

Diversity conference set for OCC March 18-20

"Many Faces, One Future" is the topic of a Diversity Conference slated for March 18-20 at Oakland Community College, Orchard Ridge campus in Farmington Hills.

"Many Faces, One Future" is an opportunity for teachers, business and community leaders, parents and students to meet and discuss current diversity issues.

The three-day conference is presented by Farmington Public Schools, Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council, Oakland Community College and Oakland Schools.

Those interested must register by Friday, March 5.

Dr. James Banks, a renowned expert on diversity and multicultural education, will be the keynote speaker. He is a professor of education and director of the Center for Multicultural Education at the University of Washington-Seattle. He has

written or edited 18 books on multicultural education and social studies education and is the immediate past president of the American Educational Research Association.

Banks' keynote address Friday morning will focus on how schools can educate students to effectively participate in a society that reflects ethnic and cultural diversity, yet promote national unity and the shared public good. Banks' presentation is sponsored by the Japanese Business Society of Detroit Foundation and the Japanese Business Society of Detroit education committee.

The conference will open with a banquet Thursday, March 18, at the William Costick Activities Center. Banks will speak Friday morning on the OCC campus. Concurrent sessions will include topics ranging from religion in the schools and recruiting a diverse workforce to bringing up bicultural children and diversity

on the Internet.

Conference fees are \$35 for the banquet and \$50 for students and seniors for the conference. That fee includes all sessions on Friday and Saturday, conference materials, continental breakfast on Friday and Saturday and lunch on Friday. Free child care will also be provided.

Major conference sponsors include the Botsford Health Care Continuum, Detroit Medical Center, Farmington Community Library, General Motors Acceptance Corporation, Japanese Business Society of Detroit foundation and education committee, and the Reliance Group of Michigan.

The two-day conference will also feature exhibits where publishers and community organizations will showcase diversity-related items. Conference attendees will have the opportunity to purchase a signed copy of Banks' book "Educating Citizens in a Multicultural Society."

Restaurant fire



Kitchen flames: When a restaurant employee saw smoke coming from another eatery, he knew it was more than cooking. He phoned the fire department. At 8:30 a.m. Saturday, Hills firefighters put out a blaze that started in the kitchen area of Kabuki restaurant on Orchard Lake Road. "It was confined to the cooking area. It was basically starved for oxygen because the building had been closed," said Hills fire Inspector Stephen Hume. Firefighters had to force their way into the locked building. Damage is estimated at \$50,000.

Court from page A1

each year.

The Rochester-based planners will work with Spillie Candela & Partners to do a needs assessment. Spillie Candela is nationally recognized for courthouse and criminal justice building design.

Cost for the two-month study is estimated at \$36,195, which will come out of the district court budget.

"Courts are really unique buildings," Walsh said. "Members of the committee and subcommittee came in thinking the most important thing we had to look for in a consultant is significant court design experience."

Spillie Candela, which has an Auburn Hills office, has done studies for Michigan Supreme Court and Isabella County. French Associates overseen municipal studies and projects throughout the state, including district courts in Royal Oak, Shelby Township and Marine City.

During the next two months, associates from both firms will do a six-phase study. Included is an facility evaluation, needs assessment, strategic planning, conceptual design and cost estimate, architectural space program and architectural design service.

In May, court officials will report the findings.

At Monday's joint meeting, city council members peppered Walsh with questions about potential costs and sites. The court administrator refused to speculate.

"The next two months are critical," Walsh said. "That's why we're bringing a professional on board to guide us through the needs assessment."

Meanwhile, city officials are content to wait and see. Said Farmington Councilwoman JoAnne McShane: "We're just going to have to see the needs assessment."

Many Faces, One Future • Registration Form

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: MARCH 5, 1999

How to register

MAIL: Send this form with a check to: Many Faces, One Future, 32500 Shilwaukee Street, Farmington, MI 48330

FAX: Fax this form to (248) 489-3324. A spot will be reserved for you. Kindly send a check to the address above with six business days.

INTERNET: Register online at www.farmington.k12.mi.us. A spot will be reserved for you. Kindly send a check to the address above within six business days.

Name _____
Home phone _____ Business phone _____
Fax _____ E-mail _____
Business/Organization (if applicable) _____ Title _____
Street address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Name as it should appear on name tag _____

— Banquet registration (\$35)

Conference registration:

— Adult (\$50)

— Student/Senior (\$25)

— Total due (make checks payable to Farmington Public Schools)

■ Space is limited, please register early. There will be no on-site registration. Banquet seating is limited to the first 300 respondents.

■ Registration confirmation will not be sent.

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Special needs _____

■ Child care is available for toilet-trained children up to 10 years of age. Please bring a lunch for your child.

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