

Awards from page A7

who volunteers at Providence Hospital. He plans to attend the University of Michigan this fall.

Marisa Matthey, an eighth grader at Power Middle School, with a 4-point GPA, a member of the drama club and a student tutor who volunteers with Rouge River projects. She plays on a community softball team.

Emily Morris, a freshman at Farmington High, student council senator, pom pon squad member and certified Red Cross blood drive volunteer. She also volunteers at the Farmington Library and was middle school student council president at Our Lady of Sorrows.

Sean Murphy, a senior at Farmington High, member of student council for four years, National Honor Society for three years and was vice president this year; on the soccer, tennis and swim teams and was Homecoming King. He plans to attend the University of Michigan this fall.

Cynthia Okechukwu, a Dunckel Middle School eighth grader, currently in France. Her mother accepted her award.

Cynthia is an honor roll student who invented a mail box for handicapped people. She plays viola and earned a scholarship to the Blue Lake Fine Arts summer camp.

Brittany Pajowski, a Dunckel eighth grader, an honor roll student who participates in bas-

kethball and track and is involved in community service with CROP walk for hunger and the animal shelter. She is also a staff assistant at Dunckel.

Samit Patrawala, a 4-point student at Dunckel where he's in the eighth grade, active in the religious youth group at the Jane Temple in Farmington Hills, plays cornet in the band and is on the soccer team.

Sarah Prater-Manor, a freshman at Harrison who was also recognized with a superintendent's award of excellence in middle school. She won the team spirit award for volleyball.

Sumit Sharma, a Harrison junior with a 4-point GPA, a science Olympiad winner, computer club member and volunteer at Beaumont Hospital. He will graduate early this June and plans to attend Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore in fall.

Brianne Silberstein, a senior at Farmington Alternative Academy. She has a 3.4 GPA and was a member of the swim and dive teams while at North Farmington. She is a member of the safety panel, diversity group, and youth summit group and was editor of the alternative school's paper.

Alex Springer, an East eighth grader, member of choir and concert band and National Junior Honor Society. He is president of junior thespians, danced with Earth Angels for two years,

and has been in a number of theater performances at school and in the community.

Wiatia Weeks, a sophomore at Harrison, honor roll student and winner of French and math awards. She plays in the marching band and volunteers with the community shelter assistance program. She will attend a two-week summer program dealing with the field of medicine at the University of Michigan.

Each honored staff member received a tribute written by his nominating student. They are Joe Boda, Dunckel; Catherine Cordie, East; Darcy Crociante, East; Jennifer Goshorn, Farmington; Pamela Green, Flinders; Erin Herold, Power; and Rick Jones, North Farmington.

Other educators remembered by their students were Steve Koponen, Dunckel; Kathleen Malsner, North; Cori McLaughlin, Farmington; Rick Morehead, Warner; Linda Perkins, Warner; Sheryl Perlmutter, Farmington; Jim Ragland, Power; and Dyanne Sanders, Warner.

Also honored were teachers Susan Schultz, Harrison; Tom Seremet, Farmington Alternative; Marie Smerigan, East; Norman Staniewicz, North; Jim Sutherland, Dunckel; Mike Teachman, Harrison; Joyce Tomlinson, Harrison; and Pat Torres, Harrison.

On June 12, Oakland voters will elect two people from a field of six to the Board of Trustees of Oakland Community College.

By PAT MURPHY
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Six years ago, when she was first elected as a trustee at Oakland Community College, the board was a contentious body, according to Pamela M. Davis. "There was a lot of division," she said, "and a lot of politics."

Fortunately that factionalism is a thing of the past, said Davis. Trustees are still strong-willed individuals, she said. "But we work together, and each of us puts the best interests of OCC first."

While Davis doesn't try to claim credit for the unity, she insists she has been a factor in the board's cohesiveness. "I'm a team player," Davis said, "and I get along with people, including the other board members."

With the OCC election less than two weeks away, Davis is asking voters to return her to the board on the basis of her performance. "I've done a good job,"

she said, "and I want to continue the work the board has started."

To illustrate, Davis points to the CREST (Combined Regional Emergency Services Training) Center currently under construction at the Auburn Hills campus of OCC. When complete, CREST will feature a small, mock town — similar to Hogan's Alley at the FBI Academy — complete with businesses, residences and functional traffic lights and utilities.

"It will be the best training facility in the region," she said, "attracting police and EMS personnel from Michigan as well as neighboring states. The board worked together to get it started, and we'll have to work together to bring it to fruition."

Davis was referring to the board's continued efforts to raise about \$5 million — in grants as well as corporate and private contributions — to complete the project for which ground was broken last fall.

There are similar challenges facing the board in other fields such as computer technology, health sciences, construction technology and culinary arts, Davis said. "My major qualifications (and reason voters should return her to the board) are experience, commitment to the college and the ability to work well with others to make a difference."

OCC will also need team work next year, when it asks voters to renew the .8 of a mill property tax levy that provides more than \$20 million in operating revenue annually. "I would like to reduce the millage," Davis said, "but the reality is we need to renew the same millage to remain financially viable — and (to keep) tuition costs down."

It shouldn't be difficult to renew the millage, said Davis. "We touch a lot of lives," she said, "and almost everyone in Oakland County has a friend or relative who has been positively impacted by what OCC delivers."

So-called distance learning — or the use of television or the Internet for teaching — offers possibilities, Davis said. But the college must not lose the personal touch that has become its hallmark, she insisted.

Davis said she is not particularly worried about enrollment at OCC. It's down (by about 6,000 students since 1992), but that's a reflection of a booming economy, she said, when people work rather than going to school.

OCC could do a better job marketing, she said. "We're too shy about our excellence."

Other candidates for the OCC board are Richard J. Akhurst, Carol L. Creu, Athena Dumas-Laurence, Marjorie Nantian Mugerian and John A. Wangler.



Pamela Davis

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