



HANDY BOST/Staff photographer

Trash fire

Farmington Hills firefighter Don St. Clair (foreground) and his partner, Norbert Leppanen, work on extinguishing a fire contained in a trash pile that was dumped in the driveway of Fire Station 1 in the Farmington Hills Industrial Park near 10 Mile and Grand River Monday morning. The driver of the Southfield-based Waste Management North truck was flagged by a

low truck driver and told that the back of the truck was on fire. The driver drove to the fire station, where he dumped the load on the driveway. The fire appeared to start in wood scraps and be touched off by butane lighters found in the load. The truck was not damaged.

police/fire calls

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

man flees
A woman who lives on Gloucester Circle awoke to find a man in her bedroom at 6:20 a.m. Tuesday. According to a Farmington Hills police report:

"After seeing the man, the woman screamed for her son. When the man turned, she pretended to be asleep and mumbled. When he neared the bed, he touched her hand to see if she was awake but she was too scared to yell. She waited several minutes, then looked up to see the man on his way out the doorway. Nothing was taken. The man's motives were not known.

indecent exposure
A man in a small pickup exposed himself after driving alongside a female motorist on westbound Eight Mile, near Hugo, at 10:40 a.m. Tuesday.

The woman said the man eventually pulled around a school bus, turned into a lot and sped off eastbound on Eight Mile, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

guns flashed
A Colgate resident told police two masked men with guns knocked on his back door at 11:15 a.m. Tuesday. According to a Farmington Hills police report:

Hearing a knock, the man looked through the rear door's mini blinds to see two masked men with guns pointed at the lower door. One of the men said, "Open the door." The men

left as the man called police. The garage door was open when the resident heard the knock but it closed after the men left. The men's motives were not known.

couch fire
Damage was estimated at \$650 when a couch caught fire in an apartment on the 21300 block of Tulane at 8:40 p.m. Tuesday.

The fire started as a result of an occupant looking under the couch using the lighter as a light. The couch was on the lawn when firefighters arrived. Apartment damage was minimal, according to a Farmington Hills fire report.

thefts reported
Empty beer bottles and keys valued at \$100 were reported stolen from a fenced storage shed at Steak

& Ale, 27590 Orchard Lake Road, Farmington Hills, Feb. 12-13 — the second such theft since December.

A microwave oven and field equipment valued at \$739 were reported stolen from the Detroit Edison Drexel substation trailer, 35600 12 Mile, Farmington Hills, Feb. 12-13.

A personal computer valued at \$4,000 was reported stolen from a desk at Kawasaki, 24402 Sinclair Court, Farmington Hills, Feb. 13.

damage reported
Damage was estimated at \$150 during an attempted break-in at the Oak Creek Apartments in Farmington Hills, Feb. 12-14.

Damage was estimated at \$400 when a window was shattered at Brooks & Layne, 30200 Orchard Lake, Farmington Hills, Feb. 16.

School tops county in Easter Seal effort

Preschoolers at Farmington Community School raised \$3,200 for the Easter Seal Society by participating in the Easter Seal HOP-N-ING at the school recently, topping fund-raising efforts throughout Oakland County.

Preschool teacher Cherie Deftose and her two top "hoppers," Nicole Foglia, 4, and Joshua Buckner, 5, were asked to appear on the Channel 4 Easter Seal Telethon which will be televised March 3-4.

Deftose organized the event as an opportunity to help young children develop and understanding of disabilities at an early age and to foster a positive community spirit. Early in January, the children attended a program about disabilities. The Easter Seal representative who pre-

sented the program brought along medical equipment which the children were able to use. Participating in HOP-N-ING completed the experience.

Children who participated collected pledges from friends and relatives and took part in a three-minute "hop." Parent volunteers counted the hops and also sent cookies for the participants.

Last year in Oakland County, 1,500 children participated in the program and raised more than \$18,000 for Easter Seals. The money raised by the children at Farmington Community School this year was the most raised by any other preschool or elementary school in Oakland County.

clarification

The headline on a story in the Feb. 15 edition of the Observer was incorrect. A total of 28 students from six

Farmington-area PTA schools were given awards in the recent PTA Reflections Contest.

Arthritis Today
Joseph J. Weiss, M.D. Rheumatology
18829 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: 478-7880


RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS OF THE SHOULDER
The term rheumatoid arthritis brings to mind a joint condition that features swollen hands, dropped wrists, and a painful gait. However, rheumatoid arthritis can strike the shoulders.

In fact, the experience of physicians is that the older the person when rheumatoid disease begins, the more likely the arthritis will start in the shoulders, or soon include them.

If you have rheumatoid arthritis of the shoulders, you will note pain in both shoulders equally. The discomfort is worse in the morning, usually eases during the day, and becomes intense at night often making sleep impossible.

For some individuals the misery that arthritis causes to the shoulder is greater than to the hands. You may find that you cannot comb your hair properly, or clean yourself readily after using the commode because movement of the shoulder is so impaired.

Therapy helps. Treatment begins with anti-inflammatory drugs such as aspirin. In addition, your doctor likely will turn to joint injection because of the necessity to free your shoulders to facilitate personal care. This procedure has a high rate of success, and often allows you to adjust to the limitations of shoulder movement that remain.



Men, if you're about to turn 40, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

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