

# Artist sees good in everyone

By Diane Gale  
staff writer

Ken Lockwood of Farmington is one of those people who see the good in everyone. Even his caricatures of famous persons are flattering.

"I like all the people that I caricature, and I try to bring out the personality in each," said Lockwood, 77. "I don't do caricatures of women that often, because I tend to be too kind."

While most caricature artists capitalize on the subject's worst feature and exaggerate it to grotesque proportions, Lockwood highlights the best and overlooks Mother Nature's flaws.

A complimentary rendering of Lt. Gov. Martha Griffiths is one of 18 Lockwood caricatures displayed at the Farmington Library through February. He complimented her wide smile and blue eyes, and brushed past the real-life wrinkles and graying hair.

Griffiths is among diverse company including politicians, sports figures and actors.

**LOCKWOOD RELATES** stories about asking famous people to sign his work. Jack Benny, Joe E. Brown and Arthur Lake, who starred as Dagwood in the "Blondie" movie and television series are among the autographed caricatures.

Lockwood chuckles when he explains that Lake's clumsy idiosyncrasies in front of the camera were the same off-screen.

"He didn't have to do much acting in that role," he said.

Creating caricatures has become a hobby for Lockwood, who has logged more than 50 years as a professional artist and 42 years as a member of Scarab, an artists and photographers' club in Detroit.

Lockwood studied at the Detroit Art Academy and worked as a copy writer at the Detroit Times to earn art school expenses. He later worked at Campbell-Ewald and Betteridge Co., in addition to running his own advertising agency/art studio.

Lockwood retired as art director for Montgomery Ward more than 10 years ago, but continued to fill in when needed.

But he maintains a devotion to art by using oils, water colors and knife pellet media to create replicas of many subjects.

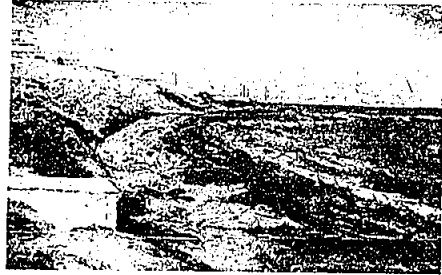
His work has been published in magazines, newspapers, billboards and television commercials.

Even though Lockwood is retired, he doesn't sit idle. He teaches art classes every Wednesday at the Farmington Hills Senior Adult Center at Mercy Center.



Lockwood tries to have his subjects sign their caricature. Sparky Anderson, Detroit Tiger manager (above), complied.

"I like all the people I caricature, and I try to bring out the personality in each."  
— Ken Lockwood  
artist



Caricaturist Ken Lockwood (right) extends his talents to landscapes with oils and watercolors. An example of his work is the palette-knife painting (above) called Libyan Coast. Lockwood said the caricature of President Ronald Reagan (left) was his most difficult.



## School action spurs course expansion

By Diane Gale  
staff writer

The Farmington School District has paved the way for Farmington Hills to build a maintenance building at San Marino Golf Course.

Board members accepted a \$52,500 written offer Tuesday by the city to purchase the school-owned property in Section 17, which is adjacent to San Marino Golf Course at Halsted Road, north of 11 Mile.

"Selling the property is the thing to do, because it doesn't handicap any of the school's future plans," said School Supt. Lew Schulman.

A \$105,000 federal grant, administered through the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, will help Farmington Hills bare the expense.

A matching \$105,000 will be spent by the city to construct the new parks maintenance and storage facility in order to replace the three deteriorating buildings.

A report submitted to the Farmington Hills City Council by Doug Gaynor, director of special services, lists numerous problems and dangerous conditions at the present sites.

For instance, a roof leak in the four-bay garage area is creating an electrical hazard. A temporary heating system in the building poses a potential danger with the storage of combustible liquids.

Maintenance of petroleum-operated flammable equipment is restricted in the area.

Another wooden barn-type building, housing fertilizer and chemicals, is on its last legs, Gaynor said.

"THIS BUILDING is in very poor condition and has been reinforced with numerous braces to keep it standing," he said in a recent report.

Fertilizer and chemicals stored there are lost each year due to the excessive moisture.

The third building, housing small hand mowers, leaf blowers and other miscellaneous hand tools, is an unheated blockhouse-type structure. The foundation and slender block are crumbling.

"All three buildings' roofs leak excessively and no longer provide any security for the equipment," Gaynor said.

The inadequate condition of the buildings forces the city to store golf and park maintenance equipment outside.

"Due to the existing conditions of these buildings, there have been numerous safety code and policy violations which are creating hazardous working conditions," Gaynor said.

"A new maintenance facility will eliminate the necessity of the three buildings by incorporating working and storage areas under one roof and providing a safe, secured area for the staff and equipment," he said.

## Students staying ahead of state achievement

By Diane Gale  
staff writer

Farmington students tested in reading and mathematics on a statewide achievement examination chalked up high scores. Fourth graders showed only a slight slide from previous years.

The test is given each fall to measure the academic status of fourth-, seventh- and 10th-grade students as measured by the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP).

"Farmington students surpassed percentages statewide," said Eric Gordon of Instructional Development and Evaluation Associates Inc. IDEA evaluated the MEAP results for the Farmington School District.

Compared to recent years, the seventh- and 10th-grade scores are rising, however, fourth graders have slipped a few percentage points.

WHEN CONSIDERING only the performance of Farmington students, fourth graders performed well on 18 of the 25 objectives. At least 75 percent achievement was made on all 25 objectives.

"The decline noted was not sufficient for excessive concern," Gordon said.

He recommended that staff investigate possible reasons for the decline while keeping in mind that the scores, compared with national averages, are high.

Many other factors also should be considered, Gordon said. One element is the MEAP tests are given to different students each year, and the make-up of the each class changes.

"IN SEVENTH and tenth grades, the proportion of students achieving in reading and mathematics is on the increase," Gordon said. "This is especially a favorable finding, given some of the national statistics which tend to show a decline in high school scoring and achievement."

In comparing reading with mathematics results for Farmington students, reading levels are generally higher. This pattern has become a pattern for at least two years, according to the IDEA analysis.

In most categories, Farmington students scored in the 90 percent level.

"Only recently in Farmington we're starting to see a leveling off because the scores are very high. Maybe it would be worthwhile to look at other forms of testing."

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