

Honoring Dr. King through song, poetry

In memory of the late Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., the Rochester Museum and Science Center Jan. 16 hosted three lectures of song and poetry by Rochester native Almeta Whitis. (Right) Whitis gestures for audience participation while singing. (Below, left to right) Larissa Bolalek joins Elizabeth and Lauren Glover in watching the performance from the edge of the stage.



Wendy Longlade/Photo intern

Activists not swayed by violence

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

Despite calls from some pro-choice groups to cancel the 1995 March for Life in light of clinic violence — and fears that the march might be the target of violence — local organizers are filling seats on buses for the Jan. 23 pro-life rally in Washington D.C.

Buses will be heading to Washington from Horseheads, Waterloo, Webster and several other venues around Rochester for the march protesting the anniversary of the Jan. 22, 1973 *Roe vs. Wade* decision through which the United States Supreme Court effectively legalized abortion in the United States.

Indeed, organizers around the Rochester diocese expressed little concern about the impact of the recent clinic violence on the march — or the number of people attending.

"A couple of people asked me, 'Aren't you nervous?'" said Sharon Pearte, a parishioner at St. Mary's Church in Elmira and a member of Chemung County Right to Life, which is sponsoring a bus leaving from Horseheads. "I had not even thought about it."

Pearte added that she was not unduly concerned about the potential for vio-



lence. "I just know there is a lot of police protection," she added. "They don't let the two sides get together."

Ed Franus, coordinator of a bus leaving from Webster's Holy Trinity Parish, noted that he already had enough people sign up to fill one bus. Franus added that he does not have enough money to rent a second bus.

Part of the reason for this, Franus explained, is that organizers — who each year through the Knights of Columbus sponsor a bus leaving either from Holy Trinity or from St. Rita's parishes — offer free passage to students. Thus, Franus noted, he may have to direct people to other area buses leaving for the march.

Meanwhile, some pro-life leaders are wondering if the recent victories of pro-life candidates in congressional elections — and the chance that pro-life legislation may have more of a chance of being

passed by Congress this year — may actually help inspire people to go to the march this year.

"I would think people would be excited to go," noted Amy Dorscheid, who is helping to coordinate a bus leaving from Rochester's St. Jude's Church. "I think that things may change (in Congress) and people have a chance to make a difference."

However, Helen Alvare, the U.S. bishops' pro-life spokeswoman, said she thought the turnout for the march could be lower because recent clinic shootings "could cause some people to stay away because they want to not engage in any public protest at all."

On the other hand, Alvare said, "the pro-life movement is feeling pretty persecuted at the moment" due to all proliferators being criticized for the actions of a violent few.

"It has galvanized the pro-life movement in a way," she said. "They know their conscience is clear. They may want to turn out, Alvare said.

"The March for Life is always peaceful," she added.

"I don't have any kind of feel" on turnout, said Nellie Gray, who has organized the march each year since it be-

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Notre Dame to host 'Christian quilting bee'

CANANDAIGUA — The Notre Dame Retreat House, 5151 Foster Road, has scheduled a Christian quilting bee Feb. 13-14.

The goal of the two-day event is to produce a quilt to adorn one of the center's retreat rooms.

The idea for the event was initiated by Rita Goebert, a quilter and a member of Palmyra's St. Anne's Parish. According to Goebert, the retreat house's newly dedicated wing had "walls crying for a quilt."

Both days will begin at 9 a.m. with introductions and coffee. Participants will begin quilting at 9:30 a.m., break for lunch at 12:30 p.m., resume quilting at 1:30 p.m. and conclude at 3:30 p.m. In addition, quilters Feb. 13 will also have an opportunity to visit two Mennonite quilt shops before eating dinner in Canandaigua.

Participants have the option to take part in one or both days, stay overnight, or simply drop in for one of the quilting sessions.

Cost is \$35 per person for the full two days — including lunches both days, overnight accommodations and breakfast Feb. 14 — or \$15 for one day, including lunch. Each participant will be asked to contribute 100 two-inch squares of 100-percent cotton fabric.

Reservations and checks — made out to "Notre Dame Retreat House" — may be sent to the retreat house at P.O. Box 342, 5151 Foster Road, Canandaigua, N.Y. 14424. Reservations may also be made by calling the retreat house at 716/394-5700.

For information, call Goebert at 315/597-5365.

Father Cadorette to speak at U of R, Elmira meeting

Father Curt Cadorette, a Maryknoll priest and John Henry Newman associate professor of Roman Catholic Studies at the University of Rochester, will deliver two upcoming lectures in the diocese.

Father Cadorette will be the keynote speaker at a meeting of Southern Tier parish social-justice ministry leaders Feb. 4, at Holy Family Junior High School, 1010 Davis Street, Elmira.

Registration is required. For details, call 607/734-9784.

Father Cadorette also is scheduled to speak on the topic "Liberation from Violence: The American Catholic Challenge," Feb. 8, at the U of R's Interfaith Chapel.

The talk is the sixth in the John Henry Newman Lectures on Faith and Reason.

Sponsored by the Newman Community at the University of Rochester, the lecture is free and open to the public.

Elmira hospice seeks donations, volunteers

ELMIRA — Southern Tier Hospice, 244 W. Water St., has surpassed its fundraising goal for 1994.

The hospice received \$46,124 in donations, topping its goal of \$45,000. Donations are still being accepted.

In addition, InnCare, Inc. — a division of Southern Tier Hospice — needs volunteers for the InnCare residence located at 609 Hart St. An information session for volunteers will be held at InnCare from 7-8 p.m. on Jan. 25. To register for this session, call 607/734-1570.

Hope Hall faces potential \$150,000 deficit

By Lee Strong
Senior staff writer

Hope Hall, a nondenominational school in Gates that helps children who have difficulty learning in traditional school settings, is facing an imposing mathematics problem.

The school located at 1612 Buffalo Road must raise \$150,000 by June to avoid a budget shortfall.

The projected shortfall has school officials scrambling to find donors of money, equipment and services, grant monies and to organize fundraisers to help offset the deficit — and avoid either taking out loans, or — in a worst-case scenario — closing the school.

Sister Diana Dolce, SSJ, Hope Hall's founder, explained that the school's money problems stem in part from the fact that not all of its 65 students can

pay the full \$3,000 tuition.

In addition, Sister Dolce explained, because Hope Hall was established only last summer, it did not receive its tax-exempt status until well after the school year began. Thus the school has only begun to apply for grant monies toward meeting its \$334,000 annual budget — which, among other things, covers the salaries of seven full-time and three part-time teachers. Sister Dolce works for free: Her congregation is providing her with support for two years while she is getting the school off the ground.

Meanwhile, several students have been given tuition discounts based on their families' ability to pay.

The school was begun to offer mastery in learning, a technique developed by Sister Dolce to help students who have difficulty in learning, but who do not meet the criteria for special education

programs.

Sister Dolce's technique involves small classes. The curriculum taught in other schools is broken into smaller sequential units, and as many of the students' senses as possible are involved in learning. "We teach the kids how to learn," she explained.

Sister Dolce used the technique at other schools, and helped students overcome their problems and eventually succeed in regular school settings. She reported that area agencies have even begun referring children to Hope Hall.

In terms of the school's financial problems, Sister Dolce predicted that if Hope Hall can get through its first two years, it will develop a sufficient network of support to continue.

"If we can get through the first two years, then we will be in solid shape,"

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