

Boning up

Reading clinic aids college bound

By JUDITH BERNÉ

A new local reading clinic located in the All for Learning children's store in West Bloomfield's Orchard Mall is geared to middle school, junior high and high school-aged students.

Classes offered by Dr. Sanford Norman, reading consultant for Waterford Schools, will include content reading, speed reading and preparation for college entrance and other achievement tests.

Norman, who lives in Birmingham, is teaming up with All for Learning proprietor Jim Macy to offer the after-school clinics. Macy, former communications specialist for Birmingham Schools, left that post to open the educationally-oriented toy, game and book store two years ago.

THE READING CLINIC is designed to give students the tools to get through their current classes. Norman says, such as science, math and social studies.

"We'll teach them to read for who, what, where, when and why," he says. "The concept here is to get down to the student's level, find the gap and fill it in as soon as possible."

Norman says students at these older ages want an immediate reward, like passing biology, and are no longer impressed by parents' pleadings about the correlation between education and getting a good job.



DR. SANFORD NORMAN

They know they can pull off a non-skilled job and perhaps make more than a college graduate, Norman explains. "They need an education to survive in society, not to get ahead anymore."

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Norman says remedial reading may not be helpful for the older student and "has built up all kinds of hangups" for those who have to be specially taken out of class.

This instruction, said Norman, will be on a one-to-one basis and he is confident of getting results.

He waited until he received his doctorate from Wayne State University (in April) before setting up the reading clinic. He said he wanted to provide "the highest professional level."

"A lot of parents don't shop clinics the way they should," he added.

ALSO ON TAP are speed reading and test-taking clinics. The speed reading is designed for ages junior-high through adult.

Norman, who maintains he's the best reading consultant in the Waterford system, says he will concentrate on building rapid comprehension techniques, not on how fast the eye can be made to travel.

Norman defends his test-taking clinics against critics who contend they

will have little effect on college board scores.

"It depends on the individual student."

For students whose motivation and natural intelligence are high in themselves, such a course may not produce significant results, he says.

But for the student whose parents "have been on his fanny to study hard and get good grades" the class could be worthwhile. "That student may not actually have the skills to do well on a nation-wide exam. He can profit from the course because he will be thoroughly familiar with what's coming."

NORMAN ASSOCIATED himself with "All for Learning" through a casual conversation with Macy, as Norman browsed through the store.

"Everyone with a bent for education has a respect for this store," Norman says. "I am impressed with Jim's approach to keep everything constantly educational."

Council of the Arts plans gala festival

Music fills the air and works of art will fill the high school courtyard Sunday afternoon as the Greater West Bloomfield Council for the arts stages its first major production.

The festival will display graphic and performing arts Sept. 10 in the West Bloomfield High School's courtyard beginning at 1 p.m.

The courtyard, at 4925 Orchard Lake Road, will house 26 local artists displaying their works. Music and dance performances will be presented in the forum and courtyard by various groups.

A community art and student art show will also be running along with the invitational festival exhibits. Continuous activities for children are planned all afternoon.

In case of rain, the festival will move indoors.

Here's a rundown of what's happening this Sunday:

TIME	EVENT
1:15-1:45 p.m.	Orchard Lake Community Church Choir
1:30-2 p.m.	Story telling hand puppets with Linda LeClair
1:45-2:15 p.m.	Opera Organization presents "Magic Flute"
2:20-3 p.m.	JCC Festival Dancers
2:30-3 p.m.	Children paint-in
2:45-3:15 p.m.	Music for Percussion
2:30-3 p.m.	Mime Troupe
2:30-3 p.m.	Guitarist Eric Gierschick
3:30-3 p.m.	African Angels Dance Group
3:15-3:45 p.m.	Rosner Trio
3:30-4 p.m.	Michigan Ballet Theatre
3:30-4 p.m.	Storytelling with puppets
4:15-4:45 p.m.	West Bloom. Community Choir

Cocooning hosts for this premiere festival are Jo Jo Shutty and Bryan McGregor.



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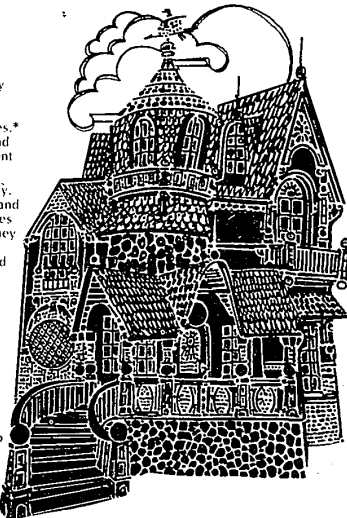
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