

DIOCESAN NEWS

Seven principals set to begin new positions

By Kathleen Schwarz
Assistant editor

Diocesan Catholic schools will welcome seven new principals when school opens Sept. 6.

"The calibre of candidates continues to be excellent," said Sister Virginia Steinwachs, SSJ, assistant superintendent for human resources for the diocesan Department of Catholic Schools.

"And we feel very confident they will do great leadership and ministry for us," she added.

Sister Steinwachs noted that two of the principals are transferring from principal positions at other diocesan schools. "We think it's wonderful. It's good for everyone," Sister Steinwachs said. "It gives new life."

Transferring are:

- Eileen O'Neill, to St. John of Rochester School, from St. Mary's School, Canandaigua, where she had been principal for the past five years. O'Neill taught in Catholic schools for 20 years and also was principal for two years at St. Stephen's School, Geneva. She taught at St. Louis, Pittsford; St. Stephen's; St. Mary's; and Our Mother of Sorrows, Greece. She has a master's degree in educational administration from the State University of New York College at Brockport, and is a member of St. Mary's Parish, Canandaigua. She replaces Frances Barr, who left the diocesan system to become principal of a charter school.

- Jo Ann Struck, to St. Michael's School, Penn Yan, from St. Joseph's School, Wayland, where as principal she was the first lay administrator. She had taught at St. Mary's School in Dansville, from 1988 to 1993, and prior to that was an adjunct instructor for a year at Genesee Community and Central Piedmont Community colleges, both in Batavia. She also had taught at Catholic schools in Charlotte, N.C., and Hamburg, N.Y., beginning in 1983. Struck has a master's degree in education from Nazareth College and is a member of St. Ann's Parish, Hornell.

Newly hired as principals are:

- Sam Zalacca at Our Mother of Sorrows School, Greece. He has been principal of

Batavia's largest Catholic school, St. Joseph's, for the past 11 years. He taught at Holy Family School, LeRoy, for one year and also has taught in public schools. He holds a master's degree in education from Nazareth College. Zalacca served on a committee for the Diocese of Buffalo that wrote a paper on the uniqueness of Catholic institutions. He is a member of St. Joseph's Parish in LeRoy.

- Eileen Preston at St. John the Evangelist School, Greece. She was vice principal of Siena Catholic Academy for two years, and taught pre-K through eighth grades for many years at St. Lawrence. She has her Catholic leadership master's certification from the University of Rochester. Preston is a member of St. Lawrence Parish in Greece.

- Ann Marie Deutsch at St. Mary's

School, Canandaigua. She had taught at St. Boniface School from 1988 until the present, and also had taught for four years in public schools in Rochester, Norfolk and Buffalo. Deutsch holds a master's degree in education from Roberts Wesleyan College and is finishing her Catholic leadership certification program at the University of Rochester. She is a member of St. Pius Tenth Parish, Chili.

- David Lincoln at St. Joseph's School, Wayland. He has taught fourth and sixth grades in Texas' Alvin Independent School District and recently taught at St. Mary's, Canandaigua. He has a master's degree in elementary education from Nazareth College. From 1990 to 1995 he was a substitute teacher at Marcus Whitman School, Canandaigua, teaching subjects ranging from primary physical education to

physics. His bachelor's degree is in communications — radio and television production. He is in the Catholic leadership certification program at UR, and is a member of St. Mary's Parish, Canandaigua.

- Gary Foote at St. Patrick's School, Owego, after retiring from more than 32 years in public schools. He taught physical education one year for Ithaca City School District and for 32 years at Dryden Central High School, where he also coached various sports. He also served as director of summer recreation for the town of Dryden for 10 years. He holds a master's degree in physical education from Ithaca College, and is a member of Ithaca's Immaculate Conception Parish.

"God seems to drop these people in our lap," a pleased Sister Steinwachs commented.

Music in the air



John Powell/Photo intern

Jackie Cleaveland, 5, of Irondequoit, dances at the Concert for Hunger Relief, at Lakefront Park in Geneva on July 26. Funds raised benefit the Geneva Community Lunch Program, which is administered by Catholic Charities.

Deacons elect board members

Diocesan deacons have elected new Deacon Personnel Board members: Deacon Greg and Carole Sampson, Deacon David and Ann Paluskiewicz and Deacon Raymond and Patricia Defendorf. They will join the board Sept. 21.

Board members represent the various regions of the diocese. Their responsibilities include interviewing deacons and their wives, as well as supervisors, regarding ministries as part of the Growth in Ministry process; advising the deacon personnel director on assignments and reassignments; communications; coordinating deacon gatherings; and support and resources for policy development.

Retiring from the board are Deacon Christopher and Lynn Fisher Jr., Deacon Richard and Kathleen Schuler, and Deacon James and Donna Fitch. Remaining on the board are Deacon David Palma, deacon personnel director, ex-officio, Deacon Thomas and Nancy Beck, chairpersons, Deacon David and Rebecca Cadregari, Deacon Anthony and Mary Ann Caruso, Deacon James and Mary Chatterton, Deacon Charles Dispenza, Deacon Gregory and Elena Kiley, and Deacon Michael and Sharon Mangione.

Apartments open in Bloomfield

Bloomfield Meadows, apartments for ages 62 and older, will open for a tour following a ribbon-cutting ceremony at 10 a.m. Tuesday, Aug. 8. Bishop Matthew H. Clark is expected to be among the dignitaries to attend.

The new housing development is at 25 Bennett Ave., off East Main Street in Bloomfield.

Bloomfield Meadows Inc. is affiliated with Bishop Sheen Ecumenical Housing Foundation and run by Finger Lakes Community Development. It is the first small senior-housing project outside of New York City to be funded by bonds.

The 24 units are for independent seniors. About half are occupied. The project includes 18 one-bedroom units, six two-bedroom units, laundry and community space. Each unit has a full kitchen and bath, living room, dining area and private patio.

"We hope to do another 24 units," commented Allynn Smith, executive director of Sheen Housing. Normally, financing is difficult to find for such projects, she said. But through the bonds, placed by the New York State Housing Finance Agency, Bloomfield Meadows apartments are available at below-market rent.

Recognizing

The Urban League of Rochester selected several graduates of Catholic high schools this year as "Black Scholars," those who maintained a "B" or better academic average.

The seniors and their respective schools were: Michelle Harris, Teresa Smith, Rochelle Cherry, Ryanne Chisholm, Latoya Elliott and Erica Kendrick, Nazareth Academy; Ashley James, Cedric McClary, Bishop Kearney; Lamar Burrell, Howard Jones, Jason M. Smith and Adrian Townsend, McQuaid Jesuit; Nia Wallace, Aquinas Institute; Teran Tadal, April Woody, Renita Moore, Colleen Dell, Stephanie Dickerson and Natalie McLaren, Our Lady of Mercy.

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