

# Mother cited under house party law

A Farmington Hills woman was the first parent ticketed under the city's new liability ordinance.

The ordinance, adopted by the city council in May at the urging of Fam-

ilies In Action's local chapter, penalizes adults age 17 or older who knowingly allow minors to consume alcoholic beverages or illegal drugs at house parties under their control — and who fail to take corrective steps.

Phyllis E. Kozlars, 65, was ticketed early Saturday for allegedly allowing minors to possess alcohol at a disorderly house party attended by about 40 people, Police Chief William Dwyer said.

Violation of the ordinance is a misdemeanor. Conviction carries a penalty of up to \$500 and 30 days in the county jail for first offenders. Subsequent con-

victions bring a penalty of up to \$500 and 90 days imprisonment.

"SINCE THE ordinance was adopted June 10 and since we put out a special department order regarding policy, good discretion and common sense have been the guides," Dwyer said.

"And that's the case here. Officers responded to a call from a citizen, they did warn the person in charge of the party, and due to additional calls, went back to the scene and took proper action."

"The ordinance has been a very effective tool in dealing with these parties and as a deterrent," he added.

ACCORDING TO police reports:

Officer Gerald Lynch first visited the house on Parker — at 10:45 p.m. Friday in response to complaints from neighbors. He issued a warning to Kozlars about excessive noise.

When complaints continued, officers returned at 12:45 a.m. Saturday. They found numerous beer cans and whiskey bottles strewn near the garage.

After he saw people in the garage pick up bottles and start to mill about outside, Hills Officer James Skrzycki called for backup from his department and for assistance from Livonia and Farmington.

When Hills Officer Brad Schwartz arrived, he spoke with two party goers — one 19 and the other 20. He then overheard a man yell at Skrzycki and Hills Officer Don Fradette to get off the property.

Schwartz and other officers then approached the garage in an effort to disperse the crowd. As Schwartz entered the garage, Donald A. Kozlars, 31, allegedly pushed the officer into the garage door. When officers tried to arrest Kozlars, bystanders intervened and the man fled into a nearby wooded area, according to police reports.

Monday, Kozlars was ticketed for assault and battery. Conviction of the misdemeanor carries a maximum pen-

alty of 90 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

SINCE THE ordinance went into effect in June, police have ticketed three residents — two 18-year-olds and one 17-year-old — in two separate incidents for allegedly violating the ordinance.

In both summertime incidents, parents of the young people were not ticketed even though the parties were on their property because they were out of town and unaware the parties were taking place, Dwyer said.

In September — prompted by a complaint from a Farmington Hills resident — the American Civil Liberties Union unveiled its intent to investigate the ordinance's constitutionality.

## Youths are hurt in Hills crash

Two 15-year-old Farmington Hills youths were hospitalized after the car they were riding in struck a utility pole Oct. 19.

The 15-year-old driver, who had lost control of the car, was released from the hospital following treatment for injuries. West Bloomfield Township Police said.

The car was heading west at 4 p.m. on 14 Mile at Glenhurst, between Orchard Lake and Farmington roads, when the recently licensed driver "may have become distracted" and lost con-

trol, said John Balligan, traffic officer of the West Bloomfield Police Department.

"No skid marks were apparent," Balligan said. The driver "didn't correct in time" and hit the pole without braking. Witnesses said the car was traveling within the speed limit set in the area, 50 mph.

West Bloomfield officers and paramedics and Farmington Hills paramedics responded.

The front-seat passenger, who wore

no seat belt, has undergone plastic surgery, Baglioni said.

The rear-seat passenger suffered "intestinal injuries caused by seat belts," Baglioni said. He is unable to move his legs and "may have spinal cord injuries," the officer added. Baglioni quoted the youth's father as saying physicians have said "it was too early to tell" the extent of the injuries.

The driver of the car was wearing a seat belt. The names of all three juveniles were withheld by police while investigation continues, Baglioni said.

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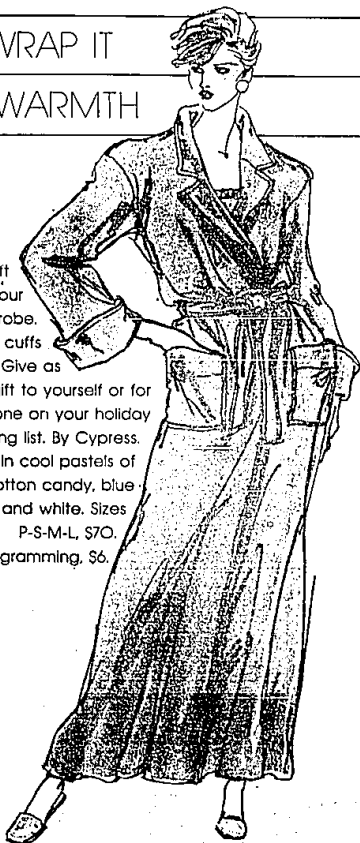
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