

Swedish Exchange Student Named Winner In VFW Auxiliary Contest

Winners of the VFW Auxiliary sponsored essay contest, conducted recently by the Farmington Auxiliary, were disclosed last week.

Top winner was Gunilla Ahlen, an exchange student at the Farmington High School. Other winners from Farmington were Ethel VanDusen, second place, and Pamela Chapman, third place.

Judges picked as winners from the Clarencville High School were: Karen Brown, second place; Barbara Schmidt, third place.

Under the local rules of the contest, three winners are chosen from each Clarencville and Farmington High Schools.

All students in grades nine through twelve were eligible to write on a theme which was "America: A Beacon of Hope." Judges received a total of 45 essays. Most students showed much thought and interest in the subject. It was indicated by the judges that the winners will receive their awards on Annual Awards Day, to be held at the high schools.

Miss Ahlen's essay has been sent to Department Headquarters for judging at a department level.

The following is a reprint of Miss Ahlen's award-winning essay. "New words for the world," written by Clarencville High School Student Betty Green, will be published. - Editor.

BEACON OF HOPE
By Gunilla Ahlen

As a foreigner I first thought it difficult to write anything on "America: A Beacon of Hope." But I have found that after living for six months in the United States I have the best grounds to know a little about it, especially as I live in an ordinary school to an ordinary high school, and do what ordinary American teenagers do. The subjects I study at school—American government, history and literature, also teach me about this country. When thinking the subject over, I gave myself some questions.

Why is America a beacon of hope? In answering the question, the reasons for the founding of America are important. They did not have the freedom without which one cannot live very well. Some colonists were looking for religious freedom and economic betterment. Some were debtors seeking down under the burden of heavy rates. Adding the reason up, one will find the key word—liberty.

The colonists would never again have a dictatorship by an absolute monarchy. They made up their minds to found a nation which would be governed by them. Thus, the colonial period has had as great an influence on the development of America as childhood has on man.

How was America made a Beacon of Hope by its founders? The first colonies were ruled like little kingdoms. Their "petty" kings were under British control. The American people were not free enough. They broke with Mother England. Even though there were several problems to be solved, America was now on its own. It was made into a republic, and the Constitution was set up by wise men. Within some years ten amendments were added. The "Bill of Rights."

The words "Bill of Rights" or "Civil Rights" creates a good feeling. Civil says it is something belonging to the people. This "Bill of Rights" is to the Americans what "Magna Carta" is to the English. America is one of the few countries with these rights specially given to the beginning.

One of these civil rights, and one that I consider very important, is the freedom of worship. The people of many combustible countries have no religion and cannot worship openly. America not only has a religion and can worship openly, they can practice the religion of their choice. Nobody has exactly the same beliefs, and as religion is of such importance to man, everyone should have the right of choosing. So it is in America.

The Americans also have freedom of speech as long as they keep to the truth and do not violate a law. They can say anything about a person or a matter, as long as it is not said with hatred, but stated as fact. So here is another light left for the foreigners.

In case in federal courts the right to trial by jury is guaranteed by the Constitution. Nobody can be put on trial for the same offense twice. Another amendment states that the government cannot send representatives to carry out their wishes, and because the government makes them feel secure in this world filled with insecurity. To me as an exchange student, America is a beacon of hope. An American organization, the American Field Service, arranged my stay for one year in the United States on its peace-promoting program—an exchange between Am-

Christian Science Lecture Slated

Reverend Richard Wilkinson, missionary to the Haiti people, spoke at both the morning and evening services at the Bethel Baptist Church at Farmington Road and Colfax last Sunday. Mrs. Wilkinson, who is also actively engaged in missionary work, was present with their four children.

The Bethel Youth Fellowship's monthly business meeting was held Tuesday evening, April 27, at the church. At that time a confirmation class was organized for the coming month. Plans for the coming month were planned. At the close of the meeting a social time and refreshments were enjoyed.

The Hannah Missionary Circle met at 10:30 a.m. Thursday at the home of Mrs. Stanley Smith, 2500 Seven Mile Road, Livonia. News from missionaries was heard. The Naumi Missionary Circle met last Thursday evening at the home of Mrs. Albert Sovereign, 2247 Prospect. Program theme was "A New Frontier."

The first meeting of the Men's Missionary Fellowship was held Friday evening, April 20. Dinner was served at 6:30 p.m., followed by a time of group singing. Dr. Charles Shaw, a teacher at the Detroit Bible Institute, was guest speaker for the evening. Dr. Shaw formerly served as a missionary to Jerusalem and surrounding area.

Now on a nationwide tour, Mr. Exco has lectured extensively in Great Britain, Ireland, Continental Europe, South America and the Caribbean. A native of Iowa, he had a successful career in the sales and advertising field prior to leaving the business world to devote his full time to the practice of Christian Science.

He has been active in the denunciation since 1925 and was a Christian Science wartime Minister during World War II. He has been an authorized teacher of Christian Science since 1949.

BETHEL BAPTIST REPORTS VARIOUS CHURCH ACTIVITIES

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WEST FARMINGTON NEWS

By MRS. IRVIN KNAPP
TELEPHONE MAYFAIR 63853

A longtime resident of this area, Starr William Graham, Sr., passed away last Wednesday in Howell at the age of 65. Funeral services were held Friday from the Spencer J. Heene Funeral Home in Farmington with interment in North Farmington Cemetery.

Mr. Graham had resided at the old Graham homestead at 3850 Thirteenth Mile Road for 56 years prior to moving to Howell a year ago.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Lasich and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Lasich attended funeral services Monday for their grandmother, Ann Lasich, in Detroit. Mrs. Lasich had lived in this area with her son George at 3590 Thirteenth Mile Road for many years and was well known to a number of oldtimers.

Miss Doretha Kurz underwent an operation at Mt. Carmel Hospital recently. She is reported to be recovering nicely.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Green of Hubbard Lake spent a few days here with Mr. Green's daughter, Mrs. Milton Patton. While here they attended the funerals of Mr. Green's aunt, Mary Green, and Starr Graham.

Richard Toman is spending a few days here with his grandmother, Mrs. William Tamm, while his brother is in the hospital.

Martin Westlake who has been

CONFERENCES

Parents of first and second grade pupils in the Clarencville School system will be invited to conferences with their children's respective teachers on Wednesday, May 5. In order to make these conferences possible, first and second grade pupils will be dismissed on that day.

The Upper Peninsula exploration of Dr. Douglas Houghton revealed Michigan's mineral wealth in the 1840's.

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DANCER'S

DEPARTMENT STORES

Family Concert Attracts Nearly 1,000 Residents

Nearly 1,000 residents turned out for the first Farmington Family Concert given last Sunday by the Plymouth Symphony Orchestra at the Farmington High School Auditorium.

Highlights of the concert were solos by two Bavarian trios playing dressed in native costumes, adding true Viennese flavor to the Strauss compositions.

The executive arts committee of the Farmington Branch of the American Association of University Women sponsored the concert. The speakers for the group stated that it was felt that their goal of making a contribution to Farmington in the field of music was completely fulfilled. The group indicated that they were especially pleased with the extent of family participation. Entire families, including the tiniest of tots, attended.

Appreciation was expressed by the group to all of the Farmington organizations which helped to publicize the concert.

Miss Minnie Zielke, chairman of the Arts Committee of the A. A. U. W., was instrumental in having the concert presented. Helping her with the plans and organization were Miss Mary Wilcox, Mrs. Oscar Noren, Mrs. Donald McCracken, Mrs. John Allen, Mrs. Wendell Brown, Mrs. Ernest Hickman, Mrs. Marie Kerr, Miss Edith Powers, Mrs. George Nathoff, Mrs. Clarence Stoll, Miss Ruth Kirchner, and Mrs. Douglas Hammill.

The Farmington Girl Scout Troop, 181 provided the ushers for the concert.

Girls from a high school home-making class assisted Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Kirchner in preparing and serving a snack for the orchestra after the performance.

Mrs. Lena Oldham, who spent most of the winter in Florida, has returned to her home on Farmington Road.

Minstrel-Musical Set For Staging This Week End

Final preparations are now being made for the staging of the Our Lady of Sorrows Minstrel Show and Musical Revue, "Dixieland Landshere" this Saturday, Sunday and Monday, April 28, 29 and 30, at the Farmington Junior High School gymnasium on Thomas Street.

Sponsored by the Holy Name Society, the show will be presented on each of the three evenings at 8:15 p.m. A matinee will be given on Sunday afternoon at 2:30 p.m. Tickets may still be purchased from any member of the church's Men's Club or may be obtained at the door the nights of the performance.

The show, under the direction of Tom Brown who will also act as master-of-ceremonies, will be given in two parts. The first part will be the musical revue and the second part the minstrel itself.

A total of 14 different acts will be given in the musical revue including a variety of songs and dances including a banjo solo and a whistling number. The minstrel show will include 17 singing selections as well as a ballet and a tap dance routine.

Making up the orchestra for the minstrel and musical will be C. Y. Johnson, Ed Dwyer, Bob Lindbergh, Byron Oliver and Fred Wynn. Musical director is Eleanor Mannin and choreographer Millie Turnbull.

Proceeds from the musical and minstrel will be placed in an athletic fund for the Our Lady of Sorrows Schools to be used for the purchase of athletic equipment and the expansion of present athletic facilities.

Normandy Hills W. L. COGSWILL GR. 4-3638

Mr. and Mrs. George Squires and son Jerry spent the week end visiting Mr. Squires' parents in Summitville, Indiana. They returned home on Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Richard Habicht entertained Mr. and Mrs. Walter Stolz and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Skinner of Dearborn for dinner Saturday evening.

Mrs. Charles entertained her eighth birthday party on Monday. Refreshments were served after a few tubbers of conversational bridge.

John Clappison celebrated her thirtieth birthday on Monday. A family dinner was served after which everyone went to the theatre.

John Clappison Selfs Insurance Phone GR. 4-3511

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