

# Farmington Observer

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## IN THE PAPER TODAY

**Courting an honor:** John N. Grewell (below), administrator of the 47th District Court in Farmington, was honored for his service as president of the Southeast Michigan Court Administrators Association. /3A



## TASTE

**African-American cookery:** Cookbook author and historian Howard Paige introduces foods in long-standing in the African-American community from colonial days to present day. /1B

**Pull the cork:** With chardonnay and pinot noir Chateau De Baun has found the right focus. /1B

## SPORTS

**Wrestling tourney:** High school wrestlers competed for area honors Saturday in the Fifth Annual Observerland Tournament. /1C

**Pooling the talent:** North Farmington's boys swim team won an important victory Thursday, defeating Western Lakes power Livonia Stevenson. /1C

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## Jeweler won't call quits

**Charles DuQuet, owner of the Farmington jewelry store that bears his name, says he'll bounce back following a devastating burglary. Police say a suspect is being investigated.**

**By LARRY O'CONNOR**  
STAFF WRITER

A Christmas burglary is but one lump of coal to weigh down a Farmington jewelry store.

The Dec. 25-26 break-in — in which jewelry worth more than \$400,000 was stolen — was the latest financial blow inflicted by DuQuet

Jewelers in the Uptown Plaza during the past year.

Owner Charles DuQuet admits his business is in debt. Several civil suits have been filed in Oakland County Circuit Court in the past year against the store and its owner seeking payment for loans and bills.

But DuQuet vows to bounce back.

Meanwhile, Farmington police are zeroing on a burglary suspect, who has been convicted for similar type of break-ins in the past, said Commander Charles Lee.

"We have a fairly reliable source that has identified a 37-year-old white male as having bragged about doing the burglaries," Lee said. "He's an individual that has been well known by metro Detroit police departments and has been convicted of rooftop burglaries in the past."

See JEWELER, 3A



Charles DuQuet

## Members only



**Money matters:** Seventh-graders (seated, from left) Jaclyn Silber, Karolyn Knutson and Jennifer Cox act as cashiers for LOC as sixth-graders (standing, from left) John Shuniya and Sean Sigrue open savings accounts. At right is LOC membership service rep Valerie Montello.

## Students bank on credit union training

**By LARRY O'CONNOR**  
STAFF WRITER

One of the first things East Middle School students learned about a credit union is it's a members-only operation.

When one student inadvertently referred to one of the depositors as a customer, it was enough to send a CU manager right through the ceiling.

"I said, 'What do we call them?'" said LOC Federal Credit Union manager Debbie Mashinske. "They said 'members.'"

"They've learned why we call them members because members own the credit union," Mashinske said.

Deposits, withdrawals and balances accounts is also being actively handled by student bankers — or — credit union employees. A

portion of the Farmington Hills school's cafeteria is transformed into a credit union on Wednesday mornings.

The operation is the result of a business partnership with Farmington-based LOC Federal Credit Union.

Students take in an average of 40 deposits a week since the program started in January.

Lines extend into the hallway at the makeshift teller window, which was made as a shop class project and includes wheels for easy movement.

Employees are limited to seventh and eighth graders, who had to go through a two-day training program. In addition to being tellers, stu-

See TRAINING, 3A

## Forum hosts Focus: HOPE founder

The Rev. "Father" William Cunningham will be the featured speaker at the Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council Forum at 8 a.m. Tuesday, Feb. 6.

The forum will take place at the Farmington Training Center, 33000 Thomas Street, one block north of Grand River between Warner and School streets. The forum is open to the public.

Cunningham, 66, is founder of Focus: HOPE, which is a civil and human rights organization that formed in 1968 after the riots in Detroit. He remains an executive director of Focus: HOPE and is pastor of the Catholic Church of the Madonna.

Focus: HOPE has evolved through the years, developing a food prescription program for low-income families and seniors and offering job training.

Since 1981, the organization has expanded its Industry Mall, which includes four manufacturing companies employing 160 workers and three manufacturing technology training programs for minority youth and others.

See FOCUS, 3A

## Hills woman remedies ill situation

**By TIM SMITH**  
STAFF WRITER

This week's "Give A Little Love" community service program at Detroit Country Day grew out of a lot of a Farmington Hills woman's disgust.

"That woman is Janet Zavis. As a result of her efforts, sick children confined to Providence, Hutzel, Beaumont and Children's hospitals will finally have enough toys to play with or books to read when they're forced to spend large chunks of time there.

For the program, Country Day students take themselves — many of whom reside in the Farmington area and surrounding communities — rummaged through their own toys to find things they thought others less fortunate might enjoy.

"It's the best antibiotic there is," said Eve Foreman, spokesperson for the Providence Hospital Cranio Facial Institute in Southfield, applauding the Valentine's Day-themed charity effort that takes place tomorrow and

Wednesday at all four Country Day campuses (beginning at 7:45 a.m. each day).

Spearheading the effort was Zavis, a 31-year-old Country Day parent who has had seven major operations since a 1993 car accident.

In that accident, Zavis was injured when a drunk driver struck the car she and her daughter, Cassandra, were riding in.

But, every time she found herself in a hospital, particularly last year at

Hutzel in Detroit, she noticed a particularly disturbing theme: there weren't enough things to occupy the time of sick children or their visiting siblings.

"They told us they had a family waiting room (at Hutzel), but there were no toys. . . So (families) would be dragging along their 2, 4 and 6-year-olds and there was nothing for them to do," Zavis said.

See REMEDY, 3A

### One valuable volunteer

**R**ita Spence, a Farmington resident and 30-year Ameritech employee, is involved with Focus: HOPE as a volunteer. Her dedication hasn't gone unnoticed.

Ameritech has contributed \$1,000 to Focus: HOPE to honor Spence, who delivers food to home-bound senior citizens, through its New Employee Program for Volunteerism and Community Service.

"It's a great organization," said Spence of Focus: HOPE. "We help the seniors — and they (Ameritech) let me use their van to do it." Spence was recently promoted to staff manager at Ameritech.

The phone company provides contributions of up to \$1,000 to organizations for which Ameritech

## FARMINGTON FOCUS

employees have volunteered eight hours a month for at least six months during 1995.

### Dine, dance at Glen Oaks

**T**he Farmington Community Band's annual Valentine's Dinner Dance will be held at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 9, at Glen Oaks Country Club, 13 Mile Road, east of Orchard Lake Road.

Dance music, provided by the Community Band, will follow cocktails and dinner. For ticket information, call 476-5014 or 488-3412. Reservations are suggested.

### Ho's celebrity chairmen

**M**urray Feldman, a Farmington Hills resident and reporter for WJBK (Channel 2), has been named celebrity chairman of the 1996 Channel 66 Auction that benefits WTWS, the Detroit public television station.

The 28th annual Channel 66 auction will air April 30 to May 6. Feldman will appear on Channel 66 during the televised event and in promotional spots that encourage support for the fundraiser.

WTWS is seeking donations of new or antique merchandise valued at \$100 or more. Businesses or individuals who wish to contribute items or join the volunteer effort should call 1-313-876-8350.

See FOCUS, 3A