



Jeff Goulding/Courier-Journal
 Kelly Marsh is amazed at the computer system's capabilities, as her partner Tim Gibbons waits his turn in the newly rehabbed computer center. The room was formerly used as a library. The books have since been moved to a room that has more space.



Fifth-grade teacher Joan Marcello explains the beginning exercises of the course to an enthusiastic class. Every student in the school is scheduled for some computer time during the week.

Parental help in Greece schools helps faculty dreams come true

By Teresa A. Parsons

Catholic school parents are people from whom much is asked and much is usually received. But at two Greece-area schools this summer, parents outdid themselves, and the results are winning raves as the school year begins.

The computer and remedial/enrichment programs and the library had all grown beyond the boundaries of their respective quarters at Mother of Sorrows School on Mt. Read Boulevard. At St. Lawrence School on North Greece Road, a facelift was due the library, which serves 300 students from kindergarten through grade 8.

With part of the convent already in use, school board members at Mother of Sorrows looked to the church's former choir area for additional school space. As the church was already being renovated, the room to the left of the sanctuary was simply walled off and spruced up with carpet and bookshelves. The result, a roomy new library softly lit by stained glass windows, is located just across the parking lot from the school.

At a dedication ceremony on Thursday, Sept. 12, the school's new computer room was unveiled, complete with 10 of the 12 computers that will be available to students this year. "Before, it was pretty small," recalled fifth-grader Colleen Dougherty, looking up from a multiplication game. "Now the whole class can come together. I like it."

Parent involvement has always been the hallmark of the school's computer program, and its new headquarters were no exception.

"Three years ago we started with one computer ... when parents asked for an official computer program," recalled Sister

Sheila Connor, the principal. Parent volunteers also supervised the children in the program until 1984, when a coordinator was hired.

Four fathers, who prepared the first computer room in the convent two years ago, worked throughout the summer to panel and paint the former library, take out the bookshelves, and pack books and library materials. Mothers and children pitched in to scrape paint and put down carpeting.

This year, a pair of Mother of Sorrows teachers will share time as program coordinators. Joan Marcello, a teacher, and Chris Pinscik, a computer programmer, are combining their areas of expertise. "The children are going to be learning all phases of computers ... how they can make their life and work easier," said Marcello, adding that the team hopes to integrate with the children's computer training what is taught in all of their classes.

The former computer room in the nearby convent has also been rehabilitated with new furniture for the school's remedial/enrichment program.

"You can see the difference in their reactions — it's bright, cheery, different from a regular classroom," said Pat Radford, the school's remedial/enrichment teacher. "It should be a privilege to come here for the children."

The nearly 40 students she works with each year should also benefit from more personal attention and quicker follow-up on testing, because of the larger space.

At the official dedication on Friday, Sept. 6 of St. Lawrence's new library learning center, special guests included local artist Ali

Meyer, former librarians Sylvia Rutkowski and Mary Coniff, and former principals Sister Francella Quinn and Sister Mary Louise Heffernan. But the real stars of the show were the center itself and the parents and faculty members whose work made it possible.

Ideas from the faculty, as well as design and labor by parents, were incorporated into construction of the new center. From an enclosed storage area to new computer tables and bookshelves to the children's favorite — a new reading loft — everything was built by volunteers during the month of August. "The fact that the labor was free made this possible," said Sharon Rae, the new full-time librarian. "We could never have done it otherwise."

Parents also pitched in to purchase almost \$1,500 worth of new materials at a library fair last May and June.

Sixth-graders Patrick Lynch and Chris Palczyk were pleased with the results. "I like the computers in here because you don't have to worry about class going on behind you. That's distracting," Lynch said.

Palczyk added that he preferred the loft because it combined good books and comfort. Most of the children apparently agreed with him, as they crowded in to browse and collapse on pillows on the floor. "It's a place for them to relax and enjoy reading," Rae explained. "It gives them an incentive to finish their work."

Most parents pointed to a feeling of ownership and community as motivation for their involvement. "It's St. Lawrence spirit and it's undefinable," said Lu Ann Koch, the school's volunteer public relations contact. To illustrate her point, she noted that for projects like the learning center and the playground built last year, many neighbors and parishioners without children in the school came forward to help.

"We just love the school," said Jeanne Attridge, a parent of one future and three current Mother of Sorrows students.

"The children start out together in kindergarten and go right through eighth grade. You get to know every parent and every kid," she added. "I really hate to see them graduate."

Rochester Life Line

Qualified counselors are needed to staff Life Line, Rochester's 24-hour telephone emergency counseling, information and referral service. People from all walks of life are welcome if they are empathetic, calm under stress and nonjudgemental, and if they are available for one five-and-a-half-hour shift each week and four overnight shifts per year.

Counselors receive a small hourly salary to

cover out-of-pocket expenses like babysitting and transportation.

Interviews are now being scheduled for interested candidates. Those selected will take part in two weeks of evening training classes and will work with an experienced counselor for on-the-job training. Counselors are asked for a one-year commitment after completing the training program. For more information, call Life Line at (716)275-5151.

Perpetual Novena

The Queen of the Americas Guild of Guardian Angels Church holds a perpetual novena in honor of Our Lady of Guadalupe, each Monday evening at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited.

The guild also sponsors a First Saturday program, which includes a 9 a.m. Mass, recitation of the rosary, 15 minutes of meditation, acts of reparation and consecration to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and a hymn to Our Lady of Fatima, on the first Saturday of each month.

Guardian Angels is located at 2061 E. Henrietta Road, Rochester.

Sacred Heart Jubilee

Sacred Heart Cathedral School is preparing for its Diamond Jubilee celebration on April 18, 1986. Graduates of the school are asked to send to the school their names (maiden and married), year graduated, phone number and address, as well as any information regarding other graduates.

Organizers would be grateful for any memorabilia they could use for the celebration. They ask that any item be marked with the owner's name and address and promise it will be handled with care.

Mail all information to the Sacred Heart School Reunion, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 296 Flower City Park, Rochester, N.Y., 14615.

Notre Dame Free/Reduced-Price Lunch Policy

Notre Dame High School has announced its free- and reduced-price meal policy for students from Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties of New York state and Bradford County, Pennsylvania.

Local school officials have adopted the following eligibility criteria to assist them in determining eligibility:

Families with incomes at or below the figure listed in the chart below for their family size may be eligible for free/reduced-price meals. They may apply by filling in the application forms sent home in letters to parents. Additional copies are available at the principal's office of each school. Applications may be submitted at any time in the school year to Sister Mary Walter. If a family member becomes unemployed, if the family size changes or if the family income increases by more than \$50 per month or \$600 per year, the family must contact the school to file a new application. The information requested on the application will be used to determine economic need based on income and family size, and will be held confidential.

The school district does, however, maintain the right to verify at any time in the school year the information provided on the application.

All questions on the application must be answered completely for the application to be considered for approval. In addition, the parent or guardian must sign the application form, certifying the information is correct.

Under the provision of the policy, an official will review applications and determine eligibility. If a parent is dissatisfied with the ruling, he/she may make a request for an appeal hearing. Larry Spaulding, 1400 Maple Avenue, Elmira 14904 has been designated as the hearing official.

Prior to initiating the hearing procedure, the parent of the school Food Authority may request a conference in which the parent and official can discuss the situation, present information and obtain an explanation of the data submitted or the decisions rendered. The request for a conference shall not in any way prejudice or diminish the right to a fair hearing.

In the operation of child-feeding programs, no child shall be discriminated against because of his race, color, national origin, age or handicap. If any member of a household believes he has been discriminated against, he should write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

INCOME ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES REDUCED PRICE LUNCH

Household Size	Year	Month	Week
1	\$ 9,713	\$ 810	\$ 187
2	13,043	1,087	251
3	16,373	1,365	315
4	19,703	1,642	379
5	23,033	1,920	443
6	26,363	2,197	506
7	29,693	2,475	572
8	33,023	2,752	636
For each additional family member add	+3,330	+278	+65