

Farmington teachers Karen and Glen Gearhart relax on the lawn of their Southfield home.



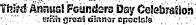
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## Teaching extends to homefront

Adding their years together, this
Jume marks the 48th year that Karen
and Glen Gearhard of Southfield have
behold District in the Farmington
English teacher Glen Gearhard
Greenwich University of the Control of the Co

English teacher Glen Gearhart, who always wears a three-piece suit to school, was an original east member at North Farmington High School when it opened in 1961.

His wife, Karen, who is said to have the most challenging grading scale this side of the Musissippi River, sterted teaching English and French at North in 1962, She moved to Farmington High School in 1969, where she has been eyer since.

since.
Since 1981 some 8,900 Farmington teens have passed through their class-

"I figured out one time," said Mrs.
"I figured out one time," said Mrs.
Gearhart, adjusting her boulfant hairdo, "that I only have a student for \$2
hours of his life." That's the total numher of hours a class meets over a somester. "That's not very much time,
really."

mester. "That's not very much time, really."

So, she and her husband have learned to teach it such a way that students are thinking about their classes after school hours — sometimes even 20 years after.

GILBERT PREUSS (sounds like "Price") was graduated from North 20 years ago. But, like a diligent student, the off-shore oil driller still corresponds with the Gearharts.

Dozens of others from different graduating classes still keep in touch with the Gearharts.

Scated in their plant-filled living that overlooks 140 rose bushes gracing their back yard, the green-thumbed teaching duo rattles off a list of students who still correspond with them.

Greg Semack, Class of '99: "He owns his own print business in Novi now

## Murtaugh named to dean's list

Arleen Joan Murtaugh of Farming-ton Hills is among those students named to the dean's list for the spring 1984 semester at the University of Del-

aware.

Named to the dean's list are full-time students with a grade point aver-age of 3.25 or above on a 4 scale with no temporary grades.

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wants to go to medical school. ...
Debbie direty Morwhi "She's a
successful boo!"

Jill Easthorne: "She's a ballerina in
Greenwich Village in New York. ."

"Rob Clark, Ray Dhue, Gaylen Curtis

And the list goes on.
But the teachers have a rule that students can't visit them at home until after they graduate.
"There has to be a line," said Glen Gearhart, "You can't be 'buddy, buddy' with them (when they are your students)."

dents)."
Since the two began teaching, they have seen drastic shifts in student behavior.

havier.

"KIDS TODAY are very much like they were when we started teaching," said Mr. Gearhart. They're back into sports and extracurricular activities after a swing away from these in the into '60s and '70s.

Following the national trend, "In the early '70s' things fell apart in the schools," said Mrs. Gearhart. "Teachers were no longer valid idols, drugs were rampant and violence was theorem. It was like a context to see who could take the most drugs and still come to class."

The couple described a 1989 studentled protest against the school dress code. The code prohibited wearing and the school and said that women on the code of the school and said that women on the code of the code of the school and the school are said that women on school after the school and said that women or school and said Channel 7 or clearabed it on the news.

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said Mrs. Gearhart.
Those were the days, she says, when school was "uncool." Dances, clubs, band and sports all intacked off. Hardiya anybody was trying out for cheerleading.
"Now I see things coming back," she

said. "School is a place to be again."
And that's fine by the Gearharta: "We don't have to fight drugged students," said Mrs. Gearhart.

Kids today, they say, are concerned about grades — maybe too concerned in some cases — and they are more worldly. Most have jobs after school.



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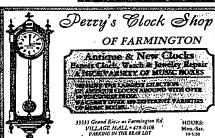
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