

police/fire calls

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

● GAS LEAK

No one was injured and no customers were without service when a Consumers Power gas line was damaged about 4:50 a.m. Nov. 28, during road construction on the northeast corner of Drake and 12 Mile roads, according to Consumers Power spokesman Garth Brent.

When Farmington Hills firefighters arrived at the scene of a reported gas leak they found a ruptured six-inch gas main, according to a fire report.

The gas line was about three feet deep. The line was repaired by 11:30 a.m., Brent said.

● ARMED ROBBERY

An unidentified man robbed Bill Knapp's restaurant, 37921 Orchard Lake Road, of \$150 at 10:10 p.m. Nov. 28, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

The robber approached the restaurant cashier a couple times asking for change to use the telephone because he was having car problems. On the third approach, the man reportedly told the cashier to "keep quiet, open the register and give me all the money."

The man, according to the cashier, kept both hands in his coat pockets. When the cashier at first refused to open the register, the man walked around the counter shaking his hands inside his pockets, which led the cashier to believe he had a weapon.

The man fled to the rear of the Orchard-12 Plaza on the northwest corner of 12 Mile and Orchard Lake

roads. The cashier and another man chased after the man but could not find him.

The man is described as about 38 years old, five-feet, nine-inches tall, 145 pounds, with blue eyes, brown, short spiked hair. He was described as wearing a Members Only navy blue coat, blue jeans and gym shoes.

● SMALL FIRE

About \$100 damage resulted when a candle apparently ignited a porcelain doll and the dresser it was on in a house on Linden about 4:30 p.m. Nov. 28, according to a Farmington Hills fire report. The fire was extinguished before firefighters arrived.

● WIRE HIT

A lift crane operated at a construction site on Interchange Drive hit primary electrical lines while moving scaffolding just after 3 p.m. Nov. 28, according to a Farmington Hills fire report.

Firefighters found the crane operator sitting in a pickup in the parking lot. The man was checked for injuries of which he had none. He told firefighters that the wires arched, the crane's tires blew out and he heard an explosion.

● FAKE MONEY

An unidentified man attempted to pay his food bill Nov. 29 with a suspected counterfeit \$20 bill at Glonopolis restaurant, 27815 12 Mile, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

The waitress took the \$20 bill to the bartender because she thought the money felt strange. Both the bartender and owner Peter Glonopolis agreed.

Glonopolis confronted the customer

who then paid his bill with two \$10 bills and another \$20 bill. Glonopolis, who called police, told the man he would keep the suspected counterfeit bill. The man and his female companion then left and were last seen traveling westbound on 12 Mile.

● THEFTS REPORTED

A television, copper tubing and copper wire valued at \$3,119 were reported stolen from Mann Metal, 24758 Crestview Ct., Nov. 29.

Jewelry valued at \$150 was reported stolen from a house on Nottingham, Nov. 19.

A mailbox valued at \$35 was reported stolen from the Gourmet Co., 35558 Grand River, Nov. 27.

Tools and light fixtures valued at \$500 were reported stolen from the site of the Charlestowne condominiums, 53109 Orchard Street, Farmington Nov. 27-28. \$400 in damage was also done to doors and drywall.

Three bicycles valued at \$270 were reported stolen from the loading dock area of R mart, 37475 Grand River, Farmington, Nov. 28.

● DAMAGE REPORTED

The front and back windows of a car parked on Laurelwood in Farmington were shattered Nov. 28, causing \$325 in damage.

Guns deemed bigger risk than intruders

By Kim Devroy
special writer

The Farmington Hills Police Department values your family's safety and does not recommend the use of firearms for personal safety in the home. The presence of a weapon in the home may prove to be a greater risk than the possible threat of an intruder. This is especially true for people who are not trained in the use of firearms.

In families with children the danger is even greater. Children have been known to take guns from their "holding places" and play with them, shooting playmates or themselves. In 1986, alone, nearly 1,500 deaths in the United States were caused by the accidental discharge of firearms.

If, however, you have chosen to keep a firearm on the premises, keep in mind that the weapon could

be used against you if you are not careful. Weapons are almost always taken if they are found in a burglary.

To eliminate the risk of a stolen firearm being used in a crime, it is recommended that a bolt, clip, pin or other functional part of the firearm be removed and stored separately. This way, even if the firearm is stolen or found by a curious child, it will be rendered inoperable.

OTHER IMPORTANT safety measures to keep in mind:

- Make sure that everyone in the household learns to safely handle firearms and that safety measures are practiced and reviewed regularly.

- Always store firearms in a safe place.

- Use safety features such as trigger guards, removal of func-



tional parts and locked cabinets, for example.

- Use Operation Identification by engraving rifles and shotguns with your driver's license number.

- Always empty your firearm prior to storing or transporting it.

- Never point any weapon — loaded or unloaded — at anyone.

If you have any questions regarding the licensing or registration of firearms, please contact the records section of the Farmington Hills Police Department, 473-9622.

Kim Devroy is a crime prevention technician with the Farmington Hills Police Department.

TAXES! TAXES! TAXES! TAXES

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This meeting is offered by Detroit Baptist Manor as an educational service to the community. You will not be asked to donate.

Arthritis Today

Joseph J. Weiss, M.D. Rheumatology
16320 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: 478-7850



THERE IS NOTHING MORE I CAN DO

What if your doctor has no therapy appropriate to treat your arthritis.

In some instances you have such advanced arthritis no medicine can help. At other times, either drugs didn't help or side effects such as dizziness, upset stomach or uncontrollable bleeding necessitate stopping the medication. In such circumstances it may be best to cease trying rather than face the risks of the threatening hazards.

Another possibility is that you have emphysema or a failing heart. If so, the risk of surgery could be such as to preclude operative intervention.

What can you do if neither new therapy nor operation is possible? First, return to the basics of heat, cold and rest. By juggling these options you may be able to gain control over pain. Second, look hard at scheduling your day. See when activity is possible and make the most of what is your "best" time.

Third, you may have to reconsider your independence and enter an arrangement that compromises your privacy, but gives you assistance in return.

What you should avoid is feeling helpless and lost. Medicines may fail, but if you have the spirit, you will find a way to minimize the hardships you face and accept what you cannot overcome.

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RETIREMENT COMMUNITY OPTIONS CONFERENCE

Never before held in the state of Michigan, the nationally popular preretirement/retirement living conference will be presented by the author of RETIREMENT LIVING ALTERNATIVES USA: THE INSIDE STORY, H. Wilson Worley. Mr. Worley's book (a \$9.95 value) will be presented without charge to each household along with other copyrighted material.

Thousands have highly acclaimed this conference for its dissemination of information not available from any other source. During the two-hour session, participants will review full-service preretirement and retirement living concepts through a color slide series of communities from the east to the west coast.

In addition, a new and different concept in active retirement/preretirement living being considered for Farmington Hills will be discussed to determine its potential for active adults desiring a full menu of services from home and yard maintenance to security and health/fitness programs. The concept offers options not found in lifecare, entrance fee, expensive rental packages, or resort communities. Each participant will be asked to complete a simple written survey to provide direction for the development and the public's acceptance of this community.

The conference is free of charge. However, seating is limited and will be by reservation only.

Please call Nancy Fees (313) 442-9860, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. or write for reservations for you and your friends to RETIREMENT CONFERENCE, 30405 Folsom Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48336 for one of the times and locations below:

•Hilton Inn — Novi
21111 Haggerty Road
8 Mile Rd. Exit off I-275
Novi, MI
Tuesday, Dec. 11
10:00 A.M. or
2:00 P.M.

•Botsford General Hospital
Administration & Education Building
28050 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI
Wednesday, Dec. 12
10:00 A.M.

•Botsford General Hospital
Administration & Education Building
28050 Grand River Ave.
Farmington Hills, MI
Thursday, Dec. 13
2:00 P.M.

Each session will end promptly two hours from the above starting times.

Sponsored by Botsford General Hospital and National Retirement Corporation.