

## Hills police recognize officers and citizens for good deeds, bravery

The Farmington Hills Police recognized the following persons in August at the meeting of the Citation and Award Board:

### ■ Merit Citations

**Sergeant Joseph Rebb, Officers James Whitcomb, Gary Mailloux, and David Glowacki.**

On July 31, 1984, while responding to a domestic assault, Sgt. Rebb and Officers Whitcomb, Mailloux and Glowacki were confronted by an extremely agitated and hostile man who had assaulted his wife and was continuing to make verbal threats against her life.

Officers were preparing to escort the wife from the home when the man, sitting on the couch, produced a loaded revolver from under the cushion, and brought it to bear on his wife.

Sgt. Rebb's alert and the subsequent response by all officers resulted in the man being subdued, disarmed, and taken into custody.

### Sergeant John Markey

On March 31, 2002, a man had threatened to kill his children and was holding his two-year old son out a second story window. The man was convinced to come to the front door, still holding the child, at which time Sgt. Markey charged into the house to confront the subject. Sgt. Markey separated the father from his son and restrained him until other officers were able to force entry to the house to assist.

### ■ Wound/Lifesaving Award

**Officer Anthony Bateman - Wound Award, Officer T. Derek Tobin - Lifesaving Award**  
On Feb. 26, 2002, Officers Bateman and Tobin were setting out a flare pattern to close off a freeway ramp. Officer Bateman was struck and critically injured by a truck which had disregarded the barricade.

Officer Tobin observed the truck bearing down on Officer Bateman and shouted a warning. Officer Bateman was unable to elude the truck but Officer Tobin's warning and subsequent first aid enabled Officer Bateman to survive the accident.

### ■ Wound Award

**Officer James Jarrett**

On April 7, 2002, Officer Jarrett, working surveillance at a local gas station observed a burglary in progress. Attempting to apprehend the burglar as he exited the building, Officer Jarrett became involved in a physical altercation that continued as the burglar tried to flee the scene in his vehicle. With Officer Jarrett clinging to the vehicle, the burglar took evasive action attempting to injure the officer and escape. Officer Jarrett was injured, but was able to provide pertinent information that led to the identification and arrest of a serial burglar.

### ■ Lifesaving Award

**Officer Andrius Radze**  
On Jan. 29, 2002, Officer Radze responded to Bates Hamburgers and found an elderly victim in full cardiac arrest.

Officer Radze worked with responding Farmington Hills Fire Department personnel and administered CPR, reestablishing the victim's pulse.

The victim was later reported to be breathing on his own at a local hospital. Officer Radze is credited with having saved this victim's life.

### ■ Citations

**Officer Eric Amenson**  
On Dec. 15, 2001, Officer Amenson was patrolling the lot of the Holiday Inn where he was contacted by the security guard reporting a man with a gun in the lot. Officer Amenson contacted the man, subsequently arrested him for CCW, and confiscated a handgun and ammunition which the subject had intended to use to kill his girlfriend and himself.

**Officers Andrew Plemmons and Marc Haro; Officers Richard Blendea, Gary Lavin, David Staach, Alan Patterson and Deputy William Christensen OSCD - Unit Citation.**

On Jan. 28, 2002, Officers Plemmons and Haro responded to suspect information from an armed robbery that had just occurred near 10 Mile and Middlebelt. They located a suspect and vehicle and their investigation netted evidence linking others to the crime. Assisted by patrol officers Blendea, Lavin, and SONIC's Deputy Christensen, additional evidence was discovered and two more arrests were made.

Interviews conducted by Officers Staach and Patterson established each subject's involvement and resulted in confessions and armed robbery charges against them.

### Officers Shawn Smith and David Newcomb

While on routine patrol, Feb. 19, 2002, Officers Smith and Newcomb made a traffic stop that resulted in the arrest of the driver. During an inventory of the vehicle they recovered a fully operational stun gun, ready to use, in the unlocked glove compartment. Their actions resulted in the removal of a dangerous weapon from the street.

### Officer Wayne Beerbower

While on routine patrol, March 6, in an area plagued by commercial burglaries, Officer Beerbower discovered a broken window and footprints leading away from the building. Following the prints he discovered another burglary, and several laptop computers hidden under a tree. Surveillance was established and two suspects were arrested when they returned for their items.

### Officers Duane Fox and John Regorrah

During May, 2002, Officers Fox and Regorrah, investigating separate and seemingly unrelated crimes, developed information that linked school computer crimes, UDAs, and a home invasion to one individual. Pooling their resources they were able to arrest the subject, recover all stolen property, and secure a full confession to this series of crimes.

### Officer Richard Ostrowski, Livonia PD

Officer Ostrowski, visiting a friend in Farmington Hills, observed an individual peeping into windows and terrorizing residents of a local apartment complex, during June, 2002.

Officer Ostrowski confronted the subject as he was looking into an apartment window. The window peeper, with a history as a sex offender, was retained and held for Farmington Hills Police.

### Officer Gregory Hughes

On July 2, 2002, while working with investigators on a \$12,000 extortion complaint, Officer Hughes used his knowledge of his

patrol district, traffic law, and local teens to further the investigation and affect the recovery of over \$100,000 of the stolen money.

### Sgt. Alan Soderlund

While on plain clothes patrol, Aug. 13, 2002, Sgt. Soderlund observed two suspects loading thousands of dollars worth of heating and cooling equipment into the vehicle, in front of a local business.

Sgt. Soderlund continued surveillance until the suspects left the scene, then assisted by SONIC and patrol officers, stopped the vehicle and arrested the suspects for the burglary; all stolen property was recovered.

### ■ Unit Citations

**Chief William Dwyer; Asst. Chiefs, Martin Blodoo and Charles Nobus; Cmdr. Craig Sumner; Lieutenants Paul Cavan and Douglas Anderson; Sergeants Charles Hubbard and Brian DeGrande; and Officers Jon Haupt, Robert Tiderington, Kathleen Tiano, Pamela Rathgeb, Sandra Rochford, T. Derek Tobin, Shawn Smith, David Glowacki, James Bretz, Douglas Muller, Christopher Steuer, Gary Lavin, Shelly Turner, Richard Blendea, Stacy Swandowski and Ronald Goosen.**

On Jan. 30, 2002, patrol officers and investigators responded to a local motel on report of a distraught, suicidal subject, armed with a shotgun, who had locked herself in a room.

Using proper tactics officers secured the scene, established communications with the subject, then convinced her to leave her weapon and exit the room, bringing the situation to a safe and successful conclusion.

**Lt. Paul Cavan and Officers Shelly Turner, Scott Cronin, James Bretz, Ronald Goosen, Donald Fradette, Mark Rash and Suroor Shamoun.**

On April 18, 2002, officers responded to a residential burglary alarm and found the house had been unlawfully entered.

Initial investigation provided suspect information and two suspects were located nearly a mile from the scene. Field investigation linked these suspects to the crime

and resulted in their arrests for home invasion.

### ■ Commendations

#### Officer Scott Rzeppa

Performing evidence technician duties at the scene of a commercial burglary, Officer Rzeppa lifted a latent palm print that was matched to a suspect/former employee. The match resulted in a burglary warrant for the suspect.

#### Officer Alan Patterson

While investigating two cases of fraud, in which counterfeit cashiers checks were used to purchase two cars from private owners, Officer Patterson was approved to send out a press release detailing the crimes.

Response to the press release and subsequent media coverage resulted in the identification of the perpetrators, and the exposure of their activities throughout the metro area.

#### Officer Bonnie Unruh

While investigating a series of indecent exposures, Officer Unruh initiated a stakeout and apprehended the suspect after witnessing him commit another offense.

### ■ Letter of Appreciation

#### Dispatcher Donna Reid-Cronin

On Jan. 5, 2002, Communications received a call of an infant not breathing. While one dispatcher handled radio communications, Dispatcher Reid-Cronin picked up on the call to begin rescue breathing instructions. Official notice is taken of her calm professional and control of the situation.

### ■ Civilian Citation

**Harry Kirk, Dennis Horn**  
While skating at Bonaventure Skating Rink, Feb. 1, 2002, Mr. Kirk and Mr. Horn observed two male suspects carrying, then trying to conceal a woman's purse.

They confronted the suspects who said they were playing a joke. Learning later that there had been a larceny, Kirk and Horn provided investigating officers with suspect information. Their observations and actions resulted in the arrest of three for Larceny in a Building, and the recovery of the stolen purse.

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### Crafters sought

The Home for the Holidays Arts and Crafts Show, sponsored by Farmington High School, is seeking crafters.

The show runs 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 2 at Farmington High School. For more information, call Susan Nichols, coordinator, at (248) 475-9674.

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### Teddymania

Who can imagine a world without the Teddy Bear? This lovable stuffed toy, cherished by children and adults alike, is 100 years old. To celebrate, the latest showcase at the Farmington Hills City Hall is a display of over 35 bears from the collection of Pam Correll of the Farmington Hills Historical Commission. The display will be up through November.

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