator Padavan and residents of 250th street to improve conditions on 250th Street which have been caused by merchants on Hillside Avenue. There have been fines by the Department of Buildings, for building code violations and by the Department of Sanitation. I hope that through collaborated efforts the situation will improve. October is the month for Halloween. I hope you have a fun and safe Halloween. Puppets in the Park will be here Saturday, October 4th 2003 at Bellerose Park (248th St. & 85th Ave. behind P.S. 133) at 1:00 PM. There will be a puppet workshop after the show. Bring a chair and come enjoy the show with us.

Motor Scooter Nuisance-By Robert Alberti

It appears that for over two years there has been a continuing use of unlicensed and unregistered gas powered motor scooters by neighborhood teenagers. Not only are these gas powered scooters unsafe in city streets, they are illegal. Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector-Michael Bryan addressed this issue at our September 4th meeting. He said parents should be made aware, that although it is not illegal to purchase these scooters, unscrupulous store owners are giving false information about how they can be used. These scooters are intended for use on private property. Mainly in rural areas where homes may be built on lots that have several acres of land. These scooters are built with no safety features (lights, etc.) and can't be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles. city streets. Parents reading this article need to be made aware of the risks that their children may face, before purchasing one of these vehicles. These scooters are dangerous to kids who use them. They are also a hazard for licensed motorist and for pedestrians. Children using these vehicles have had their scooters confiscated have been escorted by police officers to there parents homes. We should all consider our children's safety and our neighborhoods safety. Lets try to avoid an unnecessary tragedy before it is too late.

260th Street Shopping Mall Proposal-by Robert Alberti

There is a shopping mall that is being proposed by landlord Tony Hack at 260th Street and Hillside Avenue. This proposal has caused concern among residents of Floral Park and a petition against this project was already submitted to Community Board 13. Some of the concerns raised are increased parking on a narrow street, garbage and a potential increase in rodents. In addition, (Page 3)

105th Precinct Address Civic Association

BCCA Board Member and Auxiliary Police Officer Patricia Pearson invited speakers from the 105th Precinct to our September 4th Meeting. Commanding Officer Deputy Inspector-Michael Bryan was the keynote speaker. Also attending was Community Affairs Officer-Mike Dwyer and Crime Prevention Officer-Joe Bonaventura. Deputy Inspector Bryan stated that although the 105th Precinct is large in size, Bellerose-Floral Park is considered the better parts of the Precinct. Unfortunately, he noted that there have been some minor quality of life crimes that have been reported and are being addressed. There was a burglary problem east of Little Neck Parkway, that affected the commercial part of the area, and had spread into Bellerose. An increase in foot patrols on Hillside Avenue has been established and the police have taken action to remedy this problem. Residents should keep an eye out for strangers parked in front of neighbors homes for long periods of time. If you see a car parked in

front of a neighbors home for an extended period of time and you suspect something, you should write the license plate number down. This can help the police track down a suspect if it turns out a burglary was committed. In addition, it has been reported that our neighborhood has one of the lowest theft rates for automobiles. Since most Bellerose residents are homeowners, it is recommended that we park our cars in our garages or driveways as a precaution. In addition, it is recommended to use motion sensor lights in your driveway to deter car thieves. Residents have made little mistakes that attract burglars near vehicles. Do not leave your wallets, coats, jackets, or other valuables in your vehicle. This presents a quick opportunity for auto thieves. Also, identity theft was mentioned. Although this is more of a national problem. However, it is a crime that we

need to protect ourselves from. Normally individuals will obtain your social security number or mothers maiden name to obtain a credit card in your name. They then have the credit card sent to an address or location that they control. This credit card is then used to purchase goods and services. You will not find out until you receive calls from creditors. A good way to prevent identity theft is by safeguarding all bank, credit card and investment company statements. You should use a paper shredder to destroy these documents prior to throwing them away. In addition, never give out your personal information over the phone. When you use your credit card for purchases, in a store or any place of business, always ask for the signed copy. It is also recommended to ask for your credit report at least once a year. Inspector Bryan also spoke about scams that have effected area residents. The victims are mainly the elderly. The two most common scams that have been reported is the phony lottery ticket scam and the water company scam. (Page 3)

Dues Reminder

BCCA dues remain at \$5 per family. Dues letters will be sent to our blocks that do not have block captains. We ask for your support since our printing, mailing and community activities costs mount up quickly. As a reminder we ask all of our block captains to collect and return their dues. Thanks again for your support.

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October 2003

To the B.C.C.A.:

I suggest the following article for action news, issue to pursue or general comment:

Enclosed is my \$5 Dues payment for 2003 or a donation:

I suggest the following speaker topic:

I suggest the following newsletter topic:

B.C. C.A. requests that you leave your name and address:

Address articles/items

action news

Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association, Inc. Action News
P.O. Box 260225
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260th Street Shopping Mall Proposal-by Robert Alberti (con't page 1)

area residents are concerned demolishing existing one family homes would change the character of the neighborhood, and effect quality of life in the area. There are some residents who like the idea of having more stores in the area, however opposition has been vocal. In the June 23rd C B 13 Meeting, District Manager-Sally Martino-Fisher explained that the area is zoned for the project, making it as "as of right" development. To date no plans have been filed with the Building Department for the project. However, there is already a sign on the vacant portion the property announcing 10,000 square feet of commercial space that will be soon available. Sally Martino-Fisher will arrange a meeting with the owners and the CB 13 Land Use Committee to discuss the plans and concerns raised by the residents. CB 13 will carefully monitor all requirements of the code. If you have any concerns or comments, you should contact Community Board 13 at 718-464-9700. The fax is 718-264-2739. We should all exercise our right to raise questions about quality of life issues that effect our community.

87th Drive-John Sineno

James Delaney presented to Community Board 13 a recommendation to change the name of 87th Drive between 247th and 248 Streets after deceased NYC Firefighter John Sineno in Bellerose. As reported in prior issues of Action News, this proposal has been given support of the BCCA. The proposal will add the name to "Firefighter John Sineno Drive" to the current street name. This motion was unanimously carried by CB 13 and will need to be voted by the New York City Council in the future. We will keep you posted on future developments.

84th Road-One Way Street

A portion of 84th Road, connecting the Cross Island Parkway service Road to Commonwealth Blvd. was proposed for conversion to a one-way road. This was proposed in an effort to prevent speeding and from using 84th Road as a shortcut to go eastbound on Hillside Avenue. Community Board 13 considered all the evidence that was presented, and voted unanimously to allow 84th Road to remain unchanged and to request additional signage at the exit to slow down traffic.

105th Precinct

(from page 2) If you have not reported trouble with a utility and someone is at your door, contact the utility before you let someone in your home. The best way to protect yourself and your family is to be alert. If you have any questions, you should contact 105th Precinct Crime Prevention Officer- Joe Bonaventura at 718-776-9207.

Buying a Home?

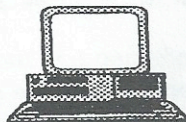
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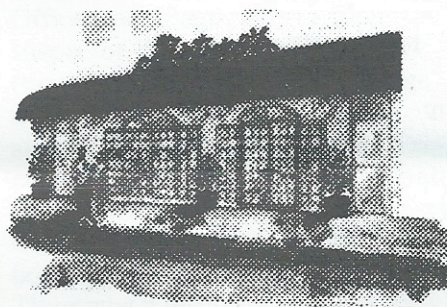
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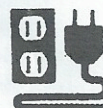
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