

# Teachers to star in education consortium

**BY TIM RICHARD**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
Leading teachers of the 21st century are starting now to collaborate across county lines to develop a consortium of schools, W.K. Kellogg Foundation is putting up \$9 million to develop 12 elementary at Oakland and Schuetteville community colleges, the K-12 school districts of Farmington, Northville, Novi, Southfield and Westland, and the Oakland and Wayne intermediate districts.

"How can we develop for the 21st century?" will be the theme during two and a half years of monthly meetings, said George Keith, president of the Oakland Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

The group will call itself the Oakland Consortium, named for the Italian astronomer and philosopher of 400 years ago who challenged Aristotle's dogma. Its emphasis will be on educational leadership rather than developing administrative, said Keith.

"We're beginning to recruit our first class," Keith told the OCCC board Jan. 27. "There will be seven to nine schools for OCCC. We have been working very closely with Dick McDevitt (Schoolcraft president) and Conway Jeffries (Schoolcraft academic vice president)."

"Whatever these people do will have to make a difference," added Carol Brown, academic dean of OCCC's Orchard Ridge Campus.

While the Kellogg Foundation, funded by the Battle Creek company that pioneered healthy breakfast cereals early in this century, will support the project with grants, the participating schools will help participants through release time and campus staff development funds, Keith said.

OCCC board members were enthusiastic, but very clear: director of the college's physical plant, reported to the board. They are being funded by \$50 million a year in new money. Voters in mid-1995 raised the property tax rate 0.2 of a mill (80 cents per \$1,000 of taxable value) for seven years for renovations and new programs.

Finished are:

- Auburn Hills Campus — central heating evaluation, \$8,650. Another \$1 million in site and roof work is under construction.
- Orchard Ridge Campus — roof work on the maintenance building, \$26,026, about 25 percent under the estimated cost. Another \$1.7 million in bridge replacement, site work, door and

# Engler wants to reward career education

**BY TIM RICHARD**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
Democracy, now in control of the House of Representatives, will seek to reinstate the career education for public schools. They have little use for a plan by Gov. John Engler and a Republican senator to take over public schools with low test scores and high dropout rates.

But in the wake of the governor's state of the state message Tuesday, both parties are finding agreement on one and the same: a tax increase. Neither will push a tax hike, unless the other meets it halfway, and Engler insisted his seven-point road plan "is the equivalent of a tax to eight-point hike in the fact sheet."

Engler was applauded 34 times — about average — for his speech to a joint session of the Legislature. Republicans chanted "four more years," encouraging him to seek a third term in 1998. A House Democratic leader said the governor had "run out of gas" after six years.

"He has consistently flipped-flopped," said Sen. Gary Peters, D-Grand Haven, who said Engler's plan to take over schools with low test scores and high dropout rates was "a real per-pupil contract with OCCC."

It is based on OCCC's making nearly 1.4 million copies per month for 48 months, college officials said. It covers rental and utilities and will cost a total of \$1.7 million. Existing equipment, new wiring down, was installed in May of 1991.

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# Judge weighs evidence in case against Kevorikian

**BY KIM MURPHY**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
Her health might be a day-to-day concern, but Janet Good isn't ready to go to court in Jon County with her husband and co-defendant, Dr. Jack Kevorikian.

"It won't be fun," the 73-year-old Farmington Hills resident said Friday. "But I'll be there."

Whether or not Good and Kevorikian go to trial could be determined this week, in part, in 48th District Court last week. Michael A. Schwartz, one of Kevorikian's defense attorneys, called the seizure from the Bloomfield police "a case of professional integrity."

But Jon Prosecutor Ray Vont has charged Kevorikian with charges that have been dismissed. Kevorikian's attorneys want the evidence returned to the retired pathologist now living in West Bloomfield.

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# Area Jews witness Israeli history

**BY KIM MURPHY**  
**STAFF WRITER**  
Being in Israel at a historic moment has left a group of Jewish leaders from Southeast Michigan with a sense of optimism about peace in the Middle East.

Good is the charter president of Hillel of Michigan who came to know — and befriended — Kevorikian after the assisted suicide issue began to unfold in 1990 with the death of Janet Adina of Portland, Oregon.

In some ways Kevorikian and Good would seem like unlikely allies. Kevorikian, 66, is a quiet, unassuming life as a medical ethicist whose preoccupation about dying led to his being nicknamed "Dr. Death."

Good is a 32-year-old from the metro area to visit Israel during the week of Jan. 14 — the 50th anniversary of the Balfour Declaration when the British Mandate for Palestine was established. They were part of a contingent organized by the Jewish Community Council, a Bloomfield Hills based umbrella organization for Jewish groups.

The goal was to get an accurate perspective on the state of the country and the peace process, according to David Gelfand, executive director of the council. They met with a variety of informed leaders — including members of the Knesset, the Palestinian Legislative Council, and the Israeli Prime Minister's office.

"We attended meetings in the morning," said Gilin, co-sponsor of the trip. "We were very impressed with the people we met, and we were very impressed with the people we met."

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