

Community forum at university to focus on Middle East relations

ROCHESTER — A Palestinian Arab and an Israeli Jew will lead a community forum on Israeli-Palestinian relations at the University of Rochester on Feb. 23, from 2-6 p.m.

The forum in the School of Medicine and Dentistry, 601 Elmwood Ave., will also offer various viewpoints of representatives from Arab, Jewish and Christian communities in the area.

The Rev. Shehadeh N. Shehadeh, a Palestinian Episcopal priest, and Isaiah M. Gafni, a professor of Jewish History at Hebrew University in Jerusalem, will be the featured speakers.

Their presentations will be followed by a discussion on Palestinian-Israeli issues, moderated by Syracuse University law professor Richard Schwartz.

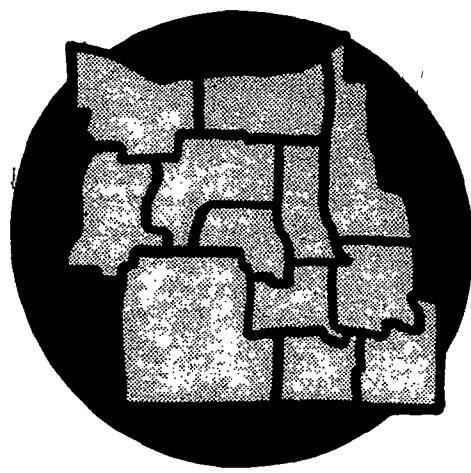
The panelists during the forum will be: Eitan Bogin, a resident of Israel currently spending a year working at the Eastman Kodak Company; Ayala Gabriel, an Israeli native currently

teaching anthropology at the U. of R., and a member of the Womens' Peace Movement in Israel; Nabil Kaylani, a Syrian who teaches political science at the Rochester Institute of Technology; Ali Nahas, an Egyptian businessman and one of the leaders of the Islamic Center in Rochester; Rabbi Paul Saiger, of the Hillel community at the U. of R.; David Shomar, a Palestinian businessman currently living in Syracuse; the Rev. Gordon Webster, a Presbyterian minister who served as a missionary in Israel; and Kurt Weinbach, a Holocaust survivor who has children currently living in Israel.

The forum is being sponsored by the Commission for Christian-Jewish Relations of the Jewish Community Federation and the Genesee Valley Christian for Israeli-Palestinian Peace.

Admission is \$3 for the general public. Students can attend free. Call 716/275-4321 for information.

— Lee Strong



One Accord to perform

WATKINS GLEN — One Accord, an ecumenical music ministry, will offer an evening of renewal on Sunday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's of the Lake Church, 901 N. Decatur St.

Three women of different faiths comprise One Accord, which has been performing at churches of various denominations since 1987. One Accord performs original music written by group founder Pat Wynne.

Although the event is free and open to the public, a free-will offering will be accepted. Child care is available.

Call St. Mary's at 607/535-2786 for information.

St. Stanislaus parishioners help prepare documents for stained-glass restoration

ROCHESTER — When it comes to stained-glass windows, Arthur Femenella doesn't want to rub any the wrong way.

The president of the nationwide Association of Restoration Specialists, Femenella spent Thursday, Feb. 13, showing parishioners how to use archival paper and crayon to make rub-



Babette G. Augustin/Photo editor
Stained-glass window expert Arthur Femenella is silhouetted against a temporary Plexiglas section of a window at St. Stanislaus Church. The window was vandalized earlier this winter. Femenella is helping the parish restore 44 of the church's stained-glass windows.

tings of stained-glass windows at St. Stanislaus Church, 34 St. Stanislaus St.

In addition to showing such details as size, support bars, lead lines and existing damage, the rubbings serve as life-size records of the windows. Members of the Stained Glass Committee and Parish Council made the rubbings in preparation for a condition report, which the church needs to produce to restore its 44 stained-glass windows.

Femenella explained that a condition report consists of photographs, written documentation and rubbings of each window. He added that should a disaster befall any of the windows in the restoration process, the church has a record to which workers can refer when they attempt to reconstruct a window.

"The first step of any good restoration program is to document what

you already have," Femenella said. He added that he will continue to serve as project consultant, working with Pike Stained Glass Studios, 180 St. Paul St.

St. Stanislaus recently received a \$1,500 matching grant from the National Trust for Historic Preservation to use toward the condition report, according to Kathy Urbanic, a member of the Stained Glass Committee. Through a fundraising drive, the parish has raised about \$50,000 of the \$88,000 needed to restore the windows — which were installed between 1918 and 1924, Urbanic said.

The restoration project should be completed by 1996, she said. Each window will be cleaned, ventilation will be added to the exterior glazing to minimize damage from heat, and support bars will be installed to guard against buckling.

— Rob Cullivan

St. Philip Neri to mark 25th anniversary of fire

ROCHESTER — St. Philip Neri Parish, 1782 Clifford Ave., has scheduled a Feb. 23 Mass and luncheon to commemorate the 1967 fire that claimed the lives of the parish's pastor and a teacher in the parish school — and destroyed the former church building.

Bishop Dennis W. Hickey will serve as the main celebrant for the 11 a.m. Mass. The parish's current pastor, Father Richard Shatzel, will concelebrate the Mass along with several other diocesan priests.

The luncheon is scheduled to take place immediately after the Mass at the Maplewood Inn, 3500 East Ave.

On Feb. 20, 1967, the church caught fire around noon. Father George J. Weinmann, then pastor of the parish, and Sister Lillian McLaughlin, SSND, who taught second grade at the parish

school, were killed while trying to rescue the Blessed Sacrament from the fire.


Mary Cordaro, who had a child in the school's eighth grade at the time, recalled receiving a call that the church was in flames.

"Everyone who had children at the school, when they heard, they ran to the school," Cordaro recalled.

St. Philip Neri has held annual Masses to mark the deaths of Father Weinmann and Sister Lillian, Cordaro said. This year, in light of the 25th anniversary of the fire, the parish decided to have a larger commemoration.


Cost of the luncheon is \$12 per person. Reservations may be made by calling the rectory at 716/482-2400.

— Lee Strong



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