

Use caution to avoid holiday crime

By Kim Kemeke
special writer

Along with the increase of gift giving, thefts of all kinds are generally on the rise during the holiday season. It's the time of year when people become preoccupied and careless and are especially vulnerable to theft. Purse snatchers and pickpockets oftentimes are particularly active because they have more opportunities to take advantage of holiday shoppers.

While you're busy preparing for the holiday season, keep in mind the following list and stay alert to what is going on around you.

- Avoid carrying more money than needed.
- Always leave unnecessary

credit cards and expensive jewelry at home.

- Hold purse firmly or conceal it in a shopping bag.
- A belt pack is a great alternative to carrying a purse and can be concealed under a long coat.
- Refrain from placing your purse in a shopping cart where it can be quickly grabbed by anyone passing the minute you turn away.
- Avoid laying your purse or wallet down on a store counter.
- Always remain alert to what's going on around you. Be wary of anyone who seems to be following you.

- If you leave any packages in your car, place them out of sight or lock them in the trunk. If you drive a hatchback, keep a blanket in the car

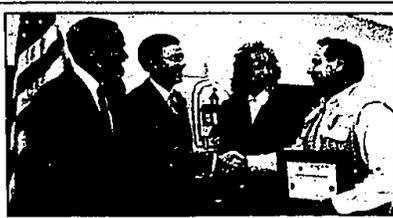


- Park your car in a well-lit area and avoid being overloaded when you return to your car. If you do find

yourself carrying an armload of packages, try to place your purse between your packages and your body.

- If possible, bring a friend or family member along on your shopping trip.
- Some shopping centers now offer valet parking or security escorts to your car. Take advantage of these services.
- If a stranger approaches you and states that he has a gun, believe him. Immediately give up any items he demands. Your safety is more precious than anything he may ask for.

Kim Kemeke is a crime prevention technician with the Farmington Hills Police Department.



KAY CLARK

Business partner

Longacre Elementary School recently honored Junebug Clark, a local photographer and parent, as a School/Business Partner. Here, Clark receives a partnership plaque from Superintendent Michael Flanagan in recognition of his involvement with the school newsletter, yearbook and publicity work. At left is school principal Bill Smith and next to Clark is school board trustee Cathleen Webb, also a Gill parent. During a special assembly, students presented Clark with homemade tokens of appreciation, including imaginative banners and personalized "thank you" books.

As you are shopping during this holiday season, consider purchasing a gift that will affect your child's future long after the season has ended.

Sylvan Learning Centers are designed specifically to help your child do better in school. We pinpoint where your child needs help, design an individual program, and attack the problem with positive motivation and friendly encouragement.

WINTER ENROLLMENT

SYLVAN LEARNING CENTER PROGRAMS

- Reading • Math • Writing • Study Skills
- Homework Support • College Prep
- SAT/ACT Prep • Algebra • Beginning Reading

20% OFF
Diagnostic Testing
good through 1/30/92

West Bloomfield
5829 W. Maple
Suite 127
737-2880

Sylvan Learning Center.
Helping kids do better.™

GREAT RATES ON SAVINGS!

7.75% • IRA • SAVINGS • ROLLOVERS

6 MONTH C.D. - CALL FOR RATES

Offering: • Certificates of Deposit • IRA • IRA Rollovers
• College Funds • Tax Free Funds • Deferred Annuities

Information can be mailed to your home at no cost.

LIVONIA COMMUNITY FINANCIAL ADVISORS
476-1770

21145 W. 7 Mile • Corner of Merriman
1200 • 1200 minutes deposit 10% interest guaranteed with automatic interest payment
• Interest compounded daily, credited annually. Penalty for early withdrawal. • Jackson Number Line (Passed A 1)

Remember Classified

With an Observer & Eccentric Classified ad...you'll make money hand over fist!

Holiday Hours
Sundays Noon - 5 pm
Weekdays, Dec. 16-23 '91 8 am

APPLGATE SQUARE

Make It Your Look!

SCOTT GREGORY
TENNIS PLUS • DON'S SALON
ROLAND OPTICS
MIRA LINDER • BEAR ENDS
THE PAPER PLACE
LE METRO • RAY & IDA
MB JEWELERS
ROSLYN'S INTIMATE APPAREL
BAGGIT • TINY DOUBLES
VALENTINA
THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOP
CLIPPERS UNISEX HAIR SALON
TRISSA'S BOUTIQUE
THE WAITING GAME • SEW BIZ
SLADES • MACKENZIES
THE ARTISTS' GALLERY • ROBERT MANN FURS

NORTHWESTERN HWY. • SOUTHFIELD

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
Grown in the Country

Take a Short Drive in the Country and Experience Christmas Like You Remember It!

Fresh-Cut TREES

Shop INSIDE our 20,000 Sq. Ft. Greenhouse & select from over 300 trees on display!

OVER 1200 TREES to choose from! 3' to 18'. Select from the FRESHEST trees in town! Select from: Scotch Pine, White Pine, Fraser Fir, Douglas Fir, Balsam Fir, and Concolor Fir. We also Custom Flock trees!

Premium Fresh Cut Christmas Trees \$3.00 OFF

On any of our Fresh Cut Trees 5 ft. or larger While 1200 last

PLYMOUTH NURSERY COUPON
One Coupon Per Tree Expires 12-18-91

Foil-Wrapped Poinsettias \$7.95
Reg. \$9.95

- 5-8 Bloom
- White 200 Last
- ITEM #6130-200

PLYMOUTH NURSERY COUPON
Expires 12-18-91

COME FOR THE FUN!

FREE! Fresh eider Doughnuts • Bay Rides • Camp Fires

SPECIAL EVENTS
Saturdays & Sundays 11 am-5 pm
Now thru Dec. 15

FREE! Pictures with Santa (One per family)

CEDAR ROPING \$29.99
Reg. \$38.00

- 60" Coll. ITEM #6130-028
- White 400 Last

PLYMOUTH NURSERY Expires 12-18-91

WREATH SPECIAL \$7.99
Reg. \$10.95

- While 200 last
- ITEM #6130-002

PLYMOUTH NURSERY Expires 12-18-91

PLYMOUTH NURSERY
Christmas in the Country

Hours: Mon-Sat. 9-6
Sun. 10-6
453-5500

9900 Ann Arbor Rd. • 7 Miles West of I-275

"YOUR GIFT DEPARTMENT STORE WITH HALLMARK CARDS"

SEE US NOW FOR **Snowbabies.**

Department

Ben Tom Shoppe

FARMINGTON • BRIGHTON • LIVONIA
DOWNTOWN FARMINGTON • BRIGHTON MALL • NEWBURGH PLAZA
Center Grand River at 11-56 • Mon-Sat. • Six Mile at Newburgh
Grand River at Farmington Road • 9am-5pm

To...BUY,SELL, FIND
PLUG INTO O & E CLASSIFIEDS

Insulation Special

6" R-14 Fiberglass Blown in Attic Insulation

1,000 Sq. Ft. • \$300

JONES INSULATION
348-9880

GET OUT OF THE DARK.

Small advertisement for lighting or window treatments.

SALE 60% OFF

KITCHEN CABINETS

Finest Selection of HAAS • SCHROCK

MAPLEWOOD LUMBER KITCHEN & BATH GALLERY
6332 Middlebelt
Garden City 422-0660

★ ★ ★
We STOCK 100's of INTERIOR • EXTERIOR DOORS

We Design and Install

BIG "BC" SALE!

Save 20-60% on our complete inventory of home trimmings "BEFORE CHRISTMAS"

You needn't wait to deck your halls because we can't wait to clear our decks! The peak gift buying season is about wrapped up. But our floors are still crowded. To add to our dilemma, several new shipments have just arrived, the only solution is to clobber prices. We're doing it **BC - Before Christmas!**

Put your gift dollars where the bargains are! Put them to work buying sofas and loveseats. Sectionals or chairs. Rockers or sleep sofas. Everything from bedrooms, dining rooms, tables, lamps to accessories. Things so wanted they're "best gift buys" anytime: at **BC Savings**, gift buys of a lifetime.

Come! Shop! Save! This sale is one for the books ... savings books!

Newton
Just for you.

1991, Newton Furniture

NOVI—At Twelve Oaks Mall, next to Camera Bank. 249-4600 • LIVONIA—On Middlebelt between 5 & 6 Mile. 525-0030 • STERLING HEIGHTS—On Van Dyke between 16 & 17 Mile. 264-3400
ANN ARBOR—On W. Eisenhower at Ann Arbor-Saline Road. 682-3445 • Monday-Saturday 10-9, Sunday 12-5 • Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Newton Charge