

Store owners to be tried on stolen goods charges

By Casey Hans
staff writer

Two owners of a Farmington Hills party store will stand trial in Oakland County Circuit Court, accused of buying stolen property from undercover police last spring with the intention of reselling it.

Burtos Hanna Jaghah, 45, and Jabra Mousa Ghannam, 33, Livonia residents and brothers-in-law, waived their rights to a preliminary examination in Farmington's 47th District Court Friday and were bound over for trial to Oakland County.

They are co-owners in BJ's Party Store, 38734 Grand River, Farmington Hills.

The men were arrested May 31 after an undercover Farmington Hills police officer sold about \$100 in

items on four separate occasions at the store. They are each charged with one felony count of conspiracy to buy, receive, possess or conceal stolen property in excess of \$100, and a high misdemeanor count of first-degree retail fraud.

Both have pleaded not guilty to the charges, and remain free after posting 10 percent of a \$10,000 bond.

Upon conviction, the conspiracy charge carries a maximum penalty of five years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. The fraud charge has a maximum one-year prison term and a \$500 fine.

In addition to these penalties, the men face loss of their store's liquor license if convicted of the felonies.

The undercover investigation began in May 1991 with a tip that the store purchased stolen or shoplifted items, then resold them. Police used

a special investigation fund to purchase items which an undercover officer took to the store to resell. The officer told the owners the items were stolen.

After getting a search warrant, police found records detailing the business practice.

Police also did a check for liquor law violations against the store. They found four violations for selling liquor to minors since 1978, for which the owners were ticketed and fined.

Also, in August 1987 the store was raided by police and a cache of narcotic paraphernalia was seized.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from the agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Farmington Hills Ethics Committee
Farmington Hills City Hall
Lower Level Conference Room A
3155 W. 11 Mile Road
7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 11

A discussion of a code of ethics for city employees and a report of a subcommittee on executive sessions will be held. A brief discussion on political contributions is also on the agenda.

Library Board of Trustees
Farmington Hills Branch Library
32737 W. 12 Mile Road


5 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 12

The board will discuss criteria to be used in the architect selection process and establish special meet-

ing dates for the architectural firm's presentations. The director will review repairs to the flood condition at the Farmington Branch, as well as highlight summer activities.

Arthritis Today

Joseph J. Weiss, M.D. Rheumatology
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Phone: 478-7860



WHEN ARTHRITIS WON'T RESPOND

There may come a time when your arthritis can't be controlled. No matter how much heat, rest, medication or injections you take, you feel no better the next day.

What then?

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At all times joint injection and aspiration need to be undertaken with care to not overuse this therapy. However, when your arthritis reaches an intolerable level of pain and impairment, temporary increase in joint injection therapy often can substantially slow flare.

The continuation of pain causes your physician to look into the status of your joints. It could be that your problem is the result of irreversible change in one or more joints. If such is the case then surgery, not more or new medicine, is the alternative of choice.

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- DEAD AGAIN (R)
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)
- DOUBLE IMPACT (R)
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- PURE LUCK (PG)
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

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UNITED ARTISTS

West River

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10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

HOT SHOTS
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

REGARDING HENRY (PG-13)
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

101 CALAMITIES (G)
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

TELEVISION II (G)
10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)


10 AM, 12 PM, 2 PM, 4 PM, 6 PM, 10 PM (10)

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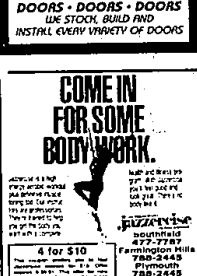


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