

Heist from page A1

her whispered, "Give me the \$10s too," police reports said. The man left with \$2,878 and ran east through a group of pine trees into a neighborhood.

"No one was injured. The robbery is described as a white male 30-40 years old. He's 6-foot-10 with a medium build, a mustache and a goatee.

In addition to the Lions cap, he was wearing blue jeans, white tennis shoes and a tan or beige plaid winter jacket.

"I think we've got an excellent photo and an excellent description of the perpetrator," Chief Bill Dwyer said. "I feel that the perpetrator or suspect is likely from this general area."

The bank is located on Grand River next to the West River Shopping Plaza, not far from Bedford, Livonia, Farmington and Southfield.

Authorities also believe the robbery was likely the man's first. No other bank heists have been reported matching the robber's description.

"It appears from the information we have that this was a bank robbery that was planned,"



Photographed: This is a copy of a photo taken by a surveillance camera in Michigan National Bank. Police are looking for this man in connection with Tuesday's bank robbery.

Dwyer said. "That Michigan National Bank may have been targeted because of its location.

It's kind of isolated." The robber may have also picked Monday since there are

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Bill Dwyer
—Hills police chief

fewer transactions that day, Dwyer said.

One fear is that if Monday's heist was the robber's first, he'll likely strike again.

"We have found in the past that people who commit these robberies are addicted to gambling or narcotics," Dwyer said. "Once they are successful, they continue to rob other locations and sometimes even go back to the original location."

Michigan National Bank belongs to the Detroit Clearinghouse Association, which provides rewards of up to \$2,000 for information leading to the arrest and conviction of a bank robber.

"The reward is just an added incentive to have someone come forward with information," said Dawn Clenney, FBI special agent.

Bank robbery is a federal offense, which has prompted a joint investigation by the FBI and Farmington Hills police.

Anyone with information is asked to phone Farmington Hills police at (248) 473-9694 or the FBI at (313) 966-2323.

Barnett omitted from Republican ad

BY LARRY O'CONNOR
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Farmington Hills City Council candidate Vicki Barnett is ~~omitted~~ she's backed by area Republicans.

Perhaps the feeling is not mutual, judging by recent newspaper ads.

Barnett's name was not included in a Farmington Republican Club ad listing its endorsements for Tuesday's city elections. The ad was printed in the Farmington Observer and Northwest Gazette.

The club endorsed Nancy Bates for Hills mayor along with Ron Oliverio, Chris McRae and Barnett in the city council race. The GOP group supports JoAnne McShane, Jim Mitchell and Bill Hartsock in the Farmington City Council race.

Both races are nonpartisan.

Barnett, who is active in the Farmington Democratic Club, was not listed in the ad.

Republican Club chairman Ben Marks couldn't be reached for comment as to whether the Barnett omission was a mistake or deliberate. Nonetheless, another member urged the club to

"That doesn't represent the vast majority of Republicans in the area who have given me wide support."

Vicki Barnett
—Council candidate

correct the oversight.

"I'm not certain if it was a policy or a mistake," Bates said. "I never called to find out. I hope it was a mistake. If it is a policy, it needs to be corrected."

Barnett termed the oversight as "unfortunate."

"That doesn't represent the vast majority of Republicans in the area who have given me wide support," Barnett said. "I'm assuming it's a few because there are so many Republicans who have contributed to my campaign."

If the omission was deliberate, Barnett believes a very small faction was behind it.

"That's for the Republicans to deal with," Barnett said. "That's for them to settle within their own ranks."

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