

police/fire calls

Listed below are some of the Farmington-area police incidents, fire calls and court cases reported during the past week:

● GIRL APPROACHED

A 13-year-old girl was the apparent target of an abduction attempt as she walked on Liberty in southeast Farmington Hills Tuesday night.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:

The girl was walking eastbound on Liberty, near Jacksonville, at 7:30 p.m. when a man driving by said to her: "Come here. Come closer to the

car. I want to do something to you." She then ran to a friend's house and called the police.

The man was thought to be in his 40s. The car was described as late-model, mid-sized, dark blue.

● SUSPECT NABBED

A 24-year-old West Bloomfield man faces a felony charge in connection with the theft of a car from the Clarion Hotel, 31525 12 Mile, Tuesday.

Arraigned Wednesday before District Judge Michael Hand of Farmington, the man stood mute to one felony count of unlawfully driving

away an automobile and one high misdemeanor count of fleeing and eluding. Innocent pleas were entered.

Hand set cash/surety bond at \$10,000 pending a preliminary exam in 47th District Court. The defendant faces up to five years in prison if convicted of the felony and up to one year in jail if convicted of the high misdemeanor.

According to a Farmington Hills police report:

A 30-year-old Farmington Hills man left his car running as he went to the hotel's front desk at 12:10 a.m. Tuesday, passing a man later identi-

fied as the suspect in the entrance-way.

The Farmington Hills man then saw his car being driven eastbound on 12 Mile.

Police spotted the car at east-bound Grand River at Middlebelt. They tried to stop the driver in a restaurant parking lot at Eight Mile and Grand River but the driver took off as an officer reached through the open driver's window and grabbed the driver's coat.

The driver struck a mailbox on St. Francis. The suspect was found hiding under a pickup in the yard of a house on that street.

The stolen car, a 1988 Mercury Sable, is valued at \$15,000. It sustained fender and grille damage.

● THEFTS REPORTED

A wooden wing-back chair valued at \$250 was reported stolen from a storage cage on the 27100 block of Gateway Drive West at Gateway Apartments between Nov. 29 and Feb. 5.

Drugs valued at \$280 were reported stolen from the pharmacy at Sinai Hospital, 28500 Orchard Lake, Feb. 6-8.

A full-length mink coat, an electronic keyboard and a gold rope

chain valued at \$4,930 were reported stolen from a house on Wellington Feb. 8.

A 1987 Oldsmobile Cutlass Supreme valued at \$15,000 was reported stolen from the parking lot at Kensington Manor Apartments in Farmington Feb. 8.

● TICKETS ISSUED

A 31-year-old Highland Park woman was ticketed for possessing narcotics paraphernalia when two crack cocaine pipes, a marijuana roach and other items were found during a traffic stop at 14 Mile and Northwestern Highway Feb. 8.

on the agenda

Below are highlights from agendas of government meetings this week. All meetings are open to the public.

Downtown Development Authority City Council Conference Room
23600 Liberty, Farmington
8 a.m. Monday, Feb. 13

A special meeting has been called to discuss the request by Bestak Building Co. for a zoning change at Mulwood Square shopping center in Farmington Hills, and its impact on downtown Farmington. The rezoning will be considered this Thursday at a Farmington Hills Planning Commission meeting.

Farmington Hills City Council City Hall
31555 11 Mile
Monday, Feb. 13

5:30 p.m. — Special Meeting
City manager's meeting room
7:30 p.m. — Regular Meeting
City council chambers

A special meeting has been called to discuss 11 different issues with state Sen. Jack Paxon and state Rep. Jan Dolan. Agenda items for this meeting include legislation and administrative work surrounding: 12 Mile Road application; transpor-

ation issues, including Northwestern Highway, M-102, Eight Mile Road and Grand River; gas transportation financing; liquor enforcement; appointments; park grant; Matthew Gas Home Improvement Act; property tax rebate adjustment for senior citizens; day care; legislation on gas with oil drilling; solid waste; and impact fees.

During the regular session, council members will consider:

- revised conceptual plan for the Copper Creek development, between 12 and 13 Mile and Halsted and Hagerty.

- recommended ordinance changes for handling special events.

- introduction of amendment to plumbing code.

- appointments to boards and commissions.

- Michigan Municipal League Annual Legislative Conference notice.

Some of the items listed on the consent agenda include: proposal to purchase computer hardware for city clerk's office, final plat approval for "Corporate Park of Farmington Hills," increase in rates for Villan-Lerman, traffic control orders for Northwestern Highway speed limit and for traffic signal on southeast Grand River west of Middlebelt,

and authorization to amend the August agreement for the development of senior housing at property on Freedom Road east of Drake.

Public questions and comments appears as item 7 on the agenda, directly after the consent agenda.

Farmington Hills Planning Commission City Council Chambers
23600 Liberty
8 p.m. Monday, Feb. 13

In this regular session, planning commissioners will consider three site plans and hold a discussion about the proposed rezoning for Mulwood Square shopping center in Farmington Hills and its impact on the city of Farmington.

Site plans include:

- commercial building remodeling for the Grace Agency building downtown.

- landscaping plans for the Valvoline Instant Oil Change on Grand River.

- remodeling/renovation for a building at 22840 Orchard Lake. Proponent: Anthony C. Rea.

Commissioners will also hear a sub-committee report on the city's 6-year Capital Improvement Plan.

Farmington Hills Planning Commission City Council Chambers
31555 11 Mile
8 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 16

Five public hearings are slated to come before planning commissioners. They include:

- rezoning from RA-2 to RA-1, both one-family residential districts for the supervisor's plat of Hilltop Manor lots 1-14 and Crestview Farms lots 1-14. Proponent: Farmington Hills Planning Commission. Owner: Residents of subdivision lots.

- rezoning from RC-2 multiple family residential and from P-1 parking to B-2 community business district for a parcel next to the Mulwood Square shopping center, north of Grand River west of Drake. Proponent/owner: Bestak Building Co.

- rezoning from RA-2 one-family residential to IRO industrial research office or OS-4 office research district for 23300 Haggerty, east side between Nine and 10 Mile. Proponent: A.J. Badalamenti and Mark E. Wise. Owner: Cecil R. Gingerich.

- rezoning from RA-3 single-family residential to OS-1 office service for 21124 Middlebelt, east side between Dresden and Scotten. Proponent/owner: Kenneth and Marion Wallace.

- plat request for 41 subdivision-lots in RA-1, one-family residential, for the north side of 10 Mile east of Orchard Lake Road. Proponent: Eugene Zelmet. Owner: Sinacola-Detore.

Tree problem branching out

Continued from Page 1

lower each time the city repairs the cement, which curves around the tree.

John DePottter, a resident of Hawthorne Street, called the sidewalk/tree dilemma a "never-ending problem. It's all up and down the whole street."

DEPOTTTER SAID he was fortunate: a storm took down the large tree in front of his house, the city then straightened out the sidewalk.

Deadman estimated there are about 50 similar cases in the Floral Park subdivision alone and suggested the city council review the matter.

Mayor Richard Tupper said he does not believe the problem is an "epidemic" in the city, but called situations like Waack's a "Catch 22." Tree roots break the sidewalk, the city repairs it at the homeowner's expense and it breaks again. Yet, because the tree is on city right of way, a homeowner cannot do anything about removing it.

"If the tree is a menace . . . the city should allow the homeowner to take it down and replace it with another," Tupper added. "I, for one,

don't feel we should subject our citizens to such a situation."

BUT WAACK said it would cost him nearly \$1,000 to remove and replace the tree in front of his house. He believes it should be the city's responsibility. And other council members did not voice support for the idea of tearing down trees that become problems.

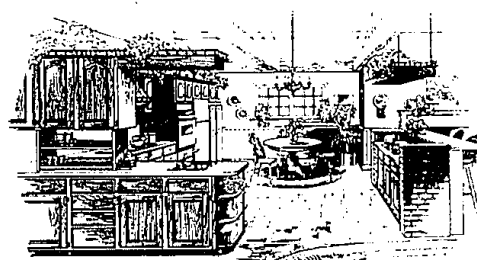
The meeting at which the tree issue was raised is the city's annual public hearing for special assessments for sidewalks throughout the city. The city assesses residents each year, determining which sidewalks need to be replaced for safety reasons.

"These are subjective — it could be just about anything you could imagine," said Deadman, who explained the main objective is to eliminate "tripping conditions." City council adopted the sidewalk guidelines in 1979.

The 1988 special sidewalk assessment roll approved by the city council Feb. 6 totaled \$89,424. Residents receiving assessments of \$250 or less must pay the amount by March 1; those with assessments of more than \$250 must pay the city in installments, but with interest.

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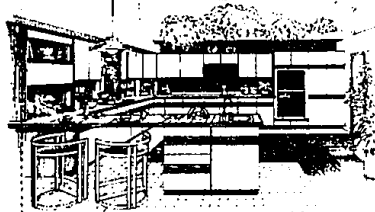


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Hours: Monday-Friday 9-5, Thursday 9-8, Saturday 9-3