



Car pooling: A 1993 Ford Explorer, driven by Stacey Ellen Montross, ended up in the swimming pool behind a house on Shadown in the Nine Mile/Halsted area Thursday.

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months ago and lives at a nearby apartment complex, got out of the Explorer before it sank and even put it in park, locked the doors and took the key with her, police said.

Hills DPW crews helped pump out the pool so the Explorer could be pulled out, and Hills firefighters refilled the pool. None of the occupants of the two houses involved were home at the time of the accident.

"It was just kind of amazed," Judy Stewart, who lives with her family on the corner, said later.

Montross was taken to Botsford Hospital for observation and released Friday. She did not return phone calls Friday.

Fradette said he was surprised that the vehicle had gone over the first deck without hitting the fire wood on one side

'Because she used her seat belt and shoulder harness she was able to walk away from that accident without serious injury. It (the Ford Explorer) had been going like a pin ball.'

Don Fradette
Hills officer

or the house on the other. It did take out lawn furniture and the deck's wall. There were no damage estimates available at press time. Alcohol was not involved, police said.

Firefighters said Montross asked if someone could recover her marriage license, which was inside the Explorer. Firefighters were able to rescue Montross' marriage license, after they found it, in a white envelope, floating in the pool.

They said the woman also told them she had lost feeling in her fingers just before the accident.

Stewart, who has twin 16-year-old sons who take the school bus to Farmington High School, said she was concerned about the corner.

"Next time we might not be so lucky," she said. "They (buses) used to pick the kids up here (within the subdivision). Now they pick the high school kids

up on this side (where the Ford went off the road) and the junior high students on the other side."

She said that change of bus route, along with the number of accidents at the Halsted and Nine Mile intersection, worried her.

"The speed limit on Nine Mile is 40," she said. "But a lot of people are zipping right along, trying to beat the light."

Traffic supervisor Sgt. Ray Cranston said the accident is still under investigation. He said there were only eight accidents on Thursday, including the one on Shadown, which is an average number, despite the bad weather.

"Usually, when people know what's coming (snowstorm), it isn't so bad," he said.

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

THEFT
Hubcaps worth \$200 were stolen from a silver Ford Tempo at the Windemere Apartments on Jefferson Court in Farmington Hills Jan. 4.

A tailgate (\$700) was stolen from a blue 1993 Ford F-150 pickup parked at Source One Mortgage on Farmington in Farmington Hills Jan. 4.

Construction equipment worth \$3,952.47 was stolen from a red 1992 GMC van parked on Grand River in Farmington Hills Jan. 4.

A red and black Toro snow blower (\$500) was stolen from a residence on Creekside in Farmington Hills Jan. 6.

An outdoor thermometer (\$15) was stolen from a garage on Loomis Drive in Farmington Jan. 6.

Shrub lights (\$95) and outdoor lights (\$25) were taken from a residence on Heritage Court in Farmington Jan. 4.

AUTO THEFT
A 1985 Mercury worth \$3,000 was stolen from Sunshine Acres on Grand River in Farmington Hills Dec. 27-30.

A red and gray 1991 Jeep Wrangler worth \$12,000 was stolen from Bob Saks on Grand River in Farmington Hills Jan. 3-4.

BREAK-IN
The passenger door window of a gray 1993 Corvette was broken and a \$200 radar detector, 36 CDs worth \$642, a man's full-length leather coat, a briefcase with calculator and planner (\$500), a \$150 pair of Oakley sun glasses and \$50 in Canadian cash were stolen Jan. 4-5.

The front seat of a 1983 blue VW parked at Max and Irma's on Orchard Lake was broken causing \$200 in damage and stereo equipment (\$2,000) was stolen Jan. 6.

VANDALISM
The rear window of a brown 1993 Olds Cutlass parked on Hagerter in Farmington Hills was broken Jan. 3 causing \$350 in damage.

The rear window of a white and brown 1991 Dodge Caravan parked on Grand River in Farmington Hills was broken out with some type of projectile Jan. 5 causing \$400 in damage.

CAR FIRE
Farmington Public Safety officers put an engine fire on 1979 Ford pickup truck near Eight Mile and Farmington roads Jan. 5. The fire, which is believed to have been started in the carburetor, caused \$1,500 damage.

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FLUID IN THE KNEE THAT KEEPS RETURNING

Suppose one day you wake and find you have a swollen knee. The swelling does not go down until your doctor drains it. The knee swells once more, and this time before taking the fluid off again, your physician proceeds with a thorough investigation. However, x-rays, tests, and analysis of the joint fluid removed for the second time turn up no answers.

Your joint swelling promptly comes back. Why is the fluid reaccumulating, and what can be done to stop the problem?

The fluid returns because something continues to inflame the knee. The usual evaluation will uncover causes such as osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, or gout, but a number of joint irritants are not so easily uncovered. These causes are best identified by obtaining a sample of the knee joint lining cells and subjecting the sample to microscopic analysis.

To accomplish this procedure, your physician will enlist the assistance of an orthopedist to undertake arthroscopy of the knee. With the arthroscope, the orthopedic surgeon can see the knee cavity lining, and find those cells that are inflamed. He can take a biopsy from this area for microscopic analysis.

In most instances this approach to knee swelling gives an answer in puzzling cases. Moreover, once the cause is clear, your doctor has the basis for treatment that will resolve the problem.

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