

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

YOUTHS ARRESTED

Police believe a rash of larcenies and damage incidents in the Chatham Hills area will halt after three young teens were detained and questioned by police last week.

The youths are 13 and 14 years old, and were apparently sneaking out of their homes at night, said deputy public safety director Gary Goss.

Incidents on Saxony, Brittany Hill Drive, Brittany Hill Court, Wesley, Vicary Whitaker Court and in the Chatham Hills and Jamestown apartment complexes were reported between Sept. 5 and Sept. 16, with damage totaling \$1,350 and hundreds of dollars in hood and trunk ornaments and hubcaps stolen. Although police have not officially linked the youths to all incidents, they believe the incidents are related.

"Some may be attributed to these

kids — some may not," Goss said. "We expect a lot of this to stop."

According to information from the Farmington Department of Public Safety, most of the incidents occurred during late night or early morning hours. Most of the reported damage occurred in one case, where a van was scratched with a key on all sides, a tire slashed and a backyard trampoline mat slashed on Brittany Hill Court.

Goss and other police officials are calling on parents in the city to get involved, and are aware of where children are at all times. "Parents have to get involved," he said.

MAN ARRESTED

A 27-year-old Farmington Hills man has been arrested and charged with breaking and entering.

The arrest followed an Aug. 8 break-in at Chatham Hills Apartments in which a microwave oven valued at \$150 and two telephones valued at \$200 were stolen from the complex.

Prints lifted at the scene by Detective Chris Guinan led police to the defendant. The same man

pleaded guilty in April to four counts of breaking and entering involving Farmington cases in Oakland County Circuit Court, according to public safety information.

CHEMICAL EMERGENCY

Residents of Windemere Apartments on Halsted, north of Grand River, were asked to leave their apartments Thursday after a gas was emitted from a combination of chemicals in the lower level, according to a Farmington Hills fire report.

"People working on the floor used two chemicals that interacted, creating a gas," said Farmington Hills deputy fire chief Peter Baldwin.

Firefighters with the hazardous materials unit took a sample from the floor in the laundry room and determined it was muriatic acid. The building was ventilated and the chemicals were neutralized and disposed of properly by the contractor, according to the report.

OVERPASS TROUBLE

Michigan State Police unofficially confirmed that something fell from

the Orchard Lake Road overpass at I-696 Thursday afternoon.

Farmington Hills police received a call and referred the caller to the state police who took the report.

Despite media reports that an object was thrown at traffic below, it's believed something, such as concrete or a brick, fell from the bridge. The investigation is continuing and information is still unofficial, according to the state police.

THEFTS REPORTED

Copper pipe and fittings, a riding mower and hot water heater valued at \$375 were reported stolen from a garage on Parkhill, Sept. 12.

Wheelcovers valued at \$285 were reported stolen from a 1992 Buick at the Green Hill Apartments on Nine Mile, Sept. 16-17. Wheelcovers valued at \$200 were also reported stolen from a 1987 Buick from the same complex.

Wheelcovers valued at \$1,000 were reported stolen from a 1987 Cadillac at the Orchard Place Condominiums on Orchard Lake Road, Sept. 16.

Police sound warning on scam artists

BY CAREY HANS

STAFF WRITER

Farmington police are warning their residents — especially older ones — to be aware of what they believe to be a ring of con artists after two reported incidents of problems in the Nine Mile/Farmington Road area.

On Sept. 13, an 83-year-old woman parked in the Farmer Jack parking lot was approached by a man who offered to fix the rust on her car for \$40, to which she agreed. After she complained about the job — which included only putting a fill

material onto her car without sanding it — the man told her he would paint it for \$150. She called police.

In a second incident on Sept. 15, a 78-year-old woman in the same parking lot was stopped by a man who told her her car was on fire and offered to give her a ride home. The woman refused, became frightened and contacted police.

Police continue to investigate the incidents and believe a group of people operating a scam live in the Kensington Manor Apartments on Farmington Road, said deputy public safety director Gary Goss.

He warns: "Remember, if it sounds too good to be true, it is. Whatever you do, don't let them into your house or car."

Goss said similar incidents have occurred in other communities in recent weeks, including Southfield, Livonia, Macomb County, Commerce Township and West Bloomfield.

Some of the approaches have included asking to repair roofs or driveways. Sometimes it is a ruse to get into a person's house and steal money, as was the case in Livonia. These people often move from

area to area, once police get on their trail, Goss said.

Although targets are often older citizens, "anybody can get hit on this," he added. "You get caught off guard. They make their living by leading you into these things — and they're good at it."

Goss estimates that 50-80 percent of such incidents are never reported to police because victims are embarrassed. He recommends whenever anything appears suspicious, call their local police department, and to always check with a better business bureau or police if suspicious.

Hills officer voted softball MVP

Farmington Hills police officer Don Fradette has been named one of the 10 all-world players in the American Softball Association's National Law Enforcement Softball Tournament.

Fradette, an officer in the depart-

ment's traffic section, also was voted the most valuable player of the tournament held Sept. 11-13 in Oklahoma City.

His hitting average was over .700 and he pitched every game with a low earned run average.

Fradette went to the tournament with the Macomb Metro Police team, which represented Michigan. Following three days of competition, Macomb Metro won the honor of national law enforcement champions for the United States.

Memorial tree planting slated

Trees will be planted in a special memorial service in Heritage Park at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 22.

The tree planting ceremony is sponsored by the Farmington Hills Special Services Department. Trees will be dedicated in the memory of: • Erin Bush: an Austrian pine, donated by Wayne E. Pelegino, will be planted on the south side of the entrance of the park.

• Marianna L. (Penny) Stairs: a Blue Spruce will be planted on the south island of the north parking lot. The tree was donated by Justine Noetzel, Mary Lou Seldon and Dorothy Van Kempen.

• Laurie E. Hohen: two groves (10 trees each) of Washington Hawthornes will be planted on the north side of the entrance road and west side of the road leading to the visitor center. The trees were donated by family members and friends.

• Alexander B. Brandon: a Crimson King Maple, contributed by employees of Cal-Trac Equipment, will be planted near the bridge by the day camp building.

• Charlotte Muntain: a Flowering Crab, donated by family members and friends, will be planted on the north island of the visitor center parking lot.

• Robert Byrd: a Colorado Blue Spruce will be planted on the hill between the outdoor classroom and

the main road. The tree was donated by the Angelle family in memory of their grandfather.

• Florence Raymond: a Flowering Crab, donated by the Hill & Dale Garden Club, will be planted on the north island of the visitor center parking lot.

• Thomas Kelth Milligan: a Sugar Maple will be planted on the north side of the day camp building. The tree was donated by Norbert and Patricia Pitera and Michael and Kristie Fouat.

Prior to the ceremony, participants will gather in front of the visitor center where each group will be directed to their individual planting areas. A photograph of each group will be taken and placed in a memorial book in the visitor center.

Anyone who is interested in the program should contact the special services department at 473-9573. The program, which began in earnest this year, allows people to donate money for trees to plant as a living memorial for family members and friends.

Special services staff work with interested people and will choose a particular tree needed in the park or allow participants their own choice of trees.

Memorial tree planting ceremonies are conducted in the spring and fall.

Italian cultural group elects officers

Dr. Piero Fan, emeritus professor of physiology at Wayne State University and a resident of West Bloomfield, is the newly elected president of the Dante Alighieri Society of Michigan.

Other members of the society's board of directors are: Mike Basile of Troy, president of M.B. Products Co.; Giuliana Colombi of Troy, an associate with Real Estate One; Virginia Cateneo of Grosse Pointe, an instructor at Wayne State University; Maria Harris of West Bloomfield, controller of Pinin Farina of North America; Gil Pezza of Southfield, an attorney associated with Butzel Long; Dr. Liborio Tran-

chida of Birmingham; professor of medicine at Wayne State University; Isabella Tucci of Birmingham, an associate with Cranbrook Realtors; and Emily Wiedemann, former contract specialist for the U.S. government in Italian affairs.

The Dante Alighieri Society was founded more than a hundred years ago in Rome and is dedicated to promoting the Italian culture and language throughout the world by means of lectures, exhibits, concerts, formal language courses, informal conversation groups and other cultural events.

For information, call (313) 569-0908 or (313) 626-2110.

OBITUARY

ELIZABETH BROWN

Mrs. Brown, 76, of Farmington Hills died Sept. 15 in Charter House, Farmington Hills.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Brown was a homemaker. She was a member of the Redford Baptist Church, past president of Farmington Garden Club, certified judge (nationwide) and a member of the Flower Arrangements Guild.

Survivors include her husband, Harold; son, Lawrence; four grandchildren.

Services were Sept. 18 at the McCabe Funeral Home, Farmington Hills, with the Rev. William Nelson of Redford Baptist Church officiating.

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Are you a Compulsive Overeater?

	Yes	No
1. Do you eat when you're not hungry?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Do you go on eating binges for no apparent reason?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Do you have feelings of guilt and remorse after overeating?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Do you give too much time and thought to food?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Is your weight affecting the way you live your life?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Do you use fasting, strenuous exercise, vomiting or laxatives to control your weight?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Have you tried to diet for a week (or longer), only to fall short of your goal?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

If you answer "yes" to three or more of these questions, you may be a compulsive overeater. You are not alone. Millions of Americans suffer from this disease.

Compulsive overeating is a painful, relentless illness that interferes with every aspect of life. It is a disease that gets progressively worse if left untreated.

Weight gain often accompanies this illness. But not always. Many compulsive overeaters maintain normal body weight by strict diets, fasting, strenuous exercise, vomiting, or excessive laxative use. These methods are ineffective and medically dangerous.

Weight is not the problem, and dieting is not the solution. The problem is the disease of compulsive overeating, and the solution is a program of treatment and recovery.

The Eating Disorders Recovery Center (EDRC) of St. Mary Hospital offers an outpatient treatment program that leads to lasting recovery. Our approach is comprehensive. We help our patients make lifestyle changes that give them renewed confidence in themselves and more control over their lives. Gradually, the chronic binge/diet cycle is replaced by a healthy, more satisfying, and more productive way of life. With food in its proper place, weight normalizes.

At EDRC, we work as a team — psychologist, psychiatrist, physician, nutritionist, and specially trained therapists — to diagnose and treat eating disorders. This experienced staff provides treatment with understanding and sensitivity.

If compulsive overeating is a problem for you, or someone you love, take the first step toward recovery. Call us today at 591-2936. WE CAN HELP.

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