

Student competency tests called for

By Tom Henderson
staff writer

"The more things change, the more they stay the same" is one of those old sayings Mike Shihler doesn't believe in. Shihler, the new superintendent of the Clarenceville school system, recently conducted an opinion survey of the district, and as a result, his students can be sure of one thing: changes, and lots of them.

Shihler is presenting his findings Wednesday to the Board of Education.

Shihler said in an interview Friday that he expects the board to adopt within a month a series of short-term and long-term goals. Tentatively, some of the changes would include:

- Developing a comprehensive testing program in the high school, where a student would have to display proficiency in reading, writing and mathematics before the issuance of a diploma.
- A program through out the school district

where students would have to meet proficiency standards before being promoted to the next grade.

• A special curriculum for the intellectually gifted.

• Stricter discipline through a revised student code of conduct.

SHIHLER, WHO became superintendent in July, mailed out the 44-question survey to all residents and business in the district, as well as to all the district's employees.

Of the more than 4,700 questionnaires sent out, 554 were returned by Aug. 19, the deadline for beginning to collate the information.

"We've got 650 in now, but we had to have some deadline so we could start planning," said Shihler. "We're real pleased with the response. It's over 10 percent, which is real high for a mail-in (study). I'm enthusiastic that the people took the time. It speaks well of the community."

The 554 answers used in the statistical analysis represent a response of 11.7 percent.

According to Shihler, the results "demonstrate to me that the community of Clarenceville is most definitely interested in the education of their children and that they want a quality program."

Some survey results:

- 74 percent want a special program for gifted students.
- 45 percent thought the district did a good job of stressing basic skills.

- 79 percent wanted four years of high school English instead of three.
- 84 percent thought one year of computer education should be mandatory.
- 65 percent felt that if a student failed repeatedly to pass a high school proficiency test, the student should receive a certification of attendance rather than a diploma.
- 93 percent felt elementary students should have to meet certain standards before advancing to the next grade; 92 percent felt the same for junior high students.

- 71 percent thought the district should implement a homework policy for those in grade school; the figure was 83 percent, and it was 81 percent for those in high school.
- 32 percent thought that Clarenceville students currently acquire the skills to deal with the work world.
- 37 percent had no opinion about the athletic programs.

Houses readied

Continued from Page 1

Members of the Carpenters District Council have been picketing the entrance to the subdivision off Haggerty Road since July 17.

Information concerning the picketing has been difficult to obtain.

Jack Wood, director of the Detroit Building Trades Council, said early in July that the 11 builders constructing the Homearama models hired union, former union and non-union workers at or below union wage scales.

"This is the only thing we (the carpenters) can do to show them (the builders)," said Wood in July. "This is to get the builders' attention."

Sponsoring the Homearama is the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan, which also represents the participating builders.

Repeated attempts to contact the builder's association labor management executive were unsuccessful. Representatives of the Detroit Building Trades Council and the Carpenter's District Council also were unavailable for comment.

Last year, when the Homearama was held in Troy, about 40,000 people attended the show during a two week period, according to Rosalie Lamb, administrative assistant for the Builders Association of Southeastern Michigan.

"This year the builders have just outdone themselves," Lamb said in a recent interview. "The showcases homes are just fantastic — totally decorated and landscaped."

THE HOMES, which range in price from \$125,000 to \$200,000, represent various types of architecture. One- and two-story models will be open, Lamb said.

"It will be a good opportunity for people to take a look at what is available now and what will be available in the near future," she said.

All Homearama homes feature energy-efficient ideas such as solar energy. One builder guarantees heating and cooling costs will be under \$500 a year, she said.

Admission to the show will be \$3 per person at the box office and \$2 if tickets are purchased in advance.

Tickets are available through Standard Federal Savings and Loan offices, Detroit Edison offices and all Frank's Nursery and Crafts stores.

OH MY (EXPENSIVE) ACHING BACK

• 75 million Americans have back problems
• 2 million Americans cannot work because of it
• 80% of all Americans will suffer from back pain
• 20% of all work related injuries involve the back
• Back pain is the most expensive ailment in the 30-60 age group.
• \$14 billion is spent annually by back patients and insurance companies.
• The average insurance claim for a back injury is \$5,000!

These statistics were found in an Associated Press (AP) article. The magnitude of expense they pose is frightening. A chiropractor would wonder if early treatment couldn't have significantly reduced these costs. The problem with backaches, is that they are ignored in their early stages when the discomfort is only slight. As the pain worsens, the condition is gradually deteriorating into a severe ailment. If you are experiencing any discomfort in your neck or back, get a chiropractic examination now, before the pain (and the expense) become severe.

CALL
BENESTAD CHIROPRACTIC
477-6400
FOR A FREE SPINAL EXAMINATION
21021 FARMINGTON ROAD
FARMINGTON

Something To Think About

BOB ROCK
DIRECTOR

LOSS OF A GRANDPARENT

For the majority of children, the first encounter with death in the family comes through the death of a grandparent. Grandparents have a special place in the life of their grandchildren, for they represent an unconditional love that can be treasured for a lifetime. The question for the parent is how to explain and make acceptable to the child the death of so important a person in the child's life.

It's not an easy situation. The temptation is to avoid it by telling the child a convenient story and by excluding the child from the funeral service. But this is cheating the child in a very important way. The rites and rituals that we use to mark the end of life are our way of saying a significant and appropriate good-bye. To have this opportunity taken away can leave the child with many unresolved feelings. It can also possibly damage trust between child and parent.

THAYER-ROCK FUNERAL HOME
32003 Grand River
Farmington 474-4131

LIVONIA True Value HARDWARE

OWN YOUR OWN PHONE & SAVE! YOUR MONTHLY RENTAL FEE!
We are now a Michigan Phone Center Store. We carry original Bell equipment available in rotary or Touch-Tone®.

AUGUST SAVINGS

A. Traditional Desk Rotary Reg. \$9.99 \$4.99
Touch-Tone® Reg. \$11.99 \$5.99

B. Traditional Wall Rotary Reg. \$7.99 \$3.99
Touch-Tone® Reg. \$4.99 \$2.99

C. Trimline® (wall or table) Rotary Reg. \$9.99 \$4.99
Touch-Tone® Reg. \$9.99 \$4.99

D. Princess® Rotary Reg. \$9.99 \$4.99

AT&T TOUCH-A-MATIC WALL PHONE W/MEMORY Reg. \$29.99 \$7.99
AT&T CORDLESS NOMAD II Reg. \$59.99 \$4.99

WIRELESS Reg. SALE T.M. VOX Reg. SALE

- K4000 Extenderphone \$64.99 \$14.99
- EX1150 Cordless \$79.99 \$7.99
- EX1020 W/Automatic Dialer \$69.99 \$4.99
- Solitaire IV \$24.99 \$18.99
- Cordless \$69.99 \$14.99
- Clock Radio w/Phone \$49.99 \$29.99
- Ultra Line II Contemporary \$49.99 \$42.99

COMPLETE LINE OF PARTS FOR INSTALLATION AND/OR CONVERSION

33533 FIVE MILE AT FARMINGTON ROAD
GA 2-1155 937-1611



RANDY DORST/staff photographer

Fall Registration

August 20-23
4-8 P.M.

- Tap
- Jazz
- Ballet
- Aerobics

Preschool-Adults

Northville Plaza Mall

\$5.00 OFF Your first month's tuition during Registration Days

Good for 1st time Registration in any class

Call 348-1810

August Specials

Zotos Foam Perms
Reg. \$40 \$27.99

PERMS \$16.99 \$16.99

HAIRSETS \$14.99 \$14.99

PRECISION HAIRCUTS \$9.99
Senior Citizen Sals • Mon. Tues. 7-11
Sat. 9-5 Open Every Evening
472-3557

Ann's Hair Design
29249 Rayburn • Livonia
(5 Mile & Middlebelt area • around corner from 7-11)
Sat. 9-5 Open Every Evening
472-3557

Park planned in Farmington

Continued from Page 1

used by all city residents, Deadman said. Because of its location in the heart of Floral Park though, more than likely the area will be used as a neighborhood park, he added.

The improvements came about, Duke said, as the result of a neighborhood effort petitioning city officials to beautify the one-sixth of an acre.

"It wasn't kept up very well," he

said, about the right-of-way.

That's when Duke and one of his neighbors decided to get city and residents' support for improving the area. Neighbors living near the right-of-way showed the greatest support for the project, Duke said. Only two residents refused to sign the petition.

The Floral Park right-of-way project is one of three the city is involved in with the help of the Youth Jobs Corps, Deadman said.

Bel Arts Dance

Special OPEN BOWLING

50¢ per game

Thru Labor Day

Join Our Fall Leagues Now

Enjoy Our Automatic Scorers

Monday Men's 9:30 p.m. FOOTBALL LEAGUE
Bowl and watch Football on overhead TV's

24001 ORCHARD LAKE RD.
Farmington (Near 10 Mile)
478-1550

Some lumber yards would rather not handle small, unimportant orders. We wouldn't know. We never had one.

H.A. SMITH

Lumber Supplies
28575 Grand River
(Near 8 Mile) 474-6610 or 535-8440

75¢ OFF all 24 pk. 12 oz. cans

BEER

FREE LOTTO TICKET

15% OFF ALL WINE

COKE Regular • Diet • Caffeine Free 6 pk. 1/2 liter

ANDY'S \$1.59 COUNTRY MARKET
22235 Middlebelt (101 N. of New Mile)
PACKAGED LIQUOR • Beer & Wine
Daily Liquor 1/2 liter \$1.59
LOTTO \$1.59
We Accept Food Stamps & Mfg. Coupons

Indoor Tennis THE LIVONIA ATHLETIC CLUB

Pre-Season Membership Special

ONLY \$59.00 Per Person

GOOD ONE YEAR

PERMANENTLY PRIVATE LESSONS

PERMANENTLY PRIVATE CLINICS

PERMANENTLY PRIVATE PROGRAMS

FALL COURT RATED PRIME • 10 HR.

LIVONIA ATHLETIC CLUB

22235 MIDDLEBELT RD. (101 N. OF NEW MILE)
LIVONIA, MI 48150-1223