



LESSON — Louis Gilson (center), known in Farmington schools as "Mr. Special Education," teaches a geography lesson to two of his students, Linda Konagan and Thomas Meyer. (Evert photo)

NFH Youth Honored For Excellent Effort

At a North Farmington High School assembly on May 26, honor awards were distributed to students for excellence in many areas.

Winners of the American Legion Award were Mark McLean and Vicki Saliba. Criteria for this distinction are good grades, good attitudes, service to the school and all around good behavior.

Boys' State awards were given to Dan Brody, Bob Brown, Bob Hughes and Roger Jones. Alternates are Ken Grabowski, Alan Jewett and Steve Lee. Winners will take part in a government learning experience at Michigan State University June 11 to 18.

Diane Ankele was selected to attend Girls' State at University of Michigan June 15 to 22. Carol Demery is her alternate.

Larry Barak, senior; Jeff Foray, junior; and Les Van-Arde, sophomore, were high scorers on the "Time" current events test.

Outstanding student in social studies was Dave Mesenbring.

CO-OPERATIVE education awards were presented to Cindy Abram, Sue Johnston and Kathy Kramer for outstanding performance in their jobs.

Journalism awards were received by Pat Donovan, senior editor, and Bill Marberg, editor-in-chief of "Aurora." Dennis Barth, Tony Garcia, Kathy Kennedy, Steve Vagnozzi, Ralph Vinciguerra, page editors, and Barney Welton, editor-in-chief of the "Northern Star."

FHS Honors Athletes

Farmington High School athletes were honored recently at their annual sports award banquet held in the school.

Bruce Thayer was recipient of the Byrland-Coolman award from Principal James Gieger.

The Aschenbrenner Trophy was presented to Larry Williams by School Board President John M. Washburn III, Larry and Garry Williams,

twin track stars, shared the Best Gray Award.

Guest speaker of the evening was Bob Mittle, former coach at the school, now area director for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

Newly-elected officers of the Varsity Club announced at the banquet: Bruce Thayer, president; Dave Gieson, vice president; and John Plichka, secretary-treasurer.

CMU Elects NFH Grad

Two 1968 graduates of North Farmington High School have been elected sophomore class officers at Central Michigan University.

Gregory Semack, freshman math major, son of Mr. and Mrs. George Semack, of 29975 Barwell, is vice-president.

Second place in district festival was taken by Bonnie Morrison, Scott Chalmers, Steve Lorenz, Jeff Thayer, Polly Slart, Denise Litter, Bill Frost, Richard Skala, June Scharfberg, Frank Demarc,

and Kay Sullivan.

For outstanding performance as an all-around athlete, John Thomas received the Halder Cup. Thomas was quarterback for the football squad, co-captain and starting guard on the basketball team and second baseman for the baseball nine.

Placing first in the state solo and ensemble festival after qualifying as best in the district were Mark Thiel, Sue Toffanetti (flute solo), Ellen Richardson, John Bartlett and Arlene Olsen.

Second place winners were Debbie Sterns, Sue Tolnietti (flute duo), Frank DeMarco, Lynn Goodwin, Armon Korking, Candy Mikula, Linda Lotts and Judy Grow.

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No Rocker For Louis Gilson

'Mr. Special Ed' Retires - Sort Of

By ELIZABETH WISSMAN

Now that Louis Gilson is retiring after 24 years with Farmington schools, he says he's going to get himself a "motorized rocking chair."

His school friends, who have seen the way he has functioned in classrooms over those years, claim that the rocking chair had better be equipped like an Indy racer.

THOSE SAME FRIENDS -- and just about everybody else in the school system -- call Gilson "Mr. Special Education."

He didn't start out in Farmington as a special ed teacher, but for 11 years he has taught the Type A mentally retarded, most recently at North Farmington High School.

And his dedication to those handicapped youth, his efforts to get them jobs on the work-study basis and the way he has gone to bat for them are legion. Gilson's philosophy about all this is simple: "We're not just trying to teach these youngsters -- we're teaching them how to live."

MR. SPECIAL EDUCATION began his career before men were aptly called "teachers in this particular field."

He studied special education at West Michigan University and was "old" there was no place for men in the field when he graduated. He chose to study special ed because he had always wanted to work with handicapped children and help them to become self-sufficient economically.

Ask Gilson how many children he has taught since 1945, handicapped and normal, and he says, "I'm not mathematician, I don't know." He says about old math, let alone new math.

But when he began his career in Farmington, at old Farmington High, the district had five special ed teachers -- today there are 800 teachers.

"Always rewarding, but not all roses. Many times you feel you have struggled so hard and something you've worked and worked over just doesn't pan out. There are so many disappointments and heartaches in this field."

An interesting sidelight on Gilson's philosophy that he has taught his handicapped charges to learn how to live is the example he chose as one of his triumphs.

The triumph concerns a mentally retarded youth who learned how to dial a telephone number. "I told him to call his mother to tell her he'd be late coming home. He said he couldn't. We spent four times, but finally he did it."

"When something like that happens, it's a personal triumph," Gilson glows. "The satisfaction that young person feels spills over onto you. But there are other days when you take 10 steps ahead only to go 11 steps back."

GILSON will carry memories like this into his retirement, but he won't spend much time locomoting that motorized rocking chair. He has worked in Boy Scouting for 48 years on all levels and is presently working on organized extension with Scouting's Ottawa Council.

This, plus his 11 grandchildren and a teacher daughter and pharmacist son, and wife of 41 years, will keep Mr. Special Education fully occupied.

He might even have time to see the movie, "The Great Train Robbery," which he says was filmed the same year he was born, 1903.

School Retirees Log 263 Years

A number of Farmington school retirees, who have logged a total of 263 years working for the school district, were honored at the annual retirement dinner June 5 in Glen Oaks Country Club. Co-sponsors of the event were the Farmington Education Association and the Board of Education.

Bob Guest was introduced by master of ceremonies Larry Freedman and entertained over 200 assembled diners with his observations "On the Sunny Side of the Street."

Freedman, who is principal at Highmeadow School, also provided the music for dancing. Co-chairmen of the affair were Miss Grace Campbell, art consultant, and Mrs. Millie Benet, of the music department.

THOSE being honored for service to the school district included Dan Barker, O.E. Dunkel, custodian with three years of service; George Beech, North Farmington High custodian of three years; Amos Butler, with 12 years, retiring from the business department; Mrs. Ottilie Butler, third grade teacher at Flinders who has taught in Farmington for 15 years; Leland Clifford, a Board of Education member for 13 years; Louis Gilson, special education counselor at North Farmington with 24 years of

teaching in Farmington; Mrs. Mary Hancock, O.E. Dunkel science teacher with 15 years.

Others were Mrs. Adelaide Hensault, art instructor at Farmington Junior High, a teacher here for 12 years; Mrs. Helen Hoyt who retired from Kenbrook after 12 years as a local teacher; Mrs. Irene Jones, secretary to the business manager, with the district for 15 years; Mrs. Mary Layton, a teacher here for 10 years retiring from Alameda; Joseph Masamagetti, East Junior High custodian with four years of service; Mrs. Sadie Miller after 14 years leaving the child accounting office; Herbert Neal, Board of Education member with eight years of service; Mrs. Marie Olson, cook at North Farmington for six years.

THE REMAINDER of the group included Mrs. Ella Plichka, cafeteria supervisor with 10 years of service; Gust Ray, custodian at Shawansee with 16 years; Mrs. Elma Stacker, retiring from Fairview after 14 years; Mrs. Margaret Watson, cafeteria worker at Bond with nine years; Ed Wright leaving Cloverdale after 10 years of service; Mrs. Marguerite Wright, book store manager with 16 years; and Mrs. Laura Young who retired from the purchasing department after 10 years.

Farmington Calendar

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

June 11 at noon, Chapter 49 of the Blue Star Mothers of America will hold a luncheon in the home of Laura Brunel, 2870 Lakester, Southfield. The public is invited. For reservations, call EL3-2088.

PIONEER GOLDEN AGE CLUB

June 11 at noon, The Pioneer Golden Age Club of Farmington will meet in St. Alexander's social hall. Bring your own snacks, coffee and tea will be furnished by the club. For transportation, call Luther Duell, GR 4-6655.

WORLD WAR I VETERANS

June 12 at 2 p.m., Barracks 1152 Veterans of World War I will meet in the American Legion Hall, Lakeside at Grand River, Farmington. All World War I veterans are welcome. Refreshments will be served following the business meeting.

BOOK RESALE

June 12-27, Farmington School District students may turn in used textbooks for resale to the schools or bookstore.

SENIOR CITIZENS SOCIAL CLUB

June 13 at noon, The Senior Citizens Social Club will meet in the First United Methodist Church social room. Luncheon and a social afternoon with cards.

BLUE STAR MOTHERS

June 19 at noon, Chapter 49 of the Blue Star Mothers of America will meet for luncheon and the revealing of secret pins in the Clarenceville Methodist Church. For further information, call GR 4-3384.

NOTICE OF MEETING

To the members of the First Farmington Savings and Loan Association:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that in accordance with the By-Laws, the annual meeting of the First Farmington Savings and Loan Association will be held at its principal office in the City of Farmington on Wednesday, June 25, 1969, at 3:00 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of electing directors, and for such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

Signed,
FIRST FARMINGTON SAVINGS
By A.J. Primm, President

Dated June 11 and 18, 1969

Take It From A Pro Who Should Know — And Does



DANIEL W. HODOROWANSKY of Warren was selected Driver of the Year in February by the Michigan Trucking Association. He has driven 21 years for Chrysler Corporation between plants in heavy traffic for over a million miles without a blemish on his record.

Michigan's Truck Driver of the Year Says:

CONCENTRATION is the Key to Safe Driving

This little quiz Danny sometimes gives friends gives them a pretty good clue as to what kind of driver he is. Want to try it?

The last time you took the car out for a spin, did you:

- leave parking lights burning upon your return?
- leave a turning signal blinking unnecessarily?
- drive off without sufficiently wiping or scraping windows in inclement weather?

If you just happened to answer "yes" to all three — watch your step. They're common enough, everyday lapses, to be sure. But, says Hodorowansky — these are signs of a driver "not concentrating and a driver not concentrating is not doing his best to drive safely."

"If you want to be a good driver and a safe one, you've got to CONCENTRATE on being one," according to Michigan's No. 1 truck driver. He wheels a big semi through Detroit's busy traffic about 100 miles a day between plants. There are a lot of stops and starts and plenty of tight cornering. He has to CONCENTRATE!

Got time to read and think about one more little tip from Michigan Truck Driver of the Year? It's a good one and all of us should heed it every day, Danny says. Here it is: "Always stay clear-headed and never get behind the wheel in a depressed state. A wife can be very helpful to her husband by seeing that he doesn't leave home each morning with a lot of problems on his mind."

So, when you're driving, just concentrate on driving and nothing else, says this No. 1 professional driver. That's really all you've got time to do... safely. Right?

SPECIAL INVITATION!!

The Central Church of Christ at Farmington Extends An Invitation To All Boys and Girls, from Age 2 Through Junior High School, To Attend A...

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

THEME: "Jesus Loves Me"

DATES: June 16 - 20

TIME: 9:30 - 11:30 am

PLACE: Cloverdale Elementary School

33000 FREEDOM ROAD (near Farmington Road)

FOR TRANSPORTATION,
CALL 477-7868 or 476-8816

Father's Day Sale

4 DAYS ONLY — Thurs.-Fri.-Sat.-Sun.

BLACK & DECKER
HEDGE TRIMMER
No. U272
LIST \$29.99
SALE \$26.88

BLACK & DECKER
EDGER-TRIMMER
No. U 278
LIST \$39.99
SALE \$34.88

1969 TOROS
ALL MODELS IN STOCK
— TRADE IN —
YOUR OLD MOWER
WORTH \$15.00 TO \$30.00

TIMEX WATCHES
ALL MODELS IN STOCK
20% OFF

GENUINE CHAR-BROIL
LIST \$99.95
\$83.88 K.D.

Nelson DIAL-A-RAIN SPRINKLER
LIST \$14.95
\$11.88

H & R HARDWARE

27430 JOY ROAD

9-9 Daily - 10-2 Sunday

GA 1-5161