

Suburban Life

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(F)19

Forensics

Harrison senior is 1st in district to enter national competition

By Lorraine McClish
staff writer

Laura Livingstone, a senior at Harrison High School, will be the first student in the Farmington Public School District to compete in the National Forensics League (NFL). She'll be graduating from Harrison June 11, but nevertheless is representing her school June 16-23 in Eau Claire, Wis. with her teacher and coach Laura Sparrow.

"It is an honor for the team just to compete in the NFL and a particular honor for the individual," Livingstone said of the invitation.

"She was a star from the beginning," Sparrow said of the student she has watched gather up points in speech competitions for the past four years.

When the Harrison team was invited to compete in the NFL on the state

level, Livingstone was the only one of the team singled out for the national competition, and was one of eight chosen to compete nationally from Michigan.

She's entered in the "Dramatic Interpretation" division and will read a selection from William Luce's "Belle of Amherst," a play written as a one-woman show based on the life of Emily Dickinson.

LIVINGSTONE read from "Belle of Amherst" to give her a win in the state competition. But she used a reading from Tennessee Williams' "The Glass Menagerie" and a selection from "The Actress," a humorous spoof, to win a scholarship into Kalamazoo College's school of theater.

"I've always been interested in theater. I've been in forensics since the

ninth grade and took part in a lot of school plays," she said.

Her 11th-grade win was the first-place spot in the state when she teamed up with fellow forensics student Todd Cherkasky for the "Dramatic Duo" category.

But she turned down a part in Harrison's production of "Don't Drink the Water" in her senior year when time got tight.

"Getting a job and earning money for college is important now," she said of her new after-school job as cashier and stock girl for Frank's Nursery.

Added to that she is a member of the school's marching band flag corps, the choir ensemble, a staff member of a literary magazine published by the school, and was working toward the Michigan Teachers and Coaches Debate competition this spring in Mackin-

naw when "Don't Drink the Water" rehearsals were in session.

As for her forensics training, she gets school credit for it, but she thinks of it as extracurricular because so many Saturdays and after-school hours are required for the competitors.

THE NATIONAL Forensics League was founded in 1924 in Albany, N.Y., and is based in the University of Denver. Tournament sites are moved from year to year throughout the U.S.

Last year 573 schools were represented in the national tournament and 1,330 students competed in 371 rounds of participation in four categories, narrowing winners through elimination.

The competition is much the same on the state level as individual team members gather up points to advance to the next step. When the Harrison

team competed at the state level, only three out of 25 made it to the final round.

At the national level, Livingstone will be in at least three days of preliminary competition earning points to continue. The rounds will continue until there is one national champion declared in each of four divisions.

"She's been successful in the Michigan Interscholastics Forensics long enough and strong enough to be up to this," Sparrow said. "I'm confident of this."

Livingstone has an older brother studying journalism at Western State University and a younger brother who is a freshman at Harrison. Both compete in forensics and both are involved in school plays. She is the daughter of Phyllis and David Livingstone of Farmington Hills.



Laura Livingstone

Tribute paid

AAUW honors its own with 2 named grants

Farmington Branch of American Association of University Women (AAUW) paid tribute to two of its members with the announcement that named grants would be sent to the National Education Foundation of AAUW in their honor.

The honorees are Vivian Henderhan, president of the local branch for the past two years, and Betty Steinke, who with Henderhan is co-chairing the branch's 1985 used book sale. The two were selected as honorees for their many contributions to AAUW as well as the community.

Money for the grants come from the proceeds of the annual used book sale, and the grants are given to further the education of women. Well marked book barrels are sitting in local supermarkets now, receptacles for the used books that will be sold this fall in Livonia Mall, carrying on a longstanding tradition.

HENDERHAN is a native of Ohio who took her degree in health and physical education from Kent State University and her master of education in reading and psychology from University of Delaware.

She has taught every grade from kindergarten through college in a variety of schools with varied philosophies. She is now employed by Northville School District as a learning consultant, read-

ing and math teacher.

She is a member of Delta Kappa Gamma, a professional society for teachers, the Michigan Reading Association, the Wayne County Reading Council, and Bell Foundry Chapter of Quilters, which collects and restores antiques.

Mother to Rob, 24, and Patrick, 17,



Vivian Henderhan

she belongs to North Farmington High School's Boosters Club and the school's Basketball Parents Group.

Henderhan taught dancing in the past, did some choreography, but is getting her exercise now with aerobics. She is also a collector of antique shaving mugs and primitive furniture.

She joined AAUW in 1973 and served



Betty Steinke

in various positions before assuming the presidency of the chapter.

STEINKE is a native of Kalamazoo and graduated from Western Michigan University with a degree in medical technology. She is a registered medical technician, member of American Society of Clinical Pathologists and recently retired after employment with University of Michigan Hospital, Mt. Carmel Hospital and Redford Community Hospital.

She is a charter member of First Presbyterian Church of Farmington and president of the church's Women's Association. She was one of the organizers to get Farmington High School's Boosters Club under way, and for five years has delivered Wheels on Meals.

Steinke has four children. One daughter is a doctor, another daughter is a CPA, and another daughter is an ombudsman for rights of the elderly. Her son is a dentist.

She is a bridge player, a fisherman and a collector of antique pitchers.

Steinke is AAUW's chapter historian, a post she's held for many years.

Membership in AAUW is open to women who hold at least a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university. Membership inquiries are taken by Doris Gaston, 358-8162, evenings only.



Full circle

Alice Nichols prepares for "Full Circle," an art exhibit and sale which represents the full circle of her 30-year career as an artist, Saturday through Friday, June 1-7 in her home studio, 33002 Maple, Farmington. Show hours are from 1-9 p.m. Saturday and 7-9 p.m. Sunday through Friday. Nichols was named Artist-in-Residence by Farmington Area Arts Commission in 1982. Her show includes work in watercolor, oil, acrylic, block print and pen and ink.

'Women in the Media'

Protesting ads which don't reflect reality

Diana Leventer

A woman who protests advertisements and television commercials which give a false image of today's woman will narrate a slide presentation of those ads at 7 p.m. Monday, June 3 in Farmington Branch Library, State and Liberty.

Diana Leventer's program is hosted by Farmington Chapter of OWL (Older Women's League) and is open to the public free.

Leventer is a member of Michigan Media Project, which compiled the series of slides called "Women in the Media." She in turn calls the program "a rather unscientific study, but nonetheless one put together from current periodicals and TV commercials by a group who have been studying ads and commercials concerning women for a long time."

Michigan Media Project is an outgrowth of a program initiated by Michigan Chapter of NOW (National Organization for Women) which protested simultaneously against keeping women stereotyped in the media, and unequal coverage of ERA (Equal Rights Amendment) in the media in a few years ago.

Michigan Media Project concerns it-

self only with what Leventer calls "ads and commercials that are insulting and demeaning to women."

THE PROJECT is particularly concerned about the way older women are depicted.

"You are hard put to find a picture of an older woman in an ad today who isn't sitting in a rocker on her porch with her hair in a topknot, which is kind of ridiculous if you look around you. I don't even know where those porches are," Leventer said.

"By perpetuating those false images these ads are perpetuating society's attitudes toward the older women. They are keeping us in our place, which is keeping us in the 59-cent-a-can-of-soup-every-\$1-earned-by-a-man bracket and keeping us in the service-oriented jobs. Service-oriented jobs are fine if that's what you want to do, but they sure aren't all there is," she said.

The Michigan Media Project is not calling for any wholesale boycott on any product, nor does it ask for a mass mailing to any one advertiser. The thrust is rather to call for good taste, and educate other women to recognize some of the not so blatant, but never-

theless "insulting" ads.

In the subtle category Leventer cited several TV commercials as "good" on the surface, but with an undertone that put it in the project's "bad" category.

"Companies that sell very personal products, hose, sanitary napkins, bras, will have a woman deliver the initial spiel and that's fine. Then comes the male voice telling you to go out and buy the product," Leventer said.

THE SLIDE presentation is given with the hope that women will take closer looks at the printed advertisements and TV commercials concerning women.

"We give examples of both the good and the bad which is really the realistic and the unrealistic. The problem is that they've been with us so long many of us don't even realize how unfair they are to all of us."

"We want women to be aware of, start recognizing, how the stereotype is hurting us. When we educate her to that and she begins to realize that she is being insulted then she on her own can say 'I ain't buying.'"

Pre-teens invited to enter pageant

Applications are being accepted for the Miss Metro Detroit National Pre-Teen Pageant Aug. 9-10 in the Plymouth Hilton.

Girls ages 8-12 are eligible to participate. Contestants will be competing for cash awards, savings bonds and other prizes. The winner will receive a \$500 savings bond, gown by Joy Belle Fashions, trophy and banquet along with her sponsorship paid to compete in the Miss Michigan National Pre-Teen Pageant.

Girls will be judged on talent, appearance, poise and personal interviews with the judges. Included will be a stage appearance in a party dress, where contestants will be escorted by their fathers.

The reigning Miss Metro Detroit National Pre-Teen is Lisa Myers of Taylor. Lisa competed in the Miss Michi-

gan National Pre-Teen Pageant where she placed first runner-up to Jeannette Malinowski. Jeannette competed with 49 other state queens, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands at the 1984 National Pageant in Lighthouse, Fla., which was syndicated for national television. Adam West, who played "Batman" for many years, was host.

Purpose of the Miss National Pre-Teen Pageant is to recognize, nationally and locally, the self-expression and leadership achievements of America's pre-teens, and to pay special honor once a year to that girl who best exemplifies these qualities.

If interested, request an application from Metro Detroit's State Director, DIANNA VAN SICKLE, 214 Fifth Ave., Lighthouse, Fla. 33936, or phone (813) 369-4283.

Displaced homemaker program continued

Through a grant from the Michigan Department of Labor, Office of Women and Work, Jewish Vocational Service and Community Workshop, a non-secretarian agency, announces the fourth year of giving a Displaced Homemaker program for individuals from Wayne and Oakland counties.

Displaced homemakers are women who, through divorce, separation, widowhood or disability of spouse, have lost their source of economic support. After spending a substantial number of years in the home caring for family members, displaced homemakers find returning to the job market a difficult transition.

This special on-going program offers vocational assessment, vocational counseling, job seeking skills and job placement assistance. Women who need to become financially self-sufficient, who need help in entering the job market after many years in the home, are invited to apply to Jewish Vocational Service.

Eligibility is based on marital and employment status. There are no income guidelines.

Interested applicants may call Sherri Lumborg or Louise George at Jewish Vocational Service and Community Workshop, 947-0500.

It's clean-up time for picture files

The staff of the Farmington Observer has always responded to requests for a picture to be held for pickup, but now the files are bulging.

Pictures of people, places or things are very often dropped off to be used

for publication with the explanation that it is the only one of its kind and the party will be back to pick it up after it has appeared in the paper.

Most folks do come in to pick them up, but some are still here after their

arrival several years ago.

Some are 8-by-10 high-quality commercially taken photographs; some are snapshots. All, the staff was made to believe, were valuable to their owners.

The current file marked "To Be

Picked Up" will be held until Aug. 30 in the Observer office at 33203 Grand River. Hours are 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for anyone who wants to drop in, go through the file and hopefully recover their picture.