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Mother of 11 Handicapped Children Cited as Outstanding Woman

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THE NEWPORT COLLEGE - SALVE REGINA
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NEWS RELEASE

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MOTHER OF 11 HANDICAPPED CHILDREN
TO BE CITED AS OUTSTANDING WOMAN

Rachel Wheeler Rossow, mother of 11 handicapped children, will be cited as an outstanding woman by her alma mater, The Newport College - Saive Regina, and the state of Rhode Island during Alumni Weekend at the College May 18, 1980. Awards will be presented by Ms. Lillian Almeida, president of the Alumni Association, at a brunch, 1 p.m. at the Hotel Viking, Newport, R.I.

Mrs. Rossow and her husband, Carl, (Ellington, CT) are parents of three natural and 11 multiply handicapped adopted or permanently placed foster

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children. In 1974 a nonprofit corporation, Alpha and Omega, was founded by the Rossows to help them provide specialized nursing care and supervision in a family setting for handicapped children.

In a citation from the state of Rhode Island, Governor Joseph Garrahy commends Mrs. Rossow for "believing sincerely in the Family of Man" and for her "life-long commitment to improving the quality of life for handicapped children."

As a first recipient of The Newport College's Outstanding Alumni Award, Mrs. Rossow is cited for "bringing love and beauty out of suffering." She is a 1960 graduate of the College and holds a B.S. in nursing. Her background also includes a master of science degree in psychiatric mental-health nursing from Catholic University. In 1977 she served as a Connecticut delegate to the White House Conference on Handicapped Individuals. She currently serves on the Connecticut Developmental Disabilities Planning Council and the Advisory and Planning Council for Tolland Region.

Mr. and Mrs. Rossow and the children will spend Alumni Weekend, May 17-18, at The Newport College, Newport, R.I.

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