# Farmington takes a 10 percent bite out of crime

Crime and the city of Farming-ton don't mix.

ton don't mix.

Major felonies were down by more than 10 percent in 1995, according to Farmington Public Safety Department's 1995 Operations Report. That mirrors a 40-percent drop in Part One crimes during the past 15 years in the city, Public Safety Director Gary Goss seid.

bory, assault, burglary, larceny, stalking and car theft.
Goss presented the annual statistical warp up to Farmington City Council members at Monday's meeting. Council members greeted the numbers with civic gies.

"It's a very, very safe city to live in," Mayor Jo Anne McShane said.
Number of reported thefts dropped by 15 percent from 350 in 1994 to 296 last year.

Residential burglaries remained the same at 11, but there

was an increase in commercial break-ine from nine to 11. Two more well-known burglaries oc-curred during Christmas when DuQuet Jewelers and Gene's Coin Shop were robbed of \$618,000 worth of items.

Burglaries, which include at-tempts, increased slightly from 41 to 44 in 1995. That pales, though, to 10 years ago when there were 111 reported break-ins.

Neighborhood Watch is credit-ed with helping thwart burglaries. The program has grown from 61

blocks organized in 1986 to 113 in 1995, which is 82 percent of the city's residential area. Number of reported criminal sexual conduct incidents — seven — remains unchanged. Though, Parmington had two well-publicized rape cases in 1995, including one in the T.J. Maxx parking lot where a teenage girl was attacked by a man wearing a mask. A Farmington Hills man has been charged in the case. A trial is pending.

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The other actually occurred in 1994, but charges were not filed until last year because of a delay in DNA test results. Two men are awaiting trail in the case where a teenage girl was raped during a boutse party.

No murders occurred in the city. The last one was in 1994 when a dental hygienlat was bludgeoned to death by her estranged husband, who is serving allfe term for her murder.

Arrests interested Councilman Bill Hartscot, who asked about the department's 25 percent clearance rate on Part One crimes. The national average is 26.4 percent for cities of comparable size, Goas said.

It's difficult to investigate crimes unless there is physical evidence or a pattern involved, Goas added. Compared to surrounding communities, Farmington has its actime.

communities, less crime. "The clearance rate is appropri-ate to the amount of crime we

Part Two crimes increased mainly due to drunken driving and drug arrests.

mainly file to discover and drug arrests.

Marijuans was involved in A majority of the six reported drug incidents. Police reported drumken driving incidents in 1995.

"I'd attribute that to enforcement," Goss said. "The department has placed a high emphasis on drunk driving and alcohol related types of crimes.

"We're getting fewer and fewer first time offenders. We're getting fower and fewer first time offenders. We're getting a lot of second and third (time offenders).

fonders).

"What we're getting at — with aggressive enforcement — is people with problems."

### Police from page 8A

covered a Baggie of marijuana in |

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from 2500 Corp. on Northwestern in Farmington Hills Feb. 5 while posing as a current employes.

M ASSAULT
A Fermington Hills girl, 12

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told police that another girl, 12, who is a student at East Middle School attacked her along with three other girls on a fus on Hamilton Street in Farmington Hills at 2:30 p.m. March 1.

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