## Having a ball!

## Cornucopia's success spills over in 2nd year

BY WILLIAM COUTANT STAFF WRITER

othing succeeds like success.

And the second annual Cornu-copin Ball is clearly in that cate-

And the second annual Cornucopia Ball is clearly in that category.

Saturday's benefit ball for the Farmington Hills Community Foundation for Children, Youth and Families was more successful than the first in providing money that will help support programs including the city's decentralized youth program.

"Last year, our first year, we grossed just over \$50,000," said Richard Daguanne, chairman of the Farmington Hills Commission on Children, Youth and Families. "It looks like we're going to raise about double the amount this time. I think next year there will be a significant increase. Word's getting out that this is the social event of the year."

These attending the event took part in auctioning while enjoying cocktails and then sat down to a gournet dinner.

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The gournet dinner included escargot appotizers, herb enerusted roast beef tenderlein with Madagascar sauce and baked Norwegian Salmon, desert and cafe au lait.

Music and dancing began after dinner with Steve King and The Dittlies provided the music.

"It was absolutely wonderful," said event co-chairwoman Joanne Smith. "We had 250 people (the goal) who were dressed in their finest. The music and decor were superb and the bands were wonderful. People danced and danced."

Smith said the hard work by volunteers paid off when people saw the beautiful decor at the William Costick Center. She and Daguanno agreed that the event's overwhelming success will carry through.

"I was thinking about how much work was involved and that I wouldn't do this again," Smith said. "The next day at lunch we were planning next years."

Daguanno said after the event's initial success, sponsors have been joining, with more ready to take part next year.

This year, Botsford General Hospital, the Observer and Eccentric Newspapers and Michigan National Bank were the honorary hosts.

'Undoubtedly our tax exempt status this year has helped,' Daguanno said. 'And we will qualify as a community foundation next year and be eligible for a Michigan income tax credit as well.'

There were plenty of generous bidders on the many travel packages, sports memorabilia and other items at the auction. Items at action included Red Wings tickets, a catered Gourmet Express dinner, a Grant Hill autographed basketball, a chance to be a Farmington Hills Grefighter, police officer, state senator for a day, jackets, golf memberships, golf equipment, theater passes, dinner packages and weckend getaways.

And the event's success could translate to more donated items for next year.

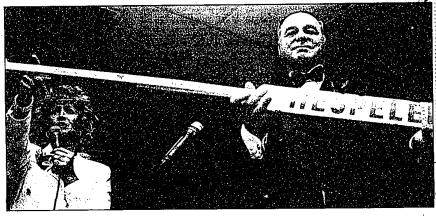
"Everything was positive," Daguanno said. 'The volunteers are a little stressed. And we still don't have final numbers from the auction."

The foundation was created to help raise money to help the city's children, youth and families. One of the main benefactors of the foundation will be the decentralized youth program.

The program, which began at the William Costick Center in March, is geared towards middle school atudents. It provides activities and study aids after school including athletics, games and other activities.

The program provides unstructured time after school that allows children to socialize, enjoy themselves and avoid trouble.

The YMCA is also a site for activities and the lappears that Daguano said it appears that Daguano said it appe



Making their points: The Cor-nucopia Ball in points: The Cornucopia Ball in
Farmington Hills
Saturday was
attended by people with money to
spend for a good
cause. In the
photo above,
Cathy Webb handles the bidding
as Richard
Daguanno holds
up a hockey stick
used recently by
Red Wing goaltender Chris
Osgood. At right,
Paul Blizman
bids for the services of Gourmet
Express, the company that catered
the charity ball.



Staff photos by Sharon LeMieux









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