

Felician Sisters Praised St. Mary Grows Again

By W. W. EDGAR

The Felician Sisters took another giant stride in their long range program of dedicated service to the public Sunday afternoon when ground was broken for the \$8.6 million addition to St. Mary Hospital in Livonia.

The five-story addition will provide for 170 additional beds and bring the total capacity of the hospital to 382 beds when completed in the spring of 1973.

The new facility also will provide several special areas including a wing for the care of mental patients and another for intensive care, while the capacity of the surgical rooms will be more than doubled.

"WE WILL BE ABLE to

provide the kind of service we always had hoped for," Sister Mary Columbine, director of the hospital, explained, "and it will be a great day for us when the facility is opened."

The honor of turning the first sod for the addition, which will be built on the Levan Road side of the present building, went to Mother Mary Angelica, president of the board of trustees of the hospital.

And as the bright sun shone down on the silver shovel with which she lifted the sod, she confided that while the sisters had made great progress since they settled in Livonia more than 50 years ago, it was the hospital that was the greatest service to the community at large.

Following her with the silver shovel were Sister Columbine;

Sister Mary Calasantia, administrator of the hospital; and all members of the board of trustees, along with Livonia Mayor Ed McNamara.

THE MAYOR paid high tribute to the Felicians for the long-range planning in Livonia and pointed to the inception of Madonna College in 1947, Ladywood High School a few years later, the hospital in the late '50s and now the huge addition that will make it one of the largest medical institutions in the state.

"In their building, the sisters are bringing about constant change, and you won't know the hospital that was the greatest service to the community at large."

The addition, which is to match the present facility that was opened in 1959, will be built

on the ground between the hospital and Levan Road. This will cause a shift in the other facets. The entrance will be from Five Mile Road, which will be improved and widened by that time. The parking lot will be behind the new, enlarged emergency entrance.

With the increase in facilities there will be an enlarged medical staff, jumping from the present 70 to approximately 120 along with an increase of about 300 employees which will bring the total to approximately 900.

The newly enlarged emergency wing will fill a long-felt need as the hospital currently is running at 100 per cent capacity and hard pressed to meet the demand. With the enlarged space, more and better service can be provided.

John M. Stuey, M.D., chief of

the medical staff, was chairman of the ground breaking program and introduced the guests, among them retired Msgr. Edward Hickey, Rev. Thomas Cain, vicar of the northwest vicariate; Rev. Eugene Kijek, chaplain of the Mother House; Rev. Robert Pomponi, hospital chaplain; District Judge James Meis and the delegation of contractors from St. Paul who plan to start work immediately.

"The contract calls for 800 working days, "Sister Columbine said, "but with the delays that usually happen along the way, we don't expect the new building to be finished until the summer of 1973. "And we can hardly wait," she added. "It will be another great day when its doors are opened."

Regional Affairs



DETERMINED WOMEN — Breaking ground Sunday for St. Mary Hospital's new \$8.6 million addition were Mother Mary Angelica, president of the Board of Trustees ...



... Sister Mary Columbine, hospital executive director ...



... and Sister Mary Calasantia, hospital administrator. (Observer photos by Vince Witke)

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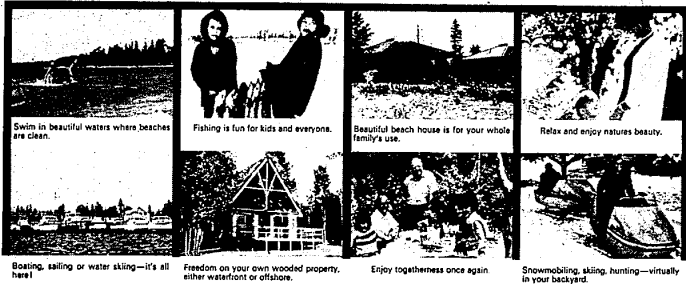
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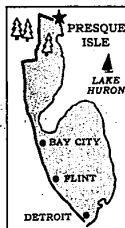
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SC Enrollment Up Despite Strike

Despite a four-week delay in getting started this fall, Schoercraft College enrollment went up three per cent, according to Norman E. Dunn, registrar.

The college has registered a record 5,296 students, keeping intact a history of student growth each year since it opened in 1964.

Fall semester students that first year totaled 2,018. They increased to 2,594 in 1965; 3,188 in 1966; 3,906 in 1967; 4,680 in 1968 and 5,149 a year ago.

DUNN DESCRIBES this fall's student body as "typical" in comparison to earlier years. Resident students outnumber non-residents 2-1. There are 2,144 resident male students and 1,404 resident females. Overall, males outnumber females 3,339 to 1,927.

student, but 11 who are from foreign countries. The total number of credit hours students are taking this fall is also a record, 51,722, up some 2,402 hours over last fall's 49,321.

Day students outnumber evening students 2,628 to 1,794, while 874 others are on a combined schedule. Slightly over 40 per cent of Schoercraft students are enrolled in vocational-technical programs.

Approximately 75 per cent of the student body are freshmen, the designation for any student who has earned less than 26 total credit hours.

OF STUDENTS in the transfer program, the largest group is taking general liberal arts. Business administration, elementary education, and secondary education, in that order, rank next in popularity.

The four most popular career curriculum programs, in order of numbers of both full and part-time students enrolled this fall, are general business, law enforcement, data processing and electronics.

Among full-time students, culinary arts, general secretarial, and automotive services programs are also popular.

The apprenticeship program has attracted 327 students, all on part-time programs. The total represents a significant decline from last year when 426 were enrolled.

Some of the contributing factors have been a downward trend among employers in adding new people to training programs, the delay in opening of the college, and the strike against General Motors, called a week before school opened.