

# Foster earns LMC Radde Award

Niles-area woman  
was with LMC  
at the start

**BENTON TOWNSHIP** — Lake Michigan College will present its annual Bernard C. Radde Distinguished Service Award to Emily Foster of Niles during the College's 67th annual Commencement exercise Sunday, LMC announced.

In 1963, Berrien County voters approved a county-wide community college district. A new governing body was formed charged with transforming Benton Harbor Junior College into the new entity now known as Lake Michigan College. Emily Foster served as part of that first LMC Board of Trustees, helping to shepherd the growth of the expanding community college.

Foster continued her board service until 1982. Not only was she the only woman on the board during her 18-year tenure, she



**FOSTER**

was the first chairwoman in LMC history.

She also served on the Community College Feasibility Study Committee as secretary and promoted the idea of the college as a center for cultural and educational activities district residents.

Emily has a bachelor of science degree in home economics from Michigan State University and taught at Niles High School. Over time, her role at the high school evolved into counseling, leading her to earn a master of arts in education from MSU.

Emily and her late husband John managed a beef cattle and grain farm and had three children. She lives near Niles and enjoys horseback riding and creating topiary for her evergreen nursery, Foster Farms.