



Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association

action news

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Volume 41 Number 4

1935

80 Years

2015

May 2015

Thursday, May 7, 2015, 8:00 pm

Joint Meeting with Queens Colony Civic Associations

Iggy Terranova—NYC Dept. of Sanitation

Electronic Waste & Recycling, Pick-up Issues, Etc.

Next Meeting: June 4, 2015 at 8:00pm

Refreshments will be served

Visit Our Website: www.bccaqueens.org

The President's Gavel

Hello Bellerose. I would like to extend condolences from the entire BCCA community to the family and friends of Jack Friedman. Jack was a strong community leader and long time civic activist. I did not personally know Jack but from the emails, newspaper articles and conversations, I can tell Jack was very much loved and will be sorely missed. Rest in peace Jack and thank you for all your service. We are asking all our neighbors and friends to please check the battery of the smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in your homes. If you do not have one, we are urging you to please obtain one. As I am sure you have all heard, recently four residents from nearby New Hyde Park lost their lives due to carbon monoxide poisoning. It appears they did not have working carbon monoxide detectors in their home. This is tragic loss for four families and the community.

We will soon be announcing details of our BCCA 80th Anniversary Luncheon. We hope that you will be able to join us. It would be a great opportunity to meet some of your neighbors while having a great meal. As always, please, if you have not already done so, we are asking that you pay your BCCA dues, below. Thank you for your support.

Juan Zubizarreta, President

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Final 2015 Dues Notice— \$7 per Family

We are at the end of our dues collection for 2015. If you would like to pay your dues or make an additional donation please clip and mail this coupon to: BCCA, P.O. Box 260225, Bellerose, NY 11426.

Name: _____ Street Address: _____

We would appreciate your email address to keep you abreast of local events and issues:

List any questions or issues: _____

Holy Trinity News

Join us for any of our great opportunities for fellowship!

Regular Sunday services at 9:00 and 10:30 am Children are dismissed from the early service for Sunday School classes. Join us!

Young at Heart continues for Lunch and social time - 2nd and 4th Wednesdays at 12:30pm

May 14th Ascension Day service and Dinner: Service begins with Pastor's famous Meatloaf dinner at 6:30 pm.

Holy Trinity's Women's Small Group meets monthly - next meeting is Thursday, May 28th, 7-9 pm. We have lively discussions on how we can all work to become increasingly wise in our lives. Contact Carol Robinson for more information

Bible Study Wednesday mornings at 10 am.

Youth Group:

Attendees decide on activities which include games, movies, talent events - chaperoned by Diane Gilroy.

Contact Carol Robinson with any questions.

www.holytrinitybellerose.org

e-mail: holytrinitybellerose@yahoo.com

Call: [718-347-0278](tel:718-347-0278) or visit www.Holytrinitybellerose.org

Carol and Bill Robinson

Bellerose Update

Zoning Variance Request

Community Board 13Q received a request for a variance to enlarge a legal two family home at 244-36 85th Avenue. Although our zoning is single family, some homes that were two family in 1961 are grandfathered as legal. Modifications may be made to grandfathered homes, but they may not increase the level of non-conformance to the existing zoning. As always, if an owner attempts to exceed the zoning allowances, the Buildings Department will object, prompting a need to apply for a variance if they wish to proceed. The variance process requires public hearings by the local community board and borough president and hearings and decision by the City's Board of Standards and Appeals. The house on 85th Avenue is a small cape cod extended out the back for the two families. The owner has applied to enlarge the house by adding a second floor.

CB13 will be holding a public hearing over the next two weeks, which will be announced through our email blast, website and FaceBook page, to illicit the Bellerose community's pleasure with respect to the variance. BCCA fought hard to retain the small, single family character of our neighborhood. Please try to attend the hearing and find the facts and make your feelings known.

Creedmoor Updates

The Creedmoor Development Study by the Empire State Development Department, looking at the Hillside Avenue frontage (SNAP building area), was supposed to have a second task force meeting with community leaders this month but the meeting was postponed. We will keep you posted when the meeting takes place.

As mentioned last month the ICCC variance to build their senior center has been approved by the Board of Standards and Appeals. There are some conditions on environmental remediation and residency requirements and we are still trying to learn how they intend to have vehicles enter the site.

Participatory Budgeting Winners Revealed

For the third year Councilman Mark Weprin designated \$1 million of his capital discretionary budget for citizen participation to nominate and select projects to be funded in his district. In a process that began last fall and concluded by mid April after several days of voting throughout the district. About 2,000 residents participated, the highest participation yet. Three projects were ultimately approved by the voters totaling over \$1,205,000.

3. Fitness Equipment at Alley Pond Park – 1,065 votes

Fitness stations with new exercise equipment at two locations – the section of Alley Pond Park located near Winchester Boulevard and Union Turn-pike in Bellerose and the section near Springfield Boulevard and 73rd Avenue in Oakland Gardens.

7. Gym Renovations at Two High Schools – 973 votes

Outfit Benjamin N. Cardozo High School with a new rubberized floor and equipment for the weight training room and Martin Van Buren High School with new bleachers and basketball hoops for the gym.

10. Technology Upgrades at Nine School Sites – 1,146 votes

A combination of desktops, laptops and printers for schools in the district. Schools include PS18 and PS115 nearby as well as the Padavan Campus's Queens High School of Teaching.

NYC Parks Commissioner Visits Bellerose Playground

As part of his familiarization in his new role as Commissioner of New York City Parks and Recreation Department, Commissioner Mitchell Silver, an experienced planner, has been touring city parks. On April 24, Commissioner Silver and Borough Parks Commissioner Dottie Lewandowski visited several Parks in Queens. The Bellerose Playground was one of the parks on the Commissioners' tour. As you know, Friends of Bellerose Playground, the Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Association and others have been attempting to upgrade this, the only park in Bellerose. Last year Councilmember Mark Weprin and Senator Tony Avella funded a project to reestablish the Reading Garden and other projects in the playground. These projects were not specifically part of Friday's discussions, but we hope that the general appearance of the park will advance the projects. Parks employees have been seen in the playground cleaning and preparing for the visit.

BCCA Officers:

Juan Zubizarreta, President
 Lourdes Villanueva Hartrick, Vice Pres.
 Ruth Mezistrano, Recording Secretary
 Richard Hellenbrecht, Corr. Sec'y /
 Treasurer, ActonNews Editor

Directors:

<u>Elect Dec. 2015</u>	<u>Elect Dec. 2016</u>
Lorraine Anzalone	James Delaney
John Reh	Gulen Zubizarreta
Bill Turis	Van DaSilva
George Wolf	Michael Weisbord
Ron DeMaria	

Bellerose Commonwealth Civic Assn.
 P.O. Box 260225
 Bellerose, NY 11426



Left to right: Jim Delaney, Roseann Reinhardt, Lourdes Hartrick, Comm. Silver, Juan Zubizarreta, Boro Comm. Lewandowski, Parks staff.