

Knights Make Diocesan News

The Knights of Columbus of various councils in the diocese reported news last week.

In Webster, Trinity Council and its Ladies Auxiliary will hold a family open house 2-4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 7 at Webster Columbus Center, 70 Barrett Dr.

The event is designed to enable prospective members and their families to obtain information about the two organizations in an informal setting.

Members of the council and auxiliary will answer

questions and provide information on membership.

Visitors will be able to view several displays on the organization's involvement in church, community and family activities. Entertainment will be provided for children. Refreshments will be served.

Andrew Weidman, council chancellor, and Ann Mumma, auxiliary president, are coordinating the program.

In Spencerport, Pope John XXIII Council named John F. O'Brien "Knight of the Month" for August.

O'Brien, a council member since 1983, serves as council guard and community activities chairman.

"O'Brien has been one of the driving forces in our charitable fund-raising efforts," said Ralph Handley, grand knight, "and is active in a number of other organizations in the Spencerport area."

In Williamson, it was reported that Raymond P. Pfeifer, master of the St. Isaac Jogues Province, and chairman of the Knights' Decent Media Campaign, met recently with Virgil Dechant, supreme knight of the organization on the media program.

The Rochester Council announced that the First Friday Mass and luncheon

will be held 11:45 a.m. Friday, Oct. 5 in the council clubrooms on Thurston Road.

Father Charles Mulligan, diocesan director of Social Ministries, will celebrate the Mass and will speak at the luncheon, prepared and served by the Ladies Auxiliary.

The public is invited to the event promoting devotion to the Sacred Heart.

Our Lady of Cenacle Council of Greece recently donated the proceeds of its annual Charitable and Benevolent fundraising program to the School of the Holy Childhood at a dinner honoring Sister Seraphine Herbst, director of the school, and faculty members.

Perinton Singers Open Seventh Season

The Perinton Chamber Singers, under the direction of Sister Virginia Hogan SSJ, opened their seventh season performing Sunday, Sept. 16 at the Mt. Saviour Monastery in Elmira.

Their appearance was part of a music and arts festival sponsored by the monastery.

The Chamber Singers are an 18-voice group of women established as an extension of the larger 80-member Perinton Community Chorus.

Future performances are scheduled at Fairport Mall and at the Eastport Welcome Wagon Christmas Party.

Members of the group are Terri Alletto, Hannah Berry, Mary Lou Culley, Karen Ferrini, Jean Hamel, Gail Knowles, Drevvi Lowery,

Fay Meagher, Dianne Pegg, Janet Provino, Lois Rixner, Elise Rosenfeld, Martha Skeet, Carol Stark, Kathy Uebel, Shiellee Weidner and Nancy Wint.

An opening exists for a second alto. Auditions can be arranged by contacting Sister Virginia at 223-9006.

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On the Right Side

Keeping In Touch: The Hard Way

Willie Frenken was an 18 year old German prisoner of war at our army stockade in Compiegne, France, in 1945. A robust, kind and scholarly Franciscan was also a P.O.W. and had been assigned by the German Army as a medical corpsman. Our Army Command assigned him as the Catholic chaplain of the German prisoners. He was the best soccer player in the stockade. Through him, since we became good friends, I became a friend to many young German prisoners, especially Willie.

Had Willie been an American he would have been the perfect picture for the front page of the Saturday Evening Post, as the ideal American youth. His features and coloring were similar to our own Father Winfried Kellner. He was a youth of absolute integrity, religious devotion, earnestness, virility and good temper. Sergeant Red Potts, my chaplain's assistant, and he became pals as far as possible under such a set up.

For some years I kept in touch with Willie. Then lost his address and he mine. Finally we made contact about five years ago, when I uncovered an old envelope from him. Father Kohorst was a friend of the famous Father Philotheus Boehner, an international authority on the philosophy of Duns Scotus. Father Philotheus has escaped from the Nazis, and was teaching philosophy at St. Bonaventure University, near Olean. Thomas Merton, in his "Seven Storey Mountain," wrote of Father Philotheus with amusement, recalling that he used to go to the Thursday night movies in the college auditorium just to see the cartoons; then he left as the feature was, to him, a waste of time. Father Kohorst used me as a kind of liaison to send letters to Father Philotheus and to receive packages from him. Father Kress and I visited him at St. Bonaventure's in 1946, on my return from the service, and we recall that we were in the

presence of a very holy man. In July this year, this interesting letter came from Pittsburgh.

"Dear Father Cuddy, Just a quick note to remind us of how small the world really is. My cousin is Willie Frenken, whom you befriended after WW II. His mother and my mother were sisters. My family emigrated to Chicago in 1951 and I have only begun to reestablish communication with my German family since 1982. My wife and daughter joined me in June for a three week visit to Muenchen Gladsbach, Bavaria, reuniting all living-known members of three generations of that family.

"Your name came up at the reunion. When I saw your address, I needed to write this note. Ridge Road, where you live, is probably N.Y. 104. I lived on Ridge Road in Lewiston N.Y. for a number of years when I taught at Niagara University between 1967-68; 1970-74. Isn't Webster a suburb of Rochester? Imagine: all those years of separation for me while a western New York priest, 80 miles away, was communicating with my favorite cousin of early childhood memory.

"Willie is employed by the German IRS and plays the organ and is choir leader at his parish church. He apologized for infrequent correspondence. His memory of you is clear, fond and vivid. His dream continues to be for a visit to us in Pittsburgh, scooting up to see you. I've explained to him how relatively close you are to us. His English is at the 400 words, 20 percent functional level -- being much improved after 19 intensive days with us. His speaking and writing are two different skill levels. A part of my functional accountability in this letter is to acknowledge your place in Willie's memories as well as to extend his and his family's fond wishes to you.

"May I add my own greeting to an obviously kind and gentle man.

"My best, "John Sliwa" Brick-brat letters are more brutal than one of kindness and commendation. So I must prize this in a special way.

Mercy Sisters Resume Faith Sharing Program

The Sisters of Mercy have announced the Faith Sharing Program will resume this Fall.

The first event scheduled is a mini-series on prayer that will be offered in Rochester and the Southern Tier.

● 7:30-9:30 p.m.; three consecutive Mondays -- Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12; at the Mercy Motherhouse. Presenter will be Sister Rita Kaufman RSM.

● 7:30-9:30 p.m.; three

Legion Plans Annual Fete

The Legion of Mary has planned its annual reunion dinner Sunday, Oct. 21, at the Seneca Room, Arena's, 1335 E. Ridge Road. Members are invited to attend 5 p.m. Mass at St. Andrew's Church on Portland Avenue before the dinner scheduled for 6:15 p.m.

The dinner will be sponsored by St. Andrew's praesidium, Queen of Peace, Vera Calnan, president.

consecutive Tuesdays -- Oct. 30, Nov. 6, 13; at Our Lady of Lourdes Convent, Elmira; Presenter will be Sister Pat Prinzing RSM.

According to a press release from the order, each evening will include "a presentation on prayer, discussion and a prayer experience."

Interested women should call Sister Sheila Stevenson, Mercy vocation director, at 716/244-2175; Sister Ann Carapella in Elmira, 607/734-6840; or Sister Pat Prinzing of Hornell, 607/324-0833.

According to the release, "Faith Sharing was designed by the Mercy congregation as an introduction to the spirit of religious life. Through prayer, retreats, discussion and other experiences, it provides an opportunity for women to deepen their knowledge of the call to religious life and to become better acquainted with the lives and ministries of the Sisters of Mercy."

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