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<b>News</b>
Front Page
Holden News
Paxton News
Princeton News
Sterling News
Rutland News
Regional News
Editorials & Opinions
Letters
Sports & Recreation
Entertainment
Schools
Obituaries
Clubs & Church
People
Fire & Police

## Holden News

April 10, 2008

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### Car break suspect held on 142 charges

BY MELISSA MCKEON MMCKEON@  
HOLDENLANDMARK.COM

The suspect in 30 car thefts in Holden and more than a dozen in Princeton last fall was arraigned in Central Worcester District Court March 18 on more than 70 counts of breaking and entering in the nighttime to commit a felony and nearly 70 other associated crimes.

The charges against Anthony Burns, 17, of 43 Harlem St., Worcester, stem from several nights of larceny sprees in the towns of Holden, Princeton, West Boylston and Dudley that allegedly involved entering unlocked parked cars and stealing items from those vehicles, including cash and small electronics. In one case, a vehicle was also stolen and later found. Police in Holden fielded more than two dozen calls from residents in the days after the November crime spree.

The majority of the 142 counts against Burns involve the 30 Holden victims, according to Holden Detective Chris Carey. In most cases there are two counts against Burns for the same crime, that is, breaking and entering as well as larceny.

Burns was implicated in the crimes after Holden Police Officer Meghan Wrinkle processed the

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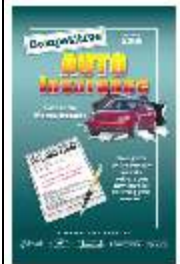
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stolen vehicle and found evidence that led police to him. He was taken into custody in Worcester on unrelated charges in December and questioned there by local detectives. He was indicted on the car break charges in January and arraigned March 18.



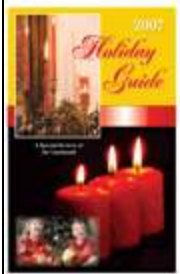
Carey said Burns was likely a member of a gang, however, Burns is the only one currently being charged.



Burns is due back in court May 12 for a status hearing on the charges. He is being held at the Worcester County Correctional Facility in Boylston on \$50,000 cash bail. He pled not guilty on March 18 to the 142 charges that include 77 counts of breaking and entering in the nighttime to commit a felony, 44 counts of larceny under \$ 250, five counts of larceny over \$250; 10 counts of malicious damage to a motor vehicle; three counts of "tagging"; one count of vandalism; one count of being a common and notorious thief; and one count of entering in the nighttime.



With the exception of one breaking and entering into a home in Princeton, the charges involved entering unlocked vehicles, prompting area police to issue warnings to residents to lock their vehicles and report any suspicious behavior.



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