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RAINBOW BREAKFAST MCMR HONOREES

Following is a list and a brief statement about each of the Rainbow Recognition winners announced at last Thursday's Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council breakfast.

Top award winners were Bev Papal, director of the Farmington Community Libraries, and Samir Haddad, director of bilingual state and federal projects for the schools.

Helen Akouri, an ESL teacher, worked with the Alameda early childhood diversity committee.

Hashim Al Tawil, an Oakland Community College teacher, represents the Arab American and Chaldean Council on the diversity council's steering committee.

Greg Ambrose, athletic chair for the Farmington schools, was chairman for the "Many Faces" festival last fall.

Abe Aon, a Farmington Hills businessman, is a member of the Optimist Club and avid supporter of MCMR Council.

Bette Austin, an OCC computer paraprofessional, maintains a scrapbook about her lab helpers, who come from many different cultures.

Inaegene Bailey, a co-chair of the OCC diversity committee, worked on the campus' first diversity week event last October.

Andrea Baker, is a MCMR student representative from Mercy High School and helped plan the February Youth Diversity Conference.

Paul Barber, a music coordinator for Farmington schools, served on the entertainment committee for the "Many Faces" festival.

Diane Bauman, community relations director for the Farmington schools, helped publicize the many events of MCMR, including the festival last fall, and a regional conference held at OCC in March.

Vera Beovic, a bilingual paraprofessional born in Sweden and raised in Albania, is assigned to Beechview's multilingual/multicultural classroom and acts as translator for bilingual students and has great rapport with parents and staff.

Pat Blackard, who is a member of the Social Action Committee at the Universalist Unitarian Church, helped a Kosovo refugee family in gaining access to the community resources and learn about democracy.

Ann Blazny, a Harrison counselor, recently adopted two Russian children; her caseload includes students with bilingual needs.

Rev. Ben Bohnack, a long-time member of MCMR Council steering committee, recently

served on a plan committee for a community forum on religious diversity.

Sandi Carter, a fitness trainer at the Farmington YMCA, fosters harmony among residents; she has intertwined her own family life with friends and neighbors, arranging gatherings that foster multicultural and multicultural relationships.

Flore Chinchilla, a Longacre teacher of Spanish, is a member of the district diversity committee, and maintains colorful displays of Mexican and Spanish cultures in school; she is active in the Detroit Spanish community.

Rose Christoph, a Longacre reading specialist, greets new bilingual families to determine their needs; she is very active in voter participation efforts.

Rob Clarkson, a supervisor at Costick Center, always helps the MCMR efforts, and is recognized especially for his aid with "Many Faces."

Sarah Clock, a teacher at Beechview, is instructing in the first inclusive multicultural first grade program in the district; she embraces all learners and has worked on literacy efforts through West Oaks Civitans.

Don Cohen, a longtime member of the district-wide diversity committee, has presented workshops for administrators on diversity and made an Anti-Defamation League training program available for staff development; he is executive director of the ADL and has worked extensively with the state's hate crime task force.

Dr. Jan Colliton, principal at Hillside, has helped create a learning community that respects, celebrates, embraces, and nurtures diversity.

Nancy Cook, a school paraprofessional at Longacre, helps students feel comfortable by promoting diversity; she is active in PTA, Cub Scouts and her church.

Cathy Cordle, a performing arts teacher at East Middle School, has chaired a school improvement committee working on multicultural goals in the school; she is a member of Mosaic Club and worked on the annual Dr. King assembly.

Angela Corral, currently serving as Miss Farmington 2000, is a Mercy grad now at MSU where she is active in a university-wide organization that focuses on inclusion in the dorms.

Nancy Coumoundouras, cultural arts coordinator for Farmington and Farmington Hills, co-chaired the art exhibit at the Heritage Festival; ultimately 80

diverse pieces were assembled for the exhibit.

Bridget Dean, a bilingual coordinator for the schools, worked on FLAGGS, and helped as chair of the Heritage Festival display committee.

Julie Devine, a Farmington resident, devoted hours to the Heritage Festival; she developed the community-wide cultural sharing project that people like so well during the Heritage Festival.

Susan Duncan, a paraprofessional at Longacre, works with bilingual kids; a 22-year resident of Farmington, she is active in Neighborhood Watch and as a FHS band parent.

Areej El-Jawhri, a FHS senior, has helped REACH, the school's multi-cultural organization; she is a member of Falcon Forum, a group that seeks to unite FHS clubs by finding common ground.

Almece Ergas, advocate and parent for multicultural activities at East, is a volunteer member of Mosaic Club.

Pam Finkel, who provides clerical support of the bilingual program, often encounters newcomers to the community and treats them with dignity and respect.

Arlene Frank, director of Womancenter at OCC, helped create "Girls Matters Conference" held last fall; she has helped the college create programs to assist women and girls in pursuing their goals.

Jonathan Gratz, a senior at Harrison who attends Oakland Technical Center, has assisted in community events, helping the Goodfellows, assisting in setting up a new library at St. Fabian and participating in the "Appalachian Service Project" on behalf of St. Fabian.

Helen Habib, director of International Students Services for OCC, has helped with all the Rainbow Recognition breakfasts, and co-chaired the food committee of the Heritage Festival, showcasing her Lebanese culture.

David Hales, a teacher leader for Hillside, helped present the cultural heritage of the Farmington/Farmington Hills area by working on one-hour bus tours of the historic downtown area.

Gohar Imam, a paraprofessional at Longacre, is translating English books into her native Urdu and conducting an afterschool multicultural programing this February; she is the director of the Pakistan Association of North America.

Editor's note: The balance of this list will run in Sunday's paper.

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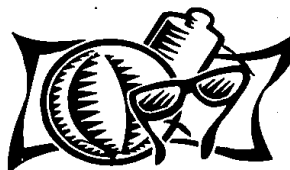
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