

Hospitals Plan to Hike Room, Service Rates

By DICK BAUMBACH

Elmira — St. Joseph's and Arnet Ogden Hospitals have recently announced an increase in room rates. The increases are allowed under Phase II price guidelines.

However, a spokesman for both hospitals indicated that the increases will not be sufficient to balance the 1972 budget.

The spokesman said even with substantial reductions in all expense areas, an appeal will probably have to be made through governmental channels for additional revenue.

It was pointed out that although there might be a reduction in the two budgets all efforts are being exerted to maintain quality care.

The spokesman said the inability of the hospitals to balance their respective budgets results from governmental regu-

lations, failure of all upstate New York hospitals to reach satisfactory contract agreements with Blue Cross, and the uncertainties of Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement.

Additional reasons were new construction and services developed within the past year which resulted in certain increases in amortization and interest costs in financing not taken into consideration by the Phase II guidelines.

Rates will jump by \$6 for a private room. The price currently is \$64 per day. Semi-private rates will not be changed.

The hospitals also plan to increase the costs of other services which is allowed under the current Phase II guidelines.

The spokesman said the increases will take place when accounting procedures have been changed.

Youth Problems To Be Topic

Corning — Father Joseph Bernier, SSS, will hold two one-hour sessions to discuss youths and their problems at St. Vincent's Church hall here on Jan. 17 and 18.

Father Bernier is noted for his success in working with young persons.

Father Bernier will also hold a special meeting of Nocturnal Adoration Society members of Corning Catholic churches on Jan. 16 at St. Vincent's at 8 p.m.

No exact time for Father Bernier's youth sessions has been announced.

MONITORS NEEDED

Apalachin — A call for monitors to help with CCD classes at St. Margaret Mary church here has been made.

Three monitors are needed for each Monday night CCD session. The monitors help the CCD teachers set up class lessons, run film strips and maintain discipline in the church and parking lot areas.

Those interested can contact one of the parish priests.

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BERGERON

Albert P. Bergeron, former account executive in public relations at Hutchins/Darcy Inc., has been appointed associate director of public relations at the University of Rochester.

Bergeron is married to the former Catherine Meisenzahl of Rochester. The couple have three children and live at 61 Alberta Dr., Penfield. They are parishioners of St. Joseph's Church.

Auburn CDA Fetes Children, Elderly

Auburn — Court Auburn, Catholic Daughters of America, met at Riordan's Restaurant for their annual Christmas dinner. Mrs. Gladys Holmes was piano accompanist for carol singing.

was directed by Miss Bernadine J. Cox.

Court Auburn's Christmas projects included gifts to local nursing homes and greetings to shut-in members, under the leadership of Miss Mary Murphy. A holiday party at the School for Retarded Children

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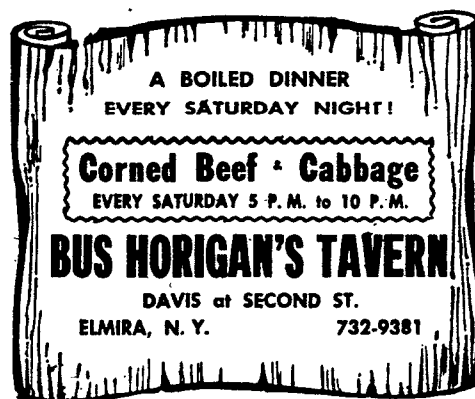
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Fr. Pignato Reassigned

Father Salvatore Pignato, MS, a native of Elmira, has been assigned by the LaSalette Missionaries to the Metropolitan Medical Center in Minneapolis, Minn.

Nativity Statues Stolen, Returned

New York — (RNS)—Statues of the Virgin Mary and St. Joseph, stolen from a nativity scene in front of St. Agnes church on Christmas Eve, have been returned.

The statue of St. Joseph had been sold for \$1.50 by the thief. A news item on the theft alerted the purchaser, who returned the statue to the rectory. The statue of Mary was left on the church steps on Dec. 30.

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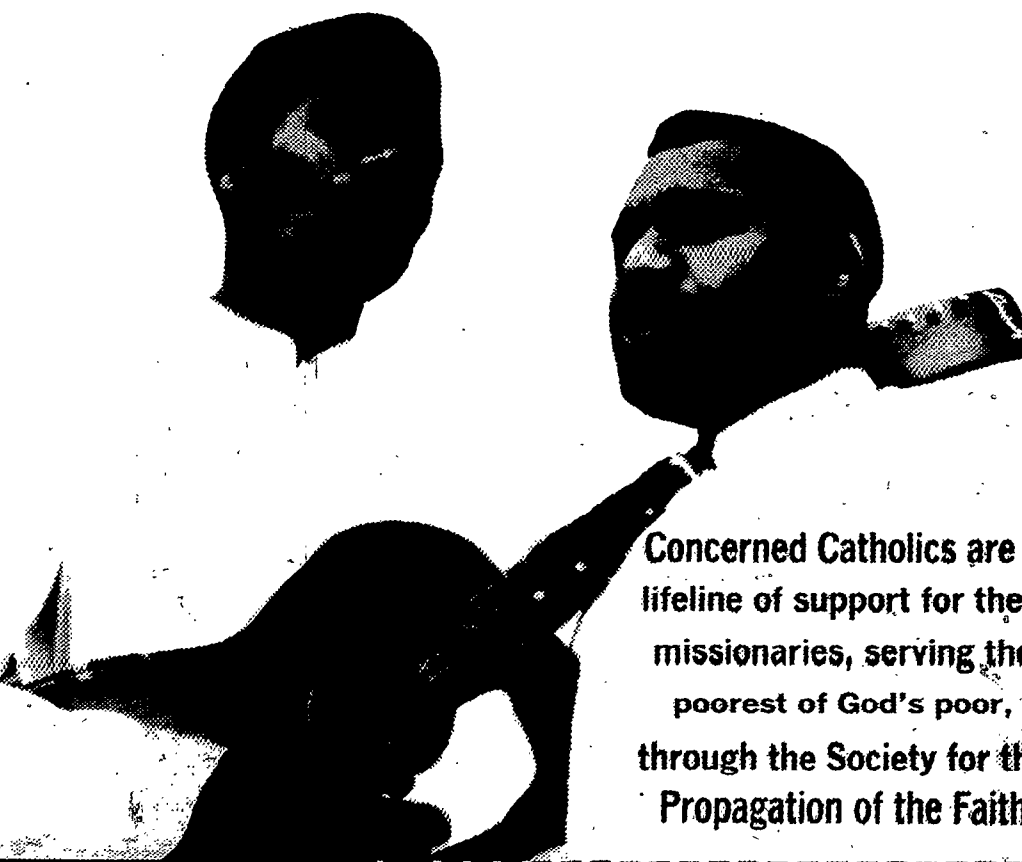
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