

# Hills Crime Prevention Advisory board hears case details

BY KEVIN BROWN  
STAFF WRITER  
kbrown@oe.homecomm.net

The bad news is that more than twice as many bank robberies are happening in Oakland County this year, compared to last year.

The good news is that thieves who committed bank robberies over the summer in Farmington Hills have been captured by police.

Also, Farmington Hills Assistant Chief Chuck Nebus said police are witnessing a new trend pertaining to those who rob banks.

"There doesn't seem to be

drugs or alcohol involved. It just seems to be greed," he said.

Nebus' comments came before the Farmington Hills Crime Prevention Advisory Committee meeting Wednesday at City Hall. He joined Police Chief Bill Dwyer in presenting a review of police activity during the summer.

Two examples of bank robbery motivated by greed were outlined in a video presentation to the group. One included the in-car police video tape of the capture of three bank robbery suspects Aug. 23, just minutes after they fled from the Peoples State Bank at 12 Mile and Halsted.

The video showed the west-bound getaway car swerving left to narrowly avoid a police car that blocked its path on 12 Mile - only to strike an oncoming van, before coming to rest on the right shoulder after the air bag deployed.

"One of their biggest mistakes was trying to get away during rush hour," Nebus said.

The four people charged in the robbery included a 19-year-old teller. She told accomplices when the most money would be on hand; a time when there would only be three women working in the bank, Nebus said. While three in the getaway car made

off with \$92,570, they only had the money for about five minutes.

The police video showed a motorcycle officer behind the car and patrol officers running toward the stopped car.

"Many bank robbers would be shooting through the back window," Nebus said, as they would seek to avoid capture on a charge that results in significant jail time. In contrast, he said, individuals in this group were not career criminals.

One thief told police he sought the money to buy a new car.

**Bank robberies**

A Detroit resident was arrested Aug. 26 in Detroit as a suspect in seven bank robberies in metro Detroit. The string of robberies included the July 27 robbery of the Standard Federal Bank at 11 Mile and Middlebelt, where the suspect could be seen on the bank's video tape. Nebus said the suspect told police he was having financial difficulties, and that he figured banks were easy money.

The Crime Prevention Advisory Committee meets monthly, except in summer.

Dwyer reviewed civilian citations recently presented by the police department, including one

to Susan Ashoff, a neighbor who reported to police that a teen girl from Cameron was being kept in a house in near-alive conditions.

The girl, Pridine Fru, now 19 and living in foster care, has brought accusations against Joseph and Evelyn Djoumessi, former Cameron residents who owned the home. Nebus said the case may require a second trial, as an Oakland Circuit Court jury has yet to render a verdict after a week of deliberations.

The Farmington Hills couple is being tried on charges of conspiring to kidnap, kidnapping and child abuse. Joseph Djoumessi also faces two counts of first-degree criminal sexual conduct and third-degree criminal sexual conduct, as Fru has said he raped her.

"If you could see the home and the conditions," Nebus said.

## O&E hosts sixth annual Job Fair

Those looking for a job in virtually any career, but don't know where to turn, might want to circle Wednesday, Sept. 19 on their calendars.

That's the scheduled date for the sixth annual Job Fair, co-hosted by the Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and HomeTown Communications. This year's event again will take place at Burton Manor in Livonia, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Last year's event drew approximately 2,000 job hunters from throughout metropolitan Detroit, and hopes are to dupli-

What: Sixth Annual Job Fair

Who: Co-hosted by Observer & Eccentric Newspapers and HomeTown Communications

When: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 19

Where: Burton Manor, 27777 Schoolcraft Road in Livonia

cate that level of interest.

Meg Lyczak, manager of inside outside classified ads for the Observer, said because the job fair is general in scope, there is no particular theme or focus.

"We have banks, health care (companies), retail stores and industries" lined up to get acquainted with those who are looking for new jobs and careers, explained Lyczak. "It's going to be across-the-board."

Lyczak does suggest that attendees come to Burton Manor armed with plenty of resumes. She said there still is plenty of room for businesses to sign up. She can be reached at (734) 953-2068.

Burton Manor is located at 27777 Schoolcraft Road, west of Inkster Road and on the south side of Schoolcraft.

## Dogs from A3

from Great Danes to corgis.

"If you saw those dogs it would do your heart good; they were so happy," McCarthy said.

She walked a golden Labrador to the park on Sunday. "When I take him off the lead it's the only time he's ever off that lead. It just does my heart good for all the dogs. It's just one very pleasant hour for everyone," she said.

Eison is the Farmington Hills representative for the group Parks for Urban Pups. The group also includes West Bloomfield members interested in a local dog park.

"The city of Farmington Hills gets a dollar back for every dog that is registered," Eison said, estimating that adds up to around \$4,000 annually. "Dog people pay that money out but we have no say on where the money goes - and now that there is something we want, we can't have it."

Saying there are hundreds of people who would support a dog park, he added, "it's not something that's going to go away."

"It's a social thing for people and a social thing for the dogs," Eison said, adding a dog park is valuable in socializing dogs to other humans and to other dogs.

"We just need a little space. It's not like we're asking for 3,000 acres in the middle of Farmington Hills," he said.



NOW IN PROGRESS

NEW AND LOWER MARKDOWNS ON  
REGULAR-PRICED AND ALREADY-REDUCED  
MERCHANDISE

25-75%  
OFF\*

the best names at the best prices  
FOR LADIES, PETITES, PARISIAN WOMAN, JUNIORS AND MEN

\*OFF ORIGINAL PRICES. ACTUAL SAVINGS MAY EXCEED PERCENTAGE SAVINGS SHOWN

ALSO, TAKE AN EXTRA 60% OFF RED DOT CLEARANCE  
GOING ON NOW

PAY YOUR PARISIAN BILL ON-LINE Go to <http://ebills.parisian.com>.

P.A.R.I.S.I.A.N

YOU'RE SOMEBODY SPECIAL

CALL 800-424-8185 TO ORDER ANYTIME. STORE HOURS: Laurel Park Place (953-7500) open Sun. 12-6, Mon.-Sat. 10-9. FOR INFORMATION call 953-7500.  
CHARGE IT: Parisian Credit Card, MasterCard, Visa, the American Express® Card or Discover®.  
LOCATED AT LAUREL PARK PLACE IN LIVONIA, CORNER OF NEWBURGH ROAD AND SIX MILE ROAD (TAKE THE SIX MILE ROAD EXIT OFF INTERSTATE 275).