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OUR 97th YEAR

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Photo by Martin Toombs

Rolling Along at 101

Mrs. Anna Huffmaster, age 101, and six-year-old David Dougherty proudly display the trophies they captured for winning their respective wheelchair races at the First Annual Fund Run sponsored by the Twin Tiers Rehabilitation Center at St. Joseph's Hospital in Elmira. Mrs. Huffmaster won the adult race and David took top prize in the youth race. Story on page 9.

Communications Collection Scheduled for June 7-8

By Sister Roberta Tierney
SSND

It is natural for us to want to tell others of the things that bring us joy, the things that have caused pain. By telling another person we are able to communicate ourselves and to share experiences which bring us closer together.

In the same way, a lack of clear communication can cause confusion, lack of understanding and separation. We see this not only on the personal level, but on the national level throughout history.

Jesus made use of the limited time He had on earth to communicate to others — as teacher, as healer and as minister. Before He ascended

into heaven He gave the message to His apostles — "Go, therefore, make disciples of all nations . . . and know that I am with you always, yes, to the end of time."

How did the apostles respond to that message? They told the story of Jesus to all whom they met; they traveled from shore to shore to distant lands to carry the message of the love and person of Jesus. Through their communication — oral and written — through their actions — they helped others to know Jesus; once they knew Him, they loved and followed His way.

History recounts the valiant efforts of men and women who moved forward carrying the message of Jesus

to the very ends of the earth constantly calling others to join them.

Today, Jesus continues to speak through us, His Church. Each of us is called to be a living communication of Christ's Gospel to others. We are called to reach out beyond those in the inner circles of our lives to those who have not heard the Good News. Pope Paul VI reminded us:

"There is no true evangelization if the name, the teaching, the life, the promise, the kingdom and the mystery of Jesus of Nazareth, the Son of God, is not proclaimed. *Evangelie Nuntiandi*.

The Bishops of the U.S. strengthened their endorsement to proclaim the message of Jesus to our people in our time by initiating the Catholic Communication Campaign of 1979. The purpose of this campaign is to seek assistance of all of our people to support ways to use the media to spread the Good News both nationally and locally.

Following the direction of Bishop Clark, a special committee has been formed to

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Way International Draws Fire from Christians, Jews

By John Dash

Bishop Frank Harrison of Syracuse recently was quoted in that diocesan newspaper, The Sun, as saying he had received information on an organization called Way International which was "very disturbing."

In a page one article, unsigned but penned by Wesley Brush, the paper's executive editor, Bishop Harrison was quoted as saying he felt "compelled to caution our Catholic people about the tenets of the program. There are tones in it of anti-Semitism and cultism which are simply not in keeping with our Christian way of life."

The article mentioned that Way International is active in Rochester and Syracuse, a fact confirmed by a number of sources. A telephone number for a Rochester center provided by one of the sources did not answer repeated calls, however.

According to a paper filed with the student government at Rochester Institute of Technology, and made available to the Courier-Journal, the Way is self-described as "a worldwide Biblical Research and teaching ministry designed to study the Bible minutely and to teach the inherent accuracy of the Word as it was originally 'God-Breathed.' The Way is not a church and it is non-denominational. We are dedicated to setting forth before people the astonishing accuracy and practicality of God's Word and letting people decide themselves whether to believe and use it."

At \$200 to \$300 a crack.

The Sun stated, "Potential members are required to take the 'Power for Abundant Living' classes at their own expense of \$200-\$300 per course. Repetition of the course is necessary if the candidate cannot 'speak in tongues' or feels depressed at the end of it."

According to Richard Kessler, staff writer at The Sun, who has had close contact with the group, tithing of as much as 60 per cent of one's income is demanded of members.

Power for Abundant Living, according to the

Way's own paper, is "the fundamental outreach of the Way ministry." It "is designed to provide maximum education in minimum time. The program reveals all the basic keys a man needs to know to unlock the Scriptures and get them working in his life."

For not being a "church" yet having a "fundamental outreach of . . . ministry," Way International is remarkably hierarchical in organization. Under a section entitled "Meetings," the Way paper states:

"The Way is set up like a tree with twigs, branches, limbs, trunk and root. The root is the international headquarters in New Knoxville, Ohio."

It is from that point that Victor Paul Wierwille, the founder of the group, runs the operation.

According to Moody Monthly, a publication of the Moody Bible Institute of Chicago, Wierwille attended Mission House College and the University of Chicago Divinity School and graduated from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Wierwille left a post as minister with the United Church of Christ and organized his movement in 1953, Moody states. It was, however, 1968 when the organization began taking off.

There are an estimated 50,000 persons involved in Way International today, according to several sources.

Bishop Harrison was not alone in Syracuse with his distress over activities of Way International. He was joined in his caution to Catholics by Dorothy Rose, executive director of the Syracuse Area Interreligious Council, who expressed concern in particular about the dissemination of anti-Semitic information contained in the group's literature.

According to The Sun, Way members are "taught that the Holocaust did not occur, and the texts supporting that position are virulently anti-Semitic."

It also reported that the Jewish Community Relations Council of New York has issued an alert to all of its membership on that point.

Felecie Musman of that council said in a telephone interview last week that the Manhattan-based council considers Way International "particularly frightening," because of its attitudes toward Jews.

At the end of March this year, the council issued an alert on missionary activity slated by Way International. The alert stated:

"Dr. Seymour Lachman,

Continued on Page 2

Bishop Clark Moving To Cathedral Rectory

Bishop Matthew H. Clark will take up residence on or about July 1 in the Cathedral rectory on Flower City Park.

His secretary, Father Charles Latus, also will be moving into the rectory at that time. Both have been

living at the rectory of St. John the Evangelist on Humboldt Street.

Last week it was announced that Father Robert J. Miller, presently at Good Shepherd in Henrietta, would become rector of the Cathedral on June 25.

American Bishops Weighing Plan to Curtail Holy Days

Washington (RNS) — America's Catholic bishops are being asked to comment on a plan to reduce the obligatory holy days — days other than Sundays — from six to two.

The feasts to be retained, according to a proposal from the bishops' liturgy committee, are Christmas and the Immaculate Conception (Dec. 8).

Three feasts would be dropped — All Saints (Nov. 1), the Assumption (Aug. 15) and the Solemnity of Mary, the Mother of God (Jan. 1). The sixth feast, Ascension Thursday, would be moved to the seventh Sunday after Easter.

The Vatican is proposing to allow the bishops of each country to choose its own holy days but specifies that they must retain Christmas and one feast day dedicated to the Blessed Virgin. In the United States, Mary is honored as the national patroness under the title of Immaculate Conception.