

# 'Women, Work, and Economy' series begins at OCC

"Women, Work, and the Economy," a spring lecture and discussion series, will address the effects of an inflated economy and a shrinking job market on the everyday lives of women and their families.

Experts on the subject will identify problems which women face today and recommend countermeasures they can take.

The series, sponsored by the college's Womencenter, is offered free to all area women and students at Orchard Ridge Campus and Oakland Community College.

Each session begins at noon, starting on Wednesday, May 9, and will run for six consecutive Wednesdays in the campus J Building, Room 308.

Participants should bring their own

lunch. Coffee, juice and childcare will be provided.

Staff of Womencenter staff the individual lectures build upon each other, but each can stand by itself. Participants may attend one or all of the lectures.

"AN OVERVIEW of Women, Work and the Economy" leads off the series May 9 with Sadie M. Davis, associate

professor of sociology at Oakland Community College.

On May 16 the subject is "One Community's Struggle Against Poverty," with Rose Bell, director of United Neighbors, Jeffries Housing Project, Detroit.

On May 23, Valerie Snock and Ivy Thomas-Riley lead the session called "Can Black and White Women Work

Together for Change?"

Ms. Snock is on the Focus Hope staff in Redford High School, Detroit, and Ms. Thomas-Riley is an attorney with Glotta, Adelman, Dinges, Davis and Riley, in Detroit.

The topic for May 30 is "Women and Jobs: Facing Reality." Mary White, Womencenter director, leads this session.

"Equal Rights for Women and Minorities: Target of the New Right" is handled by E. Faye Williams, assistant director of the Michigan Education Association, on June 6.

The series ends on June 13 with "The Rate Payers Revolt," led by Connie Soma, chairperson of Michigan Coalition on Utilities and Energy.

Pre-registration is not required.

Farmington Observer

## Suburban Life

### Area youth to stage peace walk for Israel

By SHIRLEE IDEN

Some might walk a mile for a camel or take a try at the Boston Marathon for their health, but several hundred Oakland County young people choose to walk for Israel.

The Peace Walk for Israel is scheduled for Sunday, April 29, and will begin at the Jewish Community Center on 10 Mile in Oak Park.

Three area youth who are involved with the fundraising effort are Debbie Davidson, 17, of Lathrup Village, Joel Stitelman, 18, of Bloomfield Hills and Marcia Eizen, 18, of Farmington.

"We expect to start registering walkers about 8:30 a.m. that morning," Ms. Eizen said.

At 9 a.m. opening ceremonies will be held and then the young people will start out on their walk of approximately 10 miles, or 15 kilometers.

"They'll end up back at the center and some will go to the JCC in West Bloomfield for Israel Expo festivities," said Stitelman.

Ms. Eizen and Stitelman are coordinators for the event. Ms. Davidson is president of the B'nai Brith Girls' Council in this area.

The B'nai Brith Youth Organizations are sponsoring the walk, but youth

groups with many affiliations are involved.

"B'nai Brith Girls and AZA have about 1,000 members in themselves," Ms. Davidson said.

STITELMAN explained that the walk is not a race and speed is not being emphasized.

"The idea is just to finish the 15 kilometers," he said. "People will pledge amounts on each walker and that's what's important."

"Any joggers who want to do the distance will just begin earlier so they don't run over anyone."

He said some B'nai Brith and AZA chapters have challenged one another, but more for pledge amounts than speed.

"The money raised goes to Project Renewal," he said.

"It's a project to help upgrade undeveloped areas in Israel and to provide for education, housing and social services for more than 300,000 people there."

Ms. Eizen added that a lot of those 300,000 are kids.

"These are people that came to Israel from other Arab countries and lots of them, after years and years, still live in under par conditions — like a family

living in two rooms," she said.

She added that B'nai Brith youth in other parts of the country have had similar walks and the local chapters decided to do the same.

"The last one we had was in 1973 and about 500 kids participated," Stitelman said.

Elected to the presidency of B'nai Brith Girls in May of 1978, Ms. Davidson said she presides over nearly 600 girls from ages 14 to 18.

A FOUR-YEAR member of the group, she rates it as a good experience.

"My mother belonged when she was a teen and I love it a lot," she said, adding projects like the walk for Israel make it seem worthwhile.

Ms. Eizen, who joined more than two years ago, said her membership in BBG has helped her learn to be a leader and make new friends as well. She is treasurer of the District Chapter.

She said she already had \$50 in pledges well in advance of the walk.

"If someone pledges \$1 a kilometer, it's only \$15," she pointed out.

And Stitelman said if each of 500 walkers get pledges of \$20 each, the young people will raise \$10,000.

A senior at Groves High School, he



MARCIA EIZEN



JOEL STITELMAN



DEBBIE DAVIDSON

plans to attend Michigan State University next September, possibly to study law eventually.

Of the three students, only Ms. Davidson has visited Israel.

"I can understand why I'm walking and where the money will go," she said. "I spent six weeks in Israel and lived on a Moshav (farm settlement) part of

the time. I had to get up at 3:45 a.m. to pick melons."

She also lived with an Israeli family during her visit.

A senior at Southfield-Lathrup High School, she will attend James Madison College for Social Studies at MSU like Stitelman.

THE YOUTH have invited mayors Donald Fracassi and David Shepherd and state Senator Doug Ross to take part in the opening ceremonies before their walk begins.

But they emphasized that anyone can join in by either walking the 15 kilometers or sponsoring a participant.

For more information call the B'nai Brith office in Southfield at 354-6113.

### League of Women Voters

## Putting together the voters guides

EDITORS NOTE: This is the third in a series of the women who make up the Farmington-West Bloomfield League of Women Voters.

By LORANIE McCLISH

Patsy Smith, who joined the League of Women Voters in Indiana in the mid 1950's, is the woman who is now responsible for the Farmington-West Bloomfield chapter's Voter Guides.

While her fellow league members are concerned with the study of finance, area transportation, emergency medical services, watersheds or finance, Mrs. Smith is concerned with the next election.

The compact guide that lists candidates and their biographies, and all ballot proposals is now distributed to 18,000 homes in the three communities as part of league's efforts to make a well-informed electorate.

Running concurrently with putting

the guide together is Mrs. Smith's job of all arrangements for the "Candidates Nights," the open forum for all ballot contenders that is traditionally sponsored by the local chapter before every election.

MRS. SMITH works with a small committee, "generally two or three others," she said, forming questions on current issues for the candidates to answer, which will be printed in the Voters Guide.

"I read a lot," she says wryly, when asked how she poses the questions for the nominees. "The questions are not a problem because there is always areas of interest that are of particular concern to the voters in any election."

"How to ask them takes a little thought, though, because we want to elicit their opinions. We want to get them to answer the question rather than tell us what they want to say."

Candidates always have a lot to say, and that, on occasion, has caused a problem.

"We don't edit these answers. We can't edit them, so we have to just cut them off after the given number of words we've allowed for an answer," she said. "It's always surprising to me that candidates who have been in politics for a long time will just keep rambling on when we've been so specific about telling them they are limited in their answers."

Mrs. Smith has been at this job for about five years and continues because she says she knows the Voters Guides are well read.

"This is particularly true in the primaries when there are a lot of candidates on the ballot that aren't too well known," she said.

"It's those times that we get the most calls from people who are used to having a guide and for some reason didn't get one," she said.

WHEN THE BALLOT is at hand is for a national election, or national and state Leagues of Women Voters help with input for the guides. Mrs. Smith

has found herself with up to 25 local offices with competing candidates that she has had to gather information for to pass on to the electorate.

There are no off-years for Mrs. Smith, because there is always some election on the horizon.

This spring the business will involve both school and council elections in West Bloomfield, the city of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The Voters Guides are distributed free of charge with area businesses helping to underwrite the costs.

Mrs. Smith is a native Californian who has lived in the Midwest since her marriage.

"I joined the league when the children were small because it was such a good place to meet and talk with interesting people," she said.

She served as the first president of the Farmington League of Women Voters before it joined with the West Bloomfield League of Women Voters to create the current branch.



Patsy Smith has been writing and overseeing the distribution of voters guides to Farmington area and West Bloomfield residents for the past five years.

## Beautification commission looks for dirty pictures

The Farmington Beautification Commission is looking for photos, drawings, paintings and sketches of areas in the community that constitute eyesores for its "Dirty Picture Contest."

The contest is sponsored in conjunction with Keep Farmington Beautiful month that runs throughout May.

"Any spot in the city that residents find offensive to the eye is eligible," said Jackie Steurer, speaking for the committee.

Entries can be no larger than 11 x 14 inches, and should bear the name, address and phone number of the contestant.

Pictures should be sent to the Dirty Picture Contest, Farmington City Hall, 23800 Liberty St., Farmington 48024, and must arrive by Monday, May 14.

All contestants must be 18 years or older. The contest will run simultaneously with one now under way for Farmington elementary school children, but is completely separate from the "Dirty Picture Contest" limited to adults.

Winners will be announced and prizes will be awarded during the commission's annual Spring Flower and Shrub sale, to be held May 18-19 in Farmington Downtown Shopping Center.

Winning pictures will be displayed in Farmington City Hall, the Farmington Community Library and printed in the Farmington Observer.

A one-man art show consisting of oil paintings and sketches by Ronald R. Parry is now showing in Farmington Hills Community Library on 12 Mile Road.

Parry's work depicts scenes throughout the eastern seaboard as well as scenes in the state, and he is known for capturing the many moods of nature with color and atmosphere.

Of his art work, Parry said he has found that painting helps him considerably in his work world as assistant chief body engineer with American Motors Company.

This is due "to the varied mental disciplines that it provokes when searching for small details, subtle color relationships, composition, choice of materials, imagination," he said.

He enjoys painting because it offers an opportunity to express and record the beauty of the outdoors as he sees it; then communicate this interaction with someone else.

PARRY'S WORK can be found in many private collections, and some are in the Blue Cross-Blue Shield permanent art collection.

He has studied several well known artists at both Arts and Crafts and Birmingham-Bloomfield Art Association.

He has served as a past president of South Oakland Art Association and is presently active with the Farmington Art Club.

Most recently Parry was given a first place award for an oil painting in

the Oakland County Art Show.

Two works on display depict scenes

from Detroit's Eastern Market, and one of the larger paintings exhibited is

"The Sinking of the Edmond Fitzgerald," a Great Lakes freighter.



The Michigan snowscape, one of the oil paintings on display in the Farmington Hills Community Library, is the work of Farmington Hills' artist Ronald Parry.