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IN THE PAPER

TODAY

Ayes have it: David Kamish, Clarenceville's superintendent, can retire knowing the finances of the district are in good shape. Voters Monday passed a millage renewal. /2A

OPINION

Earth Day: There'll be plenty of doings at Farmington Hills' Heritage Park May 4 when the local edition of Earth Day takes place. /10A

SPORTS

Hot pitcher: Mark Temple of Farmington Hills won his fifth straight Big Ten game for the University of Michigan Sunday. /1C

Track stars: The Farmington and Harrison girls track teams had strong performances Saturday at separate invitationals. /1C

SPECIAL SECTIONS

Confronting AIDS: Look for our special supplement — "AIDS in Detroit's Suburbs: The View from Wellness House of Michigan" — among today's inserts.

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Intent was to kill, judge says



Despite claims by a defense attorney that the shooting death of Luvie Lucaj was a case of mistaken identity, two Detroiters will stand trial for the murder of the Farmington Hills man.

BY BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

Two Detroit men accused of murdering Luvie "Lou" Lucaj, 20, of Farmington Hills will go to trial next month. After a preliminary examination that had been delayed twice, 30th

District Court Judge Jeanette O'Banner-Owens found enough evidence to bind over Robert Waucaush, 22, and Dominic Garcia, 18, on first-degree murder charges. They will be arraigned in Detroit Recorder's Court at 9 a.m. May 10. Judge O'Banner-Owens ruled that

enough evidence was presented by prosecutors to establish "probable cause" that the accused had committed the crime. A member of the gang "Cash Flow posse" testified he was with the accused murderers on the night of the killing. Also, physical evidence included .38- and .25-caliber shells, which not only pierced the victim, but were found inside the Geo Tracker in which Lucaj was a passenger. Garcia's attorney, Wright Blake, had argued that the March 22 shooting had been one of mistaken identity and that Garcia, Waucaush and Gro-

gory "Zigzag" Moore were looking for rival gang members belonging to either the D.O.C.s or the 26th Boys.

"They (accused) were just wrong about who they were shooting at," said the judge. "The intent was to kill."

Waucaush and Garcia face mandatory life sentences if convicted. The incident took place near the Mexican Town neighborhood and the Ambassador Bridge.

See INTENT, 2A

Almes-vous Farmington, notre visiteurs?



SHARON LAMMERS/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Friends from afar: Visiting students from Cergy, France, tour the Farmington Hills City Hall. They're staying with O.E. Dunckel Middle School students, who'll return the visit next month.

Dunckel exchanges holas with etudiants

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Comment allez-vous? Je suis tres bien, merci.

How are you? I am very good, thanks. This French language thing is a piece of cake. Or, so you delude yourself into thinking.

Seventeen students, a teacher and counselor from Cergy, France, are staying with Farmington Hills families until Tuesday as part of an exchange program though O.E. Dunckel Middle School. They'll return the favor for a traveling O.E. Dunckel contingent next month.

The temptation to try *franglais* seems too good to pass up. What do the French think of Farmington Hills, O.E. Dunckel Middle School and its students? *Quel vous pensez de la ville Farmington Hills, l'ecole et les etudiants?* Though framed in the mind, the phrase comes out sounding more

like a sneeze. The puzzled French exchange student scrunches his eyebrows.

Pardon? In another misbegotten phrase produces another confused look. Teacher Marlene Lavanchy intercedes on behalf of the linguist.

See STUDENTS, 2A

Farmington pops suspected robber

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

A Farmington armed robbery case involving a bottle bomb may have been capped with an arrest. A man in custody in Northville is a prime suspect in an armed robbery at the Mobil Gas station on Eight Mile Road April 14. The handoff made off with \$50 after threatening a clerk with what he said was a chemical bomb.

The device was a white water bottle with what looked like a timer, the attendant told Farmington police. A surveillance camera caught the incident on video tape.

The man reportedly confessed to the gas station robbery while being interviewed in an unrelated purse snatching incident at Farmer Jack in the Crossroads Plaza on Nine Mile on Sunday afternoon.

Shortly before 3 p.m., a woman told police a man grabbed her purse from a cart and fled in a silver van. She was entering the store when a man ran ahead and appeared to be holding the door open for her.

He left the purse behind after the woman yelled to him there was no money inside and she had his license plate number.

Two hours later, a man and a vehicle matching the description were involved in a strong-armed robbery in Northville.

A Novi man, 32, was arrested on Middlebelt and Ann Arbor Trail by Michigan State Police after a chase through several communities.

"(Detective Chris) Guinan went there to interview him on the purse snatching," Farmington Public Safety Deputy Director Mike Wiggins said. "(Guinan) thought, 'This guy looks like the guy involved in the gas station robbery.'"

A water bottle and a jacket similar to the one worn by the armed robber were found in the man's vehicle. During the interview, Wiggins said the man confessed.

Police are seeking warrants in the armed robbery and purse snatching.

A crack habit is believed to be the motive behind the robberies, Wiggins said. The device used in the Mobil gas station robbery was a fake. "There was nothing to it," Wiggins said. "It was just a prop."

Senior citizen narrows age gap by volunteering in the classroom

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

What Robert Eastman teaches children isn't found in a book. It's not in the curriculum or in a lesson plan. It's called Real Life 101.

Notes are optional — but listening is required. Children are usually all ears when Eastman visits Karl's Walkey's fifth grade classroom at

Letchmere Elementary. Eastman, 61, a volunteer in Senior Adults Giving to Education (SAGE), regularly speaks to her class on his life experiences.

The retired Ford Motor Co. financial analyst was recently honored with the J.C. Penney Gold Rule Award, which recognizes people for their volunteer efforts.

A panel of community leaders selected Eastman for the award in the education category. He will receive a Crystal Flame while \$1,000 is contributed to the SAGE program.

Eastman will be entered into the national competition, but one suspects his rewards are found weekly at

See AGE GAP, 2A



Robert Eastman

Parents take note

The Farmington Area YMCA will celebrate the Month of the Young child with a program for preschoolers 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday, April 28, at the Y, 29100 Farmington Road. There will be an animal farm, clowns, face painting, a concert, science demonstrations, art exhibits showing the work of kids in the YMCA preschool programs.

For more information on YMCA programs, call 603-4020.

Meet the candidates

A candidates forum for the hopefuls in the 16th District State Senate primary will be held 7-9 p.m. Wednesday, May 1, at the Farmington Training Center, 35000 Thomas Street, Farmington.

FARMINGTON FOCUS

All candidates — Republicans Willis Bullard Jr., Barbara Dobb, Terry Sever and Ed Cox, and Democrat Barry Brickner — are expected to participate.

Rick Simonson, assistant superintendent of the Oakland Schools, will moderate the forum, which is sponsored by the Farmington PTA Council.

The primary to narrow the Republican field will be held Monday, May 13. The general election will be Tuesday, June 4.

The special elections were ordered by Gov. John Engler to fill the vacancy created when Sen. David Holtzman resigned because of health problems. The 16th District includes Farmington, Farming-

ton Hills, West Bloomfield and several other municipalities to the west.

For more information on the forum, call Janet Holm (653-2721) or Dobbie McCracken (489-3331).

Recycle phone books

Wondering what to do with those outdated telephone piling up around the house? Old phone books can be recycled from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week May 1-30 at the Farmington Hills Target store, 50020 Grand River. The old directories will be recycled into other paper products.

Items for Farmington Focus may be mailed to the Farmington Observer, 33411 Grand River, Farmington 48335; faxed to 477-8722; or dropped off at the newspaper office. For the computer literate, the Internet E-mail address is: packy@oonline.com.