



**Dance fever:** Students in the Dunckel Middle School Back-to-Back program celebrated the exchange of French students coming to their community and their own trip to France with a celebration called *The Big Event*, held in April.

## Dunckel students wrap up Back-to-Back

They call it the Big Event. Months of planning and 14 days of seemingly nonstop activity came down to one last gathering of the students, teachers, and families that participated in Dunckel Middle School's latest round of "Back-to-Back."

Kids danced, played a giant-sized game of Twister and followed up with a tumultuous round of musical chairs. Later, they went outside to kick around soccer balls, play foursquare, or just hang out and savor the spring evening.

With just two days left until the 13 students and two teachers from St. Colombe School in Brie Comte Robert, France, return home, every moment counted.

Back-to-Back takes place under the auspices of the Association of French-American Classes LTD. of Westmont, Ill. (www.afac.org). A.F.A.C. has been organizing these cultural exchanges for 20 years. By providing American students with the experience of living with a

French family and being immersed into the French way of life, A.F.A.C. hopes that the students will develop lasting relationships with their French counterparts as well as an appreciation for the French language and culture."

Strongly supported by principal Pamela O'Malley, Back-to-Back is in its fifth year at Dunckel.

Although all students are eligible, most participants come from the content-based French program in which French is used for part of the instruction and course work in classes other than the student's French language class. "B2B" students start meeting in early fall to prepare for their trip to France and for the arrival of their French correspondents here.

Likewise, the students' parents begin working with the teachers who will accompany the Dunckel students to France - this year they are French teachers Terry Selman and Karen Tomle.

The parents are responsible for planning and executing all the program activities that occur while the French students are here.

Although the French students go to school each morning, most days they then go on "academic field trips."

Their agenda this year included Cranbrook, the Henry Ford Museum, a walking tour of the Farmington Hills Fire and Police Departments and City Hall, and a visit to the COSI Toledo museum of hands-on science exhibitions.

The parents also arrange several after-school and weekend social events for the entire group. This year that included, as usual, an overnight trip to the site most requested by the French students, Niagra Falls.

The Dunckel students and teachers left for France on April 23. Their trip lasted 18 days, and they stayed about 24 kilometers southeast of Paris.

## Return of tax refund means much to senior who lost it

BY SUE BUCK  
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Francine Moore didn't have to think twice about turning in an envelope of money which was left recently at Dollar Castle in downtown Farmington.

But it meant the world to Jennine Webber, who lost the envelope containing her income tax refund of about \$100. She has been quick to express her appreciation to Moore and everyone else who listens.

Webber, a Farmington Place resident, had cashed her check at the bank and headed over to Dollar Castle. "I was tired and left the envelope on the counter," Webber said.

By the time Moore noticed the envelope, Webber had already left the store.

When a rummage through her purse yielded nothing, Webber called the store that evening and

was heartened to learn the envelope was turned in and the store was holding it. Moore said she never thought of doing anything but the right thing.

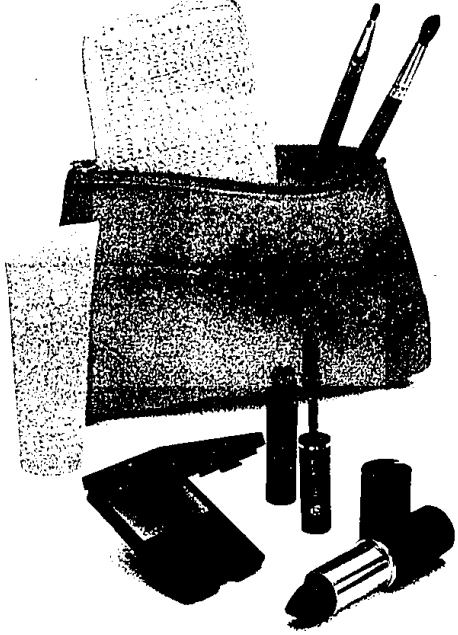
"I couldn't live with myself otherwise," she said. "My conscience would bother me."

Moore didn't work again until Mother's Day. She recalled her surprise when Webber appeared with a card and a small reward.

Moore who has worked for the Farmington Hills Police Records Bureau 13 years, works part-time three days a week at Dollar Castle. On those double-duty days, she starts work at the police department at 7:30 a.m. until quitting time, then immediately heads for Dollar Castle, where she works until about 9:30 p.m.

"She's a good kid," said her mother, Dolores, who also works at store and was touched by the attention paid her daughter.

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### BUSINESS NEWS

Akebono Corp., a leading supplier of friction materials and brake products to the automotive industry with facilities in Farmington Hills, announced it will begin construction of a \$70

million manufacturing facility in Springfield, Ky. Akebono is a leading supplier of foundation brakes and friction material used by U.S., European and Japanese vehicle makers.

### CITY OF FARMINGTON HILLS PUBLIC NOTICE CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

THIS IS PUBLIC NOTICE of the 2001 Summer Meeting Schedule of the Farmington Hills City Council. Council will meet in regular session on the following dates:

June 11, 2001	June 18, 2001
July 9, 2001	July 16, 2001
August 13, 2001	August 20, 2001

All meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

KATHRYN A. DORNAN  
City Clerk  
City of Farmington Hills

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**ARTHRITIS AND HOW YOU SIT, STAND AND SLEEP**

A popular notion is don't sit with your legs crossed. This admonition has little basis in medicine. It is true that orthopedists instruct patients who are just post-operative from a total hip replacement, not to cross their legs. The reason is to avoid placing undue strain on the ball and socket components of the new hip. However, replacement hips are innovations, and the rule of don't cross your legs is something we have heard from childhood.

Some people say that crossing your legs interferes with circulation. Certainly if you were taking a long plane ride and sat without stirring, a crossed leg position could interfere with blood flow from the calf. But in ordinary life, a parallel standing position, from a neutral point of view, most people at most times can feel free to cross their legs when they want to do so.

The same holds true for posture. Slouching, particularly for teenagers, is an attitude, not an accident or ailment. If not related to depression, represents the effect of a back condition, rather than something that will cause arthritis.

The same holds for posture while sleeping. A particular position in bed at night does not lead to aching in the morning. Rather, the aching led to the position you took while in bed. The body always looks for the posture of less strain.

You can trust your bones. They will not allow you to remain for long in a stance that is harmful to your wellbeing. Physicians learn early in their training that an uncomfortable gait or posture is a substitute for a more painful one.

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