

Colorful Ceremonies to Highlight College Dedication

Residents of the Schoolcraft College district, which includes Livonia, Plymouth, Garden City, Claresville and Northville will receive their first taste of college tradition Sunday when the administrative, Board of Trustees and faculty participate in the colorful, formal dedicatory ceremonies slated to start at 3 p.m.

It will be a history making occasion, marking the culmination of more than seven years of work, effort and achievement by the Northwest Wayne County Community College district in establishing its first college campus.

Every citizen in the college community is invited to attend the ceremonies which will open with the solemn procession of faculty in full regalia. The colorful academic hood each faculty member wears will signify his or her degree and the university from which they were graduated.

The ceremonies will be held in the spacious and beautiful open court in front of the administration building on the campus at W. Seven Mile and Haggerty Roads in Livonia.

The audience will take an active role in the formal rituals to emphasize the close and necessary relationship between the college and the community.

Kenneth L. Hulsing, of Plymouth, who worked for the establishment of the College, will represent citizens of the district and present the college key to Harold Fischer, chairman of the Board of Trustees. Fischer in turn will present the key to Dr. Eric Bradner, President of the College.

As a tribute to the foresight and cooperation of all citizens, an original composition "Fanfare and Dedication," will be performed for the first time by Schoolcraft College music students and guest musicians.

Vernon Knight, of Plymouth, was commissioned to compose the dedicatory anthem especially for the occasion as a fitting symbol to honor the citizens of the college district.

A college hymn, composed by

Ralph Kelley and Wayne Dunlap, members of the faculty, will be sung by the college choir.

Dr. Ferris Crawford, Assistant State Superintendent for

General Education Services in Michigan, will deliver the principal address. The Birth and Growth of a Community College.

Among those in attendance

will be representatives of the State Government, officials from the Livingston County Board of Education, and faculty from the various school districts.

The college campus parking facilities have space for more than 2,000 cars. Main entrances to the parking lot are located on both Haggerty and Seven Mile Roads.

Following the ceremonies, the public is invited to make a tour of the building, grounds and classrooms. A special dedicatory booklet to commemorate the first year of operation will

be distributed as a gift memento to each person present.

The booklet carries the complete history of the college, the significance of its names and pictures of the Board of Trustees, administration, faculty and the curricula and educational programs offered.

In case of inclement weather, the ceremonies will be held in the Library.

Observer Second Front Page

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THE NEW MATH Modern Math A Puzzler?

(Editor's note: "Modern Math" is a term heard more frequently in suburban classrooms. Most school districts in this area today employ at least part of the new mathematics in some parts of their curriculum.)

(To give OBSERVER readers a first-hand report of the exciting changes taking place in math classrooms, Charles Zort and William Kumbler, mathematics consultants for the Livonia Public Schools, have prepared a three-part series of articles. The first appears below.)

WHAT IS IT?
Just what is modern mathematics? It seems that what my son is doing in mathematics is very much like what I did. He is still adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing, but there are all of these ridiculous restrictions as to how he can or may not do it and these strange number bases. It appears that the object is to confuse him and his parent.

Unwieldy parents everywhere have been questioning the new mathematics. But give these parents a little background in it and they will become the most ardent supporters of this movement to improve the teaching of mathematics.

Actually today's students are doing most of the mathematics that their parents did and more. But it will be arranged so that students will come from their exercises with an understanding that will carry into future applications.

There are fewer separate situations with a new bag of tricks for solving each of them.

Read indicated that openings remain in classes in accounting, art, business, including data processing, salesmanship, shorthand, typing and law, drafting and design technology.

Students, who have not previously enrolled, may register for these classes even though they have not yet completed application for admission. The application can be completed at the first class session.

Students, who have completed counseling tests at the college, may enroll in all classes for which they qualify including English, History, mathematics and all other academic courses.

Students are requested to come prepared to complete all details of registration the first night of class, and should report directly to the room in which the class is to be held.

The first summer session ends June 26 with the second opening June 28 for eight weeks.

Read anticipates as many as 600 will attend the summer sessions.

Eagles Slate Area Meeting

Members of the Fraternal Order of Eagles from throughout Southeastern Michigan are planning to gather in Redford Township April 24 and 25 for a two-day Conference.

Twenty-six areas will join in the program, which will start with a business meeting Saturday night, and continue with social meeting, a drill team parade and other activities Sunday.

Jack McDonald, Redford Township Supervisor, will greet the delegates.

Local Eagles lodge is located at 2440 Five Mile and meetings are set for there and for the Lola Valley Masonic Temple.

2 Area Postmasters At Chicago Conference

Acting Postmasters William Donner of Garden City and James Grater of Plymouth were among 13 from the State of Michigan who recently attended Phase 1 of the Postmasters' Orientation Training at new postmasters in Chicago.

Donner and Grater spent three days in the Windy City at the end of last week receiving first hand information details of their jobs.

The Orientation and Training program for new postmasters is part of Postmaster General John Gronski's course to help all postal employees get a better understanding of their position.

Also attending the program were 13 acting postmasters from "Orientation Training." The class met and discussed operation, personnel, accounting and transportation problems with staff members of the regional office.

The course also included a tour of the vast Chicago Post office, largest mail handling facility in the world.

J. D. Salinger's controversial novel *Catcher in the Rye* will stay on the supplemental reading list for high school advance placement English classes in the Livonia School System.

That's what the Board of Education decided upon following a formal complaint lodged by Thomas A. Daoust of 1711 Fairfield, Livonia, charging that book "constitutes the teaching of a religious position — 'Atheism' — and that it 'degrades the sanctity of sex, making it appear sordid and arousing prurient interest.'"

The Board voted to keep the title on the reading list by a vote of six to nothing with one abstention and one member out of the country on business at its meeting last week.

Voting in favor of maintaining the status quo were: Steve Poljanec, Edward Katz, Louie Brashear, William Craft and Strela Schreiber. Joseph A. Milko abstained from voting, and Board President Robert Calan is in Japan on business and was unable to attend the session.

The resolution, which was introduced by Dr. Katz, expresses a vote of confidence in the staff's selection of books and commends the "excellent job" done by the committee. Board Trustee William Craft seconded the resolution.

Milko stated that he was abstaining from the motion because he was interested in seeing how the book was presented in the classroom.

"Drugs when prescribed by a physician can help the human body, but used in the wrong manner drugs can also ruin the body. It's the same with books. I am not taking any stand on this one way or the other," he continued. "Things can be said for or against a subject."

He told the Observer after the meeting he didn't think it proper for the Board to start approving each book. "We approved a policy," Milko asserted, "and once the Board starts to review each individual book it is stepping out of line."

Pat Daoust, who helped her husband form the League for the Protection of Parental Authority, to deal with this matter and the question of psychological testing in the schools, stated after the meeting that petitions would be the next step. She said that the League had 217 names on file of people agreeing with the objection to *Catcher*.

Daoust told the Observer following the organizational meeting of the League that the petitions would probably go to Governor Romney's office.

Parents and students jammed the Board room and overflowed into the hallway to hear a report on the novel from "The Committee on Book Criticism."

In addition to the report they heard:

A restatement of the objections from Daoust;

A statement by Superintendent of Schools Benton Yates; and

Comments on the book from each of the seven members of the Board that were present. They also heard the pros and cons of the book from the audience.

The Committee, which was headed by Viola K. Fitch, coordinator of library services, set three objectives for itself:

To find answers to certain questions relating to Board policy and staff procedures;

To examine the book in question, and the evaluative criticisms of this title as expressed by local staff members and authoritative outside sources; and

To apply the facts, judgments and authoritative opinions available in an assessment of the validity of the complaint received by the Board.

Under the section of the 32-page report entitled Application of the Facts, Judgments and Authoritative Opinions in an Assessment of the Validity of the Complaint Received by the Board, the Committee states:

"Procedures used in the selection of the *Catcher in the Rye* have been in accordance with Board of Education policies and generally approved practices.

FIND YOUR dream home the easy way. You'll find the right one offered to you in the Observer Newspapers Classified Section. GA 2-0900 or GR 6-7025.

Such selections have been based on the collective professional judgments of teachers and librarians. This selection has involved weighing the maturity of the students, as well as the content and potential effect of the book itself.

"The proposition that this book 'constitutes the teaching of a religious position — 'Atheism' — is lacking in any factual basis in the opinion of the Committee.

"The contention that the expression of 200 'goddams' and a

similar number of 'Chrissakes' appear in this novel, and for this reason the book should not be used for teaching in a twelfth grade English class does not deserve serious consideration. The book must be appraised in its entirety and not

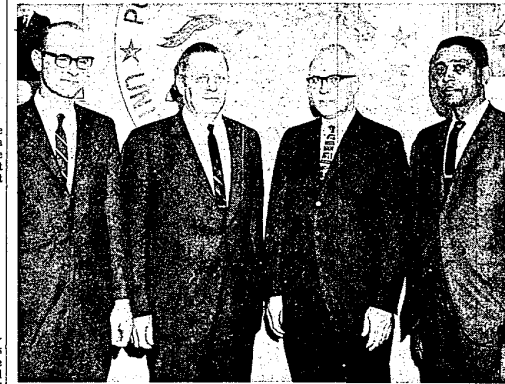
by judging isolated words or passages.

"A total reading of this book makes the reader fully aware of the fact that Holden Caulfield's innermost feelings on sexual matters are highly moral.

"The Committee feels that it is important to have young people read current, realistic literature which has been selected for the education benefits anticipated by teachers and librarians. There is a maximum probability of realizing the values in such literature when its study is guided by professional educators. Attempts to isolate youth from life about them is a forlorn hope and an unacceptable alternative."

Under the "conclusions" the report noted that "of all the alternatives for the selection of books and other learning materials, the best remains that of placing the responsibility in the hands of the most competent teachers and librarians that a community can afford to employ."

"Along with this responsibility," the report continues, "is the expectation that the professional staff will keep parents and administration informed, to the end that parents may participate in making decisions about material which is to be read by their own children, and which may be in conflict with their fundamental philosophies and values."

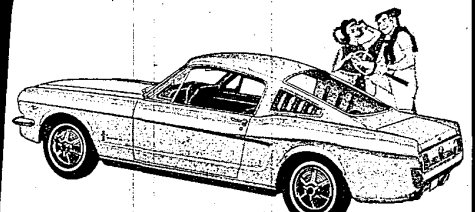


SOUTHEASTERN MICHIGAN acting postmasters are shown discussing problems with Regional Director Donald L. Swanson in Chicago. The group includes: (from left) James Grater of Plymouth; William Donner of Garden City; Swanson and Simon Englin of Ypsilanti.

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