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At Womencenter

Attorney dispenses free advice in new legal clinic

By Lorraine McCallah
Staff writer

A long-time volunteer for Oakland Community College (OCC) Womencenter begins a new service offering free legal advice the second Tuesday of every month on Orchard Ridge Campus.

"No appointments, no charge and not much of a form," said attorney Vicky Buckfire of the new service. "It will be run on a drop-in basis and in spite of the fact that our legal clinic is offered in Womencenter, men are also welcomed."

The Southfield resident has been a regular in Womencenter's lecture series for the past few years talking about women and their legal concerns.

"It was a standard lecture where we discussed getting credit, probate, wills, estate planning, divorce — anything pertaining strictly to women. And we always talked about domestic relations; that was something that always seemed to crop up somewhere in the question and answer period," she said.

The new clinic is an offshoot of those lectures, predicated on several things that continuously cropped up.

"I was very aware that some of my audience did not want to sit through a

two-hour lecture, and many were reluctant to ask a personal question in a large group."

"It got to be predictable that at least one woman would get me aside after the lecture with a question that was just too personal for her to have others hear," Buckfire said.

BUCKFIRE offered to open the clinic on a let's-see-how-it-goes basis the second Tuesday in January and without publicity, even in the campus newspaper, she was kept busy answering questions for 90 minutes on divorce.

"It was just coincidental that everybody who showed up wanted information on Michigan divorce laws, or the many legal entanglements that can cause, but the subject of divorce remains the most common of the questions I get."

"Often these people don't know where to start in even choosing the right attorney for their particular problem," she said.

In some instances Buckfire suggests the do-it-yourself method.

"You can change your name by yourself; you don't need an attorney for that. Or you don't need an attorney to collect a small amount of money or damages. It's a simple matter to file,

yourself, in the Small Claims Court," she said.

In other matters of disbursing information, "I find so many people don't realize all of the free services Friend of the Court offers."

Or that women with ex-spouses who have moved out of the city can go to URESA (Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement Support Act) to track them down. They don't need an attorney and they don't have to hire a private detective," she said.

BUCKFIRE is heading the legal clinic as a volunteer in part to fill the gap caused by budget cuts that have wiped out other sources for free legal aid in the state.

"There is still free legal aid for criminal indigents and still some open for those who are very poor and in very deep trouble, but even these agencies are backed up at least six months and some (free) agencies are just refusing new clients now," she said.

Income is not a concern for those who want to talk to Buckfire from 7:30 p.m. the first Tuesday of the month in J Building's Room 308.

"There are so many who just don't understand what no-fault means and what their rights are. There are so

many who don't realize that they don't need a lot of money to start a lawsuit for a serious injury because many attorneys will take that case on a contingency basis," she said.

"There are so many who have hired an attorney and are uneasy about what she or he is doing for them. Just talking to another attorney sometimes helps allay those feelings."

She said she was volunteering her services as a lecturer, giving her time to the Displaced Homemakers Groups at OCC and as head of the legal clinic, trying to turn around a negative impression of her profession she feels many hold.

"Many people are almost afraid of attorneys," she said. "I make sure I leave my audiences with a good impression of us when I lecture or from any informal one-to-one conversation I have with the people I meet at Womencenter."

THE ATTORNEY, who has offices in First National Bank Building in Detroit, said, "I could paper my bathroom with my degrees."

The mother of three children, two at University of Michigan and one at Southfield High School, went back to

school at age 37 to get her law degree.

She holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in economics, a subject she taught either part or full time to eighth and ninth graders, then at OCC, during her children's growing-up years.

She also holds a master's degree in counseling and guidance.

Of that degree she said, "It sure hasn't hurt in my practice, whether I'm dealing with my clients or with other attorneys."

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— Vicky Buckfire



Rabbi, priest to address joint meeting

The League of Jewish Women's Organizations of Greater Detroit, and the League of Catholic Women of Detroit's 8th annual joint meeting will be Thursday, Feb. 24 at the Shrine of the Little Flower in Royal Oak.

A 12:15 p.m. coffee and cake hour will open the event. Admission is \$1.

Father Edward Prus of the Shrine of the Little Flower will welcome guests and give the invocation.

Rabbi David Nelson, a Southfield resident, and spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Shalom will give the benediction.

Guest speakers include Bishop Andrew Grutka, chairman of the board, North American Council in Rome, and Rabbi A. James Rudin, assistant national director of interreligious affairs of the American Jewish Committee.

Their topic is: "Priest and Rabbi — Past and Present."

BISHOP GRUTKA, Bishop of Gary, was born in Joliet, Ill. and received a parochial school education. He attended a Benedictine academy and Illinois Benedictine College, working in steel mills during the summers.

He was sent to the North American College in Rome to study theology and obtained a priest in 1968. In 1973, since that time he has served parishes in Indiana and won wide respect for his work with youth.

On Christmas Eve, 1956, he was notified of his selection as Bishop of the newly created Diocese of Gary and was consecrated Bishop Feb. 25, 1957. He participated in the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council in 1962 where he was outspoken against racial injustice and particularly, segregation in housing.

Rabbi Rudin works with the leaders of all religious denominations to secure greater understanding of Jews and Judaism and to promote good human relations among people of all races and creeds.

Born in Pittsburgh, he grew up in Allentown, Pa. and attended Wesleyan University and George Washington University, where he graduated with a bachelor of arts degree and "academic distinction." He holds the Joshua Evans Award from GWU for "Outstanding Senior Man."

THE RABBI earned a master's degree and rabbinical ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion in New York in 1968. He has twice won prizes for his sermons and has done graduate study at the University of Illinois.

Rabbi Rudin did a two-year tour of duty as a U.S. Air Force Chaplain in Japan and Korea and was U.S. coordinator for the American Jewish Emergency Effort for Biafran Relief in 1969-70.

His articles have appeared in many journals and he is an acknowledged expert on the contemporary religious cult movement. With his wife, Marcia, he wrote "Prison or Paradise? The New Religious Cults."

He has lectured all over the U.S. and appeared on radio and television.

The League of Jewish Women (LJW) was founded in 1927. It links the local divisions of national women's organizations and coordinates activities to eliminate duplication of effort.

It recruits Jewish women on behalf of humanitarian causes, both communal and worldwide.

DETROIT's oldest social service or-



Rabbi A. James Rudin

ganization — the League of Catholic Women (LCW) — provides social services to those in need regardless of race, creed or color.

It operates six human service agencies in Detroit and four resale shops in the tri-county area. The league is an affiliate of the Council of Catholic Women, a federation of all Catholic women's organizations in the Archdiocese of Detroit.

President of the LJW is Margot Kleia of Birmingham while Marilyn Lundy of Grosse Pointe is president of the LCW. Marjorie Saulson of Birmingham is program chairman.

The public may attend at no cost. Reservations are not required.



Bishop Andrew G. Grutka

Farmington Hills Baptist installs senior pastor

Dr. G. Routledge, who has served as interim pastor for Farmington Hills Baptist Church for almost a year, was installed as the congregation's senior pastor late last month.

A native of Canada, Routledge is host of "Talk from the Heart," a call-in talk show heard on WNUZ-103 FM radio 6-8 p.m. Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Participating in the service of installation was the Rev. Earl Rosenberger, director of Pinckney Pines; the Rev. William Curry, pastor of First Baptist Church in Lincoln Park; and the Rev. Murray Hicks, pastor of Bethel Baptist Church in Jackson.

Routledge has served pastorates both in Ontario and Michigan before coming to the church on Middlebelt Road, north of 12 Mile. He replaces the Rev. Douglas R. Breckenridge.

Farmington Hills Baptist Church is an extension of the ministry of Strathmore-Judson Memorial Baptist Church of Northwest Detroit. The Rev. Fred Ferris was pastor of the congregation when it purchased the 25-acre church site in 1965.



Dr. G. Douglas Routledge

Until the house of worship and its educational unit were built, the congregation of 35 met for services in East Junior High School. The first fellowship service in the new church was given late in 1970 when it was still known as Judson Baptist Church.

Routledge and his wife, Betty, have four children, Douglas, David, Michael and Alisa.

Oakway showcases Artists of Tomorrow

"Artists of Tomorrow," the result of the largest such competition in Michigan, will be Oakway's fourth concert of its '83 season at 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 20 in Harrison High School, 12 Mile Road west of Middlebelt Road.

From a field of 42 contestants, five musicians of exceptional talent filled out the top prize positions. Mark Agabian of Livonia, pianist, received first prize of \$1,000. He played the third movement of the Rachataurian Piano Concerto. A University of Michigan student, Mark has won numerous awards and has recently won a four-year scholarship to U-M's school of music.

He attended Interlochen for four years and has participated in many master classes. A finalist in Piano Technicians Concerto Competition, he also has won in the competition sponsored by Detroit Musicians League.

Birmingham resident Carol Sakobian began her singing career at age 13 in the character of Chavalah in "Fiddler on the Roof." A U-M graduate, she has pursued her studies in voice performance with Katherine Hilgenberg. A member of Pi Kappa Lambda, she placed second in the advanced division of the 1982 Regional National Association of Teachers of Singing competition.

Tied for third place are Maria Fattore, lyric soprano, and flutist Jeffery Zook.

Fattore, a graduate of Eastern Michigan University has performed in France and Germany as well as in the United States. She is a member of American Musical Cabaret Vocal Trio, Michigan Lyric Opera, and Comic Opera Guild of Ann Arbor. Her teachers are Professor Eric Thiesen of Hannover, West Germany, and Professor Glenda Kirkland of Detroit.

U-M freshman Zook began study of his instrument at age 10. A graduate of Interlochen summer programs, he has

studied with Jacqueline Haffo. Selected as soloist at the Michigan Youth Arts Festival for three years, he also has performed with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

He is the winner of the Flute Division in Seventeen Magazine and General Motors National Concerto Competition at the Eastman School of Music. He currently studies with Judith Bentley.

Twelve-year-old violinist Tony Cross won the fourth-place prize in the competition. Among his credits are a performance with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra at a Young Peoples concert and a stint at Aspen Music Festival and Oberlin Conservatory of Music. He studies currently with Stephen Clapp at the conservatory.

The program for the concert includes Weber's "Der Freischütz," Mozart's Concerto No. 2 D Major, a selection from Gershwin's "Porgy and Bess," and J. Strauss's "Laughing Song" from "Der Feldmarschall."

Tickets are \$6 or \$3 for senior citizens, available at Madonna College, Hammel Hotel, Botsford Inn and Southfield Cultural Arts Division or they can be obtained by calling Oakway Symphony Orchestra's office at 476-5541.

DAR urges remembrance

February is American History Month and the Daughters of the American Revolution urges readers to remember the many famous Americans born in February. Abraham Lincoln's birthday is celebrated Feb. 12, and every American should learn his famous Gettysburg Address, particularly these words "... that we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain — that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom — and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."



Same Time, Next Year

Ralph Rosali and Jan Sallisbury are the on-again-off-again long-running Broadway comedy, "Same Time, Next Year," produced by Komedy Players Dinner Theatre in the Allen Park Motor Lodge. Rosali is a resident of Farm-

ington and Sallisbury a resident of Farmington Hills who are both veterans of Farmington Players. The play follows a 7 p.m. dinner Fridays and Saturdays. Reservations can be made by calling 368-1300.

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