

Carjacking from page A1

Intelligence Consortium officers cracked the suspect to the Brightmoor area of Detroit where he and another man were inside the stolen van. Both were taken into custody.

The week-long police investigation had more twists and turns than a pretzel in an arm wrestler's hands.

"This is unbelievable," Dwyer said.

On Nov. 3, an hour before a carjacker stole the 92-year-old woman's 1986 Chevy Cavalier outside Rite Aid, the suspect appeared in 47th District Court on a shoplifting charge.

After being released, authorities believe Frances walked to the shopping center on 11 Mile and Middlebelt where the carjacking took place.

The 92-year-old victim told police a Middle Eastern-looking man came up from behind and showed what looked like a handgun. He grabbed her keys and drove east with the woman's Chevy Cavalier on 11 Mile.

On Tuesday, police recovered the 92-year-old woman's car after employees confronted a man using the vehicle to store eight cases of beer shoplifted from Farmer Jack in Livonia.

With employees in pursuit, the shoplifter ran across Eight Mile to Dunkin' Donuts where he demanded a ride from someone

in the parking lot. Authorities believe the man would sell the beer to party stores in Detroit, using the money to buy crack cocaine.

Around 3 p.m. Wednesday, the man returned to Farmer Jack where he posed as a security officer to a 65-year-old Farmington Hills woman. He accused her of shoplifting.

After getting her keys, he drove off with the woman inside her Pontiac Transport van. Another motorist, who witnessed the incident, rammied the vehicle in an attempt to stop it.

"She starts screaming and he stops the vehicle and she's able to escape," Dwyer said.

Meanwhile, Farmington Hills police evidence technician Mark Meredith found two key items - fingerprints and paper used to wrap crack cocaine - in the Cavalier, which set off a chain of events that led to an arrest.

Two fingerprint lifts were sent to the Michigan State Police crime lab in Northville. An MSP crime technician used an automated fingerprint system, which linked them to the suspect.

After checking two addresses, Hills officers played a hunch that the suspect could likely be found in an area frequented by crack dealers.

SONIC undercover officers Larry Lemarand and Victor Lau-



Chief's view: "I think it's a fair bond" said Farmington Hills Police Chief William Dwyer. Dwyer and Assistant Chief Chuck Nebus were in court for the arraignment of the carjacking suspect.

ria spotted the Pontiac Transport van outside a party store on Grand River and Lahser.

A man dressed in a Green Bay Packers jacket got inside the van with another man, later identified as a 37-year-old Detroit man.

Police arrested the pair at Fielding and Marion in Detroit.

Dwyer credited Detective Matt Koehn, who interviewed the suspect, as well as Meredith, SONIC and Michigan State Police.

"It was great police work," he said. "This was a very dangerous individual where it was only a matter of time before someone would get seriously hurt."

POLICE AND FIRE CALLS

The following are police and fire incidents that occurred in Farmington and Farmington Hills during the past week.

THEFT

In Farmington Hills: A woman reported that someone stole a diamond tennis bracelet and diamond earrings from a home on the 38500 block of Glen Nov. 9.

An AM/FM CD cassette stereo was reported stolen from a 2000 Dodge Intrepid parked at Bob Saks on Grand River between Nov. 8-9.

A sapphire and diamond ring was reported stolen from a home on Hanley Court between Oct. 29-Nov. 3.

A purse containing \$200 cash was stolen from a 1985 Chevy Lumina parked on Brady Street Nov. 10. The purse - minus the cash - was found under a car on the same street, police reports said.

A leather jacket was reported stolen from Adat Shalom Synagogue on Middlebelt Nov. 9.

SHOPLIFTING

In Farmington Hills: Police took a 13-year-old into custody after he tried to leave without paying for a watch, pair of pants and Limp Bizkit T-shirt at Kohl's in West River shopping center Nov. 10. The child was turned over to his guardian.

DRUNKEN DRIVING

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Farmington Hills man, 30, for drunken driving after he was involved in a two-vehicle accident on northbound Farmington and Tulipwood around 7:15 p.m. Nov. 10. The driver said he was traveling on Farmington Road when he "just hit another car," police reports said.

The driver said he was traveling on Farmington Road when he "just hit another car," police reports said. The man had a blood alcohol level of .31 percent. The legal limit is .10 percent.

Police arrested a Westland man, 37, for drunken driving on southbound Inkster near Eight Mile. Authorities stopped the 1988 Ford Econoline for a loud exhaust. The driver had a blood alcohol level of .17 percent.

BURGLARY

In Farmington Hills: Someone stole a \$300 satellite receiver, \$300 in change and a gold cigarette lighter after getting in through a breezeway door at a home on the 30100 block of Valley between Nov. 7-10.

ATTEMPTED BURGLARY

In Farmington Hills: Someone tried to break in by forcing open a door at Old Navy on Orchard Lake and 14 Mile, on the night of Nov. 8-9, causing \$300 damage.

NARCOTICS PARAPHERNALIA

In Farmington Hills: Police arrested a Detroit man, 37, after finding a crack cocaine pipe in a shoe bag in the back seat of a 1983 Olds Delta 88 Nov. 10. At 12:20 p.m., authorities stopped the car for having an invalid plate. The driver, a Detroit man, 32, was taken into custody for having a suspended license. Police found a car stereo in the car's trunk as well as several items - including Rogaine - believed to have been stolen from CVS on 12 Mile and Middlebelt, police said.

SHOTS FIRED

In Farmington Hills: A resident on the 23300 block of Woodhaven reported someone fired gun shots at his home around 12:30 a.m. Nov. 9. The resident heard a loud noise and later found three bullet holes in the foyer wall. Police found one spent bullet. The resident suspects a man who helped him move into the home four months ago. The victim told police he refused to pay the man because he broke some items during the move, police reports said.

APARTMENT TRASHED

In Farmington Hills: A former resident is suspected of vandalizing an Independence Green Apartment residence Nov. 10. Authorities found the unit was damaged with wax, paint, garbage and broken windows and walls. Police also noticed graffiti with gang and drug themes on the walls. Damage is estimated at \$5,000.

OBITUARIES

GERALDINE TYSON

Services for Geraldine Tyson, 90, of Farmington Hills, were held Nov. 10 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Larry Austin officiating. Burial took place at Roseland Park Cemetery in Berkley.

Mrs. Tyson was born July 27, 1909, in Logansport, Ind., and died Nov. 7 at Providence Hospital in Southfield. She was a cosmetologist and owned her own beauty shop.

She is survived by sons, Robert and Donald Gustachow; sister, Dorothy Ellis; and three grandchildren.

ESTHER BERNICE MARTINSON

Funeral services for Esther Bernice Martinson, 90, of Westland, were held Nov. 13 at St. Pejer Lutheran Church in Battle

Creek with the Rev. Erick Johnson officiating. Burial took place at Riverside Cemetery in Tekonsha, Mich.

Mrs. Martinson was born Oct. 15, 1909, in Tekonsha and died Nov. 10 in Westland, where she lived for eight years. She previously was a resident of Plymouth, Adrian and Battle Creek. She was a 20-year employee of the Kellogg Co. and, prior to that, was a teacher.

Memberships included St. Peter Lutheran Church, the Ladies Elk Club in Adrian, Lutheran Church Women's League, 400 Club Kellogg Co. and Christ the Redeemer Lutheran Church.

She is survived by one daughter, Mary E. (Rev. Richard) Martzoff of Livonia; three stepdaughters, Beverly Carter,

Bessie Powell and Gloria Alexander; 10 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by spouses, Clarence Whittaker and Richard Martinson; sons, Thomas and Jack Whittaker.

ARTHUR L. SMITH

Memorial services for Arthur L. Smith, 72, of Farmington Hills, were held Nov. 12 at Thayer-Rock Funeral Home in Farmington with the Rev. Fred D. Freeman of First Baptist Church of Farmington officiating. Burial took place at Crestview Cemetery in Roscommon, Mich.

Mr. Smith was born March 19, 1927, in Livonia and died Nov. 9 at his home in Farmington Hills. He was a 1945 graduate of Farmington High School and a Farmington Hills resident since

1952. He formerly lived in Livonia. He was a self-employed carpenter prior to his 1990 retirement and a 25-year member of the Carpenters Union.

Mr. Smith, who enjoyed wood-working and gardening, served in the U.S. Army Company K 20th Infantry Regiment from September 1946 until May 1947.

He is survived by one brother, Alan (Eleanor) Smith of Livonia; one sister, Dorothy Smith of Redford; four sons, Steven (Valli) of Roscommon, Michael (Judy) of Ft. Collins, Colo., Paul, of Plymouth and Christopher, of Farmington Hills; and grandchildren Alexander and Sarah.

He is preceded in death by his spouse, Joan Carol (nee Kemp); and a brother, Wesley (Mary Inez) of Brighton.

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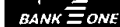
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