

Weekly Police Beat for the week ending May 27, 2016

Alert Homeowner Scares Off Would-be Bicycle Thieves

Prevent bicycle theft: take your bike inside, or lock it to a fixed object

On a bright, sunny Saturday, at about 1:30 in the afternoon, three young men described as black males in their mid-teens, walked onto the front porch of a home on Grafton Street near Wisconsin Avenue. Unbeknownst to them, the homeowner was sitting in her living room looking right at them through the window.

As they reached for a bicycle that was parked on the porch, the homeowner knocked on the window glass. The suspects left the bike and bolted from the porch. They were last seen headed toward Wisconsin Avenue. Officer Almas of the Chevy Chase Village Police Department responded to the homeowner's call right away, but the suspects were nowhere to be found.

Prevent Bicycle Theft and Increase the Chances of Getting Your Stolen Bike Back:

Lock your bicycle up and register it with the Village for free!

This is the time of year when we tend to see an increase in bicycle theft throughout the metro region. It is essential that you never leave your bicycle unattended without locking it to a fixed object, or bringing it inside a secure building.

It is also critical that every bicycle owner record the serial number of their bicycle. Unfortunately, many stolen bikes are recovered every year, but they cannot be returned to the rightful owner without that number.

The Chevy Chase Village Police Department offers a free bicycle registration service. Residents simply fill out a brief form with their bicycle information (officers will gladly assist you in finding your bike's serial number if you have trouble), we will record the information in our database, and provide you with a registration sticker. The form is available on our website under Police Services/Bicycle Registration. If your bicycle is ever stolen, we can make sure that the serial number is entered in a national database of stolen items to improve the chances that the bike will be returned to you.