

# Southern Tier

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# Auburn-Geneva

## Pre-School To Open In Corning

Corning — A few openings remain for the new pre-school program in the St. Vincent DePaul convent, according to Sister Ann Miller, principal of the Corning schools.

The two-day session is full, she noted, and five openings remain in the three-day session for the new program. The convent now will be known as the St. Vincent DePaul Childhood Center, sister noted, but will be part of the Corning school system, working with Corning Catholic School North, also at St. Vincent's. The sisters who previously lived at St. Vincent's have moved to St. Patrick's convent.

Sister Ann noted that Sister Ann Michelle of the diocesan Education Department was scheduled to meet with the faculty today (Sept. 3), with school set to open on Thursday. Sister Ann Michelle will be working with the school in following up on the school self-study done last year, Sister Ann explained.

A new English program has been adopted for all grades this year, Sister Ann noted, and a new reading program will be piloted in the first and second grades both in Catholic School North and Catholic School South.

Plans also call for a student council in the junior high this year, she noted.

## St. Patrick's Opens for 150

Owego — A re-carpeted and re-painted school greeted about 150 students at St. Patrick's when school opened today.

And the fall should be a busy time for the school, according to Sister Miriam Nugent, principal. A Home-School Association meeting Monday, Sept. 8, will give parents a chance to see the school and their children's teachers, sister noted, and the meeting also will be an important planning session for the association's annual fall festival, coming up Saturday, Sept. 27.

## Meeting Scheduled

Elmira — St. Casimir's Rosary and Sacred Heart Society will have its first meeting of the year Wednesday, Sept. 3. The installation of new officers will follow the 5:15 p.m. Mass, which in turn will be followed by a pot luck supper.

Members and those interested in joining are invited, and asked to bring a dish to pass.

New officers are Joy Spirawik, president; Andrea Paggio, vice president; Cathy Cokely, secretary; Mary Ann Novotny, treasurer, and Nannette Mandeville, marshal.



## Going Up

Work is progressing on the wheelchair ramp under construction at St. Patrick's Church in Owego.

## Dean Sage Speakers Announced by Cornell

Ithaca — Cornell University has announced a new scheduling procedure for its Dean Sage Speakers at the Sunday Sage Chapel Convocations during this school year.

The Dean Sage Speakers, featured guests who have national reputations, will speak as part of services at 12:15 p.m. rather than 11 a.m., in order to avoid conflict with other religious services on campus and in Ithaca, according to W. Jack Lewis, director of Cornell's United Religious Work.

Other Sage Chapel services will be at 11 a.m., and will feature Cornell chaplains, faculty and staff as homilists.

The fall schedule for the 12:15 featured presentations also was released.

## Monastery Festival

Pine City — The celebration of the 1500th anniversary of the birth of St. Benedict of Nursia, the founder of the Benedictines, will highlight the fall festival at Mount Saviour Monastery, Sunday, Sept. 21.

The annual event, which draws thousands to the monastery located off Hendy Hollow Road in the town of Big Flats, commemorates the founding of the monastery in 1950 and the dedication of the Chapel of Our Lady Queen of Peace in 1953.

Dr. and Mrs. Robert Hain of Elmira and Brother Pierre Pratt are coordinators of the event which will begin with a consecrated outdoor Mass sung by the monks at 10 a.m.

Festival activities begin at 11 a.m. and include a Fine Arts Exhibit featuring the work of Benedictine monks

On Sept. 14, Kosuke Koyama, a Japanese theologian who is now a visiting professor of ecumenics and world Christianity at Union Theological Seminary, New York City, will speak.

On Oct. 19, Emil Fackenheim, philosophy professor at the University of Toronto will speak, and on Nov. 9, William Irwin Thompson, founder of Lindesfarne Association, Crestone, Colo., and author of "The Edge of History: Passages about Earth," will be featured.

The Dec. 14 service will feature Valerie E. Russell, former national executive associate of the United Church of Christ, who is involved in preparing the anniversary celebration for Riverside Church, New York City.

and sisters, area artists and craftspersons. Other events include a children's program, arts and crafts demonstrations, and musical entertainment.

A street of shops will feature Handmades, The Jelly Jar, Potpourri, The Green Thumb, Kids Stuff, Try or Buy, and the Mount Saviour Shop. Hot foods, desserts and beverages will be available throughout the day. The festival closes with Vespers at 6 p.m.

Committee chairpersons for the festival are John Boler, facilities; Sandy Ferreira, street of shops; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Ivers and Brother Luke Pape, fine arts; Michael Gonta and Brother Gabriel Duffee, music; Dorothy Kaiser, publicity; Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Roe, children's program; and Barbara Sekella, arts and crafts.

# Sisters Drop Fight With General Mills

Minneapolis — Religious activists who have been trying to get General Mills Inc. to change the way it advertises its children's products appear to have reached an agreement with the food giant.

Two orders of Roman Catholic nuns, both shareholders of General Mills, have withdrawn a resolution they planned to place on the company's proxy statement, to be mailed shortly to stockholders.

The resolution, which would have been formally presented at General Mills' annual meeting Sept. 22, would have asked for the following:

- An end to television advertising aimed at children 8 years old and younger.

- An end to television advertising for sugary products such as pre-sweetened cereals, aimed at children 12 years old and younger.

- The addition of messages on good nutrition, to balance the impact of such ads where they were permitted.

The same resolution was presented at last year's annual meeting, where it was defeated despite the support of more than 2,000 stockholders. More than four million shares, or 10.75 percent of the total voting, were cast in favor of the measure.

General Mills still has not agreed to those provisions. But at a meeting in late July, company officials and the religious groups discussed a new General Mills policy that specifically covers advertising aimed at children.

That policy — and a promise by General Mills to continue to study ways to promote nutrition to youngsters — led the religious orders to drop their resolution at least for this year.

The orders are Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother, Milwaukee, and Sisters of Mercy of the Province of Detroit, Farmington Hills, Mich.

Ironically, the new policy doesn't call for substantially different advertising, according to Art Schultz, group vice president for consumer foods.

For example, one provision says TV ads should show cereals being eaten not as snacks but with milk as part of a nutritionally complete breakfast. General Mills has portrayed its cereals in such a way since 1974, Schultz said.

What's important to the religious orders is that such guidelines now are in writing, in a document that emphasizes the special problems created by advertising to youngsters, said Sister Bernadette Palma, a member of the Sisters of the Sorrowful Mother in Milwaukee.

"I think since last year's annual meeting General Mills has had a lot of time to study this issue," she said. "They must have listened a little to what we had to say last year."

"The fact that they now have a written policy where before they didn't is an important first step," Sister Palma said. "It's a gesture of good will on their part. Now we have to watch and see what else they do."

The resolution that would have been presented at the General Mills meeting is part of a nationwide campaign sponsored by the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility, a New York-based organization of Protestant denominations and Catholic dioceses and orders. The interfaith group already had stockholding members present similar resolutions at the annual meetings of General Foods Corp., where it received 5.8 percent of the voting shares, and of Kellogg Co., where it got 3.5 percent.

The interfaith group's proposals are identical to regulations under study by the Federal Trade Commission. The FTC has gathered testimony from food companies that oppose limits on the ads and from consumer groups and public health officials, who believe tooth decay, obesity and other health problems could be reduced if children weren't encouraged to eat sugary foods.

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