

Police still searching for ex-resident's killer

By Joanne Malliszowski
staff writer

Police have made no arrests yet in the murder-robbery of a former Farmington Hills resident interning in pediatric medicine at Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh.

"We have nothing new at this moment that we can release," a Pittsburgh police spokeswoman said Friday.

The body of Dr. Jeffrey S. Farkas, 26, a 1981 honors graduate of West Bloomfield High School, was found about 4:15 a.m. last Monday, Dec. 11, in the bathtub of the rented two-story house he shared with two fellow medical interns in the upper-middle class section of Pittsburgh known as Squirrel Hill.

The Allegheny County coroner's office said Farkas died of head injuries and strangulation. Police believe he was beaten with an andiron, one of a pair of metal supports used in a fireplace, and strangled with a vacuum cleaner electrical cord.

"We feel robbery was the motive," Pittsburgh Police Commander Ronald Freeman said.

FARKAS SPENT Sunday, Dec. 10,

with his girlfriend until early evening. He was last seen shortly before 10 p.m., when he responded to a phone call from a friend some 10 minutes away who needed help with his car. After helping the friend, Farkas returned to his home on Pittsburgh's east side, police said.

Police theorize he was either accosted on the street outside his house and forced inside, or answered a knock at the door.

A man described as in his 20s, 6 feet tall and wearing a hooded jacket, possibly an Army fatigue jacket, was seen knocking on neighboring doors Sunday evening, Dec. 10. Police released a composite of the man and consider him a suspect, Pittsburgh detective William Hennigan said Tuesday.

Based on the condition of an upstairs bathroom where Farkas was found, Hennigan said it appeared there was "quite a struggle."

The house was ransacked and a VCR, CD player, telephone and camera were reported missing. Farkas' car, a 1989 Acura, was found abandoned three miles away in a Pittsburgh suburb, police said.

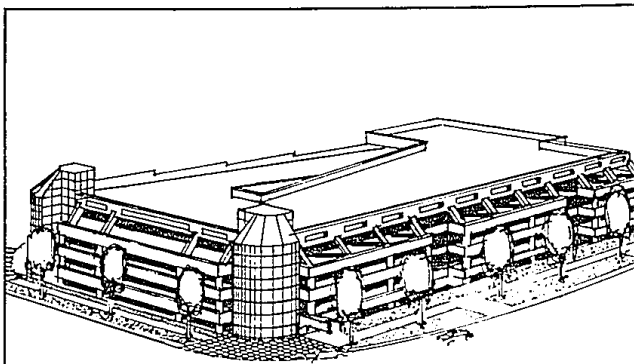
FARKAS WENT to Pittsburgh in July to begin a three-year residency in the pediatrics department of Children's Hospital. He was drawn to Pittsburgh by a host of relatives who live there, according to his father, Gerald of Jacksonville, Fla. His mother, Connie, and sister, Beth, a Wayne State University graduate student, live in Farmington Hills.

Farkas graduated with distinction in June from Wayne State University School of Medicine.

He earned a bachelor of science degree in biology from the University of Michigan in 1985, graduating with distinction and class honors. Before moving to Pittsburgh, Farkas was involved in various community activities, including work as a Special Olympics volunteer.

Farkas also is survived by a grandfather, Lawrence Farkas of Florida, as well as uncles, aunts and cousins in Pennsylvania and Florida.

Rabbi Alvin Berkun of the Tree of Life Congregation, Pittsburgh, officiated at the funeral Wednesday. Burial was in Temple B'nai Israel Cemetery, in nearby McKeesport, Pa.



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Ex-Hills man added to most-wanted list

An ex-Farmington Hills man has been added to the U. S. Marshall's Service list of "15 Most-Wanted Fugitives."

Gerald Lee Carroll, 45, has been wanted in Detroit since a 1986 federal indictment for engaging in a continual criminal enterprise and for conspiracy to import, possess and distribute marijuana, said Anthony Berton, U.S. marshal for the Eastern District of Michigan.



The U.S. Customs Service has sought assistance in locating and apprehending Carroll. The outstanding indictment alleges that he headed a marijuana smuggling operation that since 1974

imported tons of marijuana, often up to 20 tons at a time, aboard private aircraft from South America.

At the start of the conspiracy, he allegedly smuggled marijuana from South America to a residence in Novi and a large farm near Howell. At times, money from the conspiracy would fill suitcases and would be flown by chartered planes around the country.

From Michigan, the drug organization spread into seven other states in the Midwest and South, according to the indictment.

Carroll, who had narcotics convictions in 1979 and 1986, is also wanted in Los Angeles on income tax violations, Berton said.

Anyone with information relating to Carroll should call the U.S. Marshall's Service office in Detroit, 226-7754.

Farmington Observer

(USPS 187-840)

Published every Monday and Thursday by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers, 805 E. Maple, Birmingham, MI 48009. Second-class postage paid at Birmingham, MI 48009. Address all mail (subscription, change of address, Form 3569) to P.O. Box 2428, Livonia, MI 48151. Telephone 591-0500.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES
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(Elsewhere in Michigan)
Newsstand per copy, 50c
One year \$55.00
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