



SHARON LAMUEUX/staff photographer

Holiday tour

Nan Goshorn of Farmington and her grand-daughter, Cassi Goshorn of Farmington Hills, take a peek at an Austrian tree during the 1991 Heritage Holiday Tour in early December at the Heritage Park Visitors Center. It

was the second annual tour, sponsored by the Friends of Heritage and the Farmington Hills Department of Special Services. Proceeds for the event go for the beautification of Heritage Park and the Visitors Center.

police/fire calls

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

ROBBERIES REPORTED

Two robberies were reported in the city of Farmington Dec. 14, netting thieves \$300 in cash in one instance and a \$200 leather purse with \$30 in another.

The first occurred at about 1:20 a.m. at the rear parking lot of Cowley's Old Village Inn in downtown Farmington. A woman seeking her brother had stopped at OVI, and left shortly thereafter, only to be confronted by two men in the lot who followed her to her car, made sexually explicit comments to her and stole her purse. One man was wearing a sharp object, and told her to "give it up bitch" when she resisted. One man is described as white, about 30-35 years old, six feet tall with a slim build and mustache and dirty shoulder-length blond hair. The other is a black man about 20-25 years old, six feet tall with a skinny build and a beard.

Both men fled on foot toward Warner Street.

In the second case, a man entered the Heritage Cleaners, 37073 Grand River in the Grand-Halted Plaza shortly before 6 p.m. and demanded money from the cash register. The employees complied, giving him about \$300. No weapon was seen.

INDECENT EXPOSURE

An unidentified man exposed himself to a woman while both were waiting at a traffic light in separate cars Dec. 17, according to a Farmington Hills police report.

The woman told police she was stopped at a light at the eastbound ramp at I-496 and Orchard Lake Road when she noticed another car pull up alongside her car. The man inside the car exposed himself.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY REPORTED

A 15-year-old youth, who delivers newspapers, told Farmington Hills police that he was beaten up by two unidentified youths who demanded money from him as he began to collect money for the papers on Albion, Dec. 17, according to a police report.

The two approached the youth and demanded money they believed he had already collected from customers. The youth told the two he had just started and had no money. They proceeded to punch and kick him and tried to get into his coat where they believed he had money.

The youth ran to a house for help but no one was home. The two attackers followed the youth and again beat him and demanded money. The youth ran to another house where he asked the resident to call police. The two attackers fled on foot.

FIRE DAMAGE

About \$2,000 in damage was reported to Silicon Graphics, 24155 Drake on Dec. 16, after insulation in the building caught fire about 2:21 p.m.

According to a Farmington Department of Public Safety report, a welder had been doing work on the exterior of the building that morning, which apparently caused insulation in the upper story wall to catch fire in two places.

THEFTS REPORTED

A rear tailgate of a 1992 Jeep valued at \$700 was reported stolen from Bob Saks Jeep-Eagle, 35080 Grand River, Dec. 15-17.

Four tires and rims valued at \$2,000 were reported stolen from a 1992 Ford at Tom Holzer Ford, 39300 10 Mile, Dec. 11-17.

Tapes and sunglasses valued at \$350 were reported stolen from a 1990 Dodge at Bob Saks Oldsmobile, 35300 Grand River, Oct. 10 to Nov. 7.

A CD player, wine rack, lamps, vase and towel rack valued at \$535 were reported stolen from an apartment on Woodridge Circle in the Mulwood Apartments, Grand River and Drake, Dec. 16.

Ammunition and reloading equipment, trolling motor, battery and charger and tennis racket valued at \$700 were reported stolen from a storage shed of an apartment on Jefferson Court in the Independence Green Apartments, Halted and Grand River, Nov. 15-Dec. 15. Some items that were reported stolen were also found in other storage sheds.

A briefcase and coin valued at \$52 were reported stolen from a car parked at the Bon Ton Shoppe, 23320 Farmington Road Dec. 14.

A 1991 Chevrolet valued at \$20,000 was reported stolen from Inverary Condominiums on 12 Mile, Dec. 17.

A 1991 Ford valued at \$19,000 was reported stolen from Green Hills Apartments on Green Hill, Dec. 17-18.

A 1991 Chevrolet valued at \$21,000 was reported stolen from 12th Estate Condominiums on 12 Mile, Dec. 17-18.

DAMAGE REPORTED

Damage was estimated at \$100 when the glass in a car parked at the A&P, 23300 Farmington Road was broken Dec. 18.

NO DAMAGE

A smoke investigation in a commercial building in downtown Farmington Dec. 18 drew a heavy firefighter response, but caused no damage.

The call at Coxix Collectables in the Village Mall at the southeast corner of Grand River and Farmington roads at about 2:20 p.m., turned out to be an overheated belt on a heating element on the roof.

Teacher faints, room cleared as air vent system malfunctions

A malfunctioning air vent system apparently caused the recent evacuation of a Clarenceville School District classroom and the brief hospitalization of an elementary teacher after she fainted in the classroom.

Both students and teacher returned to the kindergarten classroom at Botsford Elementary Monday after repairs were made to the fan system, said David Kamlish, superintendent of the district which includes northeast Livonia, northwest Redford, and southeast Farmington Hills.

"Everything is fine," Kamlish said Tuesday. "An environmental team checked the room after the first

class meet and things appear to be much better."

The kindergarten room has been repeatedly tested since Dec. 2, when teacher Cindy Berkaw fainted in her classroom. Students were immediately removed from the room.

Before Berkaw fainted, the district had the classroom tested on Nov. 29 for formaldehyde, gas fumes and carbon monoxide. Berkaw and others had complained to principal Jesse Baker that they became very sleepy after being in the room two hours.

Tests indicated all three were within safe limits.

After Berkaw fainted on Dec. 2,

the building was checked for gas leaks. No leaks were found.

Water tests and tests for carbon monoxide also showed safe levels.

The room was then tested for carbon dioxide.

"We think the carbon dioxide level was too high," Kamlish said. "The fan system that brings in fresh air and heat was not functioning properly."

An inspection of the heating and cooling system showed that the classroom was receiving only recirculated air because of an air flow differential problem.

Dampers now open properly and 20 percent fresh air flows in the classroom, Kamlish said.

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Christmas tree pickups set

Christmas trees will be picked up for three weeks after Christmas by Waste Management Inc., which provides solid waste service for the cities of Farmington and Farmington Hills.

If you are a homeowner in either

city, you can place one whole tree on the curb on your regular rubbish pickup day.

If you would like your Christmas tree composted, make sure it is not in a bag and place it at the curb the week of Thursday, Jan. 2 to Wednesday, Jan. 8.

During that week, the compost truck will collect trees and take them to the composting site, which will open for this special Christmas tree recycling program. Christmas trees in bags are not accepted at the compost site.

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