

# Library's opening delayed until Jan. 26

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

The Farmington Community Library on 12 Mile in Farmington Hills is postponing its dedication ceremony and public celebration until Jan. 26. The event planned Jan. 12 has been postponed because renovation has taken longer than anticipated. The city hasn't yet issued a certificate of occupancy. The library closed on Dec. 31 and will remain closed until the permit is issued, said Library Director Bev Papal. She hopes that will take place during the week of Jan. 13. The decision was made to postpone the event

after meeting with her construction team Thursday morning and talking with several library board members, Papal said. The director said getting the library finished properly is the primary concern. The Jan. 26 dedication is expected to be held from 2-6 p.m. "We anticipate local dignitaries and we've extended an invitation to the governor," Papal said, adding music and refreshments will be offered. Guests will also be able to enjoy a behind-the-scenes look at the library's new features, such as the conveyor belt system that will handle returned materials, Papal said.

# Elks name Hoop Shoot champs

The Farmington Elks held their annual Hoop Shoot free throw contest for local area 8-13 year-old girls and boys in December at East Middle School.

The winners for girls ages 8-9 were: Melissa Thaljian and runner-up Greta Guri; ages 10-11, Stephanie Hinkel and runner-up Britney Greenfield; and ages 12-13 Kelly Avery and Liz Peosky. Avery is a repeat winner



Pictured (left to right) are 12-13 year-old Hoop Shoot winners: runner up Craig Shooltz and winner, Muhammed Cunmujaj; Hoop Shoot Chairman Richard Mullen; winner, Kelly Avery and runner up Liz Peosky.

from 2001 and had the highest number of free throws made for girls - 15 out of 26. The winners among boys ages 8-9 were: Max Hertzog and runner-up Phillip Thomas; ages 10-11 James Graham and runner-

up Jordan Weinger; and ages 12-13 Muhammed Cunmujaj and runner up Craig Shooltz. Cunmujaj was also a winner last year and had the highest number of free throws made for all contestants - 20 out of 25.

The winning girls and boys for their respective age groups will now compete at the district level in January. Winners then proceed to the state, regional and national level and compete for college scholarships.

**SPOTLIGHT ON**

## Orthodontics

by Josephine Finazzo, D.M.D.

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# Mother, son charged with purse snatching

BY PAUL R. PACE  
STAFF WRITER

A mother-and-son team who pushed down a 75-year-old woman and grabbed her purse outside the Kohl's department store in Farmington Hills were bound over for trial in Circuit Court Friday.

Farmington Hills Assistant Police Chief Chuck Nebus said the 75-year-old alleged victim, a

Livonia resident, suffered bruises and cuts after being knocked down by a man around 10:53 a.m. on Dec. 19. After grabbing the woman's purse, the man fled in a waiting vehicle driven by his mother, police said. A similar incident took place outside a Southfield store that afternoon, police said. Thanks to witnesses who gave police a partial license plate number, police were able to

track down the mother last month and on Dec. 31 caught up with the son. Thomas Ray Beard, 23, and Cheryl Kay Kunnert, 47, both of Southfield, were bound over for trial on felony charges Friday after their preliminary exam in 47th District Court Friday. Each is charged with unarmed robbery, a 15-year felony and larceny from a person, a 10-year felony. Kunnert

was also charged with being an accessory to a felony, a five-year felony. Mother and son remain in custody, because they were unable to post a \$25,000 cash/surety bond, Nebus said. He said both confessed to being involved in the two purse snatchings while in custody, and both said they have been addicted to crack cocaine for the past two years. [pace@homecomm.net](mailto:pace@homecomm.net) (484) 477-5450

# X-Box, accessories stolen from Independence Green

A resident in the Independence Green apartments on Eisenhower Ct., said someone came into his apartment on Dec. 30 and took his X-Box video game system and accessories. There were no signs of forced entry.

**Jewelry stolen**  
A resident in the 22500 block of Gill reported on the Dec. 11, someone stole some of the contents of a safe containing jewelry. Also a bottle of

**POLICE CALLS**  
Vicodin was stolen. The resident suspects a relative may be to blame. A resident in the 31200 block of Country Ridge Circle said she believes a cleaning crew on Thursday stole a \$10,000 ring set and cash while the house was away from the house.

**Drunken driving**  
Police pulled over a vehicle along Polson and Nine Mile around 10 p.m. Dec. 31 for weaving. The driver, a 50-year-old Wixom man, had a .17 blood/alcohol level.

Police responded to a vehicle on the I-696/Orchard Lake exit sitting idle with the driver asleep at the wheel and his foot on the brake around 7:30 a.m. Wednesday. The man, 62, of Novi, had a .20 blood alcohol level.

**Window broken**  
In the 33700 block of Edmonston, someone threw a rock through a 20-by-30-inch window to a home on Wednesday. Damage was \$150.

**Trailer break-in**  
A construction trailer on Freeway Park and Industrial Park had its lock cut open to

gain entry between Dec. 17 and Thursday. Numerous tools were stolen.

**Home Invasion**  
In the 21600 block of Tulane, a man said someone entered his unsecured home between 4 a.m. and noon Thursday and took \$1,200 cash out of his pants pocket hanging nearby while he was sleeping. He said the suspect must have known him, as his dogs did not alert him to an intruder.

Compiled by staff writer Paul R. Pace from reports on file at the Farmington Hills Police Department.

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