

Residents report \$15 thefts on Ontaga, Albion and Haynes

Three police reports involving break-ins or home invasions this past weekend each reported the same amount of cash missing.

In the 20800 block of Ontaga, a resident said someone entered the home during the day on Friday and took \$15 in change and a cell phone.

In the 22100 block of Albion, a woman said she was doing yard work between 11 a.m.-12:50 p.m. Saturday and went into her home to find someone had ransacked several rooms. Cash amounting to \$15 was taken.

In the 22400 block of Haynes, a resident reported someone broke down the door between 4:15-6:15 p.m. Sunday and took \$15 in change.

Car shots

In the 35000 block of 13 Mile, a man said he heard two "pops" around 2:20 a.m. on Friday outside his house. He discovered two bullet holes in

Law firm celebrates 10 years of growth

BY PAUL R. PACE
STAFF WRITER

It's not often attorneys get invited to family functions, but Dan Penning, senior managing partner of the law firm Wright Penning & Beamer, said that's how close his firm's attorneys tend to get with their clients.

The law company at 27655 Middlebelt Road in Farmington Hills this year is celebrating its 10th year anniversary.

Penning and William Wright are founding shareholders in the firm, which they started to consolidate their respective private practices. Wright remains as counsel and works part-time in his retirement.

"We've grown nicely and expanded this place as we grew," said Penning, who also serves as a Farmington Planning Commissioner and a member of the Farmington YMCA Board of Directors.

He lives in Farmington, as does partner Dirk Beamer. Wright Penning and Beamer deal with small- to medium-sized companies that typically gross around \$50 million in revenue and handle 200 employees, Penning said. "They are typically family owned."

The firm never aimed to be a competitor with the large firms; that has helped with their growth.

"We're accessible," said Penning of the attorneys on staff. "We do a lot of work proactively with contract or labor issues and corporate estate planning. We have two attorneys that do full-time litigation."

He said his firm can help clients make business decisions and plan for the future.

"We're lawyers who are business advisors," he said.

"Our clients typically become our friends," Penning said. "We know about our clients and their families."

Steve Futrell, president of Technology Solutions in Livonia, said he's been with the firm for nearly five years.

"They handle virtually everything for me," Futrell said. "I have several different business ventures and they help with my tax strategy and trusts for my family."

He said what he likes about the firm is the staff is able to handle so many issues from real estate to collections. "I like the fact they're full service."

Penning said turnover at the firm is low because of the relaxed, family attitude among its professional staff.

He said as far as the firm's future, he hopes to add one attorney every year in the next 10 years and continue to grow.

"We definitely will never be like those large firms where you can't get a hold of us," Penning said. "We want to be accessible and help our clients with solutions."

Call Wright Penning and Beamer at (248) 477-6300.

POLICE CALLS

his car's hood. He told police he may know who damaged the car.

Drug possession

Police pulled over a vehicle along Grand River and Eight Mile around 10:35 p.m. Friday for having a mis-registered license plate. The driver, a 36-year-old Farmington Hills man, had crack cocaine in his possession.

Drunken driving

Police responded to a two-vehicle accident at Grand River and Drake around 12:05 a.m. Saturday. The person who was at fault, a 36-year-old South Lyon man, had a .15 blood/alcohol level.

Police pulled over a vehicle heading in the wrong direction on the I-696 exit ramp along Orchard Lake around 1 a.m. Saturday. The driver, a 23-year-old Lansing man, had a .19 level.

Police respond to an erratically parked vehicle along

Bunker Hills and 12 Mile around 11:15 p.m. Sunday. The driver, a 53-year-old West Bloomfield man, had .12 level.

Navigation systems stolen

Two vehicles each had a window broken to gain entry during the early morning hours of Saturday. Each had a portable, on-dash, vehicle navigation system stolen, worth more than \$700 each. One incident involved a Cadillac Escalade parked in the 22700 block of Watt; the other involved a Ford Taurus parked in the 23200

block of Tulane. Police may have a suspect.

Attempted theft of food

At the Gordon Food Service around 1:10 p.m. Saturday, a manager approached a man in the parking lot with a cart full of frozen food, mostly meats, for which he had not paid. The man told the manager he dropped his money and couldn't pay. He then drove off. The manager phoned police with a license plate number. The suspect, a 38-year-old Taylor man, told police he told Gordon

employees he would pay for the food later. He was arrested for shoplifting.

Urinating in public

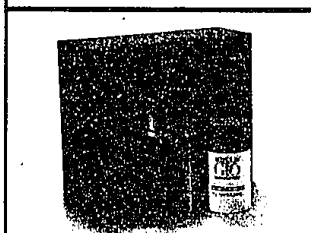
Police spotted a man urinating across from the drive-through window of the Wendy's restaurant on 10 Mile and Industrial Park around 1 a.m. Sunday. The man, a 19-year-old New York state resident, was ticketed.

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

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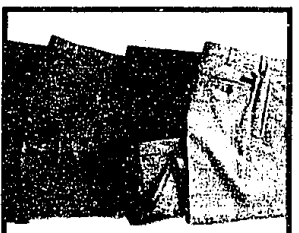
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