

Barbara Bush tours Hills-based 'Literacy Bus'

The Farmington Hills-based Advanced Center for Technology Training's Mobile Training Center has completed a cross-country tour that brought ACTT's technology education programs to educators in seven states.

"The Literacy Bus," as it is known, began its trip in Washington, where it anchored the National Conference for Women's American ORT. Barbara Bush, known for her active involvement in family literacy programs, visited the bus and learned about the ACTT programs. After operating a robot, she looked up and said, "And I just learned how to use my computer. Look what it leads to."

While in the nation's capital, the bus visited several high schools and community colleges.

During a presentation to pre-engineering students at Washington's Dunbar Senior High School, one student said, "this gets you all riled up to go out and learn some more." After leaving Washington, the Literacy Bus stopped in Waterloo, Iowa, Torrington, Wyoming, Colorado Springs, Col., Oklahoma City, Dallas, Texas, and Orlando, Fla.

The ACTT Literacy Bus can accommodate as many as 15 students. Based on a 40-foot-long motor coach, the Literacy Bus is a fully equipped classroom with an array of audiovisual training equipment and five individual work stations, including three that are wheelchair accessible. Since the bus was inaugurated in 1987, it has logged 50,000 miles, vis-

ited 22 states, and been toured by 22,000 people.

ACTT HAS identified a serious "technology literacy" gap between the basic reading and mathematical skills workers learn at school and the job-specific skills their companies need to be competitive in the increasingly competitive world market.

The ACTT curriculum is designed to bridge this gap and help workers be flexible and adapt to major changes in manufacturing technology.

The ACTT curriculum teaches students the basics, then carefully guides them at their own pace to master the concepts behind new automated systems.

Since students learn how to solve future as well as current problems, they will not require complete retraining as technology changes.

ACTT's curriculum is based on the materials and methods of the Organization for Rehabilitation through Training.

Founded in 1980, ORT is a global network of 6,000 instructors and 800 schools and training centers providing vocational and technical education to 140,000 adults and children in 48 countries.

All of ACTT's courses can be demonstrated or taught on site in intensive full-or-half-day seminars tailored to the client's needs.



Barbara Bush thanks Richard Brown, president of the Farmington Hills-based Advanced Center for Technology Training, for the tour of the Literacy Bus.

Board rejects congregation's plans for synagogue

By James Radebaugh
staff writer.

A divided West Bloomfield Township Board stood firm Dec. 21 in its opposition to the plans of a Jewish congregation to build a synagogue near Drake and 14 Mile roads — despite a lawsuit filed by the congregation.

The board voted 4-3 in a special morning meeting to uphold its earlier denial of site plan approval for a

500-seat synagogue that the B'nai Moshe congregation of Oak Park wants to build west of Drake between 14 Mile and Maple, near the Farmington Hills border.

B'nai Moshe leaders want to move the 35-year-old congregation to West Bloomfield because most of its members now live in the area.

"Now we're back in court; from here I don't know what happens," said township Supervisor Sandra Draur, who voted against approving the site plan.

The area is currently zoned for single-family residential housing and construction of the synagogue would require a special permit.

OFFICIALS WHO oppose granting that permit said the synagogue would interfere with the orderly development of a five-acre lot to the south and pose other problems concerned with noise and parking lot lighting and screening. Board trustee Dennis Vatsis said

he opposes the synagogue because the township already has allowed too much tax-free development and that any more threatens the township's tax base.

More than 10 percent of the township is already occupied by tax-exempt institutions such as temples, schools and hospitals, Vatsis said.

"We cannot afford to become a haven for tax-exempt institutions in West Bloomfield, be they religious or anything else," he said.

B'nai Moshe Rabbi Allan Meyerowitz called the board's action "very unfortunate," and said the congregation would continue to seek a resolution with a suit filed in Circuit Court after the board first rejected the site plan in November.

"We satisfied every aspect of the approval process," he said. "Every legal, every planning matter has been satisfactorily dealt with."

THE PROJECT has been approved by the township's planning

commission and the wetlands review board. Meyerowitz said the argument that the synagogue threatens the township's tax base is "absurd" because the property in question is relatively small.

"When you have a residential area you have to expect churches, schools and hospitals," he said.

Meyerowitz said he believes that religious bigotry may have motivated some board members to oppose the synagogue.

13th Month Sale!

A little time to
save a lot on
the very best!

Save 40%
to 60%
on CHAIRS!

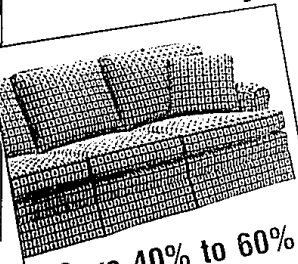
Relax in elegant
comfort. See lounge
chairs, wing chairs,
tub chairs, swivel
rockers, many with
ottomans. Fine
fabrics and colors,
all specially priced!



FINAL DAYS TO SAVE!
SALE ENDS SATURDAY
January 6th - 5:30 p.m.

Save 40% to 60%
on newest SOFAS!

From classic traditional to country casual in
an incredible selection of fabrics and colors.
All sizes, including love-seats. Great values!



SAVE 40% to 60%
on BEDROOMS!

Just what you
want in beautifully
coordinated suites
at super savings!
Every style from
holddom looks to
clean and casual in
superb finishes.

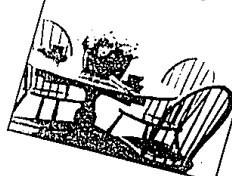
From Mahogany
collection:

Timeless classics hand-
polished to a deep
mahogany finish. Find
dining rooms, servers,
sideboards, much more!

Save 40% to 60%

Save 40% to 60%
on DINING ROOMS!

From banquets to bedtime snacks, you'll
find just the table you want here. Callal oak to
glossing cherry, beautifully finished.



SAVE 40% to 60%

Pennsylvania House • Harden
Thomasville • Vanguard
Canover • Heckman
Gordon Tait • Crescent
Bradington-Young
Classic Leather and
Many More Too Numerous
To Mention!

From brass
and glass:

Elegant tables in
classic shapes are
beautiful and so
functional. Just
the right touch!

SAVE 40% to 60%



Save 40% to 60%
on WALL SYSTEMS!

Exceptional savings on display and storage
pieces to suit every decor. Entertainment
units, bookcases, door storage, much more!

Save 40% to 60%
on OCCASIONAL TABLES!

End and lamp tables,
cocktail and sofa
tables, many desks,
too. Great selection!



Classic Interiors

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile

474-6900

Mon., Thurs., Fri. 9:30-9:00
Tues., Wed., Sat. 9:30-5:30

