Parents seek support for education for gifted

An academically talented child stuffers the same pain as the mentally handicapped in the wrong environ-

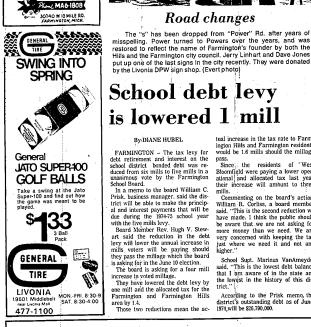
handicapped in the wrong environment."
Gail and Charles Brooks of South-field, speak from experience. One of their children was diagnosed as "gift-ed" and the other two have 1Qs ex-ceeding 130.
The couple is anxious to start a Southfield branch of the Michigan As-sociation for the Academically Talent-ed.

"Chapters are springing up all over the state," said Mrs. Brooks, a substi-tute teacher and a senior in the East-

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em Michigan University school of education.

"The purpose of these groups is to encourage legislation for the benefit of the gifted child and to expand and develop specialized programs."

Gevein's specialized programs.

THB BROOKS: 10 year old, who was tested as gifted by a clinical psychologist, attended a private school for the programs for academically talented youngsters." Said Mrs. Brooks. "There are some open concept, ungraded and accelerated classes but no system-wide policy.

"We were reluctant to take our child to a private school away from the neighborhood.
"But public schools aren't equipped

"But public schools aren't equipped to handle gifted children who are of-

ten socially immature and become behavior 'problems' because they're broed. These youngsters need to be in a structured class room.' The Brooks believe gifted or talented children should be recognized as candidates for special education the same as handicapped youngsters. "The wording of the Mandatory

"The wording of the Mandatory Education Act could include the aca-demically talented so special pro-grams may be legislated for them." Brooks contended.

STATE REP. William Keith of Gar-den City has introduced legislation to establish a state advisory commission with a full-time administrator. The commission would develop a com-prehensive K-12 state-wide program of identification and implementation

for the academically talented.
The commission also would be charged with developing a realistic budget to run the program.
Efforts are being made to include legislation for the gitted in the state and to education budget. Gov. William Milliken has proposed a \$150,000 AWIIIam Millike

THERE ARE programs that would take more effort than money."
Mrs. Brooks maintained.

William Grace to hold fair

The P.T.A. and the Teen Center Club at William Grace Elementary School will have an old time country fair and parade on Friday. May 31.3 The parade, which will begin at 5.4 p.m., will feature she William Grace and the Harrisan Migh School bands. The parade will find at the school grounds where 15 country fair will be held.

Children atte ding the fair are encouraged to war costumes depicting the type of clothing worn 150 years ago.

There will be a prize given for the best costumes, Area business have do-nated prizes to be used for a raffler of the best costumes. Area business have donated prizes to be used for a raffler of the state of the raffler of the r

Wins M**S**U scholarship

Julia Tully, asstudent at Marygrove College and a Parmington resident, has been name, recipient of an Alvin M. Bentley schilarship for the 1974-75 academic year.

Miss Dabanian honored

Lisa Dabaniani, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Karnig Dabanian of Farmington, was honored on the MSU campus by being tapped for the women's honor-aries Tower Guard and Mortar Board

In fellowship

Sheldon Brenner. 23133 Orchard Lake. Fat/filington, was elected to fel-lowship in the American Academy of Pediatrics at a recent meeting of the AAP Executive Board.

"Schools could provide enrichment classes for all grades so balented of interest.

"On a system-wide basis, gifted children could meet in one school and be integrated into regular classes part of the day."

"A gifted child is one who learns to walk, talk and read at an earlier age than the average." Brooks explained, He learns rapidly, expresses himself maturely and may have outstanding ability in a given area. These are just a few of the criteria.

Unfortunately, said Brooks, some of these children are misdiagnosed as retarded because they show no inter-est in an average class setting.

"PRIVATE SCHOOLS aren't necessarily the answer for these kids," Brooks maintained.
"First of all, the tuition is between \$2,000 and \$2,500. Then there's the problem of busing youngsters out of their environment. They may find their closest friend lives 10 miles away."

The Brooks children, ages 10, 11 and 14, were reading at the age of two. At five, they read factual material in-

stead of juvenile novels.

"One of the kids toddled with Roget's Thesaurus." Brooks recalled.









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By DIANE HUBEL

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Road changes

tual increase in the tax rate to Farmington Hills and Farmington residents would be 1.6 mills should the millage

Since the residents of West Bloomfield were paying a lower oper-ational and allocated tax last year their increase will amount to three

mills.

Commenting on the board's action, william R. Corliss, a board member said. "This is the second reduction we have made. I think the public should be aware that we are not asking for more money than we need. We are very concerned with keeping the tax just where we need it and not any higher."

School Supt. Marinus VanAmeyde, said, "This is the lowest debt balance that I am aware of in the state and the lowest in the history of this district."



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