

Library hosts home-buying seminar

Kimberly Harris, coauthor with Century 21 Hartford presents a free seminar on Tuesday, Aug. 6 from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at the Farmington Library on Liberty Street in Farmington.

Space is limited and reservations can be obtained by calling 367-9388.

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District takes stock in land ownership

By LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER

Farmington Board of Education is dabbling in the real estate business: The district is looking to sell vacant residential lots it owns in three subdivisions.

Individual lots are in Franklin Forest, Park Hills and Woodcote subdivisions in Farmington Hills. The district bought the land to use for possible walkways, said Cheryl Cannon, assistant superintendent for Finance.

"We just don't need them," Cannon said. "We might as well sell them and put them on the

tax rolls."

The district is working with a marketing company that specializes in the sale of land for schools, Cannon said. The three lots still need to be appraised.

The board agreed to put the lots up for sale after an inventory was done of district-owned vacant land. The parcels up for sale pile in size to vacant land — 16 acres near 11 Mile and Halsted and another five acres on Nine Mile — the district owns. These two sites spark several inquiries from developers.

For now, the district intends on holding onto both, Cannon said.

"I get calls from people who want to buy it," she said. "They'll say, 'You own this. You own

that. Would you consider selling...?'"

"That's why I put this inventory together. Now we know exactly what we own."

In the past, sale of district-owned land has generated considerable revenue.

Farmington schools sold the property on 13 Mile and Orchard Lake, which was the site of Bond Elementary, to a developer for \$340,000 in 1980.

Six years later, the district received \$3 million from Little Caesars for 40 acres of vacant land on Drake and 12 Mile.

Little Caesars planned to build its world headquarters on the site, but opted to move those operations to downtown Detroit when the Ilitch family bought

the Fox Theatres. The site contains soccer fields.

Initially, the district planners intended to use the Drake-12 Mile land for a fourth high school 30 years ago. When population shifts in the 1970s and '80s negated the need for another high school, the board sold the land.

District owns vacant land in order to build new schools in case there is a population increase, trustee R. Jack Inch said.

"The thinking on holding onto the land is because if there is a building boom where there is a change in population ... It's thought to be wise to keep it as an alternative," Inch said.

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

POLICE AND FIRE CALLS

In Farmington Hills:

A total of 39 air bags worth \$39,000 were stolen from new Toyota Camrys at Bob Saks Toyota on Grand River July 29-30.

A \$200 cellular phone and a \$50 were stolen from the Phoenix Group on Orchard Lake July 25.

A \$200 Pioneer CD player, \$300 CD Ram, \$300 Motorola cellular phone, a \$300 set of Power Built golf clubs, A \$200 set of Bauer skates, a \$200 man's wallet and a \$100 tape recorder were stolen from a white 1993 Pontiac Grand Am parked on Eton Glen July 31.

Five CDs and a \$250 cellular phone were stolen from a white 1994 Geo Prizm parked on Eton Glen July 31.

A \$160 black leather brief case, \$500 Motorola cellular phone and two pair of prescription glasses (\$1,000) were stolen from a black 1995 GMC Jimmy parked on Lake Park July 30-31.

A \$300 19-inch color TV was stolen from a residence at the Courtyard Manor on Farmington July 30-31.

A \$2,000 wedding ring, \$2,000 diamond cluster ring, \$1,500 sapphire ring and \$1,500 pearl and ruby ring were stolen from a residence on Tins July 1-30.

Cash (\$250) was stolen from American House on Middlebelt between May 1 and July 31.

11:30 p.m. July 30 during an argument. The arrested the woman was intoxicated.

A Hills woman, 27, told police that her husband, 30, hit her and threw her into a wall at their Section 20 residence July 31.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

In Farmington Hills:

Hills police arrested a Livonia girl, 17, for driving a green 1996 Ford Explorer west on I-96 at I-275 while drunk at 12:45 a.m. July 31. The Explorer was weaving. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .07 percent. A person under age 21 with a blood alcohol level of .01 percent or higher is considered too drunk to drive in Michigan.

FLEEING AND ELUDING

In Farmington Hills:

Hills police arrested a Detroit man, 37, in a northbound black 1986 Ford Crown Victoria on Haggerty near Hills Tech at 3:50 a.m. July 31 for fleeing and eluding officers. The officers had attempted to pull over the car for no plates on Grand River near 10 Mile. The car accelerated and let would not stop for 1.3 miles before pulling into the lot of Infa Hollandia. The man left the car and ran before officers could catch him on foot.

BREAK-INS

In Farmington Hills:

The top of a tan and green 1996 Ford Mustang convertible was destroyed causing \$1,000 in damage at the Strawberry Lane Apartments on Strawberry Lane July 30-31 and a \$100 cellular phone was stolen.

The inside office door was cracked (\$60) at the Independence Green Apartments on Independence July 30-31 and a \$500 Brother fax machine, \$500 Sharp VCR/TV, \$150 TV and \$500 copy machine were stolen.

The front door was broken open (\$200) at a residence on Sierra Point July 26-31 but nothing was stolen.

The door and frame were damaged (\$300) during a break-in attempt at Arvin North American Auto on Northwestern July 30-31.

The windows of a green 1984 Chevy S-10, a green 1993 Dodge Shadow and a black 1987 Cadillac limousine were broken (\$300) at Bob Saks on Grand River and the stereo systems (\$1,500) were stolen Aug. 1.

EMBEZZLEMENT

In Farmington Hills:

Cash totaling \$275 was stolen from Waiting 2 X-Hale on Northwestern Highway July 27-28.

A \$287 Suzuki Swift black car hood was taken from Bob Saks on Grand River July 10.

SHOPLIFTING

In Farmington Hills:

Hills police arrested a Detroit man, 25, for attempting to take 56 bottles of Actron pain reliever worth \$358.18 without paying at the F & M on Grand River July 30.

VANDALISM

In Farmington Hills:

A Southfield boy, 16, told Hills police that a West Bloomfield girl reached through the window of the 1996 white Nissan Maxima he was in at Marvelous Marvin's on Orchard Lake and scratched his face and pulled his hair. She then kicked the door and pulled the antenna causing \$300 in damage July 22.

The driver's side of a red 1996 Dodge Ram pickup was scratched with a key (\$800) at Bob Saks Dodge on Grand River July 26-31.

DRUGS

In Farmington Hills:

Hills police arrested a Detroit woman, 19, in a blue 1983 Pontiac Parisian parked at the Kroger store on Middlebelt at 9:30 p.m. July 30 for possession of 4 grams of marijuana.

Hills police arrested a Detroit man, 46, in a gray 1983 Mercury Zephyr at 3:05 p.m. July 31 for possession of drug paraphernalia. The car was pulled over for having no plate on Grand River at Drake.

MARIJUANA FOUND

In Farmington:

Farmington police found two plastic bags — 8.6 grams — of marijuana in a 1989 Ford Bronco during a traffic stop on Farmington and Tall Oaks at 3:15 a.m. Aug. 1. Police stopped the vehicle after it was traveling at 55 miles an hour in a 40 mile zone. The driver, who was arrested, appeared to have been drinking but refused to take a breath test. Police also found an opened 32 ounce bottle of beer in the vehicle. As a result of the marijuana found, police also confiscated \$343 cash from the driver in drug forfeiture money.

FRAUD

In Farmington Hills:

A Hills woman told police that someone had obtained \$462 in phone services in April by using her name and social security number.

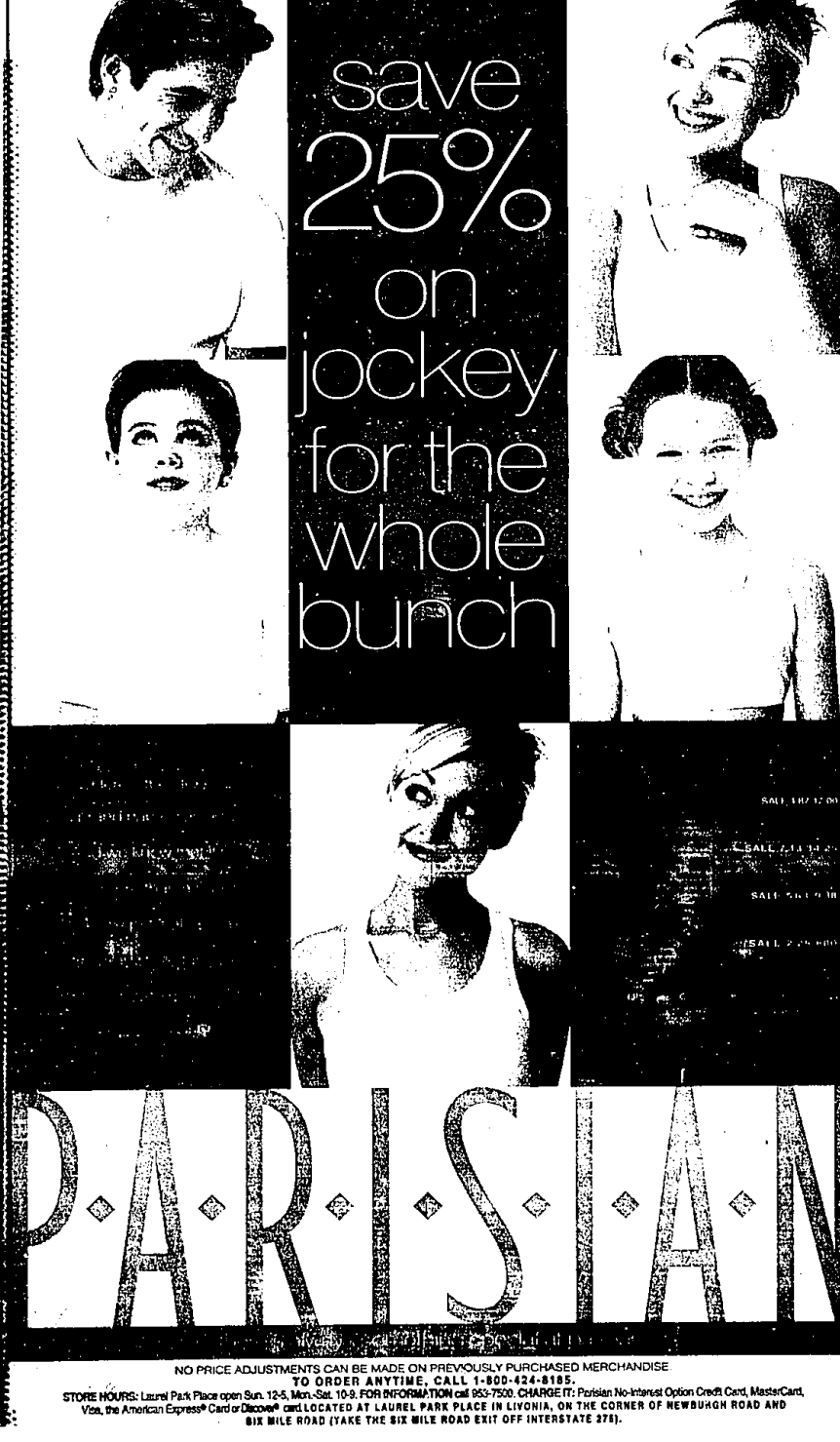
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

In Farmington Hills:

Hills police arrested a Hills woman, 42, for grabbing and choking her live-in girlfriend, 36, at their Section 33 residence at

FIRE DEPARTMENT RUNS

Farmington Hills firefighters made 442 runs for the month of July including 232 (53 percent) medical runs, 63 (12 percent) rescues and 33 (7 percent) fires.



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