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## **St. Lucie County news briefs: November 17**

**November 17, 2005**

### **Fire district board approves fee study**

The St. Lucie County Fire District Board has approved an impact fee study, which suggested raising fire/EMS impact fees by \$184.

The study suggests raising the fee for a single family home from the current rate of \$294 to \$478. Other changes include raising the fee for retail space from \$143 to \$443, raising the fee for schools from \$143 to \$426 and lowering the fee for multi-family homes from \$151 to \$97.

The study, which was first presented in October, was tweaked after engineer Walter Keller, whose company did the study, received more recent numbers. The new projected growth actually lowered the suggested rates from the numbers presented in October.

The study was commissioned to look at raising impact fees to compensate for the growing workload of reviewing construction plans and to compensate for rising land prices for new stations.

The proposed impact fees must go before the County Commission for approval.

### **Teenager indicted in other teen's killing**

FORT PIERCE — A 17-year-old boy accused of shooting and killing another teen last month was indicted by a grand jury Wednesday on first-degree murder and other charges.

A grand jury meeting Wednesday indicted Cameron Cordney Barranon charges of first-degree murder, tampering with a witness and aggravated assault with a firearm. Barron is accused of killing Dontavious Wilson, 18, at a home in the 2100 block of Avenue G in the early morning hours of Oct. 12 during an argument about a porch light left on, police said.

An anonymous tip led police to arrest Barron at a Fort Pierce motel three days after the shooting. Prosecutors previously filed paperwork charging Barron as an adult in the case.

Wilson's death was the 10th homicide in the city this year.

### **Pregnant woman shot in head, arms**

FORT PIERCE — St. Lucie County deputies are investigating the shooting of a pregnant Fort Pierce woman who was seriously injured Tuesday in Harmony Heights near Juanita Avenue.

Lashonda Wyche, 32, of the 2300 block of 45th Street, sustained gunshot wounds to her head and both arms, reports said.

Wyche's boyfriend, Clifford Tate, 31, drove her to Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute. She later was airlifted to Holmes Regional Medical Center in Melbourne. Medical officials determined Wyche is four months pregnant.

Wyche arrived home and told Tate she was shot in her car near 45th Street and Juanita Avenue. Wyche was riding in a blue 1998 Toyota sedan, which is the vehicle that Tate used to take her to the hospital. The vehicle had a bullet hole through its passenger side window.

### **Child's drowning ruled an accident**

FORT PIERCE — An autopsy revealed the drowning death of a toddler was accidental, according to a sheriff's report obtained Tuesday.

The parents of Angel Raul Mendez, Jr., 2, of Fort Pierce, told deputies they lost sight of the child for about five minutes on the evening of Oct. 8 and discovered him floating in a pond near their home, the report states. The child's father was attempting to revive him when rescue workers arrived, and the boy was later pronounced dead at Lawnwood Regional Medical Center & Heart Institute.

Deputies found no evidence of abuse or foul play, and an autopsy confirmed the death was by drowning and an accident, the report states. The sheriff's office officially closed the case Monday

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