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Southern Tier: Martin Toombs 268 W. 13th St., B-1 Elmira Heights, N.Y. 14903 (607) 732-3371

COURIER-JOURNAL Southern Tier-Auburn Geneva

Auburn-Geneva: Mary Ann Ginnerty 294¹/₂ South Street Rd. Auburn, N.Y. (315) 253-2171

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Father Elmer Schmidt, left, welcoming his temporary replacement, Father Anthony Valente, to St. Margaret Mary, Apalachin.

West Side Pastors Try 10 Days Story

Photos by Martin Toombs

Left, Tony and Maria (Mike Blowney and Sandy Ives) sing a duet during a production of West Side Story in Owego, oblivious of the tensions that will cause a fight (above) between Riff, Tony's best friend, and Bernardo, Maria's brother. **Riff was portrayed by Sean** Collins, and Bernardo by James Orlando in the play sponsored by the St. **Patrick's Christian** Awareness Program recently. More than 60 local teenagers were involved in the production, directed by Bob O'Gara. The music was conducted by Ted Ronsvale, and Richard Schaal did the choreography. The advisors of the Christian Awareness Program are Martha and

'In Each Other's Shoes' Apalachin—Father Elmer Schmidt, St. Margaret Mary pastor, and Father Anthony Valente, co-pastor of St.

Michael's, Rochester, are switching places for the first 10 days of August.

The two parishes are very different. St. Margaret Mary's is a primarily suburban parish, in the southeast corner of the diocese. St. Michael's, 120 miles away, is an old urban parish, now serving a largely Puerto Rican and black and elderly community.

Father Schmidt explained the exchange in his bulletin, noting that "during my priesthood I have been stationed in middle class year. parishes and have enjoyed and profited from these years'

"However, for my own growth and appreciation, I thought I could also gain and give in another type of parish. So, I selected St. Michael's, Rochester, which is presently serving a Puerto Rican and black community. I plan to give a little and gain a lot during a short stay in such an environment.

The two priests met in Apalachin and exchanged notes on each other's activities

St. Patrick's Elects Officers

Elmira-St. Patrick's Parish Council has elected officers and appointed representatives for the coming

Aug: 1.

Father Schmidt was left with a three-page list of meetings and programs at St. Michael's during the 10 days.

For his part, Father Valente jokingly told Father Schmidt that he was welcome to return immediately to Apalachin, but that he intended to spend the entire 10 days at St. Margaret Mary regardless.

be the vice president, and Marty Kain will be the council's secretary.

Thomas and Tony



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Set Aug. 17

Elmira A panel discussion on the Rutgers Summer School of Alcohol Studies will be presented as the August Alcoholism Seminar at St. Joseph's Hospital. The seminar will be Thursday, Aug. 17, at 12:15 p.m., in the Doctors Meeting Room.

Further information can be obtained from the Social Work STARS Department at St. Joseph's, 733-6541, ex. tension 564.

Family Picnic

Auburn-The Divorced, Separated and Widowed Organization will sponsor a Family Picnic here at Emerson Park on Sunday, Aug. 13 from 12-6 p.m. at the Beach House Area.

The organization asks that people who plan to attend bring their own food and a dish to pass. For further information and reservations call Robert Kaufman, Seymour St., Auburn, 253Lewis Sauerbrey.

Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Scheduled

Elmira-The diabetic by area ophthalmologists who screening retinopathy program of St. Joseph's Hospital will be conducted outside the regular screening location on Tuesday, Aug. 22 from 1 to 4:30 p.m., when it will be at the Southport Fire Station.

The regular screening during August, in the Elmira Medical Arts Center adjacent to the hospital, will be on Aug. 15. The screening is limited to patients who have been diagnosed diabetics and who do not have an ophthalmologist. Those wishing to be tested must make an appointment by calling the Ambulatory Care Department at the hospital, 733-6541, extension 539.

Literature on diabetic retinopathy will be distributed at the clinics. This is made possible by contributions of local Lions Clubs.

The screening is performed

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contribute their services. Initiated in April, the screening sessions have 119 clients; 14 were diagnosed as having diabetic retinopathy the youngest being 17 years old, and the oldest, 78.

> If detected in time, treatment is provided with an Argon Laser purchased through contributions of the Anderson/Evans Foundation and the Thatcher Glass Manufacturing Company.

All Saints Festival Aug. 6

Lansing-All Saints Parish Summer Festival will be Sunday, Aug. 6 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Lansing Rod and Gun Club, Salmon Creek Road, Ludlowville. A chicken barbecue will be served beginning at noon. All proceeds will benefit the building fund.

Michael Tarby will serve as president, Betty DeBlasio will

Saints' Lives

Auriesville-An all night vigil in honor of Our Lady, Queen of Martyrs, will take place Aug. 12 at the Martyr's Shrine here. Mary-Eunice Spagnola, a former Rochesterian, will perform a vignette depicting how Saints Isaac Jogues and Rene Goupil said the first recorded Rosary in New York State.

The Auriesville shrine has long been known as the place where Americans first shed their blood for Christ and where Venerable Kateri Tekakwitha was born.

Painting Donated

Auburn--A painting of Mother Seton, the first American-born saint, was donated by John Pilla to St. Francis of Assisi Church here recently. Mr. Pilla painted the scene in thanksgiving for his 50th wedding anniversary celebrated June 30. The Pillas, who reside on Grove Street, presented the painting to Father John Nacca, St. Francis' pastor.

Stapleton were appointed to the Chemung-Schuyler Family Life Committee, and Betty DeBalsio was appointed to chair a committee on the revision of the Parish Council Constitution. Plans also were approved for a "town hall" type parish council meeting in the fall.

Officers Elected

Elmira-New officers for the Elmira Chapter of the Catholic Ladies of Charity were elected, at the group's July meeting. They are Mrs. Salvatore Millazzo, president; Mrs. Anthony Belliza, vice president; Theresa Hourihan, treasurer, and Mrs. Walter Laundenslager, secretary.

