

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

● 'BABY ELEPHANT' TAKEN

A \$250 reward will be paid, no questions asked, for the return of a fiberglass baby elephant, stolen Sunday morning from Putt-Putt Golf & Games in Farmington.

"I only had it one evening," manager Richard Milton said. "It was so darn cute little kids were petting it."

The 50-pound, 3-foot-tall gray statue was taken between 1:30-6 a.m. Sunday from Golf Course 3 at the complex, 3049 Grand River.

The baby elephant was one of nine animal statues just delivered "in an attempt to really drive this golf course," Milton said.

He hadn't had a chance to secure them when the baby elephant, "the cutest animal we had," was stolen.

"It was sitting out next to a big mama elephant that's now awfully lonesome," Milton said. "It's really kind of sad."

The other animals — giraffes, parrots, zebra, turtles — have since been anchored to the ground. Milton is confident it'll eventually turn up. Pictures have been posted at Putt-Putt, asking "Have you seen my baby?" Call Milton at 471-4700.

● PATIO FIRE

Damage to the outside of a house on the 22000 block of Insubbrook was estimated at \$13,000 when a patio barbecue grill malfunctioned about 6 p.m. Wednesday, investigators said.

The fire "probably was the result of a leak in the area of the regulator," said Deputy Chief Peter Baldwin of the Farmington Fire Department.

The homeowner reported flames reaching from the propane tank as high as the patio door. Firefighters cooled the tank, turned it off and removed it from the patio, Baldwin said.

● MAN SENTENCED

A 20-year-old Detroit man is headed to prison after pleading guilty to four counts of robbing Oakland County inns. Two of the inns are in Farmington Hills. Others are in Southfield and Bloomfield Township.

Oakland County Circuit Judge James Thorburn sentenced William Wheeler Thursday to 8 to 15 years in prison on each count. The time will be served concurrently.

A plea bargain resulted in Wheeler pleading guilty to four counts of armed robbery in exchange for the dropping of three additional charges: a larceny over \$100 in Troy, an attempted robbery in Southfield and an armed robbery in Farmington Hills, assistant prosecutor Charles Spiekerman said.

At his arraignment March 6, Wheeler told District Judge Margaret Schaeffer of Farmington he was a crack cocaine user "and hoped to get some treatment."

Farmington Hills police Chief William Dwyer said. Farmington Hills officers arrested Wheeler about noon March 5, shortly after he left the Skyline Inn, 21100 Haggerty. He matched the description of the robber in several inn robberies.

At the time of his arrest, 21 Detroit-area inns had been robbed since Feb. 13. In Oakland County, he was charged with five of the robberies. The larceny charge stemmed from a January incident in Troy.

● THEFTS REPORTED

A bicycle valued at \$100 was reported stolen from a bike rack at Warner Middle School, 30303 14 Mile, May 27.

Tools valued at \$250 were reported stolen from a house on Independence May 27-30.

A 1986 Buick LaSalle valued at \$5,000 was reported stolen from Arborview Office Park, 12 Mile and Farmington Road, May 27-31. It was recovered in Detroit.

A 1985 AMC Jeep valued at \$3,200 was reported stolen from Atwood Automotive, 34405 12 Mile, between May 27 and June 2.

Two VCRs, two telephones and clothing valued at \$9,400 were reported stolen from Gateway Apartments May 28-30.

A 1985 Ford Bronco valued at \$7,200 was reported stolen from Newport Creek Apartments May 29-30.

Copper wire valued at \$2,500 was reported stolen from the Edison Ravine Substation, 30245 Orchard Lake, between May 31 and June 2.

A bicycle was reported stolen from outside a house on Chestnutbrook between May 31 and June 1.

A 1987 Pontiac Trans-Am valued at \$14,983 was reported stolen from Prototype Automotive, 24700 N. Industrial, June 2.

● TICKETS ISSUED

An 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for trespassing on school property when found at North Farmington High, 32900 13 Mile, May 27.

A 17-year-old Southfield man was ticketed for possessing wine cooler during a traffic stop at Halsted and Grand River May 27.

An 18-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for open burning when a bonfire was found in a field behind a house on Rollercrest May 29.

A 34-year-old Lansing man was ticketed for indecent exposure at Waldron Park May 29.

A 20-year-old Livonia man was ticketed for possessing beer during a traffic stop at Orchard Lake Road and 10 Mile May 30.

An 18-year-old Farmington Hills woman was ticketed for maintaining a disorderly party following a report of a loud party on Euclid May 30.

A 56-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for unlawful discharge of a firearm within 100 yards of a residence when a pellet gun was fired from a yard on LaMueira May 30.

A 19-year-old Dearborn Heights man was ticketed for possessing alcohol while in a car parked behind Hong Kong Restaurant, 31230 Grand River, May 31.

A 29-year-old West Bloomfield man was ticketed for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle when beer was found during a traffic stop at Crowley's Plaza June 1.

A 17-year-old Farmington Hills man was ticketed for transporting alcohol in a motor vehicle June 1 after a traffic stop in Farmington.

A 28-year-old Detroit man was ticketed for open intoxicants in a motor vehicle June 1 after a traffic stop in Farmington.

● DAMAGE REPORTED

Damage was estimated at \$120 when three mailboxes and posts were knocked over in front of houses on Springvale May 27-28.

Veep is elected for youth group

James Jonas, chief operating officer for Kaftan Enterprises in Southfield, was elected vice president of the volunteer board of directors for Big Brothers/Big Sisters.

The Farmington Hills resident is active in his synagogue and is a past president of Temple Israel, West Bloomfield.

Jonas is a graduate of Wayne State University and is a certified public accountant. Big Brothers/Big Sisters through May 1989.

vides adult friendship to young people ages 8-12 from single-parent families. The agency's objective is to offer children an opportunity for personal growth and development through the friendship of a trained and supervised volunteer Big Brother or Big Sister who spends time with a boy or girl on a one-to-one basis.

Jonas will serve as vice president of Big Brothers/Big Sisters through May 1989.



James Jonas

Botsford tailors program for people 50 and older

Botsford General Hospital is taking action by offering a complete set of programs and services for people ages 50 and over.

The Farmington Hills hospital's programs address all areas of health care for older adults — physical, mental and social.

ElderMed at Botsford, a free membership program, offers the broadest range of services. Included are health education and screening programs, a mail-order pharmacy, service, retail discounts and medical savings.

"It's important for seniors to understand their changing health care needs," said Nancy Torkeo, the ElderMed program coordinator at Botsford. "Botsford is developing programs and activities to teach members how to help themselves."

There is also a growing need for specialized counseling and mental health services for older adults. Addressing this need, Botsford has im-

plemented alcohol and substance abuse programs specific to the age group. An Inpatient Geropsychiatric Unit has also been opened for short-term treatment of mental illness.

Other programs include physical rehabilitation services for treatment of stroke victims, orthopedic patients, arthritis and neurological disorders, as well as comprehensive cardiology programs.

Table Topics Club is a community

outreach program designed for older adults. It consists of monthly luncheon seminars on topics of special interest to senior citizens.

Health Ride/Health Match is also part of Botsford's offerings. Health Ride provides free, door-to-door transportation to those who need to visit a Botsford physician or use hospital services. Health Match matches patients with Botsford physicians based on medical needs and location.

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