

CARRIER OF THE MONTH: FARMINGTON

Dave Caza of Farmington Hills was named July Carrier of the Month for the Farmington Observer.



Dave Caza

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Hills teen takes Mr. Dance title to nationals

BY CHRISTINE BRODA STAFF WRITER

Lars Haglund knows the meaning of fancy footwork. Since he was 8 years old, the Farmington Hills resident has cultivated his passion for dance in every style from tap and jazz to lyrical and ballet.

"It's a more funky kind of dance, not like Broadway tap," Haglund said of his routine. The music for the tap dance comes from an instrumental Beatle Boys song that Haglund said he chose because the fast-paced drums and acoustics provide good tapping beats and rhythms.

While growing up, Haglund and his sister frequently danced in community venues, including holiday programs at the Costick Center and Masonic Temple. Most recently Haglund, who also sings and acts, performed at the crowning of Miss Farmington Hills.

Love to perform and entertain people - it really gives me a rush," Haglund said. "And it keeps me in shape, that's for sure."

"It just gets me," he said of the beat-filled, rhythmic patterns of jazzy tap music. According to mom, Iora, Haglund got his start in dance when she enrolled her son in his first hip hop class at Annette and Company dance studio in Farmington Hills.

So far this summer, Haglund has kept busy taking dance classes and preparing for nationals at Broadway Bound, the Livonia studio where he has danced for the past three years.

Traveling to other areas is another reason Haglund said he enjoys dancing.

Competitions and training have taken him to cities such as Las Vegas and New York, where he has had the opportunity to learn from experienced dancers and tour local sights. During the week of July 15, Haglund danced at Ritters Dance Academy in Los Angeles on a

scholarship he won at the Encore Performing Arts Competition. Although he is good on his feet, Haglund's voice is another reason he excels in the area of performing arts. Haglund sings with four different choirs at Walled Lake Western High School, including the eight-member group he formed called "Goya."

And the talented senior-to-be is no stranger to the athletic field either. Haglund has played varsity golf for Western for the past three years, in addition to having played soccer up until his freshman year.

CLARIFICATION

In the July 25 edition story "Attendance booms for Founders Fest," it should be clarified that quoted glass artist Bruce Lerner was not part of Art on the Ground, the fine arts portion of the festival. His booth was part of the Masonic Temple crafts show.

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