



Burn victim: Dr. Amjad Alkandri (left) and Dr. Linda Dubay of Providence Hospital, Southfield, work on "burn victim" Katie Neiman, 11, of O.E. Dunkel Middle School, Farmington Hills, during last week's mock disaster drill. Neiman's "wounds" are actually the work of an expert makeup artist.

## Wife, stepson plead guilty in murder of missing man

BY TIM SMITH  
STAFF WRITER

The wife and stepson of Gustav Prilepok, the West Bloomfield man who vanished from his home in February 1991 and whose body has never been found, pleaded guilty Tuesday in Oakland County Circuit Court on charges connected with his death.

The pleas were made by Czech-speaking co-defendants Jana Prilepok and Jan Borek, the victim's wife and stepson, respectively, before Circuit Judge Jessica Cooper, according to a court spokesman. He said the process took about two hours for each defendant, who each pleaded with the assistance of a courtroom interpreter.

"It was a very lengthy process," said Oakland County assistant prosecuting attorney Lawrence Bunting Friday. "She admitted she helped cover up the crime and he (Borek) admitted he stabbed him (Prilepok) in the neck."

Bunting credited the West Bloomfield Police Department for its thorough investigation in the months after Prilepok's disappearance — primarily in obtaining written confessions from the two defendants.

"The statements the police offi-

### CRIME

cers took, they made the case for us," Bunting said Friday. "It's very hard to do a case like this when you have no body."

The co-defendants face sentencing next month before Cooper. Borek, charged with second-degree murder, will be sentenced at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 12 while Jana Prilepok will be sentenced at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 19 on the charge of accessory after the fact.

Borek could be sentenced to life in prison, although Bunting said the recommended state sentencing guidelines for someone with no previous criminal record, such as Borek, is 5-15 years. Prilepok, meanwhile, could get anywhere from probation to five years in prison. Although she is now free on bond, her attorney said he thinks deportation is likely.

John Skrzynski, Prilepok's Detroit-based attorney, said he hoped the judge would consider the eight months in jail already spent by his client in delivering the length of sentence.

He said his client pleaded guilty "because that's what she wanted to do. She admitted what

she had done."

Borek's attorney, William Hatchett, could not be reached for comment.

Although Bunting said he still believes the co-defendants killed Prilepok the night of Feb. 7, 1991 — a killing later determined as having taken place by 48th District Judge Edward Avadenka — for the victim's money. Originally, the defendants told police Prilepok left for his job that evening but never reached his destination.

"They didn't admit Prilepok was killed until after they learned that they could not inherit the property (including Prilepok's West Bloomfield home) for seven years," Bunting said.

But Skrzynski Friday insisted the murder was not premeditated, but an "unfortunate" tragedy that escalated from a heated argument between the victim and his stepson.

"These were people who barely spoke English," the attorney said. "And their background was in a totalitarian system, where the police and the government were monsters."

### MILITARY NEWS

If you have news from a college, university or other campus of higher education — and there's a Farmington-area connection — we'd like to hear from you. Send items to: Campus Pipeline, Farmington Observer, 21898 Farmington Road, Farmington 48336.

#### NEW GRADUATES

The following Farmington area residents graduated from Western Michigan University: Craig Dean, Jeffrey Brandt and Stephanie Wolf.

Lisa Marie Widman of Farmington Hills graduated from the University of Toledo.

#### RECEIVES OSTEOPATHY DEGREE

Marisa Abbo of Farmington Hills received the Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Michigan State University. She also received B.A. degree in honors psychology from Wayne State University in 1984 and the master's of social work degree from the University of Michigan in 1985. She is a 1980 graduate of Mercy High School.

Lucy Anna Cocimiglio of Farmington received the Doctor of Osteopathy degree from Michigan State University. She also received the B.S. degree in biology from Madonna College in 1988. She is a 1980 graduate of Mercy High School.

## Religious coming together is talk topic

"The Coming Together of All Religions in a New Age" will be the discussion topic on Tuesday, Oct. 20, at 7:15 p.m. at the Farmington Hills Branch Library on 12 Mile Road, west of Orchard Lake Road.

"The prophecies anticipating the coming of age of humanity are prolific not only in Christianity, Islam and the great Eastern Religions, but also in the ancient native American traditions of Wovoka and Black Elk. When an all-embracing view is examined an interesting pattern appears," said Linn Deahl-Coy, who will present the results of her research on these ancient prophecies and facilitate the discussion that fol-

lows. The public is invited to join in the discussion designed to freely explore prophecies of all religions.

No donations will be accepted. Refreshments will be served. For more information, call Margo Linebarger at 471-1331.

## Drill puts hospitals' EMS operations through paces

It wasn't a disaster, but it helped area medical personnel prepare for one.

Providence Hospital, Southfield, participated in a Hospital Emergency Medical system disaster drill Wednesday, testing emergency response capabilities in southern Oakland and Wayne Counties.

The mock drill anticipated a chemical explosion near Detroit Metro Airport.

Twenty-five students from

O.E. Dunkel Middle School, Farmington Hills were among those who volunteered as "patients." An expert makeup director painted their artificial wounds.

Medical personnel treated the event as an actual emergency. It wasn't known when, or how many patients would arrive, or to what extent they would be injured.

The drill tested HEMS, the medical control authority for

western Wayne County. Because of the potentially large number of people who could be injured in an actual emergency, some wounded were shipped to Providence and Providence Park, Novi, testing the capability of emergency rooms throughout the area to handle a major disaster.

Providence conducts at least four mock disaster drills a year in cooperation with HEMS and the Oakland County Emergency Medical System.

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