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Spring 3-1-1981

Lecture/Seminar on The Retarded and Multi-Handicapped

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Salve Regina University, "Lecture/Seminar on The Retarded and Multi-Handicapped" (1981). *Press Release Archive*. 1340.

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NEWS RELEASE

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LECTURE/SEMINAR ON THE RETARDED AND MULTI-HANDICAPPED

Everyone has the potential to reach out. The excitement and challenge of the 80's is not only that the handicapped and retarded can do more, but that others can do more.

The Newport College - Salve Regina has invited one of their alumna to speak about her career as a nurse, wife and mother. Mrs. Rachel Rossow, a recent recipient of the College's first Outstanding Alumni Award, will be joined by her husband, Carl, on April 6 at the O'Hare Academic Center. The couple will present a lecture/seminar in a two part series starting at 1:00 p.m. and again at 2:15. They are the parents of fourteen children, eleven of whom are multi-handicapped.

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In 1974, the couple founded Alpha and Omega, a charitable non-profit corporation which provides a family for multi-handicapped youngsters who have had no alternative other than institutionalized care. Together, Mr. and Mrs. Rossow provide specialized nursing care and supervision in a family setting in Ellington, Conn. for handicapped children. They receive financial assistance from the Department of Children & Youth Services in the state of Connecticut.

Mrs. Rossow earned her bachelor of science degree in nursing in 1960 and her M.S.N. degree in psychiatric-mental health nursing from Catholic University.

Mr. Rossow earned two bachelor of science degrees, one in mathematics at St. Louis University and the other in meteorology at the Air Force Institute of Technology, St Louis University. He also holds a master of science degree in computer science from Texas A & M University. Mr. Rossow left his profession as a computer scientist to devote his full attentions as father to each member of the Alpha and Omega family. Several of the Rossow children, once institutionalized, now receive parental love and specialized nursing care in a child's favorite setting - home.

The Alumni Office of Salve Regina, the Special Education Department and the Council for Exceptional Children are co-sponsoring the lecture and seminar. An informal discussion will follow.

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