

Adoption guides at hand

The first in a series of guidebooks to assist communities in supporting adoptive families has been published by the state Department of Mental Health.

The first guidebook, "Let's Celebrate Adoption — A Guide for the Jewish Community," was written by Carolyn Flanders McPherson of East Lansing.

Copies are available through Spaulding for Children, a Southfield-based organization which is a national resource center on adoption.

"We have been working actively for a number of years to support adoption programs," said James K. Haveman Jr., state mental health director.

"We are aware of a large number of children, many with emotional or developmental problems,

who have been adopted by Michigan families," said Haveman. "We also know there are a number of families and single people who are interested in adoption."

The new series of guidebooks on adoption, written particularly for members of different religious or cultural groups, should help to clarify adoption issues and provide helpful tips about how all of us can assist adoptive families," said Haveman.

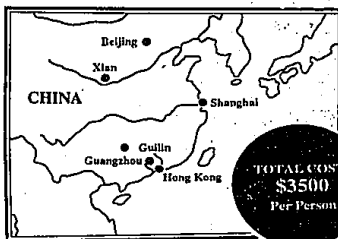
McPherson said the finished work represents the collaboration of more than 30 Jewish leaders in Michigan.

For more information, contact Stephanie Bates of Michigan Department of Mental Health, 517-373-0408; or Susan Arneaud of Post Adoption Services, 517-336-4070.

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A clean sweep



STEPHEN CANTRELL/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Pitching in: Birmingham city commissioner and downtown merchant Bob DeLaura helps keep the alleys behind downtown stores clean Tuesday by taking part in what the Downtown Merchants Association hopes is an annual clean-up program. In addition to this alley behind Pierce, the volunteers also removed litter from alleys behind Woodward north of Maple and the north side of Hamilton Row.

County features music lecture at lunch

The Brown Bag Lunch Series will feature "Through Russia With Music" from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, May 20, in the Computer Services Auditorium at the Oakland County Service Center

in Pontiac. The lecture will be presented by Russian musician Aleksandr Chernykh, who will discuss the background of Russian folk music as it relates to the history, geog-

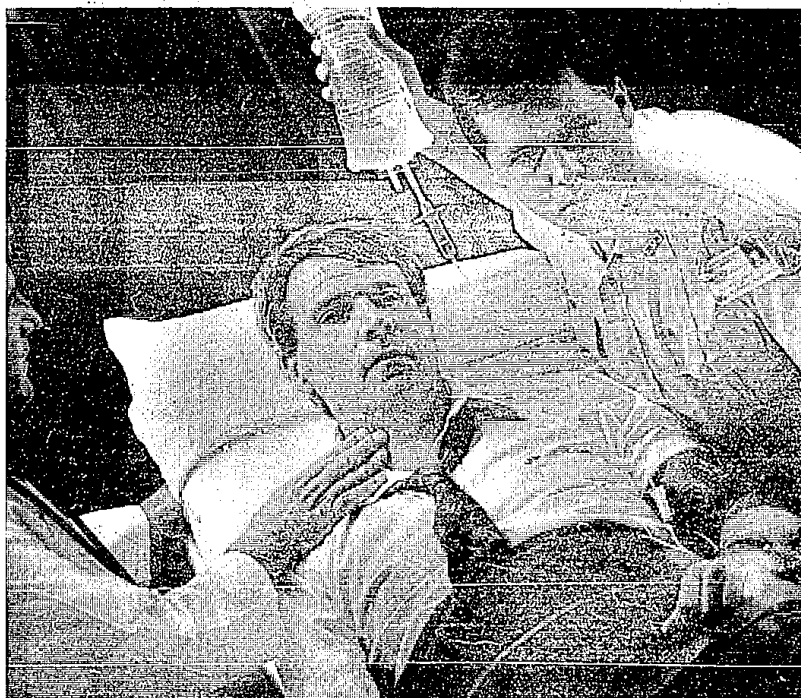
raphy and traditions of Russia. Call 858-1048 for information.

This is an opportunity for the Brown Bag Lunch participants to experience firsthand what Russia is like from an artistic and cultural

standpoint," said Steve Weikal, director of cultural affairs.

A recent immigrant from Russia, Chernykh has 20 years of experience in conducting.

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