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staff interviewed people from all city departments during Phase 1 of the project, collecting data and then designing the site.

That took about two months, Lasley said.

"The vendor, I think, was flabbergasted by the amount of information available in various departments in the city," he commented. "This was truly a team effort."

Accented in shades of green, the home page includes a brief description of the community and a collage of photos that shows the city's modern and historic sides. A navigation window has links to a city map, an activi-

ties calendar, press releases and information about the community, local government, business and general information.

Users can obtain an application for jobs posted on the site, for building permits and other planning and zoning forms. Lasley said minutes and agendas from City Council, Planning Commission and the Zoning Board will be updated regularly.

There are also copies of city ordinances and codes, with search capabilities, 47th District Court information, a listing of community policing programs and information about the Hills Fire Department.

Lasley said the project's next phase will make the Web site more interactive, allowing residents to utilize electronic payments.

"That process will take up to two years to complete," he said. "Now, we have the responsibility to maintain it. We are committed to making it current."

The company will also track which parts of the site are most utilized by residents, so those most used can be more easily accessed.

"It's only going to get better from here," Lasley said.

Hills chase ends in arrest

The following reports were filed with the Farmington Hills Police Department during the past week:

LARCENY

A 78-year-old woman living in an apartment on Freedom told police someone had taken a \$1,000 gold necklace that had been left in a box in her kitchen. The only other person who had been in her apartment between Dec. 31 and Jan. 7, she said, was a maintenance man.

A 30-year-old woman told police a woman's wedding ring, valued at \$14,300, was taken from her home sometime during

the Thanksgiving holiday.

HIT & RUN

The owner of a 1998 Ford parked on Parker near Eight Mile Road and returned to find another car had struck his and left the scene. He believes someone may have been backing out of a driveway across the street when the accident occurred.

As a 49-year-old Westland man waited to turn into a private drive on Orchard Lake Road, an older red and gray Explorer pulled out of the same drive and struck his 1999 Ford. The Explorer driver, described as a black man, 6'1", 190 pounds

■ POLICE CALLS

and wearing a dark jacket, backed away, then pulled south onto Orchard Lake. His vehicle had damage to its front end.

ASSAULT/ABUSE

A 19-year-old woman called police at around 7:30 p.m. Jan. 9 to report her husband, from whom she had separated, assaulted her. The woman had moved to Michigan from Minnesota after the separation, and her husband showed up at her home, asking to talk to her. When she told him she had nothing to say, he attacked her. Friends tried to help, but he picked her up and threw her into them. When she threatened to call the police, he destroyed the phone and said he'd kill her. She fled to a bowling alley, where her father was bowling, and reported the assault from there.

INJURY ACCIDENT

A 53-year-old Dearborn Heights woman was treated for head injuries at Botsford Hospital and ticketed for failure to yield, after a three-car accident at 12 Mile and Middlebelt Roads on Jan. 10. According to police, she was turning left onto west 12 Mile from northbound Middlebelt on a flashing red light, when a 1997 Ford driven by a 35-year-old Farmington Hills woman struck her 1986 Mercury.

FRAUD

Someone acquired the payroll and general business account numbers from a business on Research Drive and used them to create checks written to pay off a phone and utility bill.

AUTO THEFT

A Ferndale woman told police she left her 1997 Mazda Protego at a dealership on Grand River for service on Jan. 8, and when she called the next day, the car was missing and presumed stolen.

Police arrested a 19-year-old Southfield man late Wednesday evening, after a low-speed chase that took a Hills officer out of the city. The officer noticed the trunk on the 1992 Ford Taurus appeared to have had its lock forcibly opened and a check on the car's plates showed it had been stolen out of Taylor. The officer followed it east on Eight Mile and radioed for help from Southfield or Redford Police Departments. He continued the pursuit into residential neighborhoods, where the suspects traveled around 30 miles per hour. When the driver tried to make a turn, he hit a snowbank and the suspects got out of the car. A search of the area turned up the Southfield man, who was arrested and taken to the Hills jail. A second suspect is described as a light-skinned, black man, 5'8", 160 pounds. He was wearing a red flannel shirt and dark pants.

Bust

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Dwyer said. "Plain clothes officers had the car under surveillance."

After getting the driver's consent to search the vehicle, officers found the cocaine stored in a hidden compartment in the trunk. Dwyer said the drugs most likely came from South America and would most likely have been distributed throughout southeast Michigan.

The suspect was arrested and held in the Hills lock-up, then transported to the Oakland County Jail.

"Eleven days into the team, and we come up with this," Bouchard said. "Anytime you have something on this level, it's good police work and luck."

He also cited the involvement and cooperation of chiefs from Farmington Hills, West Bloomfield, Waterford, Hazel Park, Madison Heights, Royal Oak and Ferndale, who have all committed officers to the effort. NET is actively recruiting more departments, to increase the effort.

"Drug dealers don't consider city borders," Bouchard said, pointing out Thursday night's investigation started in Southfield and ended with the arrest in Farmington Hills. "We believe the more active and involved local departments are, the better."

He stressed the cocaine seizure didn't end the case; it's still considered an on-going investigation.

Dwyer anticipates an increase in large seizures of drugs with the advent of the new county-wide team, now administered by the sheriff's department. The organization had been criticized for not paying enough attention to individual communities.

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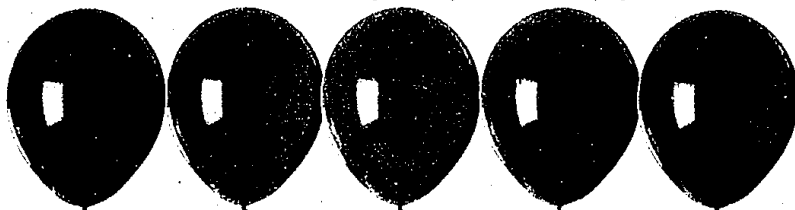
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