

Hills resident supported gay, lesbian rights

Carl A. Rippberger, a Farmington Hills resident, will be remembered as an untiring supporter of gay and lesbian rights, friends say. Mr. Rippberger, 46, died May 16 in Harper Hospital, Rippberger Detroit, from AIDS complications.



He lived in Farmington Hills for six years and was also a former resident of Franklin. Born in Detroit, he was a nightclub owner. Mr. Rippberger grew up in Detroit and was a Vietnam War veteran. He served in active combat duty 1967-68.

"Carl would like to be remembered for his compassion, for fairness and his sensitivity for the

feelings of other people," said friend Tom Guseppe.

After his military service, he returned to Detroit and worked as an electrical contractor for Shaw Electric.

During the next several years, he saved enough money to buy an old nightclub which he converted into Back Street at 16606 Joy. It became a popular dance club for gay Detroiters.

He provided the use of his nightclub for many fund-raising efforts on behalf of various AIDS organizations and outreach programs.

He participated in Detroit's "Adopt a Family at Christmas" program and provided funds for underprivileged persons to attend various events and activities in the city.

OBITUARIES

He was also an active supporter of the Triangle Foundation, Detroit, which provides political and legal support for protection against violence for gays and lesbians.

Survivors include mother Mary Burns and brothers Larry, Robert and Dale.

The memorial service was held May 20. The body was cremated. Memorial tributes may be sent to AFFIRMATIONS, a support group for gay and lesbian teenagers, which promotes parent participation and understanding of gay and lesbian teens. Mail to: 195 W. Nine Mile, Suite 106, Ferndale 48220.

ROBERT J. GLOETZNER

Mr. Gloetznier, 49, of Farmington Hills, died May 4 in an auto accident in Flat Rock.

Born in Detroit, he was in sales.

Survivors include wife Angelita, daughter Theresa Gloetznier, stepchildren Matthew, Juan, Gonzalo, Letty and Jose Puentes; father Edgar; grandmother Mary Jordan, of Farmington Hills, brothers Raymond, Richard, Ronald, Roger Gloetznier and sister Mary Anderson.

Funeral services were May 11 at the Manns-Ferguson Funeral Home with Rev. Chuck Sonquist officiating. Burial was in Holy Sepulchre Cemetery, Birmingham. Arrangements were made by the William R. Hamilton Co. in Birmingham.

WALTER F. JASKE JR.

Mr. Jaske, 66, former Farmington resident for 32 years, following a cardiac arrest May 15 in Bradenton, Fla.

Born in South Bend, Indiana, Mr. Jaske retired in 1988 after working 24 years as a research manager for Chrysler Corporation (Highland Park and Centerline). He was a veteran of World War II.

He held a BS in marketing from Indiana University.

He was a member of the Masonic Lodge 151 in Farmington, 32nd Degree Scottish Rite. He was a Boy Scout leader and a former president of Jaycees in Indiana. He was a choir member at Christ United Methodist church in Florida and a former member of Farmington First United

Methodist Church.

Survivors include wife Mildred (nee Nims) to whom he was married 44 years, daughters Karla A. (Bob) Winnie, Missouri and Karen D. (Major Tom) Hillard, of Illinois and sons, Kim D. (Melody), Farmington and Kirk A. (Terry) Jaske, Royal Oak and six grandchildren.

Arrangements were by Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, in Farmington, where Masonic Lodge Service 151 F&AM provided a service.

The main service was at First United Methodist Church of Farmington. He was cremated.

Memorial tributes may be sent to First United Methodist Church of Farmington, 33112 Grand River, Farmington.

VA center promotes Hills man

Dr. Fred Littles of Farmington Hills has been named chief of Radiation Oncology Service at the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in Ann Arbor.

Littles, who joined the medical center's staff in October 1991, has been working with VA for 24 years. Prior to joining VA, he worked as a staff physician at the Providence Hospital Cancer Center in Southfield.

A native of Florence, S.C., Littles received his bachelor's degree in chemistry from South Carolina State University and his medical degree from Howard University College of Medicine.



Dr. Fred Littles

Littles is a diplomate of the American Board of Radiology and a clinical instructor at the University of Michigan Medical School. He and wife Barbara are the parents of his two daughters, Jessica and Elena.

83.5% of C'ville seniors master MEAP

BY MARIE CHESTNEY
STAFF WRITER

Clarencville High seniors beat out seniors in Livonia Public Schools' three high schools in the percentage of students who will get all three endorsements from the state on their diplomas next month.

The Class of '94 will be the first group of Michigan students to receive diplomas endorsed by the state.

By passing any of three subject areas on the Michigan Education Assessment Program (MEAP), graduates will get a sticker on their diploma. Graduates who pass the test in all three subject areas — reading, math and science — will get all three stickers.

Of this year's 80 Clarencville High graduates, 83.5 percent will get all three stickers on their diplomas, said principal David Simowski.

Among the estimated 1,017 graduates of Churchill, Franklin and Stevenson high schools, 80.4 percent will receive all three endorsements, said Al Edwards, research and evaluation specialist for Livonia Public Schools.

Neither school official was sat-

isfied with his district's percentage.

"Our goal was 100 percent; we said that on several occasions," Simowski said. "Viewing it from that point, we're not satisfied we didn't reach the goal. We're pleased but not satisfied."

Echoed Edwards: "We're not surprised at the number, we just would have liked to see it higher."

An earlier prediction made by Edwards appears to be on target. Saying the highest stumbling block to getting all three endorsements would be math, he had predicted 90 percent of Livonia's graduates would get endorsed in reading and science, but only 80 percent would get the endorsement for math.

Students who initially fail any of the three MEAP tests can retake them until they pass.

The low number of Clarencville students who passed the initial MEAP test led administrators in that district to both make the tests a priority through special study sessions and to beef up

the reading, math and science curriculum.

"The biggest thing we did is that we got students to focus on the tests and their importance," Simowski said.

Superintendent David Kamiah had called Clarencville's 1992-93 MEAP scores embarrassing and disappointing and said the district would not tolerate low scores.

Both districts are now affixing stickers earned by each graduate to his or her diploma.

The stakes for graduates will jump even higher in 1997. That year, graduates won't get a high school diploma at all unless they receive passing scores on the three MEAP tests, even if they have fulfilled school requirements for graduation.

Right now, it's not known how colleges and employers will react to the endorsements — or the lack of them — on diplomas.

Some such as Edwards see little immediate impact because colleges have already used school

grades to pick next year's freshman class, and employers of graduates who don't go on to college haven't traditionally checked on the details of a graduate's school record.

"Employers didn't check on those kinds of things in the past and won't in the immediate future," Edwards said.

However, Duane Marsh, executive director of Livonia's Chamber of Commerce, took a different view of the importance of the endorsements.

"In my estimation they will be an absolutely used tool. With graduates' minimal work experience, the only thing an employer has to look at to see how they performed in school work. Businesses look for patterns of success. If someone has a good record, it can be duplicated. It's in a company's best interest to hire someone with the best proven track record. There's other criteria businesses use to hire someone, but those without the endorsements might not get their foot in the door."

Resident wins achievement award

Wayne State University professor William Lindblad of Farmington received the Probus Club of Detroit's 1994 Academic Achievement Award.

The purpose of the award, presented annually since 1963, is to recognize excellence and acknowledge the achievements of WSU faculty members. Founded in 1939, the Probus Club is an organization of Jewish business and professional people who are committed to community service.

Lindblad, associate professor of pharmaceutical sciences, discovered a wound-healing defect in humans using a sensitive method for quantifying small amounts of collagen. Because of his discovery, he is sought by many researchers hoping to collaborate on research.

His achievements include the co-editorship of the book, "Wound Healing: Biochemical and Clinical Aspects" and the managing editorship of the monthly journal "Wound Repair and Regeneration."

He received a bachelor's degree from the University of Maine, a master's degree from Cleveland State University and a doctoral degree from the University of Rhode Island.

Assistant or associate professors in humanities and related professions and in natural sciences (and related professions) at Wayne State are eligible for the annual Probus Club Academic Achievement Award which includes a \$1,000 honorarium. The

organization has provided some \$67,000 to date.

WSU president David Adamany assisted in the awards presentation at the Furniture Club in Southfield.



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