

Set-up time needed for parenting awareness programs

During a presidential election campaign emphasizing family values, Birmingham/Bloomfield Families in Action, a parenting education organization, is challenging Michigan parents to join together through parenting education organizations to help raise emotionally healthy, drug-free children.

As part of this effort BBFA has obtained legislative proclamations declaring March 1993 to be Michigan's first Parenting Awareness Month.

ness Month.

So why is the challenge being offered now?

"If parents get together and begin working together now, next March parenting organizations throughout the state could be holding parenting education events," said BBFA president Susan Rogers.

"Imagine what would happen to this state if parents joined together to be informed parents raising children who become

healthy drug-free responsible adults."

Mary Ryckman, BBFA's vice president of education, is hopeful that their call to action will make more parents aware of the tremendous parenting resources available.

"The parents of this state need to know that they have outstanding resources available to help them raise emotionally healthy, drug-free kids. The parenting organizations that exist are willing

to help create parenting organizations in communities that do not have them."

On the western side of the state, the Forest Hills Parent Network has helped establish a number of other parenting groups in other communities, she reported. There is also a coalition of

groups, Prevention Network in Lansing, which has resources and minigrants available.

"The key is letting parents know of the existence and importance of these resources."

Parents who want assistance increasing or operating parenting education programs can contact

BBFA at 644-2245 or Prevention Network at 1-800-344-3400.

Some, such as Stewart Mandell, a BBFA director who initiated Parenting Awareness month's creation, see irony in the timing of the proclamations establishing next March as Parenting Awareness Month.

Low-key from page 5A

then from Oakland University four years later with a double major in psychology and sociology. He has a master's degree in correctional science from the University of Detroit and has been on the Rochester City Council since 1973. Currently, Werth is a Macomb County juvenile court referee, but would quit that job if elected treasurer.

Dohany lives in Novi now but once inhabited Southfield where he served on the city council and the Oakland County Board of Supervisors for 10 years.

But you probably want to know just what in tarnation a county treasurer does that's so important.

Well, the treasurer's primary function is to collect taxes. This is a big job in a county that's assessed at more than \$50 billion and where the real and personal property taxes are \$1.5 billion.

In an Oct. 5 interview, Dohany was most anxious to talk about the collection of delinquent per-

sonal-property taxes. (That's a tax on business equipment like cash registers, typewriters, forklifts, et cetera.)

In Oakland County, the treasurer's office collects delinquent personal property taxes for all 63 cities and townships, a system that Dohany pioneered in Michigan. Personal-property taxes comprise 9 percent of all property taxes in Oakland County, and delinquent personal-property taxes are about \$8 million a year.

Before counties were allowed to collect delinquent personal-property taxes on behalf of their cities and townships, most of those taxes went uncollected, Dohany said. "Now local units are getting their taxes much quicker than they did. We've seized everything from hotels to theaters to video stores. We've seized everything. That's the way we get the tax."

Automation has likewise made it easier for the county to collect money from its residents. With 18

fewer employees than he had in 1969 when "it was a pencil-pushing operation," Dohany can get the work done faster than ever.

Dohany is also responsible for managing the \$850 million that Oakland County has invested mostly in commercial paper and federal government bonds.

The treasurer is very proud that he's "never lost a penny of revenue in this (investing) department. I'm a very conservative person, let me tell you."

Werth admits that he hasn't studied the treasurer's office since he became a candidate, but he would like to "look at every possibility in order to enhance our revenues." Owners of mobile home parks and big trucks, he added, don't pay their "fair share" of taxes.

The only idea Werth mentioned on running the treasurer's office in an interview Monday is to see if the county investments might better prosper if turned over to a private investment service.

Are Drugs Making Family Life Miserable?

Have You Observed...

- ☐ School tardiness, truancy or declining grades
- ☐ Loss of motivation, energy, self-discipline, loss of interest in activities
- ☐ Forgetfulness—short or long-term
- ☐ Short attention span, trouble concentrating
- ☐ Aggressive anger, hostility or irritability
- ☐ Sullen, uncaring attitudes and behavior
- ☐ Disappearance of money or valuables
- ☐ Changes in friends, elusive about new friends

- ☐ Unhealthy appearance and bloodshot eyes
- ☐ Trouble with the law in or out of school
- ☐ Use of violence, room decorations, incense
- ☐ Rock group or drug related graphics and slogans
- ☐ Pipes, small boxes or containers, baggies, rolling papers or other unusual items
- ☐ Peculiar odors or fumes, seeds or leaves in ashtrays, clothing or pockets

Today there are hundreds of drugs available to school aged children. Studies indicate that young people use drugs for two years or more without the knowledge of their parents. STRAIGHT is a non-profit family oriented treatment program for drug using young people and their families. STRAIGHT is the largest and most successful adolescent treatment program in the nation. STRAIGHT meets the highest standards for professional patient care.

STRAIGHT ■ 42320 Ann Arbor Rd. • Plymouth, MI 48170 • (313) 453-2610

Where can you find a pediatrician at 8 p.m. on a holiday weekend?



Introducing Children's Hospital of Michigan Evening & Weekend Pediatric Center.

Now your children can have the special care they need "after hours." During the evening. On weekends. Even holidays.

Staffed by pediatricians affiliated with Children's Hospital of Michigan, the center handles non-emergency conditions when your child's regular physician is not available. After a visit to the center, we'll provide your child's physician with a follow-up report so he or she can continue treatment, if necessary.

Our center is located on The Detroit Medical Center's Laker Campus at 27207 Laker Road, Suite 201, just north of Eleven Mile Rd. in Southfield. Call 827-7949 for more information.

Weekdays: 6 p.m.-11 p.m. Weekends/Holidays: 1 p.m.-9 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

Call 745-5000 and ask for this free card. Carry it with you and you'll always have phone numbers handy for "after hours" child care.

DMC Children's Hospital of Michigan

Evening and Weekend Pediatric Center

50-80% SAVINGS!

Our First Ever Tent Sale

1,000's of Lighting Fixtures

The Savings Are In Tents.

(and in our warehouse)

SAVE 50-80% ON THOUSANDS OF LIGHTING ITEMS

HURRY! Early Birds Get First Choice

FREE POP

FREE HOT DOGS

YOU'LL FIND LIGHTING FOR EVERY ROOM IN YOUR HOUSE.

• dining rooms • breakfast room • kitchens • stairwells • hallways • bathrooms • porches

Saturday, Oct. 17, 9am-5pm
Sunday, Oct. 18, 1pm-5pm

Michigan Chandelier
Where Good Ideas Come to Light
20855 Telegraph Road in Southfield

Enter parking lot from Link Road. Take Southbound Telegraph—turn right just before you reach 8 mile overpass. (Under big green 8 Mile Road highway sign.)

Full payment due at time of purchase—use checks, Visa, MasterCard and Discover. All sales are final. No buybacks, refunds or exchanges.