

Municipal clerk designation is given to Dornan

Farmington Hills deputy city clerk Kathy Dornan is one of 98 people in Michigan designated a certified municipal clerk.

Dornan received the designation for completing a certification program through the International Institute of Municipal Clerks, which helps clerks and deputy clerks improve job performance. The institute also recognizes the growing professionalism of municipal clerk's offices.

To receive the designation, candidates must complete a recognized career development institute or a bachelor's degree in public administration or related field. The candidate must also have experience in local government and participate in conferences, meetings and educational seminars.

Dornan became deputy clerk three years ago after serving eight years as deputy clerk in Walled Lake. She has completed the Municipal Clerks Institute, offered by Michigan State University.

The program provides more than 100 student-instructor contact hours of in-depth courses in managerial and leadership skills, social and interpersonal issues.

DORNAN ALSO has completed courses in computer training, records administration and personnel supervision.

Her professional memberships include the International Institute



Kathy Dornan
deputy city clerk

of Municipal Clerks, Michigan Municipal Clerks Association and Oakland County Clerks Association. She is a member of the Farmington Professional Women's Network and past member of the Walled Lake Area Jaycees.

The International Institute of Municipal Clerks provides members with educational, conference, research, reference and informational services for administrative and technical changes in local government.

Challenge is scientific at Wood Creek

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Applying knowledge to new challenges, promoting thinking skills and learning new things are all part of the Math/Science Challenge at Wood Creek Elementary.

The event has become an annual one for upper elementary students at the Farmington Hills school.

Over two days, fourth and fifth graders were treated to an afternoon of different activities, designed to challenge and stimulate interest in the areas of mathematics and science.

"We want them all to be a winner, in a way," said elementary science consultant Doug Cooper, who worked with fifth graders last week. "We try not to be competitive."

May 19, fifth-graders Jessan Ronans and Jenny Breining were busy working on electronic circuits and, like others in their group, took pride in an "invention," which lit a bulb and had an on/off switch.

"We just kept working until we got something that worked," Ronans explained.

Farmington-area high school students volunteered their help for fifth graders last week. Parents of fourth graders helped Monday during the two-day challenge.

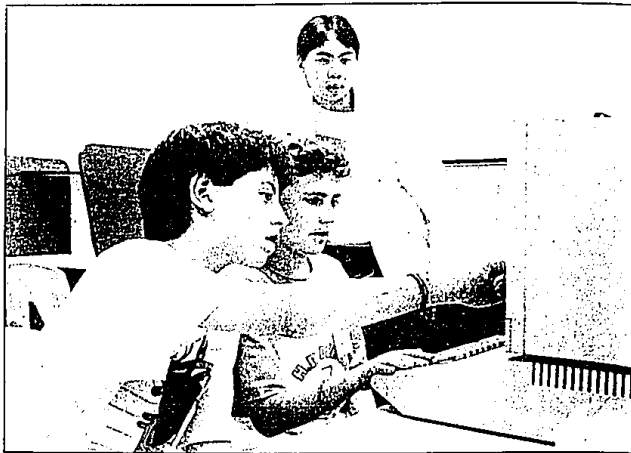
FOURTH-GRADE teachers Barbara Adams, Barbara Bachman and Kathleen Endress and fifth-grade teachers Landon Swanson, Susan Menelle and Anna Crudgington were all responsible for coordinating the challenge and setting up the programs.

It is the third year the elementary school has sponsored such an event; it is the only one of its kind in the Farmington district.

The Wood Creek activity involved 141 students in all.

"The teachers developed the activities and really got involved," said science consultant Kathy McAdaragh. "They work out the logistics."

The Math/Science Challenge format has remained the same, but teachers have changed activities,



North Farmington High 10th-grader Chris Cheung (standing) looks on as Wood Creek fifth-graders Michael Krasman (left) and Jason Pollak work on a computer problem.

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Wood Creek fifth-graders Marcy Couch (left) and Jaime Weinhaus build an electrical circuit.

many of which are non-traditional.

"We try to tie it to the curriculum," McAdaragh added. "The idea is to minimize the competition and give motivation."

Activities included problem solving, experiments, an introduction to geometry where students graphed coordinates, computer games and others. Each participating student received a certificate for participating in the event.

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