



First grader Albert Koels, 6, and his grandmother, Johanna Dulin of Plymouth, examine a classroom book.

Staff photos by Randy Borst



First grader James Mitchell, 7, with his great-grandmother, Mae Audel (left), of Arkansas, and his grandfather, Jesse Goff of Redford Township, discuss a classroom book.

Special time

Students share day with grandparents

IT WAS a day for Beechview Elementary students to celebrate meaningful things with people they love.

The state sesquicentennial — and the many student projects surrounding the special year — was in the spotlight last week as more than 200 people visited Beechview for the school's first "Grandpersons Day."

Many came from the Farmington area, but some also traveled from as far as Chicago and Florida to spend the morning with their grandchildren, nieces and nephews, or a child that is special in their lives.

"This is the first year we've tried this," said teacher Gayle Hankala, who coordinated the event. "It relates to Michigan history and welcomes our older persons to our school."

She stressed that not all the visitors were grandparents, but possibly an aunt or uncle or family friend who is "older, but dear."

From kindergartners to fifth graders, students spent the past two months preparing for the visitors.

Second graders in Marian Johnson's class each made flowers with

their photographs in the middle to give out — those that didn't have a visitor were able to mail them out, she said.

Seventeen visitors came to Barb Hendershot's first-grade class, where she was eagerly greeting at the door. "I'm glad you came; I really think that's wonderful."

She said 17 of 26 students in her room had visitors.

"That's pretty good," she added. Visitors to Hendershot's class were able to see progress in math and trees with apples reflecting the students' family roots.

The visitors were met at the door by fifth graders acting as greeters, who led them to the school cafeteria for refreshments. There, they were met by the students, who conducted tours of the school and showed special points of interest in individual classrooms.

The school gymnasium was decorated in red, white and blue where the American and sesquicentennial flags flew, giving colorful background for students from each grade who sang for the group at the end of the morning program.



Farmington resident Robert Synder applauds for his granddaughter, Christine Synder, during a performance in the gym. Robert's wife, Betty, also was on hand.

Public salute

Memorial Day parade taking shape

The Farmington Veterans Memorial Day Parade Committee is already at work on the annual parade.

It will be held at 10 a.m. Monday, May 25 along the usual route — Grand River from the Farmington Plaza at Mooney to Liberty, a block west of the Veterans Monument. There, a memorial service will be held for those men and women of the armed forces who gave their lives for our country.

According to John Tobin, Jr., vice commander of VFW Post 2269 and parade chairman for 1987, the parade committee, consisting of members of Post 2269 and American Legion Posts 346 and 190, expect a good turnout to honor those who have made the supreme sacrifice and all who have served our country.

This year, by rotation, the Army is especially honored along with

veterans of the Korean and Vietnam wars.

Gov. and Mrs. Blanchard have been invited to attend, along with Major General Vernon Andrews, commanding officer of the Michigan Army National Guard. Andrews is also invited to give the Memorial Day speech at the monument.

THE MAYORS and council members from Farmington and Farmington Hills, the bands from Farmington High, Harrison High, North Farmington, Clarencville High and Our Lady of Sorrows, and possibly military bands, are expected to march.

"These bands have marched year after year and are most important to the parade and appreciated by the community and the committee," Tobin said.

Others invited include U.S. Sens.

Don Roigle and Carl Levin, U.S. Rep. William Broomfield, Lt. Gov. Martha Griffiths, Attorney General Frank Kelley, Secretary of State Richard Austin, District Judges Margaret Schaeffer and Michael Hand, state Sen. Jack Faxon and state Rep. W.V. Brotherton.

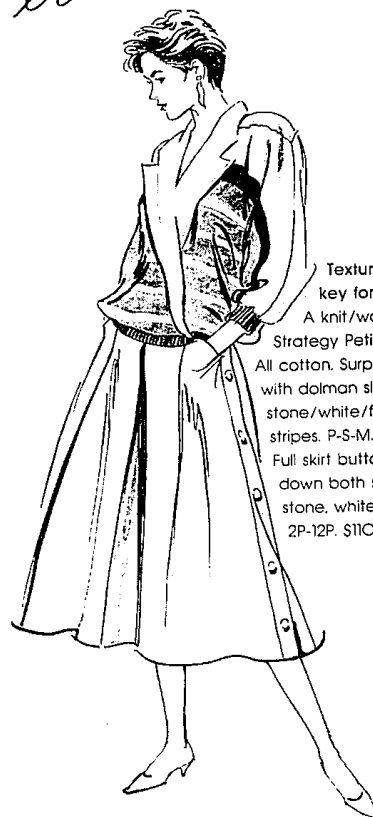
All of the participants from former years are invited, including Scouts, Brownies, Cubs, Indian Guides, Elks, the Oakland County Mounted Unit and Sheriff John Nichols.

Chief of Police William Dwyer of Farmington Hills will have a color guard from his department marching this year. More participants will be announced soon.

Any organized school, church or civic group wanting to participate and which has not been contacted may call Tobin at VFW Post 2269: 474-8180 or 588-7580.

Petites

For Women 5'4" and Under



Texture is the key for summer.

A knit/woven mix by

Strategy Petites.

All cotton. Surplice top with dolman sleeves; stone/white/flame stripes. P-S-M. \$110.

Full skirt buttons down both sides; stone, white. 2P-12P. \$110.

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