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Entertainment section.

In a unique expression of human unity, a diverse group of musicians will perform free of charge in celebration of world diversity, raising funds for an Oakland County organization that promotes racial diversity as the bridge of genuine understanding between people.

The event, scheduled to coincide with United Nations Day in honor of the 166-member international forum, is meant to raise an estimated \$10,000 for the Oakland County Center for Open Housing, founded last year to promote integrated communities in Oakland County.

"We're capturing the theme of diversity, what it's all about. We are drawing on diversity in the United States and throughout the world," said Barbara Talley of Southfield who, together with Ann Wettlaufer of Birmingham, direct the open housing center with offices on Telegraph Road in Bingham Farms.

"INTEGRATION BUILDS understanding and support. We are integrationists," Talley said. A former member of the Southfield City Council, Talley was once denied housing of choice in California because she is black.

Funds from the event are earmarked for increased community outreach, education and marketing of the open housing center, which last year provided services for 517 clients who were considering a move, including 179 homeowners and 338 renters. The center also received over 1,000 telephone inquiries.

Each client is supplied with information about the ethnic and racial compositions of a community and its schools, and a list of Realtors and lending institutions committed to integrated housing patterns.

To date, there have been 22 "pro-integrative moves," including five black families who purchased homes in Farmington Hills, three that purchased in West Bloomfield and one each in Birmingham, Bloomfield Hills, Rochester Hills and Troy.

Three families purchased in Southfield, including two inter-racial couples.

Another 100 families are either in the process of purchasing new homes or are searching for new housing. Of total clients using services, 15 percent are white, 15 percent are racially mixed couples and the remaining 70 percent are black or other racial minorities.

"WITHOUT INTERVENTION," we see a continuing pattern of segregated neighborhoods. Our goal is to achieve stable and integrated neighborhoods in Oakland County, to show that this is a good place for all people to live," Talley said.

"We see our mission as a catalyst for expanding efforts statewide. It does no good to have Oakland County integrated, when other parts of the state are not.

"There's lots of talk about things like this. We've done."

The center is endorsed by 24 Oakland County municipalities and such other entities as the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments and Bloomington.

Funding is provided by grants from such sources as the City of Southfield, Oakland County and the Birmingham Unitarian Church in Bloomfield Hills. Last year's budget was \$96,000.

"Rhythm & Blues" is scheduled 6:45 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 24, in the Smith Auditorium at Oakland University.

Community College/Orchard
Ridge Campus, 27055 Orchard
Lake Road, Farmington Hills
Cost is \$15 each at the door or \$12
advance purchase. Tickets may
be purchased by calling 647-0573
or 354-4854

The concert is co-sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, the Birmingham-Bloomfield Task Force on Race Relations and Ethnic Diversity, the Race Relations Council of Metropolitan Detroit and WJZZ-Jazz 106 FM.

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president for adult services. Substance abuse and child alcoholism is just as apt to hit the highest income people. And insurance pays for counseling.

"People with means use the programs and often end up being positive influences in the community in


their own right," Maynard, a Troy resident, said.

Next: Oakland Family Services boasts board members who've served 27 years, like former ad exec Colin John of Bloomfield Hills, and others who are nearly new, like Larry Gladchun, an attorney from Bloomfield Township.

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