

Beloved art teacher is 80 this month, 1B



Soccer results, 2D

2 from Hills face fraud charges, 14A

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Farmington FOCUS

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ONLY three weeks into the new school year, Longacre PTA representatives reached their membership goal of 100 percent.

The goal was reached at the PTA's hot dog supper Sept. 22. In a school with 514 students, the Longacre PTA has 595 members, including parents and teachers, up 25 from last year.

This is the second year the school PTA has reached a membership of 100 percent. Last year, Longacre was the first school to report 100-percent membership to the state PTA.

This year's membership drive was coordinated by PTA member Molly Vittlar.

BACK on the hot seat.

The Council of Homeowner Associations of Farmington Hills will host a candidates night Thursday, Oct. 22 for the nine contenders for four seats on the Farmington Hills City Council.

The nonpartisan program will begin at 8 p.m. in the Farmington Hills City Council Chambers, 31555 11 Mile.

AS political lawn signs begin to pop up around town as election day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, nears for council candidates in both Farmington and Farmington Hills, city officials remind that signs cannot be posted in the right of way.

Call the respective city offices for other specific regulations governing use of the signs.

FOOTNOTES: One year ago this week - A proposed group home on Grayling for mentally ill adults has come under scrutiny by neighbors and Farmington Hills officials.

Programs for gifted students are expanded

Guru of the gifted, 4A

By Casey Hans staff writer

Skills traditionally taught in gifted programs will now be shared with all students in Farmington - something educators believe will help all pupils.

The idea is to enrich all students with gifted-type activities, yet continue special programs for an expanded group of students identified as gifted.

The Farmington Public Schools program has been re-named DELTA, an acronym for Differentiated, Enrichment, Leadership, Talent and Ability.

In previous years, the Farmington program focused only on about 1,000 intellectually gifted students, and maintained a "pull-out" program where students were removed from classrooms for special seminars by "gifted" coordinators.

DELTA will focus not only on the intellectually gifted, but others who are creatively gifted or who have talent in specific academic areas.

'It's really a move towards individualized education.'

— Bobbie Tomasin Farmington parent

ALTHOUGH THE pull-out program will continue, schools also will integrate skills commonly used in these seminars with general classroom activities. The program will focus not only on over-achievers, but gifted students who underachieve for whatever reason.

The changes being made in Farmington are based on a teaching plan developed by Joseph Renzulli, chairman of the Educational Psychology Department at the University of Connecticut. Called the "Renzulli Triad," it is the most widely-used gifted education program in the country, according to Joette Kuse, one of the DELTA coordinators for the district.

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9 candidates for Hills city council tackle the issues

Hills' candidate profiles, 8A

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Some of the discussion was reminiscent of recent Farmington Hills City Council meetings.

But Farmington Hills residents wanted to know what candidates think about the charter provision requiring election candidates to resign from boards and commissions and

whether a code of ethics is necessary.

The issues were put to the nine candidates vying for four Farmington Hills City Council seats in the election campaign's second public debate Tuesday, sponsored by the Farmington-West Bloomfield League of Women Voters.

Following two-minute opening statements by each candidate, the less than 50 residents in the audience

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Coming home



Members of North Farmington High's senior class strut their stuff through the streets of Rolling Oaks subdivision during this year's Homecoming parade Saturday. Homecoming stories appear on Pages 3B (North Farmington and Harrison), 14C (Mercy) and 15C (Clarenceville).

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Traveler shares impressions, 3A

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

They are sporting a brand new name, a few new members and some interesting ideas to foster cultural awareness in the Farmington area.

At their second meeting Oct. 6, members officially dubbed themselves the Cultural Awareness Committee and formally adopted a mission statement developed by the group's short-lived predecessor, the Farmington Ethnic Forum.

The mission statement that members are committed to follows:

"To inspire pride in our community's ethnicity, to stem discrimination and prejudice, to raise the community's consciousness about the variety of cultures and traditions in our neighborhoods, to promote an understanding of cultural differences, to foster an interest in learning about each other, and to nurture an appreciation for our heritage."

The statement provides members with a goal of "raising the community's consciousness" and the vehicle with which to do that, said Doris Banks, committee interim chairman.

"A lot of ideas, the future outcome of the committee's activities, comes out of evaluating what the communi-

cultural collage

ty's needs are," Banks said.

There's no point in duplicating programs or activities that already exist in the community, she added.

THAT'S WHERE a survey - one of a series of ideas offered last week - would come into play. To best determine how the committee can fulfill the goals set out in the mission statement, committee members must first know what is already being offered in the community to foster cultural awareness, Banks said.

"We're going to zero in on some of these ideas and then come up with some specific goals," said Karen Birkholz, assistant to the city manager in Farmington Hills.

The first step taken by committee members was to develop ideas, such as the need for a community survey, without worrying about details, Birkholz said. "We brainstormed and came up with about 20-30 ideas for working toward the (mission) statement," she said.

Some of the ideas include: an international day tied in to the annual Founders Festival, a town hall series, language lessons, film, music and art exhibits, a student relations committee and an outreach program for new community residents.

Other ideas are a museum, an international series at the Farmington Community Library, an interpreter for the 47th District Court in Farmington, International Flag displays

and a farmers market.

AT THE committee's next meeting, which is still unscheduled, members will delve a little deeper into some of the ideas and determine which ones to pursue, Birkholz said.

The Cultural Awareness Committee formed in mid-September after the former Farmington Ethnic Forum disbanded after drafting the 50-word mission statement.

The new committee was formed with some members of the former group who agreed that the new organization should not be affiliated with government, but should represent a cross-section of the Farmington area. Interested residents may call Birkholz, 475-9504.

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HOW IN EVERY MONDAY AND THURSDAY ISSUE

Headlee, new heart doing well

By Bob Skler staff writer



Fresh from a successful heart transplant, Richard Headlee will not take a leave as president and chief executive officer of the Farmington Hills-based Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co. of America.

"He'll be back, don't worry," said Vernon Lunn, senior vice president and a member of the senior management team. "He's a fighter."

Headlee, 57, underwent a four-hour heart transplant operation Oct.

8 at Latter-day Saints Hospital in Salt Lake City.

A Michigan leader in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, the Farmington Hills resident is listed in satisfactory condition. Alert, about and conversant, he was moved to a private room Wednesday.

"Dick and his new heart are get-

ting along great together," said his causerant wife, Mary, Monday. "He was up and around the intensive care unit Saturday, even with the tube still in his artery. Sunday, they removed the last of the tubes."

Lunn, who speaks with Mary daily, said she told him, "Dick looks like a million dollars and feels great."

Headlee is feeding himself and hasn't had a negative reaction to anti-rejection medicine. "Things are going beautifully," Lunn said. "We're all excited."

Since early this week, Headlee has

been able to get out of bed and walk around. "There's a bar across his bed so he can pull himself up," Lunn said. "They also have him doing light exercise on a pedal device."

To keep himself busy, Headlee reads Detroit newspapers and the Bible.

THE UPBEAT attitude of the 1982 Republican gubernatorial candidate certainly hasn't hurt. "He is

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