

Principals from page 1A

High in 1955. Coffin recalls his wife having eye surgery recently. The surgeon turned out to be a former student. Jablonski had a former pupil return as an educator. Lydia Orr is a third grade teacher at Forest. "That's a nice thing to see as an educator to have one of your students come back as a teacher," Jablonski said.

Education has changed for the better, they feel.

Jablonski recalls arriving in the Farmington area when there was only three street lights. In a school building then, there might be a slide projector.

Computers, laserdiscs and VCRs are found in classrooms today. More inquisitive children are using them.

"Children today, they're exposed to more things," Coffin said. "However, the basic needs haven't changed. They still need to be loved."

All three feel the same about their careers.

Graham worked 38 years in Farmington district. He's been a principal at all three high schools, including Harrison since 1985.

His tenure at North Farmington from 1967-73 and later 1976-85 included turmoil. The incident stemmed from Graham's involvement in a religious group called

Campus Life, which included many North students.

"I always regretted it became a controversy," Graham said. "So many of the kids enjoyed it. It crossed all sorts of barriers. They never operated on school grounds."

"So many kids were involved, they were talking about it in school, and that caused some concern in the community."

Graham plans to work with Fellowship for Christian Athletes. But not before he and wife, Phyllis, settle down in their new home on Intermediate Lake in Central Lake, Mich.

Likewise, Jablonski plans to spend time with his wife of 33 years, Dolly, and pursue photography and art. He will be honored at an ice cream social 7-9 p.m. Tuesday and the Forest staff has planned a reception 4-6 p.m. Tuesday, June 8.

Wooddale Elementary PTO is having a reception for Coffin 1-4 p.m. Saturday, June 4, in the school gymnasium. Coffin plans to travel and spend time with his wife, Gloria, and visit their seven grandchildren.

All three will be honored in a district-wide retirement reception.

Said Jablonski: "I'm looking forward to enjoying life without a schedule."

Volunteers from page 5A

to the needy at Thanksgiving. She also has worked on Parents Day Off, a program that gives parents of small children an opportunity to holiday shop. Presently, she is helping organize fund-raisers so that 38 teens can go to Appalachia this summer to repair houses.

Monica Moore, another North Farmington 11th-grader, has been involved in youth fellowship at Nardin Park United Methodist Church. She is president of the Youth Council. She is responsible for assisting in coordinating all youth activities, including fund-raising, mission outreach, and fellowship opportunities. She also sings in the choir and has taught Vacation Church School. For the last three years, she has spent a week each summer in Appalachia repairing homes, and raised funds for needed building materials.

Matthew Niakanen, a ninth-grader at Farmington High School, volunteers with young children at Antioch Lutheran Church as an assistant teacher in Vacation Bible School, Sunday school and the nursery. He analyzes, serves on the Youth Committee, represents the church in Synodical Youth Minis-

try, and performs service projects with Headstart. Matt packs and delivers food baskets, collects for UNICEF and works Saturdays serving food in a Detroit Soup Kitchen.

Eileen O'Connell, a 10th-grader at Mercy High School, has given five hours a week to accumulate over 285 hours devoting her energy to Visions Unlimited, which serves visually impaired young adults. She has worked in the recreation and respite program, which helps the parents of handicapped individuals. She has also assisted on outings with the group. She recently participated in a weekend and overnight experience that included dining, shopping and swimming for this special group of people. She also has volunteered at Scamp-a-Day, a camp for handicapped children.

Samantha A. Rowland, a 10th-grader at Mercy High School is involved in a variety of activities that benefit others. She has participated in church youth group activities by planning a retreat. She has worked at Habitat for Humanity for two days at the Jefferies Project in Detroit. She has also worked during the holidays at the Community Center as a work-

shop volunteer. "Samantha is an outstanding student, leader and volunteer," said her nominator, Patricia Atchinson of Mercy High.

Matthew Sweet, a 12th-grader at Harrison, has been involved in the Teen Ministry for the past four years. He has chaired several programs from dances to neighborhood cleanups and was responsible for involving other teens in the parish's annual Senior Citizen Christmas Luncheon. He portrayed the role of Jesus during Easter liturgies the last three years. He is also the church's youngest lector and usher. He appears in many Farmington Hills Fire Department functions and local parades as "Sparky, the Fire Dog."

John R. Telford, an 11th-grader at Brother Rice High School, has served on the Leadership Committee of the Youth Group at St. Fabian Catholic Church in Farmington Hills for the last three years. He has traveled to Appalachia during the summer to repair houses. He works on Thanksgiving baskets for the needy and organizes trips to an inner-city soup kitchen. "John truly believes in service to others," said Judith Thibodeau.

Rouge Rescue '93 set

Look out, log jams, trash and debris that have been clogging the tributary of the Rouge River that flows past the Botsford Continuing Center in Farmington Hills.

A whole lot of volunteers, organized and sponsored by the city, want you out of there.

The local version of the eighth annual Rouge Rescue will take place Saturday, June 5, at Botsford Continuing Center (formerly

the Farmington Nursing Home), 30405 Folsom Road, north of Eight Mile and east of Orchard Lake.

Registration will begin at 8 a.m. at the site. The cleanup will take place from 8:30-11:30 a.m., and a lunch will be served at noon.

Volunteers can simply show up at the site. For more information, call the Farmington Hills Department of Public Service at 478-9520.

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