Clifford Higgins has done a lot for Detroit Country Day School over the years. On Thursday, students and faculty honored him for his contributions. An all-school assembly Thursday morning at the Birmingham school honored Higgins, a Farmington Hills resident. Students from Country Day's individual schools — upper, middle, lower and prekindergarten — presentegifts to Higgins.

"It certainly is wonderful of you to be here, and I'll never forget this occa-

"It certainly is wonderful of you to be here, and I'll never forget this occa-sion," Higgins told the students, facul-

ty, administrators and trustees at the assembly. The Farmington Hills resident is a longtime member and former chairman of the Country Day Board of Trustees. His two sons graduated from the school — Clifford Jr. in 1959 and Larry in 1971. What is it like to have a day — as in last year.

in 1971.

What is it like to have a day — as in
"Clifford Higgins Sr. Appreciation
Day" — named in your honor?
"It's hard to describe," Higgins sald
after the assembly. "I was flabbergast-
ed to see so many people. Very kind
words were said.

"It certainly is wonderful of you to be here." Clif-lord Higgins Sr. told students, faculty and par-mingham.

from the William It. Angell Foundation Inst year.

The gift of \$733,916 was the largest single gift in the school's history. It re-sulted from the sale of North Manitou Island in Lake Michigan by the Angell Fundation to the National Park Ser-

"MY WIFE played such a part, too, which consisted of some of his valuable

assets, as well as ownership in North Manitou Island, which became part of his trust," Higgins said. "I was fortunate to serve as a truste."

The National Park Service condenned the Island in the mid-1970s and offered \$3,000,000 to the Foundation. "We didn't feel it was sufficient, and we went into Higation for five years. It was worth the time and effort and money spent for Higation." A federal judge ruled in 1984 that the sland was worth \$12,200,000.

The Higgins family has long supported Country Day.
"I SAW what a wonderful job they did for my two boys," Higgins said. He has seen a number of changes in the school, which was founded in 1914 by F. Alden Shaw.

School, which was founded in 1914 by F. Alden Shaw. The school has changed "an awful lot. But it always had a quality faculty and curriculum, right from the word

and curriculum, right also.

"Mr. Shaw started this with a small group in a home in the inner city of Detroit. It grew from there." When Ciliford Higgins Jr. graduated in 1959, he had 13 in his class. Subsequent gradualing classes have grown in number.

"Now there are girls graduating also." The school's grades five through 12 became coeducational in 1972.

Clifford Higgins Sr. is responsible for Detroit Country Day School receiving the largest monetary gift in its history.

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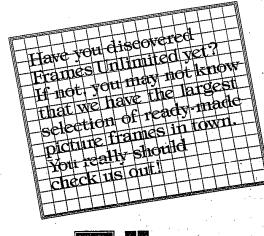
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