

Meetings

Trocaire sets open house

Trocaire College, a private, career-oriented institution, will hold an open house from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 3 on the campus, 360 Choate Avenue, Buffalo. The open house will allow prospective students and their families to learn firsthand about Trocaire's programs. Participants can meet faculty and staff, ask questions about the application process or financial aid, take guided tours of the campus and learn about the college's academic majors. Visitors can also find out more about Trocaire's new Russell J. Salvatore School of Hospitality & Business, which is expanding to 6681 Transit Road, between Genesee Street and Wehrle Drive. Prospective students will have the opportunity to gather information on academic programs in business administration, medical assistant, nursing, computer network and health information technology (medical records). For more information or to make reservations for the open house, call the Admissions Office at 827-2545 or visit the Web site www.trocaire.edu.

Chamber to hear assemblymen

The Greater East Aurora Chamber of Commerce's Government Affairs Committee is hosting a legislative meeting with New York State Assemblymen Jack Quinn and Mike Cole at 8:30 a.m. Friday, Jan. 11 in the upstairs Morris Room at the Roycroft Inn, 40 South Grove St., East Aurora. The committee is also inviting the Chamber board of directors and the Coalition for Community Building to attend. A continental breakfast will be available. The discussions will focus on, but will not be limited to, the upcoming session in Albany regarding issues impacting business and concerns about health insurance costs.

Seminar to focus on business plans

Score of Buffalo/Niagara has scheduled a seminar on writing business plans, to be held at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 16 at Canisius College (Center at Amherst), 300 Corporate Parkway in Amherst.

New Brain and Spine Medical Center to provide treatment at one location

by **JESSICA L. FINCH**
Associate Editor

Brain and Spine Medical Services, PLLC, a provider of comprehensive care in neurosurgery, neurology, rheumatology, physiatry and complementary medical services, has opened its new state-of-the-art, 43,000-square-foot headquarters — featuring “green” construction components — at 400 International Drive.

The company outgrew its location on Essjay Road, which opened in 2001, and increased its treatment space from 7,500 to 21,000 square feet. Staff numbers tripled.

The International Drive location is the main facility for Brain and Spine Medical Services, which currently has centers in Amherst, Lockport, Niagara Falls, Kenmore, Orchard Park, Irving and Fredonia. The company will be building a Derby location to replace the one in Irving.

The size of the new headquarters is a result of the large number of patients needing various forms of treatment.

“We now offer unparalleled service and convenience to patients by providing all necessary medical treatments in one fully equipped location,” said Dr. Michael K. Landi, chief of neurosurgery at Kenmore Mercy Hospital.

He elaborated, saying that when a patient begins seeing doctors for pain they can receive “very disjointed care,” by seeing different specialists at many offices.

“We offer the whole package, which is a better quality of care with convenience,” he said, adding that the comprehensive,



Dr. Michael K. Landi and CEO Emilie DiChristina Medical Center opened at 400 International Drive. stand in the entryway for the new Brain and Spine

Photo by John Normile

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multidisciplinary care offered at the Brain and Spine Center can help avoid unnecessary surgery by finding the right treatment.

After undergoing evaluation to discover accurate diagnosis, patients are referred to a team of physicians and practitioners who develop a proper plan of treatment and/or procedures for the specific needs of the patient.

The \$8 million facility features treatment options for patients suffering from a neurosurgical, neurological or musculoskeletal ailment.

According to The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, neurological impairments, ranging from back pain and stroke to brain injury and movement disorders, are part of

everyday life for more than 50 million Americans. In the WNY region tens of thousands of residents have a neurologic or neurosurgical ailment.

As the number of patients has grown, so have the doctors. From just one physician, the center now has 10.

Treatments offered at the Brain and Spine Center include neurology, rheumatology, diagnostic and interventional radiology, chiropractic care, physical therapy, gamma knife radiosurgery (one of the most advanced neurosurgery procedures in the world), minimally invasive surgery and cerebrovascular surgery.

In addition, the Brain and Spine Center offers medical spa treatments, massage therapy and an

in-house medical supply store for patients.

Chief executive officer Emilie DiChristina said the spa helps patients forget about the pain, surgeries and overall difficulties of their conditions.

“They can relax and gain a piece of mind while using the spa,” she said.

The supply store sells the equipment a patient will need following surgery, or as part of a treatment program. This eliminates the need for an additional stop and also guarantees the patient is buying the correct product. The equipment can also be fitted by the patient's doctor on site.

For more information, visit www.nybrainandspine.com or call 631-3555.

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute names steering committee for dinner

St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute has named Paul and Martha Lamparelli as co-chair couple for the 28th annual Lasallian Dinner and Auction that will be held on Feb. 9 at the institute.

All proceeds from the event are dedicated toward student financial aid and special student projects.

The Lamparellis join chair couple William (class of 1972) and Donna Collins in leading the effort. They are joined by a steering committee that is tasked with generating gift donations, advertisements and coordinating all aspects of the event.

The following Amherst and Williamsville residents were named to the steering committee: Sara Anderson, Peter and Julie Benzino, Vincent Celestino, Sienie Kelly, Brian and Ingrid Charlton, Dave and Kate Gordon, Jim and Elaine Green, Greg (class of 1980) and Lynn Maher, Dave (class of 1980) and Tracey Mangano, Jim and Huguette Murphy, Rick (class of 1969) and Diane Flanigen Neumeister, Paul and Julie O'Leary, Russ and Cathy Papia, Kenneth and Nancy Paslaqua, Bob and Lisa Schell, Bob (class of 1973) and Pam Schreck, and Mick Whipple (class of 1990).

“The Marauders' Ball” is the theme for this year's Lasallian Dinner and Auction. Music will be provided by the St. Joe's Jazz Lab Band. Proceeds benefit student financial aid and special student projects.

For information on gift donation, catalog advertisements/patrons or reservations, contact Cathy Greene in the school's Advancement Office at 270-4117.

Car donations worth a tax deduction, help charities

Cars4Charities has an opportunity to get a year-end tax deduction and help a charity at the same time. Donate an unwanted car to be eligible for a tax deduction of \$500 or what the car is sold for, whichever is greater.

Cars4Charities will handle the entire donation process, from start to finish. It'll turn the unwanted vehicle into cash and send the entire net proceeds to the charity selected by the donor from a list of more than 1,000 charities.

Cars4Charities accepts almost all cars in Western New York for donation, old or new, running or not, provided the car has a title, has not been stripped of parts, has all four tires and is in a location where the tow truck can easily get to it.

Log onto www.cars4charities.org or call 1-866-448-3487 (GIVE-4-US). Vehicles are picked up in a matter of days, free of charge. Cars4Charities will provide the appropriate tax paperwork needed to claim the deduction. To claim a 2007 deduction, the title must be signed and mailed by Dec. 31, 2007.

Business News

John Custodi of Williamsville recently won a \$500 Wegmans gift card for being one of Independent Health's Good Deeds Contest grand prize winners, which rewarded those seen in the act of doing a good deed in the community. Custodi's name was drawn from more than 1,000 entries.