

Retiring as WCCC trustee

By SHERRY KAHAN

John Ryan, the Westland attorney who will retire at the end of year from the board of trustees of Wayne County Community College already has in mind what he plans to do with his spare time.

"I would like to stay in the community college picture," he declared. "I should like to help work out some kind of reasonable arrangement between Henry Ford, Schoolcraft and Wayne County community colleges so that we don't fight over students quite so much."

"It would be a good idea if we didn't waste a lot of money building duplicate facilities not needed. We could all do a better job if we try to work this thing out."

"I THINK the feeling is that Schoolcraft and Henry Ford want access to the white area and give Wayne the black area."

"I think our county cannot survive that kind of segregation approach," Ryan said. "A bone of contention between has been placement of the facilities of one institution too close to the

district informally assigned to another."

He pointed out WCCC had recently approved a plan to lease with an option to buy Rosary School on Greenfield and Joy, close to Henry Ford Community College.

"IF IT IS WRONG for us to get a place so near Dearborn, then it is just as wrong for Schoolcraft to acquire a facility in Garden City, so close to us, and then be encouraged in this by receiving state money."

"This place is 3 miles north of our line," he continued. "Then they got \$100,000 of state money to expand it."

"I think there ought to be a vehicle for a person like me to try to create better overall coordination and understanding between these institutions."

"I don't think the answer is for WCCC to take over Schoolcraft or Henry Ford, but we should do a better job of working together so as to not duplicate our efforts."

He added that he did not have an instant answer to the problem of different rates of taxation in the different areas, but believed these problems could be worked out.

"I am not in favor of merger, it would make too many people mad. I would aim for local control coupled with overall coordination to avoid unreasonable duplication and the fierce competition over students."

A START HAS already been made, he indicated. The Southeastern Michigan League of Community Colleges has been trying to identify programs at the different colleges in the area to reduce duplication.

Ryan is a member of the board of trustees as a representative of District Seven (Western Wayne County) having joined in June 1968 when the college was organized.

He had been a member of the study committee looking into the establishment of a Wayne County college.

"Last year the college had about 13,000 students, about half of them part-time," Ryan explained. "The me-

dian age of our students was 18 or 20."

The college has served the students by scheduling classes in high schools and other institutions scattered through the area.

"Until recently we have not owned any building where we gave instructional service. However, we are now renovating a Detroit building purchased with funds from the Kresge Foundation."

"The Rosary school we recently leased will give us our first decent instructional center. The property has a convent, 22 acres and a high school in excellent physical condition."

The board and the administration felt they ought to furnish a vocational program, he explained, and the only way they felt they could do it properly was to acquire their own facility. Renting high schools at night would not be feasible.

"WE HAVE HAD tremendous support from the Wayne-Westland School District and Taylor as far as furnishing us with personnel and facilities," he said. "They supported us when we needed it."

Ryan was very interested in pointing out why it is a good idea for a student to attend Wayne County Community College.

"For one thing we're cheaper. Our fee is \$10 a credit hour. The trend is now for students to go to a two-year school when starting college." (Schoolcraft resident tuition is \$11 per credit hour.)

The proximity of Wayne's centers was another advantage in Ryan's opinion. "Our aim is to have a center within 10 minutes of any substantial population area."

"A third advantage is that we have an open door policy in all but the nursing school," he said. "This means we don't ask for an admission test or a high school diploma. This appeals to older people unsure of their skills. We give them a chance to see what they can do. Some have done well and

have gone on to four-year schools."

Ryan feels that WCCC competes favorably with four-year colleges as far as teaching competence is concerned because at the four-year institutions top professors do not teach first and second year students.

"Our faculty is more teaching oriented. We have no 'publish or perish' philosophy. We expect our people to be out there on the firing line — teaching and counseling as opposed to pre-

siding at seminars and working with graduate students."

LOOKING BACK on his contribution to WCCC, Ryan said he "tried to present the Wayne County suburban viewpoint to the college, and in turn carry back information on overall college problems to the suburban areas I represent."

"I also feel I've made some contribution toward the fiscal integrity of the college and helped to get our financial house in order."

Meatless cooking classes planned

The Plymouth Seventh-Day Adventist Church is offering area residents a chance to beat the high cost of meat and at the same time reduce the saturated fats in their diets.

Classes in vegetarian cooking will be offered in the activity room of the church at 4295 Napier starting Sept. 16.

Many Seventh-Day Adventists are practicing vegetarians and the church members plan to share their expertise in this kind of cooking with others.

Information in the classes will explain how to add variety to the family menu by replacing some meat dishes with low cholesterol vegetarian en-

tering by learning attractive ways to serve vegetables and salads. The cooking school is divided into four sessions meeting Sept. 16, 18, 23 and 25 at 7:15 each evening. No tuition will be charged.

Topics for discussion will include "What is a Balanced Diet?" "Meal Planning" and "Better Breakfasts." "Low Sugar Desserts" and "Adequate Proteins from Vegetable Sources" will also be included.

Information about registering for the program may be obtained by contacting Mrs. Arthur Weaver, 49285 Ridge, Northville.

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