

COURIER-JOURNAL

Southern Tier-Auburn Geneva

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Rose MacFeiggan, volunteer director, looks over the shoulder of Stanley Douglas, community relations director, to see the name of the person winning the Swartwood award, selected from among those who have compiled 2,500 hours of volunteer service to the hospital. The winner, Mildred Stewart, was not at the meeting.

Volunteer Selected For Swartwood Award

Elmira — The first winner of what will be an annual series of awards made possible by a bequest was selected at the fall banquet of St. Joseph's Auxiliary Sept. 25.

Mildred Stewart was selected as the winner of the \$200 award from among those volunteers who have compiled more than 2,500 hours of volunteer service at St. Joseph's.

The award, and two others which will be made each year, was made possible by a bequest of James E. Swartwood, who was killed in a car accident last year.

The bequest is a continuation of gifts to St. Joseph's to benefit employees which began following the 1972 Agnes Flood. A visit to St. Joseph's at that time left Mr. Swartwood impressed with the staff as it faced the

Elderly Note Concern With Financial Issues

By Martin Toombs
Southern Tier Editor

Bath — Financial issues dominated discussion at the Community Forum on Issues of Aging sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging in Steuben County at Haverling High School Sept. 27.

The forum, the start of a series of regional and state hearings leading to the White House Conference on Aging scheduled for Washington in the fall of 1981, drew 90 primarily elderly persons from throughout Steuben County to comment on issues affecting the elderly.

The session began with a talk by Congressman Stanley Lundine (D-39), who addressed several issues and answered questions.

The sponsoring agency, the Area Agency on Aging, operates programs for the elderly for Steuben County.

These participating had the opportunity to attend two of four workshops offered, which dealt with economic

task of restoring the facility. As a result, he made an annual gift of \$600 to be used for employee activities.

Interest from the fund designated by his will will be presented in three awards annually: one to a volunteer with more than 2,500 hours of service; one to an OPPY award winner, to be determined by a drawing of those still active at the hospital who have received the award; the third will go to a staff member who has attained 10 or more years of service, in multiples of five years, and has received a Service Award.

Mr. Swartwood, a partner in the firm of Perry and Swartwood Insurance, was a member of the hospital's Honorary Board, and active in community affairs. His wife, Alberta, and he also initiated a scholarship fund for student nurses which is now given by his firm.

status, transportation, health, and roles of older Americans.

Speaking in the workshop on economic status, participants noted their concern with utility rate increases and the tax on utilities and on the need for property tax relief.

Property taxes emerged as the primary issue, as participants expressed the view that they should be allowed to vote on city school district budgets to remove "frills" from the schools. One speaker called for property tax relief for those retired but less than 65 years of age. The group also agreed that the state should reduce the dependence on property taxes by providing the funds to pay for its mandates.

Home care was a major emphasis of those speaking in the health workshop, but financial issues again were raised. One suggestion was that a tax credit be available for those persons caring at home for an infirm relative.

Participants also expressed a need for private insurance

Hospice Care Discussed

Coopers Plains — Ninety persons, including health care personnel, physicians, clergy and hospice volunteers, attended the "Hospice Way of Living with Cancer" program at the Watson Homestead Thursday, Sept. 18, sponsored by the Professional Education Committee of the Steuben County American Cancer Society in cooperation with Southern Tier Hospice.

The program provided participants with first-hand accounts of hospice care, and how hospice team members' communication and mutual support contributes to patients, families and care givers.

The day-long program got under way with Father Eugene Eno and Sister Augustine Malley of the pastoral care department of St. James Mercy Hospital, Hornell, giving the welcome and making the introductions.

During the morning session, Charlotte Shedd, RN, chairperson of Hospice Buffalo, Inc.; Rev. Eugene Ulrick, board member of Hospice Buffalo, and Martin Schaefer, project director for Southern Tier Hospice, shared their experiences and reviewed their respective programs.

The afternoon was devoted to group sessions discussing the care of patients in the hospital and home setting.

The program concluded with a comment and question period.

Deadline

The deadline for submitting news to the Courier-Journal is noon on Thursday preceding the following Wednesday's publication.

carriers to pay more quickly, and noted the problems caused when a doctor or hospital fails to accept the Medicare "reasonable charge" as payment. One man noted that he had to make up the difference between a \$225 "reasonable charge" as determined by Medicare, and his doctor's \$750 bill.

Several times during the health workshop, Linda Patrick, administrator of the Founders Pavilion in Corning, workshop moderator, and Judy Herman, executive director of the Area Agency on Aging, replied to requests for a specific service by noting that the service already exists.

Mrs. Herman finally noted her frustration with the fact that apparently her agency and the others are not "getting the word" about available services to those for whom the service is designed, something which will have to be worked on, she said.

The workshop results will be compiled and taken to a regional hearing scheduled for Nov. 8 at Keuka College. The state hearing is planned for next April in Albany.



The leadership of the fund drive for St. Mary's, Corning, at a meeting for division leaders are, from left, Mary Midéy, Tom Yorlo, Pat Bennett, Father Hogan, Jim Dugan and Norm McGowan of State-wide Counseling Service.

St. Mary's Launches Restoration Effort

Corning — Parishioners of St. Mary's Parish have been advised by their pastor, Father Michael Hogan, that the Parish Council has approved plans to restore and renovate the church building.

The cornerstone was laid in the current church on June 10, 1866, by Bishop Timon of Buffalo, Corning being part of the Buffalo diocese at the time. St. Mary's Parish dates to 1848, placing it among the Rochester diocese's oldest.

The wear and tear of the past 114 years will require major structural repairs to the foundation, basement, floor supports, roof, steeple and church interior. In addition, some renovations to update the church to meet liturgical needs and provide parishioner comforts also will be included in the project. Among the renovations will be a new sound system, a crying room, new rest rooms, major repairs to the heating and electrical systems, plumbing, repair, and refinishing of all pews, painting of the church interior, insulation of the ceiling and storm windows for all the church windows.

The fund-raising appeal, which will begin Oct. 22, will seek to raise \$400,000. It will be under the leadership of co-chairpersons Patricia Bennett, James Dugan and Thomas Yorlo. A committee of more than 300 volunteers is being organized. Father Thomas Brennan, pastor emeritus, Marion Burrell and Thomas MacAvoy are the honorary chairpersons.

Each of the approximately 750 families will be contacted

Catholic Award Class Forming For Cub Scouts

Corning — Joseph Donahue, awards chairman of the Steuben Catholic Committee on Scouting, has announced the formation class for the Parvuli Dei award for Catholic Cub Scouts under the direction of Father Robert Beligotti, St. Vincent's associate pastor. Candidate cubs should

by a volunteer who will solicit pledges payable over a three-year period.

Father Hogan pointed out that this drive is the first major fund-raising appeal to be conducted in the parish in 20 years. He further stated that the restoration and renovation projects are not luxuries, but absolute necessities, to preserve the

building and to meet the specific needs of the parish.

Any former parishioners or friends of St. Mary's are welcome to participate in this major task, the pastor stated.

The fund-raising program is under the direction of Norman McGowan of State-wide Counseling Service. Mark Bennett of Corning is the architect.



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