

110 end careers at Clarenceville

SOME 110 Clarenceville High seniors walked down the aisle Friday to pick up their diplomas and bring to an end their high school careers.

The ceremony for Clarenceville, which includes students from Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills, in the auditorium of the high school started with the playing of the traditional processional, "Pomp and Circumstance," by the Clarenceville High Band directed by Anthony Allovilla.

The invocation and benediction were offered by Loren Anderson.

After the choir, directed by Dawn Roberts, sang "Go With a Song in Your Heart," valedictorian Lisa Mertz and salutatorian Kelly Kelbert made their comments to the class.

After remarks from Superintendent Jerry Montecillo, the commencement address was given by Christine

Olsen, a 1989 graduate of Clarenceville High who now is working for Kellogg's in Battle Creek.

The presentation of the class of 1990 was done by David Simowski, principal of Clarenceville High. School board president Linda Brandemuhl presented the diplomas.

Kelly Kelbert was named outstanding senior-citizen, John Fioretti was named outstanding senior-male, and Wendy Terpstra was named outstanding senior-female.

Graduating with honors were Joseph Bertera, Laura Butler, Thomas Bryan, Paul Cottrell, Patricia Dunklee, Steven Edmonds, Beth Ann Furfinski, Paul Heiser, Jennifer Kalpio, William Kasprzynski, Kelly Kelbert, Kathleen Kelley, Holly Kimball, Betty LaFrance, Erin Maguire, Lisa Mertz, Christyl Nagorka, Daniel Ring, Ronald Rohraff, Joy Saylor, Wendy Terpstra, Michelle Trybus, Karl Watson and Andrew Weighill.



Stacey Evans adjusts her mortar board before the ceremony.

ART EMANUELE/staff photographer



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Jerry Montecillo, superintendent of schools, speaks to the Clarenceville Class of 1990.

Voters turn down Headlee override

After approving a Headlee Amendment waiver four straight years, voters in the Clarenceville School District Monday turned down a fifth Headlee waiver request.

The vote against the Headlee waiver was 258-152. The rejection means the district, which includes southeast Farmington Hills, will not collect an additional \$29,629.

Clarenceville voters also returned two incumbents to the school board. With 314 votes, board president Linda Brandemuhl was the top vote-getter. Daniel Morrison came in second, with 219 votes. George Empey, making his first run for a board seat, garnered 199 votes.

WITH THE Headlee defeat, Clarenceville taxpayers will now pay a total millage rate of 42.50 mills instead of the present 42.85 mills.

If the Headlee waiver had passed, it would have cost the owner of a \$80,000 house in the district an extra \$5.60 per year.

Voters turned down the Headlee waiver because they are frustrated with taxes in general, Clarenceville Superintendent Jerry Montecillo said.

"They returned two board members, so they must be satisfied with what the board is doing," Montecillo said.

Clarenceville

The district includes parts of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills.

"Voters are upset over the tax structure. There's only one place in the state where they can do anything about taxes and that is in the schools. Look at what happened to the millages in Wayne-Westland and South Lyon."

In Wayne-Westland, voters Monday rejected a combined ballot proposal for a 2.75-mill renewal and for an additional 5 mills. South Lyon voters Monday defeated three financial proposals, including a Headlee Amendment waiver.

THE BIGGEST impact of the defeat will be felt on the district's millage rate, not on its budget, Montecillo said.

"Losing \$29,629 won't impact on the budget. That loss of money isn't the problem. Our main concern is that the millage is eroded slightly, and that erosion puts us closer to going back to being an in-formula district."

School district to make administrative change

The former deputy superintendent's post in the Farmington school district will be filled this year, but will be changed to an assistant superintendent's job with a focus on instruction.

Responding to questions at a June 5 school board meeting, former deputy chief and current superintendent Michael Flanagan said he will fill his former slot, but will hire someone who will focus on "educational outcomes" and "will be involved in instructional activities on a daily basis."

Flanagan confirmed the district is currently advertising for the assistant superintendent's post.

The district waited a year before filling the job, as the school board searched for a new school chief and made an \$80,000 payoff on the contract of former superintendent Graham Lewis, who was released from his duties in June 1989 in the middle of his contract.

