

Criminals Celebrate the Holiday Too!

July 4, 2016

Between Thursday, June 30, 2016 and Monday July 4, 2016, criminals celebrated the holiday weekend by breaking into vehicles, garages, homes and sheds! Profits were high for the criminals and they didn't even have to work hard as most of the vehicles and places were unlocked!

Over the weekend, St. Albert RCMP received 12 reports of thefts from vehicles. Since this type of crime is often not reported, it is easy to believe that many more people suffered thefts. Woodlands Road, Wakefield Boulevard, Wheaton Crescent, Butterfield Crescent, Bradburn Crescent, Lynx Close, Longview Crescent, Kingswood Boulevard, Elise Place and the parking lot by O'Malley's Pub all saw thefts. Purses, Mac books, money, ID, Passports, Bank cards, sunglasses, vehicle registrations and insurances papers, garage door openers, gps, cd's and one blue Yamaha generator were stolen from these vehicles.

As well, bicycles were a popular item to steal over the holiday weekend. On June 29, 2016, 2 bicycles were stolen from the bike rack at St. Albert Centre. A silver and black BMX with blue rims and gold hubs was stolen along with a purple BMX with white tires and a white seat.

On July 1, 2016, 3 bicycles were stolen from a residential garage on Addison Crescent. A white female Rocky Mountain Hybrid bike, a white Male Divinci Hybrid bike and a silver male Trek mountain bike are all gone.

Residences, sheds and garages were also targeted by the criminal element this past weekend. On June 29, 2016, a sea can and a garage on Sturgeon Road were broken into by cutting off the locks. Tools and electrical equipment was stolen from this site.

On June 30, 2016, a residence on Lorraine Crescent found money and jewelry missing. It is unknown how the culprit gained access to this home.

On July 1, 2016 at about 4:15 a.m., a resident on Eastview Street woke up to the sound of his garage door opening. Upon checking, he interrupted a man who was inside the garage. The man took off running and was followed by a woman who must have been hiding in the area.

On July 1, 2016, someone broke into the shed belonging to the Church on Bernard Drive and stole the leaf blower and the grass trimmer. They cut the lock to the shed to gain entry.

On July 1, 2016, someone cut the lock to a business recycling container on St. Vital Avenue and stole the recyclables.

On July 2, 2016 around midnight, a person noticed their garage door opening and found that someone had been rummaging through their garage and car. They had stolen the garage door opener from the vehicle. RCMP are working with the homeowner to see if a suspect description can be obtained.

On July 2, 2016, a helpful St. Albert resident from Butterfield Crescent called the St. Albert RCMP at 4:20 a.m. to report that a man was walking down Butterfield Crescent trying vehicle door handles to see if they would open. Although RCMP immediately attended the location, the suspect had left the area. St. Albert RCMP are looking for a:

- White male
- About 5' 10" tall
- Wearing a black hat and white hoodie
- Carrying a backpack

Leaving your homes and vehicles unlocked attracts criminals to your neighbourhood. When they learn that there are valuables left in parked, unattended vehicles, they will return to your street time and time again for these easy thefts. We may not completely wipe out crime, but if we all lock our homes and our vehicles after removing our valuables, we will make St. Albert less vulnerable to crime. Help keep St. Albert a safe community! Don't be part of the problem, be part of the solution!

If you have information about these incidents, please call the St. Albert RCMP at 780-458-7700 or call your local police. If you want to remain anonymous, you can contact Crime Stoppers by phone at 1-800-222-8477 (TIPS), by internet at www.tipsubmit.com, or by SMS (check your local Crime Stoppers www.crimestoppers.ab.ca for instructions).

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