

Community Corner

This week's question:

Were you prepared for the season's first snowfall Monday? Did you have any problems?

We asked this question on the Farmington Hills campus of Oakland Community College.



"I just slept in this morning. I knew there was snow on the ground and the roads were bad."
— Steve Shapiro
West Bloomfield



"I've been waiting for it — I was glad about it. I like the winter."
— Matthew Bieri
Farmington Hills



"It was wonderful, because I didn't have to come to work until 10:30. It wasn't too bad."
— Rusly Farrell
Farmington Hills



"I live in South Lyon. It took me an hour and a half to get here. The roads out by me were bad."
— Laura Curcun
South Lyon



"I didn't have any trouble. But Oakland County did what they normally don't do — plow the roads."
— Viola Owsinek
Walled Lake



"I imagine I wouldn't have trouble if I had a good car."
— Danica Smith
Birmingham

police/fire calls

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

COCAINE ARRESTS

Two Detroit residents were charged with possession of cocaine after a traffic stop on Orchard Lake Road, south of 13 Mile, Dec. 1, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

Joe L. Powell, 20, and Demetrius Titus, 23, stood mute to one count each of possession of 50-225 grams of cocaine at their arraignment Dec. 2 before 47th District Court Magistrate Dennis Phenev of Farmington. Both are free on \$250 bond.

Conviction of the felony charge carries 10-20 years in prison. Police stopped two men on Orchard Lake when they noticed the car had an expired license tag. They also noticed the driver leaning over while driving, reaching for something. Neither occupant of the car was wearing a seat belt and the driver, who appeared nervous, told police he wanted to get out of the car.

The passenger was wanted on an Oakland County warrant. Police

then searched the car and found the suspected cocaine in a plastic bag in a cold medicine box.

ARMED ROBBERY

A 35-year-old Detroit man was charged in connection with the Nov. 28 armed robbery of Summit Cleaners, 29417 12 Mile. Gregory C. Davis was arrested Nov. 30 after he surrendered to Farmington Hills police. He pleaded not guilty to one count of armed robbery at his arraignment Dec. 1 before 47th District Judge Fred Harris of Farmington. Harris set a \$25,000 corporate surety bond. Davis did not post bond and remains in the Oakland County Jail.

"We spent an afternoon and evening in Detroit knocking on doors. The word was out on the street we were looking for him," said Detective Sgt. Charles Nebus of the Farmington Hills Police Department. When the manager of the cleaners opened the store, a man came to the front door and said he was waiting for the owner. The manager let the man in. He then pressed an unidentified object to her back. "This is a robbery. This is a gun and I will shoot," the man reportedly told the manager.

The man then told the manager to lock herself in the bathroom. When she heard the cash register open, she

ran out through a back door, went to a nearby gasoline station and called police. The man left with \$30-40 in rolled coins.

FAMILY FIGHT

A 19-year-old Farmington Hills man faces charges in connection with the stabbing of his stepfather with a broken piece of mirror during a fight Nov. 27, according to Farmington Hills police.

Michael P. Wiggins, 19, was charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder, a felony that on conviction carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and \$5,000 fine.

Wiggins stood mute to the charge, and a plea of not guilty was entered on his behalf at his arraignment before 47th District Court Judge Fred Harris of Farmington. Wiggins remains in the Oakland County Jail after he failed to post the \$10,000 corporate surety bond set by Harris. Preliminary examination on the charge is scheduled for Jan. 4, 1991. The stepfather was taken to Bozfo General Hospital where he was treated for a stab wound to his abdomen and released. Wiggins also suffered minor injuries in the fight.

OFFICES ROBBED

Three adjacent offices on Orchard

Lake Road were broken into Dec. 2-3. All three offices were damaged in the break-ins. Cash and office equipment were stolen from one of the offices.

The offices that were broken into during the night are Jensen Counseling, Catholic Social Services and Bridgeway Construction, all at 26105 Orchard Lake Road. Approximately \$1,400 cash and a jet printer valued at \$1,665 were reported stolen from the construction office.

CAR RECOVERED

A 1991 Ford Tempo valued at \$11,534, which was reported stolen from Tom Holzer Ford Inc., 39300 10 Mile, in November was found by the Detroit Auto Recovery Unit in Detroit. The car had been stripped.

THEFTS REPORTED

A snowplow valued at \$1,000 was reported stolen Dec. 2-3 from the Cedarbrook Apartments, 23870 Middlebelt.

Approximately \$900 cash and stereo speakers valued at \$100 were reported stolen Dec. 2 from Harrison High School, 29995 12 Mile.

Hand tools valued at \$500 were reported stolen Dec. 3 from Solomon & Associates, 32823 12 Mile.

A fax machine valued at \$2,800 was reported stolen Dec. 3 from U.S. Sales, 32695 12 Mile.

Area medical center moves to new facility

Providence Medical Center-Livonia is now operating out of larger quarters at 20321 Farmington Road just south of Eight Mile.

The center moved Saturday from its previous location at Curtis and Farmington Road in Livonia.

The new facility will provide patients with a spacious waiting area, ample convenient parking, an on-site pharmacy and extended hours to serve patients through the week and on Saturday mornings.

The new location formerly was the site of SelectCare's Livonia Health Center.

Providence Medical Center-Livonia will be staffed with Providence-affiliated primary care physicians,

including: family practitioners Jacqueline Applin, Kevin Deighton and William Wooster; internal medicine specialists Lawrence Blase and William Gontie; pediatric/adolescent specialists Harvey Stein, William Robinson and Allan Weiner.

The center's new phone number is 477-1070.

Providence Medical Center-Livonia is part of the growing ambulatory health care facilities affiliated with Providence Hospital in Southfield, a 462-bed community teaching hospital.

Providence is a member of the Daughters of Charity National Health System, the largest not-for-profit health care system in the U.S.

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Keep thieves from spoiling holidays

Santa Claus may not be the only one visiting your home this holiday season.

Too often, burglars and thieves get in on the act as uninvited guests, a sure way to make Christmas anything but merry.

Nearly \$200 million worth of property was reported stolen in Michigan in 1989, making theft a big business, with the holiday season no exception.

Included in that total, larceny from motor vehicles cost state motorists \$19 million. Also, purse snatchers and pickpockets took nearly \$1 million from Michigan residents.

But there are things you can do to thwart these "grinches" who would steal Christmas, says AAA Michigan Community Safety Services manager Robert V. Cullen.

Cullen advises residents to make homes look "lived in," making "Burglars don't look for trouble, so anything that adds to appear people are around is a deterrent."

Some things to do:
• If you're away for any length of time, have someone clear the driveway and sidewalks of ice and snow.
• Have a neighbor pick up mail and newspapers, and

set lights on variable timers.

• Park a car in your driveway.
• Leave spare keys with a friend rather than hidden outside the house.

• Secure doors with deadbolt locks and windows with substantial locks.

• Inform only those who need to know (family, etc.) of your vacation plans. Widespread knowledge of your absence makes your home a tempting target.

Even before Santa makes his appearance, Christmas shoppers are particularly vulnerable to purse snatchers and pickpockets because of the holiday crowds and because their arms generally are full of packages.

A purse dangling from the shoulder is an inviting target, so hold it close to the body, but not by the strap, which breaks easily. Carry wallets in a front or breast jacket pocket to thwart the pickpocket.

When on a shopping spree, make frequent trips to your car, not only to free your arms, but to lock your purchases in the trunk, out of sight of would-be thieves. If you can't use the trunk, lock gifts in the car and cover them with a blanket.

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Men, if you're about to turn 18, it's time to register with Selective Service at any U.S. Post Office.

It's quick. It's easy. And it's the law.

MEET

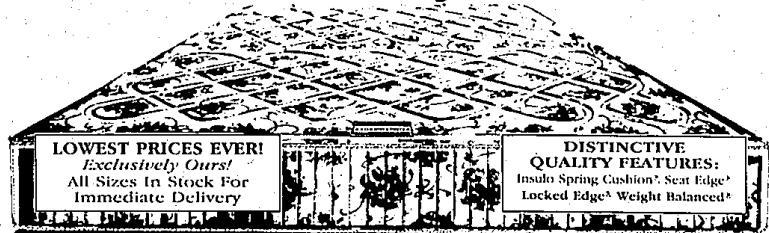


Broadcaster and author Ernie Harwell. Saturday, December 8, noon to 1:30 p.m., Stationery, Livonia

Mr. Baseball has been the voice of the Tiger games for over 27 years and will be here to autograph copies of his book, *Tuned to Baseball*, 8:55

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