

## Music from page A1

were averaged so that every community was fairly represented.

Barber wasn't thinking about a score when he filled out the survey.

"The real benefit of this could be to establish some guidelines for schools and to share with other schools what we do to help children through music," he said. "That's what I was hoping was going to happen."

According to Michael Faubhaber, President of AMC, survey sponsors had pretty much the same thing in mind.

"For the first time, we have a 'snapshot' of music education in America," said Faubhaber. "With resources at a premium, and with the mounting scientific evidence that shows how vital music education is, it's important for us to learn who's doing it right and why."

Barber believes the keys to

### SCHOOLS

Farmington's success have been

an equal effort across the grade levels, as well as a top-notch staff of 38 music educators who teach vocal and instrumental music from kindergarten through 12th grade.

"We've tried very hard to develop a balanced program and we've paid special attention to the elementary schools, where we teach every child," Barber said.

At that level, children are encouraged to explore all kinds of music, and they even compose at the second and third grade level, said Superintendent Dr. Bob Maxfield.

"We have an elementary music program that's just outstanding," he said, adding the individual lessons and groups available at the middle and high school levels

build on that base. "By the time you get to the top performing groups, you've got kids who are really world class."

Maxfield said the commitment to excellence spreads throughout all Farmington schools, with programs like the Day for Strings that pairs all instrumental students with adult musicians from universities and the Detroit Symphony Orchestra.

In Farmington schools, Maxfield said, music is considered an integral part of the curriculum, rather than an "add on" or extra program. Music education is offered throughout the year, with a summer fine arts program for kids who want to explore areas other than what they study during the school year.

"It's depth. It's breadth. It's an iron-clad mission to excellence," he commented. "It's nice to have that recognized."

north of Eight Mile and east of Orchard Lake.

Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. with coffee, donuts and juice. Lunch will also be provided for the volunteers. Suggested dress includes long-sleeved shirts, long pants (not shorts), and hard-soled boots. Dress for a

morning in the mud and help remove the debris and log jams that have accumulated.

Rouge Rescue 2000 is sponsored by the city of Farmington Hills. For more information, call the Department of Public Services at 473-9521.

## Rouge Rescue set for June 3

Join your neighbors on Saturday, June 3 for Rouge Rescue 2000 and help improve one of our important waterways.

This year's clean-up will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. at the Botsford Continuing Health Center, located at the corner of Tuck and Folsom roads,

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## Pets from page A1

dent, but he worked as a principal and teacher in Farmington Public Schools for more than 30 years. He's seen kids track in dog feces from the school yard and said, in some cases, dog owners have waited until he left the building to let their pets relieve themselves on public property.

"I walk every day, and

there's tons of it on the sidewalk and streets, not to mention my own front yard," he said.

Delowsky believes most pet

owners don't clean up after

their pets and urged officials to

create a separate "dog run."

Dog owners also seemed to

favor the idea of a larger,

fenced-in area where dogs

could run. Several talked about "dog parks" in larger cities such as Chicago and New York and said they were amazed something similar wasn't available in Farmington Hills.

"I have a friend in New York City who can take her dog to a dog park," said Doris McCarthy. "We sneak around Farmington North (High School)."

Linda Jacobs lives near Pioneer Park. Like many who spoke, she said she was shocked when a park ranger told her she couldn't walk her dog there.

In addition, he said in a letter to city officials, even leashed dogs pose a danger to

wildlife because wild animals often come near park paths to find food. Despite the existing ordinance, Derek said he has seen dogs in city parks every day he's been out.

"Dogs are dogs," he said. "They may be your pet, but you're never sure what they're going to do."

Parks and Recreation Com-

mission Chairman Paul Jacobs

recounted the reasons the com-

mission recommended against

allowing dogs in existing

parks, after council members

asked them to reconsider the

issue.

"I think there are two basic

problems," he said. "The parks

are not designed for that pur-

pose. The other is enforcement:

If you're going to enforce the

ordinance, you have to have

police out there."

Residents raised the issue of

forming a task force to consider

the feasibility of a dog park.

Council members directed

members of the city staff to

take a closer look at the costs

and liabilities of creating a

fenced-in dog park, as well as

financing alternatives. City

officials would have a more in-

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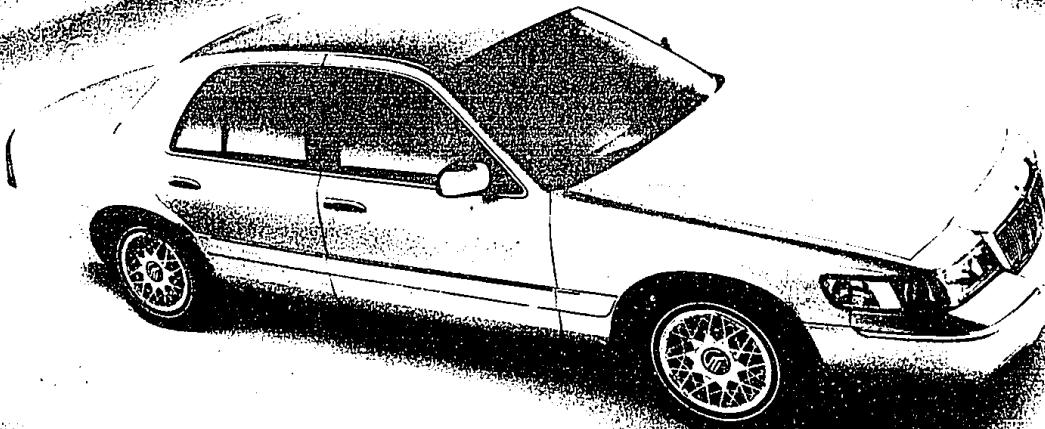
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