

Get kids off fast track, parents urged

police/fire calls

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

● ATTEMPTED ROBBERY

An employee of Hungry Howie's, 2019 Farmington Road, refused to believe an unidentified man who claimed he had a gun when he demanded money just before 10 p.m. Saturday, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

The unidentified man fled from the pizza and sub shop empty-handed after he walked in and asked for change. After the employee opened the cash register to give change, the man put his hands into his coat pockets and demanded all the money in the register.

"I've got a gun," the man told the employee, who said he didn't believe him.

"You don't believe me?" the would-be robber asked as he moved his hands in his pockets to imply he indeed had a gun.

Again the employee said he didn't believe him.

"OK," the man said as he turned around and walked out of the store. The man is described as 6 feet tall, 160 pounds, with sandy-colored short hair. He was wearing a tan spring jacket.

● GRASS FIRE

When firefighters arrived at an empty field on Farmington Road about 11:30 a.m. April 20, they found a burned area of about two square feet. The fire was out when they arrived, according to a Farmington Hills fire report.

A resident told firefighters two boys were seen trying to start a fire in the field and two boys were seen running from the area. Fire and police officials believe the boys left a gym bag filled with clothing behind.

● THEFTS REPORTED

Approximately \$120 in cash was stolen from O.E. Dunckel Middle School, 32800 12 Mile, sometime between Saturday and Monday.

A VCR and necklace valued at \$490 and \$40 in cash were stolen Monday from a house on Inaker.

A cassette, two men's suits, shirts and a jacket valued at \$3,000 were stolen sometime over the weekend from a 1988 Alfa Romeo on Spring Lane.

Ninety-six cases of Coca-Cola valued at \$1,368 were stolen from Kroger, 37550 12 Mile, Sunday or Monday.

Speakers valued at \$800 were stolen Saturday from a 1983 Dodge on Ontaga.

By Tim Smith
staff writer

Many parents think they're doing the right thing by pushing their children onto the fast track. The truth is the fast track usually leads to nowhere, according to local psychologist Gail Parker.

"Don't rush your children, slow down," was the message Southfield resident Beth Zoller and about 40 other parents heard at a presentation given by Parker at the Bingham Farms Elementary School library. The event was presented by the school's PTA.

What happens when parents keep piling structured activities on their fast-tracking children, is that youngsters go so fast they can't reflect — something Parker said is needed to develop "inner self" and a sense of right and wrong.

Because they grow up in a whirlwind, many can't make the simplest of decisions as adults, Parker said.

"As (children) get older and are forced to make decisions, you don't want a shallow child who can't dig below the surface to get the answers."

THAT MESSAGE was on target, at least according to Zoller. Bingham Farms draws many of its students from Southfield.

"It takes away your decision mak-

ing because you've been told what to do for so long," said Zoller after the lecture, referring to an overload of structured activities. "It's just too structured. They don't have time for free thinking."

Bingham resident Chad Hake agreed with Parker that parents don't need to keep their children "entertained" with activities.

"Parents have to just take time out with their children and get to know them," Hake said.

Rushing children by stockpiling activities sometimes is the result of parents wanting to achieve goals through their offspring, Parker said. It also is caused by parents being too frustrated to cope with the challenge of raising a child.

"What's the purpose of being parent? Some think it's 'hurry up and get out of my hair,' so they rush this growing up (of children). My philosophy is, take a life, shape it and help it grow to its fullest potential," Parker said.

ALTHOUGH ACTIVITIES such as youth sports help children learn to compete and sometimes succeed, they aren't learning what is truly important. "A reverence for life," she said.

"Say 'thank you' for what we have," the psychologist said. "Eliminate the quest for what we don't have. Which really is what the fast track is all about."

CHANGING THE WAY YOU READ

Just a couple of hours a week with us can help your child's reading skills improve dramatically.

THE SYLVAN® GUARANTEE! When enrolled in our basic reading or math program, your child will improve at least one full grade equivalent score after the first 40 hours of instruction, or we will provide additional 12 hours at no extra cost.

5755 W. Maple (West of Orchard Lake Rd.)
Saturday Classes Available
PROGRAMS: Reading • Math • Writing • Study Skills • Remedial • Algebra • College Prep • ACT/SAT Preparation

Sylvan Learning Center.
Helping kids do better.

West Bloomfield **737-2880**

bra world
west oaks ll shopping center
next to Toys'R' Us/ across from 12 oaks mall
twelve mile and novi rd.
347-2810

ANNIVERSARY SALE!

Finally from Goddess...
A COMFORTABLE STRAPLESS

25% OFF

For That Revealing Look...
THE YOUNG SMOOTHIE BACKLESS BRA

25% OFF

coupon only • expires 5-18-91

Feet Hurt?

- ARCH PAINS
- BUNIONS
- NARROW/WIDE FEET
- DIABETES
- GOUT
- HAMMER TOES

Then join us for a special event!
Footcare/Footwear Week
May 6-11

Featuring **EXTRA DEPTH® Shoes!**

- Full Range of Sizes & Widths
- Free Medical Footcare Literature
- Professional Shoe Fitting
- Educational Videos

Mr. Adam Beach from the P. W. Minor and Son factory will be at our store Monday and Tuesday, May 6 and 7, to help us celebrate our 75th year of fitting quality, comfortable shoes.

\$7.50 off each pair of Minor shoes paid for during this week of outstanding values.*

Hack Shoes
26221 SOUTHWFIELD ROAD • BETWEEN 10 & 11 MILE ROAD
(313) 557-4230
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-5:30, Sat. 10-5

*Does not apply to prior sales

DECK PROFESSIONALS
Custom Decking • Screened Areas • Additions
Cedar and Wolmanized
Ultimate Construction
Call for a free in-home appointment
Licensed **426-3375** or **994-3141** Insured

ATTENTION
ALL CLASS REUNION COMMITTEES

Has your Planning Company offered you a choice?

A Group Photograph
OR
The Latest Picture Souvenir Book
for your Reunion!

A CRYB Class Reunion Yearbook printed in either color or black and white, complete with names, maiden names, and addresses is the BETTER souvenir.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
1-800-552-0259

Dr. David L. Cooley, D.O.
(FAMILY PRACTICE)

ANNOUNCES
New Wednesday and Saturday Office Hours
By Appointment

at
PROVIDENCE MEDICAL CENTER
39500 W. Ten Mile Road
Novi, MI 48375

CALL
(313) 471-1703

Key Largo

Treat Mom to a Trip to the
Keys for Mother's Day!
KEY LARGO'S TROPICAL MOTHER'S DAY BUFFET FEATURING:

- Carved Top Round of Beef
- Honey Glazed Ham
- Barbequed Chicken
- Chargrilled Norwegian Salmon with Fresh Red Pepper Salsa
- Salads; Vegetables, Potatoes, Fresh Fruit, Cornucopia, Breads and Butter

SUNDAY • MAY 12, 1991
11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

669-1441

CALL FOR YOUR RESERVATIONS

"On the fast track, your raising children who are never full. They'll never have enough and always want more. So get them to develop an inner self."

Parker offered some tips, including: Eliminating household chaos by pacing the day's activities, sticking to routine and setting aside quality family time.

According to Parker, parents can set the tone by slowing things down themselves.

"That can be achieved by getting out of bed a half-hour earlier to 'get centered, so you're calm and not frantic.'"

AT NIGHT, she suggested reading bedtime stories to children to end the day as calmly as it began.

Those suggestions were welcomed by Southfield's Linda Markowitz, who said she plans to follow Parker's advice and get up earlier. With a daughter in kindergarten, she described mornings as "quite chaotic."

"I'd like to have more of a ritual in the morning," Markowitz said af-

ter the lecture. "I'm going to start getting up a half-hour earlier for myself and get my thoughts together."

Parker said parents also put pressure on youngsters by "expecting them to comprehend adult concepts."

She recalled to the group one incident where parents gave their children the job of deciding where to sit in an auditorium for a school play.

"These are not choices you want to give them at this age. You are the decision maker. You decide where to sit in the auditorium."

AS THE decision maker, parents can say no to children for no apparent reason if they feel it's the right call.

Also, Parker emphasized that it's OK for children to be "bored" because "out of boredom can come some very creative moments."

"Don't be afraid to let your children be bored. If you have one activity after another, they don't have the chance to dig deep within themselves."

GREAT RATES ON SAVINGS!

8.75%

- IRA
- SAVINGS
- ROLLOVERS

6 MONTH C.D. - CALL FOR RATES

Offering: • Certificate of Deposits • Tax Free Funds • IRA Rollovers
• College Funds • Deferred Annuities • IRA

LIVONIA COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ADVISORS
476-1770

31393 W. 7 Mile • Corner of Merriman

*SPDA - \$2,000 minimum deposit - 100% FDICIAL GUARANTEE with maximum interest rate limits
*Interest compounded daily, credited annually. Penalty for early withdrawal. Subject to Federal Life (FDIC 4.1)

WANTED...MUSICIANS FOR MODELS

LaMoore photography is seeking Musicians to be photographed to help us develop our new display at Laurel Park Place. The theme of the display will change periodically, so watch for future ads.

In appreciation for your participation, we will do a complimentary photo session and give you a lovely desk size color portrait. All portraits must be taken before May 17, 1991. (Call Tuesday thru Saturday).

LaMoore
261-4660
33680 FIVE MILE ROAD
LIVONIA

ANY TIME ANY DAY...

It's as easy as 591-0500

Delivering YOUR Observer Newspaper is important to us. Whether you need to start, stop or change your subscription, we've made it easier for YOU. We've installed a 24 HOUR TELEPHONE LINE to take your call after regular business hours.

All you need is a touch-tone telephone and our circulation department telephone number:

591-0500

Our new automated system will quickly and easily guide you and enable you to call us when it's most convenient for you. We know that in order to serve our customers better, we need to be there for them...24 hours a day.

THE
Observer & Eccentric
NEWSPAPERS

OPENING MAY 4
WILSON'S PATIO FURNITURE

We manufacture our own PVC Casual Indoor and Outdoor Furniture

PVC Pipe Construction • Maintenance Free!
Colorful texture plastic-coated nylon fabric cushions

Lots of Styles & Colorful Cushions To Choose From

- Executive Recliner with Ottoman
- Loveseat
- Chaise Lounger
- Tote Table
- 18" round
- 17" x 22" Table
- 3 Seat Sofa
- 2 Seat Sofa

10489 (at the Red Barn) W. Seven Mile • Northville
½ Mile W. of Napier Rd.
349-8121

Observer & Eccentric CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

644-1070 Oakland County
591-0900 Wayne County
852-3222 Rochester/Rochester Hills