

Schools thank business for aiding handicapped

The Farmington Public Schools vocational adjustment department hosted a banquet last Wednesday to thank representatives of nearly 100 local businesses which have employed handicapped students in a transitional classroom-to-community program for the past 10 years.

Guest speaker William F. McLaughlin, Michigan Department of Commerce director, lauded the Farmington program as one of the best in the state.

"Today, handicapped people are doing what they never would've done a generation ago. Gladly the stereotypes and attitudes of society are melting away," McLaughlin said.

He called it a dream arrangement. "It gives the handicapped recognition of abilities and employers the most dependable employees they can find," he said.

"I'm heartened to see such a relationship between community and government."

Trainable students who are learning disabled or have physical or mental handicaps have found permanent employment in nursing homes, hotels, restaurants and industrial shops.

"The real training place for our students is in the community," said Graham Lewis, special education coordinator.

"We look for parity, not charity." Each employer received a certificate of thanks for allowing handicapped a rightful place of employment.

The job placement program handles 150 to 200 students a year, according to Basil Myers, a vocational coordinator. Myers said the program will be expanded next year as more students are identified.

Myers and Rose Galvin, also a vocational coordinator, visit handicapped students in the three high schools in the district, Boys Republic and the Farmington Training Center to make vocational assessments.

"I've never met so many responsive people," Mrs. Galvin said. "A lot of students placed in jobs in the community several years ago are still there."

Accepting an award on behalf of all the employers was Al DiManno, owner of a Burger King franchise who has hired learning disabled, vision impaired and retarded students and has cooperated with the school program since its inception.

Also in attendance were the Farmington Board of Education, School Superintendent Lewis Schulman and state Rep. Wilbur Brotherton, R-Farmington.



Commerce Director William McLaughlin (right) came to Farmington Hills last week to honor local businesses which have helped the handicapped by hiring them as employees. Accepting the award for the 100 businesses honored is Al DiManno of Burger King. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

YMCA fills posts

The Farmington Area YMCA has named Kevin Bush assistant executive director.

Bush was formerly associated with the downtown branch of the Metropolitan YMCA of Detroit for four years. Prior to that, he was a recreational specialist with the Department of Labor.

Bush has a bachelor of science degree in health and physical education from Wayne State University and is working on a master's degree in public administration at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

"The YMCA allows me the freedom and creativity I like without many regulations," he said.

Bush sees the future YMCA movement in family programming, especially family fitness.

"I believe Americans are putting a

priority on fitness, and with the Y as a family center, we can develop creative programs to meet those needs.

"I think the Y will continue to offer our traditional programs but we are becoming specialized in meeting needs of the changing American family."

Correction

An article in the May 22 edition of the Farmington Observer incorrectly stated the purpose of a tea to be sponsored by the Edgewood Elementary School Parent-Teacher Organization. The meeting, set for June 1 at 1 p.m. in the school's learning center, is for the purpose of honoring those who have served at the school since its opening 55 years ago.

Those interested in attending should call the school's principal, David Kamish at 474-3052.

obituaries

CHARLES G. RAMSEY

Mr. Ramsey, 63, of Redford Township died May 18 in Veterans Administration Hospital, Allen Park.

He was born Sept. 15, 1916, in Brookneal, Va. Mr. Ramsey lived in Redford Township for 28 years. He was a tool maker for R&D Tool Co., Inc. in Farmington Hills.

Survivors include husband Ralph E. Services were May 22 in Nardin Park Methodist Church, Farmington Hills and Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington with Rev. William E. Prager officiating. Burial was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens.

CHARLES E. DAVEY

Mr. Davey, 62, of Farmington Hills died May 19 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

He was born Oct. 18, 1917 in England. He was an engineer for the General Motors Corp. Mr. Davey was a member of P&AM Lodge 489 Kismet.

Survivors include: wife, Dorothy; sons, Darren S., George D.; one grandson.

Services were May 22 in Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington and at St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Livonia with Rev. Kenneth G. Davis officiating. Burial was in Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens.

MARGARET AMY STULLER

Mrs. Stuller, 65, of Farmington died May 19 in Providence Hospital, Southfield.

Memorial contributions may be sent to St. Andrews Episcopal Church, Livonia, or the Michigan Cancer Foundation.

She was born July 3, 1914 in Dauphin, Manitoba, Canada. She lived in Farmington for 31 years. Mrs. Stuller was a member of OES 290 of Farmington.

Posts open

Farmington City Manager Robert Deadman has announced several openings on boards and commissions which need to be filled by local residents.

Currently there are openings on the planning commission and zoning board of appeals. Other potential openings that would be filled as they occur include library boards, employee retirement system, arts council and the commission on aging.

Interested Farmington residents are asked to contact Deadman at city hall, 23600 Liberty, Name, address, area of interest and area of expertise is requested.

Deadman will pass the information to the City Council.

"We'd like to have residents respond with the month of May," Deadman said.

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Olaf Daughter and Miss Clogs were 22.00 NOW 18.99
Special Sale Table values to 39.00 NOW 18.99

Childrens...
Stirle Rite shoes 14.99, 16.99, 18.99 Values to 22.99
Jumping Jack Sandals and Clogs 10.99 & 14.99 Values to 22.99
Famolare Girls Sandals 24.99 Values to 34.99
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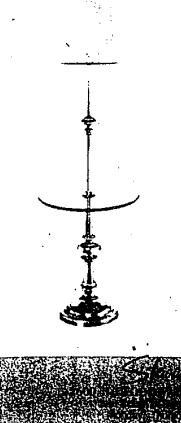
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