



November 20, 2008

Police Blotter

Churches broken into

Police in South Lyon and Lyon Township are looking for one or more individuals believed to be responsible for break-ins at two area churches last week.

Sometime late Sunday, Nov. 9, reports claim that the Immanuel Lutheran Church on East Liberty Street in South Lyon and the First Baptist Church on Marjorie Ann Street in Lyon Township - just a few blocks from each other - were broken into.

Early Monday, South Lyon Police were dispatched to Immanuel Lutheran Church, where they found office doors, file cabinets and drawers left open. A floor safe had been removed from one location and taken to another, where it appeared someone pried it open. Church officials told police nothing of value was taken.

Not far away, detectives from the Lyon Township substation of the Oakland County Sheriff's Office investigated a broken basement window at the First Baptist Church. A laptop computer was reportedly stolen from a church office.

Sunday collection money at both churches were reportedly deposited Sunday afternoon, and were not in the building when the suspect entered.

"It's the same thieves, no question," said South Lyon Police Lt. Steven Sharpe. "With two burglaries that close to each other, I give it a better than 95 percent chance it's the same people."

Investigations remain open into these incidents.

Heroism acknowledged

Two South Lyon Police officers will soon be certified as heroes when they receive the department's Life Saving Awards.

Sgts. Chris Sovik and Sean Hoydic responded on Oct. 18 to an Eleven Mile Road home, where a 52-year-old woman was reported as being unconscious. Sovik and Hoydic were on the scene within a few minutes, and found the woman lying on the floor. The two performed basic CPR on the woman until medical personnel from the South Lyon Fire Department and Huron Valley Ambulance arrived, and assisted the officers in getting the woman to the hospital.

"We're fortunate to have officers who have had this training," said nominating officer Lt. Steven Sharpe, "and that they are equipped and able to respond in a very short time."

The Life Saving Award will be presented at a future meeting of the South Lyon City Council. The woman remains in the hospital undergoing treatment and improving steadily.

South Lyon Police Chief Lloyd Collins said the Life Saving Award is given out rarely, with stringent criteria.

"In this case, it's quite justified," said Collins. "The officers arrived prior to the fire department or the medics from Huron Valley. Once they arrived, we have a great working relationship."

Street parking

South Lyon Police began issuing violations Sunday, Nov. 16 for those violating the parking ban on city streets between the hours of 2 a.m. and 6 a.m. any day of the week. More than 40 drivers were issued parking citations under the seasonal regulation, which remains in effect through March 31, 2009.
