



e-Council Connection

Arab American and Chaldean Council (ACC)

July 2009

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Greetings!

SAVE THE DATE

**ACC 30th Annual
Civic & Humanitarian Awards Gala**

Saturday, October 17, 2009

2009 Scholarship Recipients Photo by ACC



Photo: Ricardo Thomas/Detroit News



Photo: Ricardo Thomas/Detroit News



Photo: Ricardo Thomas/Detroit News

Detroit Marriott

*7th Annual
Scholarship
Dinner
Featured in
Society
Column*

**Arab American and
Chaldean Council
golf outing helps**

college students

Detroit News
Thursday, July 23, 2009
Chuck Bennett: Society

A couple of hundred people, half of them avid golfers, supported the Arab American and Chaldean Council by attending its seventh annual Golf Outing and Scholarship and Awards Dinner. Held at Shenandoah Country Club in West Bloomfield on July 8, the event attracted a diverse guest list that included high-profile politicians, serious golfers, prominent businessmen, and about a dozen scholarship award-winning students and their families.

Golfers coming in off the course joined dinner guests for a brief cocktail reception with a silent auction. A hearty dinner -- New York strip with mushrooms and onions, baked potato and green beans -- was served during a brief program.

Michigan State University President Lou Anna Simon and Global Linguist Solutions Chairman Gen. Barry McCaffrey were honorary event chairs.

Remarks were given by ACC president and CEO, Haifa Fakhouri; Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano; Gen. McCaffrey; and Chuck Rivers, MSU government affairs assistant, who represented Simon.

Dinner tickets were \$100 with proceeds from the whole event benefiting the ACC Scholarship Awards Program, which presents college opportunities for qualified students who need financial assistance to further their education.

Chuck Bennett is a Metro Detroit freelance writer. You can reach him at chuckbennett@hotmail.com.

Pictures:

Top left: ACC Board Member Awni Fakhouri and Honorary Dinner Chair General Barry McCaffrey, Global Linguist Solutions (GLS) Chairman of the Board. **Top right:** GLS Senior Director of Operations Joe Flores and Michigan State University Governmental Affairs Assistant Charles Rivers. **Bottom left:** ACC Vice President of Community Affairs Nabby Yono, ACC guest Rita Yosif, and community leader Michael George. **Bottom right:** Signature sponsor representatives Zahra Roberts and Marilyn Blatnikoff with ACC Special Projects Director Bob Ghannam.



**Crain's Publisher
Visits ACC 7 Mile
Project**

**MARY KRAMER: Arab-
American oasis presents
hopeful sign**

Crain's Detroit Business
Monday, July 13, 2009

By Mary Kramer

Thirty years ago, Jordanian immigrant Haifa Fakhouri talked some fellow immigrants into giving her \$40,000 to start the Arab American and Chaldean Council.

Today, the nonprofit offers human service, cultural and employment training programs in three counties. But the centerpiece of the council's work is a four-building oasis along a stretch of Seven Mile Road between John R and Woodward Avenue in Detroit.

For years, I'd heard of the council's dream of creating a strip rivaling Mexicantown or the Arab strip of shops and restaurants along Warren Avenue in Dearborn. Last week, I finally toured the four buildings, and I see how close that dream is to reality.

The four buildings - used for after-school learning and recreation, health clinics, adult workforce courses, English-as-a-second-language courses and a cultural/arts showcase - represent \$16 million of the \$36 million the ACC projects it would need to complete its goal.

The council's programs serve both new immigrants and Detroit residents with workforce and computer training. Already, through contracts with the city of Detroit, 1,400 clients have gone through training.

"We're diversity in action," Fakhouri says proudly.

In addition to Seven Mile, the ACC works with immigrants in Detroit's Warrendale neighborhood on the Dearborn border, in Southwest Detroit and in Hamtramck, where the immigrant mix includes newcomers from Iraq, Sri Lanka, Croatia and Bangladesh.

On Fakhouri's wish list is the ability to raze burned-out and boarded up homes on the blocks within eyesight of the Seven Mile complex. Detroit is plagued by such eyesores, but prioritized demolition could help ACC's redevelopment plans.

If such eyesores are razed, Fakhouri and Isa Hasan, who runs neighborhood development for the council, hope to find partners who will work on new housing in the neighborhood. They're talking to the Rev. Marvin Winans, whose Perfecting Church is less than a mile to the south.

Meanwhile, the ACC is gearing up for an influx of 12,000 new immigrants - mostly Iraqis approved by Homeland Security to move to Michigan before Dec. 31.

In the 2000 census, were it not for immigrants moving into Michigan, the state would have had a population loss. In 2010, immigrants probably won't save our numbers; fewer people mean a lot of things, including reduced representation in Congress.

But immigration may yet be the answer to our future because Southeast Michigan's elaborate mix of ethnicities and nationalities can help draw new residents.





ACC Wayne County Behavioral Health division organized a Kite Day for its Network Clubhouse members last month. Organized by Labiba Radwan, the outing included kite flying and a picnic at Madison Heights High School park.

It was a successful day, about half of the participants tried their hand at flying a kite and did very well.

ACC WIC Program



ACC kindly requests that you consider referring any client that you feel may be eligible for WIC Services to our WIC Program. Those eligible include pregnant women, women who just had a baby within the last 6 months if not breastfeeding or the last year if breastfeeding and children up to the age of 5 years.

ACC has 3 clinics:
8655 Greenfield, Detroit, MI 48228
Tel: (313) 582- 8498

(accepts any Michigan resident)

62 W. 7 Mile, Detroit, MI 48203
Tel: (313) 369- 3136
(accepts any Michigan resident)

8740 Joseph Campau, Hamtramck, MI 48212
(313) 874-4233

(accepts Wayne County residents only at this time)



Thank you in advance for referring your clients to this great program that helps clients with food assistance and nutrition education.

[ACC WIC Program](#)

Prevent Car Theft

ACC's Automobile Theft Prevention Authority

(ATPA) Program is an auto theft prevention process which provides free vehicle identification number (VIN) etching. VIN etching is a light but visible stencil of your VIN number on each piece of glass in your car - windshield, windows and sun roof. This deters vehicle theft, since in order to resell your car with an altered identification number the thief would have to replace all of the glass in the vehicle. It is a quick process and may qualify you for a discount on the comprehensive coverage provided by your auto insurance policy.

Free etching events are held throughout the state of Michigan from May to September of each year. **For more information please contact Wali at (313) 369-3100.**



WIA Program offers new service



ACC's Detroit Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Program now works directly with the Unemployment Insurance Agency (UIA) to advocate on behalf of its clients. ACC WIA staff are communicating directly with UIA representatives to resolve problems clients are having with unemployment.

For more information please contact Jumhoria Buttres, WIA Program Case Manager, at (313) 369- 4730.



Community News

Stroke Conference: Stroke and its Sequale

Presented by the Stroke Team at Detroit Receiving Hospital (DMC)

Thursday, September 24, 2009

8:30am - 5:00pm

The Ritz Carlton

300 Town Center Drive, Dearborn, MI

For more information please contact Delphine White at (313) 745-2018 or

dwhite@dmc.org.

Detroit Free Press/Flagstar Marathon

Invite your friends and family to join you and form a relay team! Together you can run for the "health" of it and raise money to save lives!

Visit the marathon website ([Click Here](#)) and choose American Heart Association-Running 4 Heart.



Put Your Language Skills to Use

في أرض عامرة بالفرص
هذه واحدة منها ربما لم تخطر لك على بال



Put your language skills to use.

- English language training if needed.
- Expedited Citizenship.
- Combined incentives of up to \$60,000.
- Humanitarian Work, Nation re-building.

For more information call:

Maysoun (313) 574-6011 or Montadar (313) 909-1257
for the Dearborn Area

Mona (586) 719-0787 or Ali (586) 719-0788 Detroit Area
Mona Hanna (248) 904-9387 for the Pontiac Area



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