

Woman's death in hospital lot a mystery

BY WILLIAM COUTANT
STAFF WRITER

The death of a Livonia woman has left a lot of questions for Farmington Hills police.

The woman, Sheryl Ann Livingston, 35, was found in the back seat of a red Chevy Cavalier in the parking lot of Botsford General Hospital on Grand River at about 2:30 p.m. Tuesday.

Margo Gorchow, Botsford's administrator for community relations, said a valet driver and one of the valet parking attendants noticed that the woman was not moving and called hospital security. They then called Community EMS. The woman was pronounced dead at the scene.

"We have a lot of people dropped off in the morning," Gorchow said. "People

apparently thought she was napping."

Detective Sgt. Tim Swanson said one of the drivers of a car parked nearby had seen the woman stretched out, lying on her back in the back seat and had assumed she was sleeping.

"There were no obvious signs of trauma," Swanson said. "She was parked near the emergency room. But we don't

know if she had planned to go in and changed her mind and decided to take a nap."

Swanson said the hospital had no record of her coming to the emergency room or being admitted.

The woman, who is the mother of three children, had not been seen by her husband since Saturday night, Swanson said.

There was no direct evidence of foul play. The car had not been broken into and the woman's purse was untouched.

The car is at Hills police headquarters. Police are awaiting autopsy results to determine the cause of death.

"We're trying to trace back to Saturday night to find out where she's been," Swanson said. "We expect that the autopsy will answer some questions."

Hills police officers receive awards

The Farmington Hills Police Department has announced winners of awards based upon recommendations by the citation and award board at its Aug. 21 meeting.

Citations were awarded to Detective Pat Comini, Detective Ron Shankin and Officer William Maffesoli for their work in recovering crucial evidence in an arson/murder case on Dec. 18, 1995.

Redford Township Officer Eric Gillman also received a citation for his work in helping Hills police arrest an armed robbery suspect on Aug. 5. The officer observed a suspected vehicle and then pursued on foot and arrested the suspect, recovering a pistol as well.

Unit citations were awarded to Sgt. Craig Summers and Officers Gary Lavin, Michael Mandorichin, Alan Soderlund and David Stash for their quick response and capture of an armed robbery suspect on Aug. 5. Sgt. Summers pursued on foot, driving the suspect towards the others who arrested the man and recovered a pistol. Officer James Jarrett received a commendation for arresting two subjects in possession of stolen property on May 27 who were attempting to flee.

Officer Jon Haupt received a citation for stopping a vehicle involved in a robbery June 15 and arresting a suspect after pursuing him on foot and recovering stolen property.

Officer Daniel Herrick received a commendation for investigating two suspicious persons in a vehicle, arresting them and recovering stolen property.

Letters of appreciation went to Sgt. Robert Burkart, Officers Wayne Boerbower, Donald Fradette, Daniel Herrick, William Maffesoli, John Markey, and Damian Woodmora, and Farmington Officer V. Ziegler, Livonia Sgt. C. Lister and Livonia Officer D. Scott for their efforts in a search and apprehension of two break-in suspects and the recovery of \$20,000 in computer equipment on May 12.

Letters also went to Officers Eric Buckberry, Lawrence Fotheroff, Jon Haupt and Auxiliary Officer Ronald Rose for their work in the arrest for a criminal sexual conduct and break-in on June 27.

Officer Shelly Turner received a letter for her investigation of three suspects in area larcenies. All three confessed, apologized and offered to pay restitution.

Letters went to Chief William Dwyer, Inspector Richard Niemisto, Capt. Dennis Rochford, Sgt. Craig Summers, Officers Glenn Brantley, David Glowacki and James Slrzycki, Detectives Alan Soderlund and Kathy Tiano, Dispatch Coordinator Rose Marie Temple and Dispatchers Kathleen Lippert and Karen Sutherland for their work on a case involving a barricaded gunman on July 15. The man died of self-inflicted wounds.

Civilian citations were awarded to Dispatch Supervisor Marylou Alex and Dispatchers James Bretz and Margaret McParlane for their work that led to the arrest on Aug. 5 of three armed robbery suspects.

OBITUARIES

GENEVIEVE L. ELLIS
Mrs. Ellis, 64, of Westland died Sept. 26 in Garden City Hospital.

Born in Knoxville, Tenn., Mrs. Ellis was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, Raymond; sons, John and Marvin; daughters, Barbara Vann and Martha Ellwood; 15 grandchildren and many great-grandchildren; many nieces and nephews from Farmington.

Services were at the Good Shepherd Primitive Baptist Church in Farmington Hills with the Rev. Otis Buell officiating. Burial was in Parkview Cemetery, Livonia.

Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

GERALDINE M. SOOS
Mrs. Soos, 72, of Farmington Hills died Sept. 26 in Botsford Hospital, Farmington Hills.

Mrs. Soos was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband, James; son, James; brothers, William and James Byrne. Mass was celebrated at Holy Family Catholic Church in Novi with the Rev. Denis Theroux officiating.

Memorials may be made to The Capuchins, 1740 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit 48207-3495 or St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105-1905.

Arrangements were made by the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington.

HENRY ANTON GREIT
Mr. Greit, 59, of Farmington Hills died Sept. 29 in U. of M. Hospital, Ann Arbor.

Born in Germany, Mr. Greit was a trade show consultant in the Trade Show Industry. He was a member of Carpenter's Local 118, the Farmington Elks and the Moose Lodge in Florida.

Survivors include his wife, Jacqueline; daughters, Heather and Michelle; mother, Antoinette Groitschus; sister, Ursula Germano.

Services were at the Heency-Sundquist Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Msgr. Walter Hurley of Our Lady of Sorrows Catholic Church officiating.

MARIE ISABELLE STRAUSS
Mrs. Strauss, 82, of Farmington died Sept. 25 in Harper Hospital, Detroit.

Born in Detroit, Mrs. Strauss was an underwriter for Equitable Life Insurance. She was a member of Victoria Chapter OES, Director at Presbyterian Village in Redford, president of Ladies Circle at Calvin Church and also an Elder.

Survivors include her husband, Richard; sons, Hugh; daughters, Patricia VanDusen and Robyn Woolcock; brother, Earl Robinson; sisters, Evelyn Smith, Ethel Smith and Charlotte Harris; six grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Services were at the Thayer-Rock Funeral Home, Farmington, with the Rev. Michael L. Dunkelberger of The People's Church in East Lansing. Burial was in Acazia Park Cemetery, Birmingham.

Memorials may be made to the Presbyterian Village, 17383 Garfield, Redford 48240.

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