

POLICE/FIRE CALLS

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

FIRES
A cooking fire started in an apartment at the Farm Village Co-op on Lytle in Farmington Hills at about 6:14 p.m. May 6. Firefighters from Station 1 put out the fire with a dry chemical extinguisher. There was \$500 in damage to the property and \$700 to the contents.

Two incompatible cleaning agents in the downstairs laundry tub of a house on Tredwell in Farmington Hills ignited spontaneously at about 1 p.m. May 9. Firefighters from Stations 1 and 3 responded to put out the fire. Spic N' Span and Clorox Bleach had combined to start the fire. Damage to the property was \$1,500 and damage to contents was \$7,500.

A 31-year-old man suffered from smoke inhalation and a 41-year-old man had a second-degree burn on one hand as the result of a fire on the second floor of an apartment complex on Wheeler in Farmington Hills at 6:16 a.m. May 9. The men were not seriously injured, and the fire was extinguished by firefighters from Stations 1 and 3. The fire was caused by a faulty heater and caused \$50,000 in property damage and \$5,000 in damage to contents. A bush fire smoldering next to an apartment building at the Kendallwood Apartments on Kingsgate in Farmington Hills caused \$200 in damage to the property. The fire started at about 4:30 p.m. May 7.

SEXUAL ASSAULT
Farmington Hills Police are looking for a 39-year-old man in connection with a second-degree criminal sexual conduct incident May 7. An 18-year-old woman working at an office building on Northwestern Highway at 1:18 p.m. the white man, who had a full beard, gray shirt and a dirty, scruffy appearance, exposed himself and grabbed her. She ran into an off-

ice and called police. He ran away.

ASSAULT AND BATTERY
An employee was involved in a scuffle with a Farmington Hills resident at the Farmington Tennis Club May 9. The fight started after the employee walked onto the court while the man was playing and refused to leave. The employee has since been fired.

THEFTS
Hubcaps worth \$160 were stolen from a 1991 blue Ford Taurus on Echo Valley in Farmington Hills May 8 or 9. Equipment worth \$2,210 was stolen from a 1983 Ford van parked on Shilawesee in Farmington Hills May 1 or 2. Two drills, a nail gun, a cordless drill and a punch set were stolen.

A person returned \$24 worth of pop cans, which were not Michigan returnables, at Maple Village Pharmacy in Farmington. An employee confronted the man in the parking lot, and the man drove off.

AUTO THEFTS
A white 1985 Ford Escort worth \$7,500 was stolen from J.W. a Station on 12 Mile in Farmington Hills April 11 and recovered after it was in an accident on 12 Mile and Halsted.

An attempted auto theft of a 1992 white and orange Ford Mustang convertible parked on Whitehall May 8 in Farmington Hills resulted in \$1,000 in damage to the convertible top, which had been slashed, and the ignition, which had been punched.

A red 1991 Ford Mustang GT worth \$15,000 was stolen from the Greenhill Apartments on Greenhill in Farmington Hills May 9 or 10.

A black 1989 Geo Spectrum worth \$7,000 was stolen from a residence on Washington Court in Farmington Hills. A 1991 Ford Astrostar was stolen from a garage on Lakeway in Farmington May 6. The vehicle was later recovered on Seven Mile and Mound in Detroit.

BREAK-INS
A bedroom window of a residence on Shilawesee was broken May 7, causing \$200 in damage. Two cars were broken into at the Pace Warehouse on Haggerty in Farmington Hills May 7. A stereo radio worth \$200 was stolen from a 1993 green Ford Taurus, and the passenger side lock was punched, causing \$100 in damage.

A \$200 stereo radio was also stolen from a 1989 black Ford Tempo parked at Pace on May 7. The lock was also punched, causing \$100 in damage. A car phone and other items worth \$893 were stolen from a 1991 red Ford Escort parked on Halsted in Farmington Hills on May 7. The car sustained \$100 in damage.

A \$500 Toro lawnmower was stolen from the garage of a residence on Branchester in Farmington Hills May 7 or 8. An envelope with \$15 was stolen during a burglary at Allstate Insurance on Grand River in Farmington May 5. Perpetrators entered through a rear window, causing \$10 worth of damage.

EMBEZZLEMENT
Cash proceeds of \$357.50 were missing from Carousal Auto Wash on Eight Mile on May 8.

VANDALISM
The rear door/wall was smashed at a residence on Ontaga in Farmington Hills May 8, causing \$300 in damage. The driver's side rear window was smashed on a blue 1990 Ford Escort parked on Branchester in Farmington Hills May 7, causing \$150 in damage.

The driver's side window of a 1990 brown Ford Escort parked on Brandon in Farmington Hills was shattered, resulting in \$150 in damage.

The convertible top of a 1988 Chrysler Le Baron parked on Orchard Lake in Farmington Hills suffered \$1,000 in damage May 7 or 8.

Revenge suspected in car arson case

By BILL COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

A Farmington Hills woman thinks that one of her former students has made threats to her.

Hills Police have obtained a warrant for the arrest of Len Scott Lee, 19, of Detroit on an arson charge, which carries a maximum sentence of four years in prison. The 32-year-old teacher at Detroit McKenzie High School, who had kicked Lee out of her class earlier this year, came home with a friend to her Hills apartment May 1 and discovered that her 1992 Toyota Camry had been totaled by a fire.

The blaze was later ruled an arson by the fire marshal and Farmington Hills Police.

The fire, which started in the car's engine compartment, also damaged a 1992 Pontiac parked next to it in the parking lot.

The teacher told police she recognized the voice on her answering machine. The caller had claimed responsibility for the fire and threatened her further, said Hills detective Sgt. Chuck Nebus.

"He had had problems in her class and with other teachers," Nebus said.

Joseph Gilbert, principal at McKenzie, said Lee had been expelled in April and had not been

transferred to another school in the Detroit district. Gilbert said he did not personally know Lee, but praised the teacher as "very productive" and said his security employees are aware of the situation.

"We have 2,500 students, so I didn't know who he was," Gilbert said. "But all four of our security people know him. And we also have a Detroit police officer in the building."

"He and Sgt. Nebus have exchanged information. I think the teacher is probably safer here than in most places."

Although the district policy does not permit disclosure of the reasons for an expulsion and Lee has not even been arrested, Gilbert, a former teacher himself, said intimidation of teachers can't be tolerated.

"An assault on a teacher, minister or public official is an assault on American culture," he said. "This is a place where we teach about respect for the law. Assaulting the very people who are teaching you is assaulting civilization."

Gilbert said he had only one incident where a student tried to intimidate him in his 26 years in education.

"And he went on to be a teacher," Gilbert said.

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