

The tie-breaker was eating two chill peppers



Brittany Kokko stams down a cup of kimchee, a pickled cabbage in hot sauce with an odor reminiscent of kerosene

FEAR FACTOR

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and liver pate.
The menu went downhill from there. Among the food items consumed were Indi hot peppers, Japanese fermented beans, Mexican Jalapeno peppers, dried up shrimp, octopus, cow brain, pickled hen eggs, jellyfish and

escargot.
Students selected their own teammates; 1st and 2nd place winners received \$75 and \$50 gift certificates, respectively, to the restaurants of their choice.

In first place were: Ross
Hanna, Dan Fisher, Corey
Hague and Vance Smith. They
wore bibs that read, "Spit happens."
In second place were: Ramiz
Habba, Mike Murphy, Brittani
Kokko and Jessie Wendling.
Winners noted which food
each thought was the worst:

beans

Hague — pickled hen eggs

Kokko — cow intestines
and lamb brain

Wendling — the octopus
with its suction cups

Murphy — cured pork
rind and vinegar

Habba — eggplant and

beans Smith couldn't choose. "I liked it all," he said. School administrators

ntched, but wisely didn't par-

"Hey, they're kids. It's food," said Assistant Principal Bob Crawford. sbuck@oe.homecomm.net | (248) 477-5450

'Hey, they're kids. It's food.'

Bob Crawford assistant principal

DCX helps Neighborhood House

The Farmington/ Farmington Hills
Neighborhood House got a special gift to start
the new year from a new neighbor in town,
DaimlerChysler Services, located off inkster
Road in Farmington Hills.
DaimlerChysler Services representatives
Kathy Wright and Bill Crabtree dropped by the
Neighborhood House recently with a generous
check of \$7,844, a result of the company's recent
Art Auction.
When DaimlerChrysler Services moved its
offices from Southfield to a former bank building
in Farmington Hills last year, the old artwork
from the Southfield office didn't match up with

the new decor of the remodeled building.
Crabtree and Wright suggested auctioning the crabtree and Wright suggested auctioning the property of the property of the property of the Farmington Farmington Hills Neighborhood House as the benefactor.
The local nonprofit agency assists with referrals to other help agencies as well as provides shelter, clothing, food, rent or utility assistance in times of need for residents.
The Neighborhood House staff is always looking for volunteers, gently used clothing, cash

ing for volunteers, gently used clothing, cash contributions and can goods. Call them at (248)

CHALLENGES

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its own best interest and not that of its neighbors. He quoted slain civil rights leader Rev. Martin Luther

leader Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. as saying all people, regardless of race or social sta-tus, are "part of a network of mutuality and are tied in a sin-gle garment of destiny. "We cannot separate our-selves and be tied to a commu-nity," Ohren told the group, which included council mem-bers from the two cities and school board members. Ohren said businesses look-

ing to start operations in a city look at the whole picture, including whether the schools are good.

The professor noted the problems he's seen include lack of communication among neighboring communities and schools.

or edimentication among neighboring communities and schools. He said the Farmington area seems to be among the best in copperative efforts.

The fact that you hold these meetings once a year is a positive step; he said. Officials were asked to write down their names on paper with five different numbers. Ohren had then sit at numbered tables in order to associate with people they normally wear to be the most pressing issues facing the community.

He then told the groups to write down what they believed be the most pressing issues facing the community.

Topping the lists was shortfalls in state shared revenues and funding for schools.

Officials said it will be difficult to deal with lower revenues and at the same time meet citizens' high expectations.

Othere then asked the groups.

meet citizens' high expecta-tions.
Ohten then asked the groups to reconvene and come up with strategies to resolve the issues. Many said sharing resoures and buildings could help save costs, as could seeking more grant funds for projects.
Members agreed that educating the public about upcom-

ing shortfalls, consolidating scrices, seeking out more volunteers and calling upon state legislators to push for change were positives steps.

Others said involving the community in making decisions about shortfalls in services would be a good idee.

School board member Jack Inch said citizens tend to feel more comfortable dealing with a local official rather than someone on the state or national level.

"People know you and can see you," he said.

Ohren told the group, "As elected official syou need to be educators, too, to the people. They have to understand the reasons you make your decisions."

The professor said he would put together a summary of the session and make follow-up recommendations to Hills City Manager Steve Brock.

Farmington Mayor Jim Mitchell said the three governing bodies work well together, and know their decisions the their communities together.

Farmington Hills Mayor Nancy Bates said when she talks with other community officials, the Farmington area is held up as a model.

"I think it was a good evening," she said.

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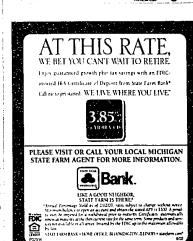
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