

Lawyers to hold divorce seminar

A seminar for Oakland County divorce lawyers will run 4-6 p.m. Thursday, April 28. It is sponsored by the family law committee of the Oakland County Bar Association. Mark S. Jacobs of Livonia, Neilson, Jacobs & Cole and chair of the OCBA's family law committee will moderate a panel of speakers. They will include: Fred Morganroth, on divorce mediation; Linda Hallmark and Laura Cheser-Barnard of the Oakland County Friend of the Court on revised procedures; Sheldon G. Larky on legal malpractice concerns in divorce.

Others are: Henry Gornbein on motion and ex parte practice; and Circuit Judge Gene Schaezel on judicial perspectives.

The program will be held at Fox &ounds, 1560 N. Woodward, Bloomfield Hills. Fees are \$20 for Oakland County Bar Association members (\$25 if not pre-registered); and \$25 for non-members (\$30 if not pre-registered).

Registrations should be mailed to the Oakland County Bar Association at 1200 N. Telegraph, Suite 532, Pontiac 48053.

to determine guidelines for the award and to select a recipient who will be announced at the annual meeting scheduled June 14.

Recommendations should be submitted in writing, outlining the reasons why the nominee should be considered for the award. Send the recommendations to: Frances R. Avadenka Memorial Award, Attention: Shirley Robertson, Oakland County Bar Association, 1200 N. Telegraph, Suite 532, Pontiac 48053. Deadline is May 16.

The OCBA is seeking nominees for its Liberty Bell award, presented to a person outside the legal profession whose community service has strengthened the American system of freedom under law.

To nominate someone, send his or her name, a brief summary of activities and a telephone number where the candidate may be contacted to: Liberty Bell Award, OCBA, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Suite 532, Pontiac 48053. Nominations must be submitted by May 16.

NOMINATIONS FOR the Frances R. Avadenka Memorial Award are being accepted by the Oakland County Bar Association.

The award, established in 1987, is presented annually to a member of the association who has made significant contributions to the community outside the legal profession.

A committee has been established

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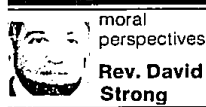
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We should know other religions

It is puzzling for us to hear the hijackers of the Kuwait airplane in Cyprus last week end their statement with "praise be to God."

We also discovered that one group closely connected with the hijackers is called "the Party of God."

The world is shrinking. We study customs, social and family life of many people. Television introduces us to vastly different lifestyles. But we have not become acquainted with the differing faiths of our globe.



valuable contributions to the shared human experience.

We ignore the vast array of religions because we seldom have contact with them.

This is changing. The Detroit area contains one of the largest Islamic communities in North America. Even in the suburbs, we more often meet neighbors who practice their religion as they did in India, Lebanon or Japan.

We CAN NO longer plead ignorance to the impact of others' beliefs on our world.

Princeton scholar Roy Motahedeh said: "It takes large and sometimes quite shocking events to make people want to read about another culture more deeply."

He is author of "The Mantle of the Prophet." His book attempts to portray what it is like to be a Shiite Moslem today. It helps us understand the passions that drive events in the Middle East.

We need to better understand the impulses that lie within such movements in our world. In many ways, we see the world moving toward more religious renewals.

If we do not understand these movements, we will see more confrontations between people motivated by their religious beliefs.

IT WOULD BE tragic to see what history called the religious wars returning in our time.

In each of the world religions and cultures, we encounter an insight into the mystery of life.

An old woman in Africa, who could not read or write, said: "The stupid white man doesn't understand anything." Another said: "Don't you realize what progress he has brought to Africa?" The older woman replied: "He doesn't understand. He doesn't understand life in the midst of life."

She was speaking of the many

powers and forces of life that affect her. Her contribution to us is to help us to accept the many elements of life in the midst of life. Her contribution to us is to integrate the rhythms and beat of life so as to avoid being caught in the "rat race."

A GROUP OF youth from our church just returned from a week-long project in Jamaica with a strong impression of the slow rhythm of Jamaican life. They were also struck by the vital, strong beat of the worship and singing. They felt the relationship of these aspects puzzling, yet refreshing.

The adventure that lies before us will not be to go to the moon or distant planets.

The new adventure will be to discover the mysteries and riches within the varied world religions and cultures, which will make it possible to live in peace as one humankind. The differences can either lead to war or to an enriched peace.

The Rev. David T. Strong is pastor of St. Matthew's United Methodist Church, Livonia.

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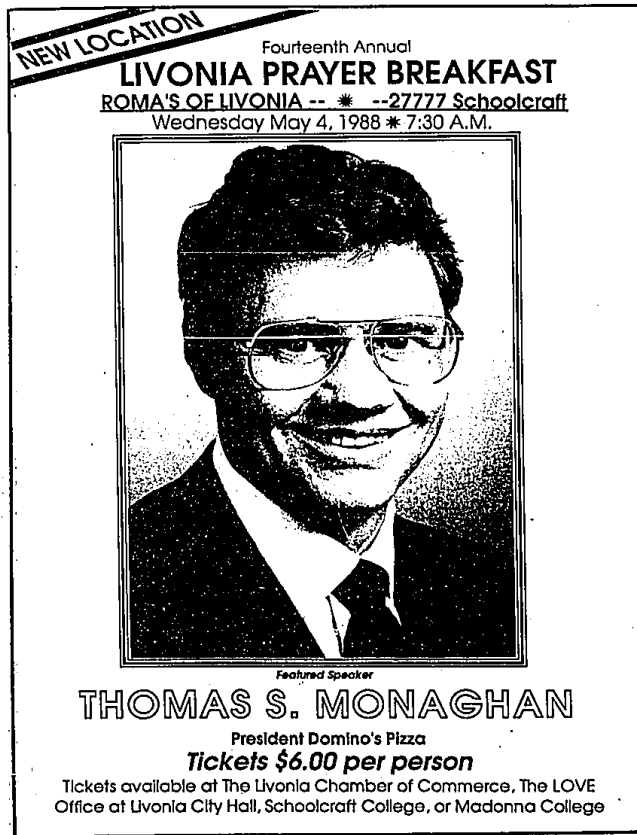
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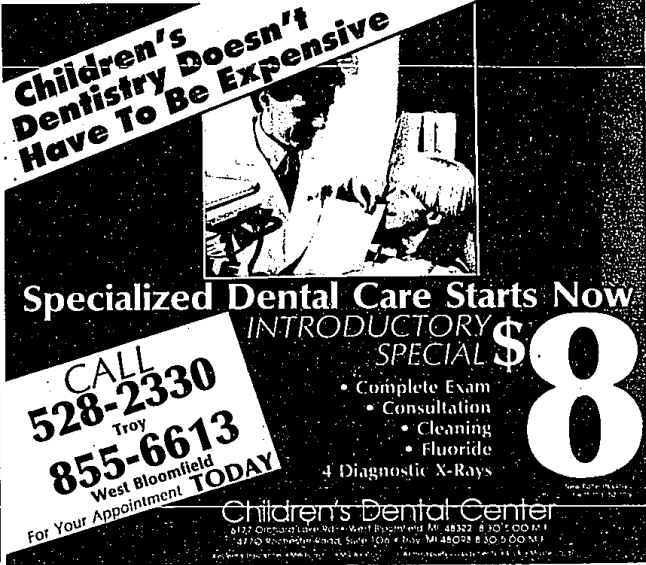
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