

This Alert contains two messages:

Message 1

Congratulations are in order for Deputy Jamie Marsh and Deputy Nick Vinesett, who caught two Indian Land thieves red-handed last night. A resident of Valley Hill Rd looked outside to find someone stealing items from a vehicle in his yard. The suspects fled in a vehicle and the resident called us. Deputy Marsh was on high alert while responding to the call and located a vehicle matching the description of the suspects' vehicle near the intersection of US 521 and SC 160. After stopping the vehicle, Deputy Marsh immediately noticed items that seemed out of place. Deputy Vinesett went to the residence and quickly confirmed that the items in the vehicle matched those that were stolen. He joined Deputy Marsh and both suspects were arrested and the property was returned to the owner. Not only did they do a great job in finding these thieves, they also made a solid and well-documented case.

Both of these deputies are actually newer members of the department, but they are already setting an example to follow. This is only one example of fine police work that has been done by our officers this summer. In recent weeks we have had several similar incidents throughout the county where burglars and thieves were caught in the act, taken to jail, and victims had their property returned. Even more importantly, EVERY ONE of these incidents began with a call from a witness. Remember the chances of a crime occurring when we happen to be in the right place are pretty slim, but with the cooperation of the public, our chances of stopping criminals increase dramatically.

Stay safe.

Message 2

Wednesday July 14, 2010 9:47 AM EDT

It's been a bad summer for thieves in Lancaster County. Check out the link for details.

Calls from witnesses and dedication from our deputies have interrupted several thieves in the course of their activities this summer all over Lancaster County.

In the first incident, a vehicle repair shop owner saw a thief stealing some transmissions from his business. A responding deputy saw a vehicle matching the description of the suspect's vehicle. The vehicle was able to temporarily elude him, but he stayed determined and located it. It was obvious that the transmissions had been in the car, but were now gone. Another alert deputy was able to find the transmissions dumped on the side of the road while the vehicle was out of sight.

During the second incident, this time in Kershaw, a Patrol Captain received a tip from an informant on where to find a stolen vehicle. The stolen vehicle lead deputies to a suspect, but they weren't finished yet. After a little further investigation the suspect admitted to burglarizing several residences also.

The same week, deputies in Lancaster responded to a report of suspicious males walking in the road in the early morning hours. The males threw down several stolen items and fled, but were quickly caught and apprehended. An additional suspect was then caught in the act of burglarizing a nearby residence. In a single night, these teens had broken into several vehicles and houses and stolen hundreds of dollars worth of items.

Last night in Indian Land, deputies responded to a report of a vehicle being broken into and located the suspects as they fled the scene. Two suspects were arrested and all property was returned to the owner.

Two things enabled all of this to happen: concerned citizens calling us when they saw criminal activity and dedicated deputies willing to go the extra mile and do more than simply file a report.

For full details, go to <https://local.nixle.com/alert/2824590/>.

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