## Schools, parents zero in on the gifted

telligence can be placed in an advanced course simply because the enthusiasm and desire allow the student to do well academically, Lewis said.

"WHAT WE are trying to do is ana-"WHAT WE are trying to do is analyze our student population," Lewis said. "No one has a priority of needs over anyone else. We are not trying to carve out a population of glited and elite. We do not extract these (gifted) students from classes. But we make sure the entire curriculum is evolving to meet levels of these students. It is better to identify each child's capabili-

ty"
Students who are identified as intellectually gifted remain in the regular classroom. A coordinator is provided to work specifically with the intellectually glitted, Lewis said. The coordinator's responsibilities include counseling of responsibilities include counseling of the gifted student, teachers and par-

ents.

Farmington's program includes:

• A committee that reviews and acts on referrals made by teachers, ad-

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Assessment to determine whether a student is in the 98th percentile (132

a student is in the 98th percentile (132 IQ) of intellectual ability.

• Individualized programming for the glited student.

the glitted student.

PARENTS MAINTAIN that the district should follow guidelines for glitted education suggested by the Michigan State Board of Education.

"It is the responsibility of the local school district to implement programs which reflect the policy of the Michigan State Board of Education in meeting the unique needs of glitted and talented students, at all levels of education, in ways that enable them to achieve optimum personal growth," Tomasin wrote.

Despite the state's guidelines I emis

Tomasin wrote.
Despite the state's guidelines, Lewis said: "Not one lots of gifted education is mandated (required by law) by the state. There is much debate in this area (gifted education). No one has 'the nian."

plan."
Although parents did not indicate in their proposal what's included in the state's guidelines, they referred to four items listed in a paper titled "Gifted and Talented Education in Michigan Schools." Gifted and talented students

must be:

• Provided with the ability to
"move at their own rate, regardless of
age or grade placement."

• Offered a "diversity of learning
experiences which includes instructional methodologies, activities, materials
and experiences beyond the classroom."

and experience of the common and experience of the ability and interests to learn from and support one another:

• Provided with "guidance so that they may understand themselves and make the best of their educational op-

EVEN THOUGH Tomasin said she believes that keeping gitted students in the regular classroom provides posi-tive results for the entire classroom, more definite programming is needed

more definite programming B nector for the glited.

"It has been observed that within our district, there are enormous differenc-es from school to school in the way the program for glited students is imple-mented. We see the need to equalize the

curriculum that continually upgrades all students' academic abilities, yet

delivery of services provided throughout the district," said FACET member from Kotowski, who presented the parents' proposal.

The district attempts to provide an curriculum that continually upgrades and surface and surfac

op it. I guarantee that."
Although the district has expanded academic programming to physical education, art and music, a procedure for determining who is creatively talented "gets out of the district's purpose," Lewis said.

## Hills is looking at screening requirements

Continued from Page 1

said. Planning commissioners see a developer's landscaping plans during the site-plan review process.

MOST OF the required landscaping is within front-yard setbacks. Landscaping, for example, is required when parking is permitted within the required front-yard setback. Rowe said, it is also required when a berm—to gerve as a border generally between commercial and residential—is used. In some cases, a greenbelt or lawn may be substituted for a wall or a berm.

Although the city has requirements for the spacing of trees and shrubbery as well as for the size of such materials, Costick said the rules are not tough enough.

als. Costick said the rules are not tough enough.

"I am particularly concerned about the lack of more substantive requirements with the number of new smaller-type site plans that are being approved. My concerns have both to do with the quantity of landscape material required as well as the size or maturity of plantings." Costick indicated in a letter to planning commissioners.

Complaints about landscaping are few. They generally have to do with vacant gas stations and worn parking lots, Rowe said.

In other cases, some developers fall

In other cases, some developers fail to comply with city regulations, al-

though that, for the most part, is be-cause of lack of compliance by the landscape contractors the developers hire, Rowe said. Other problems arise when plantings die and replacement is a long time in coming.

THE CITY'S landscaping requirements should be as strict as those in neighboring communities, Costick said. Differences between Farmingon and other communities can be seen by driving past 14 Mile along Orchard Lake Road as well as south on Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Other communities as south on Northwestern Highway in Southfield. Other communities, Costick said. The count of the control of the contr

The Hills

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where in these extremes," Henkle said. When landscaping is required though, as percent of I must be with the property of the must be with the could on the land just put in grass. But the city council usually steps in."
When a developer fails to comply with requirements, the city council steps in and enforces the requirements or building permits — and certificates of occupancy are not issued. Henkle said.

In other cases, he said, the city council steps in and the council steps in and the said of the council steps in and the said.

said.

In other cases, he said, the city council works with developers, making suggestions on the kind of landscaping they would prefer at a particular site.

"I don't know whether ours (landscaping requirements) are stricter by ordinance or by application," Henke said.

kie sald. Southfield has a forester and some landscaping experts on staff who re-

view developers' plans. The design of a landscape plan is not so much the con-cern. The staff is concerned about the aesthetics — a good variety of plant-ings — and whether the species chosen can survive the location, Henkie said. "A variety of trees is preferred," he said.

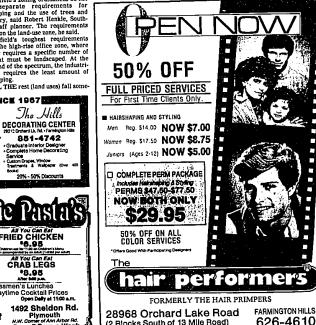
said.

THE CITY staff and council frown when only one variety of planting is chosen because the plants could become diseased and die, leaving absolutely no landscaping, Henkle said.

Southfield's zoning ordinance includes a section that deals with the maintenance of landscaping, Henkle said.

said.

Although Southfield does not have the staff to continually enforce maintenance, it tries to make sure the plantings that developers use are basically maintenance free.





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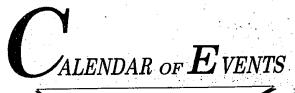
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TUESDAY 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Chanel fragrance sampling all week. 12 Noon-5 p.m., Chanel make-up consultations with Thomas Fanos III all week.

10 a.m.-5 p.m., Nancy Johnson Collection Show and designer appearance. Collection Sportswear. 10 a.m.-5 p.m., Consultations with Queen Anne's Lace Sleepwear representative Barbara Broadhurst. 1 p.m.-8 p.m., Informal Black Diamond Fur Show.
7 p.m., Formal Coat & Fur Show.

11 a.m.-4 p.m., Informal Kanae Collection Show and designer appearance. Collection Sportswear. 12 Noon-4 p.m., Estée Lauder make-up consultant Deede Hassinger. 1 p.m.-8 p.m., Informal Black Diamond Fur Show.

10 a.m.-1 p.m., Doll designer Suzanne Gibson

eppearance. 11 a.m.-4 p.m., Anne Klein fragrance sampling. 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Tim Briody Pen & ink artist. Gifts. 12 Noon-4 p.m., Informal Black Diamond Fur Show.

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