

The Farmington Observer

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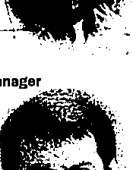
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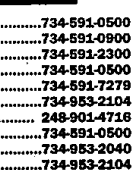
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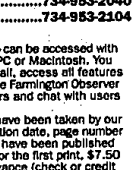
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The Farmington Observer

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Employee investigated in theft

The following reports were filed with the Farmington Hills Police and Fire Department during the past week:

VANDALISM

A coach at North Farmington High told police he heard a crash in a school hallway late Tuesday afternoon and found a vending machine that dispensed bottled water laying on its side. Three students approached his and asked what had happened. When he asked them what they were doing in the building, they said they'd been working out in the weight room, but they were wearing regular street clothes. Investigators were able to lift fingerprints from the machine. Damage was estimated at \$600.

WARRANT ARREST

After responding to a call about suspicious circumstances at St. Alexander's Church Friday morning, police ended up arresting a maintenance worker on several outstanding warrants. Around 7:30 a.m., someone reported the door to the church was open and it appeared no one was there. Officers arrived and met two men who said they were maintenance workers and had been in the building since 6:50 a.m. A routine background check turned-up a felony warrant for marijuana out of Canton and two other warrants on the 39-year-old Detroit man who was taken into custody.

FRAUD

A 36-year-old man from Suffolk, Va., who has been living in the area while working in Michigan, told police he'd received \$1,451 in debits made on his checking account. His bank advised him to report the incident to police.

A 59-year-old woman told police an employee of Dell Com-

puters called to report someone had tried to buy a computer in her name. The company obtained a phone number and called the woman, who reportedly lived in Detroit.

LARCENY

A resident in the 30000 block of Deerwood told police \$3,900 worth of jewelry had been stolen from her home, including diamond earrings, a heart pendant and bracelet. The only people who had access to her home when they turned up missing were with a cleaning service.

An employee of a business on Northwestern told police personal checks had been stolen from his desk drawer. All but one had been cashed at various businesses, for a total amount of \$1,025.

CHILD ABANDONMENT

A 24-year-old Southfield woman left a business on Orchard Lake Friday night and covered a small child had been left in a car outside. She reported the incident and the child was still there when police arrived 25 minutes later. Officers waited another five minutes before the child's mother, a 38-year-old Waterford woman, arrived. She said she had been in the store returning a sweater, but the lines were longer than she expected. She was ticketed for child abandonment.

CAR FIRE

Hills police and firefighters responded to a home on Stockton at 2:59 a.m. on Jan. 13, after two cars caught fire. Investigators believe the fire started in the engine compartment of a 1994 Buick, and flames from that car ignited the rear end of a 1994

Chevrolet parked in front of it. The owner had the Buick in for electrical repairs recently; however, a family member talked about being in a contentious lawsuit.

AUTO THEFT

A 36-year-old man who left his 1976 Chevrolet pick-up parked and unlocked in front of a business on Eight Mile Road reported the vehicle was stolen sometime Saturday morning.

Sometime between 8 p.m. Wednesday and 10:30 a.m. Thursday, someone entered a 2000 Cadillac parked in the 30000 block of 9 Mile Road and damaged the steering column.

Officers on patrol ran a check on a 1992 Pontiac Sunbird after the driver pulled into a turn lane where there was no place to turn on Eight Mile Road, then made a U-turn and headed onto Pearl. When they discovered the car had been recently stolen out of Radford, officers followed until the driver pulled into the emergency entrance at Botsford Hospital. The driver got out, explaining he was bringing a sick child in for care, but was ordered back into the vehicle to turn it off. The car was registered to a Canton resident; he claimed to have borrowed it from his aunt. The steering column appeared broken. The driver also gave police false information about his identity. He was taken into custody; his passenger, the child's mother, was released to care for the baby.

EMBEZZLEMENT

The manager of a gas station on Orchard Lake returned to the place at 7 p.m. Saturday to find the doors locked and the attendant missing, along with an estimated \$1,600 in cash. The 38-year-old Detroit man had been working at the station for about a week and came late to work at 11:30 a.m. for a shift that was supposed to end at 11 p.m.

Heroin

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to NET; likewise, a county deputy is assigned to SONIC. The Federal Bureau of Investigation and Drug Enforcement Administration have also played important roles, he said.

He cautions Hills residents not to read the back-to-back seizures of narcotics, weapons and cash as "bad news."

"I think this should be looked at as a positive," he said. "It doesn't mean there's any type of increase in narcotics in the city or county, it just means there's more direct coordination at the federal level, with the FBI and federal drug agency."

Dwyer believes having the sheriff control NET's day-to-day operations will result in better control over narcotics investigations.

"I think you're going to see more positive results with major suppliers and drug dealers being arrested," he said. However, Dwyer pointed out, residents also need to realize drugs are a part of the suburban picture, even in upscale neighborhoods like the Perrys'.

A veteran narcotics officer once in charge of the Detroit Police narcotics section, Dwyer said about 80 percent of the people in jail nationwide are there for crimes related in some way to drugs, whether its addiction or supply.

Oddly enough, one of the SONIC sergeants at the scene of Friday night's raid reported when they entered the house, a large-screen television was tuned to a news report about the Velasquez cocaine arrest, featuring Dwyer's appearance at a press conference that afternoon.

"I think this sends a strong message to people who are dealing drugs," Dwyer said of the record-breaking arrests. "Just because you live in a \$300,000 home does not mean you will escape law enforcement."

Dwyer added police will begin forfeiture proceedings against the Perry home and other items of value, under a law that allows police to seize belongings deemed to have come from narcotic crimes.

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