Poking around



Fire's aftermath: Farmington Hills firefighters poke at the burned area of a house that caught fire on Canfield in the southeastern part of the city recently. There were no injuries. Fire officials said the blaze started after wiring shorted in the

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

III THEFTS

Police report the theft of a 32 inch TV, VCR and still life painting from a residence on Bannockburn in Farmington Hills between Nov. 5 and Nov. 10.

The owner said he left his door wall open and the screen locked after his family room had been flooded. He left for the weekend, and returned to find the items stolen. Police have no suspects. In another case, police report

the theft of a video camera worth \$1,200 from a residence on Cora Street in Farmington Hills be-tween 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. on Nov.

13.
There was no forced entry.
Diving equipment worth \$1,510
was stolen from a residence on
Crestview in Farmington Hills on
Nov. 14 between noon and 10:50
p.m. Police are investigating.

D DRUG SEARCH

Farmington Hills police helped Westland police in a drug raid on Osmus Street in Farmington Hills on Nov. 13. The suspect, 37, was not pres-ent when police arrived. After

forcing their way in, police found several ounces of suspected mari-juona, \$1,300 in cash, several fans and narcotic paraphernalis. Westland police seized the items. Police will question the suspect.

A smoke detector tipped off a resident on Biddestone near Farmington Road in Farmington Hills to a fire in his basement on

Hills to a fire in his basement on Monday. Firefighters extinguished the blaze at 5:50 p.m. A malfunction-ing water heater probably started the fire, which ignited insulation. There were no injuries.

Bookstore wants marker to make it more visable

BY SUE BUCK

Fray Warra

People driving on Grand River
often whiz by before they realize
that they've missed the Books
Abound bookstore.

Business at the six-year-old
store is fine, according to Skip
Rosenthal, a co-owner with wife
Alice McCoy, but it sure would
help if customers could locate the
store quicker.

"They can't find us," Rosenthal said.

Solution? A sign. Not just any
sign but one that would be placed
off the Books Abound property
and on the cast side of the Civic
Theater.

Theater.
So, in spring, Rosenthal sp-

plied for a sign variance.

The problem? Under the regulation of the city's sign ordinance, a business is not permitted to place a sign advertising a business not on the property on which the sign has been placed.

It thought it would be automatic, 'Rosenthal said, 'But, we took it in good spirits. We already lad the encouragement of the thead owner.'

owner."
Rosenthal found that he needed to do a hit more work when the Council tabled the item April 20, instructing Rosenthal to contact neighboring property owners to see if they could incorporate other businesses into a sign serving the group and therefore avoid setting

a precedent.
"We have an unusual situation here where the parking lot for these businesses is located east of the Civic Theatre and the theater blocks the view of the rear entrance to the business," said Farmington city manager Robert.

Art the Nov. 16 meeting, Council approved Rosenthal's four-by-four foot sign and a directional arrow which incorporates the name of his business as well as his neighbors, Farmington Shee Repair and Cowley's Old Village Inn. "Things just don't hepgrast," Rosenthal said. "We just keep plodding ahead."

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