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Deputies raid meth lab

Children present at home in Bloomfield Township

By BILL RODGERS / Tribune Chronicle

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BLOOMFIELD — Two children were contaminated by a man and a woman who were brewing methamphetamine in their rural Bloomfield home, police say.

A raid Thursday night on a suspected meth lab at 2016 Cooks Lane netted three arrests. Among those nabbed was one man who literally drove his car up to drug task force members as they were about to leave for the night.

One man and one woman, who police said were boyfriend and girlfriend, were arrested and charged with a first-degree felony of manufacturing methamphetamine with children present. The man who later came on the scene was charged with a third-degree felony of assembling chemicals to manufacture methamphetamine.

Trumbull County Sheriff Thomas Altieri said the couple had to be decontaminated before they were read their rights.

“This was some really bad stuff. I mean, the worst of the worst,” he said.

Altieri said the names of the arrested trio would be released this morning, along with more information about the raid.

Deputies with the Trumbull-Ashtabula Group drug task force removed chemicals and equipment for meth manufacturing from the home.

Police say two children were in the house the night before the raid. They were considered contaminated and taken by family members to a hospital for treatment.

Deputies said they found residue, but no actual drugs at the home.

The one-story home sat one house back from state Route 45 just south of Bloomfield Center. A swingset could be seen adjacent to the home.

Police say the house is contaminated but doesn't pose a danger to neighbors.

Authorities set up a neon yellow tent in front of the home, and people could be seen entering the home wearing white hazardous materials suits and breathing apparatuses.

Fire and ambulance crews stood by, and occasionally someone in a suit would exit the home carrying what appeared to be a cooler with stickers on it.

Police put a woman wearing a white HAZMAT suit into a cruiser, followed by a young man in another suit.

Task force members were getting ready to leave, and a deputy with TAG was talking to reporters when a man driving a dark blue Pontiac Grand Prix made a fast right turn from Route 45 onto Cooks Lane, skidding to a halt about a foot away from the deputy.

The man put the car into reverse and started backing away from the scene as the deputy pounded on the car, yelling for him to stop.

Police surrounded the car and opened the driver's door. The engine was shut off, but turned back on again as deputies struggled with the man inside. One deputy could be seen running toward the car with his hand on his gun.

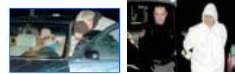
The man was crying and yelling as deputies pulled him from the car.

“I'm just turning around!” he said.

Officers arrested the man and began searching the vehicle. They found some shopping bags with four bulk packages of matchbooks, fire starters, cigarette rolling papers and about three black bottles.

One deputy could be heard talking to another deputy, commenting that the man had been seen at the

Article Photos



Tribune Chronicle / Steve Schenck
Deputies struggle with a suspect after he drove his car into the middle of a raid on a methamphetamine lab in Bloomfield.
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