

North Farmington makes North Central's grade for improvements

The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (NCA) announced that North Farmington High School has been awarded top school improvement hon-

ors. The school was one of 24 Michigan schools honored this fall for completing a five-year, eight-phase school improvement

process.

This school improvement model differs from traditional accreditation in that the school commits itself to a plan of continuous effort that concentrates on the improvement of student performance in selected areas. It helps schools document the effectiveness of their programs. While North Farmington High School still meets traditional accreditation requirements, including teacher preparation and number of instructional hours, this school improvement cycle demands that they document student improvement.

A team of peers visited the high school during the improvement cycle to evaluate the success of their school improvement plan. Working in communities, the staff selected specific target goals. North Farmington High School was able to demonstrate to the team that their students are performing better in the selected areas than they were before the process was implemented.

"The NCA school improvement process demands more of schools than any other change process," said State Director Dr. William Bushaw. "Schools must docu-

■ This school improvement model differs from traditional accreditation in that the school commits itself to a plan of continuous effort that concentrates on the improvement of student performance in selected areas.

ment that their efforts resulted in preparing students for the 21st century. I congratulate North Farmington High School for voluntarily pursuing this highly accountable approach."

North Farmington High School completed all eight phases of the process following their final visit and was reviewed by the elected Michigan NCA State Committee during a recent meeting. The North Central Association of Colleges and Schools awarded the school their highest school improvement honor.

Currently, there are 212 high schools in Michigan that have completed the entire process successfully.

Mercy sister taught school for 41 years

Sister Mary Robert Irish, a Sister of Mercy for 69 years, died Nov. 24 at McAuley Retirement Center, Farmington Hills, following a short illness.

Born Mary Reid Irish, daughter of Damon and Alice Irish, in Hemlock, Mich., she attended St. Mary School there, and Mt. Mercy Academy in Grand Rapids, where she entered the Sisters of Mercy at age 18. She completed her novitiate in Dubuque, Iowa, and took final vows in Cincinnati, Ohio.

She began her 41-year career as a teacher of primary and elementary grades in the Grand Rapids, Gaylord and Saginaw dioceses. She also taught for a time in Early, Iowa.

Her teaching career included St. Patrick Schools at Ada (Parnell) and Grand Haven; St. Francis Xavier, Grand Rapids; St. Mary Schools at Big Rapids and Cheboygan; St. Michael, Muskegon; St. Ignatius, Rogers City; Immaculate Conception, Traverse City; St. Brigid, Midland and St. Andrew, Saginaw. She also had the joy of teaching and serving as principal at her home parish school, St. Mary's, Hemlock. During those years she also earned a bachelor of arts degree from Mercy College, Detroit.

Sister Mary Robert's last year of active service was spent tutoring at St. Joseph, Auburn. In 1973 she retired to a ministry of prayer at St. Gertrude Retirement Convent, Grand Rapids, where she remained until 1984 when she moved to McAuley Center. There she found that one of her caregivers was Sister Catherine Sobock, whom she had taught in the first grade.

Sister Mary Robert was a spirited, companionable person who could "talk a mile a minute or more," according to her friends. She was a good ball player, a lover of music and good food. When she felt well, she enjoyed making rosaries. Suffering for many years from poor health, she responded with delight to smiles and gentleness. She is survived by a brother, Bud (Elaine) Irish of Saginaw, sister Joyce (John) Emery of St. Charles, several other relatives, and by her Sisters in the Community of Mercy.

A prayer service was held Nov. 25 in the McAuley Center Chapel, Farmington Hills. The funeral mass was celebrated in the chapel Nov. 27 on what would have been Sister Mary Robert's 88th birthday. Burial followed at Holy Sepulchre Cemetery.

HAVE
ART
THAT NEEDS TO BE
FRAMED
AND READY FOR
CHRISTMAS?
COME SEE US AND REGISTER TO WIN
"LAST PITCH AT TIGER STADIUM"
Frame Supplied by TC Moulding • Approx. size 40" x 14" • Drawing held 12-22-99
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE
FRAMING CORNER
27716 W. SEVEN MILE • LIVONIA
248-777-1442

This Holiday Season the turkey and stockings should be the only things stuffed!

Is EVERYONE coming to YOUR home for the holidays? Where will they all sleep? At AmeriSuites! And because you spent enough this season, we're offering this "Home for the Holidays" special package:

\$49* plus tax

- Indoor Pool
- Bountiful Breakfast Buffet™
- Near AMC Theatres

Valid Nov. 19-29 and Dec. 16-29, 1999
*A limited number of suites are available at the discount rate. Not valid for groups or with any other discount or promotion.

Call today and treat yourself or out-of-town visitors to a "Suite" New Year's Getaway!

\$200* plus tax

- Spacious Suite
- Bountiful Breakfast Buffet™
- Indoor Pool
- Near AMC Theatres
- Based on Availability

Based on availability. Valid 12/30 - 1/23/1999 and 1/1/00 at Livonia Location only.

1-800-833-1516
AMERISUITES®
DETROIT/Livonia
19300 Haggerty Road • Livonia
Tel: (734) 953-9224


MOVADO®
MUSEUM ESPERANZA™
A smooth rounded case and striking open link bracelet frame the legendary dot dial. Crafted of solid stainless steel with polished 18 karat gold micron finish accents. Precise Swiss quartz movement. Sapphire crystal. Water resistant to 99 feet. 14k or 18k.

Greis JEWELERS
32940 Middlebelt at 14 Mile Road Farmington Hills, MI
1-888.844.3916 • www.greis.com

MEET NARS MAKEUP ARTIST JULIO SANDINO. COME TO PARISIAN TO MEET NARS OWN

INTERNATIONAL MAKEUP ARTIST, JULIO SANDINO, AS HE REVEALS THE HOTTEST TRENDS FOR THE SEASON. JULIO WILL SHOW YOU HIS OWN TIPS AND TECHNIQUES FOR GETTING THE LOOK YOU WANT, AS WELL AS HELP YOU FIND WHAT COLORS AND SHADES WORK BEST WITH YOUR SKIN.

CALL 953-7541 FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT. **LAUREL PARK PLACE, FRIDAY, DECEMBER, 3 & SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4 FROM 10:00AM TO 5:00PM.** IN COSMETICS.



DAY STORE HOURS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28: 11:00 AM TO 6:00 PM.

P.A.R.I.S.I.A.N.

CALL 1-888-844-3168 TO ORDER ANYTIME. HOLIDAY STORE HOURS: Laurel Park Place open Sun. 11-6, Mon. 10-9, Tue. 10-9, Wed. 10-9, Thur. 10-9, Fri. 10-10, Sat. 8-10. FOR INFORMATION call 953-7500. CHARGE IT! Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express® Card or Discover®. LOCATED AT LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF HENRICH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD (TAKE THE SIX MILE ROAD EXIT OFF INTERSTATE 275).