

# Farmington Observer

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## Fast police work foils kidnapping plot

By MARY GNIEWEK

Farmington Hills police quashed an apparent kidnapping attempt Friday that had all the makings of a mystery spy thriller.

Gary Lee Kelley, 22, and Rick Scogon, 19, both of Salt Lake City, were arraigned Saturday morning and charged with two counts of kidnapping and conspiracy to kidnap.

A pretrial examination date will be set Monday by Judge Michael Hand of the 47th District Court in Farmington Hills. Bond was set at \$500,000 each.

Mr. and Mrs. Byung Park were stopped Friday by a gun-toting man who tried to force them into his car. They were leaving their home in the 11 Mile-Middlebelt road area for work. Park owns a shoe store in Detroit.

Mrs. Park wrestled herself free and retreated to her house, where she called police while her husband was hustled into the car with the gunman.

OFFICER WILLIAM Duffy, who was patrolling the neighborhood when he heard the police dispatcher's radio report, blocked the suspect's vehicle with his patrol car and arrested the

driver, Kelley, who lives in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Kelley had a loaded pistol and \$300 in his possession when he was arrested.

Park and his family were taken into protective custody by Farmington Hills police. Kelley was taken to the Oakland County Prosecutor's office in Pontiac by Police Chief John Nichols and Sgt. Al Havne.

According to Patterson, Kelley and two other men flew to Detroit from Utah on Thursday, rented two cars at Metropolitan Airport and drove to the

Holiday Inn in Southfield where they made overnight accommodations.

KELLEY TOLD POLICE his role in the plot masterminded three weeks ago in Utah was to drive the Parks, naturalized citizens from Korea, to the Chatham Square Shopping Center at 13 Mile and Middlebelt.

There he was to play for them a recorded message in Korean demanding a ransom of \$40,000 and threatening to kill the two young Park children if they failed to comply.

Southfield, Chicago, Salt Lake City,

Michigan State police, the Wayne County Sheriff's department and the Oakland County Organized Crime Task Force were called into the investigation.

Scogon was arrested Friday afternoon by task force members as he waited in line for a United Airlines flight to Chicago/Salt Lake City. He had been last man in line to board the flight.

INSUNG KIM, 30, a Korean from Salt Lake City, was arrested Friday when the airliner he was flying landed

in Denver. Police boarded the plane, which had left Detroit en route to Salt Lake City, and took him into custody. Police believe Kim masterminded the operation.

Conviction of kidnapping or conspiracy to kidnap carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment.

"I must compliment John Nichols and his department for outstanding police work," Patterson said. "Because of their extremely alert response, the plot was averted."

Patterson also complimented the crime strike force for moving quickly.

## South American connection

### Cops nab 4 in cocaine drug bust

By MARY GNIEWEK

More than eight pounds of cocaine valued at \$500,000 was confiscated in a raid conducted by Detroit narcotics officers assisted by Farmington Hills police at the Gateways Apartments, 12 Mile at Middlebelt, Thursday.

The Farmington Hills apartment where four arrests were made was one of four metropolitan area links in a South American to Florida to Detroit drug chain, according to police.

Other raids were conducted in Union Lake, Oak Park and Macomb County

Thursday. The Union Lake bust netted more than 150,000 quaaludes, 15 rifles and one handgun.

The raids were conducted between 7:30 p.m. and 9:45 p.m. under the direction of Sgt. Keith Miller of the Detroit narcotics squad.

Police had to force their way into the Farmington Hills apartment after they were refused entry. No shots were fired. Police also found \$10,000, one handgun and a pound of hashish at the address.

ARRAIGNED ON DRUG possession charges in Farmington District Court Friday afternoon were Szymen Aleksander Graj, a Polish citizen who lived at the apartment; Kenneth Pierce, 35, of Detroit; Thomas DiVozzo, 39, of Sterling Heights; and Brigida Vasilievich of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., a Peruvian citizen.

All four stood mute before 47th District Court Judge Margaret Schaefer, who entered pleas of innocent for all of the defendants.

Graj was charged with possession of 650 grams of cocaine, a felony punishable by life imprisonment. He is being held on \$100,000 bond in the Oakland County jail.

Pierce was charged with possession of 225 to 600 grams of cocaine, which carries a 20 to 30 year prison term on conviction. He was held on \$50,000 bond.

DiVozzo was charged with possession of 30 grams of cocaine, a four year and/or \$2,000 fine offense. Bond was set at \$5,000.

Vasilievich was charged with possession of marijuana, punishable by up to one year in prison and a \$1,000 fine. Her bond was set at \$2,500.

A pre-exam conference is scheduled Wednesday, July 2, at 1 p.m. in district court. A preliminary exam, which will determine if the case should be bound over for trial in Oakland County Circuit Court, is scheduled July 9 at 10 a.m.

Police began the investigation June 5 with information from informants. Sgt. Miller said the Farmington Hills police "gave great assistance" in the raid.

The drugs are being held by Detroit police.



Police raided one of the units at the Gateways Apartments at 12 Mile Road and Middlebelt on Thursday and arrested four suspects in a drug raid. (Staff photo)



Suspects in the drug case, (from left) Kenneth Pierce and Szymen Aleksander Graj, hide their faces from the cameras while leaving Farmington District Court. (Staff photo by Randy Borst)

## Elected local NOW president

### Music teacher fights bias by leading activist group

By LOUISE OKRUTSKY

In the past five years, Janet Evans has risen from being a new member of the Northwest Wayne County Chapter of the National Organization for Women (NOW) to its new president.

She's the organization's become more practiced in politics and more accepted as the mulepiece of the women's movement.

#### Driver charged in teen's death

A West Bloomfield man has been charged with manslaughter in the June 18 car/bicycle accident which killed a 15-year-old Novi teen.

Richard Storch, 38, stood mute at his arraignment before Farmington 47th District Court Judge Margaret G. Schaefer Thursday afternoon.

Manslaughter is punishable by a 15-year prison term.

A pre-exam conference is scheduled July 2 at 10 a.m. in district court.

According to Farmington Hills police, the car driven by Storch careened off of northbound Haggerty at Howard and hit two youths on bicycles at 8:50 p.m.

Dead at the scene was Thomas G. Ball, a student at Novi High School. His companion, Robert Milano, 15, also of Novi, was treated for injuries at Botsford Hospital and released.

But her work for equal rights for women didn't begin five years ago. The Farmington Hills resident says she's been a feminist all her life.

"I've always been a feminist and I guess I didn't know it," she said.

"My parents were very insistent that I get an education and be able to support myself."

Raised with the idea she should strive for independence, she began considering a career as a band director while attending junior high school.

"I argued with the band leader all through high school about whether I should take a major in music," Ms. Evans said.

IN SPITE of the discouraging reception to her plans, she went on to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in instrumental music from the University of Michigan. She earned the position of first oboist in the U of M Symphonic Band.

If times had been different when she graduated from college and if women had attained equality in the armed services, she might have tried to join the service. She might have joined one of the service bands and become eligible for post service benefits.

"They are denying all women these benefits," she said.

She sees women eventually becoming part of the draft as the number of young men declines in the post baby-boom years.



JANET EVANS

"There aren't enough young men to defend the country properly," she said.

Although she wants equality in the draft, she sees drafting young persons as a step toward war. As with other feminists, Ms. Evans decries war as a "destructive act."

ONCE OUT OF SCHOOL she was confronted with the fact that like service in the army, band directorships were considered a male job.

She taught vocal and instrumental groups in the South Redford School system for 14 years. In her 15th and last

year in the district she was appointed band and orchestra director at Marshall Elementary School.

Her subsequent layoff from that post led to her decision to file suit against what she believes to be discrimination in employment.

"It was shortly after that move when she joined NOW with her husband's encouragement."

While still a new member she became involved in the group's education task force.

"I wanted to become an integral part of the organization right away."

She wanted a support group of women. She admits that she was looking for new friends.

As president of the chapter, she's helping other women, both members and non-members who are seeking the same support. Her group is involved in setting up a shelter for abused wives in Wayne-Westland. Earlier this spring she donned white and marched in Chicago to urge the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment in Illinois.

ALTHOUGH that march didn't lead to the amendment's ratification in the state, she plans to continue working for passage of ERA.

"It's an umbrella protecting us. Otherwise they can take everything away from us. It's like a contract," she said.

"ERA is an economic issue. In employment women are paid 59 cents to every dollar for men."

She supports ironing out the inequities in the social security system and in

pension systems. She believes that homemakers should receive social security benefits for their labor. Widows shouldn't receive a smaller pension after the husband-breadwinner's death.

Supporting ERA doesn't automatically mean a vote for abortion, she adds.

But she supports the idea of having abortion available to women who want it for medical or personal reasons.

"That decision should be between you, your husband, your physician, your God," she said.

There should be funds for poor women who can't afford the procedure, she said.

She dismisses as "groundless" fears that the passage of ERA would destroy the family. "The natural rhythm of life is not going to be interrupted," she said.

IN WORKING TO attain passage of ERA, the feminist movement and NOW in particular have become more politically sophisticated in the last five years, Ms. Evans said.

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### WE GET LETTERS

Farmington area residents felt like writing letters to the editor this week. They had some interesting things to say. To see what's on your neighbors' minds, turn to Page 9B.