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Ride, Lock, Get Stolen, Repeat: Several Locked Bicycles Stolen at Darien Train Station

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Several bicycles were stolen at Darien Railroad Station over a period of several days early last week, the owners told police, with locks cut and sometimes left behind.

Darien police are investigating the daytime thefts, the first of which occurred well before the others on Tuesday, Sept. 5 (but wasn't reported until later), and then once per day from Monday, Sept. 11 through Wednesday, Sept. 13.

The total value of the four bicycles (as the victims each valued them) is \$1,360.

Tuesday, Sept. 5 and Monday, Sept. 11

The first incident occurred well before the others.

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A commuter left his bicycle and helmet locked to a bicycle rack at the station at about 6:15 a.m. The bike was locked to the rack with a combination lock. When he returned at about 6:15 p.m., the bike, combination lock and helmet were gone.

The 24-speed mountain bike, valued at \$300, is silver in color with black rims and the word "Gravity" on the frame.

The incident wasn't reported to police until Monday, Sept. 11, when the same man was again victimized after locking another bicycle to the rack.

This time, the commuter left a 26-inch mountain bike with a royal blue frame locked to the rack with a combination lock at 6:15 a.m. and the entire process was repeated: When he returned at about 6:15 p.m., his bicycle, helmet and lock were all gone.

That bicycle is valued at \$110.

Tuesday, Sept. 12

A woman told police that sometime between 7:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., her husband's bicycle was stolen from the train station, where she and her husband daily ride their bikes.

On Tuesday, she returned to the station before her husband arrived and found his bicycle was missing from the spot where it had been locked to the bike rack. His lock had been cut and was lying on the ground.

Her bike was still on the rack. She described the stolen red bicycle as one sold under the "Specialized" brand name and valued at \$550. The theft was reported at 10:43 p.m.

Wednesday, Sept. 13

The fourth theft was reported to police at 6:35 p.m., Wednesday.

A man said he left his bicycle locked to the rack at about 8 a.m. that day and returned at 6:30 p.m. to find it missing, with the lock cut and lying on the ground. The bicycle is valued at about \$400.

Video Surveillance

As is the case at Noroton Heights Railroad Station, the Darien station has some video surveillance cameras — in part because of previous bike thefts. The cameras don't always give a good image of the thieves, and not all parts of either station are covered. A police announcement on Monday didn't mention them.