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Education Expo '96 set for Oct. 20

Education Expo '96, a learning and fun fair, will take place 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 20, at Lawrence Technological University, Southfield.

A free event, the expo allows parents to explore a broad spectrum of educational opportunities for their children.

The '96 Expo will showcase schools, preschools, educational software, tutoring services, extracurricular programs, learning workshops, museums and other related exhibits aimed at providing kids with an added edge. For the first time, the expo will also feature hands-on, educational activities for children, age 2-15.

The event is presented by metro Parent Magazine and sponsored by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, Health Alliance Plan, WWJ Newsradio 950, Star 97.1 FM, Association of Independent Michigan Schools, Radio Aaha 1090 AM and Lawrence Technological University.

The Detroit Institute of Art will host the Cultural Corner Activity Area, where kids can make and decorate their own puppets.

Internet Dimensions, Inc. will "click and drag" everyone into the 21st century with its Family Friendly Web Sites Activity Area.

The Library Network's Resource Zone will demonstrate "computer Prix," a program that allows people to browse and reserve library books from any home connected to the Internet.

The Michigan State Police will stop traffic with their presentations on pedestrian, bicycle and auto safety.

Two area health clubs will promote healthy lifestyles in sports and fitness areas featuring shoot-in-hoop, a physical skills building activity and a moonwalk, where kids can just have fun.

An exhibit by the Living Science Foundation features live animals like rabbits, snakes and lizards that kids can pet.

This year's exhibitors include: Computertots; Youtheatre; Cranbrook Schools and Institute of Science; Hamell Music; Learning Success Center; Discovery Toys; Computer Renaissance; and Homequest.

Kids will also have a chance to win hundreds of door prizes, such as a $300 gift certificate from Kaplan Education Centers; CD-ROM and computer software packages; Geo Safari Electronic Learning Games; Sony Wonder videotapes and CDs.

Students and teachers can also stop by and check out the display honoring the recipients of the Seventh Annual Metro Parent Outstanding Teacher Awards.

Education Expo '96 will take place in the atrium of the Buell Management Building. Lawrence Tech is at 21000 West 10 Mile, just west of the Lodge Freeway.

Last year, Education Expo drew more than 4,000 people.

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Debate from page A13

flopping on plea bargaining. "When he (Gorcyca) ran against Richard Thompson (in the Republican primary), he claimed Thompson was too tough on plea bargaining," he said. "Now running against me, he says I plea bargain too much."

Gorcyca and Kaplan each promised harsh penalties for major drug dealers, but each also suggested a different approach on minor users, particularly if he or she would provide evidence against the supplier.

Each candidate said he had already met with members of the prosecutor's staff and did not envision wholesale staff changes. "I'll build on the existing staff," said Gorcyca, "and create an environment where (good) prosecutors want to begin and end their careers in Oakland County."

Kaplan chided his opponent for promising an "elite corps of prosecutors." Assistant prosecutors won't be successful if they follow Gorcyca's example, the Democrat said, "he won only two of the six circuit court cases he tried . . . that's the lowest conviction rate in Michigan history."

In closing comments, Gorcyca and Kaplan tried to emphasize the distinctions between them.

"In three weeks, voters have an important choice," said Gorcyca. "It's a choice between a conservative prosecutor who favors tough justice and my liberal opponent from Macomb County."

Kaplan insisted Oakland needs a competent, experienced prosecutor. "I'm the person with the experience," he said. "I'm the person who had handled 10,000 cases and I'm the person with the conviction rate."

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