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Rheem Shopping Center businesses burglarized under puzzling circumstances

By Vera Kochan



Thieves gained entry by forcing open Rheem Valley Pet Shoppe's rear door. Photo Vera Kochan

found in a gutter in San Rafael."

The Moraga Chamber of Commerce was another office that was burgled. During the March 9 town council meeting, Council Member Mike McCluer reported, "I attended the Chamber of Commerce board meeting. They had a robbery in their office in Rheem. Their office was ransacked. Their laptop was stolen; the checkbook was stolen, so they were scrambling to get the checks changed and stop orders and signature cards, so it's been difficult."

A few days following the burglaries, Lafayette Police served a search warrant in Concord related to burglaries that had occurred in Lafayette on Feb. 13, according to MPD Chief Jon King. "During the service of that search warrant, property from several burglaries, including the ones in Moraga on Feb. 18, were recovered.

"Additionally," King added, "a subject at the location was arrested for a burglary warrant that was obtained by Moraga Police for an incident that occurred on Jan. 28." All of the burglary cases from both Feb. 18 and Jan. 28 have been submitted to the Contra Costa County District Attorney's office for review and charging.

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