

### Pvt. Brunet Receives Medal

It has been recently an honor, initiative, loyalty and courage that Private Pierre Brunet, son of Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Brunet, 19840 Shadydale, Livonia, was awarded the award of 1,364 other trainees who completed during eight weeks of basic combat training in the 16th Battalion, 1st Training Brigade, U.S. Army Training Center, Ft. Benning, Ga. This award is given only to those who display outstanding qualities of leadership and initiative in the American spirit.

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# FRS



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- They want a voice in making the decisions which affect their interests.

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## Hundreds Of Orchids Flower In Farmington

**BY BETTY FRANKEL**

What is more beautiful than an orchid? The answer for Mrs. Andy Caesar of Annewood St. in Farmington is 400 orchids. Mrs. Caesar and her husband are orchid hobbyists and grow orchids in a greenhouse behind their garage.

The 26' x 33' glass structure is crammed with the rarest plants. Every available inch of space seems to be filled with lush green leaves, plump bulbs and sprays of intricately formed flowers.

Attention is immediately drawn to the exquisite Cattleya orchids which have a place of honor near the entrance. These are the "florists" orchids, the kind most often sold for corsages. The Caesars began growing orchids six years ago when they bought a lavender Cattleya 2 1/2' long and deep purple flowers and others with frilled white petals with a golden lip or throat.

**YVING FOR ATTENTION**

are the more delicate, but equally fascinating, sprays of orange orchids, long arching sprays of crimson red flowers, pale yellow spotted with maroon, sprays of thimble sized, perfectly formed lavender orchids. Lovely pink blossoms cascade over each other from the tiered bench that fills the center of the greenhouse and from the shelves that line the sides. They hang along the ceiling creating a tropical effect that is a gardener's paradise.

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MRS. ANDY CAESAR of 33054 Annewood in Farmington is pictured above in the greenhouse in the rear of her home where she and her husband grow orchids and other flowers and plants. They built the greenhouse themselves and raise orchids as a hobby.

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**MOST OF THE** orchids grown by the Caesars are of the type known as epiphytic. They normally grow on trees and are not rooted in soil. They have hanging roots that absorb moisture from the air and they manufacture their own food as do other green plants. They are not parasites, but use the trees merely as a place to perch.

**MR. AND MRS. CAESAR** have imported orchids from far corners of the world. Among their choice imports are a Phalaenopsis from the Philippines, and another from Hawaii, an orange Cattleya from South America, and Ansellia melitica, an orchid from Africa with two foot spikes of pale yellow flowers spotted with brown which reminds one of a jungle beast. The only markedly fragrant orchid in the greenhouse is also the one with the smallest flowers. This is an orchid from Mexico with many sprays of tiny orchid-hued flowers.

The Caesars have a plant of the Vanilla orchid, but it has not yet flowered for them. It is from the pod of this orchid that the commonly used vanilla flavoring is extracted.

The newest imports came from Thailand. They are now sitting to recover from the shock and to produce flower stalks.

**MR. AND MRS. CAESAR** have not grown any plants from seed. Orchids, which are among the most highly evolved and complicated of all plants, also have the smallest seeds of all. The seeds are like specks of dust. It takes special techniques to germinate and grow the seeds and, in general, it takes about seven years until the plants are large enough to start bearing flowers.

**MR. AND MRS. CAESAR** plan to try some hybridizing after they have built up their collection more.

Although the greenhouse is like a bower of bloom, Mrs. Caesar said that only a few orchids bloom all year. They have a particular season when they flower. The trick in orchid growing is to provide the right conditions at the right time so that the plants will flower.

Mrs. Caesar has recently become the editor of the monthly publication of the Michigan Orchid Society and will be spending her time writing about orchids as well as growing them.

The Caesars are looking forward to a trip to Florida next month to attend the annual meeting of the Orchid Society of America. Mrs. Caesar is also enthusiastically planning plans for the Annual Palm Sunday show which the Michigan Orchid Society will be holding in Ypsilanti.

### "Let There Be Music" Set For Thursday

Beechview Elementary School presents its annual mid-winter musicale. Thursday evening, February 25, at 7:30 in the school's Multi-Purpose room. Presented by the fifth and sixth grade pupils, the concert is entitled "Let There Be Music."

**THE VOCAL PROGRAM** is under the direction of Donald Ross, band instructor, and Michael Endres, string instruments teacher. The band will play "Melody March," "Western Medley," "Aloha Oe," "Skaters Waltz," and "When The Saints Go Marching In." The string ensemble will present "Theme and Variations," "Grand Father's Clock," and "Hymn To Diana."

The fourth grade pupils, under classroom teachers, Janet Wittgen, Florence Covey, Phyllis Shoquist and Carol Arens, are providing the motif by correlating art activities with the program theme. Gilbert Maxwell, art consultant, is coordinating this activity.

The choir of 138 voices will present "An American In Luck," "Let There Be Music," "I Sing of Michigan," and "This Land Is Your Land." The fifth and sixth grade groups will each present numbers appropriate to their grade level which stems from the basic instructional program.

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### District To Participate In Oakland Co. Study

The Farmington Board of Education, at a regular meeting on Monday, February 8, approved the Farmington School District's participation in Oakland County's Study of Vocational Education.

Supt. Gerald V. Harrison stated that the government will appropriate a large percentage of the cost and the various school districts in the County will pay the balance.

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### Scouts Have 'Thinking Day' Dinner Party

A good time was had by all when the Girl Scouts of Troop 878 entertained Troop 819 at a dinner party last Thursday, honoring Thinking Day. On Thinking Day the Scouts are Guides the world over think of their sisters in scouting.

The walls of the cafeteria were decorated with pictures of Guides from other lands. The individual programs represented countries that have an active Scout program. After a buffet dinner prepared by the girls, the Scouts joined in songs, a common bond of friendship.

A film, "Journey into Friendship" was shown, telling the story of "Our Cabana" and the Scout life of three girls from Peru, Denmark, and India.

The Scouts all went home with a better understanding of their sisters around the world, and with new friendships made here in Farmington.

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