

police/fire calls

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

SUSPECT SOUGHT

Detroit police know who the man is who says he's a sergeant seeking donations for the Detroit Police Department yearbook unit. The impostor tricked a Farmington Hills service station out of \$50 Sept. 9.

"Detroit police attempted to arrest him but were unable to locate him," said Farmington Hills detective Pat Sledge.

Sledge said the Detroit resident, who says he's a Sgt. West, is wanted on "a couple felony warrants for similar-type activity."

"It's just somebody who says, 'Here's my name, here's my badge number, I work for the yearbook unit,'" the detective said.

No such unit exists. The man provided no identification and no receipt. There was no answer at the phone number he left behind, Sledge said.

Detroit police "are familiar with the man's MO (method of operation)," Sledge said. "There's nothing linking him to law enforcement."

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and said the station manager had approved a \$50 donation. In exchange for the donation, the station would receive two tickets to a Detroit Lions game.

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Meanwhile, the cashier, thinking the donation had been approved, gave the man \$50. The man said he'd return in a few hours with the football tickets, but never did so.

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Expert to testify on DNA evidence

Continued from Page 1

Szman is charged. Such DNA "fingerprinting" is used to determine whether biological samples, such as blood or semen, recovered from a crime scene from a particular suspect.

The defense contends there are few standards for such testing, making the results potentially inaccurate.

JUDGE TEMPLIN decided Thursday to hear from the expert defense witness before hearing closing arguments and making a ruling on the admissibility of the DNA evidence. Defense attorneys said they would submit information about their witness to the court immediately, with Templin expecting to hear that testimony in early October. Expenses for the defense witness will be paid by the county.

Meanwhile, Bingham Farms attorney and Farmington Hills resident Lawrence Kaluzny, who represents Szman, said he will move ahead as quickly as possible to begin extensive neurological testing

on his client at either Harper Hospital or U-M Hospital in Ann Arbor. Prosecutors agreed last week to have the testing done at county expense, because Szman's insurance company balked at paying.

Szman waived his right to a speedy trial in August, allowing time for the neurological testing to be completed.

Such testing may show Szman developed problems in 1984, when his car left a West Virginia mountain road and crashed, causing him to be treated for head injuries.

Szman had similar testing done in Ohio, during a court case in which he pleaded guilty to raping a suburban Cleveland woman last November. He most recently lived in Rocky River, Ohio.

Szman pleaded guilty in January to that crime, for which he was sentenced to a 58- to 140-year prison term. He is being held in the Oakland County Jail in lieu of a \$9.9 million cash bond as he awaits trial on the Oakland County crimes.

Kaluzny said his client would likely be taken back and forth on an outpatient basis for the upcoming testing procedures.

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Unfortunately, most arthritis medicine rarely works so well or ill. Usually you must make a decision when it has helped in less than a perfect manner. How can you decide?

Ask yourself the following specific questions: Were you stiff for hours in the morning when you started, and now the stiffness lasts only minutes? Or, has the duration of stiffness remained unchanged?

Did you formerly awaken 3-4 times a night, and now only 1-2 times? Or, are you still repeatedly disturbed from sleep? Finally, how many joints are swollen today as compared with the past and how long do they now stay swollen?

Changing medication is fraught with hazards of side effects and unexpected interactions. However, reliance on a medicine that isn't helping is foolish. The guidelines described above allow you to decide whether it is appropriate to continue present medications or to consider other choices.

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