

Burglar hits 3 M'ville homes

Spotlight
Nov-10-04

By MARY LANNON

A daring burglar executed a one-day crime spree in McKownville on Nov. 3 that sent rumors flying over e-mail and by word of mouth.

Cigarettes and jewelry were taken in the three home burglaries during the daylight hours on side streets off the 1400 block of Western Avenue, Guilderland police First Sgt. William Ward said.

None of the victims was home when the burglaries occurred.

The police have two witnesses who gave similar descriptions of a suspect seen in a backyard after the fact.

"Whether he was there lawfully or not we don't know," Ward said.

Ward said the description was not being made public.

At present, the police have some leads, Ward added, and will be

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bringing witnesses in to see if they can identify the suspects.

Don Reeb, president of the McKownville Neighborhood Improvement Association, sent out an e-mail to association members about the burglary spree.

The e-mail stated: "I received a telephone call this evening, Wednesday, Nov. 3, that there were a number of burglaries in the area today, both in McKownville and out further in Guilderland. The description of the burglar is a white male, 6 feet tall, maybe 200 pounds. No physical harm was done to any resident of

the homes which were broken into — jewelry and other goods were taken by this sneak thief."

Reached on Monday, Reeb said he sent the e-mail after getting a telephone call from someone who believed she saw the burglar.

Reeb said the news upset association members, some of whom printed out his e-mail and circulated it around the neighborhood.

"It certainly is frightening," Reeb said.

The news did not change much of his routine except for the way he took his daily walks, he said.

"I did become a little more watchful," Reeb said.