L'Smiling faces and aching feet pressed the finish line of a 15-mile walk in the March of Dimes fight against birth defects Sunday at Oak-land Community College Orchard Bidge Comput.

land Community College Orchard Ridge Campus.

The weather made a good day for the 1,100 people who participated in a division of the nationwide Wal-kAmerica '99 and earned more than \$110,000 in the Oakland County divi-sion.

sion.
Patti Radzik, March of Dimes Spe-cial Events Coordinator for the Syutheast Michigan Chapter, said metro Detroit had 11,000 walkers who earned \$1.2 million, which ex-ceeded last year's total of \$875,000.

TEAM WALK, corporations that

TEAM WALK, corporations that foin as teams representing their companies, substantially contributed to the success of WalkAmerica, Radix said. Each year the number of pledges increases as teams continue to come back.

One hundred people from IDS Transical Services in Farmington Hills and record-setters in fund raising, showed up for their fourth year.

"The walk ites in real tice with IDS," said Dennis Koczara, IDS division manager. "We help people meet their financial goals."

Niembers of Weight Watchers found the walk ited in to their programment of their formation of their formation of their financial goals."

In goe I tese at least one pound from all this, 'Lillian Zremski of Parmington said at the finish line. "I leard we can lose 100 calories per mile. That would be nice."

"It's a good fund-raiser for the March of Dimes fight against birth defects," Georgia Hammerli of Farmington Hills said. "And it's good exercise at the same time. It's nice to help somebody and do something good for yourself."

OCC WAS the central location from start to finish as walkers hiked up to Farmington Road to Drake Road to 13 Mile and back. Walkers enlisted sponsors who piedged a specific amount of money per kilometer realized.

walked.

There was a clear distinction between the "serious walkers" and fasee out to have fun.

Three young men from Redford, wallice Boyd, 16, his brother, Norm, 14, and friend, Tom Norgaard, 17, gigreed that walking to meet girls made the day much easier.

"What do you think took us so long?" Norm Boyd sald.



Farmington Hills ressidents John Sule and Bob thank you banner in place before the first walk-Richardson, with Farmington Hills Polico offi-cer Don Fradette, get the congratulations and



Farmington Hills resident Johanna Morrison (at left) stamps Judy Meeta's card at a check point stop.

"They were walking too slow,"
Wallice Boyd said. "We had to stay
behind them and that's what took us
so much time." wanted to contribute.

Members of the Farmington Amateur Radio Club pitched in with their communication services. Les Hogg. WBNVJ, said setting up operators at the check points and providing two vans and one bus to pick up walkers who just could not finish was their way of contributing. They worked with Farmington Hills Police to make sure everything ran smoothly.



A couple of North Farmington High School students leads the pack as it winds around 12 Mile and Farmington Road.

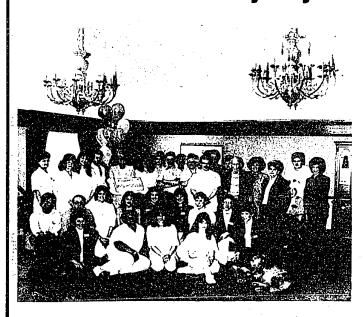
## MAY IS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH

## At Peachwood We **Celebrate Older** Americans Every Day

Walkers sat on the grass outside an OCC building with aboes and socks off, massaging sore feet. They seemed to agree that the cause was well worth the pain. They also agreed a hot tub was the next event

One man came through the finish line and asked, "Where's the whirl-pool?"

"I feel terrific," said Sandy Bo-land of Plymouth. "But next time, I'm going to walk five miles a day to get in shape for this."



Older adults and their families and friends are always celebrated at Peachwood Inn. Our staff is specially trained to treat our residents and guests with honor and respect at all times. We give the best of medical care and we are very proud of the range of excellent services we provide.

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