



VILLAGE OF PINECREST

Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Alert Pinecrest residents helped nab burglar

Pinecrest, Fla. – A resident who lives in the 7300 block of 96th Street reported a suspicious male who jumped into her backyard to the Pinecrest Police Department Wednesday February 12th. The same man was later identified by another vigilant resident, who also called police, after seeing the man fleeing from a burglarized house in the 7300 block of 98th Street.

Because of community policing the man was identified, arrested and charged with residential burglary and loitering and prowling.

Pinecrest Neighborhood Watch groups are booming in the Village of Pinecrest. Nine Neighborhood Watch groups have formed in the last six months in the eight-square-mile Village to deter crime in their blocks.

Media is welcome to join the next Neighborhood Watch block party hosted by resident Jennifer Solomon from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, February 15th. The block party will extend from 72nd Avenue to 74th Avenue on Southwest 109th Terrace.

Pinecrest Police Crime prevention Specialist Michael Gorsline heads the program and schedules an initial meeting with neighbors interested in starting a Neighborhood Watch Program on their block. Neighbors share information, such as, emails, phone numbers and landscaper and pool servicer information. This information is placed in a

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spreadsheet and shared with the members of the group to help neighbors be more vigilant of each other's houses.

The Neighborhood Watch Program is designed to create an alliance between the Pinecrest Police Department and the community to enhance neighborhood security, heighten resident's observation of daily events and encourage neighbors to meet and help each other have a safer community.

"If something looks suspicious or sounds suspicious call the police department. We are here to help keep you safe," said Sergeant Gorsline, who said thieves many times use power tools to break through impact resistant glass. "The more eyes and ears we have working together the less chance there is of falling victim to a crime."

The block party kicks off the group's participation in the Neighborhood Watch Program. The Village will provide hamburgers, hotdogs, tables and canopies, and the neighbors are contributing drinks, desserts and side dishes. There will even be a bounce house for children to play in provided by the neighbors.

Getting started is easy. The first step is to get organized by calling Sergeant Gorsline at 305-234-2100.

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