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WSU Center Offers Screening To Determine Fetal Defects

Genetic screening at the Wayne State University Birth Defect Center now is available to any mother-to-be concerned about possible abnormalities in her unborn child.

This has been made possible under a grant from the National Foundation March of Dimes.

Word of the service's implementation has been sent to physicians throughout the state by Dr. Bernard Mandelbaum, assistant professor at WSU and project director.

THE GENETIC SCREENING will concern itself particularly with Down's Syndrome, the abnormality present when a mongoloid child is born.

Pregnant girls between the ages of 12 and 16 were mentioned in the letter as one group of mothers-to-be for whom "the risk of having an abnormal fetus is high enough" to warrant early amniocentesis.

Amniocentesis is a process by which fluid from the uterus is examined to determine possible abnormality and the sex of a fetus.

Others who fit the description, the letter said, are pregnant women over the age of 40, women who have had a child with Down's Syndrome, and women known to carry, or at high risk of carrying, a deleterious X-linked gene.

COPIES of the letter were sent to leaders of local chapters of the Michigan Association for Retarded Children, with a notation that members interested should use their own physicians as a point of referral.

Mrs. Barbara Moore of Redford Township, president of the Northwest Communities Association for Retarded Children, indicated she considered the service a big forward step in the problem of retardation.

"We feel it's part of the purpose of our organization to get information of this sort to the public," she said.

The letter to physicians said the service is free and stated:

"Before accepting a patient into the project, we will discuss the possible risks of the procedure and the chances of failure or laboratory inaccuracies with both parents. We will also obtain written consent.

"The amniocentesis should be done between 14 and 18 weeks of pregnancy to allow time for laboratory work and still be within the time limit for acceptable abortion if that course is elected. Abortion of an abnormal fetus is not compulsory and is strictly the decision of the patient and her family."



PUTTING UP strawberries are Mrs. Charles Lavigne and Mrs. James Nugent. They're decorating windows of the Northwest Branch YWCA, 25940 Grand River, Detroit, in preparation for the annual strawberry festival to be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m., Thursday, June 8.

Burrs Celebrate 50th Anniversary

A reception May 14 in the Dula Party Room, Redford Township, honored the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Burr, who have lived on Kinloch Avenue for 12 years.

More than 100 guests attended.

The Burrs were married May 10, 1922, in Detroit. They also marked the anniversary with a mass of thanksgiving in their home May 10, with the Rev. Robert Ryan officiating.

Hosts for the party were their four sons, Arthur, Edgar and Richard Burr of Redford Township and Joseph Burr of Oak Park, and their wives.

Mr. Burr was employed by Long Manufacturing in Detroit before his retirement. There are 21 grandchildren and one great-grandchild.



MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH BURR

Women In Business Conference Topic

The first National Conference on Opportunities for Women in Business will be held in Washington, June 7 to 9.

Sponsored by the U.S. Commerce Department's office of minority business enterprise (OMBE), the three-day meeting is expected to draw more than 500 business women and those interested in going into business.

The plans were announced by Secretary of Commerce Peter G. Peterson. His wife,

Mrs. Sally Peterson, is honorary chairman of the conference.

JOHN L. JENKINS, OMBE director, said the meeting is the first of its kind to be sponsored by his office.

"One of the purposes," he said, "is to bring together successful businesswomen with those considering a business career to share experiences and information. The conference will deal

with the roles of women in business and opportunities for women in the business world."

PART OF THE CONFERENCE will be devoted to fundamental instruction on business management practices, and one session will deal with what the federal government is doing to encourage women in business. Another topic will be opportunities for women in the corporate structure. Special emphasis will be placed on motivating young minority

women to seek careers in business.

The Office of Minority Business Enterprise was established by President Richard Nixon in March 1969, and placed under the responsibility of the Secretary of Commerce.

Serving as the coordinating agency in the president's minority enterprise program, it seeks to identify and increase opportunities for members of minority groups to enter business or expand existing businesses.

Y Social Features Sundaes, Concert

Fresh strawberry ice cream sundaes and a band concert will be featured at the annual strawberry festival of the Northwest YWCA.

The program will be held in the YWCA building, 25940 Grand River, Detroit, from 6:30 until 9 p.m., Thursday, June 8.

The concert will be presented by the Pearson Junior High School band under the direction of Dave Bonamici. There will also be a demonstration by the Nalesa International Folk Dance group directed by Phillip Lill. The "big band" sounds of the Hilbert Junior High School dance band under the direction of Davis Moore will end the evening's entertainment.

Mrs. James Nugent is chairman of the social. Patented after the old-fashioned ice cream social, this family event has been sponsored by the YWCA each June for the

past 12 years and has continued to grow in popularity. If the weather is nice, patrons are urged to bring blankets and sit on the lawn. If it rains, the activities will be held indoors. There is no admission charge, but the Y's Owl Boutique will be open. Sundaes will cost 50 cents.

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Father's Day Ties Featured

For those who are planning to make a tie for dad, Hudson's is sponsoring a series of demonstrations the week of June 5.

The sessions will be held at Northland Friday, June 9, and at Westland, Wednesday, June 7. Demonstrations will be at 11 a.m. and 1 and 3 p.m. Joan Sglia, home economist representing Stacy Fabrics, will present Tie Makers Guild fabrics in the fabric departments of these stores at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.



MR. AND MRS. EDWARD ERKE

Dinner Reception Marks 50 Years

A dinner reception in Roma Hall Sunday, May 28, marked the 50th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Erke of Redford Township.

A three-tier anniversary cake decorated with pink roses, gold leaves and gold bells was out for 65 friends and relatives. Mrs. Erke wore a blue dress with white lace trim and a corsage of white roses with gold leaves and gold ribbons.

Edward Erke and Lilly Haske were married May 27, 1922, in St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Detroit. They moved to Redford Township 15 years ago.

Their daughter, Audrey, is married to Dr. Walter Gross, of Livonia. There are three grandchildren, Linda, James and Diane.

Mr. Erke is a retired carpenter and worked as a supervisor for John B. Ebert & Sons for 36 years. Mrs. Erke worked for Vickers, Inc., during World War II and later worked 15 years for General Filters, Inc., retiring in 1964.

They attend Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church in Detroit, and are members of its Golden Years Club.

3rd In Nation

Alcoholism is now the third most prevalent disease in the nation, according to the Greater Detroit Council on Alcoholism, a Torch Drive service.

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