

Exercising for healthy hearts, 1B

Signing up, 2D

Focal Point plans studio move, 3A

# Farmington Observer

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## Farmington FOCUS

If you have a news item or an idea for a feature story or an action picture with a Farmington-area connection, send a note to our downtown office at 43225 Grand River, Farmington 48024.

**H**E stands out. John Rogin, 33, president of John Rogin Butch in Farmington Hills, is one of the Michigan Jaycees' Five Outstanding Young People for 1986-87.

The five will be honored Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Novi Hillton. "These outstanding people are being recognized by the Michigan Jaycees for their personal, educational and professional accomplishments, along with their unselfish involvement in their community," said Teresa Follon of the Michigan Jaycees.

**LEARN** not to burn. Next week, Feb. 8-14, is National Burn Awareness Week.

The week is designed to "bring to light the issue of burns, from fire-related burns to hot-water burns," says Deputy Chief Peter Baldwin of the Farmington Hills Fire Department.

The United States has the worst burn problem of any industrialized nation in the world. Of the 2 million people burned each year, 70,000 are hospitalized; another 12,000 die. Children, the elderly and the disabled represent a majority of burn victims, according to the Michigan Public Fire Education Resource Network. Studies show that 75 percent of all burns could be prevented if Americans were properly educated in burn prevention through a public awareness program, such as National Burn Awareness Week, says Baldwin.

**HAVE** a heart. The Michigan Humane Society will host a benefit Friday and Saturday, Feb. 13-14, at the Village Hall, Grand River and Farmington Road, in downtown Farmington. Bring a donation of cash, a check, dog or cat food, or old, clean blankets. A donation will entitle you to a discount card good throughout the mall for a variety of items at prices ranging from 10 to 50 percent off.

Society supporters will be on hand to accept donations, answer questions, pass out brochures and sell T-shirts. "People can do so much to help with just a few dollars. We hope to enlighten people on the good the Humane Society does," says Edna Malotke of Kitchen Creations.

**KEEP** these numbers handy for reference when calling the Farmington Observer: news line, 477-5460; sports line, 591-2312; home delivery, 591-0500; classified ads, 591-0900; display ads, 591-2300.

**FOOTNOTES:** One year ago this week — Frank Carl Smith, a retired teacher and an avid civic booster, died Jan. 27 in Botford General Hospital, Farmington Hills, at age 80. In honor of the U.S. bicentennial in 1976, Smith hand-carved the sign at Grand River and Eight Mile welcoming motorists to "Beautiful Farmington Hills." And each year, he spruced it up with plantings.

## Settlement reached in discrimination suit involving the library

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Former librarian Jill Locke will receive more than \$20,000 in an out-of-court settlement reached in the sexual harassment and discrimination suit she brought against the Farmington Community Library and former director Gordon Lewis.

Orders to dismiss Locke's five-count complaint were filed before Oakland County Circuit Judge Eugene Schmelz in mid-January. Following a pretrial hearing in early December, Locke's complaint was

taken off the court's active docket, pending final approval of the out-of-court settlement, Schmelz's law clerk said.

In a press release issued in mid-December, Jonathan Grant, library board president, said, "The Farmington Community Library does not admit liability on any of the claims made by Jill Locke in her complaint. The terms of the settlement are that the Farmington Community Library will pay Jill Locke \$27,500 and that this case will be dismissed by Jill Locke and that she waives the right to file any future claims" against the library, Lewis and the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

## Mansour hired by Sisters of Mercy

By Joanne Maliszewski staff writer

Agnes Mansour, former state Department of Social Services director, has a new job with the Sisters of Mercy in Farmington Hills.

As of Feb. 2, Mansour — a former nurse for 30 years — will serve as executive adviser to the Mercy Health Services Special Initiative for the Poor. Her task will be to develop ways to better provide health care services to the poor.

"We feel particularly grateful that Agnes has agreed to help us in this important project," said Edward Connors, Mercy Health Services president.

"Her experience in public service, her longstanding commitment to the underprivileged and her capacity for creative solutions all will help assure the success of our efforts."



Agnes Mansour Back in Hills

## Instincts help TV host dodge thief

By Bob Sklar staff writer

Farmington Hills police arrested three men who allegedly assaulted and contemplated shooting "Sunday Times" television host Gary Cubberley as he walked his dog near his Novi house Feb. 1. Cubberley — with WJBK-TV in Southfield — was walking his dog near his house in Village Oaks subdivision, near 27 1/2 Mile and Haggerty, shortly before midnight when three men in a car pulled up alongside him. One of the passengers pointed a gun at Cubberley, ordered him to stay put and demanded money. The gunman got out of the car and patted Cubberley down. But when no money was found, the gunman's accomplices yelled, "Waste him, do him in."

**OTHER DETAILS** of the settlement have not been made public. The agreement includes a clause prohibiting any of the parties from publicly disclosing the agreement's details, said Lewis' attorney, Ashley Lipson of Farmington Hills.

The agreement stipulates the following would be read to the media or anyone else making public inquiries regarding the case.

"Jill Locke's claim against the city of Farmington, the city of Farmington Hills, the Farmington Community Library and Gordon Lewis has been satisfactorily resolved and that they are not at liberty to discuss the terms of the settlement or the factual basis for her complaint."

Locke's attorney, Marietta Robinson of Southfield, has repeatedly failed to return telephone calls regarding the case.

In the suit filed in June 1985, former children's librarian Locke claimed she was "constructively dis-

**The Farmington Community Library does not admit liability on any of the claims made by (former librarian) Jill Locke in her complaint.**

— Jonathan Grant library board president

charged" — transferred from a supervisory to non-supervisory position — for refusing and rejecting Lewis' alleged requests for sexual favors.

Originally, the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills were included in the suit. But in September 1986, an order was entered for voluntary dismissal of the complaint against the cities.

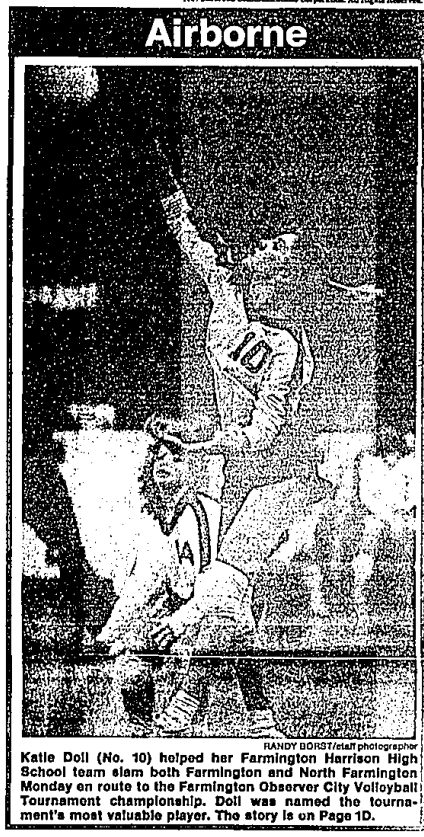
**THE CITIES** were dismissed at that time because according to the state public act under which district libraries are formed, the library is a separate and autonomous authority. The cities only finance the library system.

Locke had requested a jury trial and sought \$10,000 on each of the five counts.

A 13-year veteran of the Farmington Community Library staff, Locke resigned in February 1985, about one month after she was transferred to a non-supervisory position as coordinator of community services.

Locke previously had worked in the supervisory positions of branch

Please turn to Page 13



Katie Doll (No. 10) helped her Farmington Harrison High School team slame both Farmington and North Farmington Monday en route to the Farmington Observer City Volleyball Tournament championship. Doll was named the tournament's most valuable player. The story is on Page 1D.

## Schools seek millage renewal Election is on Tuesday

For a related editorial comment, see Page 14A.

Voters will decide on a 4-mill operating tax renewal for Farmington Public Schools during a special election Tuesday, Feb. 10.

The 10,200-voter district's four voting precincts will be open on election day from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

A renewal would give the district authority to continue operating with 32.5 mills approved in the 1985-87 bond. It does not ask for new millage or raise property taxes.

"I urge a vote for the millage," said Superintendent Graham Lewis. "It is a vote to support your education programs."

In the Farmington school district, 1 mill equals about \$1.4 million. Countywide, each district automatically receives 9.54 mills. The balance of district millage in Farmington is 22.96 — is voted by the public, according to Deputy Superintendent Michael Flanagan.

Farmington's millage is broken down into small increments, which

the public votes on regularly, unlike some districts that vote millage renewals in larger increments. Four of the 27.5 mills are going to the voters for renewal this year.

**ALTHOUGH IT'S** a small portion of the operating millage, Lewis stressed the district cannot operate at the same level without the renewal being approved.

"We need this renewal if we want to continue the program we have," Flanagan added.

Farmington Public Schools begins its budget planning process in early March, Flanagan said. Employees need millage information to determine how much can be spent and where it should be distributed.

It is also being held during the same time as the city and county elections that might be scheduled.

With the 32.5 operating mills plus an additional 1.3 mills the district

levies for debt, the total millage levied is 33.8. The debt levy has been reduced since 1977 when it was 3.8 mills.

**FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS** will have special Saturday hours of 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Feb. 7 to accommodate last-minute requests for absentee voter applications.

Apply at the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center, 32500 Shilwaukee, Farmington. Absentee ballots are due by 8 p.m. on election day, Tuesday, Feb. 10.

To have an absentee voter application mailed to you, call the administrative offices: 477-1300.

In emergency cases, voters can vote in person, Monday, Feb. 9, from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Lewis Schulman Administrative Center.

Requests to vote absentee are approved if applicants meet at least one of the following six criteria:

- Being at least 60 years of age.

- Being absent from the community during poll hours.
- Having a religious reason for not voting on election day.
- Having a physical disability that keeps you from going to the polls.
- Being an election inspector in a precinct different from where you vote.
- Being in jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

### what's inside

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Gary Cubberley 'Sunday Times' host

homes to fit your **Lifestyle**  
**CREATIVE LIVING**  
REAL ESTATE GUIDE  
IN EVERY THURSDAY EDITION