

## 'Dash' to fire event

The Farmington Hills Fire Department will kick off National Fire Prevention Week with its 19th annual open house Sunday at department headquarters, 28711 Drake.

This year's theme is "Let's Hear it for Fire Safety: Test Your Detectors!"

The department is emphasizing the use and maintenance of smoke detectors as one of the best deterrents to serious fire incidents.

Although 13 of every 14 homes have at least one smoke detector, almost half of home fires in 5 fire deaths occur in the share of homes with no detectors. Thousands of people still die each year in home fires where smoke detectors aren't present.

Having a smoke detector cuts your chance of dying nearly in half if you have a home fire, by properly placing, regularly testing and maintaining your detectors, you can ensure that they are in fact working and will alert you if a fire breaks out.

In addition to offering information on smoke detectors and fire safety, the department will offer a lot of entertainment and educational programs.

Headlining this year's event will be "Deputy Dash Dakota and Clint Driftwood" who will bring their entertaining message on fire safety fresh from a tour of several area schools.

Zippy and the Clown Troupe will also entertain kids and adult.

The action begins at noon with a stove fire demonstration followed by a fire fighter challenge, shows by "Deputy Dash Dakota and Clint Driftwood," and the clown troupe, a show by "Zippy" the clown and repeat performances until 4 p.m.

There will be fire truck displays, guests like Louie the Lightning Bug, Sparky, Herbie, Smokey T. Bear, a fire safety smoke house for practice escapes, live demonstrations of the Jaws of Life extrication equipment and a kitchen fire demonstration along with booths for Botsford General and Huron Valley Hospitals, the Oakland County Sheriff's Marine Safety Division, Detroit Edison, Consumers power and others.

For further information, call 553-0740.

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

### BREAK-INS

#### In Farmington Hills:

The front passenger window was smashed and the dash ripped out causing \$500 in damage to a gray 1997 Chevy Lumina parked at the Best Western Hotel on 12 Mile Sept. 23-24 and a \$250 AM/FM cassette stereo was stolen.

A bay door was damaged (\$500) and a window was broken (\$200) at the VIP Auto Spa on Hathaway Sept. 24-25 and a \$200 microwave oven, \$100 cordless phone, \$50 framed photograph of a Porsche, \$275 Milwaukee buffing wheel, two Makita buffing wheels (\$550), two Sears Craftsman orbitals (\$240), and three business checks were stolen.

The bay door was damaged (\$500) and the window broken (\$200) at Lawncare Plus on Hathaway Sept. 24-25 and a \$50 set of wrenches, \$125 stereo system, and air impact wrenches (\$150) were stolen.

A storage shed was broken into (\$100) at the Farmington Hills Department of Public Works on Halsted Sept. 24-25 and \$18,000 in computer equipment was stolen.

### EMBEZZLEMENT

#### In Farmington Hills:

A salesman charged a customer an additional \$70 when the person returned a lease car at Bob Saks Dodge in February. The salesman, who no longer works at the dealership, had told the customer that the charge was for putting too much mileage on the vehicle.

### THEFT

#### In Farmington:

A \$466 snowblower and \$250 lawn mower were stolen from the garage of a home at Heatherston and Tree Hill between Sept. 18 and Sept. 24. There was no sign of forced entry.

#### In Farmington Hills:

A \$1,195 Motorola prep radio was stolen from a tow truck on Drake north of Freedom Sept. 13.

A \$450 Panasonic TV/VCR.

\$150 Goldstar VCR, \$200 12 gauge shot gun, \$500 Remington 12 gauge shot gun, \$350 Remington pump action 12 gauge shot gun, and a \$250 JVC VCR were stolen from a residence on Meadowhill Sept. 20.

A \$200 NEC cellular phone was stolen from a car parked at Integrated Security Engineering on Halsted Sept. 20.

A \$450 Nishiki Back Roads black mountain bike was stolen from a residence on Floralview Sept. 20-21.

A \$1,020 Sony Handy Cam with battery was stolen from Putt-Putt Golf on Grand River Sept. 21.

A \$300 Novatel phone, 24 CDs (\$250) and a man's wallet (\$25) were stolen from a blue 1994 Chevy Lumina van parked on Colony Park Sept. 24-25.

A \$300 set of Signature golf clubs was stolen from a residence on Ridge Dale Court Sept. 8-22.

A \$700 NEC portable cellular phone was stolen from a brown 1991 Ford station wagon on Hunters Point Sept. 24-25.

An \$1,100 Sony Handicam was stolen from the pool room at the Holiday Inn on 10 Mile Sept. 25.

### ASSAULT

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested an Inlander man, 36, for hitting a Hills woman, 26, with a baseball bat at 3:55 p.m. Sept. 24 at Wine Tasters Party Store on Nine Mile. The woman said she and the man were arguing while they were driving a 1983 Buick Skylark on Nine Mile. The man pulled the car into the store parking lot, got out, got the bat out of the trunk and began swinging it at the woman. He missed her head but connected with her ribs. She ran to a phone booth and called police.

### CONCEALED WEAPON

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested a Detroit man, 32, for carrying a Smith and Wesson pistol and eight-round magazine without a permit. The man had been looking in windows at Alpha Hollandia. Employees called police, giving a description. Police caught up with the man a few minutes later in a brown 1985 Cadillac on eastbound Grand River at 10 Mile.

### COUNTERFEITING

#### In Farmington Hills:

An East Middle School teacher reported that counterfeit \$1 bills were being circulated at the school Sept. 25.

### DRUNKEN DRIVING

#### In Farmington:

A Livonia man was arrested after police caught him speeding at Grand River and Orchard Lake at 2:19 a.m. Sept. 24. He was riding a black 1979 Harley-Davidson motorcycle at 70 mph in a 35 mph zone. His preliminary blood-alcohol test showed a level of .208 percent. A level of .1 percent is considered too drunk to drive in Michigan.

#### In Farmington Hills:

Police arrested an Owosso man, 22, for driving a blue 1993 Chevy Corsica driving north on Orchard Lake south of 13 Mile at 3:35 a.m. Sept. 26 while drunk. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .17 percent. A male passenger in the car, 28, also of Owosso, was issued a citation for having open intoxicants.

Police arrested a Livonia man, 30, for driving a white 1992 Ford Econoline van south on Middlebelt at 6:15 p.m. Sept. 26 while drunk. The van was involved in an accident. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .15 percent.

### FORGERY

#### In Farmington Hills:

A check for \$875.48 was fraudulently written and then cashed at the Michigan National Bank on 10 Mile Sept. 6.

### SUSPICIOUS PHONE CALL

#### In Farmington:

A Farmington woman on Lakeway received a call at 1:45 p.m. Sept. 25. The caller said he was from Michcon, that they had detected a gas leak in her home and that she should leave immediately. The woman called her service, Consumers Gas, a representative of which checked her address on their computer and found no problem. The representative said that they would never call a house with a gas leak for fear of the telephone detonating the gas. Police found no odor of natural gas in the home.

### FIRE

#### In Farmington Hills:

Firefighters from Stations 3 and 1 responded to a kitchen fire at an apartment building on St. Francis at 7:37 p.m. Sept. 24. The occupant had been cooking when the food ignited. The man put out with a dry chemical extinguisher and suffered minor burns. He refused medical treatment. The fire caused \$1,500 in damage to the property and \$800 in damage to contents.

Firefighters from Station 1 responded to a reported diesel fuel tank leak at a construction site at Bridgeman and Gill roads at 8:58 a.m. Sept. 25. Firefighters built a dike around the spill and used absorbent to clean it up. The tank had been used to fuel construction equipment. A worker had driven the tanker over a curb, causing a leak. Young's Environmental was called in to help with the clean up.



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