



# EXPRESSLY ELEMENTARY



## St. John's Honors Bonnie Klein

On Friday, June 1, St. John the Evangelist School in Greece held a very special "Bonnie Klein Day" to show their appreciation for giving so generously of her time and talents.

Mrs. Klein and her family will be moving to Brazil this summer as a result of her husband's job transfer with Kodak.

Because of this five-foot dynamo, St. John's has joined the "computer generation" in the past two years. Students can be overheard discussing "re-booting their disks," or "debugging their programs."

The secretary watches, smiling as the computer prints out class lists which used to take her days to type. The teachers often take computers home for the weekend sampling programs that can aid them in classroom instruction. Sister Marilyn Reeves, school principal, sneaks to the computer whenever administrative duties allow her the time.

In Fall 1982, Sister Ambrosine Casey, then principal of St. John's, was searching for a parent to organize the annual Catholic Schools Marathon. "Bonnie Klein just happened to be jogging by the window," Sister Ambrosine said. Mrs. Klein, a home computer user and mother of four children attending St. John's, con-



Bonnie Klein works with a student on one of St. John's Apple computer terminals.

vinced the committee to use the proceeds toward the purchase of a few computers.

With the guidance and support of her husband George, Mrs. Klein bought two Apple computers and began St. John's Computer Center in the basement of the school. Her energy and enthusiasm was contagious and soon donations and funds seemed to pour in. Sister Ambrosine remembers that the Kleins "wheeling and dealing" resulted in the addition of six more by mid-year and the current total of 16 computers.

Fund raising and bargaining were only the beginning of Mrs. Klein's commitment.

Realizing that computers are useless without training and hands-on experience, she enlisted the aid of a good friend with lots of computer knowledge, Amy Peritsky.

These two women worked full time during the school year teaching computer classes to both students and teachers. Summer classes were also available.

By September 1983, St. John's Computer Center was in full swing. Mrs. Klein, once again offering her services full time for the school year, organized and trained a group of parents to monitor the computer room after school for children in the "Computer Club."



## Eating the Right Foods

Sister Kathleen Cosgrove, SSJ, teaches her kindergarten class at Guardian Angels School in Henrietta, the advantages of meeting basic nutritional needs. The class held particular significance since June is National Dairy Month. Afterward, the children enjoyed a nutritious breakfast which, of course, included milk.



## Pancake Breakfast

Sister Benedicta, SSJ, and David Knight await a special breakfast of pancakes planned by David's third grade class at St. Mary's School in Canandaigua. The youngsters, taught by Mrs. Cowles, decided on the breakfast and invited teachers and priests to express their thanks for the past year.

## Second Graders Make Their First Communion

Along with daffodils, Easter and the end of the school year, spring also brings to mind for many of us very fond memories of our First Holy Communion ceremony.

On Saturday, May 19, the second grade students at St. Rita's School and Parish in Webster made their First Communion.

Through the combined efforts of their teachers, the parish staff and many of the senior members of the parish, the children of St. Rita's had a very special day that they will long remember.

Two months ago the children's teachers collected a picture of each child who would be making their First Communion. The children put their names and

addresses on the pictures. Sister Marie Martin, and Fathers John Reif, pastor, and Raymond Fleming then passed the pictures out to senior members of the parish.

These generous people became the "adopted grandparents" of the children. Over the past two months they have thought about the children, offered up their prayers for the health and happiness of their "adopted" ones and sent them cards.

May 19 brought them together for the first time. Who was more excited? Who was happier? It would be hard to say. But these children, their families and their "adopted grandparents" will remember this day for a long, long time.



First Communicant Matthew Carlin, foreground, with his parents Martin, background, and Mary Carlin, right, and his "adopted grandparent" Jean Fauth.

## St. Philip's Celebrates Day Honoring Grandparents

St. Philip Neri School celebrated its seventh annual Grandparents Day on Wednesday, May 23.

Grandparents, "real" and adoptive, began arriving at school by 9 a.m. At this time they signed in, met one another, and were served coffee and tea by the eighth graders.

At 10 a.m., the students and grandparents met and proceeded to the church for a shared prayer service, the theme of which was "peace" -- and how each can be a "person of peace." The service concluded with the crowning of the Blessed Virgin by Hope Swann, a first grader.

Afterward, the children and their guests played games, ate lunch, and were entertained by the classes. At day's end, the grandparents received a momento in the form of a small "marshmallow" bear.

The day was fun-filled, happy and most rewarding for all -- grandparents, children and faculty.



## Youngster Wins Contest

Debra Carter, 7, a second grader at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary School in Brockport, was recently awarded second place in a poetry contest sponsored by "Cricket" magazine. For her poem, "The Balloonman of the North Pole," she received a certificate, a book of poetry, and her work printed in the March issue of the national magazine for children ages 6-12. One of her other poems, "In the Morning," was printed last summer in the Democrat and Chronicle's "Upstate" magazine.

## Tests Evaluate Religion

Nineteen-hundred 8th grade pupils in 61 Catholic elementary schools are involved in a biennial testing program that measures students' religious knowledge and attitudes.

The test, Religious Education Outcome Inventory (REOI), was developed by a nationwide task force of religious education specialists with assistance from an educational testing service.

The test includes two components: a 100-item religious knowledge inventory and a 40-item attitude survey. The section which tests religious knowledge asks the pupils questions in six different areas: God, Church, Sacraments, Christian Life, Scripture, and Religious Terms.

The main use of the REOI Program is to help the diocese and the local school monitor the effectiveness of their religion program.

At the last testing session, the highest scoring school in the diocese was St. Peter and St. Paul in Auburn; second place went to Our Lady of Good Counsel, with Most Precious Blood and St. Agnes, Avon, tying for third. Fifty-nine of the schools scored in the average or above average category.

The test, on a nationwide basis, proves that the majority of eighth grade pupils have a wholesome attitude toward their personal relationship with God and recognize and accept traditional Church teaching.



## Just Stretching Their Legs

Students of St. Jerome's School, East Rochester, presented an athletic program of skills learned this past year in physical education classes to family and friends on Wednesday, May 30. Boys and girls in pre-school through eighth grade demonstrated a variety of activities: ball gymnastics, ball handling skills, parachute fun, folk and square dancing, and marching routines. The children are under the direction of Mrs. Norma Dalton, the school's physical education instructor.