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OUR 96th YEAR

25 Cents

County Lists Fuel Aid Sites

Two Monroe County departments and two community agencies have joined forces to assist low and marginal income families meet fuel and utility needs this winter.

The agencies are: The Monroe County Department of Social Services, Monroe County Office for the Aging, Action for a Better Community and the New York State Unemployment Insurance Benefit Offices.

According to Gabriel T. Russo, Social Services Director, the Department of Social Services will assist public assistance families through its ongoing public programs. Other low or marginal income households will be helped by ABC and NYSUIB.

New York State has set aside \$525,638 for a fuel-for-heat program called the Energy Crisis Assistance Program (ECAP). ABC and NYSUIB will take applications from families whose incomes are within 125 percent of the poverty level. These levels are divided into farm and non-farm families. If, for example, a non-farm family of four's income is at or below \$8,375 per year, that family would qualify for the

ECAP funds. Completed applications will be sent by these agencies to the state, which will provide up to \$300 for each family. This will be in the form of a line-of-credit established with the applicant's fuel oil company or utility.

According to ABC executive director, James McCuller, payments will go directly to the vendor. A fuel bill and verification of income must be presented when applying for the ECAP program. Birth certification also should be provided.

Public assistance recipients faced with a utility shut-off or discontinuance of fuel delivery should contact their Income Maintenance worker. About 4,800 recipients receive a "heat allowance" between October and May. However, since this allotment may not be enough to pay heating bills, the department will pay the overage, according to a Social Service release.

Applications may also be picked up at the Unemployment Insurance Offices: 111 Clinton Ave. North; and 276 Waring Rd. from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and the Office for the Aging, 375 Westfall Rd., from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Cambodia

\$30,000 Raised Here

Nearly \$30,000 has, as of press time, been raised in the Diocese of Rochester for Cambodia Relief.

Father Joseph Reinhart, chief of the diocesan Missions Office, which is the collecting point for funds to feed the starving in Cambodian refugee camps, said last week that the response has been "extraordinary."

He said that not only individuals but also parish groups have been sending in donations. On one day last week, he said, 98 envelopes containing relief funds were delivered to his office. He also said that, at least in one instance, an entire weekend collection at a parish was donated to the cause.

Monies collected will be sent to Catholic Relief Services, the national agency which has convoys of trucks and ships bearing food and medical supplies at refugee points on the Cambodian border.

Father Reinhart noted that the Society for the Propagation of the Faith has also been a major contributor to the relief effort.

Persons wishing to donate funds for the starving in Cambodia have been asked to contact:

Cambodia Relief
123 East Ave.
Rochester, N.Y. 14604

DPC Debates School Board Plans

By Martin Toombs

Canandaigua — The Diocesan Pastoral Council (DPC) had a spirited debate on the proposal to study the feasibility of a strong diocesan school board at its meeting Saturday.

Two speakers addressed the proposal, made by Northwest delegate Anthony Rosati, during the nearly hour-and-a-half discussion.

Sister Roberta Tierney, Education Division director, said the diocesan school board idea is "not feasible based on the teachings of the Church today," instead pointing out that such a diocesan board should be a "Board of

Education," concerned with all education programs, rather than a school board, only dealing with the Catholic schools.

Sister Roberta noted that 125 dioceses in the country have such boards of education.

And Martin Tracy, Chemung County General Education Board president, opened his remarks by stating that "what has been proposed here boggles my mind."

He detailed the history of the seven-parish, four-school system in Elmira, describing the system's difficulties and its accomplishments. He concluded by stating that the

concept of a consolidated school system works on the local level, but is "not suited for diocesan-wide application."

Rosati responded to Sister Roberta's comments on his proposal, disputing the difference between a school board and a board of education, saying that he was not interested in terminology but in saving schools.

Father James Marvin moved an amendment to the proposal to have the committee study a board of education rather than a school board. His amendment was approved 30 to 7, with two abstentions.

John Schmidt, appointed

member representing renewal groups, expressed a view with which other members agreed when he said that every time a proposal to aid schools is offered, the response is that there are other considerations. He called that indicative of a "lack of true diocesan support" for Catholic schools.

Rosati, apparently disturbed by some comments made, emphasized that "all we're saying is study the darn thing."

Elaine Clausen, North Region delegate, noted that she had opposed the proposal, but after hearing the discussion she would vote in

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Where to Apply

- Southeast Center, 835 South Ave.
- Southwest Center, 540 Clarissa St.
- Northeast Center, 700 Norton St.
- Northwest Center 1, 506 Jay St.
- Northwest Center 2, 395 Emerson St.
- Garson Meyer Downtown Center, 168 S. Clinton Ave.
- Baden Center, 471 Upper Falls Blvd.
- Eastside Community Center, 145 Parsells Ave.
- St. Michael's Church, 343 Clifford Ave.
- Charlotte Neighborhood Center, 4488 Lake Ave.
- Greece Center, 3000 Dewey Ave.
- Eastern Monroe Center, 119 West Elm St., East Rochester.
- Western Monroe Center, 35 State St., Brockport
- Wheatland Nutrition Center, Wheatland-Chili School.
- Ogden Center, 200 Union St., Spencerport.
- Irondequoit Center, 154 Pinegrove Ave., Irondequoit.
- Webster Center, Ebner Dr., Webster.

Hornell Hospital Proposals Aired

By Martin Toombs
Southern Tier Editor

Hornell — A critical point in the negotiations to merge St. James Mercy and Bethesda hospitals was reached Nov. 15, when the merger consultant presented nine possible plans for the future health care system in the Hornell area.

Plans call for the two hospital boards to select their preference within 60 days. Within days of their decision the proposal will be sent to the state Health Department and the Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency. Thomas Weil, the consultant, said at a

news conference at St. James Nov. 16.

The options detail services to be provided at each site. Weil noted that all the options involve some compromises.

The two-inch thick document including the options which will be the Certificate of Need application after the boards select an option, took more than a year and probably cost \$15,000 to write, Weil noted.

The first three options were excluded from consideration quickly; they were building a new hospital, placing all services at Bethesda, or

placing all services at St. James. All were judged too expensive.

Six more have been offered, and Weil noted his reluctance to support the first two. They call for a corporate merger without a capital expense plan, or for dropping the merger idea. Both would do a disservice to health care in the Hornell area, Weil said.

The third option would place 30 medical-surgical beds, gynecology, obstetrics, pediatrics, psychiatric and alcoholism units at Bethesda, making it the "child and maternal health center." St. James would have 120

medical-surgical beds and all ancillary services, which would be emergency room, intensive care-coronary care unit, pathology, radiology, and the surgical suite.

That plan would cost about \$6 million, Weil said, and is the "least expensive route." It does have drawbacks, he noted, in that pediatrics and obstetrics would be separate from the intensive care and other services.

Option 4 would reverse option 3, and would involve a major expansion of the Bethesda building so it could

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