

POLICE CALLS

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

DOORS GONE

Nine doors specially cut for units at the Mulwood Apartments in Farmington Hills were discovered missing Oct. 10 from a storage shed at the apartment complex.

The doors, valued at \$250, were discovered missing at 6 a.m. The shed was likely locked; as there was no sign of forced entry and a maintenance worker who discovered the theft told police he needed a key to enter the shed. He said other workers he questioned told him they did not take the doors.

EQUIPMENT TAKEN

An electronic network tester valued at \$80,000 turned up missing Oct. 10 from a GMC Jimmy pickup parked at Sprint PCS, 24590 N. Industrial Drive. Also taken in the theft were cell phones valued at \$600, according to the report filed with Hills police. A window was broken to allow entry.

CASH REPORTED TAKEN

A man returned to his locked trailer on Middlebelt Oct. 10 and found \$400 was missing, according to the report he filed with Farmington Hills police.

The homeowner told police the items were on top of a dresser, and that window installers could be responsible.

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BB SHOTS

Shots from a BB gun damaged windows and vinyl siding on a home on Collingham Street, and a pickup truck parked nearby, according to a Hills police report taken Oct. 7.

The homeowner reported \$200 in damage to the 2000 Dodge Ram truck and \$650 in damage as two windows in the home were shot out. No injuries were reported.

From the Livonia Police Department:

PURSE SNATCHING

A Farmington Hills woman was the victim of a purse-snatching in Livonia last week.

Two men and a woman were in the Macomb County Jail Tuesday after being arrested in connection with the incident that occurred on Friday night.

The purse-snatching, outside the Bahama Breeze restaurant in Livonia on Hogarty near Seven Mile, left the 41-year-old Hills woman with minor injuries, according to a Livonia

Police Department report.

Cash, credit cards, a checkbook and a cellular phone were among the things in the purse, police said.

The victim told police she left the restaurant just after 9 p.m. and was about to get into her van when the purse snatcher approached from behind, grabbing the purse. She held onto it until the strap broke.

The thief got into a nearby van with another man in it, the victim said. She was able to get a license-plate number, which police shared with other departments via teletype.

A van with that plate number was spotted in Warren Saturday morning, and police there arrested the men and the woman inside. They had articles from the victim's purse, including credit cards and a checkbook, in their possession, police said.

They face charges including illegal possession of a financial transaction device. The three were being held Tuesday, the men on \$25,000 cash bonds, the woman on a \$10,000 cash bond.

Livonia charges are expected for the two men. One of them is an ex-Bahama Breeze employee.

by Matt Jachman

Salt prices skyrocket

Hills will seek lower price for road treatment, through state

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

Cities are paying double for road salt to get them through the coming winter, if they can find a supply.

The Farmington Hills City Council on Monday approved a \$324,450 bid to Morton Salt, for 2001-02 winter season salt.

Central Services Director Michael Leslie said that before paying the bid price, the city would seek a lower price for road salt through a joint contract with the state. "We're waiting for news," he said.

While the cost of road salt has doubled, Leslie told council that some governments are unable to find any sources of road salt. Leslie said the price of salt has risen due to increased shipping costs. He said the city's salt is shipped from the East Coast.

Officials say this treated salt is cheaper to use than Detroit salt which is untreated, and tends to clog in machinery, and

sometimes causes costly repairs. Council members asked if sand or other substances would work. Public Services Director Tom Biasell said sand clogs up

■ 'There isn't a better item than salt to clean up roads.'

Tom Biasell
—Public services director

gutters and storm sewers, and that there is a high cost to remove it.

He said an alternate snow melting chemical tested on Drake Road was "many times more expensive" than road salt as repeat applications were needed. "There isn't a better item than salt to clean up the roads," he said.

City Manager Steve Brock said the city currently has 2,000 tons of salt. "We used 7,000 tons last time; 2,000 won't get us through the winter," he said.

Schools champion 'sinking fund'

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
STAFF WRITER
loconnor@oe.homecomm.net

Livonia school officials are championing a bill that would give districts more flexibility when spending their sinking fund money.

Livonia and Clarenceville district taxpayers are assessed sinking fund levies, which can only be used for building maintenance and infrastructure projects.

In Livonia Public Schools, a 1-mill sinking fund level generates \$4 million annually. Clarenceville's 2-mill levy brings in \$675,000 a year.

Without that money, districts wouldn't be able to plan yearly repairs and upgrades at buildings. That is particularly crucial in both LPS and Clarenceville where many facilities are more than 30 years old.

Districts are restricted in how sinking fund money is spent.

"For instance, districts can't buy new stand-alone lockers. However, they can use sinking fund money to pay for lockers that are embedded into school walls.

Similarly, sinking fund revenue can't be used for desks, chairs or other furniture.

House Bill No. 4824 would allow schools to use 'sinking fund' dollars for furniture, school buses and computers.

House Bill No. 4824 would loosen those strings somewhat. The House Appropriations Committee approved the legislation, which has to go before the full House for a vote.

If passed, districts could use sinking fund money to buy such things as classroom furniture as well as school buses and computers.

Districts pay for those items out of the general fund or seek voter-approved bond issues.

"There are some things that make sense to pay for on a pay-as-you-go basis," said Randy Licpa, LPS assistant superintendent.

Some districts have sought to buy new computers through technology bond issues, which doesn't make sense, Clarenceville Superintendent

Tom Tattan said.

"When you buy technology with a bond, you're paying on it 10 years after you've thrown it away," Tattan said.

"It is a better deal for the taxpayers. You're not getting into bonds and paying interest."

Clarenceville has used its sinking fund to pay for new boilers at the high school and Grandview Elementary, plus door and window replacement.

Upcoming projects include renovating the middle school exterior, replacing middle school lockers and roof repairs. The district also plans install fiber optic wiring to connect all its buildings, which falls within sinking fund provisions because it involves wiring.

Clarenceville's sinking fund is approved by voters through 2006. The district includes parts of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills.

"We're showing people we're upgrading our facilities and site," Tattan said.

LPS five-year sinking fund is approved through 2005. During the summer, the district completed numerous roof and paving projects.

MONTE NAGLER PHOTOGRAPHY

Monte Nagler began photographing seriously after studying with Ansel Adams. He is a noted writer, lecturer, and teacher of photography and the author of two highly successful photography books. Monte is a member of the National Camera Club of America and a recipient of the prestigious Artist in Residence Award from the Farmington Area Arts Commission.

ATTENTION ALL SHUTTERBUGS!!
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A One-on-One Workshop with Monte Nagler, World Renowned Photographer, for the Amateur and the Professional

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A public service of the newspaper

Arthritis Today

JOSEPH J. WEISS, M.D., RHEUMATOLOGY
18925 Farmington Road
Livonia, Michigan 48152
Phone: (248) 478-7860

THE WORLD TRADE CENTER INCIDENT
AND RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

The attack on the World Trade Center created reverberations across the world, and it reaches us in unsettling ways. Since September 11th, I have noted a darkening of mood in the patients I see with rheumatoid arthritis. They realize a risk they did not previously see as part of their condition.

Experts in terrorism tell us that at the time of such an attack, everyone in the area should leave in as orderly a manner as possible. The experts say do not wait to see what will happen, or trust that your luck will save you from the sudden danger of bombs, fire, flames or smoke.

But for patients with rheumatoid arthritis, leaving is what they can least undertake. Recall that rheumatoid arthritis affects not only the hands, but also the feet; often the condition includes the ankles and knees. In addition to difficulty walking, people with rheumatoid arthritis lose stability. That is a particularly difficult handicap when you are in a crowd of anxious people running away from disaster. The chance exists for anyone of being knocked down, but it is worse for those with arthritis.

Patients with rheumatoid arthritis know that if they find themselves in the midst of a terrorist attack, their need for assistance will be high, and their opportunity to help others will be limited. They see themselves as potential liabilities to friends and families.

All these fears have a foundation. However, the experience of many on September 11th was that in time of great need, the body responds with an extraordinary and sustained Resilience effort.

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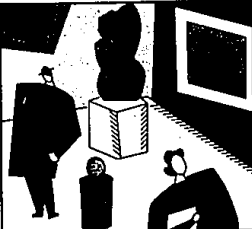
exhibition
BIRMINGHAM

a gallery tour

Friday,
November 9, 2001
6 - 9 p.m.

Downtown Birmingham

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For more information and an event map, contact Downtown Birmingham Principal Shopping District at 248-433-3550

Volunteer docents will provide directions and information about the galleries and their exhibits.

Free trolley service will shuttle visitors throughout town.

Meet artists and learn about their work.

Many galleries will provide food and refreshments.

- Anderson Gallery
- Artspace II
- Avenue Gallery
- Cowboy Trader
- David Klein Gallery
- Elizabeth Stone Gallery
- Exhibit A
- Gallery Animato
- Gallery Birmingham
- Gallery Nikko
- Hill Gallery
- Mettal Studio
- Posner Gallery
- Robert Kidd Gallery
- Sandra Collins Gallery
- Synergy Studio
- The Halsted Gallery
- The Sports Gallery
- Yaw Gallery

Observer & Eccentric!
A Publication of the



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Hosted by Downtown Birmingham Art Galleries and the Cultural Council of Birmingham Bloomfield