

The entertainment capital of Bellmore

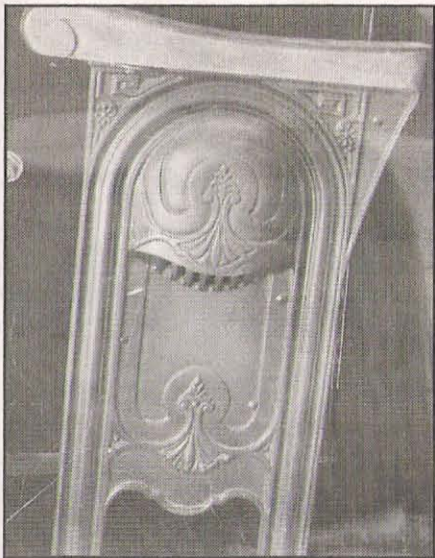
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Mr. Stampfel remarked that the Seaford Cinemas had opened, along with the expansion of the Bellmore Playhouse, so they, too, thought the best way to compete was to multiplex.

But while demolishing the old wooden flooring they discovered the foundation from the front wall extension. They literally hit a real wall! A plan was quickly born and the wall was left in place as the foundation for the stage you see now when attending a show. Thus was born the Bellmore Movies and The Showplace, all because of a wall!

The premiere event

One of the most consistent and enjoyable events for the Bellmore community and the Bellmore Movies and Showplace is the annual Long Island International Film Festival Expo held each July. The Bellmore Movies has hosted this event for



OF THE ORIGINAL chairs that
over seats.

the last eight years, sponsored by the Nassau County Film Commission.

"We used to host it at the Malveme Cinema" said Mr. Stampfel. "But the theatre became too small for all the films we had to run, and people were being turned away from the theatre, people who had sometimes come from Suffolk County or the city or further to see the festival films," he continued.

The film festival puts them squarely on the movie entertainment map, garnering national and international attention while drawing big name actors and actresses such as Danny Aiello, Karen Allen, Ralph Macchio, Steve Guttenberg, Tony Lobianco, Brian O'Halloran, Cliff Robertson, Abe

Vigoda, Ron Palillo, Nikki Blonsky, Dan Lanolin, Eddie Falco and others.

"We're also very proud of our live shows," said Anne Stampfel. "We've had Mickey Rooney perform here and we love having Kenny Vance and The Planotones perform here, as well as the Doo Wop and Accapella sounds of The Wrenditons, and The 3rd Edition and a bunch more.

"We've even had comedy shows featuring some of the best local comedians around," she continued.

Jackie "the Joke Man" Martling had a one-man show last year; Adam Ferrara also was here, and there were countless other "hilarious folks."

Broadhollow Theatre and Plaza

Theatricals have live mainstage children's shows on a regular basis at the theatre as well.

While a Bellmore entertainment promoter is working with the Stampfels to book big name acoustical musical acts into the Bellmore Showplace, such as Steve Forbert, Jorma Kaukonen, John Hammond, Lucy Kaplansky – to name a few, the Stampfels will continue to show first-run films in between shows.

The Stampfels both agree in wishing that the Bellmore Movies continues to serve the Bellmore community for many years to come.

– Douglas Finlay



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