



Woodcreek Elementary second grader Amit Hingorani waits to take part in an Indian dance.



photos by RANDY BORST/staff photographer

Sri Devi Nallamuthu (center), played the character named Yasoda. This dance depicts an event in the life of Krishna, a Hindu god. At right is Radha Kotamraju, playing Krishna.

## Ethnic diversity on center stage

ONCE AGAIN, Farmington Public Schools' ethnic diversity grabbed the spotlight as the bilingual department held its eight annual Multilingual-Multicultural Extravaganza.

More than 300 students, parents and visitors packed the East Middle School gymnasium Thursday night. Guests included state Sen. Jack Faxon, D-Farmington Hills, Farmington Hills Mayor Ben Marks, Farmington Public Schools superintendent Graham Lewis and several

other city, civic and school leaders.

A representative of Gov. Blanchard, state Department of Civil Rights director John Castillo, read a letter in which Blanchard promoted the importance of multilingual education in Michigan schools.

Audiences watched traditional dances and musical entertainment performed by Japanese, Indian, Chinese, Albanian, German, Arabic, Chaldean and Greek cultures. It marked the first time that Greek students performed.

The open house ended with the

serving of foods at an international dinner prepared by parents of students in the bilingual program.

The bilingual department serves 351 students who speak 15 languages.

The bilingual program operates with a staff of 22, with the cooperation of the Parents Bilingual Advisory Council, made up of parents, teachers and administrators. Its under the directorship of Haroune Alameddine, bilingual education director. Joe Alshabi chairs the council. Nick Vulaj is co-chairman.



These high school students provide music to a dance on stage. They represent Albania. From left are Zef Dedvukaj of Farmington

Harrison, Marash Dedvukaj of Redford St. Agatha, and Tony Ivezaj of Harrison.

## Buy a poppy

### Help to remember veterans

Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 14-16, have been proclaimed Poppy Days in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Post and auxiliary members of the three local veterans service organizations will again take part in this national program in memory of those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom.

Poppy sales originated in 1920. Since then, they have been the primary source of private dollars for helping needy veterans and their families. All money raised must be used solely for this purpose.

It is a self-help program as well; the familiar red poppy is handmade in Poppy Shops run by volunteers. In these shops, disabled and hospitalized veterans make the flowers by hand, petal by petal. It is part of a physical and psychological therapy program by veterans for veterans.

These poppies are purchased from the shop and offered to the public, not at a price, but for a contribution — a few cents to say America remembers.



Farmington Hills Mayor Ben Marks (second, left) and Farmington Mayor William Hartsock (second, right) share poppies with the commanders of the three local military service organizations: (from left) Fred Esser, VFW; Frank Walker, American Legion Post 348; and Frank Wright, American Legion Post 190.

fields of France and Flanders. The soldiers of all nations came to look upon this flower as a living symbol of their dead comrades' sacrifice.

A Canadian officer, Col. John McCrae, who was killed during the war, immortalized the flower in his famous poem, "In Flanders Fields." Its opening lines are familiar to millions of people around the world: "In Flanders' fields the poppies blow

Between the crosses, row on row — THE HOMECOMING of the 32nd Red Arrow Division (Michigan and Wisconsin) in Milwaukee in 1919 marked the beginning of the American poppy program. A

coffee and doughnut booth decorated with paper poppies was stripped of its floral ornaments twice. Passersby who took the poppies left contributions on the counter. Several hundred dollars was contributed for the benefit of disabled veterans.

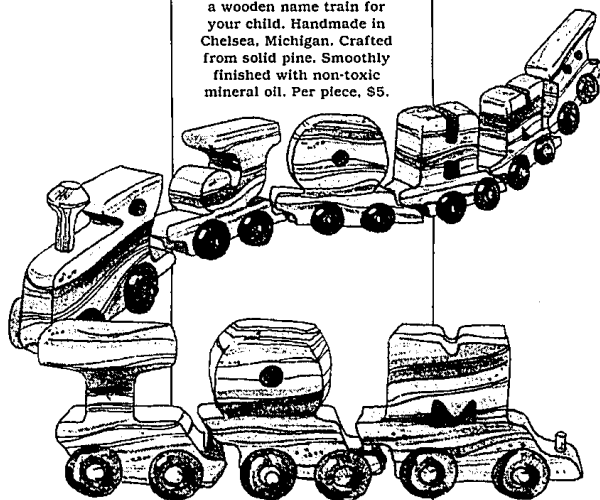
One of the women in the booth proposed that distributing poppies on the streets at the time of Memorial Day would be an excellent way to raise money needed for rehabilitation work.

As a result this group conducted a poppy distribution on the Saturday before Memorial Day, 1920. They netted \$5,500 during the first regularly conducted Poppy Day on record.

## the Young individualists

Bonnie Hubbell, toy trainmaker, will be in our Infants' department showing her fun trains Wednesday, May 13 12 to 4 p.m., Rochester; Friday, May 15 3-7 p.m., Birmingham

Let Ms. Hubbell customize a wooden name train for your child. Handmade in Chelsea, Michigan. Crafted from solid pine. Smoothly finished with non-toxic mineral oil. Per piece, \$5.



**Jacobson's**

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