

OCC focuses on women's issues

The Womencenter of Oakland Community College will sponsor a four-day program entitled "Focus on Women," beginning Monday at OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus.

Daytime programs are free of charge, while tickets for evening programs are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and senior citizens.

Admission for the Thursday Film Festival is \$1 per film.

At 7:30 p.m. Monday, Sandy Parker, a process therapist concentrating on issues related to addiction, will discuss "Co-dependency and Addictive Relationships" in Smith Theatre.

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday, participants are invited to "Try College for a Day." The program gives those interested in re-

turning to school the chance to select and visit various classrooms. They can also talk with students and learn about college services and registration for winter semester.

At 7:30 p.m. Wednesday child care will be discussed by a panel of child care providers from the area.

On Thursday a film festival will run 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Smith Theatre featuring movies and clips dealing with various aspects of women's lives.

Free child care is available for toilet trained youngsters between the ages of 3 and 7. Preregistration is required.

Additional information is available between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. weekdays through the Womencenter, 471-7602 or 471-7745.

Firm says process cheaper, cleaner

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Council chambers at 18500 W. 13 Mile.

Smith said he has personally looked at enough companies to feel confident no company truly has proven technology to replace incinerators.

"BUT IF IT (Entropie) has something that works, we'd sure take a look at it," said Smith, a key architect of the county's plans to build a \$175 million incinerator in Auburn Hills.

Mark A. Battaglia, spokesman for Entropie, said his company has patented a process of converting municipal and household trash into a synthetic coal called syncoal.

Syncoal contains less sulfur than most coal and delivers about 9,400 BTUs (British thermal units, a measurement of heat) per ton, Battaglia said, or about the same as a ton of coal from western mines, but lower than the 12,500 BTUs per ton of coal from eastern mines.

His company is willing to build a \$45 million plant capable of processing 800 tons of trash per day in a 44-hour week. SOCRRA's trash-to-energy incinerator can process about 600 tons per day.

One obvious advantage, Battaglia said, is less emission to be scrubbed

and filtered to meet state and federal clean air standards.

Battaglia said his process heats trash to very high temperatures in closed containers. The trash does not burn, he said, because there is not enough oxygen.

The end product is syncoal.

"Our process gives off a vent gas," Battaglia said. "But most is burned as fuel for the process while the rest is burned off on site."

Their plant would need a minimum of 18 acres, he said, that can be landscaped.

IT'S NOT LIKELY that either Oakland County or SOCRRA knows much about Entropie or its capability, even though it has received almost \$2 million in grants from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

"We haven't really marketed our technology," Battaglia said. "We're just getting into that aspect of it."

Entropie is by no means the first company to attempt to market its technology to a Detroit area community.

Newest Inc. of Reno, Nev., has a contract with Gibraltar in the downriver area for a demonstration project that would convert solid waste into fuel pellets or soil supplements similar to fertilizer.

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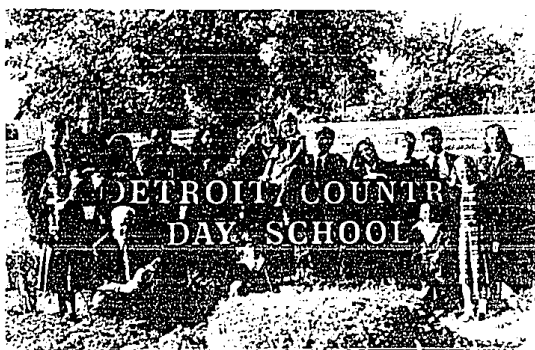


Photo courtesy of DCDS junior Jessica Thomas and parent Margo Campbell

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