

Farmington Observer

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Look for coupons this week

- Feeling a little spent after the holidays? Cut your weekly grocery bill an average \$20 to \$30 a week clipping coupons by Kraft, General Mills, Kodak and others that will be inserted into your home-delivered Observer newspaper beginning this week.
- While you are clipping turn to the Taste section in Monday's paper for quick and easy recipes your family will enjoy.
- Don't miss out on the savings. To have the Observer delivered to your home, call 591-0500.



IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Sting has stung: The Hills police sting operation, which sweeps through the bars and restaurants of the city at this time of year, always nets a few. /3A

OPINION

School consolidation: If lawmakers think they're through with school reform, they should think again. That's the view of columnist Judith Doner Berne. /7A

TASTE

Eating out: Have lunch with dietitian Gail Posner, and learn how to make healthy choices. /1B
Wine column: E. & J. Gallo Winery takes consumers by surprise with premium wines. /1B

MALLS & MAINSTREETS

Bottoms up: The Jockey Underwear Company has a colorful history — manufacturing the basics since 1870. /4B
Deli debuts: The new Marketplace Cafe in Hudson's Summit Place store gets mixed reviews from customers. /4B

SPORTS

Title shot: Jennifer Katulski is one of several local skaters who will be shooting for honors at this week's U.S. Figure Skating Championships. A Livonia native, the 14-year-old Katulski has her sights set on the novice ladies' singles crown. /1C

INDEX

Classifieds B-D	Obituaries 3B
Auto D	Personal Scene 9A
Index 6B, 6C	Police, fire calls 2C
Employment C, D	Sports 1A
Real Estate B, C	Street Scene 4B
Crossword 3C	Taste 1B
Malls 4B	

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Man charged in office break-ins



A Southfield resident stood mute at his arraignment in 47th District Court Thursday after being charged with taking computers and other office equipment from a Farmington Hills building.

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Hills police arrested a 21-year-old Southfield man after Troy undercover police officers followed him to an office building on Orchard Lake just north of 12 Mile that they suspected he was breaking

into.

Hills officers arrested Edna Franklyn Ellison at about 8 a.m. Dec. 29 and recovered office equipment that had replaced more than \$68,000 worth of office equipment stolen from the same building Dec. 19. Ellison was charged with 14 counts

of breaking and entering with intent to commit larceny, a 10-year felony on each count. In connection with both break-ins, he stood mute at his arraignment Thursday before 47th District Court Judge Fred Harris. A not guilty plea was entered for him.

Ellison, who is a computer tutor, was charged with seven counts for each incident because seven offices within the building were broken into each time.

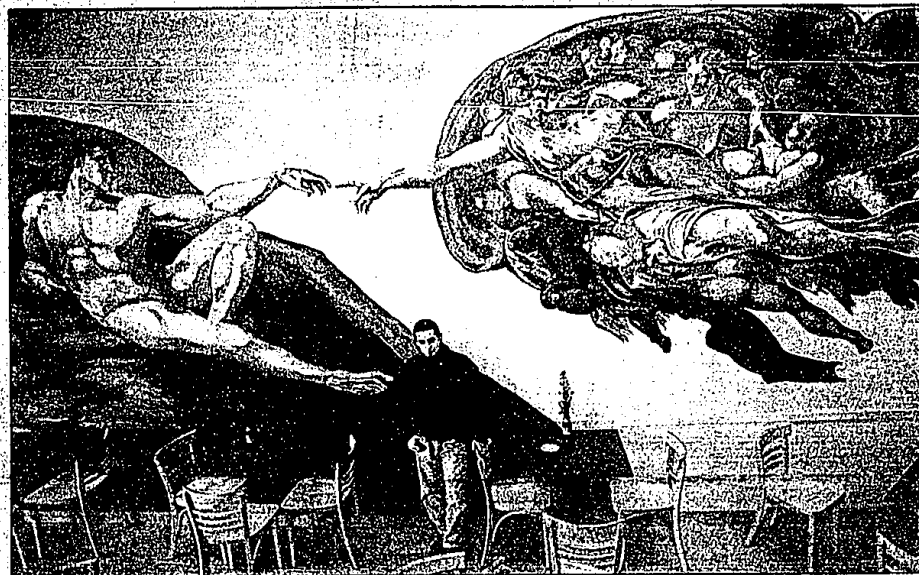
Harris set bond at \$100,000 corporate surety for each of the two cases. That means Ellison must put up

\$200,000 in collateral to be released. He was remanded to the Oakland County Jail. His preliminary exam is set for Friday.

One irony of the case is that Troy undercover police were looking for a suspect in a series of smash and grab. They do not believe Ellison is responsible for those incidents. He is also on bond for charges in Redford and is suspected of similar crimes in Madison Heights, Southfield and Lathrup Village, Hills police said.

See CHARGED, 2A

The creation . . . an art career?



DUY WAZEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

On the wall: Jeff Frederick, an artist and barber from Farmington Hills, shows off his art work at a Southfield coffeeshouse.

Barber to cut hair career short, if art works

By TOM BAER
STAFF WRITER

Next, Jeff Frederick hopes his career as an artist keeps him as busy as well, as busy as a barber, with a steady stream of customers coming into the shop for trims.

If the art thing doesn't work out, though, Frederick can always put down paints and palette and pick up clippers and shears to follow the trade for which he was trained — barbering.

So which career would he prefer? "Oh, art by a mile," said the 27-year-old Farmington Hills resident. "I'm getting sick of the hair thing."

Frederick — a licensed barber who likes to be called a hair stylist — is responsible for the huge (30- by 12-foot) mural that adorns one wall of a new coffee house, Bravo Gourmet and Coffees, in the 12 Mile/Evergreen area of Southfield.

If the work looks familiar, it should. It's a reproduction of Michelangelo's famous "Creation of

Adam" on the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel in the Vatican.

Frederick used acrylic paint, different colors and, most noticeably, he left out the many cracks that distinguish the original. The owner and architect wanted the cracks put in.

"The original has all those tiny hairline cracks, plus the larger cracks," Frederick said. "They said just put in the big ones. But I thought if you get the big ones, and not the little ones, it's going to look cheesy, not authentic."

The artist's wisdom prevailed, however, and now Bravo owner Layth Barash raves about Frederick's work.

"We think he did a marvelous job," Barash said. "People come into this kind of setup — a coffeehouse — for the atmosphere, and the mural certainly helps with that. It's the first thing you see when you walk in."

See ART, 3A

Petition drive stalls; but activist still CAREs

By TOM BAER
STAFF WRITER

SCHOOL FINANCE

CARE (Citizens Alliance for Responsible Education) has been disbanded, but spokeswoman Vicki Barnett wants people to know that she still cares deeply about public education and how it's financed.

"People should realize that all government is local," said Barnett, the Farmington Hills activist who helped found CARE after the state Legislature last summer voted to eliminate school property taxes to fund educa-

tion. "If you don't elect people to represent you, then you lose your representation," she said. "You lose your voice."

The CARE group had gathered more than 200,000 signatures, said Barnett, more than enough to suspend the legislation passed last summer. Requests for petitions keep

coming in, she added. But last week, CARE and the Michigan Education Association (MEA), the supporting teachers union, decided to end the petition drive. Petitions were to have been filed on Friday.

The cancellation of the CARE drive came in the wake of the Legislature's Christmas Eve action to set March 15 as the date for an election that would settle the school finance question. If voters say yes on March 15, the state sales tax will be increased to re-

place part of the \$6.9 billion lost when property taxes were eliminated. However, if voters say no, the income tax will be increased.

"We're not satisfied," said Barnett, "but that was never really the issue. The purpose of the (petition) drive was to avert a catastrophe. That's what we were all about."

"It (the CARE group) was a very middle-of-the-road, moderate approach to a looming disaster."

See CARE, 3A

Singers take note

The Farmington/Farmington Hills Community Chorus will hold auditions for its Spring Season at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 11, in the Band Room of North Farmington High School on 13 Mile Road, just east of Farmington Road.

Applicants must be at least 18 years of age. Musical experience is helpful, but not necessary. Show tunes and popular arrangements of traditional music make up the group's repertoire. Sheet music and practice tape are provided.

The 80-member chorus performs major concerts around the holidays and in the spring. Their voices are also heard during the Farmington Founders Festival in July and at events in Heritage Park. For more information, call manager Kathy Hall at 471-4516.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

It was in the cards

Shein and Schiff were standing tall after the recent city euchre tournament. The team of Randy Shein and Nathan Schiff ended the year as euchre champions of Farmington Hills by winning the Recreation Department's Dec. 10 tournament. Shein and Schiff edged out the team of Roger Breitbach and Jim Hubble, 69 points to 66, in the finale. The runners-up were the winners of the November tournament. Prizes — gift certificates for dinners and shows — were provided by Roosevelt's Billiard Bar and

Grill and United Artists Theaters.

Euchre competition continues beginning at 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 28. Couples interested in playing can register at the Recreation office, 31555 W. 11 Mile Road, during normal business hours. For more information, call 473-9578.

Memory Lane

From the Jan. 7, 1954, edition of the Farmington Enterprise: The Farmington city and township police departments reported a quiet week with no auto accidents reported in the area. City officials reported that police cars traveled 5,900 miles during December 1953.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 31838 Farmington Road, Farmington 48338; dropped off at the newspaper office; or faxed to 477-9722.