

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police, fire and court cases filed during the past week.

UNDERAGE DRINKING

Two teenagers, an 18-year-old woman from Redford Township and a 17-year-old man from Farmington Hills, were ticketed under Farmington Hills' house party ordinance for hosting a party at the Red Roof Inn where minors were reported to be drinking, police said.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:
Acting on a tip, officers responded to two rooms at the Red Roof Inn, 24300 Sinclair Court, Jan. 22. There they found more than 20 young people, ages 15-22, amid empty beer cans and containers of wine and vodka.

The two teens who rented the rooms were ticketed for hosting a party where they knew underage drinking was occurring but failing to stop it. No one was highly intoxicated and everyone was very cooperative. Other partygoers were warned and released.

The teens were from Farmington Hills, Redford Township, Walled Lake and Milford.

STRONG-ARM ROBBERY

A woman in her 30s who lives at the Gateway Apartments was robbed of clothing and tools by two men who entered her apartment uninvited after she answered a knock on the door at 10 a.m. Jan. 24.

The woman was roughed up but not seriously injured. No weapon was seen.

The men left with clothing and tools after demanding money. They were thought to be in their 20s or 30s, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

TICKETS ISSUED

An 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for possessing beer following a traffic stop on Ridgebrook Jan. 24, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

THEFTS REPORTED

Tools valued at \$3,000 were reported stolen from a storage bin at an apartment on Kingsgate Way Jan. 10, 74.

A gas engine valued at \$125 was reported stolen from a shed on Pillsbury between Dec. 25 and Jan. 22.

A radar detector valued at \$130 was reported stolen from a car parked at Farmington Square Condos Jan. 21-22.

Lumber valued at \$800 was reported stolen from a house under construction on Fleetwood Jan. 21-22.

Two color TVs, a VCR and a stereo valued at \$2,800 were reported stolen from a house on Dunganran Court Jan. 22.

An in-dash radio valued at \$500 was reported stolen from a car parked at Orchard Creek Apartments Jan. 22.

An in-dash radio valued at \$300 was reported stolen from a car parked at Faith Covenant Church, 35414 14 Mile, Jan. 22-23.

An equalizer, snow skis and roller skates valued at \$650 were reported stolen from a house on Hamilton Jan. 22-23.

Cassette tapes and a cassette holder valued at \$100 were reported stolen from a car parked on Barwell Jan. 23.

An AM/FM cassette stereo valued at \$800 was reported stolen from a car parked at Chatham Hills Apartments Jan. 23-24.

An oscillating light and a siren valued at \$270 were reported stolen from a car parked at Cordeba Apartments Jan. 24.

C'ville to mull new buses

By Philip A. Sherman
Staff writer

A proposal to replace the Clarenceville School District's aging bus fleet will be presented to the school board tonight, according to Ralph Skrocki, the district's new assistant superintendent for business affairs.

Skrocki replaced Edward Saliz, who retired last year.

"We have a five-year replacement program on paper at this time," Skrocki said. "It will go to the superintendent (Michael Shabler) first and then to the board. We have quite a few buses that need quite a bit of work."

Last month, Saliz said that of 15 buses in the fleet, 10 are between seven and 12 years old.

He told the board of the buses, bought in 1975, have rusted to the

point where they will not pass a state vehicle inspection.

Two of the buses have mileage as high as 80,000 and 91,000. A third has traveled more than 100,000 miles, Skrocki said.

"We do not put a bus on the road that is not safe. We are diligently working to have our buses in top shape," Skrocki said, noting a full-time mechanic is making repairs and moving toward a preventive maintenance program. He added no accidents have occurred as a result of bus conditions.

IT WILL cost an estimated \$30,000 to replace each bus with a new diesel counterpart, Skrocki said.

He declined to estimate the cost of the five-year proposal, saying the numbers would vary depending on whether it is a cash or financed purchase.

"And I'd hate to have the superintendent or board members be the last to know," Skrocki said, meaning he didn't want the figures released before the board meeting.

Saliz said last month that the district's tight budget meant money wasn't available to replace the older vehicles on a more timely basis.

The district could have traded in nine buses and received nine new buses on a lease arrangement with payments averaging \$50,000 annually, he added.

Skrocki said one of his alternate proposals includes investigating a lease arrangement.

Each school bus is designated a 65-passenger vehicle; the mini-bus is designed for 35 passengers, Skrocki said.

The Clarenceville school district covers portions of Livonia, Farmington Hills and Redford Township.

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