

State delegates head for Houston to plan gay march

Four delegates from Michigan are participating in a national planning conference for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

The March has been scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 14, and is expected to attract more than 100,000 people. Sylvia Robinson (Detroit), Bill Musick (Plymouth), Ann Broadhurst (Grand Rapids), and Paul Carson (Detroit) are among 200 delegates at the three-day meeting in Houston, the first nationwide meeting of lesbians and gay men based upon regional representation.

Issues expected to be raised in Houston are the demands of the march, events which will take place during the weekend of Oct. 14, transportation and housing, financial resources, national structure, protection and security of marchers, and media relations.

The delegates are expected to report back to the Detroit-Ann Arbor community at a public rally later this month.

According to Ms. Robinson in a recent radio interview, "the march is for everybody — lesbians, Third World

people, children, parents, short people, tall people — we are organizing a broad based group of people who support the rights of lesbians and gay men."

She also called attention to the fact that the same weekend, a national Third World lesbian-gay conference will be held in Washington, D.C., which is co-sponsored by the National Coalition of Black Gays and the National Gay Task Force.

Musick says that the march is a force people can take in mastering the forces which affect their lives.

The four delegates were elected at a statewide meeting held in East Lansing on June 10. Organizations which have endorsed the march include the Association of Suburban People, the Michigan State Convention of the National Organization of Women, the World Workers' Party, and the Revolutionary Socialist League.

People interested in more information about the march can contact the Detroit-Ann Arbor Organizing Committee by calling 577-3450, 869-4564 or 982-4979, or write DAOC, Box 568, Plymouth 48170.

Children, families are focus of Eastern workshops

"A Family for Every Child: The Community's Responsibility" is the theme of a series of five two-day workshops to be conducted on the campus of Eastern Michigan University in July.

The workshops, planned in recognition of the International Year of the Child, are being sponsored by the EMU division of Continuing Education and the Institute for the Study of Children and Families at Eastern. Cooperating EMU departments include curriculum and instruction, educational psychology, guidance and counseling, home economics, nursing education, occupational therapy, social foundations, social work and special education.

Three of the workshops will meet July 23 and 24. "Adopting Special Need Children" will examine the home and family characteristics that allow for the acceptance and integration of children with special needs (physical, mental or emotional handicaps). Ways the

adoptive family, social agency, school and other community groups work together to assure a permanent home for such children will be discussed.

"Parenting the Handicapped Child" will focus on the special areas of knowledge and skills parents need over and above that of regular parenting to assure the maximum growth for their handicapped child and to assure that all children in the family grow.

The major differences between family and institutional living will be discussed in "Exiting the Institution." How parents and professionals can work cooperatively to facilitate the experiences of children who are returning to the community also will be examined.

Two other workshops will meet July 25 and 26. The first is titled "Juvenile Justice Reform in Michigan." The workshop will examine the controversial proposed Juvenile Justice Code in Michigan and the current bill being considered in the legislature, including its implications for families, social

agencies and schools.

The final workshop, "Short-term Foster Care as an Alternative to Detention," examines ways to develop a short-term foster care program for status offenders, with emphasis on the recruitment, training and support services to foster families.

The fee for each of the workshops is \$55. One continuing education unit credit will be given for each workshop completed. All workshops will be limited to 30 persons and pre-registration is required. The deadline registration is

July 13.

Participants are responsible for their own accommodations and meals. Reservations may be made at the Hoyt Conference Center on campus or at local motels. EMU's McKenny Union cafeteria will be open from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day of the workshops.

For further information, call Sandra Wright in the EMU Division of Continuing Education at (313) 487-0407.

PARTICIPANTS in the first three workshops will attend an evening lecture July 23 by Dorothy Atwood

DeBolt, the foremost pioneer in the movement to find adoptive families for children once thought unadoptable. Her topic will be "If Not You, Who? If Not Now, When?"

The DeBolt family of 20 children, 14 of them adopted, was the subject of a 72-minute film titled "Who Are the Kids? And Where Did They Get 19?" The film received this year's Academy Award for Best Documentary 1977.

Those enrolled in either of the other two workshops will attend an evening lecture by Ken Wooden, author of

"Weeping in the Playtime of Others: America's Incarcerated Children," July 25. His topic will be "The Need for Alternatives to Institutional Detention of Children and Adolescents."

Wooden founded the National Coalition for Children's Justice in 1976 and serves as its director. His investigations have uncovered the multi-million dollar child pornography scandal, the billion dollar interstate commerce of kids and the \$90 million Pentagon scandal affecting military children in institutions.

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Cleland, administrator of Veterans Affairs, when considered in terms of returns on a public investment.

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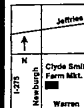
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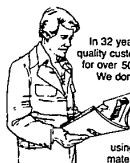
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