

# Exchange students discover the U.S.

By M.B. Dillon Ward staff writer

"Even the lift boy said, 'welcome to the U.S." said Carsten Kuchntopp of Germany,
"They tell you to have a nice day when you shon, it's something. In Swe-den, we never say that," said Maria Tamayo of Stockholm.
"The American people are helpful and smile always." said Mika Heinimo of Yantas, Finland.

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The teen-agers, three of 800 new arrivals in the States for a one-year stay, were getting to know each other during a Youth for Understanding, (YU) orientation at the Newburgh Methodist Church in Westland recently.

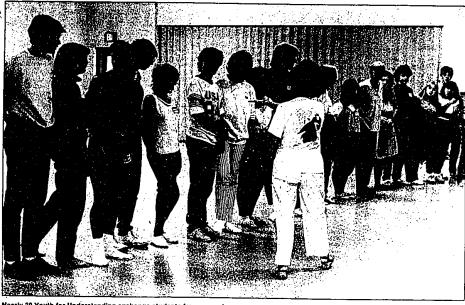
Originated in Ann Arbor as an exchange program for German and American youth, YU has become a worldwide organization, offering young people and host families the opportunity to get to know each other and learn something of foreign countries and cultures.

something of loreign counts are and surfaces.

The Swedish, German, Finnish, Swiss, Japanese, Danish and Mexican students are new in more than one way.

Travel-weary but excited, many were overwhelmed to clear airport customs and be greeted by shouting swarms of flag-waving, sign-bearing families and friends.

"We compare it to bringing a new baby home for the first time." said Westland's Lynne Larmee, a YU area representative and confessed flag-waver.



Nearly 30 Youth for Understanding exchange students from around the world have arrived for a year's stay in metropolitan Detroit. Many, like Japan's Mayako Aoki, (seventh from right), worked odd

a second or third language.

"Most Americans won't leave their country," said Peter.

"And our teachers say we speak bad English," sald Maria.

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"We compare it to bringing a new baby home for the first lime," said Westland's Lynne Larmee, a YU area representative and confessed flag-waver.

"We know they're tired and it's a lot to handle, but we can't help it."

THOUGH EXCTTING, the first minering also was guspenseful and a bit tense for students, most of whom arrived during August.

It was so afraid analy. I did not know that shall we do when we see each other," said Carsten, a tall blond from the west berind staying with Jim and Carol Verkennis of Westland.

"Everyone was there waiting, the escalators all full of people and the crowd with signs. I folt embarrassed.

"It was a great shock for me."

Arriving was just the beginning of

jobs like washing dishes and delivering newspappers to earn the \$3,000-\$4,000 the trip is costing them.

"In Europe, everybody knows sever-al languages. Not so much because they have to learn languages, but because they want to," said another student.

"They should go out and see what's happening in the world and not be so isolated." OF THE 28 YU students placed in Wayne County, only three have studied English for one year or less. On an average, the exchange students have taken English classes for six and a half years. The majority speaks four languages, and one speaks six.

Such cultural differences and the difficulties they can cause were addressed during the three-day YU orientation for families and students, said Canton's Henriette McDonald, YU area representative and American mom' to Axel Skielka. (Axel, from Bremen, Germany, often reminds the McDonalds that Bremen is the home of Beck's Beer, says McDonald.) says McDonald.)

Built into the orientation schedule was free time to enable students to

catch up on school work. Some curled up with volumes of American history or literature, while others played soccer in the gym.

Neither activity appealed to Carsten. "I just want to talk," he said.

"It's great to be an exchange student.

I feel something is going on with me. I don't know what it is, but it is great.

"Coming here is a dream from very long ago. I was not expecting anything but so much is happening: Its wrong if you expect your host family to be rich or to have lots of cars. "Don't do that."

Staff photos by Art Emanuele

## INSIDE

Know someone doing something notable? Let us know. Write: Inside Angles, Farmington Observer, 23352 Farmington Road, Farmington 48024.

Eruopean, Oriental and Mexican teen-agers are attending school while staying with families throughout the county. American hosts are paying for room and board and receive \$50 tax deductions for each

month the young visitors are in

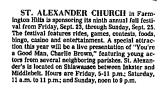
WOMEN OF NORTH FARMINGTON women or North FARMING TON
present astrologer June Lowell as their guest
speaker for their Wine & Welcome Luncheon at
11:30 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, in the Farmington
Community Center. The polluck luncheon is propared by the members of the club featuring many
different dishes. Reservations are being taken by
Charlotte Wachsberg, 553-6459, and Elaine Rousseau, 477-6849. Cost is \$5 per person.

MICHAEL SOLAN, of Farmington Hills and vice president and general manager of WLLZ-FM, has been elected senior vice chairman of the southeast Michigan chapter of the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation. Under Solaris tenure, WLLZ-FM has been instrumental to the success of numerous March of Dimes activities, most notably WalkAmerica, an annual 32-kilometer walkathon.

-KRISTEN DANA BOE, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Roger Boe of Farmington Hills, is flying to France to take part in the Sweet Britar College Junior Year in France program. She is majoring in International relations at Mount Holyoke College in South Haddey, Mass. Before leaving New York, ahe and her parents were honored at a reception arranged by the Junior Year in France. Kristen is scheduled to return to the United States next summer.

EVELYN VILLARUEL of Farmington Hills once again has achieved special professional recognition by the Music Teachers National Association (MITNA) as a nationally certified teacher of plano. Villaruel was recommended for this advanced professional standing by the Michigan Music Teachers Association on the basis of continued orutatanding achievement and high professional standards in the field of music pedagogy. This includes musical competence, teaching preparation, and successful teaching experience.

MARCH OF DIMES superide '83, a 75-ki-lometer bikeathon against birth defects, will happen Saturday, Oct. 1, at three locations: Belle Isle, Camp Dearborn and Stony Creek Metropark. All proceeds raised by Superide '83 help the March of Dimes flight birth defects via medical research, educational programs and community services projects. Riders who bring an official sponer form to the event will receive a free bike patch. In addition, there are prizes for persons who raise large amounts of money for the light against birth defects by collecting pledges per kilometer from family and friends. Prizes range from T-shirts and hand-held calculators to radios, TVs and 10-speed becycles. To sign up, call the Superide Hot Line at 413-232.



THERE WAS A hig welcome home for Karen Garms this week when she returned home from a three-month Intereshlp with the Armed Forces Recreational Services in Berchtesgaden and Lake Chiensee, Germany. After completing her internship she traveled for four weeks throughout scandinavia, venturing as far north as the Artic Circle in Norway and from there to Scotland and England. Karen is a sophomore at Michigan State University in the hotel management program.

THE UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT named Sric Surmann a Presidential Scholar, a distinction that includes a four-year half-tuilton exholarship for undergraduate atudy at the University. To compete for the title, students must graduate from high school with a 3,0 or higher grade point on a 4,0 scale and score at least 25 on the ACT or 1,100 on the SAT college entrance examinations. Erfewan one of 77 students of the country's 1983 high school graduates honored.

THE COX FAMILY reunion took place at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Alan Cox of Cadillac Street in Farmington Hills on Sunday, with 61 persons in attendance. These are descendants of Mr. & Mrs. John Garland Cox, who came from Somershre, England in 1869 and lived on 13 Mile Road near Drake in Farmington Township until their deaths in 1904 and 1907. The oldest person attending was Gladys Cox of Drayton Plains, and the youngest was the host's 10-day old son, Matthew Alan Cox. The person who came the farthest was Willa Reguler from Clay Center, Kans. This group has met annually since 1920, with occasional getters before then, including Mr. & Mrs. John Cox's 50th wedding anniversary in 1901.

GEORGE MAJOROS JR., of Farmington Hills and a 1979 North Farmington High School graduate, received his bachelor of science in eco-nomics from the University of Michigan this sum-mer. He is attending Case Western Reserve Law School in Clevaland, where he is on the staff of the Case Western Reserve Journal of International

### Come to the next session of our Seminar for Brides ...this one featuring Bride's Magazine

At Hudson's Eastland on Saturday, October 1, 9 a.m. and Sunday, October 2, 11:30 a.m., Bride's Magazine representative, Connie Hendricks, will offer a world of Infor-mation on weddings. How to put malion on weddings. How to puly your own wedding together, from engagement to honeymoon. Plus all the Important homemaking advice brides want, but don't know who to ask. So have your questions ready. Tickets are 2.50 each, available at Hudson's Eastland Bride's Registry. Or call for reservations, 223-1895. Door prizes, refreshments and advice from manufacturers' representatives included. Also a drawing for a Honeymoon Package: 8 days, 7 nights on St. Lucia Island at the Dasheene Hotel...transportation via Pan-American Arlines. Compliments of: St. Lucia, Dasheene Hotel, Pan-

of: St. Lucia, Dasheene Holei, Pan-American Airlines, Bride's Magazine and Hudson's.

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