

**Crime Activity for the Week of March 11, 2013**  
*3 unlocked cars entered on Hesketh Street on two different nights;  
Sunglasses stolen from one, nothing taken from the other two*

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Unit block of Hesketh Street (between Magnolia and Cedar): Three unlocked cars, all parked on the street, were entered. A pair of sunglasses was taken from one of the cars; nothing was taken from the others. Two of the cars were entered overnight Friday, 3/8-Saturday, 3/9; one was entered overnight Thursday, 3/14-Friday, 3/15.

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**Beware of Telephone Scam**

*Thieves concoct stories and prey on unsuspecting victims;  
6 Incidents in Montgomery County, 1 in the Village Since February 20*

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Thieves are once again using the telephone in an attempt to swindle money from unsuspecting victims. Recently, the Montgomery County Police have received several reports of callers using various scams to convince victims to send money. A link to the County's press release is below. Each scheme is designed to create a sense of urgency and preys on the goodwill of the victims. The calls originate from other countries, but the victim's caller ID often will display a local number. The caller will tell the victim not to call the police or other family members. The schemes used include:

- **Kidnapped relative:** The caller tells the victim that one of their relatives has been kidnapped and that the relative will be killed unless the victim wires money immediately to Florida or Puerto Rico.
- **Auto collision/hostage:** The caller tells the victim that one of their relatives caused a car crash, and the relative is being held hostage until the victim wires funds sufficient to pay for the damage.
- **Money to get out of jail:** The caller tells the victim that a close relative is in jail in a foreign country and they must wire funds immediately to free the relative.
- **Money to get home:** The caller pretends to be a relative of the victim and tells the victim that they are in a foreign country and fell ill and went to the hospital. They just got out of the foreign hospital and they need money right away to fly home to the U.S.

Click on the below link to see the Montgomery County Police Department's press release:  
<http://www.mymcpnews.com/2013/03/04/update-mcp-continues-to-receive-reports-of-telephone-scam/>

Remember the following tips to avoid being a victim of these con games:

- **Do not provide information over the phone.**

- **Tell the caller you will call them back.** Scammers create a false sense of urgency; slow down and ask the caller for detailed information and a contact number. Then, attempt to verify the caller's story by calling family and/or friends.
- **Contact the police immediately if you have received a suspicious call.**
- **Do not send money.**