



Mark Whitfield, shown here inside St. Michael's woodshop's new location at 691 St. Paul St., would like to become a carpenter someday and build a house.

Woodshop settles in at new location

ROCHESTER — As Mark Whitfield, a student at Edison Technical High, 655 Colfax St., walked around St. Michael's Woodshop, he spoke about his plans for the future.

"I want to become a carpenter," he said. "I like working with wood. I want to build a house."

Inspiring such dreams has been the mission of Sister Pat Flynn, RSM, director of St. Michael's Woodshop, where she and six volunteers work with teenagers — between the ages of 15-18 — honing their carpentry skills.

Groups of teenagers are paid to work during the summer and after school during the remainder of the year, Sister Flynn noted. Funding for the program comes from the City of Rochester, private donors and the sales of woodshop products.

Sister Flynn added that each September she solicits \$100 donations from every pastor in the diocese.

On the afternoons of Aug. 22 and



Shawn Williams, a student at Rochester's Edison Tech, uses a power drill to create a spoon rack.

Aug. 23, the woodshop held an open house in its new two-room location on the first floor of a building that once was part of a complex belonging to Bausch & Lomb, Inc. While one room houses wood supplies, the other serves

as a workshop complete with bench saws, sanders and a variety of other tools and machines.

Located at 691 St. Paul St., the building is currently co-owned by two brothers, Ralph and Dante Gullace. Dante said Sister Flynn was quite persuasive when she asked the brothers to donate the rooms for her woodshop.

"She just pleaded her case nicely, and we decided to help her out," he said.

The woodshop was formerly housed in a building owned by St. Michael's Parish, 869 N. Clinton Ave. After moving from its former site in February, the shop had completely moved into its new St. Paul Street location by May, Sister Flynn said.

St. Michael's Woodshop took along an alarm system, which had been installed at the previous site after a number of burglaries. The alarm system was donated by St. Paul's Parish in Webster, Sister Flynn said.

— Rob Cullivan

Food cupboard gets help after break-ins

ROCHESTER — St. Andrew's Food Cupboard, 1125 North St., was scheduled to remain closed until at least Aug. 31, following an Aug. 24 break-in and robbery — the fifth break-in at the food program since Aug. 9.

So much food was stolen — including chickens, hot dogs, and cases of iced tea and tuna — that volunteers did not have enough provisions to stay open and prepare meals for its guests, noted Mary Ellen Heyman, a member of the cupboard's board of directors.

In addition, Heyman said that board members were concerned for volunteers' safety because the door had been so heavily damaged during the latest break-in that the entranceway needed to be barricaded, making it unsafe for volunteers in the event of a fire.

An article in the Aug. 26 edition of

the *Times-Union* in Rochester also reported that the food cupboard at St. Bridget's Parish, 175 St. Bridget's Drive, has been burglarized repeatedly this year. The latest of three break-ins occurred in June, the newspaper reported. Despite repeated attempts, St. Bridget's officials could not be reached for comment concerning the reported break-ins there.

According to Heyman, St. Andrew's Food Cupboard, which opened 14 years ago as an outreach ministry of St. Andrew's Parish, 923 Portland Ave., serves approximately 1,300 meals every month. The cupboard is usually open Monday through Friday from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Each household that comes to the food cupboard may receive up to five days worth of free food per month for each household member.

The cupboard relies on donations of food and money from churches and individuals. Heyman lamented that, because of the recent robberies, "Money that would normally have gone for food has to go to repairs."

One expense the cupboard will not have to worry about is a security system.

Claude Beauchamp, of Matrix Security System, learned of the latest break-in, contacted cupboard officials, donated and installed a system on Aug. 29.

"He felt it was something he could do to help," said Heyman, a St. Andrew's parishioner. "It's so nice and refreshing that he saw the need and did something about it."

EDITORS' NOTE: Food or monetary donations to St. Andrew's Food Cupboard should be made c/o St. Andrew's Church, 923 Portland Ave., Rochester, N.Y. 14621.

— Lee Strong

Training sessions slated on environmental issues

ELMIRA — Training sessions for environmental-justice activism will take place on Saturday, Sept. 17, at Catholic Charities of the Southern Tier, 1700 College Ave.

This effort is part of the Caring for Creation Project, a response by Catholic Charities to the 1991 U.S. bishops' pastoral statement, "Renewing the Earth: An Invitation to Reflection and Action on the Environment in Light of Catholic Social Teaching."

Bishop Matthew H. Clark has also encouraged participation in this movement by saying in a letter to pastors, "As a community of faith, we are called to understand and act on the moral dimensions of the environmental crisis."

The Sept. 17 training course will be facilitated by John Connor, director of the Grassroots Coalition for Environmental and Economic Justice near Washington, D.C.

For information, call 607/734-9784.

WNY Marian groups are looking to expand

BROCKPORT — The Western New York Marian Movement is promoting the establishment of Marian groups in Catholic parishes throughout the region. Such groups spread the wearing of the scapular and rosary recitation.

For information on how to start a Marian group in your parish, write the Western N.Y. Marian Movement, 6558 Fourth Section Road #141, Brockport, N.Y. 14420. You can also call 716/637-4222 or send a message facsimile to 716/637-4056.

School seeking alumni for Oct. 9 gatherings

ROCHESTER — St. John the Evangelist School is seeking graduates for a morning open house on Oct. 9, followed by an 11 a.m. Mass. After the liturgy, a luncheon at Crescent Beach Hotel — hosted by alumnus Joe Barry — will take place.

Alumni names, dates of graduation, and current addresses may be sent to the Alumni Committee, 545 Humboldt St., Rochester, N.Y., 14610. For information, call 716/654-9437.

CFC offering women weekly therapy group

ROCHESTER — Catholic Family Center is accepting referrals for a therapy group for adult women survivors of childhood physical and/or emotional abuse and/or neglect. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 6-8 p.m. for 14 weeks, beginning Sept. 20 at CFC's office on the 7th floor of the Sibley Tower Building, 25 Franklin St.

For information, contact Patrice Gregorek at 716/262-7108.

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Catholic Courier (USPS 135-580)
Vol. 105 No. 47 September 1, 1994

Published weekly except the last Thursday in December.

Subscription rates: single copy, 75¢; one-year subscription in U.S., \$19.50; Canada and foreign \$19.50 plus postage. Offices: 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624, 716/328-4340. Second-Class postage paid at Rochester, N.Y.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Catholic Courier, 1150 Buffalo Road, Rochester, N.Y. 14624.