

### Legislature president set to meet social activists

ROCHESTER — Arnold J. Eckert, president of the Monroe County Legislature, was scheduled to hold a public meeting with Catholic Family Center's Social Action Network on Wednesday, Feb. 2, at Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, 1095 Joseph Ave.

More than 5,200 signatures have been collected so far on SAN petitions urging the Monroe County Legislature to divert \$13 million in funds from expansion of two county jails to drug and alcohol treatment. Eckert will speak to SAN's request at the meeting.

The petition drive involved 40 churches, agencies and community groups in the Greater Rochester area. The petition was based on more than 900 one-on-one discussions conducted by SAN volunteers with area residents on community issues they considered important.

For information, call Brian Kane at Catholic Family Center, 716/262-7020.

### Discussion group to meet

CANANDAIGUA — The Wednesday Discussion Group is sponsoring a program focusing on "slow down therapy" on Wednesday, Feb. 9, from 1-3 p.m. at St. John's Episcopal Church Parish House, 183 N. Main St.

Carl Ritz, a staff member at the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry, will lead the discussion. He will base some of his points on two books: *Slow Down Therapy*, by Linus Mundy, and *The Sewing Room*, by the Rev. Barbara Cawthorne Crafton.

Call Marilyn, 716/657-7477; Bob, 716/396-2205; or Carl at the Finger Lakes Office of Social Ministry, 315/789-2686.

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## Proclaiming schools

### County and city declare celebration of Catholic education

Gathered Jan. 31 with students from Rochester's St. Andrew's School, Monroe County Executive Bob King (from left), diocesan Superintendent of Schools Timothy Dwyer and Rochester Mayor Bill Johnson proclaimed a city-county celebration of Catholic Schools' Week.



Lauren McFalls/Photo intern

## Guild sews clothes for Catholic hospital

ROCHESTER — Pat Miller, administrator, and Mary Ann Krause, special events chairman, of the city's chapter of the American Sewing Guild, recently presented 120 baby garments to Sandra Armbruster, executive director of the St. Mary's Hospital Foundation.

The clothes were made by American Sewing Guild members and other sewers from the Rochester area.

"We found out that there is an ongo-

ing need for garments to dress underprivileged and abandoned babies born at the hospital, so we decided to make this our project for the year," Miller said.

Local retailers and national fabric wholesalers donated fabric for the clothes. The McCalls Pattern Company gave permission to the guild to copy one of its patterns for the project which will continue throughout 1994.

For information, call 716/225-3548.

## Sisters of St. Joseph to host benefit auction for infirmary

GREECE — The Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester will host a benefit auction of Precious Moments Collectibles this Saturday, Feb. 5, at 10:45 a.m. and 2 p.m. in the former Scrantom's store at Northgate Plaza, 3800 Dewey Ave. Admission is free.

An anonymous donor gave the order the collection featuring more than 300 pieces. Each piece has been researched and documented by the sisters. Proceeds from the auction will benefit the SSJ Convent Infirmary.

*Democrat and Chronicle* columnist Carol Ritter will serve as guest auctioneer for the gala, which is being held in conjunction with Casey Hallmark's annual Precious Moment Event to introduce the 1994 Enesco figurines. Any pieces that are not sold during the auction will be returned to the Sisters of St. Joseph Motherhouse, 4095 East Ave., Pittsford, and will remain available for sale to the public.

Call 716/586-1000, ext. 125 for information.



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## Food bank celebrates dedication

By Mike Latona  
Staff writer

BIG FLATS — Highlighted by a dedication ceremony on Friday, Jan. 28, the new Southern Tier Community Food Bank building officially opened its doors last week.

Approximately 200 people, including several Southern Tier officials and diocesan dignitaries, attended the ceremony. Performing the dedication were Father John J. Mulligan, vicar general of the Rochester diocese; and Jack Balinsky, director of diocesan Social Ministry.

Speakers included G. Thomas Tranter Jr., who serves as Chemung County executive; Kevin O'Connell, chairman of the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry's Board of Directors; Catherine Miller of the New York State Department of Health; George H. Winner Jr., New York State Assemblyman for the 126th District; Robert Adams, commissioner for the state Office of General Services; Tom Beiswenger, chairman of the Southern Tier Community Food Bank Advisory Council; Anthony Barbaro, executive director of the Southern Tier Office of Social Ministry; and John P. Farrer, director of the Southern Tier Community Food Bank.

A portion of the 40-minute program was also dedicated to the late Nellie Monroe, who donated much of the land on which the 15,000-square-foot facility is housed.

A member organization the Southern Tier social ministry office, the food bank is now located on Route 64 just off Route 17. Its previous location was at 175 Grand Central Ave. in Elmira Heights. Ground-breaking for the new building began in June of 1993.

Farrer said that the new facility is advantageous for many reasons.

"We can serve our agencies a lot more efficiently, because we're right off a major highway (Route 17)," said the food bank director. "We're also close to Route 15 and Route 14, so we're kind of in a hub here."

Farrer added that because the food bank's loading area is covered, agency workers making pickups will no longer be exposed to rain and snow.

Another important change is the addition of freezer and cooler storage areas, which were not available in the former building.

Southern Tier Community Food Bank opened in 1981. The non-profit organization currently distributes donated food and household supplies to 130 member agencies across eight counties in the Southern Tier and northern Pennsylvania.

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