

Police seek party store robbers

BY SUE BUCK
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Police are looking for two men who robbed Grand Orchard Party Store, 22840 Orchard Lake Road in Farmington about 10:40 p.m. on May 29.

Taking money, cigarettes, alcohol, lottery tickets, personal checks and a pistol owned by the store owner, one of the men also ordered the only employee at the store to lie down behind the counter, according to a police report.

While that man robbed the clerk, the other man turned the

security camera away, ripped it down and disabled it.

The clerk believes the man who demanded money and other items hid the stolen pistol in his waistband, police said. He handed the money to the man who disabled the security camera. The money was placed in a pink bag.

Before the two men fled on foot, the man who stole the various items held a gun to the clerk's head, the clerk told police.

The first suspect is described as a black man about 30 years old, 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weigh-

ing about 160 pounds. He wore a dark baseball cap, a dark jacket and dark jeans.

The second suspect is a black man about 30 years old, 5 feet, 8 inches tall and about 150 pounds. He wore dark clothes and a baseball cap with a hood over it.

Anyone with information is asked to call Farmington Police at (248) 474-4700.

This was the city's first armed robbery in 2001. "We had six last year," said Mike Wiggins, deputy public safety director.

"We usually average about four or five a year."

POLICE AND FIRE CALLS

The following incidents were recently reported to the Farmington Hills Police and Fire Department:

FIREWORKS

Police responded to a residence located in the 21000 block of Hancock Sunday, June 3, and discovered some boys setting off fireworks in the street. They were escorted to their parents' homes. Firecrackers are illegal in the state of Michigan.

BREAK-INS

Someone reportedly broke into a 1993 Audi parked in the 35000 block of Congress sometime before Sunday, June 3, and removed \$150 worth of compact discs encased in a wallet-style carrier. A police report stated that entry was gained by breaking a passenger side window, which caused \$500 damage. Police have no suspects.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

A 23-year-old East Lansing man was arrested near I-696 and Farmington Road at 3:46 a.m. Saturday, June 2, for operating a vehicle under the influence of liquor and refusing to take a Breathalyzer test. A police report stated that officers performed several sobriety tests on the man, who reportedly had trouble with some of them. He repeatedly refused to take a breath test.

A 31-year-old Novi man was

cited at 8:40 p.m. Saturday, June 2, near Grand River and Middlebelt for operating under the influence of liquor and unlawful blood alcohol level. A breath test showed a .20 level, exceeding Michigan's legal limit of .10.

VANDALISM

Someone reportedly caused \$500 damage to a vehicle parked in the 24000 block of Independence sometime before 3:30 p.m. Sunday, June 3. A police report stated numerous parts of the car were scratched, including the rear quarter panel, front quarter panel and hood.

VEHICULAR ASSAULT

A 43-year-old Redford man

reported being assaulted by his 19-year-old niece Sunday, June 3, outside Botaford Hospital. A police report stated that the man, his niece and her mother were arguing about family business in the hospital's parking lot when the niece became angry and threatened to "run him over." She then reportedly accelerated the vehicle, a black 2001 Pontiac Sunfire, toward him, causing him to jump out of his way. She and her mother, a 38-year-old Livonia woman, then fled in the vehicle.

HOME INVASION

Several valuable items were taken from a home located in the 29000 block of Wellington some-

Echo Park LC

Sachse Construction & Development Corp. has begun the construction of Echo Park Learning Center.

The new facility will be located in Farmington Hills, on five acres of land north of 12 Mile Road between Inkster and Middlebelt Roads.

The 28,000-square-foot, state-of-the-art facility will feature 11 classrooms, a toddler room, media center, library, drama, music, lunchroom, enrichment rooms, as well as a convenient drop off location for parents and students.

BUSINESS NEWS

"We are very excited to begin construction of this facility for Echo Park," said Kelly Taylor, director of marketing at Sachse Construction & Development Corp. "We are really excited at the prospect of building a well-established and respected learning center for pre-schoolers in this area."

Echo Park co-directors Diane Quarles and Janet Strote expect the school to open in its new location in late fall. The school, which is designed to accommodate children ages 18 months to

kindergarten, has been located on Wing Lake road in Bloomfield Hills for the past 18 years.

The Farmington Hills location was chosen after an extensive search. Many students come from the community, and the site provides easy access to surrounding areas. "Farmington Hills has been very cooperative," said Quarles. "We think this new facility will be a great asset to the community and a wonderful place for children who need a nurturing and stimulating environment for learning."

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734-728-1705

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Executive Bldg., Suite 200
517-887-7272

FLINT

2483 S. Linden
810-733-2260

ROSEVILLE

27115 Gratiot
810-774-3520

STERLING HEIGHTS

3637 Fifteen Mile Rd.
Hatherly Commons
810-979-8210

TOLEDO

4000 Highway, Suite 10
419-867-0839

WARREN

2425 East Twelve Mile Rd.
810-573-7333

ROCHESTER

543 N. Main Street, Suite 222
248-651-0024

WARREN

37625 Ann Arbor Rd., Suite 104
734-484-5550

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