

Flanders Elemtary fourth grader Jen-ny Reeve gets advice about straightening an axle on her team's milk carton box car from visiting engineer Dan

Kids learn from pros how to engineer cars

About half of the hands in Anne Hommer's Gorth grade class at Flanders Elementary shot up last week when students were naked: "who might be interested in becoming an engineer?"

All those students might not choose engineering as careers. But the interest is there.

It's all thanks to auto engineers who are coming into classrooms at Flanders, William Grace, Wood Creek and Longaere elementary schools and East Middle School this year to help students learn through a About half of the hands in Anne

year to help students learn through a hands-on project called "A World in

hands-on project called "A World in Motion."

Throughout Metro Detroit more than 30 districts, including the Farmington Public Schools, are invoked in the project sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers, designed to keep student interest in math and science up in grades four through six.

"It's sort of fun," said student Kendal Fabian. "You learn lots more than going out of the textbook, We all try to do the best we can do."

THE FLANDERS fourth graders are working in mixed gender teams of four and five students — designing and building derby cars out of mik cartons to learn the properties of loads and balances, riction, aerodynamics and how to construct working wheels and axels just like they do at the Big Three. After designing, building and thoroughly testing, their cars, the students will hold a derby finale to test their design.

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- Kendal Fabian Flanders pupil

"The competition part is very minor compared to the learning," said
Hommes. "But, of course, eyeryone
will be excited about winning."
In the hallway at Flanders on
Monday, one team was testing loads
and halances by putting weights in
the rear wheels. Extra design features included rubber banded
wheels. "We chose rubber bands because they have the most traction,"
explained team member Mickey
Owen.

Another, team member, Brianne
Collins-Mason, said the project had
aught her a lot. "It hink it's interesting," she said. "It's fin with the coperating," because you all work to
gether. You learn a lot — math, as
call studies and reading all at the
same time."

That teamwork is key, because that's how engineers work in the real

that's how engineers work in the real world.

Dan Hommes, Anne Hommes son and an engineer at the General Motors Proying Ground in Milford, has been the engineering: consultant throughout the Flanders project. The recent U-M graduate who grew up in Canton Township and Farmington Hills helped pilot the project at Flanders last year while he was

an engineering student.

"I HAVE BEEN a car nut all my life," he said. "I knew I wanted to be involved in cars, I just didn't know how." A high school counselor sug-gested, engineering, but he ladn't heard anything about it until then, he

Second anything about it until then, he said a promoting it (the program) heavily. The added "It's a serfous effort. The future of our country is in building, thing, and you
cant do it without engineers.

For, the Flanders kick-off, DanHommes brought a new 1992 Corvette to the school to show students.

It's design, then helped them along
and olferred tips as they designed and
built their small cars. Anne Hommes
used a kit provided by SAE and pald
for by the Farmington schools science department for the lessons and
activities.

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activities.

Judy Adamo, SAE coordinator for
special programs and student relations; said. "A World in Motion",
project is part of the society's larger'
Vision 2000 initialitie which does
other things like offer college scholarships to engineering students.

"The primary motive is to keep
children interested in math and science," she said. "Studies show that
students in the third grade are still
interested, but by grade seven their
interest in Ministand So we focus
on grades four through sit. Someplace in there students begin to lose
their interest."

The program started last year
with 12 pilot school in Metro Detroit,
including Flanders. Today, more
than 500 volunteers are working on
the program in more than 30 districts from Oxford to Toledo.



Teamwork and problem solving are two con- Murphy and Laura Glovannini (background) copts that Katie Wright, Jason Barragato, Sean practice as they test their vehicle.

Ex-safety chief dies after surgery

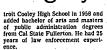
Daniel A. Byrnes, who was re-called as a "caring individual" dur-ing his days as Farmington's direc-tor of public safety, died March 17 following surgery in Irvine, Calif. He was 51.

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Mr. Byrnes, who was chief of police at Cal State Fullerton at the time of his death, started his law-enforcement career with the Farming ton Department of Public Safety in 1864. He became director in 1973 and resigned in 1979.

One of his duties as director was to hire Frank Lauboff, the current head of the Farmington department. "The liftst promotion I received was from Dan Byrnes," and of the years I was here. I remember and the people was my boss for a lot of the years I was here. I remember him as a caring individual. He cared wery much about this department and the people that in Farmington Included admitted his permission of the public safety reserve unit, can the first in Michigan.

Mr. Byrnes graduated from De-



from Cal State Fullerton. He had 25 years of law enforcement experience.

STARTED work with the Department of, Dublic Safety at Cal State Fullerton in September 1984 as a lieutenant. He was promoted to chief of police in October 1988. As director of public safety, he planned, organized and directed the operations of the department of public safety, including general law enforcement, crime prevention, emergency and disaster preparedness, and parking administration.

Among some of the committees he became involved with on campus were the Human Relations. Task Force Committee, Treasportation/Parking Advisory Committee, President's Advisory Panel and Occupational Safety and Health Committee County Chiefs of Police and Sheriffs Association and a member of the SSU Public Safety Executive Council.



Daniel A. Byrnes

He became ill Feb. 26 and died Tuesday, March 17, at the University of California, Irvine. Survivors include his wife, Judy, a secretary in the Office of the President of Cal State Fullerton; sans, Dan, Steve and Lance.

A memorial service will be Friday, March 27, at Cal State Fullerton. Representatives of the Farmington department will attend, The family has asked that, in lieu of Howers, contributions be made in Mr. Byrnes' memory to the CSUF Foundation, 800 N. State College Doulevard, Fullerton, Calif. 32634.

State Lutheran leader to preach at St. Paul's

John Heins, president of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church
— Missouri Synod, will be the guest
preacher at the 11 a.m. service Sunday, March 29, at St. Paul'a Lutheran Church, 20805 Middlebelt Road,

day, March 29, as the Fawa survey and Church, 20055 Middlebelt Road, Farmington. Heins is a native of Shelton, Neb., was ordained and installed into the Holy Ministry in 1938 at Faith Lutheran Church, Grand Blanc. He served there 1985-74. In June 1974, he was installed as pastor of Guardian in Dearborn where he served until 1985 when he was elected president

of the Michigan District.

The program is part of St. Paul's
Lutheran obvservance of its centennial anniversary. Guest organist
willbe William Gramow, must director at Child of Christ Lutheran
Church in Hartland, Misch.

A dinner is served at 1 pm. Roger
Malland, director of Christian Education of St. Michael's Lutheran
Church in Portage, will be the guest
speaker.

speaker.

A nursery will be provided at the worship service and dinner. For information, call 474-0675.



