Endorsements

Continued from page 1

lon, an incumbent Republican councilman in Greece up for re-election this year. Like Lapple, Neilon garnered the Right to Life line in a write-in primary, and said he chose to do so as a way of encouraging other politicians to take a similar stand.

"As far as putting it on the line, they all seem to run the other way," Neilon said of politicians' stands on abortion. "I think I will win my election, and I think I will demonstrate to other officials to take positions."

Neilon would not predict whether his public pro-life stance will help him or hurt him in November, however. "I'll tell you the day after the election," he said with a

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laugh.

Neilon's Democratic challenger, Raymond S. DiRaddo, is also running on the local Conservative Party line. Local Conservatives have a pro-life platform, DiRaddo commented, explaining his decision not to seek the Right to Life endorsement.

"I'm pro-life," DiRaddo said. "I'm not ashamed to admit it." He said that Neilon's decision to seek the Right to Life endorsement was probably motivated by a sincere anti-abortion stance and also by the simple desire to have another line on the ballot.

"I think having another line on the ballot is politically motivated," he said. "It's one way to kill two birds with one stone."

DiRaddo expressed some reservations about seeking the endorsement of singleissue parties, but he added that they serve an important symbolic purpose.

Sending a signal to Albany and Washington was the purpose behind Right-to-Lifer Nancy W. Smith's run for the seat of Cavuga County's 15th legislative district. Neither of her opponents wanted the Right. to Life endorsement, Smith said, asserting that she ran simply to give a voice to the five registered Right-to-Lifers in her dis-

"If it's just for the five of us, we deserve a choice," Smith said. "I know it doesn't make much difference in the whole scheme of things, but we still feel like we needed a choice.

Although Smith's fellow challenger in the race stands on the opposite side of the abortion issue, he agreed that abortion has a place in local politics. "I really think people have a right to know," said Democrat Tom Ostrander. "Some (politicians) are ducking the issue.

"If you had to pin me down, I'm not pro-abortion or anti-abortion," Ostrånder said. "I'm pro-choice."

He also said that local party leaders had never pressured him to take a stand either way. "I honestly can say I've never been pressured by anyone, and if I was I'd tell them to go straight to hell.'

Chester Palega, the Republican incumbent in the 15th district, also described himself as pro-choice. Unlike Ostrander, he said the question of abortion is out of place in county races. "I haven't sought

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this level it doesn't apply," he said.

Palega also criticized the Right to Life Party for focusing on abortion. "There are other things in this world, (like) imbalance of trade. If we don't get these solved, we won't be able to worry about (abortion,)" he said.

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Yet, for pro-life proponents, abortion is a central issue because it deals with what they consider to be a fundamental right the right of the unborn to live.

"Anybody who has no respect for life has no respect for a lot of things," said Nichols, noting that she has no patience for the pro-choice stand.

Nor does Lapple's wife Jean, a long-time Right to Life activist. "When someone says they're pro-choice, they're saying, 'Yes, I choose to kill the unborn baby,'

Whatever positions candidates claim, Neilon pointed out, they no longer have the luxury of evading the controversial abortion debate in the wake of this summer's Supreme Court decision. "I think it's an issue that you will not be allowed to stand on the lines of," he said.

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Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580) Vol. 101 No 49 Oct. 5, 1989

Published weekly except week after July 4 and Christmas by the Rochester Catholic Press Association.

Subscription rates: single copy, 50°; one-year subscription in U.S., \$15; Canada and foreign \$15 plus postage.

Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rocheser, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340.

Second-class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 11150 Buffalo Road,

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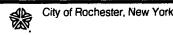
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Brown's Race at bridge	Oct. 14 6 p.m.				
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Fall Foliage Spectacle, Oct. 15

1	Canoe Rentals (fee)	County Boat Launch		10 a.m 4 p.m.
•	Gorge Boat Tours (fee)	Port of Rochester De	ock	11 a.m., 12:30 p. 2 & 3:30
	 River Gorge Raft Float (fee) Register in advance 	Turning Point Park end of Boxart St. off Lake Ave.	•	10 a.m 1:30 p.m
	 Pumpkin Decorating Contest 	Port of Rochester Warehouse #3	(Judging at	1-3 p.m. 2 p.m.)
	 Charlotte Lighthouse Tours & Open House 	Holy Cross Church parking lot 4492 Lake Avenue		1-4 p.m.
	 Nate Rawls Big Band Dance/Concert 	Port of Rochester Warehouse #3		1-4 p.m.
	 Sausage & Corn Roast (fee) 	Port of Rochester Warehouse #3		1-4 p.m.
	Antique Fire Truck Display	Port of Rochester		1-4 p.m

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