

Students learn summer is for studying

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Some students in grades 1-3 just had their summer extended — in school.

Farmington Public Schools will operate a district-wide summer extended learning program for 160 kids. The purpose is to help those students who are struggling, primarily in reading and writing.

The intervention program runs June 19 to July 18 with students attending morning sessions at Gill Elementary. Teachers will attend training during the afternoon.

Transportation will be provided, said Don Cowan, executive director of Kindergarten through

Grade 12 Instruction and Student Services.

Students will be placed in the program primarily through test scores and teacher recommendations. The program is not intended to handle kids with disciplinary problems, Cowan said.

"We're going to try to center on a kid who could improve on his skills if he had a little help," Cowan said.

Post testing will be done. MEAP results will later be examined to gauge the program's effectiveness.

Fourteen teachers, 14 paraprofessionals and two learning center teachers will work with students.

Each instructional group is expected to include five to eight kids.

The program is expected to cost \$81,000. Some \$12,000 of the cost will be covered by Chapter One funding from the federal government.

Enrollment allocations will be made according to a school's total enrollment and number of at-risk kids. At least half the students will be those exiting the third grade.

"By the time a child reaches the fourth grade, you're looking at more independent learning and more expectations," Cowan said.

Parent involvement is a major part of the intervention, Cowan

said. Parents will be required to attend training sessions at the start and end of the program. Some will also assist in the classroom.

A committee headed by Alameda Early Childhood Center principal Gayle Zimmerer developed the program. It's not modeled after other summer school programs, including those already offered by the district.

"It's our own creation," Cowan said. "It's a frustration thing: How do better those kids who are on the bubble and how best can we get them to the point where they can become more self-sufficient."

OBITUARIES

HARRY STANFORD BRUCE

Mr. Bruce, 71, of Farmington Hills died April 21 in Botsford Continuing Care Center.

Born in Highland Park, Mr. Bruce was vice president of New Development. He was a graduate of Central High School and attended Wayne State University. He began work at Detroit Bank and Trust (now Comerica) in 1946. He retired from New Development in 1986.

Mr. Bruce was a U.S. Marine veteran of World War II.

Survivors include his wife, Dorothy; son, Robert; daughters, Kathy Juetten, Tricia and Mary Smolinaki; seven grandchildren.

Mass was celebrated in St. Gerald Catholic Church, Farmington, with the Rev. Gerald McEnhill officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

Memorials may be made to Alzheimer's Association. Arrangements were made by the Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington.

ALLEN A. O'HEINLEY

Mr. O'Heinley, 72, of Farmington died April 22 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Born in Bad Axe, Mr. O'Heinley was an iron worker and a member of Iron Workers Local 25. He was a World War II Army veteran.

Survivors include his wife, Dolle; step-son, Russell Ross; step-daughters, Linda Messer and Alene Ross; nephew, Michael Rothen; sisters, Mary Branton, Sr. Margaret O'Heinley and Pat Rothen; seven step-grandchildren and seven step-great-grandchildren.

Mass was celebrated April 25 in St. Gerald Catholic Church with the Rev. Gerald McEnhill officiating. Burial was in Glen Eden Cemetery, Livonia.

Memorials may be made to the Michigan Cancer Foundation. Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

ANGELO EVANGELISTA

Mr. Evangelista, 88, of Farmington Hills died April 24.

Born in Pignataro, Italy, Mr. Evangelista was founder and president of Tony Angelo Cement Construction Company for 48 years.

Except for the depression years when he worked on the Long Island Railroad and as a manager of a bar, he worked on many significant highway projects before going into business in 1948, such as the Willow Run Expressway and the runways at Willow Run during World War II, Grand River Avenue, Dixie Highway, Dort Highway, Woodward Avenue, Telegraph, I-94, Seven Mile Road, Eight Mile Road and many more.

Survivors include his wife, Gilda; sons, Joseph, Michael and Carl; daughter, Angela Nobba; one sister and two brothers; 13 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.

Mass was celebrated in Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Southfield.

Arrangements were made by the McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills.

WalkAmerica for healthy babies

The March of Dimes is asking Farmington-area residents to help celebrate 25 years on the road to healthier babies.

WalkAmerica, a March of Dimes fund-raiser, will be held Sunday, April 30, at several Detroit-area sites, including the Orchard Ridge campus of Oakland Community College. Walkers may register at 8:30 a.m. Sunday and the event begins at 9 a.m.

The 20-kilometer walk, which begins and ends at OCC-Orchard Ridge, benefits the March of Dimes Campaign for Healthier Babies.

"Every year, a quarter of a million babies are born too small, too soon," said John Marshall, March of Dimes chapter chairman. "And Detroit has one of the highest infant mortality rates in the country."

"WalkAmerica gives people and companies in this area tremendous opportunity to help the March of Dimes ensure that babies are born healthy, free from birth defects and illnesses."

WalkAmerica is the March of Dimes' largest fund-raising event, taking place in more than 1,450 communities nationwide and involving more than 1 million walkers. There were over 17,000 metro Detroit walkers in 1994, raising \$1.4 million for healthier babies.

Over the past 25 years, WalkAmerica volunteers have raised more than \$709 million, helping the March of Dimes achieve major milestones toward improving the health of mothers and babies, including development of a nationwide system of neonatal intensive care units (NICU); early research in the development of

surfactant therapy to treat respiratory distress syndrome; a nationwide campaign informing the American public of folate's role in preventing birth defects; and community-based programs that provide access to prenatal care for all women.

There are 14 communities in the Southeast Michigan hosting walk sites on WalkAmerica Weekend. Every route has checkpoints offering entertainment, refreshments, snacks and first-aid. There are Victory Vans available along the routes for people wishing to walk only part of the 20-kilometer route.

For more information on the March of Dimes WalkAmerica, call the Walk Hotline at 423-3200, or pick up your sponsor form at any Kmart store.

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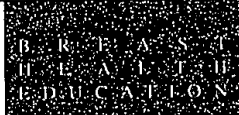
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- GRAFTON: 19747 West 12 Mile Road, 424-7344. Near Kroger's Grocery Store.
- WATKINS: 419 Summit Drive, 681-8178. Next to Farmer Jack's Grocery Store.
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