

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police and fire calls received during the past week:

● TACO BELL ROBBED
A man who implied he had a gun robbed a Taco Bell of \$214 Friday afternoon, Farmington Hills Police said. No one was injured in the 4:45 p.m. stickup at the Taco Bell, 27740 Grand River, police said.
According to the police report, a man — who looked to be in his late 20s and who was wearing a long green army jacket — placed a food order, then climbed over the counter. After ordering one employee into the cooler and another to lie on the floor, he directed the manager to hand over money. After putting the money in a Taco Bell bag, he fled on foot to the north.

No gun was seen, but the victims said it appeared he had one by the way the robber held his hand in his jacket pocket.

Witnesses said they saw a man matching the robber's description get into a red van waiting nearby. The van then headed north on Inkster, police said.

● RESIDENT ROBBED
A man and a woman allegedly beat a 53-year-old man with an iron rod, then robbed him of \$700 in his Farmington Hills home early Saturday.
The victim, who sustained head and arm injuries, was treated at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills Police said.
According to the police report, the victim let in the female suspect, whom

he knew. The male suspect charged in soon after and allegedly punched the victim, then beat him with an iron rod. The assailants then ransacked the victim's bedroom and took the money.

● TEENS TICKETED
Four young people were ticketed Friday night for alleged illegal possession of alcohol (whiskey).
The four — a 19-year-old from Livonia, an 18-year-old from Northville and two 15-year-olds from Livonia — were ticketed in the parking lot at Putt 'n' Games, 30749 Grand River, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

● STORE FIRE
A fire that broke out shortly before 10 a.m. Dec. 30 at Abode Furniture, 33322 12 Mile, caused about \$2,700 in

damage to a couch and the store's two front windows, according to Farmington Hills fire officials.

● THEFTS REPORTED
Several thefts were reported to area police agencies:
Jewelry, a camera, a radio and cash valued at \$1,685 was reported stolen from a house on Doreen Dec. 31.
Stereo equipment and a VCR valued at \$2,350 were reported stolen from a house on St. Francis Dec. 21.
A color television valued at \$250 was reported stolen from a room at the Williamsburg Convalescent Center, 21017 Middlebelt, sometime Dec. 22-23.
An AM/FM stereo radio/clock valued at \$700 was reported stolen from a

car parked at Dick Greene Chrysler Plymouth, 29301 Grand River, sometime Dec. 8-23.

A snowblower and tools valued at \$600 was reported stolen from a storage room at Williamsburg Convalescent Center, 21017 Middlebelt, sometime Dec. 8-23.

Cash and a cash register were reported stolen from Romano's Pizza, 29275 14 Mile, Dec. 28.

Cash and an AM/FM cassette player were reported stolen from the Franklin Tailor Shoppe, 29295 14 Mile, Dec. 28.

A case of beer was reported stolen from Lawson's, 20750 Farmington, sometime Dec. 29.

Two cars were reported stolen from Farmington businesses Dec. 29 — a 1981 Pontiac Firebird from the lot at the Farmington Bakery, 33250 Grand River, and a 1983 Camaro Z-28 from the lot of the Rustic Pub, 31030 Grand River.

A fake fur coat, hat and gloves were reported stolen from Jan's Bel-Aire Beauty Salon, 24109 Orchard Lake, Dec. 27.

Twelve headlamps valued at \$450 were reported stolen from S&G Auto Parts, 32214 8 Mile, Dec. 30.

Safety belts help slice road deaths

Traffic accidents in Michigan killed 47 fewer vehicle occupants in the first five months of the state's safety belt use law compared to the same period in 1984, despite a moderate increase in November fatalities, according to figures released by the Michigan State Police.

The overall downward trend of fatalities on Michigan's highways since the safety belt use law went into effect, he said.

The Michigan State Police emphasized that fatality figures for 1985 are provisional and are subject to revision. "The safety belt use law is saving lives in Michigan," said Thomas Reel, executive secretary of the Michigan Coalition for Safety Belt Use. "Of course, we would like to see continued monthly reductions, but we feel that the list of fatalities in November would have been even longer were it not for safety belts."

The Michigan Coalition for Safety Belt Use, a non-profit organization based in Lansing, is an alliance of health and medical associations, safety and insurance groups, law enforcement organizations, state agencies, and private organizations dedicated to promoting the use of safety belts as a means of saving lives on Michigan highways.

In addition to Michigan, 15 other states have passed safety belt use laws. These include: California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Illinois, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oklahoma and Texas.

Where safety belts were available to occupants, 91 people died in traffic accidents in November compared to 87 deaths in November 1984. State police noted that a rash of multiple-fatality collisions and an extra weekend in November 1985 partially accounted for the higher death toll.
Three multiple-fatality crashes — two involving a train and a car and one involving a van and a car — claimed the lives of 15 people in one weekend alone in November, according to the state police reports.
"Given the extraordinary circumstances of this past November, along with the fact that the number of automobile accidents are up substantially from 1984, it's clear that safety belts are preventing deaths and serious injury," said Capt. Kenneth Casperson, commanding officer of the Traffic Services Division of the Michigan State Police.
"November's increase doesn't reflect

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