

## Giuliani Names Cammarata to Youth, Community Post

By CLAUDIA McDONNELL

**J**erry Cammarata, Staten Island representative on the New York City Board of Education since 1995, has been appointed commissioner for Youth and Community Development.

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani announced the appointment at a press conference June 15. Cammarata will continue as the Staten Island representative; the Conflicts of Interest Board has approved his holding both jobs.

A speech therapist, Cammarata was elected to the school board of District 31 in 1989. He was an opponent of the Children of the Rainbow Curriculum, introduced by schools chancellor Joseph A. Fernandez, which called for discussion of homosexuality in the elementary grades and fostered approval of homosexual relationships.

In 1995, Cammarata cast swing votes in the approval and subsequent rejection of Daniel A. Domenech, a candidate for schools chancellor who was strongly opposed by Giuliani. Cammarata changed his vote after meetings with Giuliani and Guy Molinari, Staten Island borough president, who appointed him to the school board.

At the press conference June 15 with Giuliani and Molinari standing behind him, Cammarata joked, "There's no happier person in New York City right now than myself, knowing that I've got two bosses behind me."

Cammarata and his wife, Margaret, have three children and are members of St. Mary's parish on Staten Island. He was appointed to the White House Conference on Families in 1980 and the Governor's Conference on Families in 1979. He

was appointed by the World Safety Organization as its representative to the United Nations in 1993.

He holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Hofstra University in Hempstead and a doctorate from California Coast University.

Cammarata wrote a column about Cardinal O'Connor for CNY's June 8 issue in which he described the cardinal as "the greatest guidance counselor the New York City Board of Education has ever had."

"We could turn to him when sorting out the conundrums we face as public educators, not for orders or easy, quick answers, but for inspiration, and the refreshing thoughts of a man...who drew his ideas from a rich understanding of people's needs," he wrote.

Cammarata said he would no longer draw his annual school board stipend of \$15,000. His salary as commissioner will be \$133,000.

## Medical Mission Board Airlifts Aid to Eritrea

The Manhattan-based Catholic Medical Mission Board (CMMB) has responded to an urgent plea for help from Eritrea by airlifting medicines and medical supplies valued at more than \$940,000 into the East African country where war and famine have displaced about 850,000 people.

The airlift contained analgesics, antibiotics, multivitamins and first-aid and surgical supplies requested by CMMB's on-site partner, Father Abba Stefanos Tedla of the Catholic Church of Eritrea Emergency Committee.