

inkwell

Inkwell provides information about primary and secondary education issues and students from the Farmington area. Send information to: Inkwell, The Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336. Please include a daytime phone number. Items will not be taken over the phone.

• NAMED SCHOLAR
Tina Seehusen, a Farmington Hills resident, was recently named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy.



All student selected for this money must earn a 3.3 or better grade point average. Scholars are selected by a school instructor, counselor, or coach.
Seehusen attends Southfield Christian School and was nominated for the award by Irma Henderson. She will appear in the All-American Scholar Directory, which is distributed nationally.

• WRITING INSTITUTE
Two professional writers — including one Mercy High School teacher — plus 28 high school students from Southeast Michigan are enjoying the chance to explore their love of the written word at Lawrence Technological University's second annual Summer Writing Institute.

Jan Mordenski, a published poet who teaches creative writing at Mercy, and Paulette Childress White, a published author of fiction and poetry, are conducting the institute's sessions which started June 17. The institute is funded through a grant from the Michigan Council for the Humanities. It is designed to provide high school-aged student writers with professional example and guidance in fiction and poetry.

Attending the institute is Meghan Wolf, a Farmington Hills resident who attends Marian High School, and Mercy High student Andrea Sokalski.

• ARTS CAMP
Beechview Elementary School student Meghan Frith of Farmington Hills was recently awarded a \$225 music scholarship to the Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp for summer study. Scholarships are provided by Marshall Music Co. of Lansing to students deemed most worthy based on musicianship, citizenship and musical achievement.

• WRITING WINNERS
Zack Raimi, Ryan Cahill and Erin Sandrock were winners in an essay contest for sophomores, sponsored by the Harrison High School library during the recently ended school year. Winners were awarded cash prizes.

Raimi won first place for writing about use of the insanity defense. Second place went to Cahill who wrote about how universities exploit student athletes and third place went to Sandrock who wrote about the depletion of the world's rain forests.

Mask making helps students bridge gap

At Kenbrook Elementary, fourth and fifth graders learned about various cultures and the art of mask making recently through an enrichment class taught by art consultant Araxey Barsamian.

Through the centuries, masks were used in theater, for burial and death and for a variety of festivals, students learned.

Not only do masks hide the identity of the wearer, but give the person magic powers of the gods or spirits.

STUDENTS FIRST learned about Mexican, Japanese and African cultures, then designed and created masks using a variety of media including foil tooling, oil pastels, felt

tip markers, yarn, beads, raffia, paints, foam, construction paper and floral plastic ribbon.

The enrichment mask making classes "developed a social responsibility, awareness, understanding, respect and tolerance of other people and their cultural differences," Barsamian said.

The masks were in a traveling exhibit throughout the Farmington schools this spring.

They were displayed at a district-wide "Bridging the Cultural Gap" seminar in the "Showcase: The Arts" program, in the school board meeting room and at the recent multi-cultural night.



Sarah West and Andy Seed, fifth graders at Kenbrook Elementary, paint a clay Mexican mask using acrylic paint as part of an enrichment course on mask-making offered recently at the school.

Deadline nears for Senior Olympics registration

The 1991 Michigan Senior Olympics will take place Aug. 9-11 in Battle Creek, and several hundred contestants, age 55 and over, will participate. Entrants compete in five-year increment age groups (55-59, 60-64, 65-69, through 80-plus).

Medals will be awarded in archery, badminton, basketball 3 on 3, bowling, cycling, golf and race walking. Also shuffleboard, road races, softball, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track and field, triathlon, volleyball and horseshoes.

Ribbons will be awarded in the following exhibition/open events: arts and crafts, baking, basketball free throw, board games (checkers, scrabble and cribbage), bocce, dancing, rquetball, frisbee, and softball hit and throw.

Excitement runs high at this gathering where having fun, competing and making new friends is the order of the day. Registration deadline is July 9. Registration forms are available at the OPC Activity Center, 312 Woodward or call 656-1403.

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