Goleta Police Alert to Residential Burglaries

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Goleta Police are alerting residents to be on the lookout for a suspicious individual following two recent home burglaries in the area around Scripps Crescent Street.

The residential burglaries occurred between 2:00 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. on Monday, February 6, 2012. In one case, the thief stole pain medication, money and a checkbook.

Witnesses reported seeing the suspect going door to door, in the neighborhood, selling magazine subscriptions or something similar. If there was no answer at the door, the suspect would enter the backyard and search for an unsecured door or window.

Several witnesses identified a similar person going door to door in the same area, during the same time of day, on Thursday, February 2, 2012. In one instance, when confronted by a neighbor, the suspect claimed to be the grandson of the victim. He immediately went into a sales pitch to raise money for a "trip to Italy."

The suspect is described as a white, male, in his late teens to early twenties, light brown or blond hair, 5-foot-4 to 5-foot-6, and selling magazine subscriptions or something similar. He has been described as being under the influence. In addition, last Thursday's suspect wore a short sleeve t-shirt revealing identical tattoos of a blue sun or sunburst on the inside of his elbows.

If anyone has any information that will help identify the suspect, please call Goleta Police at 805-683- 2724 and ask to speak with a deputy. Or call the Sheriff's Anonymous Tip Line at 805-681-4171.