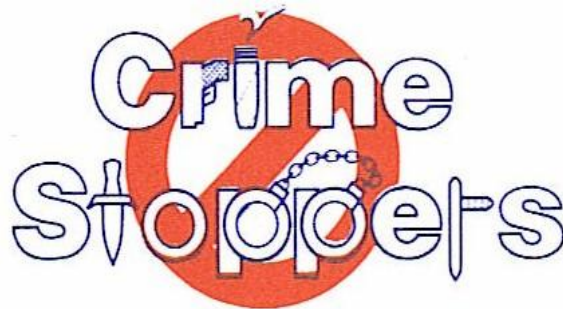


MACOUPIN AND MONTGOMERY COUNTIES



COORDINATOR
DON ALBRECHT
MACOUPIN COUNTY SHERIFF

COORDINATOR
JIM VAZZI
MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF

The Macoupin County Sheriff's Department is requesting the public's help for information in solving a home invasion that occurred in the Carlinville area.

Three boys ranging in age from 6 to 14 apparently frightened away a hammer-wielding man as he broke in the back door of their home Tuesday morning. The Macoupin County Sheriff's Department is seeking an individual wanted on possible home invasion charges at the house west of Carlinville.

Sheriff Don Albrecht said a 911 call was dispatched at 10:49 a.m. Tuesday reporting the home invasion, and two deputies responded to a home in the 7100 block of Illinois Route 108 West. Sheriff Albrecht said the three boys were home alone after their mother had left the house to run a short errand. About five minutes after their mother left the house, they told deputies they heard a banging on the front door, but before they could answer the door, they heard banging on a side door, then heard someone breaking in the back door.

The boys had hidden in the house when they heard the banging and immediately called their mother on her cell phone. Albrecht said, "About the time she was being told someone was banging on the doors, the boys told her someone was breaking in the back door. She told them to hang up and call 911, which the boys did."

Albrecht said one of the boys actually confronted the intruder and asked, "Who are you?" At that point, the man, who was armed with a hammer, fled the home on foot. The boys were able to give deputies a description of the suspect and the vehicle he drove away from the home, heading west on Route 108 toward Illinois Route 111.

The suspect is a white male in his late 30s to early 40s, with dark hair and a full-grown dark beard, and stocky in build. He was wearing a dark shirt with dark jeans; his clothes appeared to be nicely kept and clean. The vehicle was a dark navy blue full-sized pickup truck with an extended cab and a matching camper shell, and was possibly a Ford. It is unknown whether the vehicle was a new or older model.

It appears that the suspect might have been watching the home for a time, as he entered the home immediately after the mother left. It may well have been that the suspect was not aware anyone was home after the mom left, as he immediately fled the residence when he was confronted by one of the boys in the home.

The case remains under investigation by the Sheriff's Department.

Anyone with information that would help solve this, or any other crime, please call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-352-0136. You can also submit an anonymous tip online at www.macmontcrimestoppers.com or use your cell phone to text information by entering "TIP722 and your message" and send to **CRIMES (274637)**. In doing so you could be eligible to receive a cash reward of up to \$1000.

Please remember, Crime Stoppers wants your information, not your name!

P.O. BOX 203 · CARLINVILLE, IL 62626
CALL 1-800-352-0136 OR 217-854-9041