

Mansour attacks 'punitive' social services

Dr. Agnes Mary Mansour, the director of the Michigan Department of Social Services, will be the featured speaker Thursday, Oct. 13, at the annual Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce Dinner at the Botaford Inn. The dinner starts at 7 p.m.

By Shirlee Rose Iden
staff writer

In her litany of social problems that cry out for healing, Dr. Agnes Mary Mansour ranks the top three as securing the central family, fighting the feminization of poverty and getting a sensible grip on health care costs.

Though she speaks as the director of the Michigan Department of Social Services, her priorities are not unlike those she held as a nun and as the 12-year president of Mercy College.

On recent Monday evening, she addressed the Business and Professional

Women's Section, Jewish Welfare Federation Women's Division, in Southfield.

Mansour became a Sister of Mercy after her education was complete. She holds a master of arts degree in chemistry and a doctorate in bio-chemistry, and has many honors and successes to look back upon.

When asked by Gov. James Blanchard to head his department of social services in December 1982, Mansour was faced by an agonizing choice. Her church, which had voiced objection to her running for Congress, now forbade her to undertake this secular post.

Mansour resigned from the Sisters of Mercy and her college post, assumed the DSS position for which she now travels extensively and speaks as many as five times each week.

MANSOUR insists that sisterhood and choices are synonymous for her. "I haven't left sisterhood, just expanded

on it," she said.

"My priority now is to talk about my department."

Though her focus is on the situation in Michigan, Mansour contends many problems are intensified by actions of the federal government.

"When Reagan came in and spoke of a reduction in government and full employment economy, it seemed good. But the major goal of the Reagan economy is to favor defense over our social programs."

"My fear is I see more down the road despite the euphoria of a recovery. I'm afraid of more cuts that touch directly on human lives."

She said the Pentagon can spend half a million dollars in one day.

"One government purchase on record was for 480 years worth of computer punch cards, now obsolete."

Michigan's problems and overall economic depression is so bad, state residents can't put all the blame on one

administration, she concedes.

Defending Blanchard's controversial state income tax raise, Mansour calls it "necessary."

"The governor is working tirelessly for a turnabout in this state, but the federal government has a great impact," she said.

UNEMPLOYMENT is the most pervasive aspect of the Michigan economy at this time and for the past four years, the DSS director told the audience in Southfield Monday.

"Over 600,000 people are out of work," she said. "That's more than the population of Delaware."

A special concern is the crisis of the new poor, the divorced, the unemployed who live on the edge of want.

"Poverty represents a crisis of the human spirit that won't easily be reversed," Mansour said. "Tax shifts at the federal level have increased the po-

larity between the poor and the rest of society."

"Increasing feminization of poverty unites women across the age spectrum from widows to young women with children."

"The way from separation and divorce to public assistance can appear quite suddenly."

The great increase in teen mothers in this country has tripled the number to 1.1 million at this time, she said.

"What we have is children trying to raise children."

Child abuse, spouse abuse and abuse of the elderly and disabled are growing social phenomena which concern her.

"THE DSS is reorganizing, but we recognize the limited resources and must do more with less, but never less humanity."

Mansour urges women to become active in every level of society.

"The first responsibility of govern-

ment is to create a just and orderly society and that can't happen when justice is denied. U.S. families in poverty have increased from 15-17 percent recently."

"Eighty percent of the poor today are women and children. Twenty-five percent of all children in the U.S. are near poverty as we meet here, and we've suffered double digit unemployment in Michigan for 44 months."

Mansour deplores the federal government's emphasis on the contribution of clients to health care. "Health care containment is very complex," she said.

"We must get control of health care cost which is the tail wagging the dog."

She pledged to work for wage subsidies, for programs designed to emphasize education, for "a positive effort, not a punitive one."

"We, as a society, can ill afford the neglect of social services."

John DeLorean: rebel with a definite cause

John Z. DeLorean, 58, charged in California with conspiring to distribute \$24 million in cocaine, last week lost a legal battle to obtain government documents which incriminate him.

A three-member federal appeals court ruled DeLorean is only entitled to files relevant to his case. DeLorean sought all government materials in which his name was mentioned. His trial is expected to begin in Los Angeles in a few weeks.

The court hearing marks a new milestone in the up and down career of the Detroit area's most controversial auto executive. DeLorean, a former General Motors Corp. vice president, established his own sports car company in Northern Ireland. The company quickly ran into money problems and government prosecutors say DeLorean entered into the drug deal in an attempt to prop up the faltering firm.

In 1980, before his recent problems began, DeLorean was profiled in a Lawrence Institute of Technology alumni magazine. The story about his years at the college was based on articles found in the archives of the LIT public relations office. It reveals

much about his education, his wit, his aspirations — most of it in his own words. The article is reproduced here with permission.

By Anne Cattermole
special writer
staff writer

He was a rebel even then. His "Five with D" column in the (Lawrence Institute of Technology) Tech News was often prefaced by a terse tongue-in-cheek note from the editor, "Because of conditions which are beyond our control, the column originally scheduled for this space will appear."

Yet, John Z. DeLorean — or DeLoreanshaw or DeLoreanillo or whatever he was calling himself that week — was the kind of man who no one could forget.

The man who was to one day turn the automobile industry on its ear began his career at LIT in 1941 in uncharacteristic anonymity and calm. No banner headlines announced his arrival. In fact, one must look closely to even find him in the "L-Book" freshmen pictures for that year. He initiated his engineering career with courses in mechanical drawing, chemistry and algebra, doing extremely well in all areas, but keeping a low profile outside the classroom.

By 1942, though, he had joined the Tech News staff and that old DeLorean

spirit had started to show through the freshman jitter. Being an accomplished musician, J. "Goodman" DeLorean began what would become an "illuminous" writing career with a story entitled "Men of Note."

"This term, the freshmen class did not come up to expectations insofar as music is concerned," DeLorean beamed in his first article. "Only four men of this year's class turned out for the band, as compared with 15 last."

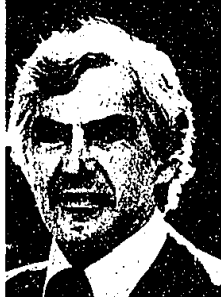
DeLorean went on to become a regular column writer for the college newspaper and quickly became a local celebrity.

"I don't have to work for this scandal sheet for a living," he later wrote. "I had a very flattering offer from the Detroit Free Press. I would have taken it if I had been strong enough to carry that bag around all day."

DELOREAN'S STARDOM as a writer as well as his career as a student was interrupted late in 1943, when his schooling was cut short by World War II. Along with almost all of LIT's students, he was drafted into the service, yet he still had time for one last "swan song."

"In my spare time I've written a book on how to stay out of the Army. Those who wish to secure a copy of this infallible booklet should send 25 cents to Pvt. J. Sachelpants DeLorean at Camp Custer."

The following years DeLorean spent



John Z. DeLorean

in defense of his country, but by 1946 he was back at home and also back at work at LIT. He attended day and night classes, finishing his industrial engineering degree in a year and a half. Such courses as financial administration, labor relations, fluid mechanics, report writing and accounting began to lay the academic groundwork for someone who would soon be an automotive legend.

But DeLorean still found time for his favorite pursuits and, within weeks of

his return to campus, "Five with D" was also back.

"I should answer my fan mail," writes DeLorean on Dec. 11, 1946.

"What a schtunk!"

Yet even with all this acclaim, the DeLorean "humility" was still intact.

"Dear Editor," a letter in the Jan. 20, 1947 Tech News extolled, "I would like to compliment you on securing the services of that distinguished and polished journalist, Mr. DeLorean. Seldom, if ever, does a college of this size boast an author of such proportions."

In issue after issue his subtle wit, his fluent prose and lofty philosophy have brought warmth and joy to the hearts of his avid readers. Truly such literary grace and charm must come from a pen driven by a truly noble mind. I know most of the student body joins me in this sincere tribute to high endeavor and the matchless style which Mr. DeLorean exemplifies.

Sincerely,
Naerated Nhoj

IT DIDN'T TAKE a genius to unscramble the signature and it was obvious that DeLorean had intended it that way. After all, it was all in the spirit of fun.

This wasn't always the object, though, as DeLorean did have a serious side. He was often thinking about the days to come when he would be out in the world.

In a column entitled "Know you what it is to be an engineer?" he slipped out of his "funny guy" image for a moment and readers began to glimpse the "high philosophy" that, indeed, was John DeLorean. Excerpts foretell the rebellious, brilliant "dreamer" about to emerge.

"It is to have a dream without being conscious you are dreaming lest the dream break; it is to be trapped in a terrible tower of pure science."

"It is to live in a mean, bare prison cell and regard yourself the sovereign of limitless space; it is to turn failure into success, mice into men, rags into riches, stone into buildings, steel into bridges, for each engineer has a magician in his soul."

"It is to give imagination full play, to accept the inventions of Nature, to tell stories born of silence that fill the world with wonder."

"It is to be a conqueror and a coward, a king and a captive, a savior and a slave; it is to be good unto seeming Godlike while contrasting evil incarnate; it is to suffer a throne alone in your terrible temple of science while companions roam the city streets making carefree carnival."

"It is loving and winning only to lose and love again and again, for engineering is a fantastic goddamn cliche in fickle fantasy, form fitting fortune, and flaming fool's gold who recognizes neither disaster nor despair."

INSIDE ANGLES

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

SEAN DESON, son of Harvey Deson and a 1981 graduate of Harrison High School, has been initiated into Eta Chapter at the University of Michigan. He was among a select group of 21 pledges at Michigan to be accepted into Zeta Beta Tau. Since entering Michigan, Sean has been active in several intramural sports. He is studying toward a career in business.

CRAIG D. BAMSEY, son of Alfred and Marcia Bamsey of Farmington Hills and a graduate of Farmington High School, was accepted at Dartmouth College. Craig was president of the National Honor Society and the recipient of a National Merit Letter of Commendation. He was a member of the physics club and lettered in varsity swimming, track and gymnastics.

JOAN CHAMBERS of Unicorn Gardens in Farmington Hills was awarded first place in the "Christmas Arrangement" category of the Student Division of the 1983 Michigan State Florists' Association Annual Convention Design Contest. Nearly 200 entries were received in this year's contest, which judges the excellence of floral designs and techniques in varying categories.

IT'S CIDER PRESSING time at Cranbrook's Institute of Science. From 1-5 p.m. every Sunday, October visitors can press apples, strain them and bottle their own cider in the Nature Center's picturesque setting at 500 Looe Pine in Birmingham. Cider pressing is an added fall activity that is included in the museum admission.

THERE IS PLENTY of good golfing at Oakland County golf courses, including the 18-hole courses at Glen Oak in Farmington Hills, Springfield Oaks in Davidsburg and White Lake Oaks near Pontiac. The courses will remain open, weather permitting.

SNOWMOBILE SWAP and sale will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 22-23 in Addison County Park. Individuals and dealers can trade and sell snowmobiles, equipment, suits, helmets and trailers. Addison Oaks is on W. Romeo Road, nine miles north of Rochester in Addison Township. For information, call 838-0908.

THE OAKLAND COUNTY Parks and Recreation Commission photo exhibit will be displayed at Oakland Community College, Orchard

Ridge Campus, Nov. 4. There is no charge.

A CAMERA HIKE for mentally impaired youth is set for 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Polaroid cameras and film available. Cost is \$2 per person. Pre-registration is required. For information on registration and transportation call 858-1441.

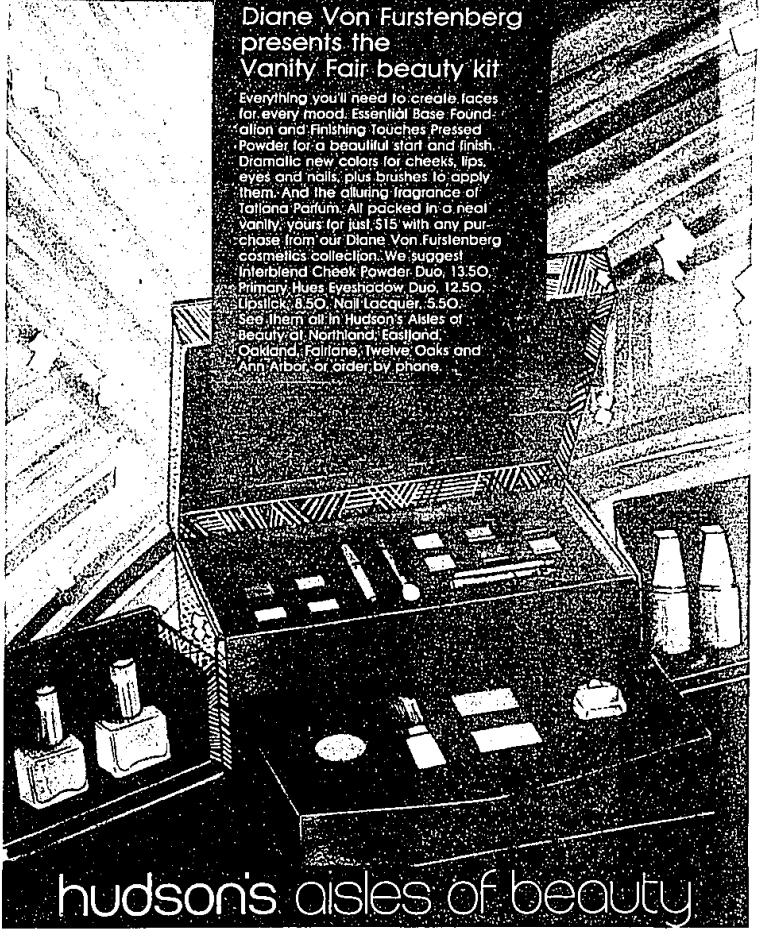
A HALLOWEEN HAPPINESS Party for mentally and physically impaired youth age 8 and over is scheduled for Oct. 28 from 6:30-9 p.m. at the Michigan Inn in Southfield. Admission is free. For further information call 858-1441.

A BURGOMASTER will officially open Mercy College of Detroit's Oktoberfest celebration by tapping the first keg of beer. The public is invited to join in the festivities from 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. in the College's Conference Center. Music for dancing will be provided by Hans vonBarnthal and the Mystic Knights of Jazz from Detroit. German crafts will be sold by Carla and Phyllis of The Sauer Shop in Roseville. German food, salads and breads can be purchased after entrance to the Oktoberfest. There will also be a raffle with proceeds for the MCD Alumni Scholarship Fund. Unlimited beer, wine, soft drinks, potato chips and pretzels are included with the price of the ticket. Tickets are \$2 per person and may be purchased by calling MCD Office of Alumni Relations at 992-6114. All tickets will be held at the door. Mercy College is at 8200 West Outer Drive at the Southfield Freeway, south of Seven Mile, in northwest Detroit.

SWEETEST DAY, Saturday, marks a return to the origins of its celebration. The true meaning of the day has been forgotten since its creation more than 50 years ago in Cleveland. Herbert Kirch, Kingston, a candy company employee, recruited friends and neighbors to distribute candy and other small gifts to the city's orphans, shut-ins and other forgotten citizens. He intended the day as a time to let the underprivileged or lonely know that somebody cared about them. As the spirit of the day grew, more Clevelanders participated in the celebration that became known as "Sweetest Day." It became an occasion to remember not only the sick, aged and orphaned, but friends, relatives and associates whose helpfulness and kindness have been enjoyed. And Sweetest Day is now celebrated in cities all over the country. Somehow, the original concept of the day was lost and the Sweetest Day evolved into a "sweetheart day." This year, in the metro Detroit area, retailers, restaurateurs and the media will return the emphasis to the original intention of Sweetest Day as a special day to remember those who have been forgotten or those who have shown someone kindness during the year. It offers us all a moment to stop and reflect.

Diane Von Furstenberg presents the Vanity Fair beauty kit

Everything you'll need to create faces for every mood. Essential Base Foundation and Finishing Touches Pressed Powder for a beautiful start and finish. Dramatic new colors for cheeks, lips, eyes and nails, plus brushes to apply them. And the alluring fragrance of Talliana Parfums. All packed in a neat vanity yours for just \$15 with any purchase from our Diane Von Furstenberg cosmetics collection. We suggest: Interblend Cheek Powder Duo, 13.50. Primary Hues Eyeshadow Duo, 12.50. Opalstick, 8.50. Nail Lacquer, 5.50. See them all in Hudson's Aisles of Beauty at Northland, Eastland, Oakland, Talliana, Twelve Oaks and Ann Arbor or order by phone.



HUDSON'S AISLES OF BEAUTY

ORDER BY PHONE: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.
In Metro Detroit, call 569-2454. Elsewhere, order toll-free 1-800-233-7000.

