

O&E THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1991

IN BRIEF

A job with benefits

Jeanette M. Hassan, a Farmington Hills resident and member of the Farmington Historical Society, is the new director of benefits programs at Eastern Michigan University.

Hassan, 45, was promoted recently from acting director by EMU's Board of Regents. She holds a bachelor's degree from Wayne State University where she also is working toward a master's degree.

As director of benefits programs, she will plan, organize and direct the university's benefits staff.

Before joining the EMU staff in 1986, Hassan was

supervisor of benefits and records at Samaritan Health Center in Detroit for three years and was a benefits and training specialist at Detroit Receiving Hospital from 1981-93.

In addition, she was an English teacher at Redford Union High School from 1985-91.

At EMU, Hassan has served on the Benefits Review Task Force and the Employee Assistance Program Advisory Committee. She also worked on special assignment as compensation programs associate for one year and is a member of the women's Network.

Hassan is also a member of the Detroit Institute of Arts Founders Society.

Directs WSU library

Sallie H. Ellison, a Farmington Hills resident, was recently appointed director of Purdy/Kresge Library and Media Services at Detroit's Wayne State University.

Ellison joined Wayne State's staff in 1989 as assistant director of Purdy/Kresge Library and was appointed acting director in August 1990.

Before her employment with WSU, Ellison was manager of information services for the Industrial Technology Institute in Ann Arbor. She also served as a research librarian for General Motors Research Laboratories.

Ellison received her master's degree in library and information science from Drexel University in Philadelphia and her undergraduate degree from Fisk University in Nashville.



SHARON LAMIEUX/staff photographer

Farmington High media director Cindy Clement finds the most useful and up-to-date maps for teachers are those from *Newsweek*, *Time* or a publication from *Worldnewsmag* which she shows to freshman Matt Healy. Social Studies teachers throughout Oakland County are looking for new tools since changes in the world have obsoleted maps and textbooks.

Teachers adapt lessons on USSR

By Casey Hans
staff writer

WITH CHANGES occurring daily in the Soviet Union, Eastern Europe and around the world, social studies instructors throughout Oakland County are being challenged to find new ways of teaching.

In many cases, textbooks are out and television, news magazines and satellite feeds are in.

"There's no question there's been a tremendous impact," said Judith White, assistant superintendent for curriculum for the Farmington Public School District. "They're taping things right off of television, bringing in *Newsweek*.

In many cases, the textbook becomes almost secondary."

But instead of being concerned with outdated texts, curriculum directors for school districts are pleased with the changes because they are encouraging teachers to be less dependent on textbooks.

Lesson plans could change overnight or even by the minute, offering teachers new challenges to the way they teach.

IN BIRMINGHAM schools, the district has a strategic plan calling for stepping up the curriculum review cycle, which is now about five to six years, and adding more technology because of changes around the world, said Sylvia Whitmer, director of instruction. Seaholm High School recently offered a

special day of choice classes to deal with these issues, and at Groves, teachers are dealing with the changing world through an integrated learning program.

White believes such integrated learning and more technology tools for the classroom will free teachers to do what they do best. "I contend that's what education is about in the 21st Century," she said. "If we don't keep up, we're dinosaurs."

Classroom teachers are facing the challenge of a changing world daily.

Tom Latta, teacher and social studies chairman at Troy Albers High School said individual teachers handle current events issues as they arise and use "anything we can beg, borrow and steal" as teaching tools.

"It actually saves us," he said. "Tony Bennett may like to sing San Francisco over and over and over again, but we get tired of the same script."

"These things really spark us up. We have to stay tuned in ourselves, which isn't always easy. But it's part of what we do."

David Harris, director of Social Studies for the Oakland Intermediate School District, said he is encouraged that teachers raise current topics in the classroom, but is concerned it be done properly.

"We need to help teachers think more carefully so they make distinction between what is important and what is not," he said.

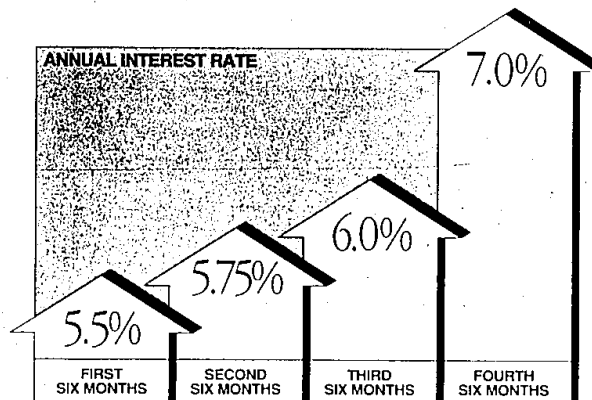


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