

NORTHERN NEVADA CATHOLIC

JULY/AUGUST 2013

SERVING THE DIOCESE OF RENO

House that hope built

Park House shelters men as they turn their lives around

By Martina Beatty

Hope was built this spring when Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada converted a northeast Reno property into a new residential support center called Park House.

The transformation of the property will allow for personal transformations in the lives of local men with mental health issues, alcoholism or other addictions, thanks to a partnership with Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services.

"This collaboration has come together really quickly," said Cody Phinney, agency director for Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services.

"We just couldn't be more thrilled to be working together to make this a reality, and have this resource for people living with mental illness," Phinney said.

The 21 Park House residents, who have gone through the mental health court system or treatment programs, receive ongoing, professional assistance so they can continue healing and re-building their lives. Housing is a critical need for people who may have nowhere else to go once a treatment program ends.

"We're wrapping them with every support you can think of," said Peter Vogel, executive director of Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada. "It's



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN NEVADA

A speaker makes a presentation at the dedication of Park House.

about having someone who cares about you and understands your challenges."

One of those support providers is Tara Gonzales, a psychiatric case worker with NNAMHS who visits Park House regularly.

She said the clients have a live-in house manager and basic house rules forbidding drugs, alcohol and weapons. However, personal responsibility and autonomy are encouraged. Most

residents have jobs in the community and contribute to rent.

"These clients are independent," Gonzales said. "As far as rules for day-to-day living — such as who cleans up what, or will we have quiet hours? — we're going to get the residents together in weekly meetings to develop those rules themselves."

Park House is modeled on another successful CCNN program called

Crossroads, which was established after Washoe County Social Services approached CCNN to ask for help housing the homeless. With 70 residents, Crossroads saves the community more than \$4 million per year by cutting back on emergency room visits and incarceration costs. The individual benefits are priceless.

"In terms of the lives of these people, the stories would make you cry," Vogel said. "I had one gentleman tell me, 'My children talk to me now; they actually acknowledge me. They're proud of who I am and how I'm turning around my life.'

"It's story after story, and Crossroads has only been open 2 1/2 years! That's what we're trying to replicate."

Each of Park House's three buildings has a kitchen, living room, and multiple bedrooms and bathrooms. Surrounding the homes is a tree-filled yard, bordered with a white picket fence.

The efforts of CCNN and its volunteers have boosted the curb appeal of the Montello Street property, already owned by CCNN, on which a multi-unit housing complex had fallen into disrepair.

"It was in pretty bad shape and I wanted to do something with it," Vogel said. "The opportunity to partner with NNAMHS was exciting, because

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NORTHERN NEVADA CATHOLIC

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PHOTO PROVIDED BY THE DIOCESE OF RENO

NIGERIAN VISITORS: The Holy Family Sisters of the Needy from the Archdiocese of Owerri, Nigeria, recently have arrived in Reno to determine the feasibility of opening an adult day-care facility. The Sisters, an Indigenous Religious Congregation founded in 1983 and now numbering around 200, have expanded their ministry to other regions in Nigeria and Africa, as well as to Europe and the United States. Pictured with Bishop Randolph Calvo is Sister Petra (left) and Sister Stephena.

Clergy assignments announced

Bishop Randolph Calvo has made the following assignments for priests of the Diocese of Reno effective July 1.

■ Rev. Charles Durante was reappointed pastor of St. Teresa of Avila Parish in Carson City.

■ Rev. Anthony Vercellone was reappointed pastor of Our Lady of the Snows Parish in Reno.

■ Rev. Larry Morrison was reappointed pastor of St. Rose of Lima

Parish in Reno.

■ Rev. Joseph Infante was appointed pastor of St. Robert Bellarmine Parish in Fernley from parochial vicar of St. Therese (Little Flower) Parish in Reno.

■ Rev. Norman King's assignment at Immaculate Conception Parish in Sparks was continued.

■ Father Nathan Mamo was reappointed parochial vicar of St. Gall Parish in Gardnerville.

Mark the date

The next issue of Northern Nevada Catholic will be published on Sept. 28.

Social action directors see contrasts in Mexico

By Rita Sloan

The Social Action Summer Institute of the Catholic Roundtable association of social action directors met in June in Tucson, Ariz. The primary focus of the annual conference this year was immigration, a topic with much more complexity and impact than most of us understand.

Speakers included theology professor Father Daniel Groody of Notre Dame; Kevin Appleby, director of the Office of Migration Policy and Public Affairs of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops; Bishop Gerald F. Kicanas of Tucson, who also is chairman of the Board of Directors of Catholic Relief Services and a member of the Administrative Committee and the Budget and Finance Committee of the USCCB; Archbishop Macias Salcedo of Hermosillo, Mexico; and several others from both sides of the border who strive for biblical justice through Gospel love.

The SASI theme was "Many Borders, One Body in Christ." Beside hearing powerful talks from the highly educated and politically wise, participants also put boots (and sandals) to the ground and walked for awhile on the Sonora desert paths in 105-plus degree heat. They crossed the border into Mexico to share a meal and stories with migrants newly returned to Mexico by U.S. border agents. They traversed some of the same territory missionary Padre Kino explored in spreading the Gospel in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, long before a political border divided the land.

Emotions sometimes overcame us U.S. citizens as we experienced the sharp contrasts between speaking with those who dream of work or family reunification in the United States and later smoothly passing through the border check station to return home; of sharing a modest meal of beans and rice in Mexico and a few hours later having over-flowing plates of food set down before us in a Mexican restaurant in Tucson; of hearing heart-wrenching

stories of suffering and death in the desert, and then getting onto rented air-conditioned buses to drive back to comfortable lodging; of realizing there have been human rights abuses and much human suffering on a grand scale and feeling small and impotent to change the situation.

The complexity and universality of the many aspects of immigration issues can soon overwhelm us. The players include: political leaders, church leaders, corporations, law enforcement groups, human rights advocates, vigilante groups, money-lenders and swindlers, migrants and refugees, and institutions that deal with the many human consequences (hospitals, charities, parishes and schools).

The issues of immigration are not limited to a Latin America/North America dichotomy, but instead are global issues (e.g. between Africa and Europe, people do not risk death in the desert but rather drowning or being eaten by sharks). The issues include economics, political maneuvering, connecting workers with jobs, humanitarian concerns, health and safety concerns, family unity and the call to live justly and lovingly.

Participants in SASI once again were reminded the Pascal Mystery we routinely celebrate calls us to bear witness and carry the message of the reign of God into the world. It was inspiring to see many people living their faith in their daily work, whether offering vital aid of food and water or advocating in Congress for more just immigration laws. At this critical moment in history, we can all raise our voices strongly and frequently to call on our congressional representatives to do the right thing and update our law with justice. We can educate ourselves about the root causes of immigration as is called for by the USCCB, and to truly recognize our oneness through Christ with our immigrant brothers and sisters. As Father Groody said, "The true alien is the one alienated from God."



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN NEVADA

Park House provides transitional housing for men with mental health or addiction issues.

House

From page 1

they really had a need and we had the facilities to work with."

An anonymous donor provided \$50,000 to cover most of the remodeling costs, Vogel said. About \$60,000 was spent in total.

"There were five sheets of shingles on the roofs," Vogel said. "We had to gut the buildings, put in all new flooring, new carpeting, new paint, new appliances — everything. We had to build some bathrooms and fix up the grounds."

Volunteers collectively worked 1,200 hours over six months to re-build the complex. Park House was dedicated May 29 to three volunteers from the

Crossroads program — Luke Steele, Keith Grassi and Kelly Davis — who devoted their time to the effort.

"The community's ongoing support of Catholic Charities has allowed us to be able to do these types of things," Vogel said. "Most of the time people give support with \$5, \$10 or \$20 checks, but it adds up. We get a lot of support from the community."

To learn more about Park House or to donate to CCNN's efforts, visit www.catholiccharitiesnorthernnevada.org or call CCNN Development Director Auburn Harrison at 775-322-7073, ext. 235.



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People of joy: my mission in Botswana

By Seminarian Chris Kanowitz

There is an old saying: "Joy is an ineffable sign of God's presence." If that is true (and I certainly think it is), then the presence of God definitely is found among the people of Francistown, Botswana.

Francistown is what is known as an Apostolic Vicariate. This means the church is too small yet to be a diocese. It also means there is a lot of work to be done. There are only 17 priests covering an area about the size of the Diocese of Reno.

I was assigned to the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Desert during my two-month stay, where my primary responsibilities were to start a youth group and visit the sick, but I did anything they asked of me.

I use "joy" to describe the Batswana (which is what you call the people of Botswana) because they always are laughing and smiling. Joy defines who they are. But their joy does not come from their possessions or from their status. Their joy comes from their relationships, from their friends and from their families.

Certainly, they have the same desires for material goods that we do here in the U.S. (the iPhone is available there), but those goods aren't precious to them. Their loved ones are.

The devotion and faith of the people almost was startling. For example, Mass is usually 2 1/2 hours every Sunday. The



PHOTOS PROVIDED BY CHRIS KANOWITZ

Seminarian Chris Kanowitz poses with some young residents of Francistown, Botswana in Africa.

people sing and the people dance. They praise God with their mouths and with their bodies. One boy asked me if we dance during the Gloria in the United States. When I said no, his response to me was, "Why not? You are praising God. Why wouldn't you want to dance?" Why not indeed?

What also touched me deeply was how often we celebrated Mass in people's homes. Church is not something confined to a building on Sunday alone. Church is part of their everyday lives. It is part of their homes. It is part of their families.

The church in Francistown is a young one. In October 2012, they celebrated 60

years since the first Catholic missionaries arrived in this area. As a former British colony, Roman Catholicism originally was outlawed until Botswana gained its independence from the United Kingdom in the 1960s. Since then, many Evangelical forms of Christianity have flourished, but so has Catholicism. The church also is young in that the vast majority of its members are young women, and almost all first generation. I often use the image of a toddler to describe them. They don't walk; they

run. Their faith and their praise is tangible. They know God is alive and so their worship is alive, too.

But there are many challenges as well. As Botswana has become more and more western, secularism has begun to take root among the people, particularly among men. The problems our youth face quickly are becoming the problems their youth face as well.

The No. 1 problem, sadly, is Botswana has one of the most concentrated AIDS and HIV populations in the world, and it often falls to the church to care for those affected, particularly the orphans.

Obviously, I cannot possibly describe this life-changing experience in this short article. What I would like for anyone reading this to take away is there is more to life than what we have, and we can find joy all around us in the people we love and who love us. This experience also has really taught me the true meaning of "Catholic" and what it means to be a church.

The people of Francistown told me the people of Reno would be in their prayers. That's right! People in Africa, who you probably will never meet, are praying for you every day. May God bless us all with joy and peace, and may we learn from each other the things that matter in life.

Ke a leboga, Francistown.



Bishop Frank Nubuasah of Francistown, Botswana in Africa poses with Seminarian Chris Kanowitz.



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Menardi leaves Reno for ministry in Denver

By Monique Jacobs

Just a short two years ago, Elaine Menardi joined our Pastoral Center staff as associate director of the Office of Faith Formation and brought with her a wonderful combination of focus and energy.

Her expertise and gifts in technology and the life of the church were an immediate blessing and an opportunity for us as a local church family to look again: "Why do we do things that way and who benefits?"

The questions kept coming and so did new answers! These are exciting times! Getting a large machine like a Catholic diocese to shift gears in communication, explore social media strategies and embark on new outreach solutions can take time, but under Elaine's determined leadership this Reno diocesan machine slowly gained a little speed!

In her role as Web guru, Elaine helped us to create the RenoCatholicProject, a vibrant diocesan online blogsite for everyday spiritual formation and interaction on faith-related topics; plus the Diocese of Reno now is on Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

At the same time, she coordinated a team of volunteers who embraced the vision. Beginning in September 2012, the



PHOTO PROVIDED BY DIOCESE OF RENO

Elaine Menardi poses in her Diocesan office.

team offered a valuable and practical 4G Connect Technology Boot Camp that opened new doors for parish leaders to connect with parishioners — those in the pew and those on the fringe.

Brainstorming new ways of connecting with our teens also started taking form. Elaine came to us with 24 years of experience in youth ministry and an engineer's ability to lay out exciting blueprints to the ministry of her heart.

We held our first Aces Family Service Day and Middle School Rally and Confirmation retreats gained diocesan support under Elaine's care. She threw herself wholeheartedly into the Annual Youth Rally and expanded diocesan collaboration with

Catholic Heart Work Camp for our teens and young adults.

It's hard to list the many projects that have grown under her support; some of those seeds will only see the light of day in the future.

We are going to miss you, Elaine! You helped expand our vision and deepened our hope in realities yet to come. We are better as a diocese for your ministry with us. Like someone who has seen a shooting star, you have pointed out possibilities by leading us, like spiritual detectives, through the present. What else is God doing here? Be blessed. Be abundant and prolific in your ministry in Denver. Thanks so much for sharing your heart and your gifts with the Diocese of Reno!

Seminarians come home for summer

By Father Mike Mahone

Our diocesan seminarians have made their way home with the closing of the school year. What they will be doing during the summer months is as varied as they are as individuals.

Lucio Rocha will spend time in the pastoral center shadowing Father Bob Chorey and experiencing first-hand the workings of the various offices within the pastoral center. He will be living in the seminarian section of the St. Albert house.

Chris Kanowitz and Joey Walsh are in Mexico doing an in-depth study of Spanish. They will be living, speaking and probably dreaming in Spanish for the next six weeks. But the experience will serve them well in the years to come as priests here in Northern Nevada.

Patrick Klekas was also supposed to be shadowing Father Chorey in the Pastoral Center, but due to a last-minute family situation, he needed to be home with his family during this time. We wish blessings upon Patrick and his family of nine siblings. Jesus Gonzalez who is not yet in theology, but studying college

philosophy, is expected to get a job for the summer in Elko that is not church-related.

We are excited to announce there will be one new seminarian joining the Diocese! His name is Stephen Wood. Stephen is 20 years old and is from Smith Valley, just outside of Yerington. He has completed his interview process with the Diocese and his psychological testing. He now is putting together his application packet for Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon. Presuming that all will go well during the summer months, he will enter the seminary for the fall 2013 session.

Eduardo Gutierrez is still in Mexico completing his visa application. As soon as he is able, he will come to Nevada to live, and he will eventually enter the seminary to study theology.

The Lord is truly blessing our Diocese with some very wonderful men who have responded to the call of Christ to follow. To all of you reading this article, whether in Reno, Gardnerville, Elko or Austin, your prayers truly are working! Keep up the great prayers and support of our Bishop, priests, deacons, sisters and brothers of the Diocese of Reno.

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Harrison spreading word about CCSNN

By Maureen Angel

Since joining Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada nearly a year ago in the deputy director position, Auburn Harrison hit the ground running, and she hasn't slowed down since.

With her competence and high-energy level, she juggles multiple projects at once, never missing a beat. She says she loves her job and the organization. Harrison said she is excited about the opportunity to get the word out about Catholic Charities and its nine essential programs designed to help members of our community. She also wants to increase public awareness that CCSNN's services and programs are available to everyone, Catholics and non-Catholics alike.

Harrison is originally from Napa, Calif. She served five years in the U.S. Navy, where in addition to earning her bachelor's degree in journalism, she worked as a journalist and traveled to Europe, the Middle East and South America. She also was stationed in Japan for two years, working as both a radio disc jockey and news anchor.

Following her discharge, Harrison lived in San Francisco for a year before taking a job as a news anchor for NBC news in Rapid City, S.D.



PHOTO PROVIDED BY CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF NORTHERN NEVADA
Auburn Harrison is the deputy director for Catholic Charities of Northern Nevada.

She then moved to Reno and worked for KOLO TV for five years as a reporter, which is why her face and voice are so familiar to many people.

In 2011, Harrison left KOLO to pursue a master's degree in writing at University of Nevada, Reno and to follow a longtime dream of writing and publishing children's books. She also had a strong interest in volunteering to help the less fortunate in our community, after seeing their need first-hand during her reporter years.

Harrison began volunteering on a regular

basis at St. Vincent's dining room. When they found out about her background in journalism, Harrison was asked if she would help out with some of the writing projects for press releases and fundraising mailings. This led to her being hired in September 2012 to work full time in the development director position.

Harrison and her husband, Schuyler, have been married for three years. They are the proud parents of Canyon, an energetic 2-year-old son who keeps them constantly on their toes.

Manogue's new principal has extensive experience

By Jackie Allen

The first indication that Rick Harris's new job as principal of Bishop Manogue Catholic High School is more than just a way to make a living, is the handmade sign taped to his office door. "Welcome to the Family!" it reads, and it was put there by students who, without yet having met him, wanted him to know just what kind of place he was joining.

"I'm honored to be a part of this family," Harris said. "And I'm here to provide it with support, leadership, structure and stability to the very best of my ability. I've been very fortunate to gain leadership experience at many of our local schools and throughout the public system, and every one of those positions has provided me with some skill, some insight, some piece of learning that will help me help Bishop Manogue move forward."

Those positions have included serving as a teacher, coach, principal, curriculum coordinator, elementary senior director, secondary senior director, deputy superintendent, and chief logistics and operations officer for the Washoe County School District. His last assignment was as interim principal for Marvin Moss Elementary School, which also recently experienced a sudden change in leadership.

"I had an amazing experience at Marvin Moss," Harris said, "and in many ways, their situation paralleled our own. Anytime there is a leadership change, it's important to bring your stakeholders together and take all the steps you need to continue to support the students. We are all about teaching and learning — no matter who is in charge, and in what circumstances, we're here to support the instruction and the learning that happens in those classrooms. That's the bottom line."

To reach those stakeholders, Harris has made a point of gathering input from parents, students and staff through personal meetings and surveys.



PHOTO BY JACKIE ALLEN

Rick Harris

"My decisions and actions moving forward will be very much developed from the information gathered from within this family, and very much in keeping with the school's established strategic plan," he said.

One area of focus will be to foster growth in all areas of student achievement.

"We have great numbers as far as graduation rates and test scores go, and we will continue to work to maintain and improve those things," Harris said. "But I also want to dig deeper with our measurements and assessments to identify and quantify the specific skills our students need for success and achievement, making absolutely sure that they are leaving here with those skills."

Harris said he'll enjoy working in a smaller school system, where ideas can be turned to action more quickly, but that's not the difference that will be most meaningful.

"Personally, I am eager to continue my own spiritual development as part of the Bishop Manogue family, and professionally, I am really excited to now have the ability to educate not just through curriculum and instruction, but also through faith and Catholic principles. That's where we will make the real difference," Harris said.



PHOTO BY FATHER PAUL MCCOLLUM

The young people who will attend World Youth Day prepared with a June 8 retreat.

Youths prep for WYD

By Father Paul McCollum

The 23 young adults and young-at-heart adults traveling to Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, for World Youth Day 2013 participated in an all-day retreat June 8 at St. Gall's Catholic Church in Gardnerville.

Elaine Menardi, Father Paul McCollum, Marina Hedwall and Eugene Gasataya led the group in prayer to start the day.

During the retreat, a discussion took place advising attendees about what to pack. The group took a mini-hike up the Fay-Luther trail in 100-plus degree heat and had a practice session of Brazilian Portuguese.

Questions about safety, what not to bring and whether or not one will be able to use a cell phone were among the top themes discussed throughout the day.

The participants ended the day by joining the St. Gall Community for the Saturday evening Mass and a special blessing.

The group will leave Reno on July 16 and spend the first six days in the Diocese of Valenca for Missionary Days and the rest of the time in Rio near Copacabana Beach.

Missionary Days will be a chance to get to know the church in Brazil and the Brazilian culture, as well as some time to actually be in solidarity and work with those in need in Valenca. Previous World Youth Days have not included an effort to provide such a "hands-on" experience.

The actual World Youth Day events will begin on July 23, with an opening Mass celebrated with the Archbishop of Rio, Don Orani Joao Tempesta and will conclude on July 27 with the Pilgrimage

Walk, Vigil and Mass on Sunday with Pope Francis.

It is a longstanding World Youth Day tradition that the pope will announce the next World Youth Day date and location, at the end of Mass.

Photos and daily updates will be posted at www.dioceseofreno.org during the trip.

Also, we will celebrate Mass each day and pray for the people back home in the Diocese of Reno. We ask that you please pray for us! Pray for our safety! Pray for hearts open to the Spirit of God! Pray for the youth of the Diocese of Reno!

The Pilgrims will gather at the Our Lady of Snows Chapel at 8 a.m. July 16 for a sending Mass and special blessing before heading to the airport.

Bom Viagem!

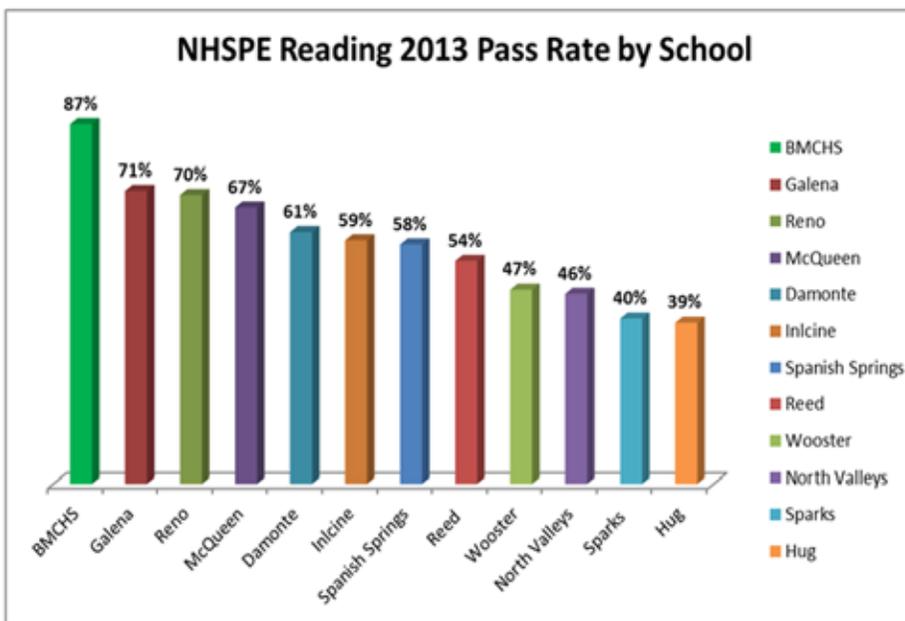
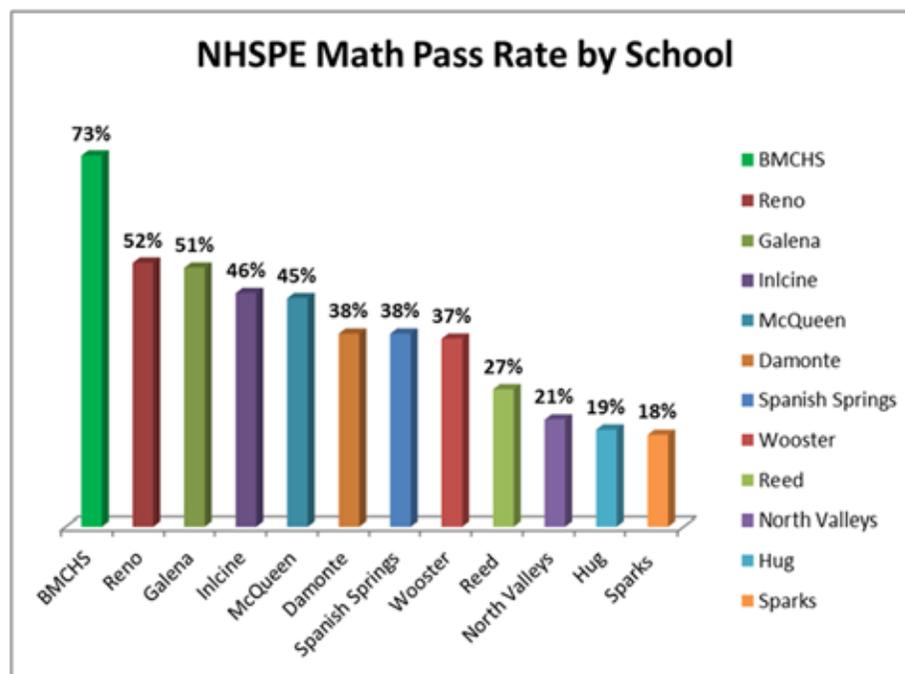
Manogue students on top in proficiency exam pass rates

Bishop Manogue sophomores taking the Nevada High School Proficiency Exam in reading and math have higher pass rates than their public school counterparts, according to the schools' statistics that were published in the Reno Gazette Journal on May 8. That comparison shows Manogue's pass rates for sophomores taking the test for the

first time are 16 percentage points higher than the nearest competitor in reading and 21 percentage points higher in math.

Exams are based on state standards, which define what students should be learning each year. Students must pass the NHSPE to graduate.

WCSD science scores weren't provided.



Altruism affirms who we are as people

What kind of people are we? Depends on whom you ask! Some philosophers and moral theologians have a dim view of human nature and may reply quite negatively. Selfish and in need of considerable improvement, think many parents.

But biologists are beginning to form a generally sunnier view of humankind. Their conclusions are derived in part from testing very young children. When infants as young as 18 months old see an unrelated adult whose hands are full and who needs assistance opening a door or picking up a dropped clothespin, they immediately will help. This helping was not enhanced by rewards, suggesting training does not influence it. It seems to occur across cultures that have different timetables for teaching social rules.

Altruism appears embedded in our nature. Altruism affirms who we are and who we want to be and the kind of the world we want to exist.

Tomorrow's Liturgy highlights this virtue of altruism, and Jesus uses the Samaritan's "random act of kindness" to



Sister Maria's column

explain the answer to the question: "And who is my neighbor?"

During these summer Sundays, the liturgy has been setting the Lucan stage for evangelization. We recall from last week's celebration how Jesus sent the disciples forth to preach the Gospel. Don't take offense at people who don't want to hear your message. Putting them in touch with the better side of human nature, their altruistic side (this week). Next week, helping them to remember

that works on his behalf take place in tandem with prayer and being in his presence.

The scriptures tomorrow begin with the hallowed "Shema Yisrael." Observant Jews consider the Shema to be the most important part of the prayer service in Judaism, and its twice-daily recitation as a mitzvah (religious commandment). It is traditional for Jews to say the Shema as their last words, and for parents to teach their children to say it before they go to sleep at night.

The Gospel recalls Jesus considered the Shema to be the first of his two greatest commandments: In response to a questioner, Jesus had him recall the Shema:

"The first of all the commandments is, Hear, O Israel; The Lord our God is one Lord: And thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind, and with all thy strength: this is the first commandment. And the second commandment is like the first: you shall love your neighbor as yourself."

Jesus replied to him, "You have

answered correctly; do this and you will live."

But because the scholar of the law wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus:

"And who is my neighbor?"

Jesus goes on to tell the story so familiar to us that the term "Good Samaritan" has passed into our language as a synonym for a "do-gooder."

"A man fell victim to robbers. ... a Samaritan traveler who came upon him was moved with compassion at the sight.

He approached the victim, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them.

Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn, and cared for him."

The Liturgy recalls our need to be in touch with this altruism for it affirms who we are, who God calls us to be, who we want to be and the kind of the world we want to exist. In the story of the Good Samaritan, Jesus answers the question: "And who is my neighbor?"

"Your neighbor is the one who needs you!"

See the face of Jesus in everyone you meet

By Deacon Chuck Lanham

You have undoubtedly been told or heard it said you should see the face of Jesus in everyone you meet. So, how's that working out for you?

I suspect that most of us would have some difficulty in recognizing him even if he stood directly in front of us wearing a name tag. We believe. We really do. But the problem is that we hold an idealized image of Jesus and no one can measure up.

We also decidedly miss the point. Jesus told us, "Behold, I am with you always, until the end of the age." [Mt 28:20] So if Jesus is with me always he must be with you always. And if he is with you always he must be with your neighbor, and his neighbor, and her neighbor, and so on.

My visit with Father John Pack, a longtime family friend, convinced me, beyond any doubt, I had seen Jesus. When I touched and hugged my friend, I knew I had physically held Jesus in my arms. To say it was a defining moment would be more than an understatement.

But Father John didn't look at all like the image I had of Jesus. And no, Father John isn't Jesus, he's Korean not Jewish. Is he a holy man? Without a doubt. Is he a saint? Most certainly, at least to me. But in fact, he is a normal human being, flesh and blood, not God. But at that moment, when I really needed God, when I needed his presence so desperately, He filled my friend with himself, and I saw God, I saw Jesus.

I would like to say my life changed completely that day, but that would be untrue. Oh, it changed for sure, just not as suddenly as one might expect. It is amazing how resistant we can become to change, even when we know it is for the better. I fought God for a long time, resisted, refused to listen.

It was several years before I found myself no longer able to resist. I remember that day. I was alone when I happened upon a poem that I had read years before but had forgotten. As I read it gave new meaning to me. While a lengthy poem, it was the first few lines that jarred my senses and gave me the nudge I needed.

It began:

"I fled Him, down the nights and down the days;

I fled Him, down the arches of the years;
I fled Him, down the labyrinthine ways
Of my own mind; and in the mist of tears
I hid from Him, and under running laughter.
Up vistaed hopes I sped; And shot, precipitated
Adown Titanic glooms of chasmed fears,
From those strong feet that followed after, followed
after.

But with unhurrying ease, and unperturbed pace,
Deliberate speed, majestic instancy,
They beat — and a Voice beat more instant than the
feet —

'All things betray thee, who betrayest me.'"
That poem, "The Hound of Heaven," by Francis
Thompson, spoke to me. God spoke and I finally
listened.

Look into the eyes of a stranger and you will see,
listen to the voice of a friend and you will hear, touch
the face of someone you love and you will find God.

Chuck Lanham is a deacon at St. Albert the Great Catholic Church.

School year brings new principal for St. Teresa

By Margaret Burger

Working as a teacher, guidance counselor, ESL teacher/director, curriculum director, head of school, assistant principal and principal, I have held numerous positions in private and Catholic elementary and secondary schools in many states. My teaching and administrative experiences are both broad and deep.

Along with providing me with my faith foundation, my educational background helped me develop my commitment to a career in Catholic education. From Villa Maria Elementary School, an all-girls' Catholic grade school run by the Sisters of Saint Joseph, to Mercyhurst Preparatory School, a Catholic all-girls' high school run by the Sisters of Mercy, and then to Gannon University, a Catholic co-ed university where I earned both my bachelor's degree in English and my master's degree in education — all in Erie, Penn., my hometown — these institutions have positively and indelibly defined who I am today.

Seventh and eighth grade, considered by many a teacher to be a wild, untamed country, was the first grade level I stepped into in my long tenure as a language arts teacher. I fell in love with it. That first teaching position was in a large Catholic elementary school in Erie, Penn.

As I moved to different states, and there were many — Connecticut, Michigan and Wisconsin, to name a few — I had the opportunity to teach different grade levels and different subjects, but the bond with that wild



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ST. TERESA AVILA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Margaret Burger

country of middle-school language arts always stuck with me.

I am proud to say I wanted to make a positive impact in my classrooms, and I did. But I also realized after teaching for a number of years, I could be of service in a different way, on a larger scale. That's when I came to see an even wilder world out there — administration. I have held numerous positions at that level, as well.

As most often is the case, being asked to write such biographies makes one look back as well as forward. As I look back on my experiences, I am grateful to have such wonderful ones, and I am proud of each of them. But I am most proud of my children. My son,

Nicholas, is 31, and my daughter, Kelly, is 29. Both live in California — Nicholas and his wife, Marissa, live in Pacifica, and Kelly lives in Capitola.

Nick is in financial marketing with H&R Block and commutes between Pacifica and Kansas City, and Kelly is a registered nurse. Both my son and daughter graduated from St. Mary's College of California, and my daughter then graduated from the University of Rochester School of Nursing.

When they were young and having to move around as we did, Catholic schools were our one constant. I always was so fortunate to be able to teach in the Catholic schools that my children attended. The Catholic school communities were our extended family.

St. Teresa of Avila is perfect for me on a number of levels. First is its proximity to my children. As I'm sure they'll agree, it's close enough to them yet far enough away.

Additionally, I hear it snows in Carson City! I grew up in Pennsylvania where snow was in the forecast six months out of the year. I loved it as a kid, and I'm looking forward to seeing it again! I also know Lake Tahoe is a close neighbor to Carson City. Tahoe is one of those one-time places for me — experiencing it once makes it a favorite always.

But I think the most important reason why St. Teresa of Avila is a perfect fit for me is that I love the small faith community. I am extremely excited and very much looking forward to being of service to the students, faculty, parents and faith community in Carson City as principal of St. Teresa of Avila School.

Diocese of Reno mourns loss of Father Albert Fosselman

Father Albert Fosselman passed away on June 23, at Rosewood Rehabilitation Center in Reno after a long illness.

He was born in Waverly, Iowa, to Bernard Peter Fosselman and Maria Dolores Lizama Arevalo.

Fosselman was raised in Grand Forks, N.D., until 1946, when his family moved to Salinas, Calif.

At age 6, Fosselman suffered from a major life-threatening illness and was hospitalized for several months, during which he was anointed with what was then known as the "last rites." He went on to make a full recovery. From that time on, the family felt he was destined to be a priest.

In 1950, he graduated from Ryan pre-seminary in Fresno, Calif. He went on

to attend major seminary at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Columbus, Ohio. He completed his studies at Mount Angel Seminary in Oregon in 1960 and was ordained to the priesthood on May 26, 1960, at St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral in Reno. He then continued his education in Canon Law at Catholic University in Washington, D.C. and the Gregorian in Rome.

As a priest of the Diocese of Reno, Fosselman served in several parishes in Nevada, including St. Teresa of Avila in Carson City, St. Ann's in Las Vegas, St. Robert Bellarmine in Fernley, Our Lady of Tahoe in Zephyr Cove, St. Mary's in the Mountains in Virginia City, St. Thomas Aquinas Cathedral and Our Lady of the Snows in Reno and most notably as pastor of St. Francis of Assisi in Incline Village

from 1976 to 1989. He also served the Diocese as Judicial Vicar of the Tribunal from 1967 to 1988.

Fosselman is predeceased by his parents and his brothers Louis and Peter. He is survived by his sister Dolores Baldwin of Greenville, Calif., numerous nieces and nephews, and by two stepsisters.

Fosselman was a kind and gentle soul who loved his faith, his priesthood and his family. He will be missed.

A Vigil Service was held July 1 at Walton Funeral Home Sierra Chapel, Reno and the Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated at St. Therese Little Flower Catholic Church in Reno. Fosselman was laid to rest at Our Mother of Sorrows Cemetery in Reno.

Donations may be made to St. Francis of Assisi Parish in Incline Village or to a cancer center of your choice.



Father Albert Fosselman

Holy Child Center seeks stories from alumni

By Auburn Harrison

Holy Child Early Learning Center Director Rebecca

Vizina wasn't yet 2 years old when she was a student at what was formerly known as the Holy Child Day Home. She and her two older siblings attended Holy Child in the early 1960s. Their mother was busy learning how to be a dental hygienist, so the children lived at the orphanage during the week and went home on the weekends.

"I don't remember much because I was so young, but my brother remembers being safety pinned to the nun's dress as a punishment for sitting on a heater vent," said Vizina with a laugh.

Vizina said her mother was single with three children, so she cleaned the school in lieu of paying tuition. While Vizina may not have strong memories of her own infancy and young childhood spent at Holy Child, the center's philanthropic philosophies have remained near and dear to her heart.

"My family used to serve food at St. Vincent's Dining Room growing up, so we've always been involved with Catholic Charities. I was thrilled when I became the director of Holy

Child in 2004. Now my own grandchildren attend here as well, and my mom continues to volunteer here weekly," Vizina said.

Vizina's story is common among families with children who attend Holy Child. Many of them have an old story, a personal connection, or a family member who is also a former student of the early learning center. The center is looking for stories from its alumni for the upcoming 70th anniversary celebration.

The most famous of Holy Child's alumni is actor Tom Hanks, who stayed at the home in the 1960s. On July 20th, Holy Child will host a 70th anniversary barbecue to celebrate the center's longtime role in our community as a high quality, early education program. The celebration will include a carnival, open house and a silent auction featuring children's art.

Deacon Dave Norman from Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church also attended Holy Child when he was about 5 years old, and his youngest daughter was a student there for eight years.

"My biggest memory is when we had a little orchestra band there, and we were all in it. I



PHOTO PROVIDED BY HOLY CHILD EARLY LEARNING CENTER

Holy Child Early Learning Center prepares children for kindergarten.

remember I got to sit right up front and play the drums. For years, my mother had a picture of me with those drums," he said. "I'm surprised I can remember that far back."

Holy Child Day Home was founded by the Sisters of the Holy Family in 1943. Aside from three major renovations and two expansions, the brick schoolhouse remains largely the same. While the center used to

be an orphanage where children would stay overnight, it is now strictly a daycare facility. Holy Child holds the title of the oldest, nationally accredited early education center in Reno.

In preparation for the 70th anniversary, Holy Child leaders are asking anyone in the community who attended Holy Child as a young person, or if they know someone who went here or worked here in the past,

to please contact us with their personal stories, memories or photographs.

If you have a story to share, call Auburn Harrison at 775-322-7073, ext. 235 or email ddirector@ccsnn.org. For information about the anniversary celebration, contact Rebecca Vizina at 775-329-2070 or rvizina@ccsnn.org. To learn more about CCNN, visit the website at www.ccsnn.org.

Holy Child Center taking enrollments for fall classes

Staff Report

Kindergarten Prep Program at Holy Child Early Learning Center is taking enrollments for the 2013-2014 school year.

Holy Child Early Learning Center has Catholic roots founded in quality and based on national and state standards with high expectations for children of all backgrounds.

Pre-Kindergarten is designed to

prepare 4-year-olds (children who will be 5 years old after Dec. 31) for kindergarten. There is a strong focus on the development of social/emotional skills. Raising an eager learner is the goal, and it can be achieved through play and day-to-day activities.

Kindergarten Prep is designed for children who will turn 5 years old between Sept. 30 and Dec. 31 or are young 5-year-olds. There is a strong focus on the development of

self-regulation skills. The goal is to prepare children to enter kindergarten or first grade with the skills and behaviors necessary to be successful in future learning.

The curriculum used at Holy Child Early Learning Center is based on research that supports the significance of the early years in future student achievement and aligns with State Common Core Standard. In class, the children will be learning skills to enable

them to successfully transition into kindergarten the next year.

We focus on the following six areas: language and literacy; math; creative arts (visual arts, creative thinking, music and movement, and dramatic play); physical development and health; science; and social studies/social emotional.

For more information, contact Rebecca Vizina at 775-329-2979 or holychild@ccsnn.org. Holy Child Early Learning Center is at 440 Reno Ave.

Schools end year with awards, graduations

Our Lady of the Snows Catholic School

The eighth-graders celebrated their last days at Snows with final exams and farewells. An awards ceremony took place at the parish, and students were honored for their achievements. Each graduate received special pins and recognition for the unique gifts and talents they've shared with our school. Scholarships also were awarded.

Following the ceremony, students and their parents attended a special luncheon that was catered by Jeannine Higgins and hosted by the seventh-grade class.

The day before graduation, eighth-graders were treated to a special surprise Fun Day at Lake Tahoe. Their day started with a special faith retreat lead by their teacher, Mrs. Kehoe. The students prayed together and shared their intentions, hopes and dreams for each other and for their own futures. The rest of the day was filled with hiking, swimming, games, great food and a final dance overlooking Lake Tahoe.

A beautiful graduation Mass was celebrated by Father Tony and Father Mike. At the conclusion, a video presentation of music and photos was shown chronicling our graduates' years at Snows, which elicited several laughs and more than a few tears. Farewell and Congratulations to the Class of 2013. May God bless you abundantly.

St. Albert the Great Catholic School

St. Albert is proud to announce three of our students have won the PBS KIDS GO!



PHOTO PROVIDED BY ST. ALBERT THE GREAT CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Megan Madole, left, Courtney Potter and Kylie Ann Behrendt won awards in the PBS KIDS GO! Writer's Contest. They are students at St. Albert the Great Catholic School.

Writer's Contest sponsored by KNPB Reno. The writing contest was open to students in kindergarten through third grade. Kylie Ann Behrendt, a kindergartner, won first place for her story, "What Is in the World?" Courtney Potter, a first-grader, won first place for her story, "Sparkles in the Inside." Megan Madole, a third-grader, won second place for her story, "The Bee Wants a Pigeon." These stories really represent our beliefs at St. Albert the Great Catholic School that everyone is a child of God and there is love and kindness all around us.

Each winner was asked to read their story on camera in the KNPB studio. The stories will be aired on Channel 5 and also will be on the KNPB website for viewing. As first-place winners, Kylie Ann and Courtney will have their stories go on to compete at the national level. Our young writers were honored in May at an awards ceremony at KNPB.

Additionally, as part of Artown these young writers were congratulated at a

reception in their honor at the Reno-Tahoe International Airport on June 20. Their stories will be on display during the summer for all visitors to see. Local artist and illustrator Teddy Swecker presented each winner with an autographed book. We are proud of our young writers, and we thank Kylie Ann, Courtney and Megan for representing St. Albert the Great Catholic School!

Little Flower School

In February, thanks to the persistence and dedication of Debbie Rossi, Little Flower School founded an Alumni Association. The group met for the first time this past winter, establishing a mission, outlining bylaws and determining goals for the upcoming year. The group has been tremendously supportive of the school, hosting a 50th Year Anniversary Celebration in May and connecting with LFS alumni to promote and support the school. If you or anyone you know is interested in becoming a member of the LFS Alumni

Association, please contact the school at 775-323-2931.

On June 6, 35 kindergarten students walked down the center aisle of Little Flower Church for the beginning of school Mass and their first graduation at Little Flower. After Mass, each of the students stepped up to the podium to announce their name and what they wanted to be when they grew up. Their answers ranged from professional baseball players to doctors, police officers and teachers. The class expressed their ambitions as they begin the next part of their education at Little Flower.

All 38 eighth-grade graduating students sat quietly enjoying watching the kindergarten students. No doubt several of them were reflecting on their early years at LFS. The eighth-grade students celebrated their graduation the next evening.

While the kindergarten graduation marked the beginning of the 35 students' time at Little Flower, the eighth-grade graduation celebrated longtime and memorable experiences for a class who has been exemplary throughout their time at the school. Thirteen students received the Presidential Award for Academic Excellence, having a grade point average above a 3.5 and achieving above the 90th percentile in mathematics or reading on the SAT 10, the school's national standardized exam. Sixteen students received scholarships and citizenship to help them carry on their Catholic education at Bishop Manogue Catholic High School.

Throughout the Mass and graduation ceremony, the class's tremendous contributions

and commitment to Little Flower and its pillars of knowledge, service, leadership and faith were recognized. Congratulations class of 2013, we wish you well in all of your future endeavors and thank you for sharing your elementary years at Little Flower.

Graduations

A bright smile, a diploma and the loving support of family, friends and the Catholic school community were highlights of many young graduates' year in the Diocese of Reno Catholic Schools.

Little Flower School, St. Albert the Great, Our Lady of the Snows and St. Teresa of Avila schools all had graduation events for their eighth-grade graduates. Each graduation was celebrated with Mass and in various other ways.

Bishop Manogue Catholic High School had a Baccalaureate Mass, celebrated by Bishop Randolph Calvo, followed by dinner and speakers on May 30.

On June 1, hundreds of people were present for the graduation. Numerous awards were given to graduates for service and academic success. An underlying message was graduation exercises are called "commencements," because this is the beginning of a new chapter in the graduates' lives.

We pray God will bless our graduates. We give great gratitude to parents who make sacrifices to send students to Catholic schools and for faculty, staff and administrators who are so dedicated in their own calling to serve in Catholic schools.

We also thank our church leaders and benefactors for their generous support of our schools.

Where a healthier community is born.

The Pregnancy Center –
just one of the many ways
Renown invests in making
our community healthier.

The Pregnancy Center, operated by Renown Regional Medical Center, provides essential prenatal care to women regardless of the ability to pay. For every \$1 invested in prenatal care, \$8 is saved in costs that result from pre-term and low-weight births.

As the only locally owned, not-for-profit health network, Renown's community services, such as The Pregnancy Center, give all the babies in our area the chance for a healthy start.

If you'd like to support The Pregnancy Center, visit renown.org/support.

The Pregnancy Center
A Community Service of Renown Health