

Enrollment projections are down

For the fifth consecutive year, Walled Lake district officials predict a decline in school enrollments.

The pupil count in Walled Lake schools will be approximately 9,803 for the 1981-82 school year—a drop of approximately 300 students from 1980-81 levels, according to former Deputy Superintendent Roland Langerman.

Enrollment in the district reached its highest level of 11,600 students during the 1976-77 school year.

The anticipated 1981-82 enrollment will be the lowest since June, 1969 when there were only 9,769 students.

Walled Lake is not the only Oakland County district coping with declining enrollments. Last year, only three of the 19 Oakland school districts experienced an enrollment increase. The others lost students or remained about even.

The enrollment loss in Walled Lake is not as severe as it has been in many other districts. Many of these districts have closed schools due to the financial burdens of operating classrooms with too few students.

LANGERMAN attributes the declining enrollment figures primarily to changes in lifestyles and are directly related to the declining birthrate.

"When the birthrate goes down as it has over the past decade, it's only a logical correlation that school enrollment is going to go down, too," Langerman said.

One of the reasons that Walled Lake's enrollment held fairly steady in comparison to other school districts which experienced sharp enrollment declines relates directly to geography.

As one of the western most districts in Oakland County, the Walled Lake District was one of the last to experience the boom in the construction industry during the second half of the 1970s.

When the housing industry was going strong, the Walled Lake District was experiencing a great deal of residential growth. When new houses go up, enrollment tends to increase or, when the decline in family size is figured in, at least hold even.

As a result, the number of new families moving into the district has dwindled down to practically zero, Langerman said.

ALONG WITH THE decline in enrollment, there has been a corresponding decrease in the number of district employees.

Walled Lake had the greatest number of employees—1,014—in 1974-75.

During the 1981-82 school year, there will be some 975 employees.

Langerman reported that state mandated programs have had a profound effect on the number of people employed by the district.

During the peak in 1974-75, there were 484 classroom teachers and 38 special education teachers.

During the 1981-82 school year, there will be 418 classroom teachers, but the number of special education teachers has increased to 60 as a result of the mandated programs.

Rape probed

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came into his store saying she'd been raped in the pickup truck near Freedom and Gill roads, said Det. Tom Cox of the Farmington Police Department.

Police pulled the driver of a pickup truck that fit the woman's description and arrested the man on rape charges after the woman identified him as the assailant, Cox said.

A knife was found in the truck, according to Cox.

"He was released the following day pending further investigation," Cox said. "More investigation has to be done. We're getting conflicting statements from both parties."

The detective said a medical examination of the woman who reported the rape didn't reveal whether she had had sexual contact that evening.

Hancock office opens

The John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Companies, Keen and Associates Agency, has opened a new office at 2851 Northwestern Highway. It will be under the management of Arnold Isner. Assisting him will be Pauline W. Holcomb.

Staff members will be Ronald Caponi, LeeRoy Johnson, Walter McGill, Edward Oldani, Joanne Ribant, Don L. Schneider, Susan Slatkin and William Vek.

The office assists with insurance and financial planning. Variable life, retirement plans, group insurance, annuities and mutual funds are available.

The office will be open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. The office phone number is 353-1776.

Asthma group to meet

The September meeting of the American Lung Association's Family Asthma Program will be held at 7:00 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 15, in classroom A at Oakwood Hospital in Dearborn.

Dr. James Bonmarito will discuss with parents various medications for the treatment of asthma.

Marcia Cook, R.N., Carol Vick, R.R.T., and Linda Erickson will talk to the children on how to cope with asthma while in the classroom.

The Family Asthma Program is a free community service of the American Lung Association of Southeastern Michigan (ALASEM). The meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month and feature guest speakers, exercises, demonstrations, films and discussion designed to teach the asthmatic and his parents how to best cope with lung disease.

For more information, call the lung association at 951-1697.

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GRAND OPENING CELEBRATION

OF

MICHIGAN NATIONAL BANK

OF DETROIT'S

New Farmington Hills Office

AT

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CELEBRATION OF THE OPENING will continue from September 10th through September 17th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. So bring the family and help us celebrate this opening of our new bank in Farmington Hills. There will be refreshments and gifts for all. And perhaps you will be one of the lucky winners in our Grand Drawing to be held **September 17th at 10:00 a.m.** Everyone is eligible but you cannot win unless you register.

- A 19" Panasonic COLOR T.V.
- A 1.32 Cu. Ft. MICROWAVE OVEN
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- Corningware CORELLE EXPRESSIONS DINNERWARE
- Men & Women's Wilson TENNIS RACQUETS

REMEMBER it's the Michigan National Bank's new office at 28177 Orchard Lake Road just North of Twelve Mile, next to the Old Orchard Theatre, **September 10th through September 17th from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**



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