

POLICE AND FIRE NEWS

The following are police and fire reports made during the past week in Farmington and Farmington Hills.

Shed fire

In Farmington Hills: Farmington Hills firefighters spent more than an hour extinguishing a shed fire Saturday evening, only to have the blaze flare up early Sunday morning. Officials say a tool shed in the 29000 block of Eldred had been converted to a smokehouse and used that way for a number of years. The cause of the fire was undetermined, and damages from both incidents were estimated at approximately \$21,000.

Fraud

In Farmington Hills:

Huntington Bank reported two instances of fraud, which both occurred in November 1999, and both involved bad checks. Both suspects, one age 25 and the other 55, signed the backs of their checks and volunteered a thumbprint for verification. An investigation by Huntington's corporate security later determined the checks were fraudulent.

Obstructing justice

In Farmington Hills:

A three-car accident Friday put a Dearborn man on the spot

because of some unpaid traffic tickets. When an officer asked for his identification, the man claimed to have lost it in his other pants. A check on the name he gave turned up no records and a search of his vehicle turned up several unpaid parking tickets, along with registration papers, in a different name.

The man admitted to having lied and was arrested and transported to the Farmington Hills jail. Further investigation showed three outstanding warrants from Allen Park, and two license suspensions. He was ticketed for giving false information to a police officer, driving with

out a license and failure to provide proof of insurance.

Snowmobile accident

In Farmington Hills:

An 11-year-old Farmington Hills boy who took a 1971 Arctic Cat snowmobile without permission Friday evening crashed the sled into a 14-foot rowboat parked in the rear lot of a residence on Ontaga Street. The boy wasn't injured.

Breaking & entering

In Farmington Hills:

Several home invasion burglaries were reported Friday in two neighborhoods.

A Creekside resident upstairs

in his home heard noises at the rear of his house just after 8 p.m. Friday. He investigated and saw a man approximately 18 years old wearing a black leather coat and standing by a rear window. The man fled to the front of the house. A neighbor reported seeing the man and a woman who wore her frizzy hair in a pony tail run from the back of the house to the front and drive off in a dark blue, older vehicle with a loud muffler.

Officers

conducting their investigation learned thieves had entered and ransacked another home on the same street.

At some time during the day

Friday, thieves broke into three homes on Linden Street, taking a leather jacket from one home, cash and jewelry from another and nothing from the third. They entered the homes either by breaking glass or prying open doors at the back of the homes.

Car vs. deer

In Farmington Hills:

A car headed northbound on Haggerty hit and killed a deer just north of 12 Mile Road shortly after midnight on Saturday.

At 6:30 a.m. Sunday, a car hit a deer on 14 Mile east of Hazelton. An officer fired two rounds from a shotgun to dispatch the deer.

Underage consumption

In Farmington Hills:

Officers who observed a 20-year-old Fowlerville man urinating against the wall at a gas station at 12 Mile and Orchard Lake conducted field sobriety tests and discovered an initial breath test reading of .12. The man was ticketed for underage consumption and urinating in public.

An 18-year-old Canton teen stopped at 1-696 and Orchard Lake Road for a moving violation admitted to having consumed alcohol. Her preliminary breath test registered .07, and she was ticketed for underage consumption.

Vandalism

In Farmington Hills:

The owner of the Knights Inn motel reported that guests vandalized two rooms. The holes in the wall, television set ripped off the dresser, broken chair and cracked door amounted to about \$1,000 in damages. The rooms had been rented to a man from West Bloomfield.

Driving with a suspended license

In Farmington Hills:

Officers stopped to investigate a 1997 Jeep Saturday morning, because it had a police light bar mounted on top, and found the driver had a suspended license and three outstanding warrants related to traffic violations.

The man, who was employed by Chrysler Corp. and the Jeep was one of five cars under his authority. He took it on weekends, because it was the only vehicle that could accommodate his family of four. The Jeep had red and blue roof lights because it had been used as a military police vehicle, but had been sent back due to transmission problems.

The driver was handcuffed and transported to the Farmington Hills jail. His wife and two children, who had been in the car with him, were assisted by officers. The 34-year-old West Bloomfield man was ticketed for possession of oscillating lights.

Theft from vehicles

In Farmington Hills:

Residents on Parkhill and Farmersville reported someone had stolen cell phones from their cars some time Saturday night or early Sunday morning.

Vandalism

In Farmington Hills:

Managers at Indian Creek Apartments suspect some residents may have been involved in vandalism to their community room because a code known only to the residents was required to enter the area.

A 42-inch RCA color television set with VCR was stolen, tables and chairs were flipped over, glass was broken and debris was strewn throughout the area. An exit sign and office door were damaged as well. The damage was discovered late Sunday evening.

Edison to trim trees in Hills

The city of Farmington Hills will be visited this month and next month by Detroit Edison line-clearance crews as part of the utility's effort to keep trees and branches away from power lines.

The utility maintains a 10-foot clearance between tree branches and power lines to reduce the potential for power outages and help ensure safe, reliable electric service for customers.

"This is the time of year when ice and heavy snow can bring down trees and branches into our power lines," said Ron May, vice president, energy delivery and service.

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