

Wheels of justice move on liquor violators

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"The Michigan Liquor Control Commission (MLCC) has penalties on their records and past violations," Dwyer said. "If they have been cited

before, they (MLCC) make it a stiffer line."

Dwyer calls the 1986 undercover crackdown a success.

"This lets minors and licensees

know we are going to stringently enforce the state liquor laws and city ordinance," Dwyer said. "Those minors who are attempting to buy liquor are not buying it in this city.

They are going to other cities to buy it."

Dwyer also believes that the number of licensees pleading guilty before and by mail to the MLCC weakens licensees' earlier complaints that they had been nabbed for violations through entrapment.

"A NUMBER OF the licensees made statements to other businesses or to the Observer regarding entrapment. I take offense to that. They know what their responsibilities are as licensees. And the police have a responsibility and the authority to monitor them."

Robert McDonald, one of the owners of McFrocks' and the Roman Terrace restaurant, was among those licensees who criticized police use of underage male and female cadets in the crackdown. McDonald was cited for liquor law violations and paid a \$600 fine.

Three months later McDonald still disagrees with how the police operation was conducted. But he said he paid the fine rather than requesting a hearing because attorney fees would have cost more than \$600.

"I didn't like the methodology. I wanted to be part of solving the problem, not part of the problem," McDonald said. "All places were hit, but not all places were problems."

Any identification-checking system in any establishment can be beaten, McDonald said. And the

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— William Dwyer
police chief

would have received guilty pleas through the mail," Dwyer said. "The majority of these people (licensees) are pleading at both the MLCC and the 47th District Court." Violators of state liquor violations have the option of pleading guilty and paying a fine, set by the liquor commission, or of requesting a hearing before the MLCC.

YET DWYER ADDED, "the licensed establishments are to be fair to them, may be a majority of them were not blatantly, knowingly violating (liquor laws). But they became very lax."

Two weeks after Farmington Hills police conducted their crackdown, the Hills cadets sent their services to the Farmington Department of Public Safety for a similar undercover operation.

The cadets visited 33 Farmington liquor-licensed businesses and ticketed 17 on charges of selling to minors. Of those ticketed, five have Class C liquor licenses, which allow liquor by the glass; the others are licensed to sell beer, wine or packaged liquor over-the-counter.

At least half of the Farmington businesses have appeared before the liquor control commission and been found guilty, according to public safety director Frank Laubhoff, with fines ranging up to \$300. No cases have been dismissed, he said.

Status of Hills liquor violations updated

Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer released the following status report of licensed establishments cited for liquor violations last November and reported to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

Establishments and case disposition include:

Perry Drug Store, 33330 12 Mile, no disposition; 7-Eleven, 22323 Middlebelt, guilty; 2200; Andy's Market, 22395 Middlebelt, no disposition; Great Scott, 25780 Middlebelt, guilty; 2200; Heveo Drugs, 25870 Middlebelt, guilty; 1214; Vineyards Party Store, 22418 Northwest, guilty; 2200; B.J.'s Party Store, 25728 Grand River, guilty; 2200; Steak & Ale, 27590 Orchard Lake, 1000; McFrocks', 27820 Orchard Lake, guilty; 2200; Bosco's, 28730 Orchard Lake, no disposition; D. Dennison's, 27809 Orchard Lake, guilty; 2200; Farmington Party Store, 29450 Ten Mile, guilty; 1100; 400; J.W.'s Saloon, 31425 12 Mile,

no disposition; O'Sheehan's, 35450 Grand River, guilty; 2200; Digger's, 30555 Grand River, no disposition; Mountain Jack's, 24273 Sinclair, no disposition; Joana's Fine Wines, 24325 Halsted, no disposition.

Other establishments include: Holiday Inn, 38123 10 Mile, guilty; 2200; Lakeshire Lanes, 35000 Grand River, no disposition; Country Lanes, 30250 Nine Mile, guilty; 2200; Elroy Drugs, 35584 Grand River, no disposition; Grand Square Liquor, 38441 Grand River, no disposition; Meadow Drugs, 21099 Farmington, 1000; G. & J. Party Store, 20444 Eight Mile, guilty; 2200; Mid-Nine Market, 22200 Middlebelt, guilty; 2200; Tom's Party Store, 30925 Inkster, guilty; 2200; Smith Rexall, 27702 Eight Mile, no disposition; Five Brothers Party Store, 29010 Eight Mile, liquor license transferred; Last Stop Party Store, 19184 Grand River, no disposition; Quik Pik, guilty; 2200; Arbor Drugs, 29231 Orchard Lake, guilty; 2200; K-Mart,

30800 Orchard Lake, no disposition; Max & Erma's, 31205 Orchard Lake, guilty; 2200; J.R.'s Bar, 30859 Ten Mile, no disposition; Warren Drugs, 39910 Middlebelt, no disposition.

Pizza Hut, 38300 Grand River, no disposition; Elroy Drugs, 35584 Grand River, no disposition; Casa Armando's, 29200 Orchard Lake, guilty; 2200; Wine Tasters, 30340 Nine Mile, guilty; 1215; Mike n' Tom's Pub, 31650 Eight Mile, guilty; 2200; Grand Round, 30005 Orchard Lake, no disposition; Town Square Pub, 27406 Eight Mile, guilty; 2200; New Mandarin Gardens, 31539 Thirteen Mile, guilty; 2200; Blakeney's, 28333 Grand River, no disposition; Brass Pointe, 24434 Orchard Lake, no disposition; Wing Hong, 31455 14 Mile, guilty; 1000; Pizza Hut, 31200 Ten Mile, no disposition; Buddy's Pizza, 31646 Northwest, guilty; 2200; Botsford Inn, 29800 Grand River, sent warning letter.

Merchants asked to give police enforcement ability

By Joanne Maliszewski
staff writer

Farmington Hills Police are asking Orchard Lake Road merchants for permission to enforce the new loitering ordinance on their property.

"We are sending out a letter to merchants explaining the problem

and asking for a waiver to enforce trespassing and loitering after hours," Chief William Dwyer said. "It gives us the authority... we feel more comfortable having their permission."

Farmington Hills City Council enacted a loitering ordinance in early February in response to problems rowdiness, aggravated assaults,

harassment — with teenagers along Orchard Lake. Under the ordinance, criminal penalties can be levied against teens who, on second notice or violation, refuse to leave when asked.

Though late 1986 and January 1987 were marked by teen troubles along the city's retail strip, problems now are fewer thanks to beefed-up police patrols, publicity and parental action.

The police task force that beefed-up its patrols along Orchard Lake plans to continue its work through the spring and summer, especially

on Fridays and Saturdays, Dwyer said.

Despite the relative calmness along the strip recently, police are seeking continued cooperation from parents and merchants.

In the letters that are being mailed or hand-delivered to Orchard Lake merchants and restaurants, Dwyer asks that "no loitering" and "no trespassing" signs be posted on merchants' property.

"FURTHERMORE, FROM a legal standpoint, it is important that we have on file your written authorization allowing us to order groups

of individuals loitering or trespassing off of your property at any time of the day or night."

"While your written authorization may ultimately require you to appear in court as a witness should an individual issued a citation for loitering or trespassing demand a trial in his/her case, we believe that the prevention of damage to area businesses and the benefit to the community far outweighs that inconvenience," Dwyer wrote in the letter.

Merchants' authorization provides "a safety valve. It's another avenue so when it's in court, we have a very clear, precise and, for the most part, solid case. There's no loose ends."

Dwyer said he doesn't believe that giving police authorization diminishes any of the merchants' civil rights.

Mary Ann Zarb, a leader of the Parents Against Violence organization — formed in response to teen problems — believes the authorization is a good idea.

"I think it's going to be helpful. The police can use all the tools they can muster. Whatever assistance merchants can give them... is going to be an asset," said Zarb, also a member of the Committee for the Prevention of Teenage Delinquency.

The committee counts parents, educators, merchants and ethnic leaders among its members. It is charged with identifying what's drawing troublemaking teens to Orchard Lake, distributing information and developing ways to prevent future problems as those that have occurred along Orchard Lake.

Bleber to speak at OCC

UAW President Owen Bleber will discuss "Securing Our Future: America's Stake in Industrial Renewal" at Oakland Community College Thursday, March 19.

The program, featured as part of the Orchard Ridge Campus Distinguished Speaker Series, will begin at 8:00 a.m. in the Smith Performing Arts Theatre. Admission is free.

Bleber, affiliated with the United Auto Workers for 39 years, has shared his views on industrial renewal with Congress and audiences across the country.

A long list of his activities includes service as vice president and

executive council member of the AFL-CIO, as well as board member of the NAACP, United Way of America and New Detroit.

Bleber also is a member of the Governor's Commission on Jobs and Economic Development, the Economic Alliance of Michigan, and the President's Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations.

OCC's Orchard Ridge Campus is in Farmington Hills on Orchard Lake Road.

For more information about the Distinguished Speaker Series, call Harvey Bronstein at 471-7750.

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