

Hills police plan booze crackdown

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will be subject to both state liquor laws and city ordinances.

Employees who sell to minors will be cited under a city ordinance that prohibits the sale of liquor to minors. City ordinance violation is a simple misdemeanor carrying a maximum penalty of 90 days in jail and \$500 fine upon conviction in the 47th District Court of Farmington.

Licenses who sell to minors also will be cited under the city ordinance as well as reported to the Michigan Liquor Control Commission. Licenses whose employees sell to minors will also be reported to the state.

The liquor control commission has the authority to levy stiff penalties as well as suspend or revoke liquor licenses.

The police department generally conducts two crackdowns a year, one during graduation and prom time and the other during the winter holidays.

IN THE 1989 holiday crackdown, 16 restaurants and bars and two package liquor stores were ticketed. That sting targeted restaurants and bars as well as 10 package liquor stores that had at least two or more liquor control commission violations for selling to minors.

In the June 1990 crackdown, in which package liquor and beer and wine dealers were targeted, only seven of the establishments were ticketed for selling to a police cadet younger than 21. The crackdown was notable because no licenses, only employees, were ticketed.

Trio arraigned on drug charges

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Detroit Sunday on charges that they conspired to smuggle into the United States about a pound of heroin, worth up to \$1 million.

The three were advised of their rights at their arraignments. Pleas were not entered, according to U.S. Attorney Larry Spang.

Bond was refused for Nwawu and Ojogo, both of whom remain in jail. A bond hearing for Onoh and preliminary examinations for the three are scheduled for Dec. 10, Spang said.

If convicted, the men face up to 40 years in prison on drug smuggling.

possession and conspiracy charges. If convicted, the men also could be deported after serving prison sentences.

"The DEA and U.S. Customs have been looking into a chain of Nigerian nationals believed involved in Detroit heroin trafficking," said DEA spokesman John Granados.

"The source of heroin is southeast Asia, which comes in through the Eastern seaboard," Granados said. "Nigeria is not a source for heroin."

When officials executed the search warrant on Onoh's Mulrwood apartment, both he and Ojogo were there and were arrested.

"The investigation led to a search

of a room at the Knight's Inn (on Grand River, Farmington Hills)," Granados said. Ojogo had rented the motel room.

THE THIRD man, Nwawu, appeared at Onoh's apartment during the raid. Agents also search Nwawu's car, parked outside the apartment.

Agents confiscated heroin found at the apartment, motel room and Nwawu's car, authorities said.

According to customs agents, about 18 Nigerian nationals have been arrested in Michigan in the past

six months on charges of transporting heroin into the country.

Farmington Hills police provided uniformed officers at the Saturday afternoon raid.

Another Mulrwood apartment, also leased by a Nigerian national, was raided in October. DEA and U.S. Customs officials seized \$20,000 cash in a soap box and found a computer system, a fax machine, an electric money counter and heroin residue.

"We are seeing a dramatic increase in the purity of the heroin on the streets of Detroit," Granados said. "It used to be a 7 to 9 percent purity. Now it's 18 to 19 percent."

Farmington schools seek millage increase

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year. Money earmarked for capital improvements would offer \$2.5 million per year.

A property owner with a \$100,000 home with a State Equalized Value of \$50,000 would pay an additional \$135 a year in property taxes if the first proposal passes, and \$185 if both proposals pass.

COMMENTS WERE MADE both for and against the measure Tuesday.

Representatives of Alexander Hamilton Life Insurance Co., which pays \$600,000 in property taxes at

its Farmington Hills location on 12 Mile, said the tax millage would cost them an additional \$44,000 per year, and they opposed it.

"The taxpayers of this district cannot afford another major property tax increase," said Alexander Hamilton economist Patrick Anderson.

"Instead of cutting the budgets of families and businesses, we recommend that the Farmington school district take a hard look at their own expenditures and start slowing spending increases."

Resident Charles Owen spoke in favor of the new millage.

"I... don't view the \$187 or \$200

as an outrageous burden to be able to maintain the quality of education."

Another resident, Richard DeVries, told the school board he wanted the district to better use its \$92 million budget.

"I don't think the taxpayers of this district can afford another tax increase," he said. "Take a good, hard look at this budget, ... and make any cuts in non-instructional portions of the budget."

"You can't buy quality education like you buy a sack of groceries." Other parents suggested a "belt-tightening" budget committee comprised of parents, a community focus on the upcoming election to ensure its passage, and consideration of a bond issue instead of earmarked projects to take care of any capital projects.

School officials scheduled the special election to negate the effects of \$5.8 million taken through state legislation passed last summer, which includes the district's share of Social Security — formerly paid by the state.

The district used money on hand to handle this year's reduction, but officials are worried about the 1991-92 school year which begins next July.

Trustee Helen Prutow said she was concerned the February election may not address all the district's needs if the state takes more money.

"We (Farmington schools) could find an 8 1/2 percent budget cut across the board" based on the state's current budget deficit, Flanagan warned. "We'll have to worry about that at a later date, as the year progresses."

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