

POLICE AND FIRE NEWS

HOUSE FIRE

In Farmington Hills: Firefighters put out a blaze that started in the attic of a Bridgeman Street home around 9 p.m. Jan. 29. No one was inside the single story ranch home at the time of the fire, which was coming through the roof. Damage totaled \$130,000. Investigators believe an electrical problem may have been the cause.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Novi man, 20, for drunken driving on Eight Mile and Inkster roads at 3:30 a.m. Jan. 29. Police stopped the 1996 Ford T-bird for driving east on westbound Eight Mile before it turned around in a driveway. The driver had a preliminary test with a .16 percent blood alcohol level. It is illegal to drive in Michigan with a .10 percent blood alcohol level or higher.

Police arrested a Westland man, 44, for drunken driving on eastbound 14 Mile and Berryhill at 11:45 p.m. Jan. 30. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .13 percent.

Police arrested a Linden man, 51, for drunken driving on westbound I-696 and Drake at 2:35 a.m. Jan. 31. The driver of the 1986 Chevy Sports van had a blood alcohol level of .11 percent.

Police arrested a Wyandotte woman, 25, who was driving on

southbound Tuck near Nine Mile with a blood alcohol level of .14 percent at 3:40 a.m. Jan. 31.

BUSINESS BURGLARY

In Farmington Hills: Someone broke the door lock and cutaway the frame before stealing \$3,018 from Blimpica on Orchard Lake Road between 10:15 p.m. Jan. 30 and 9 a.m. Jan. 31.

DRUGS FOUND

In Farmington Hills: A Community EMS employee phoned police after a colleague found a small bag of marijuana in the hallway of their office building Jan. 29. While there, officers found another small bag in the hallway that turned out to be 1.6 grams of heroin.

MARIJUANA ARREST

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Pontiac woman, 29, after finding 1.4 grams of marijuana and a pipe contained inside an eyeglass case during a traffic stop on 12 Mile and Greening Jan. 29. Police stopped the car for having an improper plate. The driver acted nervous, but allowed the officer to look into her purse. She tried to remove the eyeglass holder when an officer looked inside and found the marijuana.

Police arrested a Warren man, 45, after finding 2.3 grams of marijuana in the 1984 Chevy Celebrity he was driving on 10

Mile and Orchard Lake at 5:40 a.m. Jan. 30.

VANDALISM

In Farmington Hills: Thieves broke the passenger side window but were unable to steal anything from a 1991 Cadillac convertible parked at Orchard Place Condominiums Jan. 29, which caused \$550 damage. Police found bricks next to the tires in what appeared to be an aborted attempt to steal the car's wheels.

Someone used a paintball gun to break out four windows at a Drake Road residence Jan. 30, causing \$850 damage.

AUTO THEFT

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole a 1995 Olds Cutlass parked at Strawberry Lane Apartments the night of Jan. 29-30. Another person had a cell phone, CD player and cooler stolen from a 1995 Ford Probe.

Thieves drove off with a 1985 Cadillac Deville parked at Hunters Ridge at 4:30 p.m. Jan. 31. The owner, an 85-year-old Hills woman, left the car running in front of the residence. The car had Florida license plates.

THEFT

In Farmington Hills: Three women's rings worth \$2,500 were stolen from a Halsted Road residence between Jan. 13-27.

BREAK-INS

In Farmington Hills: Someone broke the driver's side window and stole a stereo and cellular phone from a 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee parked at Vladimir's on Grand River Jan. 30.

The following are police and fire incidents that occurred in Farmington and Farmington Hills during the past week.

CHECKS STOLEN

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole three blank checks from Integral Staffing Solutions and cashed them for \$1,718.

THEFT

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole a cellular phone from a 1989 Honda Civic parked outside Crowley's on 12 Mile and Farmington roads Jan. 23.

Thieves took chain link fencing and aluminum scrap from Tag Manufacturing on Freeway Park between Jan. 24-26.

A tool time thief picked off two Makita power tools and other equipment from a 1997 Ford

Econoline van parked on Inkster Road the night of Jan. 24-25.

Someone stole a woman's wallet with \$450 inside at T.J. Maxx on Orchard Lake Jan. 27.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Novi man, 36, for drunken driving on northbound Orchard Lake and I-696 at 9:37 p.m. Jan. 27. Police stopped the 1998 Ford Explorer after it was weaving on the road. He refused to take a Breathalyzer and was taken to Botsford Hospital to have his blood drawn. Officers found a cup with lemonade and gin inside and quarter-full pint of gin in the backseat.

Police arrested a Warren man, 32, for drunken driving on eastbound I-696 at 1:05 a.m. Jan. 28. Police stopped the GMC Jimmy after it turned on a red light without stopping. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .11 percent. It is illegal to drive with a level of .10 percent in Michigan.

BREAK-INS

In Farmington Hills: Someone broke the window on a 1994 Ford pickup truck and tried to steal a stereo while the vehicle was parked at Ginopolis

on Middlebelt and 12 Mile Jan. 28.

A thief shattered a passenger window and stole a \$150 cellular phone from a 1997 Cadillac parked at Country Lanes on Nine Mile Jan. 28.

AUTO THEFT

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole an \$8,000 1988 Olds Cutlass at Windemere Apartments the night of Jan. 27-28.

WASHER STOLEN

In Farmington Hills: Thieves stole a power washer after prying open a door at Diamond Design on Grand River the night of Jan. 24-25.

MAN ARRESTED

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Livonia man, 36, after he forced his way inside his brother's home on Alycekey around 1:35 p.m. Jan. 27. His sister-in-law wouldn't let him inside the front door and phoned her husband, who notified police. He then went to the rear of the home and forced open a door. The man, who police said appeared intoxicated or high, has an outstanding warrant for child neglect.

Councilwoman gets anti-Semitic telephone call

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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If one crank phone call is an indication, not everyone is getting the message espoused by the Farmington/Farmington Hills Multicultural/Multiracial Community Council.

The council celebrated its annual Rainbow Recognition Awards breakfast Jan. 28 at the William Costick Activities Center.

Farmington Hills City Councilwoman Vicki Barnett told police she received a threatening phone call on New Year's Day, which included a litany of anti-Semitic epithets.

She has not received any threatening phone calls since the incident. Barnett reported the call to police Jan. 12 in case other communities have received similar messages.

"The first thing that comes into your mind is: Still? Barnett said. "Can't people get beyond this? There's probably a lot of people in the community who don't even know I'm Jewish, or my husband or two children."

"Then it bothered me that people are still wrapped up in this 'dirty Jew' thing."

The caller didn't mention anybody by name but unleashed a torrent of epithets. An unknown male is heard saying, "You m-----f----- you can't see

cause of your big nose, can't even answer the phone, you stupid m-----f-----." Next time you m-----f----- don't answer the phone I'll f----- be like Hitler and dump gas and light your ass on fire, you stupid m-----f-----."

Barnett, whose family is Jewish, is also a board member of the Anti-Defamation League and chairwoman for the 11th Democratic Congressional District.

She doesn't recall any incidents related to her duties that might cause someone to make this type of call. Barnett is married and has two teenage children.

Barnett doesn't believe the call is an indication that anti-Semitic incidents are on the rise in Farmington Hills.

Vandals sprayed anti-Semitic graffiti outside of Adat Shalom Synagogue. Prior to that, a white supremacist organization spread leaflets on a street in Farmington.

Barnett is more concerned about comments like those made by the Rev. Jerry Falwell, who stated the Antichrist is a Jewish male.

"That's what bothers me. You can have values and not believe in Jesus as your savior," she said. "You can have values and morals and be Buddhist. You can have values and morals and be Jewish."

City officials mull real estate purchase

BY TIM SMITH
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Farmington city officials are seriously mulling over the possibility of buying a chunk of real estate.

But they can't say any more than that, said Frank Lauhoff, city manager.

Following Monday night's regular council meeting, an executive session took place "to consider the purchase of real property." According to Lauhoff on Tuesday, "There's no timetable for a decision to be made. He did say

one "should be made in the next several months."

Mayor Mary Bush, also on Tuesday, declined comment about the subject.

"The council is in a period of due diligence," Lauhoff said. "We're looking at the value of the property, things like that."

Attorneys have advised city officials not to discuss the potential land buy, especially while fact-finding efforts continue.

"That is something we can't talk about at this time," Lauhoff said.

Botsford Hospital honors city for youth anti-smoking efforts

The city of Farmington was honored by Botsford General Hospital for efforts to reduce the use of tobacco products by youths.

Margo Gorchow, Botsford's administrator for hospital and community relations, read a res-

olution during Monday's city council meeting and presented a plaque.

Last year, Farmington adopted a stringent ordinance prohibiting minors from using tobacco products.

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- Cole-Haan deck shoes. Reg. \$98, Sale \$73.
- Microfiber and linen shorts. Reg. \$46-\$50, Sale \$34-\$37.
- Jacobson's own assorted nylon jog sets. 1/3 off. Reg. \$59, Sale \$39.
- Johnston & Murphy oxfords and penny loafers. Reg. \$165, Sale \$123.
- Signora microfiber separates. Windshirt. Reg. \$60, Sale \$45. Vest. Reg. \$44, Sale \$33. Shorts. Reg. \$38, Sale \$28.

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