Serious crime decreases in the Hills

BY HEATHER NEEDHAM STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Hills Police Department saw an overall decrease in serious crimes and stepped up community policing efforts in 1995, according to its annual report, which will be presented publicly Monday.

Farmington Hills Police responded to a total of 35,265 calls in 1995, marking a 4.5 percent increase. There were seven fatal accidents and one homicide. The most serious crimes

The most serious crimes decreased 3.1 percent overall from 1,111 to 1,078. Criminal sexual conduct cases decreased 7.3 percent from 41 to 38; rob-beries decreased 9 percent from 33 to 30; and assaults decreased



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ple factors.
There can be a correlation

These offenses include juvenile complaints, traffic offenses, warrants, traffic craches, sick and injured, animal complaints, alarms and miscellaneous.

Dwyer said the reduced crime rate can be attributed to multiple factors. policing programs such as neighborhood watch, dren and anti-graffiti have also helped stem crime.

According to Bill Dwyer -Farmington Hills police chief

new recreational vehicle renovated for police use. The mobile community policing vehicle will be unveiled this week and will be used beginning in May. The 33-foot vehicle is designed to bring

police to the residents, Dwyer said.

"I think it's going to enhance our police efforts as far as taking the vehicle into the community, he said. "We're taking the police department to the people."

Inside the motor home, police can take reports, hold meetings with residents and store crime prevention materials, such as brochures and other information. The unit can also serve as a command post in case of disasters or other problems, Dwyer said.

said.

The report and an accompanying video will be presented at the Farmington Hills City Council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday at city hall at Orchard Lake and 11 Mile.

How often:

According to the Permington Hills Police Department, last year in the city,

mgton interest in the city, there was ment, has year in the city, there was 2,000 hours of the city of

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Police need help in finding driver

Fragments of yellow plastic are all the evidence Farmington Hills police have in attempting to solve the Saturday, April 3, hit-and-run fatality near Nine Mile-Tuck.

Mile-Tuck.
In that 8 p.m. incident, pedestrian Kathleen McKeon, 44, was killed while crossing Nine Mile on her way back home after making a purchase at The Wine Tasters party store.
Police Cmdr. Dennis Rochford

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information.

to call the traffic section at (248)
473-9683 or (248) 473-9694
between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
"It would help if we had some eyewitnesses," Rochford said. 'Somebody has to know who owns that vehicle and who was driving it. We're looking for help from the public."
Previously, it had been reported that the vehicle was a late model white Ford pickup truck. But Rochford said evidence collected at the scene matches that of 1987-1991 model.

The recovered yellow plastic frogments are from the truck's front turn signal, although police from the residence in the Nantucket loope.

Townhomes, where she lived on the wo and lone.
Rechlord said the driver of the pickup swerved at the last instant to avoid McKeen, who was killed from the impact.
McKeen was not crossing at the intersection.
Charges against the driver would have been unlikely had he

or she stopped after hitting McK-can because the driver had the right of way and was not speeding. Rochford added.
But that all changed when the driver took off.
"Even now, looking at what we histopy on can charge ... is leaving the scene of an accident (a felony). From the evidence, based on all we have, (the driver) was not at fault."
McKeon was accompanied by her dog (she was holding the peta leash) as she crossed Nine Mile, said Nick Shamme, owner of The Wine Tasters. He waited on the woman a few minutes carlier.

on the woman a low minutes earlier.

But miraculously, the dog survived the hit-and-run tragedy. The pet was found next to the store, in the parking lot of a bowling alley, and is now being cared for by one of McKeon's neighbors.

Arts commission honors students

The Farmington Area Arts
Commission has announced
the winners of the 14th
Annual Content for High
School Artists of Farmington
and Farmington Hills.
Suzanne Stiles, art instructor with Walled Lake
Schools, judged the entries.
In the entegory of twodimensional art, first prize
was awarded to Andrea
Baker of Mercy High School.
Second prize was given to
Suzanne Valade of Mercy
High School, and third prize
was carried by Andrea Burch
of Mercy High School.
In the category of threedirectly High School.
In the category of threedirectly High School.
In the category of threedirectly High School.
Second prize was given
Maki of Farmington High
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School, account Jrankes af

Maki of Farmington High School, second prize was given to Lauren Lonkes of North Farmington High School and third prist went to Heather Friedl of Farmington High School.

Honorable mention awards were carned by Nina Bianchi of North Farmington High School, Akii Dawkins of Farmington High School, Heather Fromen of Farmington High School, Heather Fromen of Farmington High School, Lisa Illene Greatzel of

sented at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at the William Costick Activities Center. 28500 11 Mile, Farm-Ington Hills.

Awards will be pro-

Farmington High School, Christine Herrmann of Farm-ington Alternative Academy, Melissa Hollihan of Morcy High School, Marya Link of Farmington High School, Heather Malinowski of Farmington High School and Maria Starling of Farmington Hub School

Maria Starling of Farmington High School.
Awards will be presented at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 25, at the William Costick Activities Center, 28600 11 Mile, Farmington Hills.
Winning art will be displayed at the Farmington Community Library, down-town branch, during April and at the Farmington Festival of the Arts April 25-May 2 at the William Costick Activities Center.

Gone fishing

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trout derby

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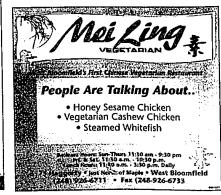


Kida, ages 14 years and younger are invited to register for the annual Trout Derby, sponsored by the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

The derby will be 8 a.m. - 1 pm. Saturday, April 24, in Shiawassee Park in Farmington.

The derby is limited to the first 500 kids that register in There is no cost to register for

porson at the Special Services
Department behind Farmington
Hills City Hall at 11 Mile and
Orchard Lake.
There is no cost to register for
the dorby. But kide must provide
their own fishing equipment and
buit. The cities will provide the
trout, but kide are limited to
keeping only three fish.
The cut off date for registration for the dorby is April 21.
When kide sign up for the
derby, they will be given a set of
rules for the event.
For more information, contact
Farmington Hills Special Services at 473-9570.



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