

OBITUARIES

LINDA L. RAINFORD

A memorial service for Linda L. Rainford, 59, will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, April 15, at Salem United Church of Christ in Farmington.

Mrs. Rainford was born Oct. 3, 1942 in Hammond, Ind. and died March 31. After marrying her high school sweetheart in Lake Village, Ind., they raised their family in Michigan.

She earned a degree from Eastern Michigan University in 1976 and became a dedicated teacher who touched and guided many young lives. Her love of the stage brought joy and laugh-

ter to many more through her numerous chorus and theater performances. She fulfilled her dream of retiring with her husband to Chandler, Ariz. in 1998.

She is survived by husband Ken; son, Alan (Denise); daughter, Julie (Brian) Grow; grandchildren Shelby, Brooke, Allison and Holly; parents, Tunis and Wynelle Parker; mother-in-law, Stella Rainford; sister, Judy Potts (Les); sister-in-law, Marilyn Bremner (Darryl). She was preceded in death by her father-in-law, Russell Rainford.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Karmanos Can-

cer Institute c/o Nancy Fees, 8031 Pine Forest Ct., Davisburg MI 48350.

JEROME F. HOCKLE

Services for Jerome Francis Hockle, 86, of Northville, were held April 9 at St. Gerald Catholic Church in Farmington with the Rev. John Menner officiating.

Mr. Hockle was born Feb. 23, 1915 and died April 7 at Cambridge Healthcare Center in Beverly Hills, Mich.

He is survived by his daughter, Paula (Jeff) Kirsch; nephew, Rich (Sherry) Hockle; special friend, Helen Johnson; and three

grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, Wilma.

Arrangements made by Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington.

STEVEN J. DULKA JR.

Services for Steven J. Dulka Jr., 72, of Livonia, were held April 9 at Heene-Sundquist Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. John Maki officiating.

Mr. Dulka was born Oct. 18, 1929 and died April 6. He worked for a tool and die company.

He is survived by his children, Denise Sherman, Stevie Joe,

Donna (Thomas) Yakes, Tammy La Montagne, Mary De Filippi, Kevin (Elizabeth) and Brett; mother, Mary Dulka; sister, Dorothy Forrest; 11 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. He is preceded in death by his wife, Eva.

JUNE THOMPSON

Services for June Thompson, 84, of Farmington Hills, will be held at 10:30 a.m. today, April 11, at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Sue Ellis Melrose officiating. Burial will take place at White Chapel Cemetery in Troy. Mrs. Thompson was born June

27, 1917 in Detroit and died April 8 in Farmington Hills. She was a member of Quetzep, Briarhill Book Club Guild and Alpha Iota Sorority. She enjoyed reading, gardening and embroidery.

She is survived by her son, Bernard (Christine); daughters, Marcia Moyer and Kim Thompson-Stewart; and seven grandchildren. She is preceded in death by her husband of 46 years, Bernard.

Memorial contributions may be made to Angela Hospice, 14100 Newburgh Road, Livonia, MI 48164.

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emphasizing problem solving, drawing conclusions and independent thinking.

"Those are skills we want them (students) to have in addition to mastering the facts that allow them to draw those conclusions," she said.

Anible said Plymouth-Canton draws on the state and national standards and input from staff in developing its curriculum.

She said when used properly, to see that schools are meeting standards, the MEAP is a valuable tool.

"It's setting a bar that students need to reach for. When students get close, they change the test," she said.

The test makes students and schools stretch to meet the new standards, she said.

Anible said her biggest problem with the test is the way it's used and that sometimes it is the only measure in evaluating schools.

Watkins said the MEAP tests have validity but that com-

plaints are legitimate. "We've made it a tool it was never meant to be," Watkins said. "It was meant to have local school districts align with state standards. It's been turned into a real estate tool, among other things."

Watkins said when he came to the Department of Education the MEAP was the only basis for accreditation but it now only counts for 67 percent of the evaluation. He said some things can't be measured by the tests.

"I was in Macomb County in Fraser on Tuesday and in Grand Rapids on Wednesday. I saw children singing and dancing and how is that measured by MEAP," he said. "Some students told me that if it wasn't for the singing and dancing, they wouldn't even be in school."

Other factors

Watkins also questioned the Merit Scholarships that the state awards for high performance on the MEAP tests.

"Teachers, schools and especially students have more than the results of a single test on a single day to show," Watkins said.

He said that the state puts a lot of emphasis on the MEAP tests. But state schools use the ACT test for admissions, not the MEAP. The business community has embraced the MEAP tests, but they do not hire based on MEAP results.

Many factors prevent some school districts from meeting state curriculum standards and students from reaching expected goals.

"Analysis shows that the size of your house is a better indica-

tor of how well you'll do on the MEAPs," Watkins said. "The fact is that there are inequities in the state. The old saying is I've been rich, I've been poor and rich is a lot better."

Watkins said that economic inequities, inadequate and aging school buildings and the absence of technology all affect the quality of education.

"The state board has asked how we can lift up all our schools, all our students whether in Birmingham, Brighton, Plymouth-Canton or Hamtramck and Detroit," Watkins said. "They need the tools to thrive in the 21st century."



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