

OBITUARIES

MARGUERITE DWYER

Services for Marguerite Dwyer, 88, of Farmington Hills were held June 17 at St. Priscilla Catholic Church in Livonia with the Rev. Raymond Bucon officiating.

Mrs. Dwyer was born March 12, 1912, in Quebec, Canada, and died June 13 in Farmington Hills.

She is survived by daughters, Kate (Jim) Young, Irene (Michael) Miot and Elaine (John) Recotti; nine grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband, Richard.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice.

MARIAN A. MCNEECE

Services for Marian Agnes

McNeece, 78, of Farmington Hills were held June 14 at St. Aidan Catholic Church in Livonia with the Rev. Norman Nawrocki officiating.

Mrs. McNeece was born Aug. 23, 1921, in Detroit and died June 11 at Angela Hospice in Livonia.

She is survived by husband, William; sons, William (Valerie) and Michael (Patricia C.); daughters, Kathleen (Gordon) Hamilton and Christine (Mark) Martin; sister, Dorothy Bailey; brother, Douglas Fry; 12 grandchildren; and one great-grandchild.

NICHOLAS R.V. LAWLER

Services for Nicholas R.V. Lawler, 27, of Farmington Hills were held June 16 at Thayer-

Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Harold Loes officiating. Burial took place at Oakland Hills Cemetery in Novi.

Mr. Lawler was born Jan. 2, 1973, in Detroit and died June 12 in Pontiac. He was the owner and manager of Source One Auto Repair Service in Westland and previously worked for Just Right Landscaping in Redford. He enjoyed golfing.

He is survived by parents Robert and Sandra; brothers, Bob (Danielle) and Steven (Kimberly); grandparents, Rova and Sherman Alpert and Stella Lawler; nephews, Bobby and Patrick; friends, Tammy, Dennis, Alta, Mitchell and Garrett; and many aunts, uncles and cousins. He is preceded in death by his grandfather, Murray.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Karmanos Cancer Society, 41935 W. 12 Mile Road, Novi, 48377.

HUBERT T. WILLIAMSON

Services for Hubert Thomas Williamson, 63, of Farmington Hills were held June 17 at Heeney-

Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Neil Ellison officiating. Burial took place at Oakwood Cemetery in Farmington.

Mr. Williamson was born July 23, 1936, in Madison County, Tenn., and died June 14 at Potomac Hospital in Farmington.

Hills.

He is survived by wife, Helen; daughters, Debra (Donald) Paquette, Mary (Michael) Evey, Nancy (Eulice) McFalls and Tammy (Nagil) Hassan; sister, Ester (Reuben) Day; and 10 grandchildren.

Walled Lake MEAP scores up in three areas; drop in one area

BY STACY JENKINS
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The latest batch of MEAP test scores show Walled Lake schools are continuing a slow, but steady trek toward new academic heights.

Scores released this week show fourth- and seventh-graders who took the math and reading portions of the Michigan Education Assessment Program performed better than last year's students, except in seventh-grade reading.

Exceeding the state averages and most of the county averages, Walled Lake's scores show 86.5 percent of the 1,080 fourth graders scored satisfactory ratings on the math portion of the test; 71.9 percent of the 1,074 fourth graders were satisfactory in reading; 74.3 percent of the 988 seventh grade students were satisfactory in math and 53.1 percent of the 985 students were satisfactory in reading.

Scores in the Walled Lake schools have increased annually by three to four percent for the last four years, said William Hamilton, assistant superintendent for curriculum.

"It's been slow but steady," Hamilton said. "Overall, we're pleased with the upward trends in most of our areas."

The 10 percent drop in seventh grade reading over last year is a mystery to district officials, he noted. There are two sections to the reading portion of the MEAP. One section is a long narrative with questions and the second part is a shorter, journal-style informational article with questions. Eighty percent of the students passed the long story portion, while 58 percent had

Walled Lake exceeded the state averages.

satisfactory scores in the informational story portion, for an average of 53 percent, explained Hamilton.

"I don't know why we dropped in the information portion," he said. "We're in the process of doing analysis on that."

District staff will look at that section of the test and the answers given by the students to determine how to modify instruction in those areas, he said.

The district is accustomed to revising its curriculum at all levels — it's been doing it for the past six years, said Hamilton, to better align with state stan-

dards.

Forty-three teachers are participating in a pilot program that entails pre-testing and post-testing on 10 instructional benchmarks in sixth through ninth grade science. Hamilton said the pilot program will expand to all teachers in all subject areas next school year and will be fully implemented in the fall of 2001.

"Alignments and revisions, the scores are a reflection of the work that is done by various curriculum committees and implemented by the teachers, which is why we're dumbfounded by the drop in the reading scores," Hamilton said. "But, certainly we're not going to panic."

The next round of MEAP scores for fifth and eighth grade writing and science are due in the coming weeks, he added.

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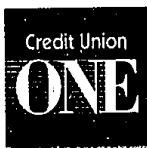
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