

Marine loading Toys for Tots van helps arrest alleged thief in downtown Boston



A US Marine Corps officer loading a van for the Toys for Tots charity yesterday evening stopped and restrained a man in downtown Boston who was running away from a nearby car he had allegedly broken into, police said today.

At about 5 p.m. yesterday, officers responding to a radio call for a crime in progress in the area of 120 Water St. found a uniformed Marine restraining Albert J. Donizio, 48, of East Boston, according to a statement from Boston Police. A screwdriver was on the ground near the two men and just out of Donizio's reach, police said.

The owners told the responding officers that as they were returning to their car, which they had parked

near 120 Water St., they saw a man sitting in the driver's seat.

The owners said they yelled at the suspect, who jumped out of the car, and ran toward a Marine officer who was loading toys donated for Toys for Tots into a van near Liberty Square. The Marine stopped and detained the suspect until officers arrived.

The Marine "does not want to be identified," Boston Police spokesman Officer Eddy Chrispin said. Toys for Tots is a 64-year-old program run by the US Marine Corps Reserve that collects and distributes gifts to needy children for the holidays.

The suspect was arrested and charged with breaking and entering a motor vehicle at night and possession of burglarious tools, authorities said.

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A 25-year-old Springfield woman died after an argument with her boyfriend ended in a stabbing early this morning, police said.

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Joseph E. Aoun was appointed to an academic advisory group tasked with finding how universities can

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Winter's path through Harvard Yard

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Hockey dad mars playoff game

The father of a Winthrop High hockey player shined a laser pointer on the ice at a girls playoff game Wednesday, in a bizarre attempt to distract players on the opposing team.

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James Q. Wilson, coauthor of the broken window theory

Wilson was considered one of the nation's most significant thinkers about crime and other urban matters.

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Business as usual

After he was summarily forced to resign as head of the state Parole Board, Mark Conrad is back in government as an administrator at Bridgewater State College.

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Wayland man, 85, dies in house fire

Joseph H. Kozlowski died in a fire in Wayland Friday in a house that was rundown and overflowing with items, Wayland Fire Chief Vincent Smith said.

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Images renew hope of finding student

Police said they hope to generate fresh leads from new surveillance photos they believe show a missing Boston College student minutes after he was last seen.

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Princeton dean selected to head Brown

Christina Hull Paxson will be the next president of Brown University, taking over July 1 from longtime leader Ruth Simmons, the school announced.

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16-year-old stabbed on basketball court

A 16-year-old boy was stabbed and seriously wounded yesterday during an altercation in a park near Boston police headquarters in Roxbury, said State Police, who have jurisdiction over the park. The stabbing occurred at about 3 p.m. on the basketball court area of Southwest Corridor Park at Tremont and Prentiss streets, State Police said. The teenager was taken to Brigham and Women's Hospital with potentially life-threatening injuries, State Police said. He was in serious condition last night, State Police spokesman David Procopio said. State Police said that no arrests had been made.

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Ex-student sues over roommate's sex life

A former student at a Roman Catholic college has filed a lawsuit against the school, contending that administrators did not do enough to help her when she complained that her roommate was having too much sex in their dorm room. Lindsay Blankmeyer said in a federal lawsuit that she suffered from depression and attention deficit disorder before she enrolled at Stonehill College, but was driven into a suicidal depression after school officials would not give her reasonable housing alternatives to get her away from her roommate at the school in Easton. Blankmeyer said her roommate had sex with her boyfriend while she was trying to sleep just feet away and also participated in "sexually inappropriate video chatting"

while Blankmeyer was in the dorm room. After trying unsuccessfully to persuade school officials to force her roommate to move out or to give her an acceptable private room, Blankmeyer ended up living at a hotel, according to the lawsuit filed this week. The lawsuit, filed in US District Court in Boston, seeks unspecified damages. (AP)

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