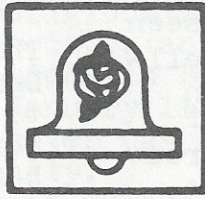


action news



bellerose commonwealth civic association, inc.

VOLUME 3 NO.2

FEBRUARY

1976

TWO WORDS TO NYQUIST: WE OBJECT.

The new officers of the B.C.C.A., headed by James Delaney, President, and John Reh, Vice President, were installed at the January meeting by State Senator Frank Padavan.

Practically overshadowing the installation was the discussion of the Andrew Jackson High School integration order issued by State Commissioner of Education, Ewald Nyquist which mandates that the enrollment at Jackson High reflect the ethnic composition of the school population of Queens.

Senator Padavan spoke of his efforts to have the order rescinded. In a letter to the Commissioner, he states, "No parent will be coerced in this community to sending their children to Andrew Jackson High School." Doug Prescott of Senator James Buckley's staff pledged support to the communities in this area in opposing the implementation of Nyquist's order.

After some discussion, the members of the

B.C.C.A. passed unanimously two motions. The first rejected the Commissioner's order to integrate Jackson High. The second motion authorized the officers of the Association to make whatever financial commitments they saw fit to the "Concerned Citizens in Opposition to the Jackson Ruling."

The arguments advanced in opposing Nyquist included that: With various governmental agencies funneling funds into the Jackson High School feeder area to stabilize and revitalize the area, implementing the order would nullify these efforts. Parents would withdraw their children from the public schools and enroll them elsewhere. Those middle-class home-owners who can will flee the city. As the tax-base of the city is eroded further, the economic and social ills of the city become aggravated. This is something the city cannot afford. The decreasing revenues of the city should be put

into restoring programs and rehiring teachers and counsellors rather than diverting precious funds to transporting students.

The ruling is being appealed and may take any number of turns before the final solution. Things are in a state of flux. However the opposition to the order and the determination of the B.C.C.A. to speak out is firm.

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NOTICE

THE NEXT MEETING
THURSDAY
FEB. 5, 1976

at 8:30 P.M.

GUEST SPEAKER
JAMES TRENT PRES.
Creedmore Civic Association
HOUSE OF HOPE
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH

Corner of 248 ST. &
85th Avenue

Where Bellerose Worships

In this installment of our series, we present the history of The House of Hope United Presbyterian Church.

Late in the 1930's a need was seen in the developing community of Bellerose to establish a Presbyterian Church. On the recommendation of Reverend Griffith of The First Presbyterian Church of Queens Village, the Home Mission Society purchased two lots at 85th Avenue and 248th Street, and in 1939 the Board of National Missions invited Reverend James Robert Lee of Detroit to start this church. At this time the Manse, the original place of worship as well as the Parsonage, was built. Reverend Lee, having been inspired by the name of a large and beautiful Presbyterian Church in St. Louis decided to adopt its name for his young congregation in Bellerose.

The House of Hope held its first service on December 10, 1939. On January 16, 1940 the New York Presbytery granted a petition of organization for "The House of Hope" congregation. Thirty-two people signed this petition. In July of 1940 a congregational meeting was held to consider plans for a new building. In April 1941 the first official meeting of the congregation was held. At this time, incorporation was voted on and Elders and Trustees were elected. Finally on November 16, 1941 services were held to dedicate officially the opening of the new church building on 85th Avenue. The procession of members started from the Manse, the former place of worship. The invocation was given by the Reverend William Brown, D.D. of the Synod of New York and the Board of American Missions.

After some time had passed, a third and adjoining lot was purchased and the original Manse was lifted from its foundation and moved to its present site at 85-50 248th Street. An addition to the church was built in 1955 providing a Library and Board Room, educational facilities, and Fellowship Hall for church and community use.

Reverend Lee remained as Pastor until 1954. There followed a succession of ministers until the arri-

val of Reverend David F. Schult as a student in November of 1968. He was installed as Pastor in September 1969 and currently serves in this capacity.

To date, Trustees installed at The House of Hope number 68, ordained Deacons 45, Elders 44 with two more to be ordained this year. Elders form the governing body of lay members of the congregation and they set policies and establish programs. They are selected by the congregation for a three-year term and may be re-elected after a lapse of one year.

Officially, The House Of Hope has a congregation of 136 members. Many church organizations as well as community organizations hold their activities at The House of Hope. Sunday school is held weekly for about 45 children. There are adult Christian Education programs, Bible study groups, a Women's Fellowship group, and the Women's League for Service. Sunday evenings a youth group meets, mainly for recreation. These young people go on week-end retreats with Pastor Schult in the spring and fall, during which time both active sports and religious programs are enjoyed. Four mornings a week a pre-school group meets here. The Home Bureau, a homemaker's crafts group, is another community activity utilizing their facilities. Four Girl Scout troops and a Boy Scout troop meet here. Two Civic Associations, our own Bellerose Commonwealth Civic and the North Bellerose Civic hold their meetings here. Each summer The House of Hope conducts a two-week Daily Vacation Bible School which is open to all children in our community.

The House of Hope sponsors a Korean orphan named Kim Yeu Kon who lives at the Three Graces Orphanage in Korea. This church is active in programs relating to World Hunger, at home and abroad.

The Bicentennial theme chosen by The House of Hope is "Our Heritage and Our Hope: Freedom in Christ". It is the Hope of Reverend Schult that the Bicentennial will be celebrated in a way both honoring to Christ and to the heritage that we have as Americans. Contests are planned for all church members such

(Continued on last page)

Guest Speaker

James Trent, President of the Creedmore Civic Association, will take time out of a busy schedule to speak to us at our February meeting.

Mr. Trent has been intimately involved in the fight over the 58 acres of land behind the Queens Children's Hospital, Commonwealth Blvd. which was declared surplus by the State Department of Mental Hygiene.

The old Creed Farmhouse which has been declared an historical landmark is located on the southeast corner of this tract.

Trent's program will include slides and photographs illustrating the history of the farm. How we can help restore our own local "landmark" will be discussed.

SPRING DANCE



Christina McGann, Chairlady of the Spring Dance Committee reports:

For two years now the arrival of spring has been heralded by our Annual Civic Association Spring Dance.

I am happy to announce that this year our Third Annual Spring Dance will be held on Saturday, May 1st at the newly decorated Elk's Club on Lakeville Road in New Hyde Park. SO MARK THE CALENDAR! Keep May 1st open and plan to attend with your neighbors and friends. Look for more details in next month's "Action News."

INSTALLATION

The installation of new religious leaders by two important congregations in Bellerose made January 11, 1976 a red-letter day for this community.

Father Eugene Feldhaus is now the Pastor of St. Gregory the Great Roman Catholic Church. Holy Trinity Lutheran Church is now under the guidance of the Reverend Howard Funk.

Bellerose welcomes these two church leaders confident that each will serve his congregation and the community in the same spirit and with the same dedication of their predecessors.

LETTERS

Dear Editor:

It was a surprising and wonderful experience for me to be awarded the Honorary Membership in the Association. My thanks to all!

The officers of the B.C.C.A. are a completely dedicated group of people. We are all beneficiaries of their efforts. One can only imagine how many times they find it difficult to give so much time and to work so hard for our community.

I am proud to have had the privilege of knowing these fine people and I urge all the members to support our officers, to attend meetings and to become interested in the issues that affect us all. Sincerely yours,
Lillian McCarthy

BICENTENNIAL AUCTION

The planned activities of the Little Plains Bicentennial Committee will inevitably incur some expenses.

You can do yourself a favor and at the same time help finance the Committee by donating articles for the Bicentennial Auction.

The ugly candy dish you received as a wedding present, the set of trains that junior has lost interest in, the old lamp that no longer fits in with your more modern decor, plus almost anything else will be gratefully accepted for the auction.

For a pick-up of your treasures call:

Chris Steinhardt

(212) 465-9097

Bob Grimes

(212) 464-7373

Helen Ordemann

(212) 776-3357

(evenings only)

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(Continued from page 2)

as making Bicentennial banners and posters, and the writing of hymns, prayers, and litanies to be used in worship or to be published in the church newspaper.

The current building project of The House of Hope is to raise a fund to replace the original ceiling in the Sanctuary by September

1976. The House of Hope looks forward to celebrating its 35th anniversary in the present edifice in November of this year.

My thanks to Reverend Schult for his time and enthusiastic assistance in compiling this history.

Betty Platania

(Continued from page 1)

MAKE YOUR POSITION
KNOWN.

WRITE TO:
Commissioner Ewald
Nyquist, State Board
of Regents, Albany,
New York 12224

Mr. Joseph G. Barkan
Board of Education
110 Livingston Street
Brooklyn, New York
11201

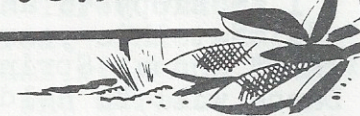
Mrs. Genevieve S.
Klein, State Board of
Regents, Albany,
New York 12224

BE MY VALENTINE

Feb. 14



**THE CORNY
CORNER**



Some wives don't get mad — they get even.

The trouble with today's economy is that when a man's rich, it's all on paper. But when he's broke, it's cash.

Probably nothing else in the world arouses more false hopes than the first four hours on a new reducing diet.