

# Robbery from page A1

first viewed the menu on the wall. One suspect acted as a lookout outside the store while the second suspect announced the robbery as soon as the customer left the store.

In addition to investigating the robbery, Farmington Hills detectives are reviewing state labor laws.

Dwyer hopes this incident will serve as a warning or reminder to other business owners.

A pizzeria driver who answered the phone at the store Monday said neither an owner or manager was available to comment.

"Actually there is no active manager here now," he said. Meanwhile police are seeking leads. Anyone with tips should call (248) 473-9695.

The department is offering a \$2,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the men.

The unknown suspect who pointed a small, black semi-automatic and removed the money from the register, was described as a black man, 18-20 years of age, 5 feet, 7 inches, medium build who wore a black hooded sweatshirt with the hood pulled

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up around his face. He fled on foot.

The lookout suspect was described as a black man, about 18 years of age, 6 feet, medium build, who wore a red sweat-shirt.

For more information, contact Dwyer at (248) 473-9692.



**Suspect: Police released this sketch of the pizzeria robbery suspect.**

# Shepherd gets 4-15 years for 'senseless' Orchard Mall death

BY DAN WEST  
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It was one year ago this week that Ayad Salmo died after he was hit by a car in West Bloomfield.

The man who drove that car will spend at least another three years in prison for his role in the Orchard Mall parking lot incident.

Oakland County Circuit Court Judge Gene Schnelz sentenced Jason Shepherd to four to 15 years in prison Wednesday, five weeks after a jury found the 20-year-old Warren man guilty of voluntary manslaughter. Schnelz gave Shepherd credit for the year he has sat in the Oakland County Jail thus far.

"I've been in this job 27 years and I've seen a lot of senseless crimes," Schnelz said. "There's no question this was a devastating thing, and to put it bluntly, this rates near the top of those senseless crimes."

After hearing a tearful explanation of her family's sorrow and

anger from Salmo's older sister, Susan, and regretful statements from Shepherd, Schnelz directed some blame to all those involved in the altercations in the mall parking lot the evening of May 7, 2000.

A group of young men were playing hockey in the lot when Shepherd's car, some players and the game ball came together while Shepherd drove to his job at Hillier's Market. After he parked his car, waiting to enter the store, some of the players attacked him and damaged his car with hockey sticks.

Shepherd retaliated by driving his car erratically around the parking lot until he struck Salmo, a 28-year-old Farmington Hills man who helped his father run two Detroit party stores.

Salmo was there watching the game and was not involved in the initial confrontation with Shepherd. He suffered serious head trauma and died four days later in a Pontiac hospital.

"All the young men involved in this matter reacted like macho men with no regard for the pos-

sible consequences," Schnelz said. "An innocent man lost his life because others cannot control themselves."

State sentencing guidelines call for three to six years in prison for those convicted of voluntary manslaughter.

"I am convinced the defendant didn't intend to kill but he put people in jeopardy with his actions," Schnelz said.

Greg Townsend, an assistant county prosecutor, said Shepherd will be eligible for parole after he serves the minimum amount of time ordered by the judge.

"Then the parole board must make a decision on whether he does more time or not," Townsend said. "I think the judge made some good comments in there and 4-to-15 years in prison is appropriate."

In addition to the jail term, Shepherd must pay the Salmo family \$15,000 in restitution to cover the Salmo family's funeral expenses.

## FHPD join robbery probe

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer announced Wednesday that his department along with the Department of Consumer and Industry Services has launched a joint investigation involving the owner of the Hungry Howie's Pizzeria at Nine Mile and Middlebelt. The agency was formerly referred to as the Labor

Department. "The investigation is quite involved," Dwyer said.

These are the same investigators who brought charges against the owner of the pizzeria in St. Clair County, Dwyer said.

This was the highly-publicized case in which Justin Mulrow, a pizzeria worker, was killed.

## FARMINGTON COMMUNITY LIBRARY NEWS - HILLS BRANCH

The Farmington Hills Library will hold a free Small Business Development Workshop at 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 16. Pat Salo, business consultant for

Michigan Small Business Development Center, and Sharon Vincent, reference librarian for Farmington Community Library will focus on setting goals, get-

ting started, and resources available through the Small Business Administration.

Pat Salo will cover how to focus your business idea and

start your market research through practice worksheets. She will offer tips for business funding, increasing sales, recruiting good employees, and successful marketing techniques.

In addition to sharing a selection of the many "how to" books on setting up and running a business available in the Entrepreneur Collection at the Farmington Community Library, Sharon Vincent will share a variety of resources available on the Internet.

She will also demonstrate Reference USA, a database available free through the Library that gives current, accurate and detailed business related information.

For more information call 653-0300.

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