

# On the MOVE



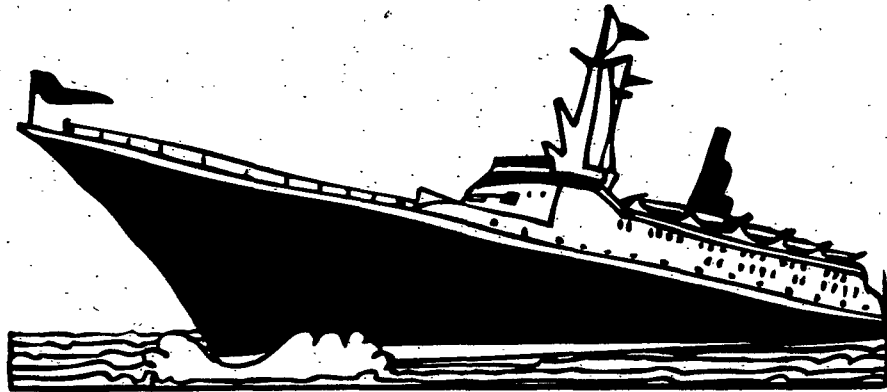
Mercy High School life and physical science teacher Bill Hochadel's eighth-grade class cleans the grounds of the school campus on Earth Day, April 22.

# Eye on the Environment

## Travel & Summer Recreation May 14

This special section will highlight domestic and foreign vacation sites, shrines, and other places of interest, with a special emphasis on opportunities for Catholics seeking relaxation and spiritual enrichment; tips on trip preparation; and staying safe and healthy away from home.

**Advertising Deadline May 5**



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**Catholic Courier at 716-328-4340**  
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When it comes to environmental issues, Megan Murray is convinced that the future is now.

"We're polluting the earth, and my kids are going to have to live here someday. You have to care about other people," said Megan, 14, a parishioner at Church of the Assumption in Fairport.

Kevin O'Connor agreed that too many people don't consider long-term effects when they ignore the

environment.

"It's not going to be here unless we preserve it. I think most people don't think any of that's going to happen in our lifetime, so they concentrate on other things," said Kevin, 15,

from St. Ann's Church in Homell.

For example, Kevin said, forests are being cleared at a disturbing rate to make way for new houses and businesses — forests that help to produce the air we breathe.

**"They're building factories in places that should be left alone,"**

he said.

And Jennifer Palmer, who is considering a career in meteorology, has learned alarming information about acid rain — rain with a high concentration of acids resulting from the combustion of fossil fuels like oil and coal. Acid rain can kill plants, make lakes and ponds uninhabitable, and even damage buildings.

**"Pollution causes acid rain. I'm concerned about it,"**

said Jennifer, 15, from St. Mary's Church in Waterloo. She attends Geneva DeSales High School.

Megan said she's worried that our rivers, lakes and oceans will become so badly polluted that we will eventually run out of safe drinking water.

"When other people are thirsty and there's not any water — that's not fair at all," Megan said.

Megan and other teens are working to preserve and beautify the environment — rather than destroy it. For instance, Megan joined with other



Mercy e Blossom

Our La mates on April project. For the garbage the Sisi which tion, so private those y "We people Megan Mega environ address the year

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