

Sentenced to charity

Booked for MDA: Ken Fillingier of W.W. Granger in Farmington Hills and Barbara Brown of Brown & Associates of Novi pose for their "Muscular Dystrophy Association Lock Up" booking photo before continuing fund raising efforts at Marco's Restaurant in Farmington.



STAFF PHOTO BY SHARON LEMLEY

District nets award for budget

The Farmington Public School District has been awarded a Meritorious Budget Award for excellence in preparing its annual budget. The award is given out by the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International.

The Meritorious Budget Awards Program was designed by ASBO International and school business management professionals to enable school officials to achieve a standard of excellence in budget presentation.

It helps schools systems build a solid foundation in the skills of developing,

FARMINGTON SCHOOLS

analyzing, and presenting a budget.

The award is only given to school systems who have met or exceeded the Meritorious Budget Award Program criteria.

To date, only two school districts in Michigan have earned this honor.

"Our goal in presenting the district's budget was to meet high standards of quality and excellence," said Cheryl Cannon, assistant superintendent of Business and Operational Services. "We are proud to

report that our 1997-98 budget meets these expectations thanks to the commitment of the business department staff and support of the superintendent and board of education."

The Association of School Business Officials International, founded in 1910, is a professional association which provides programs and services to promote the highest standards of school business management practices, professional growth and the effective use of educational resources.

Schools offer choice options for '98-'99

Signup for Highmeadow under way

Students in Farmington Public Schools have various choices when it comes to selecting where to attend classes in the district. The following is a rundown:

■ **Alameda and Fairview early childhood centers:** Kindergarten registration is through Friday, Feb. 27. Parents/guardians need to bring two proofs of residency and an original birth certificate when registering. Call Alameda, 489-3808, or Fairview, 489-3799 for more information.

■ **Highmeadow Common Campus:** Highmeadow offers an alternative educational environment for children in grades 1-5. There will be approximately 60 openings in first grade for 1998-99. Openings will be limited to grades 2-5. Applications for grades 1-5 will be available at the school from 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. from March 2-6.

The Highmeadow lottery will be Tuesday, March 10. Notification to everyone participating in the lottery will be mailed to applicants' homes on March 16. It is requested that no phone calls be made to the school office for lottery results.

■ **Gill Year Round School:** The K-5 year-round program is designated as a "School of Choice" within the district. However, families must meet the following enrollment criteria, in the listed priority, before they can register:

1. Year Round students currently enrolled.

2. Students from the Gill attendance area, based on space availability.

3. Students from outside the Gill area, based on space availability.

Sibling priority is given to families who currently have children enrolled in the program. Class size is capped. Only one section of each grade level is offered.

For information, call 489-3690 after April 6.

■ **Elementary school:** Kindergarten registration is Monday, Feb. 23 through Friday, Feb. 27. Parents/guardians must bring two proofs of residency and an original birth certificate when registering at their kindergarten school site.

Openings are determined based on space availability. Transportation service is not

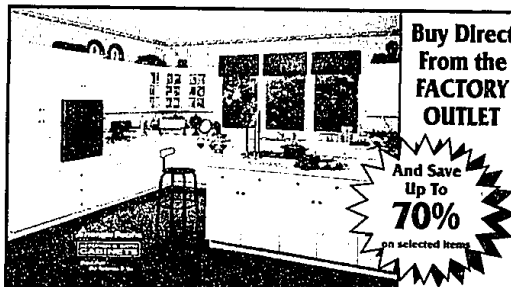
available for school of choice students. Applications must be received by Friday, March 27, for school of choice option. No applications will be honored beyond that date.

■ **Middle and high schools:** Openings will be determined after all applications have been received. The number of students requesting to leave their assigned school will determine the number of openings available. If the net increase of students exceeds 10, a lottery will be held to determine those who will be allowed to transfer.

In order to plan effectively for students and staff, Friday, Feb. 27, is the deadline for requests. No application will be honored after the deadline. If a lottery is necessary, it will be held the week of March 16.

Transportation service of school of choice students in the middle and high schools will most likely result in the need to change buses along the route and/or the bus ride will be approximately one hour in length, both to and from school.

For more information on school of choice programs, call (248) 489-3329. All parents were sent a letter in January describing these school of choice options.



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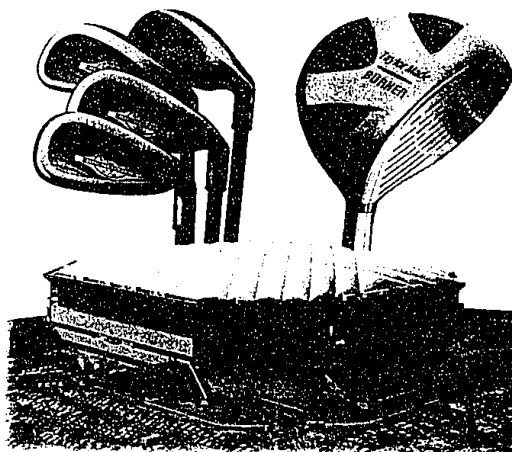
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