

OCC conference focus is on dysfunctional family needs

Rokelle Lerner, an internationally-recognized expert on addicted family systems, will be featured in the April conference presented by Oakland Community College's Community Awareness Institute. The two-day lecture/workshop meets in the Lila Jones Johnson auditorium on OCC's Royal Oak campus, Friday, April 29, and Saturday, April 30.

Activities begin at 7:30 p.m. Friday with a lecture, "Addiction to Potential: The 'If Only' Syndrome." Lerner will suggest that adult children from dysfunctional families develop lifestyles that lead them to seek satisfactions in fantasy, rather than reality. Such "addiction to potential," stems from early childhood interaction patterns.

Admission to the Friday evening lecture is \$10. Tickets will be available only at the door, starting at 1 p.m.

On Saturday, April 30, Lerner

will conduct a workshop from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. entitled "From Victimization to Empowerment: Healing Relationships for Survivors." This workshop explores "how our unconscious need to heal ourselves propels us to relive our past," says conference coordinator Marilyn Owens. "Participants will gain understanding of the importance of removing themselves from the stance of victim — and of moving into a position of empowerment by becoming more intentional in the way they conduct their lives."

Both events are recommended for helping professionals, students and interested members of the general public. Certified Addiction Counselor credits are available for each day of the conference with payment of a \$2 processing fee on site.

Advanced registration for the Saturday workshop is \$30 for stu-

dents presenting current ID, and \$60 for members of the general public (add \$10 after April 25, or at the door).

The Royal Oak campus is located on the north side of Lincoln Avenue (10 1/2 Mile) between Washington and Main streets. Free parking is available on campus surface lots, or in the campus parking structure at the southeast corner of Washington and Lincoln.

For further information and a program brochure, contact conference coordinator Marilyn Owens at 810-340-6772.

Psychotherapist Lerner, consultant and lecturer on addicted family systems, is currently a clinical advisor to Sierra Tucson in Tucson, AZ, and the Marworth Treatment Center of Waverly, PA.

Over the past 15 years she has pioneered development of services for children and adults from chemically dependent families. Her program development and training efforts focus specifically on chemically-dependent women and treatment concerns for adolescent girls. Lerner's work on behalf of children of alcoholics has engendered innovative programs in schools, mental health centers, hospitals and treatment facilities throughout North America, Europe and South Africa.

Her books in the Affirmations for the Inner Child, Boundaries and Co-Dependency, and Affirmations for Adult Children of Alcoholics.

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DISTINCTIVE PERSONAL BANKING

Financial planning is topic

Careers in personal financial planning will be the topic of a public seminar Wednesday, April 20, conducted at Royal Oak Shrine High School by Oakland University's Division of Continuing Education.

The OU Personal Financial Planning Certificate Program will be discussed, in addition to what to expect from a career in financial planning, at 7:30 p.m. Speak-

er will be Isabel Smith, of IFS Financial Strategies Ltd., Birmingham.

There is no charge for the seminar. To reserve a place, and for program information, call the Continuing Education office, (810) 370-3120, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. weekdays.

The Personal Financial Planning Program starts the week of May 2 on campus.

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