

# 5 are charged with bilking investors

A Farmington Hills woman is one of five people charged with defrauding small investors of \$2.8 million in an investment scheme, according to an indictment released Dec. 16 by a federal grand jury.

The defendants are Barbara Ann Skrupskas, 33, of Farmington Hills; her parents, Krystyna and Johannes Kliczak of Fraser; her brother, Andre Kliczak, 35, of Brookfield, Wis., a former stockbroker; and Thomas Joseph Gaughan, 52, of San Diego, Calif., a former commodities broker.

The 25-count indictment charges the defendants with:

- nine counts of mail fraud. Conviction could bring a penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.
- 10 counts of interstate transportation of money obtained by fraud. Conviction carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.
- one count of fraud in connection with commodity futures contracts. Conviction carries a penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.
- four counts of embezzlement and conversion by a person registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission. Conviction carries a penalty of up to five years in prison and a \$100,000 fine.
- one count of tampering with witnesses by trying to intimidate them and preventing them from providing documents or testifying before government agencies involved in the investigation. Conviction carries a penalty of up to 10 years in prison and a \$250,000 fine.

An indictment is only a charge and is not evidence of guilt. Arraigned Dec. 17 before Magistrate Thomas

Carlson of U.S. District Court in Detroit, Skrupskas and her parents pleaded not guilty to all charges. Each was released on \$50,000 personal bond pending trial before U.S. District Judge Robert DeMasco. The other two defendants were not yet arraigned as of Tuesday.

**THE CHARGES** allege that from May 1981 to January 1985, the defendants devised and carried out an elaborate pyramid scheme, during which they solicited \$2.8 million from investors who were told that Skrupskas was trading for them in the commodity market.

The defendants are charged with falsely informing investors that they would make huge profits because of Skrupskas' efforts. U.S. Attorney Roy Hayes said.

"While some investors were paid purported profits, these profits were

actually being paid from money given to defendants by other investors," he said.

An examination of the records of Skrupskas and her companies, Eugene Friedman on charges of receiving and concealing stolen prop-

erty over \$100.

A preliminary examination on the Southfield charges is set for Dec. 28 in the 46th District Court.

## Detroit man charged in murder of Hills attorney

A 20-year-old Detroit man faces trial on charges of first-degree murder and robbery of a Farmington Hills man.

The victim, Philip H. Embury, 55, an attorney with Federal Mogul of Southfield for 27 years, was killed in a Ferndale motel. His body was discovered shortly after 1 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 15. Embury's car was stolen along with his keys, money and watch.

**THE SUSPECT**, Paris Thomas, who was shot by a Southfield police sergeant early Wednesday morning during a police chase, was arraigned Friday from his room in Providence Hospital.

Southfield police said Thomas was spotted about 2:30 a.m. that day driving Embury's car near Nine Mile and Telegraph. Southfield police chased the speeding car. Thomas lost control of the car and struck a fire hydrant in Oak Park.

Embury, 55, was driving alone, trying to elude a pursuing officer who fired three shots, hitting Thomas in the hip.

Judge Douglas J.M. Voss of the 43d District Court in Ferndale entered a plea of not guilty for Thomas

who stood mute to the charges. Thomas is being held without bond pending a Dec. 30 preliminary examination in the Ferndale court.

THOMAS is accused of smother-

ing Embury with a pillow in a room in the Eight-Wood Motel. Ferndale police said overturned furniture in the room indicated there was a struggle.

Thomas earlier was arraigned Wednesday, Dec. 16, in Providence Hospital by 46th District Magistrate Eugene Friedman on charges of receiving and concealing stolen prop-

### police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police, fire and court cases filed during the past week.

• **HOUSE FIRE**  
Damage was estimated at \$7,500 when a fireplace fire spread to nearby wood studs in a three-story house on Springbrook Court, 20.

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The fire was behind an interior brick veneer, according to a Farmington Hills Fire Department report.

• **TICKETS ISSUED**  
Two 19-year-old men, one from Novi and one from Farmington Hills, were ticketed for possessing beer in their car following a traffic stop on Nine Mile and Shilohwasse Dec. 21, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

• A 25-year-old man and a 26-year-old woman, both from Highland, were ticketed for operating a construction generator after 7 p.m. Dec. 21 on Karen Place, in violation of city ordinance, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

• **THEFTS REPORTED**  
Four chrome wheels, four tires and an in-dash stereo were reported stolen from a pickup parked on Wellington Nov. 28.

A lawnmower, an edger, saws and tools valued at \$756 were reported stolen from a garage on Livingston Circle Dec. 1-20.

Personal items, including a camera, cash, purses and wallets, valued at \$320 were reported stolen from the cafeteria at Farmington High School, 32000 Shilohwasse Dec. 18 during a school dance.

A 1985 Chevrolet Cavalier valued at \$6,500 was reported stolen from Botsford General Hospital, 28000 Grand River, Dec. 14-16.

A 1986 Cadillac DeVille valued at \$17,500 was reported stolen from Kendallwood Apartments Dec. 17-18.

A sewing machine, a cassette

## Dober wins re-trial

A new trial has been scheduled for a Livonia man charged with shooting a security guard in a 1985 incident at a Farmington Hills arcade.

The second trial for Paul Dober, 19, of Livonia, has been scheduled for Feb. 1, 1988, before Oakland Circuit Judge James Thorburn, according to information from the court.

Dober was re-arrested last week on one count of assault with intent to commit murder and a second count of possession of a firearm in the commission of a felony. The charges stem from an incident where a security guard was shot with a rifle at

the Putt 'N Games arcade on Grand River during the fall of 1985.

A cash or surety bond of \$25,000 was set.

Dober is being re-tried because court records do not prove he waived his right to a jury during his bench trial before Thorburn earlier this year. The information does not appear in either the court file or transcripts of the trial, defense attorneys who filed the appeal discovered.

The Michigan Court of Appeals recently ruled on the appeal and remanded the case for trial in Oakland County Circuit Court.

player, money, toys, clothing, a tape deck and other items valued at more than \$900 were reported stolen from a house on Montclair Dec. 18.

A snowblower valued at \$330 was reported stolen from a garage on Forest Hill Dec. 18-20.

A typewriter valued at \$500 was reported stolen from Stark & Co., 30301 Northwestern Highway, Dec. 18-21.

A 1985 Pontiac Sunbird valued at \$8,000 was reported stolen from along Eastfield Dec. 19. It was recovered in Farmington Hills.

A personal computer, money, a camera, a copying machine, a tele-

phone, an alarm control box, a radio and a briefcase valued at \$4,150 were reported stolen from International Auto Works, 24750 Crestview Court, Dec. 19-21.

An in-dash radio valued at \$400 was reported stolen from a car parked on Turley Drive Dec. 20.

Two wire wheel covers valued at \$300 were reported stolen from a car parked at the Botsford Inn, 28000 Grand River, Dec. 20.

Money was reported stolen from a house on Glen Valley Dec. 21.

Jewelry valued at \$50 was reported stolen from a house on Drake near Freedom Dec. 21.

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