

AAUW honors its own as scholarships are awarded

By Loraine McCallish
staff writer

Emma Mackinen, Helen Ottati and Gretchen Peterson were honored by the Farmington branch, American Association of University Women (AAUW) this month when the branch awarded grants in their names to the Education Foundation of the national AAUW.

Money for the grants comes each year from the members' used-book sale. The sale is the group's one fundraiser of the year. It takes place in September, but the work of collecting and sorting the books is a year-around job.

The sale is a traditional fundraiser for many AAUW branches. It supports educational fellowships, scholarships and grants for women.

The Farmington branch had raised enough money in 1981 to give the largest per capita contribution of any of the 74 branches in Michigan.

This year, in addition to contributing to the national foundation, members awarded scholarship money to Oakland University. The money came from profits from the 1982 sale.

Other profits from the fall sale went to support the programs of Oakland County Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, housed in Farmington Hills Branch Library, Community Living Center, and Farmington Community Center.

EMMA MACKINEN, a member of the Farmington School Board of Education for the past 10 years, served the

community before that as president of the Farmington PTA Council.

Her position in both instances brought her to being involved and giving services to other agencies.

In her capacity as a school board member, she is liaison to the Oakland County Schools and vice president of the Michigan Association of School Boards.

In her capacity as president of the PTA Council, she worked with the Oakland County Health Department during the field trials of measles vaccine.

Now, 14 years later, she is still a regular volunteer at Well Child Clinic, which provides health care for the children of low-income families.

She is also active with the Farmington Area Advisory Council (FAAC). The council offers substance abuse treatment programs to young people and counseling for both them and their families.

Mackinen is part of PAAC's Inter-view team, which is involved in staff review and quality assurance.

In the AAUW, she has served as educational representative for the past four years. It was her service that brought the branch to sponsoring "Candidates' Night."

She was a staunch supporter for ERA, and since 1980 has been involved in a human relations group which sets up meetings for children to understand what brotherhood is.

She is mother to four children. As a member of Farmington Naturalists, she has been instrumental in the pres-

ervation of wildflowers in the community.

HELEN OTTATI remembers that little girls were not invited to vote in a mock presidential election in her school when she was 10 years old. She remembers having to use the side door of an exclusive men's club and not being hired as a teacher because she was married.

And she said she realized early on that the decision makers of the world were chosen by sex and not ability.

She has never been known as a marcher or demonstrator. But her influence has been felt by students and associates through 34 years of vast philosophic and teaching changes and through two race riots.

She taught social studies to teenagers and helped develop a family-living curriculum for high schoolers that at the time was in its experimental stages.

Through human relations student clubs, an extra-curricular activity she considered as important as her classes, she fought prejudice on all fronts, including race and religious prejudice as well as prejudice against the handicapped.

Many of her students came to meet the handicapped as fellow human beings.

Mother of two children, she volunteered time at the Livonia Counseling Center and is an avid participant in book discussion groups.

GRETCHEN PETERSON is presi-



Emma Mackinen



Helen Ottati



Gretchen Peterson

dent of the Farmington AAUW for the current year. She has been a member of the branch since she moved to the area 16 years ago, has headed a host of committees and has held a host of offices in the branch since.

For a number of years she was a substitute teacher in Farmington and was instrumental in the organization of the Farmington Association of Substitute Teachers.

She is a regular visitor to local nursing homes and teaches religious education classes.

Mother of six children, she has given time and talents to the local PTA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Little League baseball.

While Peterson was disbursing funds from last fall's book sale this spring, other AAUW committees were simultaneously raring up for the sale of 1983. The book barrels, all appropriately marked to receive used books as donations for the sale, are already placed in four sites.

The receptacles are in the A & P at the Downtown Shopping Center, in

Great Scott, 13 Mile and Orchard Lake Road, in Kroger's on Grand River and Halsted, and in Chatham's, Middlebelt and 11 Mile Road.

Those having large amounts of books to donate who need pick-up service may call Phyllis Cummings, 476-4735, or Edith Pierce, 553-2185.

AAUW membership is open to women who have at least a bachelor degree from an accredited college or university. Dottie Bennett will take inquiries at 477-9565.

Providence honors its 600 volunteers

Farmington resident Janet Smith was among the Providence Hospital volunteers honored by the hospital recently. Smith was among the award recipients for giving 4,000 volunteer hours.

Marion Bradshaw from Farmington Hills got recognition for her 3,000 hours of service. Marion Greene from Farmington and Eugene Franco from Farmington Hills both took awards for tallying up 2,000 hours of volunteer service. Kay Devlin from Farmington gave 1,000 hours of service.

The volunteers who work in the Southfield hospital show number 600

and are headed by Mary Grover of Detroit.

Others cited from Farmington for their volunteer work there are Virginia Cahill, Valda McLucas, Betty Quinn and Joe Quinlan.

Others from Farmington Hills are Ted Abrams, Judy Brauer, Norma Fleisher, Alice Kolins, Harriet Pell and Marie Wertheimer, who took service certificates for 500 hours of service.

Farmington residents who have given 100 hours of service to the hospital are Audrey Brunt, Lucille DeMarco, Grace McCarty, Babs McKendrick, Patricia Peterson and Annette Rosen.

Substance abuse

Continued from Page 1

indicates they're thinking about it."

The audience listened intently to the speakers, but especially to Matt who testified about the experiences which led him to Maple Grove for treatment.

At 12, he started "smoking a little pot and drinking a little beer." By high school graduation, the youth was mixing substances, his family was falling apart because the children were into drugs, and he barely graduated from high school.

After checking himself into the adolescent program at Maple Grove, he is now reunited with his family and trying to build his education up so he can go on to college.

"IT'S MADE MY life so much better to be able to think clearly instead of smoking a joint. I feel better and can handle things better without alcohol and drugs in my system," he told listeners, who applauded his success.

For those seeking to help an uncooperative family member or friend who is abusing alcohol or drugs, therapist

Renée Gerger talked about her work as an interventionist for Henry Ford Hospital.

Through "interventions," family, friends and even co-workers are trained to confront the person they want to help in a well-planned conference. The hope is that the person will be moved to go into inpatient care to remedy the problem.

She stressed that those taking part in "interventions" are trained for the sessions to confront their loved one in a "non-judgmental, caring way."

"When it works — and it usually does — it's a very exciting thing for all of us. It's an opportunity to save someone's life," said Gerger, who has a master's in social work.

"Often they say 'Thank God someone took the risk of hearing my anger because I didn't feel anyone cared anymore,'" she said.

But Gerger believes even in cases where "interventions" don't work, there's nothing lost.

"Interventions are never really a failure because it's often the first time the family felt unity."

club circuit

FARMINGTON AMERICAN LEGION, Groves-Walker Post 346 and its auxiliary meet at 8 tonight in the post hall, 3175 Grand River.

THE MOONSHEDS meet every Saturday for a dance party from 9 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in Livonia Activities Center, 15218 Farmington Road. The event is open to all singles over the age of 40. Admission is asked at the door.

WISER, which takes its name from the words Widows in Service, meet at 8 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, in the downstairs room of Plymouth Historical Museum, Main and Church streets, Plymouth.

Program for the evening is "Sound Financial Management and Tax Planning," led by Joe O'Brien, CPA.

The WISER program in this area is sponsored by Women's Resource Center, Schoolcraft College. Meetings take place in various sites and all are open to widows and widowers in all surrounding communities.

Membership inquiries will be taken by calling the resource center, 591-6155.

BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL WOMEN, Farmington Area Chapter, meet for dinner and a program at 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, June 7, in Buggy Works, Orchard Lake Road, south of 13 Mile.

Program for the evening is called "Community Resources to Aid Working Women."

The event is open to all area business and professional women, but reservations are necessary by calling Jeri Correll, 471-1237.

BNAI BRITH WOMEN, Morgenstern Chapter, meet for a petite luncheon meeting at noon Wednesday, June 8, in Knob-in-the-Woods Clubhouse, in Southfield.

Speaker for the afternoon is Shirlee Rosen. Her subject is "Cults." Reservations, at no charge, are requested. Reservations will be taken by calling Yetta Epstein, 545-2477.

NOW, (National Organization for Women) Northwest Wayne County chapter, has named Carol Lindsay, who will graduate from Plymouth High School this month, the recipient of its "Feminist Scholarship Award" for the year.

Lindsay will be guest of honor for the chapter's final meeting of the season

which begins at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, June 8, in Hoover Elementary School, 15900 Levan Road, Livonia.

In addition to giving Lindsay her award, the chapter will induct officers for the coming season.

Law degree is earned

Colleen Marie Hanlon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hanlon of Farmington Hills, took her law degree from the University of Michigan Law School this month.

Hanlon is a graduate of Harrison

The meeting is open to the public without charge. Persons wishing membership information and/or transportation, may call Kathy Boston, 455-5051.

High School and Michigan State University where she was affiliated with Phi Kappa Phi, an honorary society. She has accepted a position with the law firm of Morrison and Foerster in Los Angeles.

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