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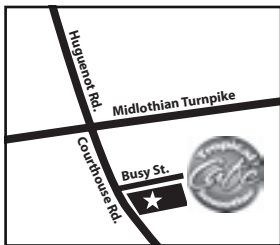


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Wheelchair-bound man arrested for bank robbery

In an account that reads like a “stupid crooks” story, Chesterfield police arrested Norman L. Ampy, 32, a one-legged man living in the 400 block of Westover Hills Drive in Richmond and charged him with robbery and use or display of a firearm in the commission of a felony. Ampy allegedly robbed the SunTrust bank at 11300 Midlothian Turnpike on Jan. 13 about 11 a.m.



Ampy

He reportedly entered the bank in a wheelchair and approached the teller with a note demanding the bank’s cash. Upon receiving the money, he wheeled himself outside to the getaway vehicle, and was about to get inside when the dye pack exploded. Apparently startled, the driver sped off, leaving Ampy near the bank.

Police later arrested him in his wheelchair at a sub shop in the 10300 block of Midlothian Turnpike. Police continue to search for the driver.

In other police reports: **Belker Court.** On Jan. 10, the victim checked on her vacant rental apartment in the 3800 block. When she approached the kitchen, she saw the suspect dart from one of the back rooms and run out the back door. Police believe the suspect may have been staying there for days.

Castlewellian Drive. The victim’s children heard the garage door open at 1:30 p.m. on Jan. 12 and looked outside to see one of the suspects fleeing as the victim’s dog gave chase. Entry was made through an unlocked garage door.

Jefferson Davis Highway. The victim left her 2002 Mercury unlocked with the keys inside

on Jan. 15, and the stolen car was later recovered in Richmond.

• The victims were driving in the 8100 block when they noticed the suspects above them, standing on the Dundas Road overpass. Then, the front windshield and sunroof shattered, and a rock was found in the rear seat.

Kingston Ave. The victim entered the ladies restroom in the 13200 block at 6:04 p.m. on Jan. 14 to find the male suspect inside masturbating.

Lorimer Drive. The victim went outside to empty the trash in the dumpster at 4:10 p.m. in the 15100 block

on Jan. 16 when he was confronted by two suspects.

One told him, “You know what’s up.” When the victim tried to run, one suspect pulled out a knife and stabbed him. The victim made it to his office and called the police.

Marina Drive. The victims were asleep in their residence at 1:40 a.m. on Jan. 14 in the 2200 block when shots were fired into their residence. No one was injured.

Meadwood Circle. At about 7:30 a.m. on Jan. 10, a witness observed two suspects steal a 1998 Land Rover SUV from in front of a residence in the 6200 block where it was warming up. It was later found wrecked in the parking lot of Hopkins Elementary School. The suspects had fled on foot.

Midlothian Turnpike. The suspect(s) entered the business in the 10000 block on Jan. 16 through the roof, damaging the building as they entered. They forced open the cash register, taking the money. As they left through the rear door, they set off the alarm, alerting the police.

Weir Place. Suspect(s) stole a 2005 Kawasaki ATV club car that was chained to a trailer at a construction site in the 2600 block between Jan. 12 and Jan. 16. The chain had been cut.

CRIME WATCH

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of Commonwealth Ear Nose & Throat Specialists, PC

Dr. Gibbons is a graduate of Johns Hopkins and the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. He completed his residency training at VCU/MCV. He is board certified in otolaryngology/head & neck surgery. He specializes in the treatment of pediatric and adult disorders of the ear, nose, throat and related structures. Dr. Gibbons was in private practice in Roanoke for five years before returning to the Richmond area.

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Proposal could impact county’s crime funding

By Gergana Bobeva

CAPITAL NEWS SERVICE

Lower violent crime rates could mean the Chesterfield Police Department will receive a smaller increase in state funding under a plan proposed by Gov. Timothy Kaine.

The plan, which is part of the governor’s budget bill, would change the way funding for public safety is distributed among localities in Virginia. All counties and cities would receive more than they did in the previous year, but areas with the highest crime rates would receive extra funding. Counties such as Chesterfield and Henrico would receive a smaller increase in their funding based on the comparatively low crime rates in those areas.

“The facts are that no one loses money,” said Delegate Franklin Hall, who supports the governor’s proposal. Hall, a Democrat, represents the 69th District that includes part of Chesterfield. “There’s a hold harmless provision so that no one gets less money than they got before.”

If passed, Kaine’s plan would use a new formula to determine which localities will receive additional funding. One of the options, explained in a report to the General Assembly, is the so-called “60-40” program. It would allocate 60 percent of the additional funding following the current formula. The other 40 percent would go to the 20 jurisdictions with

Funding at a glance

\$206.3 million – FY 2007
\$214.7 million – Proposed for FY 2008

Under the 60/40 plan, the increase from FY 2008 (\$8.3 million) would be divided into 60 percent (\$5 million) and 40 percent (\$3.3 million). The 60 percent would be distributed with the existing formula, which would increase the funding for each qualifying county by the same proportion as before. The remaining 40 percent would be allocated among the 20 localities with the highest crime rates in the state.

the highest violent crime rates.

“What the governor is trying to do is to recognize reality,” Hall said.

Under the current “599” program, 95 percent of the available appropriation is allocated among qualifying jurisdictions by determining the “potential crime rate” for each city or county. The potential rate is calculated considering population densities, crime rates and welfare caseload rates.

The remaining five percent of the ap-