

## Galas to honor 5 as women of achievement

A Birmingham author is among five women who will be honored as Women of Achievement and Courage at benefit galas, sponsored by the Michigan Women's Foundation.

The accomplishments of Margaret Taylor Smith of Birmingham, Erna Henderson of Detroit, Pam Aguirre of Grosse Pointe Park, Elizabeth Upjohn Mason of Kalamazoo and Alicia Woodrick of Grand Rapids will be celebrated at the 10th annual dinners, set for Thursday, April 29, at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids and on Tuesday, May 4, at The Ritz-Carlton in Dearborn.

Tickets for the dinners are \$150 each and can be purchased by calling the Michigan Women's Foundation at (734) 542-3948.

Both dinners are sponsored by General Motors Corp. During the past decade, the number of guests at the dinners have more than doubled and revenues have increased from \$47,000 to \$225,000.

This year, Detroit co-chairs Deborah Dingell, president of the General Motors Foundation, Geneva Williams, executive vice-president and COO of United Way Community Services, and honorary co-chair Trudy Duncombe Archer expect to attract some 850 people to The Ritz-Carlton and raise over \$150,000.

"This 10th anniversary of the dinner gives us much cause for celebration," said Dingell. "Funds raised at this year's dinner will allow MWF to directly support more critical programs serving women and girls in Michigan."

"At the same time, it is an opportunity for us to celebrate the outstanding contributions of women of our state, both over the course of the century and during our lifetimes."

Honorees are selected for their leadership, vision, passion and achievements.

Henderson will receive the first ever Trillium Award for Lifetime Achievement from MWF at the dinner at the Amway Grand Hotel in Grand Rapids.

A renowned labor leader, civil rights activist and political pioneer, she has fought tirelessly throughout her lifetime to promote social justice and put an end to racism and discrimination.

Ironically, Henderson will receive her award in the very same establishment where in 1938 she organized a sit-in to end segregation at what was then the Pantlind Hotel.

A life of firsts, she was the first African-American port secretary on the Great Lakes, the first woman trustee of Wayne County Community College and the first African American

woman in history to be sworn in as a member of the Detroit City Council, becoming its president in 1977.

Women of Achievement and Courage honor Taylor Smith is the first female board president of the Kresge Foundation. A self-described volunteer, she has served as mentor for women and girls during her lifetime and has lent her vision and leadership to the boards of numerous non-profits, including the Detroit Medical Center, Legal Aid Society of Oakland County and New Horizons of Oakland County to name a few.

A Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Duke University, Taylor Smith has endowed a directorship in women's studies at her alma mater and served on both the national board of Women and Philanthropy and the advisory council for the MFW.

The author of "Mother, I Have Something to Tell You," she has received countless awards for her service and achievements, but her greatest sense of pride and accomplishment comes from her 51-year marriage to Sid Smith, her four grown children and eight grandchildren.

Women of Achievement and Courage honoree Aguirre is CEO and chairman of the board of the Detroit-based Mexican Industries and beneficiary of the Hispanic community. She has devoted much of her time fulfilling the company's vision as articulated by her father, the late Detroit Tigers all-star pitcher Hank Aguirre.

Mason has logged many decades of community involvement and philanthropy, stemming from a strong family tradition of volunteerism. The president of Upjohn National Lending, her current focus is on the Women's Education Coalition, which utilizes its million-dollar endowment to assist women in completing their education.

Woodrick, a philanthropist and community volunteer, has served on the board of directors for Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women, Special Olympics and Grand Rapids Art Museum. As co-founder of the Grand Rapids Children's Museum, she was instrumental in articulating its vision for the future.

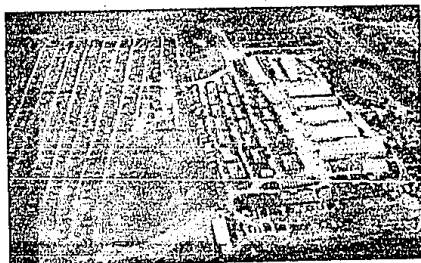
The Michigan Women's Foundation was founded in 1986 to respond to the significant barriers and challenges that prohibit women and girls from reaching their full potential and to create a permanent financial for programs to help them. MFW promotes economic self-sufficiency and personal well-being for women and girls, so that they may maximize their contributions to society.



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### TEMPLE ISRAEL

Arlene Eisenberg, renowned author of "What To Expect When You're Expecting," "What To Expect the First Year," and "What to Expect the Toddler Years" will speak at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 29, at the 20th annual Alicia Joy Techner Memorial Parenting Conference at Temple Israel, 5725 Walnut Lake Road in West Bloomfield.

The entire community is invited to attend the conference, held in memory of Alicia Joy, the beloved daughter of Ilene and David Techner, in conjunction with the Family Life Center of Temple Israel.

No tickets are necessary, however, baby sitting is available for children over 18 months and reservations are required for baby sitting by calling (248) 661-5700 by April 21.

For further questions, call Kari K. Provizer, Director of the Family Life Center.

### SHIR TIKVAH

Congregation Shir Tikvah's Adult Education Committee invites the public to attend its Israeli Independence Celebration beginning at 5:30 p.m. Sunday, April 25.

The evening will begin with a pot luck supper; everyone is asked to bring an Israeli-style dish to share. Afterwards there will be singing, Israeli dancing led by congregant Dorit Edut, and a program honoring Israel's independence. There is a nominal fee to attend.

Congregation Shir Tikvah is at 3900 Northfield Parkway, south of Waukegan between Crooks and Coolidge in Troy. For more information or to RSVP, call Doris Edut in the evening at (248) 543-4255.