

## IN THE PAPER TODAY

### ENTERTAINMENT

**'Sleeping giant': Sue Zizza, an independent audio producer and sound designer from New York, calls audio storytelling "a sleeping giant" in the arts and entertainment business. /B1**

**Another spoof: Just as the Wayan Brothers managed to make good fun of slashers in 'Scary Movie I and II', Director Joel Gallen found another genre worthy of spoofing - teen movies. /B1**

### HOMETOWN LIFE

**Holiday cheer: Sweet-Dreamzzz Detroit volunteers delivered holiday packages sealed with a bow and a holiday wish to 3,500 grade school children in nine Detroit schools. s./C5**

### AT HOME

**Bring it In: If you're thinking of dragging out the same old decorations and displaying them the way you always do, then take the advice of David McKnight: Bring the outdoors in. /C1**

### REAL ESTATE

**Talk the talk: It helps to understand the nuances of the language, if you want to participate in the activity. And real estate has a lingo all its own. /E1**

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## Parents ask district to turn off radios

By **SUF BUCK**  
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A Farmington Hills mother of five wants both public and private school parents in the Farmington Public School district to be more in tune with what children are hearing on school bus radios.

And she's not alone. Therese Norris wants drivers to turn off the radio completely and the district to come up with a policy.

"It's inconsistent," Norris said. "What one driver might not find offensive, a family might. I started noticing this about a year ago, the fall of 2000. My son would come home and he would be repeating little things, lyrics. I'd say, 'Where did you hear that?' He'd say, 'On the bus.'"

A former social worker, Norris taught parenting skills to parents whose children were in protective custody and who were at risk of losing them.

She and her husband Matthew, an attorney, and their children Joseph, 10, Thomas, 8, Margaret, 6, Phillip, 3,

and Cecilia, 1, live in Independence Hills at Drake and 11 Mile. The school-aged children attend Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School and ride the bus to get there.

"She has a cause," said Farmington Public School Superintendent Bob Maxfield. "We won't be hearing from anyone else. We addressed the content of some radio stations. Our drivers know how to treat children. They are parents themselves."

Kathie Boguslawski is also a mother of five children ages 7-16 who attend Our Lady of Sorrows Elementary School and Brother Rice High School.

"We have great luck with transportation," Boguslawski said. "I have no problem with the radio thing. But two years ago my son said the driver was playing graphic rap music. We don't allow it in our home, why should they allow it?"

Hillside parent Jody Ewald, whose two children (ages 6 and 7) ride the bus, only listen to children's music or classical music at home. When her

Please see **RADIO, A6**



**Tuned out?: Liz Rudberg drives bus No. 93 for the Farmington schools and objects to the no-radio proposal.**

## Goodfellows, great cause



**Helping out: Goodfellows volunteers worked hard to sort through their holiday donations. On Tuesday morning, volunteers including Ron Holland (bottom photo) and others (top) work hard to sort contributions. Tracie McDonnell and her daughter Emma stopped by The Observer office to make a holiday donation. The Goodfellows will continue to accept donations right up until Dec. 21.**



STAFF PHOTOS BY BILL ERSEKIN

## Reward: \$10K offered for info about city misdeeds

By **PAUL R. PACE**  
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A Farmington Hills resident said he is offering a \$10,000 reward for information leading to job-related criminal prosecution of city officials.

The idea is to entice people to come forward with information, said the man offering the reward: Mark Gordanier.

He acknowledged the offer correlates with his public dissatisfaction over how he has been treated by city officials in the past.

Gordanier filed a \$10 million lawsuit against the city in January based on what he said was contemptuous behavior by city officials. He withdrew it in October after the September terrorist attacks and out of sympathy for the firefighters who lost their lives.

Gordanier said the idea for a reward offer arose after he read a recent Farmington Observer editorial that urged people to disclose their identity if alleging city misconduct.

"I think the citizens are entitled to know if there are covert actions or waste or fraud in their city government," Gordanier said.

He said the idea was also sparked by Tom Prose, who through his newspaper, *Your Community Crier*, offered a similar reward earlier this year regarding city of Plymouth employees.

So far, the *Crier* has not published any results from the offer.

Gordanier said his proposal officially states the reward is for information leading to criminal prosecution of any city of Farmington Hills public safety or administrative official for conduct

Please see **REWARD, A3**

## Hills K-9 team hits the ground running

By **PAUL R. PACE**  
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Most people don't graduate from school only to report to work the same day.

But that was the case for Farmington Hills Police department's newest officer, Kasper, a K-9 dog.

The 19-month-old German shepherd was called into action last week, the same night of his graduation from police dog training academy. Asked to help search a home in metro Detroit, Kasper managed to sniff out a 1/4 pound of marijuana while working for the special narcotics unit.

"The director of the K-9 academy said that might be a record for a (drug) find (by a dog)," said Officer Jim Kase, Kasper's handler.

Kase, who was chosen as officer of the year by the local Veterans of Foreign Wars in 2000 and 1995, was selected among more than 20 candi-

dates in the department who volunteered to launch the new K-9 unit.

"Jim was selected based on his performance," Police Chief William Dwyer explained to the city council Monday, when Kasper was introduced to officials.

Part of the responsibility of being the K-9's handler is making the dog part of the family.

"He's our family pet when he's not on duty," said Kase. He and his wife have two children.

The chance to do this was a dream come true, said Kase, a 16-year department veteran.

"It's a highlight in my career and in my life," said Kase, a self-confessed dog lover. "I get to have this valuable tool at my disposal."

The dog, who was born in Slovakia and transported to a special breeder in

Please see **K-9, A3**



**Beat cops: Farmington Hills Police Officer Jim Kase and his canine partner Kasper worked their first shift together on Tuesday night. Kase and Kasper completed five intensive weeks of training.**

STAFF PHOTO BY BILL ERSEKIN

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