

Seized

Holiday yields haul of illegal fireworks

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Police and fire agencies in the Farmington area received nearly 100 complaints about illegal fireworks over the Fourth of July holiday, causing them to issue misdemeanor tickets to 17 residents.

In Farmington Hills, a resident of East King William Drive in Dunbar Oaks subdivision was ticketed and more than \$500 in illegal fireworks confiscated — the largest amount ever confiscated from one location, according to fire officials.

Types of materials confiscated ranged from \$30 mortar-type shells to cherry bombs, bottle rockets and firecrackers — all illegal.

Officials said they were not aware of any injuries relating to the fireworks, and no fires were reported. Under local ordinance, conviction of illegal use or possession of fireworks can bring a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Farmington public safety director Frank Lauboff said the weekend activity in his city was normal for the holiday. Half a dozen complaints were made on the Fourth of July and records show another four were logged during the previous weekend. Three people received misdemeanor tickets and a small amount of illegal fireworks were confiscated, he said.

IN FARMINGTON HILLS, police records showed some 80 complaints logged from residents between July 4 — considered a four-day holiday weekend. Fourteen adults were ticketed in 20 incidents with most of the activity occurring on Tuesday, deputy fire chief Peter Baldwin said.

Complaints were down, but ticketing up from last year when a task force of fire and police personnel logged 144 fireworks incidents resulting in misdemeanor tickets to 11 adults in the Hills.

People were cooperative with fire officials, even though most know what they're doing is wrong. "People are very knowledgeable of what they are doing," Baldwin said. "But they may not be aware of the potential danger. We were fortunate we didn't have any fires relating to these."

Neither Farmington nor Farmington Hills issue permits for individuals to set-off fireworks. Both follow fireworks guidelines set by the Michigan State Police.

One dangerous Independence Day incident occurred in 1985 in Farmington Hills, when a bottle rocket went through a window at a house on Arden Park and started a fire that gutted the bedroom and caused \$30,000 in damage.

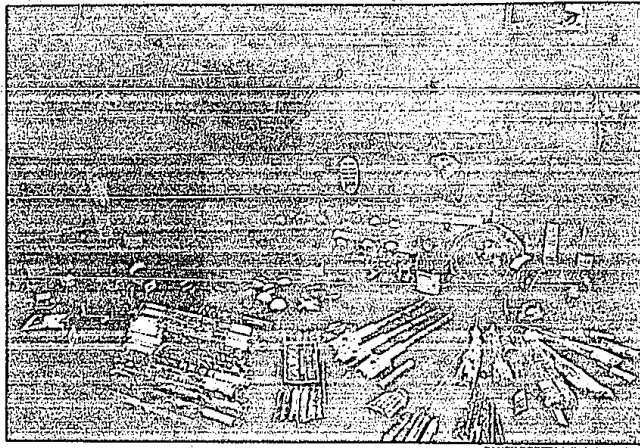
ALTHOUGH NO injuries or major damage were reported in the Farmington area due to fireworks incidents this year, an average of 10,000 such injuries occur annually in the United States.

Baldwin likened using fireworks to mishandling firearms, shooting them off randomly. "There is a clear and present danger in the use of these things," he said. "The money could be put to better use for a community display. Things would be safer."

Farmington Hills fire officials are expected to contact the Michigan State Police for help in disposing of the illegal fireworks after they are used as evidence in court cases. "We want to make sure they are not improperly used," Baldwin added.

Fireworks that send a projectile into the air or that spin, twist or emit an audible signal (other than toy popper trick noisemakers) are illegal for general sale and use in Michigan unless local permits are obtained.

The only fireworks that can be sold at the retail level and used by the public are toy paper caps, toy snakes, toy smoke devices, toy trick noisemakers, wire sparklers (size no. 14 or less), filter sparklers and both cone and cylinder fountains.



Firefighters Leo Panoushek (left) and Leo Strickfaden look over a collection of confiscated illegal fireworks at the Farmington Hills Fire Department headquarters. Seized July 4, the fireworks were intended to be used as part of a display given for Dunbar Oaks residents. The pyrotechnics are valued at about \$500.

Fireworks were intended to be used as part of a display given for Dunbar Oaks residents. The pyrotechnics are valued at about \$500.

Civil War re-enactment

Continued from Page 1

in durable wool uniforms — which today would make some of us shudder to think of being attired in such a "hot" fabric, especially during summer months.

"Our ancestors were actually pretty smart," Everett said. "They knew that wool has the same insulation value wet as it does dry. Also, wool was comfortable as long as natural fibers, such as cotton, were worn underneath the uniform."

OBSERVERS WILL also find women participating in the event. Although it was uncommon for women to be involved in front-line positions, they filled important needs, such as nursing and by serving in relief commissions.

"Numerous relief commissions were set up to see to the needs of soldiers that the government couldn't fulfill, such as writing letters, supplying candles and supplementing food requirements," Everett said.

"The North better provided than the South mainly because the North had more industry and thus the financial resources to support war efforts. The South, on the other hand, relied heavily on agriculture."

The re-enactors will follow a replicated military schedule in which a payroll call-out will take place. The average private was paid \$13 a month and a sergeant received \$15 per month, Everett said.

Although observers will witness events that took place 125 years ago, many aspects of the Civil War still touch our lives today.

For instance, cracker-like biscuits called "hard tac," one of a soldier's staple foods, were manufactured by the National Biscuit Co. — today more commonly known as Nabisco. Hard tac was made with 13 tiny holes, each of which represented one of the 13 original colonies. Nabisco's saltine cracker — enjoyed by many today — includes those same 13 markings.

ONE OF the war's most important battles was initiated at the blue and the gray rubbed to Gettysburg to obtain badly needed supplies of shoes. Apparently the then-innovative sewing machine could rapidly produce larger quantities of shoes than the traditional method of attaching soles with wooden pegs. The demand led to a North and South encounter known as the Battle of Gettysburg.

beginning of the Industrial Revolution," Everett said. "Supplies were needed in large volumes and mass production was the logical course of action to take."

Putting together a Civil War re-enactment is no easy feat — it takes months of preparation to make a weekend event possible.

Jody Sorensen, executive director of the Farmington/Farmington Hills Chamber of Commerce and organizer of the Founders Festival, selected the re-enactment event for a number of reasons.

"While a re-enactment is fun for people of all ages, it's also educational — we hope it will give observers an idea of what the Civil War and the common soldier's and woman's life was really like. We also expect the event will arouse a lot of interest and will be the perfect kick-off for the 1989 Founders Festival."

There is no admission fee to attend the Civil War weekend. Heritage Park is on Farmington Road, south of 11 Mile.

The 35th annual Founders Festival will run from July 8-15. A host of other events, such as a parade, a bad race for the benefit of muscular dystrophy, and a jazz concert also are planned.

Hospitalized

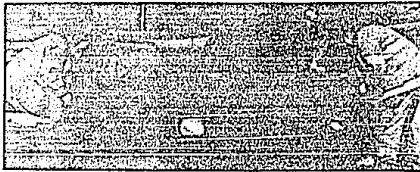
Northville couple hurt in 2-vehicle crash

A 59-year-old Northville man remained in critical condition Wednesday after the car he and his wife were in was broadsided by a car that ran a red light at Grand River and Middlebelt Saturday, Farmington Hills police said.

Eschol Earl Smith, who suffered head injuries in the crash, remained in intensive care Wednesday at Botsford General Hospital, Farmington Hills. His wife, Mary, 56, was in fair condition after treatment for her injuries, a hospital spokesman said.

A 29-year-old Novi man eastbound on Grand River in a pickup at 8:40 a.m. Saturday went through a red light at Middlebelt, hitting Eschol Smith's northbound car on the driver's side, police said.

Farmington Hills firefighters used rescue tools to free the Smiths. The Novi man was not hurt. His name won't be released until investigators complete their work, said Sgt. Ray Cranston, of the Farmington Hills Police Department Traffic Section.



Farmington Hills firefighters use rescue tools to free Eschol Earl Smith from their car after it was hit by a pickup driven by a man who ran a red light at Grand River and Middlebelt, police said.

It is not known if seat belts were being worn at the time of the crash, Cranston said. "We're at the point where we're waiting to see how Mr. Smith comes along in the hospital," Cranston said.



THE COMMUNITY CENTER FARMINGTON — FARMINGTON HILLS OUTDOOR CONCERT SERIES

- ### FESTIVAL OF MUSIC
- July 7 — MYSTERY CADAVRE, under the stars you'll discover a real "killer of a thriller" with music & intrigue. 7 P.M. - \$12.50
 - July 16 — JERRY MCKENZIE'S SOUND CREW, led by Farmington Hills' own Jerry McKenzie, will present the classic sounds of big band and jazz. 7 P.M. - \$8
 - July 23 — Strike up the band and come along as the MICHIGAN OPERA THEATER performs "Broadway Babies and Phantoms," a medley of all-time favorite showtoppers. 7 P.M. - \$8
 - July 30 — MARCUS BELGRAVE & PHASE II will combine award-winning jazz with improvisational dance in their musical review. 7 P.M. - \$8
 - August 13 — The majestic voice of PHIL MARCUS EBSER in his zany musical revue will tickle the funny bone! 7 P.M. - \$10
 - August 20 — The energizing and electrifying team of "B & R," Borokowski & Rosochak will perform their creative mix of folk and rock music of the 60's & 70's. 7 P.M. - \$8
 - August 23 — ASHCAN VAN GOGH with Mary McGuire will perform original folk-art music at a rocking-and-rolling pleaser. 7 P.M. - FREE
 - August 26 — Come tiptoe through the garden as a host of mystery visitors weave a web of intrigue and plot a 'MURDER.' Guess the culprit and win the bounty. 7 P.M. - \$15
 - August 27 — FOOTLOOSE, Ann Arbor's foot stomping, rollicking ensemble will present rhythm & irresistible enthusiasm. 7 P.M. - \$8

- ### FAMILY THEATER
- July 12 — MAUREN SCHIFFMAN & Coco, a monkey puppet will enchant children with puppetry, song, movement and storytelling. 7 P.M. - \$2
 - July 18 — Showcase of selections for WEST SIDE STORY as performed by students from the Oakland Community College Summer Arts Program. 2 P.M. - \$2
 - July 26 — SONG SISTERS, Chris Barton & Julie Austin perform children's music on a variety of folk instruments with a mixture of songs, stories, humor and movement. 7 P.M. - \$2
 - August 9 — RON CODEN will perform his special blend of clap-along, sing-along and educational music and present ROSCO, the magical clown. 7 P.M. - \$2
 - August 15 — Twin shows by the twin brother duet GEMINI promises rousing sing-alongs, hand motion songs, dance tunes & songs from around the world. 2 P.M. or 7 P.M. - \$2
 - August 23 — SECRET UNDER THE STONE IN THE ROAD is a musical comedy from the Goodtime Players of Ann Arbor. 2 P.M. - \$2
 - September 10 — LIVONIA/OAKWAY SYMPHONY presents classical music unting with a fairy tale fantasy reading of "Peter & The Wolf" by Senator Jack Faxon. Celebrating our 20th Anniversary 60 P.M. - \$3 (cake & ice cream)

Supported by the
**Michigan Council
for the Arts**
Delta Dental Fund
NOW

THE AMERICAN EYE INSTITUTE

Is Pleased to Announce
the Association of

MICHAEL Y. GREENLEY, M.D.
AND
MARTIN I. APPLE, M.D., P.C.

In the Practice of
GENERAL OPHTHALMOLOGY

- Cataract Laser & Implant Surgery
- Glaucoma Therapy
- Diabetic Eye Care
- Myopia Surgery
- Contact Lens
- Second Opinions

25811 W. Twelve Mile Road
between Northwestern & Telegraph
Southfield, Michigan

358-3937

FOR MORE INFORMATION
ON ANY EVENT CALL **477-8404**