

Parishes slate census for Sunday, May 22

LIVONIA — Members of St. Joseph Parish and its mission church, St. William of Conesus, will conduct a visitation program on Sunday, May 22, from 1-5 p.m. This census will be conducted at every residence in Livonia, South Livonia, Hemlock, Lakeville and Conesus.

Organizers noted that while the survey's purpose is to update records for St. Joseph/St. William parishes, it will benefit other area churches as well. Census takers will also distribute a brochure listing the denomination, address and service schedule for all Livonia-area churches.

According to Father William Trott, pastor of St. Joseph/St. William churches, the census will not be used as an opportunity to proselytize-area residents.

"Data obtained in the census will allow me to get better acquainted with the parishioners (and) how most effectively to serve them," Father Trott said. "In order to gather complete information, and because we do not have accurate records on where each Catholic member resides, we will visit each home in the area."

For information, call Doug Lippincott at 716/346-2639 or 245-5516.

Tier cluster to combine Masses for three weeks

ELMIRA — The Eastside Catholic Parish has scheduled three consecutive weekends of Masses with the theme "Unity Sunday."

All five weekend Masses will be conducted at one church on Pentecost Sunday, Trinity Sunday, and the feast of Corpus Christi. Mass times for the three-church cluster will remain the same: Saturday at 4 p.m. and 5:15 p.m., and Sunday at 8 a.m., 10 a.m. and noon. Confessions will take place at the regular time of 3 p.m. Saturday.

The schedule is as follows: May 21-22 Masses at Ss. Peter and Paul Church, corner of Market and High streets; May 28-29 liturgies at St. John the Baptist Church, 325 Lake St.; and June 4-5 services at St. Cecilia Church, 950 Lake St.

Congregations are invited to tour each church facility after Masses. Transportation is available by calling 607/732-1994.

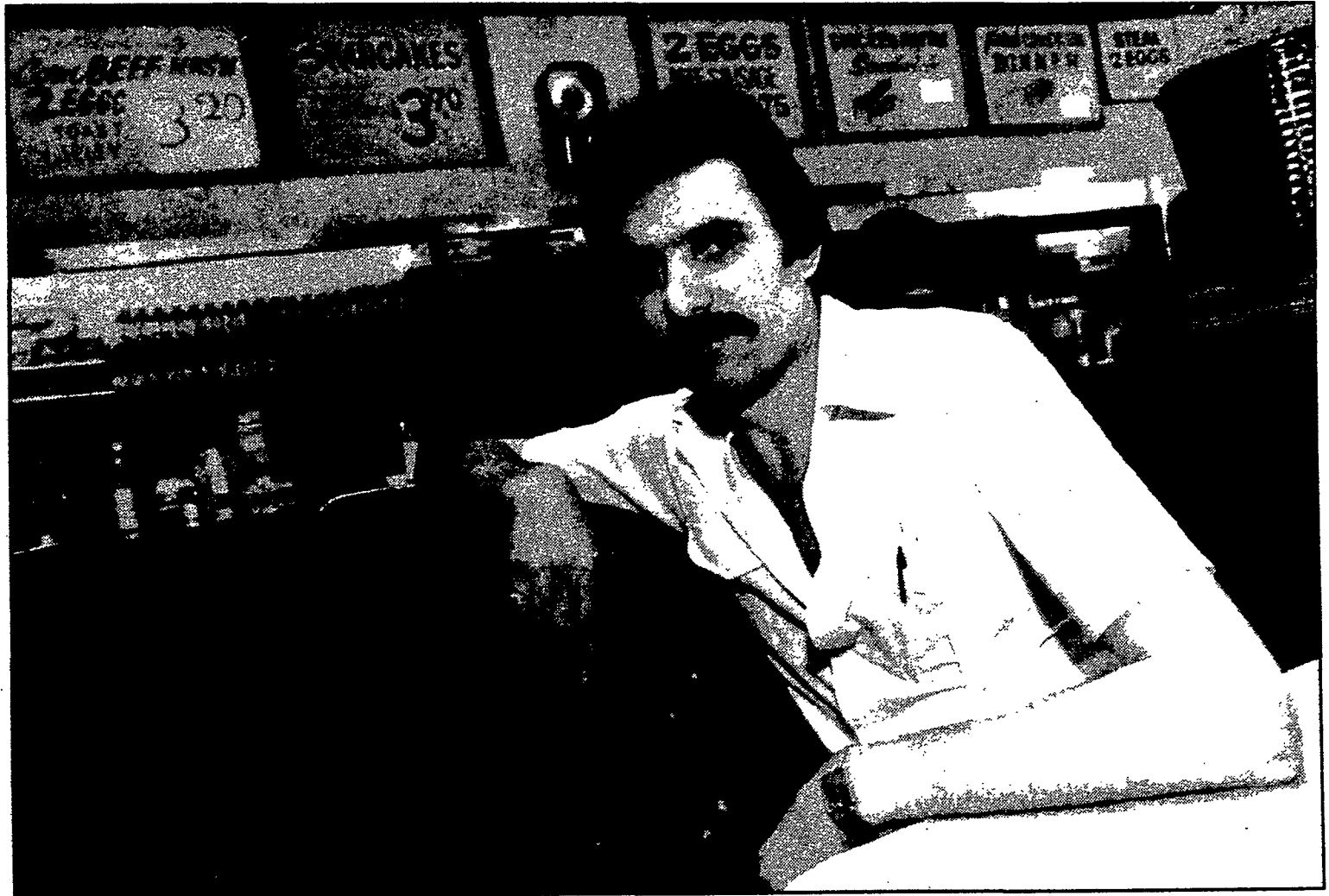
Registrations open for summer classes

ROCHESTER — St. Bernard's Institute is still accepting registrations for its summer classes, which will be offered in two sessions: May 23-June 25 and July 5-29.

The first session will feature courses on co-dependency; spirituality and ministry; the 19th Annotation and spirituality; the Psalms; biblical ethics and ministry; Christian sexuality; rites of Christian initiation; the fourth Gospel; and introduction to theology and ministry.

The second session will include: sexual abuse and pastoral counseling; Medieval Christian spirituality; and advanced pastoral counseling.

For more information, contact either Georgia Crissy, director of admissions, or Devadasan Premnath, registrar, at St. Bernard's Institute, 1100 South Goodman St., Rochester, N.Y. 14620, or by calling 716/271-1320, ext. 290.



Steve Rozaklis, owner of Critic's Restaurant, sits in his West Main Street establishment. The restaurant is one of several businesses that may have to relocate to make way for a proposed development project.

S. John Wilkin/Staff photographer

Plan draws opponents, advocates

EDITORS' NOTE: This is the third in an occasional series, *Sharing the Banquet*, focusing on efforts by Christians to end poverty in the United States and abroad by promoting economic development. This is the second of two articles exploring the St. Mary's/Bull's Head Plan.



By Rob Cullivan
Staff writer

ROCHESTER — Ralph Alexander, manager of A-Able Improvements, a housing rehabilitation firm, sat drinking his coffee in Critic's Restaurant, 906 W. Main St.

"I've been coming here for 10 years," Alexander said. "Show me another place in the city where a white suburban contractor can talk to tradesmen of any race."

Indeed, the counter and booths of this friendly neighborhood restaurant seat a number of different people, black and white, who seem to know one another well.

"I've been here 22 years," commented Critic's owner, Steve Rozaklis. "I've never had a robbery, never had an argument. I've got friends all over this neighborhood."

Both Alexander and Rozaklis, and other Bull's Head business-owners, claim a deep affection for the area and are loathe to relocate, something they would have to do — temporarily or permanently — under a development plan proposed by St. Mary's Hospital across the street, and co-sponsored by the City of Rochester, Monroe County and Monroe Community College.

The plan calls for a \$20 million health campus to be connected to St. Mary's via a skyway or an underground tunnel. That pathway would link the hospital to health-care offices and administrative space for St. Mary's; a branch of MCC devoted to health-care training; a museum; a two-tiered parking lot; a police section station; and such retail estab-

lishments as an optical store, a bank/credit union, and a uniform shop.

The business-owners expressed resentment that the West Main area has been identified as an impoverished, deteriorated neighborhood by the campus' proponents. The owners scoffed at the plan as a thinly disguised attempt by St. Mary's and other sponsors to drive businesses out of Bull's Head.

"They think it's just a bunch of empty buildings with a bunch of winos," remarked Eugene B. Michelson, who owns a tax and accounting service at 922 W. Main St. "They've got a mindset to tear the whole stupid thing down."

Most of the business-owners agreed that Bull's Head could use upgrading, but they contended that commercial enterprises, not health care establishments, were the key to unlocking the area's potential.

"I'd build a plaza with 10, 15, 20 stores," said Rozaklis. "We could have a parking lot in front facing Main Street."

Leroy Lott, a resident of Bull's Head for 35 years, serves as treasurer for the neighborhood organization Bull's Head Area Neighbors Eager to Stand Together, which meets at Ss. Peter and Paul Parish, 720 W. Main St. Unlike the owners, he dismissed further commercial development of the area as a viable alternative to the health campus.

"Through the years, I've seen commercial development run the gamut here," he recalled. "We need something more solid for this neighborhood."

The health campus' proponents claim they want most of the current businesses to stay in the area, and the plan itself notes that such establishments as Critic's could be a valuable asset in the area's revitalization.

"We don't want to lose any viable businesses," commented Sandra Stevens, president of the Bull's Head Community Development Corporation. "We'd like to see the businesses come back."

But most of the current business-owners own the buildings in which they operate, and would probably have to return to the area as renters, a nearly improbable scenario, they claimed, even if they received any kind of rent subsidy in the planned development.

"The businesses would not be able to

afford the rent to stay here," claimed Wayne W. Haskins, owner of Universal Heating Company, 926 W. Main St.

"Once you move out, you're gone," Michelson added.

The businesses would also be compensated only for the loss of their building, and for their relocation costs, according to Don Fuller, the city's program coordinator for real estate development.

Fuller also confirmed the business-owners' contention that they will not receive any compensation for loss of business, and "goodwill" — that is, the public relationship the businesses has built up with their customers over the years.

Stevens acknowledged the business-owners' concerns, and added that the final plan may offer the owners an equity partnership in the campus, although she noted that nothing has been firmed up at this date, and that several details of the plan are being worked out.

"We've not had a community meeting since October, 1993," she commented. "Everyone is in a bit of a limbo."

She added that before any plan is approved, it would be subject to public hearings and that the merchants would have a chance to voice their concerns.

To stop the plan, owners formed a seven-member Bull's Head Business Association, and persuaded 1,100 people to sign a petition last fall opposing demolition of the West Main area. The signatures were sent to the City Council, the mayor's office, and New York State Assemblyman David F. Gantt, whose district includes the Bull's Head area.

The petitioners may claim they want Bull's Head to stay a commercial region, but many of the area's homeowners ardently support the idea of a health campus.

"I live in the area, and the area is deteriorating and continues to deteriorate," said Rudo Mundondo-Ashton, who owns a home on York Street where she lives with her two daughters. Mundondo-Ashton also belongs to the Bull's Head Community Development Corporation board of directors of which one-third are local residents.

She noted that her street has seen illegal drug activity in vacant homes, a factor which nearly caused her to leave

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