

# Drug awareness training starts

The Bloomfield Hills School District launched a five-year C.A.R.E. program (Chemical Awareness, Referral & Education) this month by accepting a check for a \$2,000 grant from the Monsanto Fund and by taking the first steps to train school personnel in chemical awareness.

The first C.A.R.E. workshop was conducted by the Johnson Institute of Minnesota on May 8 and 9 for middle school and high school administrators and counselors, social workers and psychologists, who may be involved in counseling of students with chemical use problems. The workshop was designed to enable those attending to identify problem students, develop referral resources and skills, and establish administrative procedures for follow-up with parents and faculty.

An in-service workshop for the secondary level instructional staff is being planned for fall 1985 to examine the implications of chemical abuse and to provide an overview of the C.A.R.E. program and the functions of the C.A.R.E. teams in each building.

DAVID MELLON, director of sales at Monsanto in Bingham Farms, presented the grant money to the district C.A.R.E. Committee recently. Mellon, an Andover parent, is a member of Monsanto's business climate committee, which was asked to seek out worthy recipients for the Monsanto Fund, a philanthropic foundation established by the company. He contacted Andover counselor Janet King for suggestions. King, who had been instrumental in the initiation of the C.A.R.E. program in Bloomfield Hills Schools, arranged a meeting with the program committee.

The grant, according to King, "will be used primarily for parent education in chemical awareness. We will be working in cooperation with the PTO Council this fall to establish workshops. We hope to gather volunteers to be trained, who will then carry education into the community."

IN PRESENTING the check, Mellon said, "Monsanto thinks this is an admirable program. We hope it is successful."

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— Janet King  
Andover counselor

Future objectives in the five-year program include a program of education for students and staff to raise consciousness and awareness of the dangers of chemical use, developing guidelines for involving school personnel with the families of students troubled by chemical use problems, and developing administrative guidelines for procedures to be followed when students are detected using chemicals on school property or at school functions.

Earlier this spring, the board of education adopted a policy on chemical awareness and use representing its commitment to implement a kindergarten to 12th grade chemical awareness program.

## Rouge to be cleaned up

Wading through chilly water to help improve the flow and appearance of the Rouge River in Southfield is the goal for the annual spring cleanup for the waterway.

Volunteers will hit the riverbank Saturday and Sunday in the event which started in 1970, according to Steve Marshall, a member of Southfield's Planning and Economic Development department and coordinator for the project.

"We clean up the log jams which back up the flow of the water and cause erosion of the banks," Marshall said.

In addition to the flow and erosion problems, debris collects behind the jams creating an eyesore, he said.

In previous years, between 15 and 200 people have turned out for the cleanup with an average number of 50 showing up, Marshall said.

Volunteers 14 and older are needed to help remove the logs and clean up the river. Those under 14 can help if accompanied by a parent, he said.

THE PROJECT will center on the portion of the river between 10 and 12 Mile roads even though Marshall would like to extend the work farther.


Interested volunteers should show up at 8 a.m. Saturday or Sunday at the Beech Woods Arena on Beech Road south of Nine Mile. From there, volunteers will be driven to work sites along the river. Lunch will be provided.

Workers should wear jeans and lace-up boots. Waders or similar clothing should not be worn because they will fill with water, Marshall said.

"People should plan to get wet because they will be up to their knees or waists in water."

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