

Clarenceville rates high in state assessment

BY SUSAN ROSIEK

The concentration on basic reading and math skills is paying handsome dividends for students in Clarenceville School District.

Results of the latest statewide test of reading and math skills show that Clarenceville students are scoring 5-15 points above the state average.

Statewide, school officials report a 2 to 3 percent increase in achievement in all grade levels.

"We have been concentrating, since

1970, on basic skills. Our teachers are using objectives in teaching reading and math. That way of teaching and testing is paying off," said Patricia Vickery, administrative assistant for instruction.

Although Clarenceville staff is pleased with the test results, Ms. Vickery says it measures only a small segment of a student's progress.

"The reading test measure only 19 objectives. We have many more areas which we test. This test is only one of many we use to evaluate a student's

progress," she said.

"The state is supposed to select new and different objectives for future tests, and I'll be anxious to see how our students do," she said.

The annual test, known as the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP), is given each fall. It is divided into reading and math sections. A student who correctly answers three-quarters of the questions in a particular objective has met the goal. Averages are based on the test administered to 450,000 fourth, seventh and 10th

graders through the state.

MOST STUDENTS test scores also showed improvement over those from 1978-79.

Fourth grade reading scores jumped nearly 10 points over those in 1978-79. In Clarenceville, 82.2 percent of fourth graders mastered the test objectives for 1979-80 compared to 72.6 percent in 1978. Statewide, only 65.5 percent of fourth graders tested received a passing grade on the reading test.

In math, 91.1 percent successfully

answered three-quarters of the questions compared to 88.7 in 1978-79. Statewide, 82.8 of those fourth graders tested successfully answered all the questions.

In the seventh grade, test scores dipped slightly from those in 1978-79. In reading, 79.4 of Clarenceville students correctly answered three-quarters of the questions compared to 80.3 in 1978. In math, 65 percent of local students mastered the objectives compared to 66.7 in 1978.

However, Clarenceville students exceeded the state averages by 10 and 12 percentage points respectively in reading and math.

Clarenceville seventh graders like their counterparts throughout the state had trouble answering math questions relating to metrics, decimals and ratios.

Ms. Vickery said many of the objectives on the seventh grade test hadn't been covered before the test was administered last fall.

"Our particular curriculum has three stages. First we introduce the objective then practice and reinforce it. Finally, we aim for mastery. It usually takes three grades to do this and many of the objectives the state selected on the (seventh grade) test aren't covered until the seventh and eighth grades," she explained.

In the 10th grade, 69.6 of Clarenceville students mastered the reading objectives compared to 61 percent statewide. In math, 53.3 percent of local students answered three-quarters of the questions compared to 49.8 statewide.

In math, local students had a tough time answering questions on decimals and geometric measurement and fractions.

This is the first year all 10th graders throughout the state were required to take the test.

The state uses the MEAP scores and other group testing results as a guide for distributing funds for remedial math and reading services in elementary grades.

There are about 2,500 students in the Clarenceville School District, which includes parts of Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford Townships.

obituaries

ORVILLE C. BAKER

Mr. Baker, 70, of Farmington died Feb. 25 in White Hall Nursing Home.

He was born March 3, 1909 in Indiana and lived in Farmington for 26 years. Mr. Baker was a retired tool maker for Superior Machine and Engineering. He was a member of Redford Lodge 152 P.O.M. and Victoria Chapter of OES 299.

Survivors include: wife, Mildred; daughter, Beverly; sister, Mrs. Martha Clement; brothers, Cecil and Lester.

Services were Feb. 29 in Ward United Presbyterian Church with Rev. L.

Edward Davis officiating. Viewing was at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington. Cremation services were held at Evergreen Crematory.

Memorial tributes may be sent to the National Multiple Sclerosis Research Fund or Ward Presbyterian Church.

WILLIAM ARTHUR ELLOITT

Mr. Elliott, 75, of Farmington Hills died Feb. 26 in Fairlane Convalescent Home.

He was born June 3, 1904 in Canada. Mr. Elliott was retired from the Durako Paint Co. where he was a salesman. Survivors include: wife, Margaret I;

daughters, Mrs. Margaret Ann Richardson, Mrs. Patricia Buckley; three grandchildren.

Services were Feb. 29 at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington. Burial was at Acaacia Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

JOSEPHINE P. FLEMING

Mrs. Fleming, 62, of New Hudson, died Feb. 29 in Redford Community Hospital.

She was born March 17, 1917 in Michigan. Mrs. Fleming was a Farmington resident before recently moving to New Hudson.

Survivors include: husband, William A.; daughters, Patricia Ann White, Mrs. Mary Lou Bartholomew; sons, Michael Andrew, Timothy Patrick and James Martin Fleming; Joseph White; sister, Mrs. Anna Mary Cavanaugh; brother, Frank Stanalis; four grandchildren.

Services were March 4 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with Fr. Irving Gehring of Duns Scotus College and Seminary officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

GLADYS E. WEEKS

Mrs. Weeks, 75, of Farmington Hills, died March 1 in Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills.

She was born August 30, 1900 in Tennessee. She recently moved to Farmington Hills.

Survivors include: sister, Mrs. Mattie Mae McCook of Farmington and several nieces and nephews. Services were March 4 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home and at Oakes & Nichols Funeral Home, Columbus, Tenn. Rev. Isham A. Harris officiated. Burial was in Rose Hill Cemetery, Columbus, Tenn.



DICK SHAWN

More than 300 volunteers will participate in the fund raising activities in connection with the concert this year. For reservations and ticket information, call the concert office at 851-2398 or the school at 851-2394.

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Dick Shawn headlines Hillel School concert

Actor-comedian Dick Shawn will headline the entertainment at Hillel Day School's annual benefit concert at 8 p.m. March 23, at Ford Auditorium.

Also on the program will be the Brothers Zim, a musical group known for their rendition of Jewish soul, Israeli folk rock, Chassidic and American music.

The concert, which is the Farmington Hills school's main fundraiser netted the school more than \$50,000 last year.

Shawn's act features social and political satire, song, dance, pantomime and impersonations. He writes, choreographs, stages and directs his own performance.

Shawn began his career on television

and quickly graduated to the night club circuit.

Subsequently, he turned to legitimate theater where he starred in "The Egg," with Joan Hackett. He later replaced Zero Mostel on Broadway in the starring role in "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum."

He has appeared in several motion pictures including "It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World," "Wake Me While It's Over," "Penelope," "What Did You Do in the War Baby" and "The Producers."

The Brothers Zim has appeared internationally in concert and on television. The group has released several record albums and a single that was a number one hit in Israel.

Tower violates code

The Farmington City Council Monday approved funds for installation of a new 60-foot radio antenna tower for the department of public safety.

Radio failure led the department to the discovery of sizeable cracks in an aluminum leg of its tower. Two service companies consulted by the city said the tower couldn't be repaired.

The work will be completed by Great Lakes Tower and Antenna Co. of Monroe for \$1,282 for a 60-foot Rohn Tower, model SSV.

The faulty structure has been secured with cable wire to withstand 60 mile per hour winds until work can be completed in about four weeks.

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