

MEAP from page A1

Maxfield now sees a ray of light for the test, particularly because state legislators have come up with a plan to reward students who successfully take it. Each student doing so would receive a one-time stipend of \$2,500.

"If I were a junior parent, I'd say (to the student) Take that test," Maxfield said last week.

Among those who are expected to attend Tuesday night, and be available to answer parents' questions, are Dorothy Beardmore, president of the state school board, Oakland Schools' testing coordinator, Ernest Bauer, school district curriculum representatives and state Rep. Andrew Raczowski, R-Farmington

Hills.

In addition to having questions answered, the meeting is intended to learn the content and format of the high school MEAP, which until last year was known as the High School Proficiency Test.

Subject areas included in the high school MEAP are mathematics, science, reading and writing with social studies added this year.

MEAP results are viewed by Farmington educators as a valuable measuring stick, although only part of the assessment picture.

But with so few students taking it last year, resulting test scores were deemed of little or no value by Maxfield dur-

ing the November press conference.

"We need to demystify the test," he said then. "... The message we heard, over and over (from parents) was, 'I'm not confident about what's going to happen with those scores. I'm afraid it might hurt my kid.' And, No. 2, 'He's been tested to death already.' You've got to break that cycle somehow."

The high school MEAP is administered at the same time as other "high stakes" exams such as the American College Test and Scholastic Aptitude Test.

Those attending the session are asked to park in the large lot west of the school.

Death from page A1

said. Matthew reportedly was dependent over a personal matter.

Results of an autopsy were not yet available as of late Friday afternoon, police said.

Survivors include parents Wendy J. Conway of Farmington and Larry (Beth) Willer; brother David Willer; sisters Becky Willer and Caroline Conway;

grandparents Carol (Jeffrey) Starr, J.B. and Evelyn Willer and Robert Denison.

In lieu of flowers, the family is requesting that memorials be sent to Farmington Families in Action, 33000 Thomas St., Farmington, 48333.

Visitation for Matthew is scheduled from 2-6 p.m. Sunday at Heeney-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington, which

handled funeral arrangements.

Services will be noon Monday, March 16, at St. Gerald Church in Farmington with the Rev. Daniel W. Cave officiating. Barrett said students and staff will be attending.

Burial will be at Acacia Park Cemetery, in Birmingham.

Staff writer Heather Needham contributed to this report.

Students take their learning to the courtroom

North Farmington High School students were among more than 250 Michigan high school students learning more about the legal system in the Michigan Mock Trial Tournament.

They participated as mock lawyers and mock witnesses in the tournament, which began late last month in the Grand Rapids Hall of Justice. It is continuing through Saturday, March 27, with the state finals

held at Oakland County Courthouse in Pontiac.

"It's great to see many of tomorrow's lawyers and judges...today," said Alan Saltzman, a University of Detroit law professor and one of the organizers of the tournament. "The mock trials give the students a real understanding of the legal process and how it works."

The first mock trial tournament was held in 1984 at UDM's

School of Law and its purpose was to help teach high school students more about the legal system. Since then, the number of mock trial teams has increased from 16 to 60.

Volunteer judges from the area will score the high school students and rate them on a variety of criteria. Paralegals, legal secretaries, law students and law clerks also volunteer as bailiffs and time keepers.

I-275 from page A1

make involves how the new road surface will be tined, which puts in grooves to improve traction.

Consistent tinning, where there is a pattern of grooves creates a whirring sound. Residents will suggest random tinning, which decreases noise by three decibels but hasn't been done on state highways.

Since I-275's reconstruction doesn't create any new rights of way, MDOT officials weren't required to do a noise abatement plan.

MDOT plans to do a sound study once the project is finished, a department spokesman said. A study was done in 1980 when decibel levels were between 66-67.

Sharpe measured 86 decibels along I-275 around 2:30 p.m. weekdays.

Traffic increased substantially in 10 years. In 1985, 132,000 vehicles traveled I-275 daily. Nearly 200,000 vehicles in different shapes and sizes use the state highway.

"We're getting more and more and large vehicles, sport utility and tandem trucks," said Sharpe, who is a retired teacher. Residents believe M-5's connection to I-275 will only increase I-275 traffic.

While not delving into specifics, most of their proposed alternatives deal with noise at the source. One of their main contentions is asphalt is quieter than concrete.

MDOT used asphalt to resurface I-275 three years ago.

"It was like a blanket was dropped from heaven. It was so much more quieter," Sharpe said.

To switch to asphalt at this stage, the project would have to be redesigned and rebid, delaying needed improvements, MDOT officials said. The project came in \$31 million under esti-

mates.

Filers went out to people in Meadowbrook Hills, Forest, Woods and Park as well as Livonia Hills subdivisions notifying them of Tuesday's meeting.

Listening to 95 decibels for four hours causes permanent hearing damage, according to Occupational Safety and Health Administration. "What happens if you listen to 86 decibels 24 hours each day?" is the question asked in the filer.

Joan Barber, who lives on Nine Mile next to I-275, doesn't need a filer to coax her to Lansing.

"I think the way things have developed is that they don't pay attention to us anymore," Barber said. "... The business of just ramming this through and leaving everyone to fend for themselves is very wrong."

Election from page A1

Enberg said Wednesday.

As of Thursday, nobody else has inquired about the positions. "We've had no calls, no one's come in," said Judy Steinhebel, of the business office.

Steinhebel said candidates must collect 20 signatures of registered voters in the district and fill out affidavits of ID. They must clearly state which term they want to seek.

There are no other issues to be decided by voters on election day, Monday, June 7.

"It's just a regular election this time," Steinhebel said. "The OCC (election) was last year."

Sharp was appointed by the board last summer to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of trustee Joseph Svoke. Sharp will seek election to the

final year of Svoke's original term.

The deadline for candidates to withdraw from the race is 4 p.m. Thursday, April 16, Steinhebel said.

Spring Information Reception Saturday, March 20, 1999 10 a.m. - Noon

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BOSE
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Saturday, March 20, 3:00-5:30 p.m.

CALIFORNIA CLOSETS
Simplify your life by attending California Closets' Organizing Your Closets' workshop.
Saturday, March 20, 1:00-1:30 p.m.

HUDSON'S
Join us in the "Alice in Wonderland Shop" and be amazed at the assortment of spring collectibles and ornaments from Hudson's china department.
Friday, March 5-Saturday, April 3 - All Day

LOCITANE
Stop by Locitane to enjoy a complimentary hand treatment designed to treat your gardening hands.
All day each and every Saturday

MONT BLANC
View the award-winning photography of Monte Nagler on exhibit.
Monday, March 15-Friday, March 19 All Day

Visit Mont Blanc for a very special book and color slide presentation honoring renowned photographer Monte Nagler.
Friday, March 19, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

NEIMAN MARCUS
View the Lucky Shamrock compact collection exclusive to Neiman Marcus. Receive a shamrock plant with any Estee Lauder compact purchase.
Wednesday, March 17, 10:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

NEIMAN MARCUS
Meet Dr. Gregory Brown, renowned plastic surgeon, and founder of the Re-Vive skin care line. Located in the cosmetic department.
Thursday, March 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

SCANDIA DOWN
Learn how to select the perfect down comforter from the down experts.
Saturday, March 20, 11:00-11:30 a.m.

GARDEN EVENTS IN THE NORTH GRAND COURT ENGLISH GARDENS
Learn how to create a colorful and beautiful garden using perennials.
Saturday, March 20, 2:00-2:30 p.m.

CRABTREE & EVELYN
Learn how to create a floral topiary from easy to assemble kits.
Saturday, March 20, 5:00-8:30 p.m.

DOMINICK TRINGALI ASSOCIATES, ARCHITECTS AND PLANNERS, INC.
Meet architect and design planner Dominick Tringali as he discusses what the process is to build a custom home. Do you pick the builders first, find the lot, hire the engineer, etc...?
Thursday, March 18, 7:00-7:30 p.m.

From noon to 6:00 p.m. visit our European Flower Market open in the South Rotunda. We invite you to enjoy and purchase beautiful fresh cut flowers presented to you by The Flower Company of Royal Oak. A portion of your proceeds will be donated to Habitat For Humanity.

Easier to win a \$2,000 Home & Garden shopping spree at The Somerset Collection compliments of Vanhoose-Huntley Companies.

MEET MASTER GARDENER REBECCA KOLLS
MONDAY, MARCH 15, Beginning at 12:00 p.m.

Rebecca's Garden • Join nationally syndicated program host and Master Gardener, Rebecca Kolls of Rebecca's Garden, for gardening hints and innovative how-to segments that will inspire amateur and expert gardeners alike.

FASHION EVENT
THE SOMERSET COLLECTION
The Somerset Collection and ELLE invite you to the South Rotunda to attend the Spring Fashion Extravaganza. As the leading authority on the season's newest trends, ELLE's expert editors will present *Runway Trends '99*. Join us to get an insider's view of the hottest fashion, footwear and accessory trends as seen on the runways of Paris, Milan, London and New York.

One guest will receive a trip for two for a European fashion getaway compliments of ELLE and Travel Holiday.
Saturday, March 20, Beginning at 1:00 p.m.

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