

Hills, Farmington crack down on illegal fireworks

Continued from Page 1

Class C fireworks include: flat papers, toy trick makers, sparklers, filter sparklers, cylinder fountains, cone fountains, snakes, smoke bombs, smoke pots, smoke grenades and smoke balls.

"Anything else is illegal. It's illegal to have them, sell them or transport them," Ellis said.

Well-known firecrackers, for example, are illegal, as are bottle rockets and flaring fireballs. Violators of the state fireworks law face a maximum misdemeanor penalty of 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine. Fireworks also will be confiscated.

Injuries have been held to a minimum in the past several years in the Farmington area because fire officials have cracked down on fireworks. But a potentially dangerous incident was reported in Farmington shortly before 9 p.m., Thursday.

NEIGHBORS NEAR Flanders Elementary School reported seeing a young man test a light smoke bomb into a new, wooden playhouse on the school's playground where children played. No one was injured but the wood appeared burned where the bomb landed, according to police reports.

A particularly dangerous incident occurred on July 7, 1989, in Farmington Hills. A bottle rocket launched from Branchester penetrated a screen and window of a house on nearby Arden Park, igniting a fire that gutted a second-story bedroom, causing \$30,000 damage.

No doubt illegal fireworks are dangerous, but so are

legal ones. Caution and supervision must be the rule when using fireworks.

Class C legal fireworks — have no age requirement. But fire officials suggest that children always have supervision. "We do recommend that anyone using fireworks, particularly a child, do it in the presence of an adult," Ellis said.

"We don't want fireworks to be something kids can learn to play with matches over," he said.

More often than not, the majority of fireworks injuries happen to people younger than 20. Victims of fireworks often suffer second- or third-degree burns, blindness, loss of hearing, loss of fingers and other permanent injuries.

"We want to eliminate all injuries," Ellis said.

TO BE ON the safe side, follow these precautions with fireworks:

- Put fireworks in a dry, cool place.
- Avoid rough handling of fireworks to avoid damage to their fuses.
- Use fireworks outdoors only.
- Keep fireworks away from houses, dry brush and other potentially ignitable things.
- Keep a bucket of water handy to put out small fires if they occur or to extinguish any malfunctioning fireworks.
- Light only one device at a time.

If you have leftover fireworks, don't store them from one year to another. "You never know what's going to happen. They are so unpredictable," Ellis said.



Farmington Hills firefighters Lee Panoushek (left) and Lee Strickfaden look over a collection of confiscated illegal fireworks that were collected in July 1989.

Man nabbed after chase

A 34-year-old Detroit man was arrested following an early morning break-in at a downtown Farmington store, after leading officers on a high speed chase in a stolen car into the city of Detroit.

The stolen car, plus a cash register from the store which held \$158 in cash, was recovered. After his arrest, the man told police he committed the crime to get money for cocaine.

At about 3 a.m. Thursday, off-duty Farmington public safety commander Michael Wiggins heard a

loud car, followed by a burglar alarm going off at the Benchmark, 32715 Grand River. He immediately phoned his department, who responded to the scene and put out information about the "loud" car.

At the store, a \$2,000 window was found shattered by a concrete block. Meanwhile, a Farmington Hills officer attempted to pull over a suspicious car at Eight Mile and Grand River, when the high-speed chase began.

It ended at Eight Mile and Lahser, where the driver crashed over the curb, blowing out all four

tires.

The car had been reported stolen from Lake County near Baldwin, Mich., on May 22.

The man was charged Thursday with breaking and entering a building with intent, driving with a suspended license, and failure to obey the police. He stood mute at his arraignment in 47th District Court before Judge Fred Harris, who set a \$5,000 corporate surety bond. He is being held in the Oakland County Jail, pending a preliminary examination.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from the agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public. The regular Farmington Hills City Council meetings are live on cable channel 18.

Farmington Hills City Council
Council chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Monday, June 17

Four public hearings are scheduled, including:

- consideration of determination of special assessment district for sanitary sewer improvements to Salisbury and Ambeth streets and notice of intent to issue bonds.
- consideration of determination of special assessment district for sanitary sewer improvements to Dunkirk and Ambeth streets and notice of intent to issue bonds.
- hearing to determine whether or not to proceed with Ambeth Street paving between Tuck and Dunkirk.
- consideration of water main easement vacation for Knight's Inn property in Section 30.

Under unfinished business, the council will consider enactment of an ordinance to add two sites to the city's Historic District and adoption of a resolution to levy an additional .1419 mills for the general fund.

Under the city manager's report, the council will discuss contracts for the city attorney and city manager and hear a report on the Twin Orchards office building.

Farmington City Council
Council chambers
23600 Liberty
8 p.m., Monday, June 17

The council will consider a fence variance for 22743 Brookdale, a sign variance for 22856 Orchard Lake

Road, and consider letters on stray cats, a block party and TIF legislation. The city of Oak Park is requesting the council consider action on a resolution regarding Detroit Public Library funding.

Under reports from the city manager, the council will consider:

- a sewer project change order to remove contaminated soil and adjust payments.
- allocation of municipal credit program funds.
- establishing a special assessment district for parking lot improvements.
- a resolution for Public Fund Investment Trust with Michigan National Bank.
- a recommendation to increase water and sewer rates.
- a residential lot split for Lot 30 of Plat 7.
- contracts for car washing and road salt.
- amendment to city manager's contract.

The council will appoint a member to the Farmington Area Commission on Aging.

Farmington Board of Education
Lewis Schulman Center
32500 Shawansee
Tuesday, June 18

6:15 p.m. — policy & board operations committee meeting

7 p.m. — building & site committee meeting

7:45 p.m. — reception for new assistant superintendent

8 p.m. — regular meeting

During the policy meeting, members will discuss board members attending conferences. The building and site committee will hear an update on Gill school and discuss other procedures. Just prior to the regular meeting, board members will convene to meet the candidate for the assistant superintendent for finance

position.

During the regular meeting, the board will:

- consider a contract extension for superintendent Michael Flanagan.
- appoint the assistant superintendent for finance.
- consider a recommendation for a Middle School Study Report presented at the June 4 curriculum committee meeting.
- hear a presentation about textbooks/curriculum for the areas of life management and accounting.
- award a bid for computer equipment for O.E. Dunckel Middle School.
- consider second reading of board policies on: Freedom of Information, graduation, business expenses, retention/promotion, comparability, distribution of community information, schools and religion, board representatives, code of ethics for school board members.

The board is also expected to vote to go into closed session at some point in the evening to discuss contract negotiations.

Farmington Hills Ethics Committee
Lower level conference room
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 19

The city council-appointed ethics committee will have further discussion on a code of ethics for council members.

Farmington Hills City Council
Council chambers
31555 11 Mile
7:30 p.m., Thursday, June 20

During this special study session council members are expected to review a proposed new ordinance for the city.

police/fire calls

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

MAN SENTENCED

A 29-year-old Farmington Hills man was sentenced June 8 in federal court in Detroit to serve eight months in prison, followed by two years of supervised release. He had been convicted of possessing a firearm as a previously convicted felon, said U.S. Attorney Stephen Markman.

Martin Scott Lustig pleaded guilty to the one count Feb. 28 in U.S. District Court, Detroit. The charge stemmed from a search warrant executed on Lustig's business, Anscot Distributing Co., Oak Park, in October 1989.

During the search authorities found a pistol in Lustig's safe. Lustig was previously convicted of a felony in Oakland County.

"The sentence was imposed under the United States Sentencing Guidelines according to the nature of the offense and the criminal background of the defendant," Markman said.

U.S. District Judge Robert DeMarco also ordered Lustig's business to pay a \$10,000 fine and a \$200 special assessment on a conviction for criminal copyright infringement. The company, on Lustig's approval,

pleaded guilty to the charge April 11, 1989.

The charge resulted from Anscot's involvement in the importation and sale of pirated copies of video equipment, which infringed on the Lucky 8 Line video game copyright held by Yamate USA Corp.

MINOR FIRE

An electrical fire at a vacant Farmington industrial building caused only minor damage June 11.

According to Farmington Department of Public Safety reports, a fire started in a lighting ballast at the site of the former Chesley Industries, 20775 Chesley Drive, in the Eight Mile/Farmington-Road area, setting off an alarm at about 8:41 a.m. Public safety officers responded to the scene and gained entry to the building where the fire could be seen.

About \$100 in damage was reported.

BOMB THREAT

A bomb threat phoned into the K mart store at Halsted and Grand River June 11 turned out to be nothing, according to Farmington Department of Public Safety reports.

Police were at the store on another matter when a man made two calls to the store during the early afternoon, saying a bomb was set to go off at 2:30 p.m. Officers suggested closing the store for a bomb search, but management at the store decided to remain open. Michigan State Police and bomb-sniffing dogs were also called to the scene.

Farmington officers left the store at about 3:10 p.m., once it was determined there was no concern.

THEFTS REPORTED

A limited edition print valued at \$200 was reported stolen from a house on Elm Grove, June 8-12.

Two two-way radios and an AM/FM radio valued at \$500 were reported stolen from three cars at Titan Toppoli Co., 31650 Eight Mile, June 11-12. Damage to the cars was estimated at \$1,000.

DAMAGE REPORTED

A car parked at H.R. Krueger Machine Tool, 31506 Grand River, Farmington, was scratched June 13, causing an estimated \$400 in damage.

Two vehicles, a 1984 Chevrolet and a 1987 Chevy, were damaged June 11-12 while they were parked at a Mobil Gas station, 33350 12 Mile. Damage was estimated at \$800 when someone pulled out the dashboard of the Chevrolet. A window was broken on the truck. Damage was estimated at \$100.

COUPON

the HAIR COMPANY

FROSTINGS \$22.00

Includes Frosting w/soap, Towel & Gel

Part-time Hairstylist Wanted

27715 W. 7 Mile Rd., 2 Blocks West of Inquirer

NEXUS 538-1044

Expires 6-22-91

Beauty Supplies

discounted everyday

20% 50% OFF

Jammi's

HAIR & NAIL SUPPLY

29113 Northwestern Highway

Southfield, MI 48034

355-3496

Designated areas restricted to licensed manicurists & cosmetologists only.

40% OFF

ALL PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE FURNITURE!

Sale Ends Mon., June 24th

Visit Classic Interiors Today...

Michigan's Leading Pennsylvania House Dealer

Classic Interiors

20292 Middlebelt, Livonia • South of 8 Mile

474-6900

Arthritis Today

Joseph J. Weiss, M.D. Rheumatology

18829 Farmington Road

Livonia, Michigan 48152

Phone: 478-7680

TIMING KNEE INJECTIONS - WHY NOT INJECT BEFORE YOU HURT?

"Doctor, I'm going out of town. Could you inject my knee now so I won't have a flare of arthritis while away?"

Unfortunately, injecting a joint that doesn't hurt is similar to spraying a hallway with a fire extinguisher today in hopes of preventing a blaze in the hall tomorrow.

The chemicals in a fire extinguisher act effectively only on the fire as it occurs. The same holds for the steroid medication in a joint injection. The medicine can only halt inflammation that is present now. The body removes the steroid from the joint in hours, no matter what the dose injected. Therefore, prevention of a recurrence depends on the body's ability to resist future development of inflammation or to overcome pockets of irritation as they develop.

Nor can the firefighter who uses the extinguisher to put out a hallway blaze state how long the time before another fire occurs. So the doctor who undertakes a knee injection today cannot predict how long the injection will prevent future flares of inflammation.

Joint injections are good procedures to give immediate relief from knee pain. No injection as yet can prevent inflammation from starting or protect against its recurrence.

LOSE WEIGHT WITH ACUPUNCTURE

You've probably tried to lose weight with all the usual ways. Acupuncture is an Ancient Oriental way of therapy. It has proven very helpful in treating many of modern day problems and diseases. Losing weight is one of them. NOW is the time to make a change and lose weight with acupuncture. For further information, CALL:

HAKIN PROFESSIONAL CLINIC, P.C.

Michael T. Harkin, D.O.

29200 Vassar, Suite 800, Livonia

477-7344

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