tco cream anyone?: grandson of Farmington Hills resident Ursu-la Abdullah, 4-year-old Marc

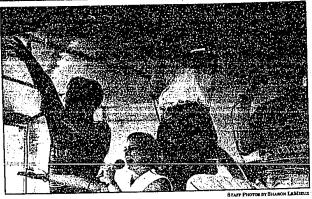
Murphy, gives away ··· free ice cream during Family Day.

Donations were encouraged vith a portion going to Special Olympics

> In the bubble: Sevenyear-old Sean Brins-ton of Detroit chases balloons in a windfilled bubble. He ac-companied the Jefferson family, formerly of Farmington Hills.







'Bo-bop, Sho-bop': Oakland Parks' traveling music show, featuring (clockwise from left) Waterford's Todd Alsup, Farmington's Jennifer Haemke, Rochester's Jim Daly and Novi's Kristen Patee, performs at Family Day.



A day for familles: The Kogowski family of Farmington Hills — Amanda (left), 3; Cindy, mom; Gregory, 7; and Gary, dad — came to Heritage Park Sunday.

Day from page 1A

sell hot dogs and pop. Ico cream and popcorn were provided free to everyone.

"This really is a nice picnic day and a wonderful way for fam-ilies to spend time together," asid Farmington Hills resident Delores Bell, who was enjoying the afternoon with her son and her grandchildren.

"Of course I partake in every-thing like this that Farmington has to offer, and have ever since we moved here 26 years ago," she said.

Karen Thompson, also of Furmington Hills, agreed She, brought her two sons, Zachary, and Brandon, and their friend Ryan Brodowsky to the event "We are really enjoying this. And, it is a great way to have an outing without spending a lot of money. You just come out here, have a relaxing day and have fun."

Marks gets results for Longacre House

Grear Wartes

In Marks just can't keep still.

The his last term on the Farmington Hills City
Cynucil, Marks visited more than 150 communities
across the state, including the Upper Peninsula, as
president of the Michigan Municipal League. When
the Community House, since renamed the Longacre
House, was in financial trouble, Marks again sprung
into action.

president of the Michigan Municipal League. When the Community House, a since renamed the Longacre House, was in financial trouble, Marks again sprung into action.

"I'm always swimming upstream," he said in explaining why he took on the executive director's job at the venerable institution.

Marks, who is socking another term on the city council in this fall's election, said when he began his stift in March of 1933, the institution was about 425,000 in debt. That has been reduced to leas than 311,000 and the Longacre House should be in the black by next year.

During his tenure, the executive director's \$28,000 aslary has been eliminated. Marks works for \$1 a year. The kitchen has been remodeled, the house renowated and new sidewalks have been put in. Paving for the parking lot has also been planned.

With the highest paid staff member earning \$7.10 an hour for 25 hours, the Longacre House should proceper. Marks, who joined the Longacre board in 1988, said a sainry of \$300 a week for his job will evantually be paid, but only when it is financially fensible.

"This should not be a career-type job," he said.

The Longacre House provides various classes and

ensible.

"This should not be a career-type job," he said.

"This should not be a career-type job," he said.

"The Longacre House provides various classes and crives as a retreat for businesses, and as a recoption enter, and could esentually host a mustic featival.

Marks said one of the biggest priorities is main-



Leaving his mark: Hills Council candidate Ben Marks seems to have found his avocation managing The Longacre House of Farmington Hills.

taining the 119-year-old structure.
"You've got to stay right with it," he said, adding that a new roof is also planned.

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Marks from page 1A

He was elected to the city coun-cil in 1987 and served as mayor in 1987. Marks also served as presi-dent of the Michigan Municipal League in 1993 and championed the issue of home rule in visiting more than 150 communities throughout the state.

Marks has been executive di-meter of The Longiere House formerly the Community Center) on Farmington Roed since March of 1963. He is doing the job on a rolunteer basis.

wotunteer casts.

Marks, father of four, said the controversial Timbercreet development issue was made worse because it was, considered as a planned unit divelopment. Had it not been, the commercial aborting center at the corner of 12 MHz and Middishelt would have not been nearly as large, he said.

"We have a shopping center at

11 Mile (and Middlebelt - the Mid-Eleven Shopping Center) that has been struggling for 20 years," Marks said.

Marks asid he understood why residents near the proposed development fought hard against it.

"They felt like they were fighting for their life," he said.

Marks supports a public safety tax that would increase the city's tax that would increase the city's tax rate by 1 mill to provide increased police and fire protection.

"You've got to start building up your police or by the time you have a problem, you'll never each up," he said.

As the city has developed, there is less new building fee and tax menney coming in, said Marks. That will mean the city must make afficiencies and one of those would be to get more of a contribution from the city of Farmington to jointly funded agencies.

such as the library.
Rodeveloping and safeguarding the city's infrastructure should be a priority in the future for Farmington Hills, Marks said.

ington Hills, Marks said.

"We've got to protect what we have," Marks said, adding that Southfield took the Golden Trisnigle (Greenfield and Southfield) for granted and now has problems in the area.

"I don't want that to happen to way," he said.

Marks said he doesn't experience to the the election.

"I think naonle accomt me for

eue in the the election.
"I think people accept me for what I've done," he said.
As to his campaign, Marks said he won't take anything for granted this time.
"I ran a bush campaign (in 1993)," he said. "I'm not going to do that this year."