

# Shoplifting suspect nabbed from underneath truck

Two Detroit men were arrested for shoplifting at Carter's Children's Store on Grand River around 3 p.m. Saturday.

The men were apprehended across the street at the Knart store. One was hiding underneath a truck. An employee at Carter's said one of the men put clothes under his jacket and ran out without paying.

### Drunken driving

Police responded to a property accident along I-696 and Middlebelt around 2 p.m. Saturday. The driver, a 53-year-old Southfield man, had a .18 blood/alcohol level. The man also had marijuana in his possession.

Police responded to vehicle in a ditch along Drake and 11 Mile around 2 p.m. Friday. The driver, a 56-year-old Redford man, was too intoxicated to perform a breath test. He was taken to the hospital where blood was drawn.

Police pulled over a vehicle along Eight Mile and Pearl around 1:30 a.m. Sunday for weaving. The driver, a 34-year-old Farmington Hills man, had a .11 level and marijuana in his possession.

Police pulled over a vehicle

### POLICE CALLS

**along Grand River and Roosevelt for erratic driving on Sunday.** The driver, a 40-year-old Dearborn man, had a .19 level. All four of his children were also in the vehicle. Their mother was called to take them home.

### Bike theft

A resident in the 20900 block of Cass said a neighborhood girl ran into her yard and took her daughter's bicycle around 3:40 p.m. Monday. The woman ran up to the girl and asked her what she was doing. The girl said she just wanted to borrow the bike to get home faster.

### Theft

At the Farmington Trailer Park, a resident who moved away in December from a trailer he shared with a friend said he returned to take \$35,000 in coins and jewelry he left behind with the roommate, a 20-year-old woman.

On Sunday, the woman told him she took his belongings and sold them for \$700 and gave the money to her

boyfriend who needed a new water pump for his car.

### Drug possession

Police pulled over a vehicle along M-5 and Grand River around 2:20 p.m. Sunday for having a cracked windshield. The driver, a 45-year-old Livonia man had crack cocaine in his possession.

### Shoplifting

An employee at the Rite Aid on Grand River spotted a man walk into the store around 6:47 p.m. Sunday and put items in a hand basket. He walked out of the store without paying for the items and fled in a vehicle driven by another man.

### Cash stolen

An employee at Leo's Coney Island on 12 Mile arrived to work around 5:16 a.m. Monday and discovered the back door open.

Upon further inspection, the employee found cash was taken from two registers. There was no sign of forced entry.

Compiled by staff writer Paul R. Pace from reports on file at the Farmington Hills Police Department.

# Mayfair students 'rock on' with award

BY SUE BUCK STAFF WRITER

Preschoolers rocked at Mayfair Co-op Preschool in Farmington Hills this week, thanks to a grant from the Michigan Earth Science Teachers Association (MESTA) Stoney Awards.

Students explored rocks and minerals through a variety of classroom activities. They learned through touching, drawing, floating, painting, digging, reading, matching, classifying, creating and decorating rocks, all with materials made possible through the MESTA program.

"We were interested in making Rock Week a fun experience for the kids," said Mayfair Director Maxine Flagg. "Whether they're making fossils with play dough, searching through a 'hands-on gravel pit' for rocks, or creating a pet rock. Mayfair preschoolers will be learning lifelong lessons as they play."

Sharon Videtich, mother of two students, Danielle, 4, and Jenny, 2, researched and wrote the grant. She's a former high school science teacher at Gabriel Richard High School in Riverview and said she wrote grants during her time there.

Mayfair was interested in adding science to the classroom, and she believed this would be a good way to get some funds to help with that endeavor.

Among other activities on Tuesday morning, students used rocks to draw on paper like chalk.

"We have a box of real fossils we will get out later in the week," Videtich said. "We have a fragment of a dinosaur bone, petrified wood and a shark tooth."

Students painted a "pet rock" and put it in a box with some soft moss.

"We have fluorescent rocks,"



Caroline Strauss paints her rock.

Videtich said. "We have a UV lamp from Harrison High School and we have rocks which glow in the dark. There's a property of the rocks where when you add the light, the light is absorbed and it bounces back." Students also played bingo

with cards which had rock pictures on them and strengthened their matching skills, she said. Located at 30450 Farmington Road just south of 14 Mile, Mayfair offers four programs: Threes, Fours, Enrichment (Kinder-

# Support the troops rally comes to 7 Mile Saturday

BY DATE KENSA STAFF WRITER

A bank-line conversation about anti-war protesters convinced Al Tuller of Livonia to organize a support the troops rally that's growing into an event that's expected to take over northwest Livonia on Saturday.

"We need to show the troops in the Middle East that we're there for them," Tuller said as he took a breather from his constant motion of spreading the word, finding donors and planning the event.

"It's for the mums and dads who think we don't care." That message will be shared through a line-up of residents and visitors (including some from Ohio) waving flags and

posters, showing their yellow ribbons of support, listening to patriotic supporters and sharing a prayer for the troops in Iraq. Family members of people in the armed forces are invited to bring pictures.

The event is called Operation Iraqi Freedom — the same name as the actual military effort in Iraq — and runs from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. It will be based in the Livonia Knart parking lot, with participants stretching on both sides of Seven Mile from Farmington Road to Newburgh.

Speakers at the rally are expected to include Mayor Jack Kirksey, U.S. Rep. Thaddeus McCotter and State Sen. Laura Toy, all of Livonia; participants will include police and fire representatives,

Scouts, military officials and more.

The thousands expected should be a response to media coverage of anti-war protesters. "We woke the silent majority," Tuller said.

Rally participants are asked to keep off the streets, stay off private property unless invited and not block driveways. For more details, e-mail livoniaifree@aol.com

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