

WWII vets honored in holiday parade

The annual Farmington Memorial Day Parade will start at 10 a.m. Monday, May 29, in downtown Farmington.

As usual, the parade route will be northwest along Grand River Avenue from about Mooney to the war memorials near the Masonic Temple.

This year's parade will be dedicated to the Farmington area's World War II veterans. They'll march — or more likely ride — in the parade, according

to Wally Christensen, parade official.

Some 250 area WWII vets have been rounded up for the parade, but Christensen is looking for more. Other veterans are needed to help with parade duties. Christensen is also looking for antique autos and convertibles to carry the WWII vets on parade day.

Any volunteers? Call Christensen at 474-8554.

Hills resident gets leadership award

The University of Michigan-Dearborn presented alumnus Stephen T. Economy, a Farmington Hills resident and deputy director of Detroit Metropolitan Airport, with the Distinguished Leadership Award at the University's commencement April 23.

Economy serves as a volunteer co-chair of the UM-Dearborn Capital Campaign, and has served on the University's Citizens Advisory Committee since 1989. He earned a bachelor's degree in political science in 1965.

"Stephen Economy's efforts on behalf of UM-Dearborn have raised more than \$1 million, including capital campaign contributions to the School of Management and Engineering, special grants to the Department of Mathematics for improved programs to teach calculus, as well as support student scholarship throughout the academic curriculum," said UM-Dearborn Chancellor James C. Renick.

From 1965-95, Economy served in various positions in public af-

airs for Michigan Bell and Ameritech, most recently as vice-president of external relations for Ameritech.

While at Ameritech, he was involved in numerous outreach programs, including computer technology programs for elementary, secondary and higher education classrooms throughout the region.

Economy also serves on several boards including the Economic Club of Detroit, the Michigan Economic Education Council, the Farmington Area Drug Advisory Council, and the Michigan Parade Foundation.

A native of Detroit, Economy and his wife, Tula, are the parents of three sons. Their eldest, Tom, is a student at UM-Dearborn.

The Distinguished Leadership Award is given "to recognize and honor at commencement those individuals who have made a significant contribution to the welfare and development of the University of Michigan-Dearborn for an extended period of time."

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

BREAK-INS

Musical equipment was stolen from an unlocked garage on Power Road recently and reported to Farmington Hills police over the weekend. A Professional Services guitar, valued at \$200, was taken, along with a guitar amplifier worth \$250, an effects pedal costing \$90, and 10, 10- to 12-foot cords of unspecified value. The homeowner suspects acquaintances of his child, two boys ages 12 and 13.

The owner of a 1995 Nissan Pathfinder reported to Farmington Hills police that someone broke into his vehicle through the hatchback recently while it was parked on Lana. There was damage to the hatch lock and several items were stolen, including new speakers valued at \$400, an amplifier valued at \$350, a 35-millimeter Canon camera in a camera bag worth \$500, a black leather jacket, and a two-drawer tool box with assorted Craftsman tools, worth \$200.

A house under construction on Averhill was broken into recently. The owner told Farmington Hills police that he suspects a man he hired to do drywall work and given free access to the house is the likely culprit. Missing items were discovered in a crawl space.

Three aluminum ramps used for loading Ryder trucks were stolen from Northwest Vacuum, 32650 Northwestern Highway, last week. A company spokesman said the 12-foot-long ramps were valued at \$1,200.

Thieves also made off with an 8-horsepower mixer motor from a cement mixer parked near the ice arena in Founders Park at Eight Mile and Gill. That was reported on Monday. The motor was valued at \$600.

A locked construction trailer on

Drake Road was broken into on Monday when someone removed an outside lock. Approximately \$2,000 of copper pipe was stolen. A razor knife was left on the scene.

A 12-year-old girl reported her violin was stolen from a school bus stop in the Country Ridge Apartments. The girl told police she left the Meisel brown violin in its black case (valued at \$500) at the bus stop while she went to use the bathroom in the adjacent apartment clubhouse. When she returned, the violin was gone. The violin is owned by Anderson Music in Dearborn and she was renting it. She told police she saw no one in the vicinity.

ASSAULT

A 17-year-old resident of Boys Republic was assaulted by a fellow resident Saturday afternoon. The attack resulted in a trip to Botsford Hospital, where the injured boy required six stitches in his forehead just above the eye. According to police reports, the two boys argued about ketchup while eating lunch in the dining room of the center, at 28000 Nine Mile. The victim says he sat down to continue eating when the other youth walked over and threw a bottle of hot sauce, which hit him in the forehead and shattered. The victim said he stood up, dashed and walked away, with cuts and scrapes. The attacker, a 15-year-old boy, was restrained by two workers until police arrived and arrested him.

Two women were fighting outside of T.J. Maxx in the Downtown Center May 16. A verbal altercation started after one cut in front of the other in line. The argument ended outside and one began punching the other. Neither wanted to press charges.

A \$2,000 computer was stolen from a 1989 Ford Probe parked at Perry Drugs on Farmington Road May 12.

THREAT

A soccer referee and the president of the Farmington Soccer League filed a report with Farmington Hills Police Sunday afternoon after an irate father threatened the referee after a soccer match. The game took place on a field at 12 Mile and Drake roads, after which the referee was approached by an unidentified man, possibly the father of a boy playing on the 9 years and under team from Northville. The man allegedly said that he was going to start carrying a gun to games and shoot the referees. Later he repeated his statements before leaving the park in a green Dodge Neon. The referee copied the license number, and the car was discovered to be leased to a Maryland-based firm.

ATTEMPTED ABDUCTION

An 11-year-old girl waiting for her mother to pick her up from the Farmington Hills library was approached by a strange man late Monday afternoon who tried to coax her into leaving with him, according to police reports. The girl was standing outside the library on 12 Mile Road at 6:15 when the man asked her name, then said her mother was at the post office and she was supposed to go with him. She told the man she wasn't supposed to go with strangers, and she ran away. The man fled. The girl's mother arrived minutes later and the two reported the incident to library staff, then later to police. The man is described as in his 20s, with brown hair and in need of a shave, wearing sunglasses, jeans and tan jacket. He was about 5-foot-10 and weighed 180 pounds.

RUNAWAYS

Two 16-year-old residents of Rainbow Beach on Farmington Road were reported missing Monday evening at approximately 7:30 p.m. The boy and girl diagnosed with severe closed-head injuries

have emotional problems. The director of the home said the pair have the judgment level of 10-year-olds and could be easy prey. The boy returned just after midnight, after calling home staff to pick him up near Seven Mile and Grand River. He told police the duo had been out walking around Farmington. He said the girl called a boy she met last weekend at Northland Mall to pick her up. She is still missing. The girl is described as weighing 150 pounds, medium build, with shoulder length brown hair and brown eyes. She was wearing tight black stretch jeans, a black Mickey Mouse sweatshirt and a gold M necklace. She was listed as a missing person in the system.

FIRE

An arson fire in a boys restroom at East Middle School caused a brief evacuation Monday afternoon. No one was injured and damage was limited to a \$30 trash bin. The fire occurred just after 2 p.m. in a green trash barrel and was quickly extinguished by a teacher. One boy, a student at the school, was being held for questioning. The fire alarm was activated and the school was evacuated for a short period of time, until the smoke cleared. The Farmington Hills fire department was on the scene and ventilated the restroom after school was dismissed for the day.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

Farmington police arrested a Novi man, 51, for drunken driving on Grand River near Halsted May 14. Police stopped the 1986 Lincoln Town Car after it was seen drifting on westbound Farmington Road. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .16 percent.

Farmington police arrested a Westland woman, 28, for drunken driving on Tree Hill May 16. Police stopped the 1985 Mercury Marquis after it was seen drifting on Halsted. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .22 percent.

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