

Students will dance at Gov. Warner Mansion

By SUE BUCK
STAFF WRITER
sbuck@oe.homecomm.net

Third graders from Hillside Elementary in Farmington Hills will do the Virginia Reel on the Governor Warner Mansion lawn Sunday.

That's an old-time, traditional American dance in which two lines of couples face each other and all couples in turn participate in a series of figures.

The children invite the community to the mansion at 33805 Grand River in downtown Farmington from 1-4 p.m. The event is a community service project created by the third graders in honor of the community in which they live.

"Third graders will be there to greet you and to be your guides as you tour the rooms of the mansion," said Debra Badrak, a Hillside teacher. "They will dress in 1800s clothes."

The two-story mansion, built in 1867, was owned by Fred Maltby Warner, Michigan's first three-term governor. The setting provides an opportunity to listen to the music on the player grand piano in the music room and visit the rose and herb gardens on the grounds.

The children will play games and complete simple crafts from that time period, Badrak said. Families are welcome and refreshments will be served.



STAFF PHOTO BY BILL BRESLER

Watercolor winner: Marie Benzing took 1st place in the Farmington Artist Club competition with her watercolor, "Still Waters." The painting is based on a photograph taken at a retreat center in Birmingham. Benzing, a Detroit resident, has been a club member for the past four years.

All-Stars from page A1

School, Yibo Ling of Salem High School, Amanda Patton of Farmington High School, Anne Bresler of Churchill High School, Betsy Radtke of Canton High School, Eric Konopka of Wayne Memorial High School, Kimberly Weaver of Canton High School, Jason Gohan of Detroit Catholic Central High School, Brian Doughty of North Farmington High School, Christopher Gansen of Stevenson High School, Shigong Zhang of Churchill High School,

Michael Anderson of Thurston High School, Sean McCann of Thurston High School and Audrey Brayman of Wayne Memorial High School.

We hope you will take the time to look over this special section and appreciate the accomplishments of not only our 16 winners but of the runners-up as well.

All 47 are outstanding students, and we are proud to give them this recognition.

Artist finds watercolor challenging

By JONI HUBRED
STAFF WRITER
jhubred@oe.homecomm.net

By day, Marie Benzing preaches over a class of first-grade students at St. Angela Catholic School in Roseville.

After the bell rings, however, she turns to a world of canvas and color, creating images that reflect a love of the earth and a talent for painting. For the past 15 years, Benzing has worked in watercolor. Her interpretation of a pond at Manresa Retreat Center in Birmingham, titled "Still Waters," took top honors in this year's Farmington Artist Club's competition, judged last week at the William B. Costick Activities Center in Farmington Hills.

"I was interested in the reflections of the trees in the water, the blue of the sky and warm oranges and yellows of the leaves," she said, noting the depth of the pond was also symbolic of the depth of human beings. "Even though the surface may be still, there's a lot going on underneath."

She prefers working in watercolor, because it exhibits a freedom and freshness, and because it challenges her.

"There's the freedom and freshness it exhibits," she said. "You can't totally control it, so there's some excitement...With watercolor, you challenge yourself to grow not just in the media, but in what you want to say."

Benzing, who lives in Detroit, joined the Farmington Artists Club after meeting club members at a retreat.

"It's been a wonderful experience for me," she said. "My friends are supportive, but they can only listen for so long."

Being a member has also given her the opportunity to compete, starting with a single entry four years ago. She feels being part of the group has afforded her the opportunity to grow.

Chairperson Annetta Lind, a charter member, says the club has grown by "leaps and bounds" since 1965, now boasting 140 members. At one time, she said, there was a five-year membership waiting list.

"We are open to all levels of ability," she said. "We have beginners, we have people in

master's programs, college professors, even people who have been published."

For more information about the Farmington Artist Club, call (248) 661-1088.

Festival continues through Sunday

The Farmington Community Arts Council's Festival of the Arts continues through Sunday, May 6, with a wide variety of events. Festival exhibits will be open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday and Friday, noon to 10 p.m. Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. on Sunday.

THURSDAY - "Student Visitation Day"

- 10 a.m.: Embroiders' Guild/Artist Club Demonstrations
- 10:30 a.m.: Harrison High orchestra
- 11 a.m.: Power Middle School orchestra
- 11:30 a.m.: Warner Middle School orchestra
- Noon: Power Middle School Jazz Band
- 1 p.m.: Lanigan Elementary Choir
- 7:30 p.m.: Harrison High Dance Company

FRIDAY - "Student Visitation Day"

- 10 a.m.: Embroiders' Guild/Artist Club Demonstrations
- 10:30 a.m.: Harrison High concert band
- 11 a.m.: Dunkel Middle School orchestra
- 11:30 a.m.: North Farmington High jazz band
- Noon: East Middle School Jazz Band
- 12:30 p.m.: East Middle School Ensemble vocal ensemble
- 1 p.m.: Dunkel Middle School Jazz Band
- 7:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.: Dance-a-thon for All Ages

SATURDAY

- 1 p.m.: "Magical History Tour" (also at 1:30, 2:15 and 2:45)
- 8 p.m.: The Chenille Sisters in concert

SUNDAY

- 3 p.m.: Farmington Community Band "Step Back in Time" featuring members of the Farmington Community Chorus

Time to **Spring** into Action
...in the garden!

- 1000's of perennials to choose from with a wide variety of unusual plants.
- Vast selection of Rhododendrons, Azaleas, and Japanese Maples.

Buy three perennials get the fourth (of equal or lesser value)

FREE

With this coupon • Expires 5-31-01

10% off
Any Azalea or Rhododendron

With this coupon • Expires 5-31-01

Planting & Delivery are Available

STEINKOPF NURSERY
Family Owned & Operated Since 1931

20815 Farmington Road • Just N. of 8 Mile • Farmington Hills
Hours: Monday-Saturday 8 am - 7 pm, Sunday 10 am - 4 pm
248-474-2925

MOTHER'S DAY
GIFT IDEAS
Get her what she's always wanted...
a SINGER SEWING MACHINE
"Quality Built Machines Since 1851"

Full Factory Warranty, On-Site Support and FREE Lessons!
Heavy-duty machines that are designed for the beginner to advanced sewers.

AUTHORIZED SALES & SERVICE

Sew & Save
26641 Southfield Rd.
(248) 569-5250

SINGER 150th ANNIVERSARY

INVEST IN THE BEST!

RAIN or SHINE

NO PAYMENTS TIL JAN. 2002

Financing Available

Tony V's Coupon
FREE SPA
with the purchase of any installed sunroom.
EXPIRES 5-15/01

Tony C's Coupon
\$500.00 off
on all MARQUIS SPAS
EXPIRES 5-15/01

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE
• Convertible Shop-At-Home Service
• Michigan Based Manufacturer for over 31 Years
• 21 Day Satisfaction Guarantee
• Sunroom Lifetime Transferable Warranty

We don't say we're the best, all these people do.

OPEN 7 DAYS Call 800-44-TONY V (888-888)

CANTON 1771 N. Red Road
2 Miles East of Farmington Road & 1 Mile West of I-480

CLINTON TOWNSHIP 1771 N. Red Road

Mother's Day Sale
at Eleganza

20% OFF
all suits & sweaters

now through Mother's Day!

eleganza

7415 Orchard Lake Rd. • West Bloomfield
Mon. - Fri. 10-6 • Sat. 9:30 - 5 • Thurs. 10-7
Closed Sundays
(248) 737-2666

Style.
furniture & accessories

Our Expansion Is Now Complete
Shop our store for all new merchandise.
We are now always 20% OFF!

- Sofas • Dining
- Tables • Bedrooms
- Lamps • Bedding
- Pictures • Accessories

6 Months SAME AS CASH

33080 Northwestern Hwy. • West Bloomfield
(Between Orchard Lake Road & 14 Mile Road)
248-636-7747 • Fax 248-636-7748