

police/fire calls

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

VEHICLES RECOVERED

Three vehicles stolen from Leo Adler Nissan Used Cars, 28200 Eight Mile, were recovered within two hours in Lathrup Village and Redford Township early Sunday. A Ferndale woman westbound on Eight Mile at 12:45 a.m. saw a van occupied by two men leave the driveway at Leo Adler Nissan, go across Eight Mile and head south on Angling.

She swerved to try to avoid a trailing Samurai but it hit her car. The Samurai also headed south on Angling.

Another Samurai and a Jeep pickup also pulled out of Leo Adler and went the same direction as the other two vehicles.

Livonia police arrested two teen-

age drivers who ran after a Samurai and a Jeep pickup were stopped at separate places and times in Redford Township, Lathrup Village police arrested the teenage driver after chasing a Samurai, according to Farmington Hills police reports.

GUARD THREATENED

A shoplifting in downtown Farmington turned into an assault with a knife Friday when a security guard tried to stop a woman from stuffing clothing into large plastic bags.

According to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report: A security guard at T.J. Maxx, 3049 Grand River, saw a woman taking clothing from a rack and putting it into trash bags.

As the guard tried to stop the woman, she pulled a knife from her pocket and slashed and jabbed at the guard, making verbal threats. The guard sought treatment for minor cuts at Henry Ford Hospital, West Bloomfield.

The shoplifter and an accomplice fled before police arrived. It was estimated they got away with 3-4 trash bags full of clothing worth several hundred dollars.

CAT BURGLAR HITS

A cat burglar took a telephone from the living room and a cellular telephone from a car parked in the garage during a break-in at a house on Wilberpe at 3 a.m. Sunday.

A resident asleep upstairs heard her bedroom door open and saw someone shining a bright light. When she sat up in bed, she heard someone walking around downstairs. She then activated the audible panic alarm.

When she went downstairs, she saw the balcony doors open and the family room telephone off the hook, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

COCAINE OFFERED

A motorist who pulled alongside two men walking on Tulane, near

Liberty, at 10:10 p.m. Saturday asked them if they wanted to buy crack cocaine.

When the men, ages 23 and 31, said no, the driver implied he had a gun and would use it. But he then continued toward Grand River.

No gun or drugs were seen. The two males inside the car were thought to be teenagers, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

HOST LIABILITY

An 18-year-old man was ticketed under Farmington Hills' host liability ordinance when police responding to a loud party complaint found several minors drinking alcoholic beverages.

Officers found more than 100 young people in the yard of a house on Truck near Eldred at 11:30 p.m. Friday. Six with cans of beer said they were 18 years old. The party was broken up, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

THEFTS REPORTED

Jewelry valued at \$915 was reported stolen from an apartment at Greenhill Apartments, Farmington Hills, between March 27 and April 5.

A TV and a necklace valued at \$411 were reported stolen from a house on Thornbrook, Farmington Hills, March 27.

A VCR, a color TV, a telephone-answering machine, a personal computer, a CD player and jewelry of undetermined value were reported stolen from an apartment on Woodridge in Mulwood Apartments, Farmington Hills, April 22-23.

A radar detector valued at \$250 was reported stolen from a car parked on Loomis near Power, in Farmington, April 22-23. An estimated \$100 in damage was also reported.

A TV, a two-radio and three telephones valued at \$2,069 were reported stolen from Statewide Roofing, 20819 Whitlock, Farmington Hills, April 22-24.

About \$1,300 was reported stolen from an apartment at Independence Green, Farmington Hills, April 24.

ROCK THROWN

Damage was estimated at \$500 Saturday night when rocks were used to break a second-floor window of a house on Springbrook and the windshield of a pickup parked in the driveway.

A light-colored station wagon was seen backing out of the driveway at 10:55 p.m., according to a Farmington Hills police report.

BB FIRED

Damage was estimated at \$250 when a BB shattered the plate glass window in the gatehouse at Legends Trail Condos on Halsted and 14 Mile April 11-21.

After arrest, courts direct course of case

The following information is provided by the Farmington Department of Public Safety, which incorporates both fire and police protection for residents of the city of Farmington. Residents or businesspeople with questions, concerns or suggestions should contact the department at 473-7262.

By Commander Chuck Lee
special writer

From arrest to final disposition, a case moving through our criminal justice system may take just a few weeks, or many months or years, to be decided.

What can a person arrested and charged with a felony crime expect from the court system? Last week, we focused on the details of the arrest procedure. Following is gener-

ally how a case proceeds through court:

• At your arraignment, you can request the court appoint an attorney to represent you. At some later time, you may be required to pay for the attorney fees.

• There will be a preliminary hearing, or examination, on your case in trial in Oakland County Circuit Court. In circuit court, you will be arraigned on charges brought from 47th District Court and will be asked to plead guilty or not guilty or to stand mute.

• If you decide to have a trial, you may request that a jury hear the case or that it be heard only by the judge, who will determine your guilt or innocence. At the trial, the prosecutor must prove your guilt beyond any reasonable doubt.

• If found guilty by trial, or if you plead guilty, the judge will order the court's probation department to do a presentence investigation and evaluation. They will look into your background, your employment status,

your living conditions, then evaluate the information as it relates to sentencing.

• In court prior to sentencing, victims will be allowed to comment on the possible sentence, and the court will allow you to speak or have character witnesses speak on your behalf.

• Sentencing could include time in the Oakland County Jail of up to one year, or a term in a state prison. You may be placed on probation and have to pay fines, court costs, restitution and serve community service.

• While FACING criminal charges, you have a number of rights. All are contained in the Constitution and are too numerous to mention, but here are a few:

• You do not have to make any incriminating statement that can be used against you later.

• You have the right to be represented by a lawyer, even if you cannot afford to hire one yourself.

• You have the right to request a reasonable bond.

• You have a right to a speedy trial. You have a right to a preliminary examination on any felony charge brought against you. If you are in jail awaiting trial, you must be tried within 180 days.

• While in police custody, you get to make at least one phone call.

• You have the right to be confronted by all witnesses against you

at trial and have the right to question those who testify against you.



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