

# District schedules King activities throughout week

By Tim Smith  
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Not too far away from East Middle School on Monday morning, approximately 2,000 people marched in unison down the middle of closed-down Orchard Lake Road in West Bloomfield, during that community's "United We Walk" celebration.

Even though East Principal Eugene Seaborn was very happy

with how well his school's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day program turned out, he couldn't help but be momentarily envious of what was going on in the neighboring community.

"I'd like to see it as a district program at the (William) Costick Center," Seaborn said. "It's so important for everybody to remember, not just Dr. King, but his dream."

Farmington schools Superin-

tendent Bob Maxfield did say that the district's other middle schools — Duncalk and Warner — are talking about doing something like this next year.

Meanwhile, various classroom activities were scheduled this week throughout the district. At Farmington High School on Tuesday, all students watched a video about King's "I Have A Dream" speech and then were

asked to discuss how King's vision has been realized in America, in your community and at FHS?"

A second topic of discussion,

school-community celebrations such as "United We Walk" entail closing down the school district for the day.

He noted that Farmington district officials want to keep classrooms open so students can learn about King, rather than have a day off.

"I think that's how Dr. King would have wanted it," Barrett said.

## King

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"The enthusiastic response of the kids to everything was really great. ... I think the kids know how seriously everybody takes it (King's birthday). It's a coming together, and every year it gets better."

### New experience

Maxfield also lauded the efforts of East teacher Patricia Mobley, who heads up the school's multicultural committee, in being instrumental to the annual program's development since 1997. "People like Pat Mobley, her whole committee, embraced it and made it unique."

East Principal Eugene Seaborn said the King celebration always brings out the best in his students, who Monday morning filled the bleachers to capacity and were completely focused on the program. "But today just seemed to be special."

Seaborn said, "we try to create a new experience for them" every year.

"This year, it was the dancers," Seaborn said. "They were great. It was something fresh for them (students)."

The dancing and drama were only a portion of the hour-long program, which opened with remarks from Seaborn and Mobley.

Other numbers included:

■ "Highridge Overture" and "Ridin' the Rails," by the Tracy Rigs-directed East Varsity Orchestra;

■ "Follow the Drinking Gourd," by the eighth-grade choir, directed by Preston Brown;

■ "Revelation 19" and "Hush, Somebody's Callin' My Name," by Encore, also directed by Brown;

■ Serengeti: An African Rhapsody," performed by the seventh- and eighth-grade combined band, directed by David Drake.

The New Creation Liturgical Dancers also performed "The Things We Do."

**LIBRARY Books in Demand**

Editor's note: Every week the Farmington Community staff provides to *The Observer* with their list of "Best Sellers," based on requests for titles by library patrons. The books are available by placing a request with the Hills Library 553-0300 or the downtown Farmington library at 474-7770.

### HOT HITS

■ *Monsters*,  
Jonathan Kellerman

■ *Saving Private*,  
David Baddiel

■ *The Brothers*,  
John Graham

■ *The Lion's Share*,  
Nelson DeMille

■ *Atlantic Crossing*,  
Clive Cussler

■ *Timelines*,  
Michael Crichton

■ *The Attorney*,  
Steve Martin

■ *Soft Power*,  
Joyce Ann Kenz

■ *Police Stories*,  
David Koontz

■ *Small World*,  
Michael Connolly

■ *Wives, Lovers, Friends*,  
Stephen King

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