

Contest set for historical writers

Anyone interested in Farmington-area history take note: The Farmington Historical Society is sponsoring the 12th annual Lee S. Peel Historical Research Writing Contest.

Anyone, except those judging the contest, may enter, and there are four age categories: I. elementary schoolers, grades one through five; II. middle schoolers, grades six through eight; III. high schoolers, grades nine through 12; IV. college students and adults.

Submissions should be original work and must be entered before April 12. Audio and video tapes, slides, photographs, and neatly written or printed texts of any length are acceptable. Sources may include personal recollections, interviews, family diaries or letters, old photos, paintings and sketches.

First prize — the Lee S. Peel Writing Award — will be \$100, and second prize will be \$50. Four best-in-age prizes of \$25 each will be awarded. Winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in late May or early June at the Farmington Historical Museum. The contest is named after Lee S. Peel, a prominent local educator, historian and author. For more information, call Lois Birenz at 477-5057.

Inkwell provides information about educational issues and on people in the Farmington area. Mail information to: Inkwell, Farmington Observer, 3341 Grand River, Farmington 48335, or fax information to 477-9722. Please include a daytime phone number on your news release. Items will not be taken over the phone.

ODYSSEY ADVENTURE

Longacre Elementary had three teams with 20 students who competed in the Michigan Region I Odyssey of the Mind tournament at Waterford Mott High School Feb. 25. In the "Time Traveler" exercise, students created a skit involving a time machine. The

team coached by Karen Fehl and Marlene Graessle finished eighth, but was singled out for an award citing "Outstanding qualities... for performing in the face of adversity." Team members included: Charlie Fehl, Gayan DeSilva, Jenna Turk, Michael Sanderson, Matthew Healy and James Graessle.

Aaron Halseid, Collin Wasloff, Eric Wasloff, Hilary Michalek, Marissa Matkysa, David Mondoux and Kevin Carron built a structure of balsa wood and glue to withstand a series of manipulations in the exercise "A New Twist." The team — coached by Jim Wasloff and Cindy Halseid — placed sixth in their division among a field of 11 teams.

A third Longacre team competed in the classics problem. The topic was "Vaudeville." Aurora Taber, Ellen Cappo, Emily Cappo, Amanda Glass, Yumiko Kingawa, Marissa Palanco and Megumi Odaira performed a vaudeville show of three acts, which included singing, dancing and comedy.

SCHOLAR DOLLARS

North Farmington sophomore Josh Klemme has been named a 1996 Younger Scholar by the National Endowment for the Humanities. The prestigious award is one of only a few that go to high school and college students annually. Klemme is the recipient of a \$2,100 award from the National Endowment for his pro-

posed study of the political and social art of the Great Depression. He will study the works of author John Steinbeck, and photo-journalists Walker Evans and Dorothea Lange, and the painter Diego Rivera this summer with the grant. Klemme's mentor for the project will be former North Farmington teacher Barbara Rebeck who will receive \$500 as part of the award.

CHARITABLE CHAPTER

Forest Elementary students are soliciting pledges for pages read this month in an effort to raise money for Ronald McDonald Houses, according to the Forest Flash. "Reading for Ronald" came about through the school's

partnership with McDonald's restaurant on 12 Mile and Halsted. Some 200 Ronald McDonald House worldwide provide lodging for families of critically ill, hospitalized children.

WRITING STUFF

Three students from Power Middle School are winners in the 26th annual American & Ma Ressay contest sponsored by Farm Bureau Insurance. Stephanie Batkile took first place; Kimberly Yoder was second, and Jamison Guest, third. Batkile's first place essay advances to the state level competition where the top 10 essays will be selected. Batkile's name will also be engraved on a plaque for permanent display in the school.



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