

## Musicale program goes European

Join the Farmington Musicales at Hammell Music, 15630 Middlebelt in Livonia on Wednesday, March 5 at 1:00 p.m. for a program with an international flavor.

"Hands Across the Ocean" will feature several members performing music of European origin. Pianist Jan Smith will play three Spanish Dances of Enrique Granados.

Soprano Rita Fushman will sing songs of Schubert, Schumann, Brahms and Strauss with pianist Bruce Slinger.

Elaine Vermiglio will perform the Schumann Piano

Sonata in G minor, Op. 22. Soprano Faith Ruck, with pianist Jennifer Gale, will perform songs of Vivaldi, Handel, Bellini and Puccini. Guests are welcome. Contact Jan Smith, (248) 626-3856, for more information.

## WHIZ KID

FROM PAGE A1

Beck in Wixom, just north of Maple Road. The 175,000-square-foot building sits on 16 acres.

"I wanted to increase my knowledge of computer maintenance and hopefully get a career in it," Skimin said.

He's learned how to tear a computer apart, put it back together and resolve maintenance issues and master operating systems.

He is now qualified to participate in the State Leadership Conference held at the Detroit Marriott Renaissance Center March 6-9.

"He is a certified Microsoft professional technician," said Sharon Jennings, an instructional tech. "This is a worldwide certification. He can go anywhere in 'he world and use it. It's a Bill Gates certification."

## CAREER PLANS

Skimin is preparing to become a certified Microsoft systems engineer.

After graduation, he expects to first attend Oakland Community College and then Michigan State University and Lawrence Technological University.

Skimin has five self-built computers running in a network in his parents'

Farmington Hills home. He also has a laptop computer.

Human error accounts for many computer problems, Skimin said. That will keep computer repair people in business for decades to come.

The Southwest Campus has placed several students in jobs, Jennings said. Two students work for Milford Public Schools in computer maintenance.

"These students not only earn college credits, they get hands on in the workplace," Jennings said.

Associate Dean Michael Beyer said the campus is more like a college than a high school.

The school's relationship with Business Professionals of America contributes to the preparation of a world-class workforce through the advancement of leadership, citizenship, academic, and technological skills.

BPA members are provided an opportunity for the development of leadership skills, personal and professional growth, and career-related competencies.

The BMNT Cluster is one of nine at the Oakland Schools Technical Campuses that combine academics, skills training and work experiences to prepare students for career success.

Twelve school districts send students to the Oakland

Schools Technical Campus Southwest, which opened in 1970. There are also technical centers in Pontiac, Royal Oak and Clarkston.

The Wixom campus has a Prometric testing center, which does a variety of testing for national certifications.

Recent campus renovations came after a 2001 vocational millage approved by voters, Beyer said.

## EARLY INTEREST

The interest in computers David Skimin has fostered by the school's programs, but it originated much earlier in his life.

"My dad has always had an interest in computers and when I was a lot younger, he taught me everything I know," he said.

Gary Skimin works in a computer-based job at Ford Motor Company. Mom Miriam expects to soon return to nursing. David has a brother, Matthew, 4, and sisters Laura, 13, a Farmington High School freshman and Carolyn, 20, who attends Michigan State University.

For more information about the Oakland Schools Technical Campus Southwest regional competition contact Dean Allen Beckner, (248) 960-5400.

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## GRANHOLM

FROM PAGE A1

woman Mary Dettloff. "She's a great supporter of schools and youth," Dettloff added while Granholm is personally opposed to abortion. "She does not believe she should impose her views or her faith on the entire state."

Dr. Monica Migliorino-Miller, director of the Stop Granholm Church and Truth Project, praised Sister Doelker's decision.

The press release quoted her as saying, "A Catholic school shouldn't feature Governor Granholm as a prize because she publicly repudiates Church teaching and insists that abortion advocacy is consistent with Catholicism. We also thank Cardinal Maida for being responsive to complaints about this scandal."

Reached by phone, Migliorino-Miller said she believed Maida may have made phone calls or other contact with Sister Doelker in regards

to the matter. A member of the Stop Granholm project (www.stopgranhholm.com) obtained a listing of auction items, which led to the organization's pressuring the school.

"We began to alert people this was a problem,"

Migliorino-Miller said.

"We're fairly confident it

wasn't just our

group. Sister

Doelker's memo indicated that."

While the Observer was

unable to reach Sister Doelker

by phone, the memo she sent to

students and parents was forwarded with the press release.

It reads, in part:

"When a Mercy parent came

to the Auction Committee saying

he had gotten approval from

Governor Granholm to offer a

luncheon with her, we were

thrilled to accept. We saw this

as a wonderful opportunity to

celebrate Michigan's first female

governor. We did not consider

each political stance the Governor holds before

accepting her gift.

"A few Mercy parents and

alumni have contacted us

with concerns that by offering

this luncheon we appeared to

stand in opposition to the

Catholic Church and its teachings

on abortion. We would like

our Mercy school community

and friends to understand that

we never saw this as a gesture

of support for abortion.

"Out of sensitivity to any who

might interpret this item as

Mercy taking a pro-abortion

stand, the luncheon with

Governor Granholm will no

longer be an item in Mercy's

auction. We thank Governor

Granholm for her willingness

to give of her time to support

Mercy's auction."

Migliorino-Miller hopes that

pro-life Catholics will help fill

Granholm's place in the auc-

tion. "We invite Cardinal

Maida, Attorney General

Michael Cox, and others to

offer their time to assist Mercy

High School and Catholic edu-

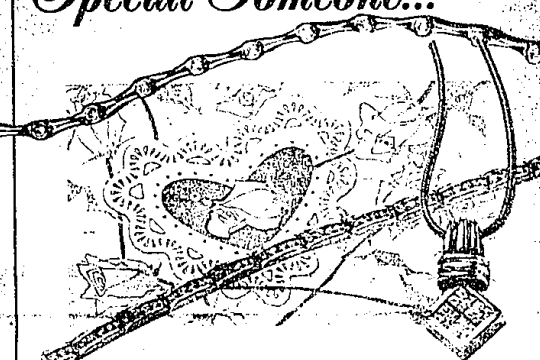
cation. Catholic schools should

replace bad rule models with

good ones."

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## ENBERG

FROM PAGE A1

member Cathy Webb said. "I will especially value and treasure the opportunity to work with you in the coming weeks."

Webb cited Enberg's "selfless contributions."

Board member Frank Reid said that the Michigan Association of School Boards, with which he has been active, holds as its goals improving people's ability to serve on school boards. "You can serve as a shining example of what is absolutely best in a board

member," Reid said.

Anyone who wants to run for this four-year seat should contact Judy Steinhilber at (248) 489-3341.

The last day for filing nominating petitions is 4 p.m. April 7.

The last opportunity for a candidate to withdraw his or her name is 4 p.m. April 10. The last day to register to vote in this election is 5 p.m. May 12.

Absentee voter ballots will be available May 20. The deadline for accepting absentee voter application is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. June 7. Emergency absentee

voter applications can be made up to 4 p.m. June 9, election day. Return delivery must be prior to 8 p.m. when the polls close.

Enberg served on several school board committees and community organizations during her 17 years in the district. She holds a bachelor of science degree in nursing from the University of Kansas and a master's of business administration degree from the University of Michigan.

Enberg and her husband have two grown sons.

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