

Seniors kick off summer

"A Day at the Races" is the theme of this year's "Senior Summerfest" sponsored by the Northwest Parks and Recreation Association senior citizen coordinators.

Presented in cooperation with Michigan Parks and Recreation Association, the event is set for 10 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Wednesday at Troy Community Center, 520 W. Big Beaver.

Starting with coffee and doughnuts, the day will include a presentation on the upcoming Senior Citizen Olympics, dancing, music entertainment by "The Playmates," a singalong, and "horse racing." Lunch will be provided and door prizes awarded.

Tickets have been distributed to local senior citizen centers affiliated with Northwest Parks and Recreation senior citizen coordinators. Seniors may purchase tickets for \$4 through any one of the centers.

Group bus rentals are available from Oakland County Parks and Recreation Commission. For information on bus transportation, call 858-4946.

Summer school for gifted kids

Oakland University is cooperating with Oakland Intermediate Schools to offer summer instruction to academically gifted middle and junior high school students.

The Meadow Brook Young Scholars Program July 9-27 on the campus will offer instruction in astrophysics, animal behavior, archaeological investigation, architectural understanding, movie making, and theatre craft.

The program is open to seventh through ninth graders who have previously participated in the 1983-84 Mid-West Talent Search Program administered through Northwestern University, although OU is not establishing any SAT qualification scores. University officials said they want to create a non-competitive learning experience for academically advanced young people.

Formal credit and grades will not be given, but each student will receive a certificate of completion. Students may register for only one course and will attend weekdays from 8:30-11:30 a.m. The \$125 fee covers registration and materials.

Deadlines for entry is Wednesday with a maximum of 20 students per course. For more information call A. Gary Shepherd, OU professor of sociology and program director at 377-2430.

Male sex victims conference topic

Are men who rape also victims?

The issue of male sexual assault and ways to prevent child sexual abuse will be discussed at a conference on sexual assault Tuesday in Mercy Conference Center, Southfield freeway at Outer Drive, Detroit.

"Missing Pieces in Sexual Abuse: Assessment and Treatment of Male Victims and Offenders" is sponsored by the Southeast Michigan Anti-Rape Network (SEMARN). SEMARN is a six county coalition of individuals and agencies interested in the prevention and treatment of sexual assault.

Featured speaker will be Dr. A. Nicholas Groth, a clinical psychologist and director of the sex offender program at the Connecticut Department of Corrections.

Cost is \$35 for regular registration and \$20 for students. For information, phone Bob O'Brien at 965-3242 or Sue Elling at 871-6700.

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Melting pot class graduates from OCC

By Kathy Parrish
staff writer

Five years ago, Iman Jajone came to America from Iraq. She spoke no English and all the odds were new to her.

"It seemed as if I was on a completely different planet," the Berkeley resident told her fellow Oakland Community College (OCC) graduates during commencement.

"I'd like to thank OCC — the place that gave me education and a future to look forward to."

One of 1,800 students graduated from OCC's four campuses this June, Jajone was a perfect choice to lead into the commencement speaker.

Much of the Rev. William Cunningham's talk focused on the diversity of age, ethnic origins and socio-economic background of the college's students.

Looking out over the graduates seated in front of him in the Silverdome, the executive director of Focus: Hope noted that they were old, young, soon pregnant, and many different colors.

"I'LL BET THERE isn't a graduation class anywhere in the world that has greater variety in people in ages, background and economics," Cunningham observed.

"Some of you work at General Motors or Ford, some are laid off and some are just bored with being rich housewives. It's the Tower of Babel reconstructed. It's beautiful."

Cunningham encouraged the graduates to say thanks to those who helped them earn degrees. And to use the gifts they received to benefit others.

"You've had a great gift by coming into this place. Some of you had vistas opened to you," explained Cunningham, well known for his human-relations efforts.

"Sometime you gotta think about saying 'Thank you.' One of the ways you can say 'thank you' is by making things better for other people."

Dedicated to peace and justice, Cunningham urged the graduates also to work toward those goals.

"What has been possible in this esteemed learning institution ought to be possible in every culture, every little acre in America," he added.

"Dedicate yourself — at least part of yourself — to making things be the way they ought to be."

"People helped you be what you can be. I'm asking you to help your brothers and sisters be what they can be."

FOLLOWING COMMENCEMENT address, OCC President Robert E. Roberts presented outstanding staff members with awards for exceptional contributions to curriculum development and general college purposes.

Presented in honor of OCC's 10th anniversary, Outstanding Faculty Awards went to John DeWitt, director of West International, in communications, art and psychology; and Orchard Ridge center's resident Laurence "Lucky" Lala, in behavioral sciences at Highland Lakes campus; and Uri Standish of Rochester, in science at the Auburn Hills campus.

Also honored for his support of the college was William E. Roberts Jr. of Birmingham. The co-founder and president of Seed-Roberts Insurance Agency was selected as an honorary degree recipient.

A former Birmingham mayor, Roberts is a board member of the OYO Foundation.

Roberts said receiving an award for serving his community made him a little "uneasy."

"It wasn't serving — it was enjoyment, it was fun," he said. "I enjoyed it all the way."

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