

Farmington Calendar

LARKSHIRE PTA

Sept. 23. Larkshire PTA will meet at 7:30 p.m. Special guest, City Councilman John Richardson, will discuss annexation. The public is invited.

GOP WOMEN OF FARMINGTON HILLS

Sept. 24. The Women's Republican Organization of Farmington Hills will meet at noon in the home of Mrs. Richard Gaul, 23875 Longacre. Special guest, Detective Earl Tepley of the Farmington Township Police Department, will discuss "Drug and Substance Abuse." Coffee will be served.

COMMUNITY CENTER MEETING

Sept. 24. The annual meeting of the members of Farmington Community Center, Inc., will be held at 8 p.m. in the center, 24705 Farmington Rd. Directors will be elected for the ensuing year and other business will be transacted.

PACK 45 FAMILY NIGHT

Sept. 24. Cub Scout Pack 45 will hold family night at 7:30 p.m. in Cloverdale School. Any boys between eight and 10 years now attending Longacre or Cloverdale Schools interested in joining cub scouts may register at this time.

Y-INDIAN GUIDES

Sept. 24. A Farmington Y-Indian Guides information and organization meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in Dunckel Junior High School. The group is for fathers and their sons in first through third grades.

WOMAN'S HEALTH CLUB

Sept. 24. Woman's Health Club, a group for women who want to lose weight, will hold its opening meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Room 106D Farmington High School. Loss through group therapy. For further information, call 626-3288 or 474-4897.

CUB SCOUT RECRUITER NIGHT

Sept. 24. Cub Scout Pack 263 will hold a recruiter night at 7 p.m. in Kenbrook School. Boys who have reached their eighth birthday or are in the third grade interested in joining cub scouts are urged to attend with their parents. Pack 263 will hold its regular meeting.

FAIRVIEW OPEN HOUSE

Sept. 24. Fairview School will hold open house at 7 p.m. At 8 p.m., Dr. Stuart Rankin, assistant superintendent of research Detroit Board of Education, will discuss "New Ideas in Elementary Education." Coffee to follow.

PASTIE SUPPER

Sept. 25. Farmington Chapter, Order of DeMolay will hold a pastie supper from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Farmington Masonic Temple. Adults \$1.50, children 75 cents.

SENIOR CITIZENS SOCIAL CLUB

The Sept. 25 meeting of the Senior Citizens Social Club will be postponed until Oct. 9. On that date, birthday potluck will be held at noon in the First United Methodist Church social room. Business meeting and cards to follow.

ST. MARY'S DINNER DANCE

Sept. 26. The Moms' and Dads' Club of St. Mary Preparatory of Orchard Lake will sponsor a get-acquainted dinner dance at 7 p.m. in the K of C Hall, 25160 Wm Outer Drive near Dix, Lincoln Park. Tickets \$7.50 per person. Reservations may be made by calling 264-1133 or 777-4820.

INSTRUCTIONAL SWIMMING

Sept. 26. Fall registration for instructional swimming will be held from 9 a.m. to noon in North Farmington and Farmington High Schools.

FARMINGTON AREA NATURALISTS

Sept. 28. Farmington Area Naturalists will meet at 8 p.m. in Farmington Community Center. Special guest will be Father Robert Humitz, director of religious education for the Detroit archdiocese. His topic; "In the Beginning."

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

Sept. 29. The League of Women Voters of West Bloomfield-Farmington Area will meet in the West Bloomfield Township Library on Orchard Lake Rd. Petite luncheon at noon, meeting at 12:30 p.m. "Alternatives to Welfare" will be discussed by Mrs. Ladora Smith, OEO and National Welfare Rights Organization of Pontiac representative, and Dr. Charles Labeaux of Wayne State University.

Does Johnny Enjoy Learning?

Continued from Page 1A

years teaching experience category. But, 59 per cent of the districts ranked had fewer teachers with masters degrees. These two figures indicate Farmington is soundly better prepared instructional staff than comparable districts. These young, but well-prepared teachers are also relatively well paid. The ranking showed 54 per cent of teachers in the urban fringe are being paid less than Farmington teachers.

AN INTERESTING figure measuring the district's financial resources was in the state equalized valuation (SEV) per pupil.

The SEV per pupil is a yardstick which, in effect, shows the taxable property behind each pupil and is an indicator on how much income local taxpayers provide for each pupil.

Farmington ranked at the 65th percentile for SEV per pupil. But the district ranked at the 63th percentile in local revenue per pupil. In state aid per pupil, Farmington ranks at the 50th percentile.

These three rankings (SEV, local revenue and state aid per pupil) are important when combined because they indicate that a healthy amount of local effort is being made by Farmington taxpayers to support their schools.

Local effort is a primary factor measured by the state when allocating state aid. Thus, the amount Farmington will remain a candidate for increases in state aid revenue. The test, then, indicates the district's income is in relatively sound shape and the district has maintained eligibility for higher state aid payments.

The other question — how the district is spending the money — is also tested. The rankings show that only 30 per cent of the districts in the urban fringe spend more money per pupil for operating expenses.

Farmington also ranked at

the 70th percentile in instructional expense per pupil. Although the financial section of the test indicates the district is sound, it did not reveal anything previously unknown. What the test actually indicated is that the district's tax base is adequate to provide revenues to operate, providing the district continues to receive a proportionate slice of state aid.

THE ACHIEVEMENT sections of the test showed Farmington pupils ranked well in comparison with the other urban fringe schools.

The vocabulary questions, Roth explained, actually were a measurement of the student's ability to learn and academically produce and is similar to an IQ test.

In ability to learn, as measured by vocabulary understanding, Farmington pupils ranked at the 90th percentile.

But in basic skills, Farmington pupils ranked at the 75th percentile, which represents about a 15 per cent discrepancy between ability and production.

Students did score at the 89th percentile in reading and math skills. Because of questions on the test's validity, this 10 per cent difference is not great enough to indicate students are under-producing in reading or math.

In fact, it is an indication students are performing according to their ability in these two areas, Roth said. But in English expression, students scored at the 70th percentile which is a 20 per cent discrepancy from ability level.

The lower ranking in English expression is another source of concern for school administrators which will be explored.

OFFICIALS ARE not certain how valid the scores are or how much weight should be given the 20 per cent discrepancy. And administrators are not certain what the 20 per cent discrepancy, if it's accurate, really says.

Questions on English expression tested the student's spelling ability, use of punctuation, grammar and understanding of sentence structure.

The fact students may have a lower understanding of formal English than other districts, Nicita noted, does not mean they have a lower ability to communicate.

Nicita observed that if an English teacher is stressing creative writing then the student is apt to score poorer on a test of formal grammar. But the same student would be apt

to score higher on creative expressions, added Nicita.

This is just a hypothesis. Nicita stressed, but if it's true, the low score in English expression may not be bad if creative expression has a higher priority as an educational goal.

The low test scores in English expression was for the fourth grade levels. Seventh graders ranked at the 65 percentile in ability and 63th percentile in basic skills.

Broken down, seventh graders in Farmington ranked

at the 80th percentile in reading, 80th percentile in English expression and 63th percentile in math.

Thus, it appears the seventh graders are performing according to their ability, says Roth.

"The report is not to be read into, justified, attacked or rationalized," says Roth, "but to be looked at as to what can be improved in the Farmington District."

ROTH SAID there is an apparent discrepancy at a couple of elementary schools

between students' ability and their production in the area of English expression.

He noted there is not much difference in socio-economic status among 14 of the elementary schools, which all rank above the 75th percentile in that area.

From examining the scores, he added, it appeared that some of the best teachers and best teaching are at the lower socio-economic schools which are producing at their expected level and, in some instances, better than expected.



DEATH CAR — Robert Gougeon, 16, of 30459 Brentwood, Southfield, the driver of this car, was killed when a Keego Harbor resident smashed into it at 13 Mile and Middle Belt, Farmington. The accident occurred at 12:01 a.m., one minute after the signal light had

changed from stop-and-go to flasher. Injured were Gougeon's three passengers including Sandra Ralph, 17, of Farmington, who is in Beaumont Hospital. (Ever photo)

O.E. Dunckel Dies In North

Orville E. Dunckel, former Farmington superintendent of schools, died Sept. 16 in the War Memorial Hospital at Saint Ste. Marie.

A memorial service will be held in Farmington at 3 p.m. Sept. 27 in Salem United Church of Christ.

THE O.E. DUNCKEL Junior High School in Farmington was named after Dunckel, whose retirement homes were on Neeshib Island at Barbeau, Michigan, and at Orlando, Fla. He was born July 21, 1896 on the Dunckel homestead near Williamston.

In continuation of Dunckel's lifelong interest and activity in the field of education, his body has been given to the Michigan State University Medical School for medical education and research. Arrangements for a final burial are to be made at a later date.

Memorial gifts may be made to the Orville E. Dunckel Fund for Education. The family requests no floral contributions.

Dunckel obtained a life certificate for teaching from Western Michigan University, a BS degree at Michigan State University and an MA from the University of Michigan. He served as superintendent of schools at Sand Creek and Manchester as well as Farmington.

DUNCKEL'S MILITARY service included both World Wars with retirement from the United States Naval Reserve with the rank of Lieutenant Commander.

He held memberships in the Masonic Lodge, American Legion, Kiwanis International, Florida and Michigan Chambers of Commerce, Michigan Educational Association and the National Education Association.

In addition to his wife, Marian, Dunckel is survived by two sons, Allen E. Dunckel, DVM, Plainfield and Elbridge L. Dunckel, DVM, Oshtemo, and seven grandchildren. Also surviving is a brother, L. Dale Dunckel of Williamston.

TIA Plans Luncheon

Nearly 200 community leaders and public officials are expected to attend the third annual meeting of the Traffic Improvement Association of Oakland County (TIA) to be held Sept. 24, at noon in the Raleigh House, Southfield.

The guest speaker will be Joe Weaver, director of the special projects unit of WJBK-TV, Channel 2. Weaver will discuss his views of highway traffic losses in relation to other special problems which he has examined in depth.

The meeting will also include the election of officers and directors and the presentation of a special traffic safety award to Oakland County by a national organization.

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