

## 26 Farmington students await tour of Soviet cities

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By Casey Hans  
Staff writer

It was a cultural swap. Just as residents of the Soviet city Minsk spent time in the Farmington area last July, 26 Farmington High School students will do some comparing, firsthand, as they tour four Soviet cities this summer.

In little more than a month, they will say goodbye and "nyet" to their American teenage traditions, and hello to the cities of Moscow, Leningrad, Kiev and Odessa and the cultural differences each offers.

Although students say they are eager to meet the Soviet people, those interviewed said some friends and family members don't share their feelings. Despite some negative feedback, none are frightened to visit the Communist nation — only excited.

"People keep telling us we won't come back," said Katie McDonald, in a sentiment echoed by her peers preparing for the 15-day trip, scheduled to leave June 15. "We're going to



cultural collage

learn so much about their culture and people."

"I always wanted to go to Russia. I never thought I would," added Jennifer Zhytowski. "I wanted to compare our stereotypes to what they're really like."

THE TRIP is being coordinated through the American-Soviet Friendship Society, the same group that sponsored last year's U.S. trip for Minsk residents and allowed them to spend time in Farmington and Plymouth. Trip organizer and teacher Jerry Young views this year's voyage as a cultural exchange and a learning experience.

"We consider that (culture) a very important part of this," he said. "The group of 20 girls and six boys will be met in each city by a Russian youth group, whose members will show the American teens around their cities."

"I think we'll have more of a chance than other groups to meet people and kids," Young added.

All are sophomores, juniors and seniors and many come from Young's International Relations class. Many more students wanted to go.

"We had an overwhelming response," he said. "We could have taken a lot more, but didn't have room."

YOUNG SAID he hoped this trip would lead to a permanent exchange arrangement, something supported in comments by Farmington Superintendent Graham Lewis last summer. "I think we're on the doorstep of a permanent exchange," Young added.

Farmington High students are busy sponsoring fund-raisers and talking with area businesses and service clubs to garner support, to help



pay expenses for the \$1,700-per-person trip.

The Farmington students are diverse as the country they will be visiting.

Jennifer Schack is looking forward to art museums and ballets, and "how the little kids react to their parents in stores" in the Soviet Union.

Heather Skovron is interested in the White Nights Festival in Leningrad, and said, laughing, "my mom wants to know if parents have the same teenage problems."

"I can't wait to meet the people," added Michele Miller, while Ted Maier "just wants to see if the stereotypes (about Soviet people) are true."

## Phone directories feature new listings

Michigan Bell's 1988-89 North Woodward telephone directory for the first time features separate residence and business white pages sections designed to make it simpler and faster for customers to locate information.

The Ameritech PagesPlus North Woodward directory, which has separately bound white pages and yellow pages books this year, will be distributed to 285,000 homes and businesses in April.

Included in the business white pages section of the directories are listings for businesses and professionals as well as all other non-residence telephone numbers, said Mary Jo Filarek, Michigan Bell's local public relations manager.

Among the listings included in the business section are:

- Police and fire emergency and non-emergency numbers;
- Doctors, dentists, lawyers, accountants and other professionals;
- Hospitals and clinics;
- Churches and synagogues;
- Colleges and universities;
- Theaters and museums;
- Non-profit organizations and service clubs and;
- Government listings such as the U.S. Postal Service, schools and libraries.

"We've separated the business listings from the residences so customers won't have to search through all the residence listings for 'Smith' to

find 'Smith Electric,' for example," Filarek said.

SHE NOTED that business listings in the white pages also will be included in the yellow pages. Numbers for emergency services will continue to be listed inside the front cover of the directory as well, Filarek said.

The residence white pages section also was redesigned this year to make it easier to use, she said.

Identical last names of residence customers now appear just once — rather than repeatedly — followed by the first names of all customers with the same last name.

The last name "Smith" for example, is listed only once in bold type, with first names indented and listed alphabetically below, Filarek explained.

A message on the cover of the book directs users to turn to a blue divider card in the white pages explaining the new format.

The new directories also include an InfoPages section, with information on the tri-county area, seating charts of area stadiums, ZIP code maps and transportation routes.

The Customer Guide pages in the front of the directories include rates for many types of local service and telephone options, step-by-step directions for using Custom Calling features and information on how to order service, make local and operator-assisted calls and take advantage of discount periods.

## Broomfield to run again

U.S. Rep. William S. Broomfield, Birmingham, filed for re-election in Lansing April 8.

Broomfield, a lifelong resident of Oakland County, submitted petitions to the Secretary of State to have his name placed on the Aug. 2 primary ballot.

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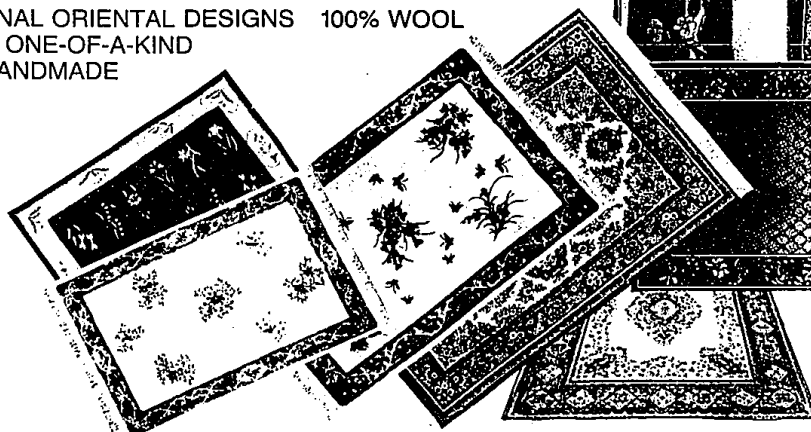
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