

police/fire calls

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

MAN SENTENCED

A Farmington Hills fire repair contractor was sentenced to five years in prison and fined \$10,000 Thursday after pleading guilty to one count each of arson, mail fraud and filing a false tax document.

U.S. District Judge Julian Cook of Detroit sentenced Sanford Zack, 64,

to five years on counts one and two and three years on count three. All sentences are to run concurrently.

According to the U.S. District Attorney's Office:

The first count stems from the 1985 torching of a San Francisco bar, the Arson, which Zack had a hidden ownership interest in.

The second count stems from the causing of additional damage after the 1983 torching of a house in Detroit. The prime victim of the arson was the insurance company.

The third count relates to the filing of a false tax return, where business expenses were inflated by \$24,000. The return involved Zack's 1984 individual income tax return.

Zack agreed to plead guilty and cooperate with task force investigators in exchange for a sentence cap not to exceed five years.

Zack was among 11 people indicted in October in connection with the charges of fraud and arson for profit. The new indictments brought to 30 the number of cases arising from investigations by the Michigan Joint Arson Task Force, a consortium of state and federal law enforcement agencies.

CAR HITS HOUSE

The 16-year-old driver escaped injury when a car left a neighborhood road on a curve early Friday and struck the front of a house.

According to Farmington Hills police:

The Farmington Hills teenager was southbound on Springbrook, near Brookview, at 7:15 a.m. when he failed to negotiate a curve. His car left the south side of the road, bounced off a tree and struck the front porch and steps of a house 200 feet away.

A young couple asleep in the two-story house was awakened by a large crashing sound, said officer Don Fradette of the Farmington Hills Police Department Traffic Section.

Investigation into the accident's cause continued Friday.

OUT OF CONTROL

Four cars were damaged before a 25-year-old woman from Wayne drove into a house on the 2000 block of Farmington Road Dec. 14.

According to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report, the incident occurred about 5 p.m. as the driver turned onto Chesley from

southbound Farmington Road.

Her car first struck a parked car, forcing that car into another. Continuing on, her car struck a fourth car before hitting the back wall of the house.

No major injuries were reported.

The cause continued to be investigated Friday.

THEFTS REPORTED

A VCR and jewelry valued at \$300 were reported stolen from a house on Rockwell Dec. 11.

Jewelry and a VCR valued at \$1,000 were reported stolen from a house on Purdie Dec. 11.

A 1987 Chevrolet IIROC valued at \$10,000 was reported stolen from Timberidge Apartments Dec. 11-12.

Cash was reported stolen in a break-in at Gas & Go, 35355 Grand River, Farmington, Dec. 11-12. Damage to the building was estimated at \$150.

A minik jacket, a VCR and jewelry valued at \$6,350 were reported stolen from a house on Metroview Dec. 12.

A 10-speed bicycle and a bench grinder valued at \$240 were reported stolen from a garage on St. Mary's Court in Farmington Dec. 12.

A snow thrower valued at \$300 was reported stolen from a garage on Tall Pine in Farmington Dec. 13.

Computer equipment valued at \$4,000 was reported stolen from a suite at Northwestern Financial Center, 30833 Northwestern Highway, Dec. 12-13.

A VCR and a microwave oven were reported stolen from a house on Rockwell Dec. 13.

A 1984 Buick Regal was reported stolen from along Creekside Dec. 13-14.

Wheel covers valued at \$300 were reported stolen from a car in the lot of K mart, 37175 Grand River, Farmington, Dec. 14-15.

A 1989 Chevrolet Blazer valued at \$18,000 was reported stolen from Maple Ridge Apartments Dec. 15.

A color TV, two VCRs and jewelry valued at \$1,250 were reported stolen from a house on Comaught Dec. 15.

A VCR valued at \$250 was reported stolen from a house on Southfarm Dec. 15.

DAMAGE REPORTED

Damage was estimated at \$350 per car when windows were broken in 22 cars parked at Bob Saks Olds, 35300 Grand River, Dec. 14. Four cars also were broken into and property stolen.

TICKETS ISSUED

A 26-year-old Canton Township man was ticketed for possessing marijuana during a traffic stop at Halsted and 11 Mile Dec. 9.

Two 18-year-old Livonia men were ticketed for possessing marijuana during a traffic stop at the Holiday Inn of Farmington Hills, 38123 10 Mile, Dec. 9.

A 19-year-old Redford Township man was ticketed for using fraudulent identification to buy a case of beer at 7-Eleven, 22689 Farmington, Dec. 10.

A 22-year-old Wolverine Lake man was ticketed for possessing marijuana during a traffic stop at Herndonwood and 12 Mile Dec. 10.

Two 19-year-old Detroit men were ticketed for possessing marijuana after officers responded to a report of "a dope deal going down" in a room at the Red Roof Inn, 24300 Sinacola Court, Dec. 11.

A 27-year-old Livonia man was ticketed for possessing marijuana during a traffic stop on Grand River and Eight Mile Dec. 11.

carrier of the month Farmington



Randi Ellsworth

Twelve-year-old Randi Ellsworth of Farmington Hills was named the Farmington Observer's Carrier of the Month for December.

She has delivered the Observer in Franklin Knolls subdivision, near Middlebelt and Northwestern Highway, since April 1, 1987.

The Warner Middle School seventh grader's favorite subjects are math, band, music and shop.

Her hobbies include basketball, swimming, shopping and reading. Randi belongs to the Girl Scouts and is a member of Warner's band and choir. She plays the piano and the oboe.

Getting to know people and earning money are two of the things she has learned on her newspaper route.

If you want to be a Farmington Observer carrier, please call 591-0500

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills City Council
Farmington Hills City Hall
Council Chambers
31535 11 Mile
7:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19

The Economic Development Corporation's annual report will be presented by EDC chairman Robert McConnell and Richard Sporer of Plante & Moran CPAs.

Also on the agenda is a review of the Meadowridge Condominium project, including the concerns of residents who live adjacent to the project.

Five enactments of zoning map amendments are slated for action, plus two enactments of zoning text amendments.

City manager William Costick will give an update report on the status of the city's "Year 2000" plan.

Farmington City Council
Council Chambers
23500 Liberty
8 p.m. Monday, Dec. 19

Discussion of the remodeling of the general offices at city hall is slated. Also on the agenda is a proposed lot split for lot 88 of the

Brookdale Subdivision.

Other items include:

• renewal of taxicab license.

• discussion of delinquent property taxes.

• extended purchase program with the state.

• contractor payments.

• contract for cleaning public safety uniforms.

• appointment to the board of review.

• tabled and new petitions for sign variances.

Promotion Subcommittee
Downtown Development Authority
DDA offices, 33201 Grand River
8 a.m. Tuesday, Dec. 20

General discussion about promotional activities of the DDA.

Farmington Board of Education
Schulman Administrative Center
32500 Shawwassee
7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 20

Representatives from architectural Greiner, Inc. of Grand Rapids will give an update on the facade renovation at Farmington High School.

Also on the agenda is the appointment for assistant principal at North Farmington High School and award of bids for lighting and control panel at North Farmington auditorium.

The residents of Baptist Manor in Farmington Hills will get a special lift out of this year's holiday concert program at North Farmington High School.

The seniors attend the school's program each year, but this year have an added bonus: a ride to the event. According to North Farmington principal Don Cowan, a school

bus will pick up residents at 7 p.m. Wednesday, take them to the program, and return them home.

"Many of these residents have been attending our concerts over the years," he said, "however they often have expressed concern over driving at night. Hopefully, . . . this will allow more senior citizens an opportunity to enjoy our students at North Farmington."

Manor residents will ride to concert in school bus

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The Farmington Observer

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