

Last Oriental spa in the Hills now closed

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PLEAS OF no contest were accepted in the late January trial of three

Curriculum spotlighted

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ing and expertise was given by the district's telecommunications coordinator, Dean Cobb.

Most elementary principals, some teachers and administrators and several parents viewed the presentation. It was appropriately given on Teacher Appreciation Day, as declared by the National Education Association.

A COMMITMENT to "teaching the total child," and teaching them to work in groups as well as individually, was noted by Bennett in the video.

Career days, family life and human relationships, substance abuse education, nutrition and good attitudes are a few of the alternative teaching areas stressed, with the main focus remaining on academic studies, according to the presentation.

"Reading is the center core of our program," stressing silent reading activities, while math is used to motivate, teach, practice and apply theory, Bennett and Cobb said. Each grade-level of textbooks and learning materials were shown in use in the Farmington elementary classroom.

Geography for the younger Farmington students is a progressive study, beginning with neighboring cities in the third grade, moving statewide, then around the country and the world, according to the presentation.

Support areas of remedial reading, gifted help, and bilingual and speech and language programs were explained.

female Korean employees of the Kelco spa. Each was sentenced immediately to 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

At the time of the raids, police also ticketed and released seven men for loitering in a place of illegal occupation, Dwyer said.

"We are pleased with the court proceedings and with the city ordinance. We are pleased with the outstanding law enforcement," Dwyer said. "A lot of this had to do with the initial planning. The raids were only phase one. We did diligent work in preparing the cases with the city attorney."

In reaction to the health spa raids and subsequent arrests, Farmington Hills City Council adopted a massage regulation ordinance in February to regulate the massage business.

The ordinance allows massages to be provided by members of the opposite sex, but requires massage therapists and the businesses for which they work to obtain operating permits. But the ordinance also exempts those therapists who are members of the state's two certified massage associations.

THE NEW ordinance, Dwyer said, gives police the investigative authority to help regulate massage businesses in the city.

Non-exempt businesses providing body massages must comply with business license and operating permit provisions and operating and inspection fees. The ordinance also addresses the layout of the business where massages will be provided, the need for the business to meet certain health-related provisions and the kind of apparel massage therapists must wear. Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor that upon conviction carries a penalty of up to a \$500 fine and 90 days in jail.

Board members complimented the group, with one calling the presentation "a very professional piece of work."

though the jail term was suspended in favor of one year's probation.

Trials for the remaining nine people are still pending.

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Dwyer also lauded the efforts of Citizens for a Decent Community — formed almost immediately following the police raids — which opposed the health spas because of the alleged illegal sexual activity. Group members pressed the city council for adoption of an ordinance regulating such businesses.

By picketing and making their feelings known, group members brought publicity to bear on the owners and managers of the spas. "They helped in putting pressure on the owners," Dwyer said.

When she learned of the spa closings, Sharon Chilson, president of Citizens for a Decent Community, said, "I am

ecstatic. We haven't been out (picketing) for a few weeks. I was thinking about dusting off some of the signs."

Chilson also praised the Farmington Hills Police Department's investigation into the health spas. "They did such a good job, all of them. I would like to think we (her organization) did something, if anything we kept the publicity on it."

FARMINGTON HILLS Police will continue to cooperate with state and federal authorities investigating the alleged involvement of Oriental health spas in an Asian-based international prostitution conspiracy, Dwyer said.

Besides the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service and the Immigration and

Naturalization Service are also involved in the investigation, which is trying to determine if there is any connection between the health spas and the international prostitution ring.

Federal agency officials believe the international organization is controlled by Koreans and recruits U.S. servicemen to marry Korean women and bring them into the country. Servicemen are paid an estimated \$5,000 to marry the women and another \$2,000-\$3,000 to divorce them once they are in the United States. The women then are placed in spas around the country. They're moved to other communities when local police pressure intensifies, Dwyer said.

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