Nat'l expert on alcoholism comes to town

A leading authority on the problems of children of alcoholics, Claudia Black, will give a two-part program at Groves High School in Beverly Hills this weekend.

Her appearance at Groves High School, northwest corner of 13 Mile Road and Evergreen, is sponsored by Oakland Community College, Maplegrove Community Education and the Michigan Association for Children of Alcoholism and other Addictions.

Black, MSW, PhD, is executive director of the Claudia Black Treatment Program, an inpatient program for codependency issues located at College Hospital, Cerritos, Cal.

In the 7:30 p.m. Friday "Evening with Claudia: The Process of Recovery" she explores the core issues confronting the children of alcoholics and the four stages of recovery.

Tickets to this event are available at the door only, starting at 6:30 p.m. Admission is $10.

The all-day workshop Saturday is titled "A Day About Recovery for Adult Children of Alcoholics and other Troubled Families."

In the morning session, she speaks about the concepts presented in her most recent book, Double Duty,

Claudia Black

which explores the experience of growing up in an alcoholic family.

Other program segments cover "Shame and the Inner Child," - how dysfunctional families teach the lessons of shame, the use of writing exercises to advance the healing process, "Guidelines to Recovery" and an open-ended discussion session.

Saturday's workshop runs from 8:45 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration begins in the Groves Auditorium at 8 a.m.

Registration at the door is $65. Participants are on their own for lunch.

For further information, call the OCC Community Awareness Institute, 340-6579.

Board deadlocks on Headlee petition

Michigan voters will have to let the court decide whether they can vote on the Headlee 20 percent property tax cut initiative.

The state Board of Canvassers deadlocked 2-2 Wednesday on whether to accept the staff report that the petition drive was 7,000 signatures short.

Members are Republicans Jim Alexander, a Birmingham attorney and Oakland GOP chair, and Gail Torreano, a Senate staff member; and Democrats Mike Pyne, a UAW official from Lansing, and Bernice Shields of Detroit.

The two Democrats Pyne and Shields voted to accept the staff report and the two Republicans Alexander and Torreano voted against accepting.

"The Democrats have disenfranchised thousands of voters. We'll be in the Court of Appeals within two weeks," said Richard Headlee, chairman of Taxpayers United and a Farmington Hills resident.

He complained that Secretary of State Richard Austin's staff allowed the Michigan Education Association to prove people aren't voters.

"They won't let us prove people are voters," Headlee said.

He said the election staff would not allow TU to submit affidavits from city and township clerks verifying that signers were indeed registered voters. "Taxpayers United took six months last year to collect 224,000 petition signatures for the Headlee tax cut initiative. But it took the Secretary of State and the four-member Board of State Canvassers eight months to certify them. The process usually takes two months," publicist Bill McMaster said.

TU needed 191,726 signatures. The Secretary of State staff used a sampling method to determine that only 184,390 were valid.

Earlier Wednesday, the state Senate did not vote on this resolution urging the canvassers to place Headlee II on the ballot.

Gov. John Engler last week issued a statement urging the canvassers to "move swiftly" in certifying the proposal.

IF APPROVED by voters, the Headlee initiative would create a new state law that will:

- Cut property assessments for all taxes a total of 20 percent — 10 percent retroactive to Dec. 31, 1990 and 10 percent more on Dec. 31, 1991.
- Force the Legislature to make up lost revenue to all local units from the state general fund at an estimated second year cost of $1.5 billion.
- Allow any taxpayer to sue in circuit court to enforce the statute.

Marty Bell

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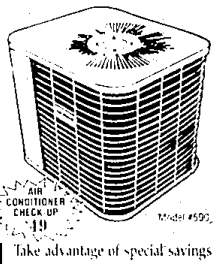

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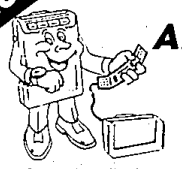

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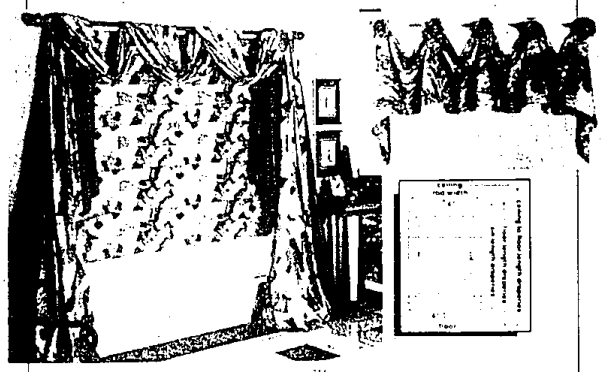

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