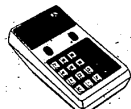


Student art sale held at Seaholm

Art students at Seaholm High School will hold a sale of the work they have produced in classes during school hours Thursday (April 4) and Friday.

Work to be offered in the sale includes paintings, weavings and jewelry. The sale will be conducted in room C-100.

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Scout troop spans generations

Boy Scout Troop 1004 was re-chartered at the March 25 celebration of its 50th anniversary. One of the troop's newest scouts, John Stickney, of 1367 Cole St., Birmingham, received his Scout's Pin from Jay Lowman, who was a troop member 44 years ago, while long-time Scoutmaster Bob White looks on. More than 200 persons attended the ceremony at Adams School when Troop 1004 became the 10th troop in the Detroit Area Council to celebrate its golden anniversary. The troop was originally sponsored by the Birmingham Service Club in 1924 and is now sponsored by the Birmingham Lions Club. (By DOUGLAS BAUMAN, Staff Photographer)

Police report shows major crime decline

By ROBERT KIPPER

BIRMINGHAM — There were fewer major crimes reported locally in 1973 than the year before. Although the number of aggravated assaults, rapes and auto thefts was greater than the previous year, the annual police department report shows a three percent decrease in major crimes during 1973.

Last year, 1,052 major crimes were reported compared to 1,072 the year before.

The recently released report also shows that the number of juvenile arrests was higher last year — up five percent over the 1972 figure. More than 400 juveniles under the age of 17 came to the attention of the police department in 1973.

IN THE MAJOR CRIME area, larcenies and burglaries were again the most frequently reported local crime. However, the number of each dropped slightly.

There were one-third less robberies in 1973 compared to the previous year — dropping from 18 to 12. Burglaries fell from 180 in 1972 to 149 in 1973 — a decrease of 17 percent.

The number of reported larcenies fell slightly from 844 in 1972 to 830 last year. More than two-thirds of those larcenies involved thefts of property valued at less than \$50.

Three major crimes increased last year.

• Aggravated assault rose from 13 incidents in 1972 to 28.

• Rape increased from one incident in 1972 to three.

• And auto theft increased from 28 in 1972 to 30.

A total of 324 persons were arrested in relation to those major crimes, or roughly one person for every three crimes committed.

Most of those arrests — 258 — were in connection with larcenies. Other arrests: 39 for burglary; 13 for assault; seven for robbery; six for auto theft; and one for rape.

Of the 30 stolen automobiles, two-thirds were recovered. Birmingham police found eight of the automobiles while other departments recovered 12.

SHOPLIFTING was again the leading juvenile crime. One hundred seventy seven youths were arrested for this last year — 44 more than the year before.

The next largest group of juvenile arrests (36) dealt with malicious destruction of property. Ten fewer youths were arrested the year before.

The number of youths arrested on drug-related charges continued to rise. Twenty-eight youths were arrested last year, eight more than the year before.

Other areas of juvenile crime were: liquor law violations (21 arrested); disorderly conduct (18); curfew violations (15); runaways (six); taking car without permission (five); auto theft (four) and burglaries (three).

At least two of those figures represent a marked change compared to 1972.

• The four auto thefts reported last year were four more than the previous year, when no car thefts by youths were reported.

• The three arrests for burglary were significantly lower than 1972, when 13 youths were arrested on that charge.

Almost twice as many boys were involved in crime as girls. One hundred forty five girls were arrested compared to 261 boys.

According to the police report, the institution of a number of crime prevention programs during the year helped bring down the number of crimes such as robbery, burglary and larceny.

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