

Inkwell from page A3

a portfolio of artwork the students produce and on personal interviews.

Lindsay Middlekauff and John Boychuk are working with professional photographers on the Mission project. The project involves students of diverse backgrounds and cultures coming together at the Focus:Hope Center in Detroit to share viewpoints of the world through photography. The workshops will end with an exhibit of student photos at the center.

at the Farmington Area Arts Commission Student Art Competition: Students Jon Kambouris and Keith Fleck both took first-place awards in the 2D and 3D categories. Jon won with a 4-foot-by-4-foot abstract painting and Keith won with a mixed media photo collage in assembled boxes. Aleks Palmer took a third-place award for her raku fired ceramic vessel.

Out of the 12 Honorable Mentions, FHS took seven. Those included: John Boychuk, painting on a One Way sign; Tracy Brown, fancifully painted three-

drawer stand; Robert Easterday, pen and ink drawing and an "Echer-like" painted chair; Krista Peckham, colorful floral raku vase; Chris Stockert, hand-made book with metal work and stone ornament; and Travis Szudajski, pierced metal key with chain mail holder.

Into space
A Farmington student is among 10 in Oakland County who have been awarded all-expense-paid scholarships to attend the U.S. Space Camp at Cape Canaveral May 7-12.

Alojandro Perez, a seventh-grader at Power Middle School, will not only hear about what an astronaut does, but he will get to do it himself. He will be strapped into the Five Degrees of Freedom Simulator to perform a space walk. He will get a chance to see what it takes to move around on the moon in the One-Sixth Gravity Chair. Alejandro and other students will build and launch their own rocket and sample freeze-dried space food. And they will undergo a simulated mission in the shuttle simulator and mission control.

This is the sixth year of the space program, which is coordinated by Wayne RESA. Funds are raised for scholarships by the annual Locitite-Alan Shepard Golf Invitational, sponsored by Locitite corporation, a chemical company.

Selection of the students in grades four through seven was based on interest and potential in mathematics and science. Selected students also must work well in groups, yet be independent workers and mature enough to be away from home to attend camp.

Expand from page A1

United Jewelers parking lot and Dimitri's owners seek approval for any ground signs.

The First United Methodist Church of Farmington, originally constructed in 1921, plans to add more office space to the main building. This will require removing a church-owned house on the property immediately east of the church on Thomas Street. Currently, an associate pastor lives in the home, but his tenure ends in May.

The plans also call for renovating the building and adding a peaked roof, courtyard area and a covered driveway entrance area. The church will also get an elevator with access to all three floors.

The commission accepted the church's proposal as submitted.

Race from page A1

the school district's business office, which handles elections.

Voters will also need to elect two candidates to the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees. But, Steinhilber noted, she hasn't received the names for that race yet. A pair of six-year OCC board terms are up for grabs.

In order to file for the local election, individuals had to submit petitions with 20 valid signatures of residents living within the school district.

Study from page A1

happy to hear about the study, but concerned about communication issues. She was present at the Tuesday parent forum, but didn't hear about the road study until Wednesday when The Observer notified her.

Since she's written several letters to the road commission asking for such a review, she was upset they didn't tell her about the study.

"We'd like to be notified when it's going to happen or what the results are," she said, "so we can act as a parent group. If nothing is to be done, we'll have to react. Sometimes, what happens is they do studies and it never goes back to the public."

Parent Gary Vessel opened the discussion with parents concerned about the bottleneck on 12 Mile Road right in front of their children's school.

Vessel has a daughter graduating from FHS this year. His son graduated in 1996. He's been trying to get 12 Mile Road widened in front of the school for several years, to no avail.

"As you're turning left into Harrison, you hope it isn't raining and some guy isn't reaching for a cigarette or a CD as he comes over the hill and hits you," he told the group.

After writing letters to the road commission for years, the commission is finally responding, but not before a 16-year-old was killed.

The traffic study will start within a week, Bryson said, and it should take a couple of weeks to complete. The study will examine how much traffic turns left near the school and traffic volume in the area.

Bryson said options include doing nothing, adding a left-turn signal or changing the signs.

"There's already a left-turn lane, so widening the road is not needed at this point," Bryson said. "Widening a road is an expensive project that requires federal funding. To complete a project like that would take several years."

He said there's a backlog through 2003 of hundreds of projects requiring federal money.

"I don't think widening is the answer," Bryson said. "We'll see what the study results show."

The Road Commission of Oakland County meets next at 9 a.m. Thursday, April 13, at the administrative offices at 13 Mile and Lahser roads in Beverly Hills.

"At this point, I'm sure the board would say they won't do anything until the study is done," Bryson said. "It's a terrible, unfortunate thing that happened. We want people to know that safety is our number one priority — safety is as critical to us as it is to the parents in that area."

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