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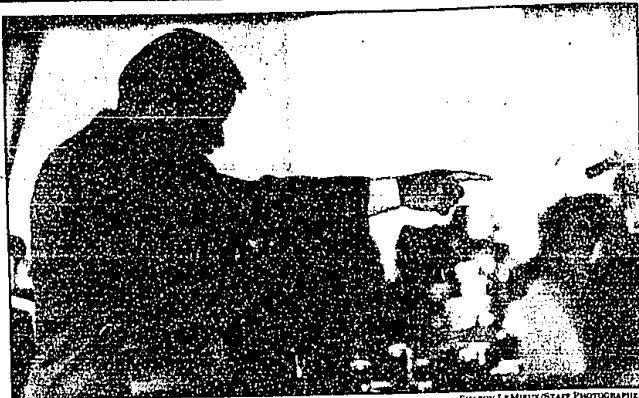
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Parenting pointers: Michael Karpovich tells the audience of adults at the Farmington Families in Action breakfast that they are nerds and nerds are cool.

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tainable and becoming adrift in misconceptions.

One misconception is that life is fair, Karpovich said. He cites his own background, which has included overcoming dyslexia and diminutive size.

Karpovich was only 4-feet tall as a teen. He battled constant teasing and bullying.

After gaining self-confidence, Karpovich went on to be a high school drama teacher, a disc jockey,

key, counselor, and college instructor.

He is president of Dynamic Interactions Inc., an educational consulting firm. He was a featured speaker in the Farmington Public Schools' highly successful "Get a GRIP" program in February.

We have also become a society that has confused humility with shame, he said. Parents have to believe in themselves, and their children.

That means encouraging them in their dreams. The investment requires attention and love.

"The way you spell love is T-I-M-E," Karpovich said.

After speaking, Karpovich asked for yet another batch of raised hands of those who felt they were exceptional parents. Many raised their hand.

"Stay that way," Karpovich said.

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"You said in your statement that it was a (Pontiac) Grand Prix," he told Carol Hoffman, a jogger who had testified that she saw the car speed away from the area with glass still breaking off of the broken windshield.

But Hoffman said she didn't know cars. She also testified that the suspect was driving "like a madman" at more than 100 mph.

Dawn Cagle Pyant, who along

with her husband was returning from the grocery store, said the black Thunderbird was weaving and speeding as it turned in front of her at Nine Mile and Inkster, then slowed to a stop. Cagle Pyant said she could identify Smith as the driver despite Escobedo's suggestion that she saw his face on the television news before calling police.

The car suspected of killing David Klenke was later found abandoned in that area and Smith was arrested in nearby woods.

Smith's fiancée, Lori Henry, and a friend Mark Clifton, who had been with him during a drunken party that ended for Smith with a fight after consuming beer and whiskey, seemed to confirm the worst.

Clifton said Smith would "get crazy" and "out of control" when "drunk." At about 7 p.m., just minutes before the youngster was killed, Smith had left in the Thunderbird, which is registered to Henry, squealing the tires as he drove off.

New health magazine offered

Southeast Michigan residents can now read LifeLine, a new health care magazine published by Oakland County-based Specialty Communications Inc.

LifeLine is designed for individuals or family members who need complete, easy-to-read tips on how to keep themselves well. "Our readers live fast-paced, busy lives," said editor Cathy Smillie. "They're looking for clear perspectives and accurate information that is useful in their daily activities."

Stories take a local slant, using experts from area hospitals, clinics and other health care facilities. Although the magazine covers complex medical issues, most articles are written in a "how-to" format, such as how to pack nutritious lunches that kids will eat, or what to look for when browsing for fresh fruits and vegetables at the local farm market.

"Now more than ever, we are encouraged to take responsibility for our own health," Smillie said. "But where do we start? The medical field can be costly and confusing, and insurance companies make matters even more complex."

October's feature story, titled "Whole Health," explores the emerging managed care environment and aims to help readers understand its components, including the role of the primary care physician, when you should see a specialist, and how to use nurse midwives, osteopathic physicians and other providers.

Specialty Communications is a subsidiary of Suburban Communications Corp., which publishes the Observer & Eccentric and HomeTown newspapers. LifeLine will be distributed through the Suburban network in Wayne, Oakland, Washtenaw and Livingston counties.

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