

Abortion protesters arrested at clinic

By Jackie Klein
staff writer

Five pro-choice protesters were arrested in a Good Friday demonstration at an abortion clinic in Oak Park, bordering Southfield.

The protest at Womencare of Northland on Greenfield near Eight Mile was part of the nationwide "Rescue Babies" movement.

Southfield police expected a similar demonstration at Northland Family Planning Clinic on the northwest corner of Greenfield and Eight Mile, according to Gary Conat, police spokesman. But there was no activity in Southfield, he said.

Abortion protesters earlier marched outside a Farmington Hills location before moving on.

WHILE PRO-LIFE advocates blocked the door of the Greenfield Road clinic, members of the Committee to Defend Abortion Rights became more volatile, according to police.

"Two women are waiting to get inside," said Elizabeth Davis of Oak Park, a member of the abortion rights committee, as others sang "Beat back anti-women attack."

"They're illegally blocking the door," Davis said. "That's a violation of basic human rights."

In the meantime, "Rescue Babies" members sang hymns, asking Jesus to give strength to those who blocked the door.

Lynn Mills of Livonia said, "We'll stay in front of the door as long as there's the threat of killing babies."

EARLIER ABOUT 100 protesters marched peacefully in a circle in front of the doorway at the Women Center, 23700 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington Hills from 8-8:30 a.m. Friday, police said.

The protesters filled the parking lot with their cars after being ushered in by orange-vested cohorts. "They seemed well organized. It seemed to be well planned," said Farmington Hills police Inspector Ernest Miller.

Then "all of a sudden they all scurried away after they were handed a piece of paper that apparently had directions to another clinic," Miller said.

"We weren't open yet so we didn't have a chance to see them," a Women Center spokeswoman said later Friday. "We didn't experience it at all."



STEPHEN CANTRELL/staff photographer

A pro-life member of "Rescue Babies" kneels in prayer during a Good Friday demonstration at Womencare of Northland as members of the Committee to Defend Abortion Rights stage an angry protest.

Seniors get discounts

Farmington-area seniors at least 60 years of age can take advantage of discounts offered by merchants around the nation.

Pictures to be laminated into plastic identification cards will be taken from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday, April 21, at the Farmington Hills Senior Center at Mercy Center, 28600 11 Mile.

Discounts are offered on a variety of items, from auto parts and rustproofing to hair care and prescription drugs.

The Oakland Livingston Human Service Agency sponsors the senior citizen discount program.

Friends remember doctor for his love of community

By Casey Hens
staff writer

Remembered for his love of nature and his community, longtime Farmington-area resident and renowed physician Robert Douglass died March 25 of complications from a stroke.

Douglass was a resident of Farmington Hills for 25 years and most recently lived in Southfield. He was founder of the Farmington Area Naturalists, first president of the Farmington Community Center board of directors, and was the first recipient of a Citizen of the Year award from the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce in 1972.

Friends and associates remember the 63-year-old as a kind, gentle and good-humored man.

"He enriched so many people's lives," said local historian and community activist Jean Fox. "This is such a loss to this community. Bob Douglass was one of those people who helped build Farmington and the Farmington area."

"He was very unobtrusive, very

soft-spoken."
Douglass was affiliated with Providence Hospital in Southfield for the past 32 years, and had a private medical practice in Farmington Hills specializing in internal medicine and endocrinology — the study of thyroids. He retired from his practice last December. He had also served as chairman of the department of medicine and president of the medical staff during his tenure at Providence.

IN ADDITION to his practice, he spent the past 32 years teaching at Wayne State University.

"He was a very careful, concerned physician and a very gentle man," said Dr. Joseph Hoidal, medical director at Providence. "We was a wonderful fellow . . . in all respects, both as a physician and as a person."

His love of nature led him into a second career as a nature writer. He penned the "Celestial Naturalist" column for the Michigan Audubon News for the past 3 1/2 years. He also served on the board of the Michigan Nature Association. Douglass often linked his profes-

sion with other interests. He coordinated an annual trip for a group of Providence employees who visited Point Pelee in Canada to birdwatch; at dawn. Also, he was researching disturbed thyroids in Great Lakes water birds contaminated by toxins.

Bob and Eleanor Douglass raised their five children in a historic home on 12 Mile Road for many years before moving to Southfield. As an active naturalist, Douglass was pleased to see the development of Heritage Park in Farmington Hills, Fox said.

A funeral Mass was held March 28 at Duns Scotus in Southfield with a private burial following at Ohio Calvary Cemetery in Toledo. Douglass spent his childhood years in the Toledo area.

He is survived by his wife Eleanor Seiter Douglass; daughters Lisa Torres, Doris Livy and Amy Douglass; sons Robert E. Douglass and Robert Douglass; four grandchildren, and an aunt, Alice Chase. The family has requested that donations be made to the Michigan Audubon Society, 409 West E. Ave., Kalamazoo, Mich. 49007.

Students, employers praise Michigan Collegiate Job Fair

The third Michigan Collegiate Job Fair drew good reviews from 1,500 students and 100 employers who participated in the one-day event.

The Job Fair, co-sponsored by Wayne State and Eastern Michigan universities, was held March 17 at Oakland Community College-Orchard Ridge Campus in Farmington Hills.

Graduates traveled from 50 four-year colleges and universities across the state to interview with companies such as General Motors, Sherwin-Williams, Crowleys and Rouge Steel.

John Cruseo, director of placement at Wayne State University, said, "The Job Fair is an enterpris-

ing two-way street for both students and employers — a lot of contacts are made in one day."

Jim Vick, placement director at Eastern Michigan University who co-sponsored the fair with Cruseo, said,

"With the response we have had in the past and at this fair, we know it is an important vehicle for pairing students with employers."

Here's what a sampling of participating employers had to say:

• Office of the Auditor General, Lansing: "We were impressed by the number of schools represented and the backgrounds of the students."

• Northwest Mutual, Flint: "Loved the wide variety of the stu-

dent population. Students were well dressed, focused on the task with resumes prepared — we saw great potential."

Students were equally pleased: • A management student from EMU had the opportunity to learn more about the company and training programs offered.

• An engineering student from U.M., "I liked the open, friendly atmosphere"

• A mechanical engineer from WSU thought "The fair offered me an opportunity to experiment with interviewing skills."

A Fall Job Fair is planned for November.

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Calendar of Events

FASHION SHOW

Featuring Spring and Bridal fashions for the entire family.
Friday, March 31; 7 pm
Saturday, April 1; 2 & 4 pm
Near the Information Booth

CAR SHOW

Area auto dealers will showcase their new 1989 cars.
Thursday, April 6, through Monday, April 10.
Car Show: Mall Hours
Modeling: Weekdays 6-8 pm Saturday & Sunday 2-4 pm

HEALTH-O-RAMA

Anyone 18 years or older may take advantage of FREE health screening tests and health education materials on varied topics.
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