

Music teacher opts for part-time work at Harrison

By Joanne Malliszowski staff writer

The much-debated involuntary transfer of North Farmington High School's vocal music teacher Jean MacKenzie has been completed with her decision to switch to Harrison High School in the fall.

Linda Combes, currently vocal music teacher at East Middle School, will take MacKenzie's place in the fall at North Farmington High, Coleman said. MacKenzie will teach vocal music in the morning at Harrison, he said. Combes will be full time at North Farmington teaching both vocal music and German.

MacKenzie is not certified to teach German. ALTHOUGH SHE is certified to teach social studies, she is unable to bump any of the current social studies teachers at North Farmington High, Coleman said.

MacKenzie had until May 23 to choose between moving to a part-time position at Harrison High, a full-time position at Farmington High or to one of four middle schools, Coleman said. Despite public opposition administrators enforced MacKenzie's scheduled transfer even though four other similar transfers have been rescinded.

Originally the five teachers were being transferred because of declining enrollment, particularly in the high schools, and expected changes in class assignments. Administrators are forced to make decisions on involuntary transfers before student class registration because of requirements in the district's contract with teachers and the state's Tenure Act. Teachers must be notified of transfers and layoffs 60 days before the end of a contract period.

that administrators try anything, even giving MacKenzie study hall hours, to keep MacKenzie at North Farmington High. ADMINISTRATORS REPEATEDLY told angry parents and students over the course of three regular board meetings in April and May that they could not justify paying a full-time salary for teaching two classes. School officials also indicated they could not create a job simply to keep MacKenzie at North Farmington.

Adults celebrate graduation

By Joanne Malliszowski staff writer

The excitement and pride of high school graduation is not reserved for teenagers alone. Twenty-eight adults will receive their high school diplomas at 7:30 tonight in the Farmington High School auditorium.

less don cap and gown and walk the final trip to the stage for their diploma. "Our program is similar," Martin said. "Generally we have a small audience of about 200 people — parents, spouses, children."

GRADUATING TONIGHT will be: Patricia Helkkinen Anderson, Beulah Jean Bartus, Darel Lynn Brown, Christopher J. Cassar, Norrine J. Delchert, Timothy J. Milton Diechert, Desiree Dawn Disbrow, Sandra Dubas, Jennifer L. Frederick, Lori A. Gilbert, Nicole Gowan, Steven Allan Hellman, Mary Agnes Holzhaus, Rosemary Virginia Holzhaus, Gary Krone, Julie Anne McCormick, Kathleen Marie Meyer, Jacqueline Miller, Najat K. Mirza,

Sharon Marie Murphy, Carolyn Plummer, John Rubio, Janet Lynn Schiller, Dorothy Sillner, Christopher Tucker, Carol T. Varjabedian, Karla Vestovich and Mary Jean Whitmore.

The 1985 adult graduates are "a younger class" with the average age at 27, Martin said. Of the 28 graduates, 18 are under 26 years of age and there are no graduates in their 30s, she added. Reasons for returning to complete high school are varied. But the major reasons, Martin said, are for personal satisfaction and the desire to improve general knowledge and skills.

adult education program is set up so classes can be taken either in the morning or evening, Martin said. In fact, for a nominal fee baby-sitting for toddlers is offered for parents attending adult education classes in the morning at the 10 Mile Community School.

"That has allowed a lot of students to come back to school," Martin said. MOST STUDENTS take four classes a semester, which is considered a full high school schedule, she said. Students spend anywhere from one semester to five school years in the adult education program, Martin said. But the average amount of time spent in earning a diploma is 1.5 years, she added.

Pink-slip teachers called back to work

By Joanne Malliszowski staff writer

Of a total 52 pink-slipped teachers, all but eight will be back teaching in the Farmington School District in the fall.

pink slips in April due to continued declining enrollment and teachers returning from leaves of absence, administrators did expect many would be recalled. The layoffs were effective June 14.

But recall notices could not be issued until plans for retirements, resignations and involuntary and voluntary transfers were completed, Coleman said.

While administrators are happy with the number of teachers who have been recalled for the fall, the 42 pink-slipped in April represented the smallest number of layoffs in a number of years. Although administrators and Farmington Education Association (FEA) officials knew at least a portion of the teachers would be recalled, the recall notices had to be issued by April 30, according to district's contract with the FEA, as well as state law.

Physician elected to executive group

John Mucasey, president of Woodland Medical Group in Novi, was awarded membership in the American College of Physician Executives during its 1985 National Conference on Health Care, Leadership and Management, May 16, in Hilton Head, S.C.

Mucasey was certified by the College as a "physician executive" and is now among a group of physicians, throughout the country, who have been recognized and honored for achieving excellence in the clinical practice of medicine as well as demonstrating advanced management and leadership ability.

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