

Rainbow Recognition Award winners gather for a photo after the Thursday morning awards breakfast.

## HONORED

FROM PAGE AT

Zurvalce chairs the MCMR's Education and Training sub-committee, which is part of a community-wide effort to cre-ate a new strategic plan for the organization. She has co-chaired a mini-conference on religions to kick off the coun-cil's Heritage Week and

chaired a two-day conference for the community entitled, "Many Faces, One Future," in which 400 people participated. "Anyone who knows Sue is familiar with how seriously shukes her role on the Multicultural Multiracial Community Council, 'Hall said.

"She has given genetously not only of her professional time, but of her personal

time."
Zurvalce said she was "truly and deeply honored" to be recognized for something she cares deeply about. Keynote speaker for the event, Detroit Free Press publisher Heath Meriwether, shared examples from a recent trip to Israel and the West Bank that showed how Jewish and Arab citizens work on in and Arab citizens work on a daily basis to deal with the

affects of the war that divides

their peoples,
"If we work side by side, if
we look each other in the eye,"
he said, "things will change day

he said, "things will Change and by day."
Meriwether also shared "best practices" the Free Press uses in both its workplace and news coverage, which included auditing the content of the newspaper, holding diversity training sessions that cover age, sexual orientation and even polities.

### AKEBONO

FROM PAGE AT

business tax breaks during that

business tax breaks during that September meeting.

Council members later apologized for their behavior, saying Akebono was the unintentional target of their anger at the state for continually dipping into the city's tax base.

Joe St. Henry, spokesman for the company, said Friday Akebono officials are keeping options open, including expanding in Farmington Hills—for now.

"We're in the middle of necessity of the state of the second of the second

"We're in the middle of nego-tiations with the seller (of the building in Northville) and

nothing is finalized," he said.
However, a Northville official
said the township board of
trustees did approve an eightyear, 50-percent tax abatement
on personal property and any
expansion to the building.

expansion to the building.
Thelma Kubitskey, assistant
township manager and finance
director, said Akebono told
Northville officials the compa-Northville officials the compa-ny is running out of room in Farmington Hills and "they didn't sound like they had a chance to expand there." She said the company has not officially announced whether it will move its operations to

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### RESCUE

FROM PAGE AT

toward the veterinary bill.

toward the velerinary bill.

However, many cats don't
come that route.

The rescue specializes in
purebred cats, but Klein is not
one to turn down an animal in
need.

"We just took in a little cat we named Chilly," Klein said. "She was hanging around this lady's house. She's a muted calico who

is spayed and declawed.

The veterinary bill for Chilly will climb even higher because Carron discovered three broken teeth, which will need to be removed. She was either grawing on something in the cold on the was kicked, 'Klein asid.' Ella, a 5-year-old Persian, is also available for adoption, is he was found running around a trailer park, Klein said.

Call the rescue at (248) 442-0259 for more information.

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## DISTRICTS

FROM PAGE AT

affect programs this year. But we'll definitely be looking at cost containment in the

Leach said she had anticipated cuts in the 2003-04 budget, but Gov. Jennifer Granholm's executive order slashing \$49 per pupil came as a surprise. Granholm's administration faced a \$130 million shortfall in the state's School

Ald Fund.
The anticipated budget crunch has Clarenceville officials starting their 2003-04 budget process a couple of months earlier than

PROGRAM

"Thank goodness we do have some fund equity," Leach

uu. Clarenceville's business and support services director Dave Bergeron said that balance is high right now, at \$2.2

mon. "Historically, for our district,

"Historically, for our district, I've been here six or seven years and this is the highest I'ds ever been," he said.
"Over the last couple of years we've been able to add to it because of retirements and a lot of things have happened ... in school funding that have been positive for us."

Speaking strielly as the districts financial guru, Bergeron said, he likes to see as much as possible diverted into what amounts to a kind of "rainy day

fund." But the district is currently wrestling with the idea o how much a percentage of its budget should be saved. Auditors at Plante Moran have said 10 percent is a target for most school districts, Bergeron said.

"It allows you to weather uncertainties," he said. "If we had \$200,000 right now, we'd be looking at a different picture.

be looking at a different pie-ture."
That kind of fund equity also puts Farmington in a better position than other Michigan school districts that are already on the cusp of serious financial problems.

problems.
At \$13 million, Farmington's fund balance is at the "upper range," Maxfield said.
"The board's been zealous

LOCATION

out that as we balance the

about that as we balance the budget."
While he has often heard the question, "Why don't you use the fund balance?" in response to strained budgets in previous years, Marsfeld said officials have tried to avoid using one-time funds to pay for ongoing operating costs.
"I think we're in pretty darn good shape in that regard," he said, but it's still a hit. We had a positive swing this fall, so we're a little better cushioned."

nea. Maxfield referred to a \$1 million reduction in health insur-ance costs that resulted from self-funding and delays in cap-tial projects.

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#### SCHOOL FROM PAGE AT

spot. It focused on a number of criteria, including quality of teaching staff which Jones said is maintained by staff development, infusion of technology, small group instruction and parent involve-ment.

ment.

"We're all a team, all of the staff and the parents," Junes said. "We feel we have a highly

"We feel we have a highly involved parent community."
The school continually sets its sights high, she said.
I set the highest of expectations and aim high." Jones said. Farmington Schools.
Superintendent Bob Maxfield expressed pride in Wooddale's accomplishments.
"They have outstanding lendership, a can-do staff and a

really supportive parent com-munity."

Jan Colliton, assistant super-intendent for instruction, said she was thrilled.

she was thrilled.
"They are getting significant recognition that is totally deserved," Colliton said. "They have a wonderfully collaborative

learning community."
The state award also recognizes parent involvement and student achievement, she said. Woodale joins other district schools which received the

award.
They are: Farmington High School, Highmeadow Commor Campus, Hillside Elementary, Kenbrook Elementary and North Farmington High

School.

Highmendow, Hillside and
North Farmington High have
also received the National Blue
Ribbon award.

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## FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS TECHNICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM 2003-2004

Each year the Farmington Public Schools offer Technical programs at Farmington (FHS), Harrison (HHS), North Farmington (KFHS) ligh School and at the Ookland Technical Center Southwest Campus (OTC.SW) in Walled Lake. Within the District a cluttle bus transports students from their high school to another building. No class time is lost.

nnother building. No dass time is lost.

These programs are designed to prepare youth for a brond range of employment and continuing education opportunities. They are offered under the guidance of certified instructors, counselors and cooperative education coordinators. The curriculum is technically up to date, the equipment is exprementative of the 'state of the art' in business and industry and the laboratories are of epithoma size and appropriately designed.

If a program is offered at OTC-SW and at the home high achood, students are asked to ensell in the loom high school for the first year and the nather in OTC-SW for the advanced program during the Latest below are the programs being offered this year. Please refer to your course description book for a complete listing of courses.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM

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Prerequisites for the above courses may differ depending on cour-	se offerings at each building
OAKLAND TECHNICAL CENTER-SW CURRICULUM	
PROGRAM	GRADE LEVEL
Agriscience-Floral	11th & 12th Grade Only
Agriscience Greenhouse/Landscaping	11th & 12th Grade Only
Automotive Technology	11th & 12th Grade Only
Business Service Technology	11th & 12th Grade Only
Collision Repair Technology	11th & 12th Grade Only
Computer Maintenance & Networking	11th & 12th Grade Only
Culinary Arta/Hospitality	11th & 12th Grade Only
Graphic Communications	11th & 12th Grade Only
Health Sciences	11th & 12th Grade Only
Heavy Equipment and Trucking Technology	13th & 12th Grade Only
Machine Technologies	11th & 12th Grade Only
Manufacturing/CAD Engineering Core	11th & 12th Grade Only
Marketing	11th & 12th Grade Only
Welding Fabrication	11th & 12th Grade Only

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For Specific Information about the above programs, you may call the Guidance Office at the respective building Formancian Bish School (480-3454), Harrison High School (480-3560) and North Formancian High School (475-2003). In Aceptage, with the Farmancian Baard of Education policy on non-descrimination, students have equal acress to all technical and life management programs regardless of acceptage of the programs of the program of the programs of the programs of the programs of the programs of the p

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