

WAYNE

ALLEN PARK/ DEARBORN

Trivia Night will benefit Dearborn Animal Shelter

Test your brainpower and help the Dearborn Animal Shelter by participating in Trivia Night in Allen Park.

There will be 10 rounds, each with 10 trivia questions. Teams are made up of four people. Teams with fewer than four people will be combined with others. The cost is \$20 per person.

The event will be from 7 to 10 p.m. Nov. 10 at the Allen Park Community Center, 15800 White St.

Check-in begins at 6:30 p.m. Space permitting, there will be last-minute registration at the door.

The community center is two blocks west of the Southfield Freeway between the ACO Hardware store on Southfield and Roosevelt Bowling Lanes on Roosevelt Avenue.

Bring your brain and pencil and paper. No reference material, calculators or hand-held devices will be allowed.

For more information, call Steve or Cindy at 313-382-2979 or go to www.dearborn-animals.com to download a registration form.

DETROIT

Real estate is focus of nonprofit workshop

The Nonprofit Facilities Center, supported by United Way for Southeastern Michigan, has begun its fall workshop series aimed at helping nonprofits plan, manage and finance their facilities projects. The workshops are geared toward executive directors, senior staff and board members of nonprofit organizations.

"Real Estate: Making the Right Decisions" will be from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Nov. 8 at the Boy Scouts of America — Detroit Council office, 1776 W. Warren in Detroit.

The workshop will provide an overview of the local market, the pros and cons of buying versus leasing, up-front and ongoing real estate costs, what's negotiable, and how to deal with brokers, lawyers and architects.

The registration deadline is Nov. 1. The cost is \$75 for executive directors and senior staff and \$50 for board members.

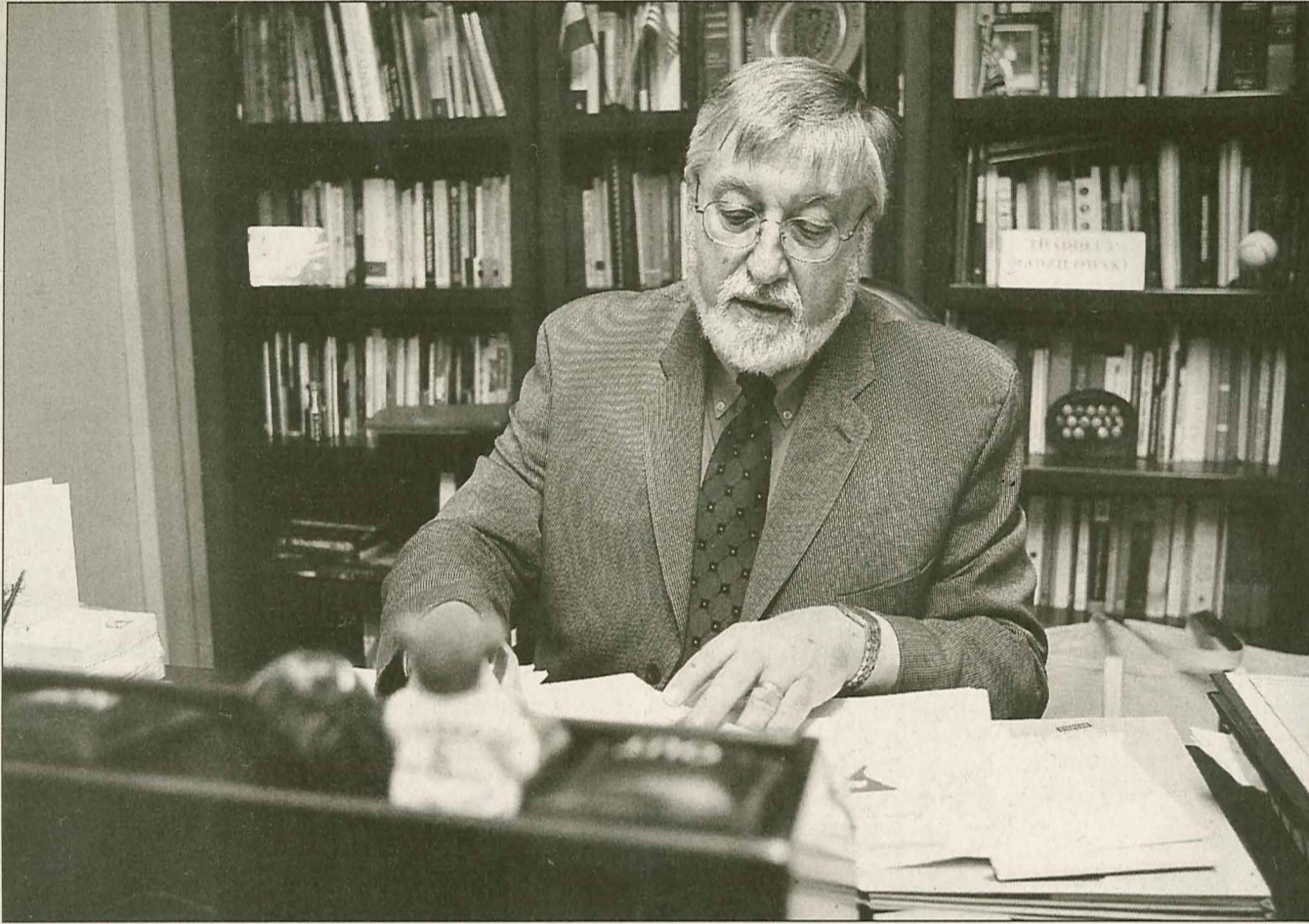
To register for the workshops, download the registration form at www.uwsem.org/nfc or call 313-226-9420.

PLYMOUTH

Learn to plan a stress-free wedding

Future brides and grooms can learn how to have a stress-free wedding at a 90-minute workshop in Plymouth. The workshop, which is being sponsored by the participating vendors, is set up like the game musical chairs, with brides and grooms having 10-minute face-to-face meetings with 10 wedding experts.

The event will be at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Meeting House Grand Ballroom, 499 South Main, in downtown



KATHLEEN GALLIGAN/Detroit Free Press

The Piast Institute in Hamtramck will become a U.S. Census Information Center. Thaddeus Radzilowski, who is president of the Piast Institute, says the information will help the Polish community in the United States: "It gives us a sense of who we are."

Hamtramck center holds data on Polish in the U.S.

By CECIL ANGEL
FREE PRESS STAFF WRITER

A quiz: How many Polish nationals and Polish Americans live in Michigan? Which suburb has more residents of Polish descent, Hamtramck or Dearborn? What is the average age of a person of Polish descent in the United States?

Tracking down information about America's more than 9 million Polish Americans and Polish nationals and how they live will be easier now that the Hamtramck-based Piast Institute has been named a U.S. Census Information Center.

"It tells the community who we are in America," said Thaddeus Radzilowski, president of the Piast Institute. "It gives us a sense of who we are. Where we fit in American society."

The Piast Institute, a think tank and data resource center specializing in Polish and Polish-American issues, will receive data and technical support from the U.S. Census Bureau to help it de-

To access the data

For more information, contact the Piast Institute at 313-664-0321 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday, or write to the institute at 2926 Caniff Ave., Hamtramck 48212.

You can also reach them via the Web at www.piastinstitute.org.

velop statistical information about the Polish-American community.

All kinds of information can be extracted from the census data: If someone wants to know about the voting patterns of Polish-Americans in Los Angeles, the Piast Institute will be able to help. If a business wants to direct mailings mostly toward Polish Americans, the institute can determine where those neighborhoods are all around the country.

Voting patterns, poverty levels of Polish immigrants and other information previously not available can now be found at the Census Information Center.

Compared to other ethnic groups, very little is known

about Polish Americans.

As of the 2005 U.S. Census update, there were 919,007 Polish nationals and Polish Americans in Michigan. The median age for a person of Polish descent in the U.S. is 38.2.

Large concentrations of Polish Americans reside in areas throughout the metro area. In Dearborn, known for its Arab-American community, there are 10,599 residents of Polish descent, versus 5,263 in Hamtramck.

"We see this as Polish Americans fully participating in civic life," Virginia Skrzyziarz, the institute's executive director, said of the potential impact of information from the Census Information Center.

The institute applied for the designation in April and announced it received it earlier this month. The contract it has is renewable to the extent that it is basically open-ended, Radzilowski said.

"We're pretty excited," said Vincent Kountz, a partnership and data specialist with the Detroit Regional Of-

fice of the U.S. Census Bureau. "We're looking forward to working with the institute."

Kountz said the Piast Institute had joined a network of 58 organizations that the census bureau works with to disseminate data to ethnic communities that don't have ready access to census statistics.

It "gives us a great ability to focus in on the population group that they service," Kountz said as to why the bureau established information centers.

The Piast Institute won't receive government money for the Census Information Center, but it will be able to charge businesses for data it compiles for them. It also will be able to help other ethnic groups, not of Polish ancestry, wanting information about their members, Radzilowski said.

"We want people to call us and let us know what their needs are," Skrzyziarz said.

Contact CECIL ANGEL at 313-223-4531 or angel@freepress.com.

11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday and Saturday. Cost is \$10 at the door.

Fund-raiser set for 25th Plymouth ice show

A fund-raiser for the 25th annual Plymouth International Ice Sculpture Spectacular kicks off next month.

A nonprofit board puts on the free event. This year's celebration will be Jan. 19-21 in downtown Plymouth, featuring more than 100 ice carvings. Sponsorship of the festival is through donations and

downtown Plymouth. Another event will be in January. Tickets to the November event are \$35 and include food and drinks. Tickets can be purchased at the restaurant or the Plymouth Community Chamber of Commerce.

For information, call 734-459-6969 anytime.

DEARBORN/DETROIT

Event to bring attention to group's human services

"Solutions at Sunrise," a free event highlighting the

a.m. to 9 a.m. Wednesday at Dearborn Inn, 20301 Oakwood Blvd.

Southwest Solutions is a nonprofit organization that offers programs for children and adults experiencing mental illness, illiteracy and homelessness. The organization hopes to attract prospective supporters, volunteers and donors to the free event.

The event will include a brief presentation by John Van Camp, president and chief executive officer of Southwest Solutions, and testimonials

The event is open to the public. A continental breakfast will be served. To RSVP or to get more information, call Bob O'Brien at Southwest Solutions: 313-843-6371 or go to www.swsol.org

DEARBORN

Check out show to learn about parking system

Dearborn residents interested in learning more about the city's user-paid parking system can watch the newest edition of "The May-

Flu shots for residents available in November

The Dearborn Health department announced Friday that it will offer flu shots in November to Dearborn residents.

The shots will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. Supplies are limited.

The cost is \$10 for Dearborn residents who are ages 62 and above and \$15 for all other Dearborn residents.

To get more information on dates and to get a shot, call the health department at 313-943-2090.

DEARBORN HEIGHTS

Salvation Army band concert set for Nov. 19

The Salvation Army-Dearborn Heights Citadel Band will hold its 86th Annual Thanksgiving Festival of Praise at 6 p.m. Nov. 19 at the Ford Community and Performing Arts Center, 15801 Michigan Ave. in Dearborn.

The band will perform with the General Motor Employees Chorus. Complimentary tickets are available by calling 313-563-4457, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays.

COUNTY-WIDE

425 properties sold at county auction

Buyers purchased 425 properties at Wednesday's public auction of land taken by the Wayne County Treasurer's Office this year because the prior owner failed to pay their 2003 property taxes.

That brings to 1,190 foreclosed properties that have been sold at auction in the last two months, but there are still more than 4,900 remaining.

The Treasurer's Office will hold another auction Monday. Registration begins at 8 a.m. with bidding opening at 9 a.m. The auction takes place on the eighth floor of the International Center Building in downtown Detroit, 400 Monroe.

For more information, call 313-224-5990.

CANTON/REDFORD TOWNSHIP

Redford, Canton police officers promoted

Canton Police Sgt. Scott Hilden has been promoted to lieutenant.

Since he was hired in 1992, he has served as a field training officer, a department instructor, a school resource officer and, most recently, a community relations officer handling data analysis, crime prevention and interactions with the public.

Hilden, who has a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and a master's degree from Eastern Michigan University, also graduated from the Police Staff and Command School at EMU, according to Canton officials.

In Redford Township, four police officers have been promoted: Lt. Mike Szuba who handled road patrol, is now the captain in charge of the operations bureau; road patrol Sgt. Jim Foldi has become a lieutenant and shift commander; and David Holt and John Golinske have advanced to sergeant, taking on responsi-