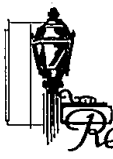


MAKING THE RIGHT DECISION

Perhaps you've noticed that mom or dad is becoming more forgetful. Things are being misplaced, the checkbook doesn't balance, the house is no longer spotless. Mom or Dad don't seem to care about their appearance or personal hygiene. They've left the stove on and you know they are not eating properly, if they are eating at all. You realize something is wrong. You work or have a family and can't be there to help every day. What do you do?

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'Morp' dance is all the RAGE

By TIM SMITH
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Name something innovative and fun yet socially-minded and chances are Harrison High School's RAGE student club has done it; or they're planning it. Consider the Oct. 28 "Karaoke Competition," or the first annual "Morp" — signifying a backwards prom.

Both events drew many Harrison students and staffers, providing a chance to see friends and faculty in a totally different light.

Leading the way was Harrison teacher Tim Russell, also RAGE club founder and faculty advisor. Russell and Harrison teacher Michelle Harris stepped into their tie-dyed clothes, put on wigs and magically appeared as the 1980s pop music duo Sonny and Cher.

But many kids also eagerly took to the microphone, some even singing in tandem, perhaps as wannabe Motown groups.

Singing songs and having a laugh were secondary to the main reason for the Karaoke Competition. Proceeds from the program (about \$760) were donated to the Deaf, Hearing



Good team: Teachers Tim Russell and Michelle Harris thrilled the audience with an imitation of the 1960s singing duo Sonny & Cher.

and Sign Language Center of Detroit.

Some prizes also were doled out. Students Ellie Murkin and Vara Hamama won the first- and second-place prizes, respectively. A group named "Five Senior Guys" placed third.

The "Morp" on Friday, Nov. 5, was a big laid-back hit, with everybody wearing casual duds and eating hot dogs and hamburgers at the so-called Joe's Fine Foods (the cafeteria). Formal attire and catered food were nowhere to be found at the

See an upcoming edition of the Farmington Observer for more on the RAGE club at Harrison High School.

event. Besides the menu, students took part in a number of activities in order to be considered for 1999-2000 Morp King and Queen honors.

Various contests included the limbo, the Twist, pin the wings back on the fly and mouse hunt, among others. For their efforts students Erik Oswald and Abby Cleland were crowned 1999-2000 Morp king and queen, respectively.

The "Morp" was co-sponsored by RAGE and Students Against Drunk Driving, SADD.

Meanwhile, RAGE members aren't resting on their laurels. Future events include those being tied to Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday in January as well as a district community service telethon in February.

The latter was spearheaded by RAGE, which got its moniker from the phrase "rage against the dying of the light," which incidentally adorns a poster on a wall in Russell's classroom.



Louder, please: Harrison students (from left) Chris Wong, Rob Platt, Robert Taylor and Erik Oswald relish the opportunity to sing in front of their classmates.

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