

Named Vice President

Barbara H. Lebow has been named vice president and corporate counsel of Mercy Health Services (MHS) in Farmington Hills. As corporate counsel Lebow will be responsible for providing and managing legal services for the Mercy Health Services system. In addition, she will provide oversight and administrative support to Mercy's public affairs program.

Speaking on behalf of Mercy Health Services, Michael R. Schwartz, executive vice president and chief operating officer, said, "We are confident her experience and expertise will significantly enhance our in-house legal capacity, complement our outside counsel and contribute to our public policy initiatives."

Lebow is the former assistant general counsel for Dornier Medical System Inc., a subsidiary of Mercedes-Benz. Dornier is a manufacturer and retailer of medical products to hospitals. Prior to joining Dornier, Lebow was general counsel for St. Luke's Health System, the second largest health care provider in Arizona. Her additional experience



Barbara Lebow

includes serving as assistant district counsel for the Veterans' Administration.

Lebow received her bachelor's degree and her juris doctorate degree from the University of Florida. She has completed advanced law studies at Georgetown University. She has served as a board member and legal counsel for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and as a member of the steering committee of the Women Lawyers Association. She is also a member of several national health lawyers associations.

Mercy Health Services is a non-profit multispecialty health care system sponsored by the Sisters of Mercy - Province of Detroit.

Free seminars spell out issues critical to making life decisions

A three-part seminar on legal, financial and emotional issues involved in major life decisions will be presented by Life Perspectives, an ad hoc public information group composed of Bernadette Davis, director of Davis Counseling Center, Sue Ellen Eisenberg, an attorney, and Sheila Kasselmann, a financial planner.

The seminars will begin at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 24, Thursday, March 22, and Tuesday, May 15, in Farmington Hills Branch Library, 12 Mile Road, east of Farmington Road. There is no charge.

Life Perspectives was formed to fill a widespread public need for coherent blocks of critical information. Too often such material is presented in discordant units: legal information from one person, financial information from another and emotional counseling from yet a third.

Life Perspectives seminars will integrate these three data sources into one coherent body of information thereby providing participants with a clear, comprehensive understanding of issues critical to major life decisions.

The first panel, Jan. 24, focuses on women and divorce planning for both elderly parents and for oneself in later years. The concluding presentation, May 15, investigates strategies for the adult handicapped child and parental needs for planning for these adult children.

All three panel members have been in professional practice for many years, frequently dealing with women's issues and family concerns. All three feel strongly that a team approach is essential to planning appropriately for these significant life changes.

EISENBERG notes that the first seminar concerns that "point when a woman realizes that her marriage is over and the damage is done. The issue then shifts to damage control. In order to confront the multilevel choices and options, she needs a team of professional advisers. That's what we are attempting to provide in this seminar."

Eisenberg continues, "There's a lot of misinformation regarding alimony, child custody and support. The legal process itself may inhibit a woman's capacity to choose her lawyer and make financial decisions. For instance, no-fault divorce only means a divorce without fault being assigned. It does not mean that fault does not have a bearing on property settlement or child custody, it does."

For example, marital infidelity does not effect getting a divorce, but it can have an impact on the property settlement.

Kasselmann thinks of the financial facts of divorce as business decisions. "Financial decision during a divorce effect a woman and children forever. It is crucial that the emotional aspects of the divorce do not impede a woman from making appropriate decisions which insure her and her children's economic stability."

As an example, Kasselmann said, "The pension funds of a spouse are part of the combined marital assets

and should be considered in divorce proceedings."

DAVIS SAYS, "A woman needs to make objective decisions. Further, she needs to find emotional support, to choose a lawyer carefully, and to design an adviser team which will answer questions clearly and present options candidly. These advisers must be chosen for their ability to act on the client's behalf."

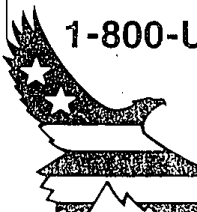
"Women," Davis continues, "have traditionally been the caregivers, so choosing caregivers for themselves can seem to be a selfish act. Such guilt interferes with choosing appropriate advisers, individuals who will advocate for the client and be concerned with the client's best interests."

"Hopefully we will address these emotional issues in our presentation by defining them and offering practical suggestions for coping with them."

For other information on Life Perspectives and its three seminars, call 258-6070.

CPR offered

"Heartsaver" CPR (cardio-pulmonary resuscitation) classes are offered at 6 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 10 and 17, in St. Mary Hospital, Livonia. Fee for the two-day class is \$10 per person. Register by calling 464-4800, ext. 2469. St. Mary Hospital is at 36475 W. Five Mile, Livonia.



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Kay Grayson, BSME, and Account Manager for Rockwell International, lives with daughter Nissa in Braeview Village at The Heathers.

"We moved from a single family home, principally because we wanted condominium benefits," says Kay. "Being a working mother, I just don't have time for the upkeep of a home."

Kay pointed out the professionalism of the company. "The maintenance is so unobtrusive, I rarely know they are working," she said. "The few minor service calls have been attended to with speed and courtesy."

Kay said she had many friends living in former Robertson communities. "So when I learned about The Heathers, I was one of the first purchasers." Both Kay and her daughter enjoy the activities at the Heathers Club. "All in all," says Kay, "we find The Heathers accountable for the good life."

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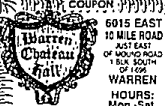
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