

Farmington's kite fly-in helps out the kids

KITES ARE FUN



Jim McDonald, manager of Clamdiggers Restaurant, his wife Pam and their 15-month-old daughter Megan spent Saturday afternoon with several hundred other area residents flying a kite.



Dee Dee the Clown took a few minutes off from flying his kite to show Christie Hertzfeld, 4, several balloon tricks at Saturday's kite fly-in, sponsored by Clamdiggers Restaurant in Farmington Hills.

All donations received were given to the Farmington Youth Assistance program to help area youngsters.



Saturday was a great day for kite flying as Cheri Sadowski enjoyed the spring weather and spent the afternoon trying to get her kite off the ground.

Counselors help students cope with problems

Editor's note—During the Farmington PTA's "Coffee and Comments" program last year, area residents were able to express their concerns about programs and activities in the Farmington School District.

These questions were presented to the district's administrators for their reply. Part VIII of the PTA questions and administrative answers series deals with counseling programs in the district.

This series will continue to appear in the Farmington Observer & Eccentric during the next few weeks.

Explain the duties and purpose of a counselor at both junior and senior high levels?

The junior and senior high school counselor is the individual within the school setting to whom the student can turn for an ongoing relationship. The counseling relationship is one involving personal, social, educational and vocational concerns.

What is the student-counselor ratio? The ratio of students and counselors in both levels is about one counselor for every 225 students.

Are students guided along a course of study by the counselor or merely left alone?

Students are guided along a course of study as they are encouraged to seek help regarding their career planning. This begins at all levels through individual and group meetings.

Students are helped in the decision making process of class selection, educational and vocational opportunities.

Do counselors help students prepare for colleges all over the United States?

Any student can obtain information on any college in the United States through their counselor. In addition, each high school maintains a comprehensive file on available college catalogs and materials.

In junior high school, could parents be present when students first meet with their counselors?

In the junior high, an orientation program is conducted with all sixth graders and parent meetings on a group basis are encouraged.

Time involved has not allowed individual conferences for all students. But any parent can arrange with the school for personal conferences at any time. Any student new to the district is required to enroll with a parent present.

How can parents find out more about the curriculum and have a complete list of classes offered?

Parents can learn about the curriculum through many channels.

The PTA Council organizes an orientation meeting every spring for parents of students new to the junior high schools. In addition, there are a variety of orientation meetings held at junior and senior high schools.

Parents can supplement this information by seeking an appointment with their student's counselor.

Each semester, a student receives a complete list of classes offered as well as a class description bulletin.

How involved do counselors get with student behavior and social problems? Do they work with school psychologists and social workers?

Counselors work with students on personal problems in varying degrees, depending upon individual needs. Counselors act as a liaison to the school psychologists and to social workers as well as a referral agent to the Extended Planning and Program Committee and the Farmington Youth Assistance program.

How do counselors work with students not going to college? Do they help direct them into the job market or world of work, based on their interests and abilities?

Counselors work with students not going to college by helping to provide current and pertinent world of work information. This is accomplished through an occupational information library, Project New Career Day programs and career-oriented field trips.

Internal testing and interpretation is done with the Kuder Interest Survey, the Ohio Vocational Interest Survey, the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and the Differential Aptitude Test. External testing includes: Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test, the American College Test and the Scholastic Aptitude Test.

All testing is offered on a voluntary basis.

Do junior and senior high counselors work together in programs such as orientating ninth and 10th graders?

A variety of programs have been used in the orientation of junior high students to the senior high program. Counselors visit the junior high schools. Junior high students are brought to visit the high schools and meet with counselors.

Junior and senior high counselors meet to provide a smooth and effective transition.

Is any follow-up done on graduated students to judge the effectiveness of the district's school training?

Colleges and universities in Michigan schedule regular "Principal Freshman Conferences" where Farmington teachers, counselors and administrators confer at length with students at the university campuses to assess the quality of their Farmington Public School experiences.

In addition, individual high schools have done follow-ups on their students. The vocational education department recently has conducted a survey to assess the effectiveness of vocational training in the district.

Could routine conferences be set up for parents at the junior and senior high levels to keep the lines of communication going for parents?

The junior high schedule makes it difficult to schedule routine individual conferences for parents with counselors. With each counselor handling more than 200 students it is easy to understand this. However, lines of communication can be kept open by attending scheduled meetings, orientation meetings and initiating requests to your counselor.

One junior high school is experimenting with scheduling counselors' time schedule so that they will be available to parents who work during the school day.

NEXT: Part IX, school discipline.

Festival time approaches as committee plans meeting

The 12th annual Farmington Founders Festival Committee invites the public to its first general meeting on Monday, April 26, at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn of Farmington, 26123 W. Ten Mile.

In issuing the invitation to the community, Pat Fallon, Holiday Inn assistant in charge and this year's Founders Festival general chairman noted: "Once again the community is gathering its forces for our annual summer festival."

This year's festival will be open on Sunday, July 25, with an old-fashioned family picnic.

Festival activities will end on Saturday, July 31, with the annual festival parade down Grand River and the post-parade displays and carnivals at the area's major shopping centers.

THE FESTIVAL COMMITTEE has been at work since the beginning of the year in planning the festival, says Ms. Fallon.

"Now members of the community are being asked to join the committee and work to make the festival successful," Vice Chairman Vincent Dery, in charge of festival booths, presently is completing arrangements for the many individuals and groups who manage booths, displays and tents during the festival.

Robert Deryak, second vice chairman, will assist in festival arrangements. Leon Serdyuk is this year's treasurer.

Bar Rockafellow will again serve the festival committee as executive secretary, while Gerald Potter and Robert Beau-champ are this year's advisors.

Bill Bush will chair the parade committee and familiar parade arrangements while Hilda Zetek is chairman of the Miss Farmington Pageant.

Henry Prokop, last year's general chairman will be chairman of the board this year. Ed Lane, of the Farmington Chamber of Commerce, is the festival's administrator.

The festival committee will revive the slogan and theme from Farmington's 1974 bicentennial celebration in honor of America's bicentennial.

WHILE MUCH OF THE bicentennial celebration will have ended by Founders Festival time, the committee feels the spirit and idea of "Pride in our Past, Faith in our Future" is worthy of year around emphasis.

During the family picnic at city park, Powers and Shawnee games for young and old alike which have proved popular in the past two years will be featured once again. Fireworks at the city park will top off the festival's first day.

Mrs. Drake is 92

Nellie Drake celebrated her 92nd birthday with close friends and relatives on Saturday, April 19.

She was born in 1884 in what is now Redford Township, and moved to Farmington after her marriage to Stanley Drake in 1912. The couple established Drake Farm, where she lives now with her daughter, Jean.

Her sister, 84-year-old Nancy, and her niece, Edith (Dowman), both from Troy, came to the gathering with friends from Farmington, Ernestine Durham, Wanda Mankie and Irene Heath.

Mrs. Drake spent Friday making bread and rolls for the party guests. She still works in her garden plot on the farm.



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School spring concerts

DATE	TIME	CONCERT
May 1	All day	State Male Chorus Contest—Walled Lake
May 2	3 p.m.	National Music Week Festival—Harrison
May 5	8 p.m.	Warner Instrumental Concert
May 6	8 p.m.	Farmington Junior Spring Concert
May 6-8	8 p.m.	"Music Man"—Farmington High
May 6-8	8 p.m.	"Fiddler On The Roof"—North Farmington
May 7	8 p.m.	Harrison Symphony Band Concert
May 11	8 p.m.	Power Instrumental Concert
May 14	8 p.m.	Harrison Spring Choral Concert
May 14	8 p.m.	Power Vocal Concert—Farmington High
May 14-15	7:30 p.m.	Dunkel Instrumental Pops Concert
May 20	8 p.m.	East Junior Concert—Harrison
May 21	8 p.m.	Warner Vocal Concert
May 22	8 p.m.	Harrison Instrumental Pops Concert
May 26	8 p.m.	Farmington High Vocal Pops Concert
May 26	8 p.m.	North Farmington Pops Concert
May 27	8 p.m.	Farmington High Instrumental Pops Concert
May 31	10 a.m.	Memorial Day Parade
June 4	8 p.m.	Warner Pops Concert
June 4-5	8 p.m.	Dunkel Spring Concert—North Farmington
June 5	8 p.m.	Farmington Junior Pops Concert