

Longtime Clarenceville educator retires

Continued from Page 1

"I liked talking to people, I liked helping people."

Marra graduated with the bulk of World War II veterans, he said. He didn't land a teaching job until almost a year later. Until then, he worked in a mine in Ishpeming in the

Upper Peninsula, where he was born.

"I say I was born in heaven," Marra said. "That's what (Ishpeming) means (in Indian)."

ARRIVING in Clarenceville in the middle of a semester, Marra started as an industrial arts teacher,

teaching woodshop, drafting and art. Marra became principal in 1966 and served in that position until 1970. He established one of the first driver's education programs in the area, he said.

At first, Marra worked in what is now Clarenceville Junior High School. The high school was built in

1958, across the street from the old building, where a skating rink was located.

The area looked different in other ways when Marra came to Clarenceville. A horse-operated farm was situated where Livonia Mall now stands. A fruit orchard was on one side of the school. Middlebelt was a

two-lane road.

"I remember when I went up the hill on Middlebelt and Grand River, I had to put my car in second gear because of the holes and bumps," Marra said.

The district contained two elementary schools — Central and Edgewood. Edgewood is now part of Boisford Hospital.

"At that time, nobody was trying to help Clarenceville, (which) didn't have much money," Marra said.

TWO OF Marra's five children are teachers.

"They ask me about teaching," said Marra, who has six grandchildren. "The only thing I ever told them is, it's a service kind of job and you have to be willing to help people. You get what you give. I've gotten a lot from giving. It pays off."

"One thing about teaching I've found out is, you make friends," he said. "When you teach somebody you make friends."

If you can understand someone, you can help that person, Marra said.

"The biggest thing is understanding of a person, the people that you are trying to teach, then being able to communicate," he said.

MARRA SHARED other observa-

tions about teaching. The seventh and eighth graders are the most boisterous, the most enthusiastic, the most interested group that you can meet," he said. "They wear their hearts on their sleeves. You can read them real well."

Younger students? "I'd love them all," Marra said.

One crop of students basically didn't change from another over the years, Marra said.

"I think the kids today might have an added problem because of the single-parent family," he said.

Marra described his successor, Robert Wolf, as "a good man."

"He looks like Abraham Lincoln," the outgoing assistant principal said with a smile. "I hope he's as honest."

Dangers of fireworks stressed

Continued from Page 1

PROPERTY DAMAGE from fireworks often involves structures, not just grassy or wooded areas. "We've had some very significant fires to garages, bedrooms and buildings that resulted from misuse of fireworks," Shurtleff said.

On July 7, 1985, a bottle rocket launched from Branchester penetrated a screen and window at a house on nearby Arden Park, gutting a second-story bedroom and causing \$30,000 in damage, said Farmington Hills Fire Lt. Peter Baldwin.

"It was probably our largest loss as result of fireworks," Baldwin said.

Fireworks also carry a high propensity for causing personal injury. Shurtleff said, "because a lot of them are manufactured out of the country and come in with little or no scrutiny. They maim or injure countless times per year."

Injuries are commonest to the hands and face, Shurtleff said.

"Can you imagine a bottle rocket hitting an individual?" Baldwin asked. "If it has enough force to penetrate a screen and window, I'd have to believe it has enough force to

kill."

FIREWORKS THAT send a projectile into the air, spin, twirl, or emit an audible signal (excluding toy paper caps and toy trick noise makers) are illegal for general sale or use under state law unless permits are obtained locally.

Neither Farmington nor Farmington Hills issues permits to individuals to set off fireworks.

In Farmington Hills, groups may apply for a permit only when they can meet bonding and liability requirements and have lined up an experienced pyrotechnician with references. The list of projectiles to be shot off and the conditions of the proposed fireworks site also must pass muster, Shurtleff said.

FIREWORKS DEALERS must receive a permit in Farmington Hills but not in Farmington. In each case, fire inspectors will check the dealer's fireworks stock to make sure what's being sold is legal.

"The permit process allows us to know what's stored and sold in the community since fireworks is a transient and seasonal business," Shurtleff said. "K mart, for example, has

2,500 pounds of legal fireworks on display. That's certainly something we want to know about."

The small number of potential fireworks dealers negates the need to require permits in Farmington. "We know who's selling what through our inspections," Wiggins said.

Violators of the state fireworks law face a maximum misdemeanor penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Their fireworks also will be confiscated. Call your local fire department if you come across illegal possession or use of fireworks, fire officials urge.

FOR RESIDENTS who obtain fireworks legally, the state Fire Marshal Division suggests following these safety precautions:

- Store fireworks in a dry, cool place.
- Avoid rough handling of fireworks to avoid damage to their fuses.

- Use fireworks outdoors only.
- Keep fireworks away from houses, dry brush and other potentially ignitable things.

• Keep a bucket of water handy to put out small fires if they occur or to extinguish any malfunctioning fireworks.

• Check for the manufacturer's label and instructions for use on all fireworks — illegally manufactured fireworks rarely have either.

• Provide adult supervision and don't allow very young children to handle fireworks.

• Light only one device at a time.

• Don't attempt to alter or use fireworks in a manner not intended.

"It's pretty much a matter of just following common sense," Wiggins said.

The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates that 9,800 people were treated for fireworks-related injuries last year. More than half of the injuries were burns and cuts to people younger than 15.

School board trustees approve pay schedules

Continued from Page 1

specific evaluation design — I want the board to have input... we'll work together on this."

Trustee Janice Rolnick also called for a listing of new job descriptions, as the district's reorganizational changes are made.

Six salary schedules — not including Lewis' and Flanagan's salaries — were approved by the board Tuesday. As previously approved by the board, Lewis will receive \$72,000 per year, plus a one-time \$2,500 annuity and other benefits. Flanagan will receive an annual salary of \$68,214, plus use of a district-owned vehicle.

In the 1986-87 schedule, the district's assistant superintendents will

receive between \$58,876 — \$84,428, varying over four levels.

At the directors' levels, head of administrative services Jack Lawing and of personnel and employee relations, Robert Coleman, are paid in a range from \$54,667 to \$61,661, over five levels.

Supervisory personnel in the district are also paid over five levels, ranging from \$20,099 to \$47,423. Salary for the administrative assistant to the superintendent and the school board ranges from \$27,720 to \$33,600; salaries for executive secretaries to assistant superintendents and the district's personnel technician range from \$21,988 to \$23,943. The district's employee benefits technician earns between \$24,150 and \$26,250.

Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 1225 Bowers, Birmingham, MI 48012. Second-class postage paid at Birmingham, MI 48012. Address all mail (subscription, change of address, Form 3559) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 591-0500.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(in Oakland County)

One year \$24.20

(Elsewhere in Michigan)

Newsstand per copy, 25¢

One year \$40.00

(Elsewhere in U.S.A.)

One year \$60.00

All advertising published in the Farmington Observer is subject to the conditions stated in the applicable rate card, copies of which are available from the advertising department, Farmington 33203 Grand River, Farmington, MI (313) 477-5450. The Farmington Observer reserves the right not to accept an advertiser's order. Observer & Eccentric ad-takers have no authority to bind this newspaper and only publication of an advertisement shall constitute final acceptance of the advertiser's order.



children's dentistry doesn't have to be expensive

"I knew my children should have specialized care, but I didn't think we could afford it. At the Children's Dental Center, expert specialists treated my children... and the prices were truly affordable."

Call Today for an Appointment 855-6613

SPECIAL OFFER INCLUDES

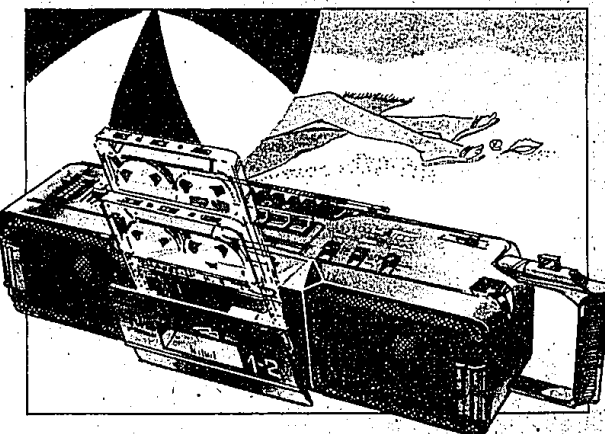
- Exam-Evaluation
- Cleaning-Fluoride
- 4 Diagnostic X-Rays

\$8

All Dental Insurance • Medicaid • Medicaid P.P.O. • New Patients Only
HCE • All New party co-payments • VISA/MasterCard • Offer good with this ad only

Children's Dental Center

6177 Orchard Lake Rd. • West Bloomfield, MI 48033 855-6613 8:30-5:00 P.M.



LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL

SET THE TEMPO FOR AN EXPLOSIVE FOURTH OF JULY WEEKEND WITH THIS STEREO AM/FM RADIO WITH CASSETTE

Make beautiful music wherever you go with this compact component by Sharp. Innovative, because with only one capstan and one motor, editing differences between Tape 1 and Tape 2 are minimal. Sound quality is greatly improved, and operation is simplified by single button continuous playback and single button dubbing start. High-Impact cabinet design reduces vibration during powerful sound reproduction. Compact disc connection capability. Black, slate blue, or red cabinet. 8.8 lbs., \$160.

Jacobson's
Store for the Home, Birmingham

We welcome Jacobson's Charge Card or The American Express® Card.

Shop until 9 p.m. on Thursday and Friday
Until 6 p.m. on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday

Klein's

• PRE-4TH OF JULY •

summer clearance sale

20-50% OFF

all summer fashions

FOR

men and women

all famous brands

all first quality...

...all reduced!

KLEIN'S
OF LIVONIA

ALL MAJOR CHARGES ACCEPTED
OPEN MON.-FRI. 10-9 P.M.
SATURDAY 10-6 P.M.
SORRY, NO LAYAWAYS

NEWBURGH PLAZA
SIX MILE AT NEWBURGH RD.
LIVONIA 591-9244