Crime in North Reseda spiked to a total of (66) crimes, and over 75% of these were property crimes, primarily burglary, grand theft auto, and burglary from a motor vehicle. If you are afraid of being a victim of a crime, or if you already have been a victim, take some time to really consider what you could do to keep yourself and your property safe. Sometimes, a heightened awareness is all you need - be fully aware of your surroundings and where you travel or park your car. An alert person is a relatively less desirable target for a criminal. You can also take simple precautionary measures with your homes and vehicles, such as using alarms, security cameras, extra lights, guard dogs, etc. If you live in an apartment, you can bring up these issues with appropriate parties like the management.

Don’t forget to make police reports if you are a victim of a crime. Don’t be afraid of working with your local police - we are here to help, but we cannot help if we are not informed of crimes affecting the community. Additionally, you are highly encouraged to attend your respective neighborhood watch meetings (meeting times are located on left side of each newsletter). By going to the meetings, you get to meet your officers, learn about what’s going on in your neighborhoods, voice your concerns, and work together with your Senior Lead Officers to take care of your neighborhoods.

The last matter I would like to address is that of quality of life issues. Quality of life issues are legitimate issues, and one of the concerns of the LAPD. However, sometimes the sheer number of quality of life issues can become overwhelming, making it difficult for police to perform other important tasks and tackle crime. I am not completely discouraging you from turning to the police for help; I would like to note, however, that there are many other programs and services offered by the city that are able to assist you with quality of life issues, from parking enforcement to housing services. Take some time to research the various services available to you, and look for the appropriate authorities when you encounter quality of life, non-criminal issues in your neighborhood.
Hello South Reseda!

I would like to first address the recent terrorist incidents that have occurred on a global scale. The Paris attacks, the San Bernardino incident, and the Brussels bombings are reminders to all of us that terrorism continues to poke its ugly head into lives of regular folk.

LAPD has four ways to report any potential signs of a terrorist threat:

- Report online at www.iWatchLA.org
- Call 1-877-A-THREAT
- Call your local police station and speak to a desk officer. A trained officer will take your report.
- Call 911 for an emergency

I would like to first give a quick update regarding the crime trends in the area of South Reseda (Sherman Way to the north, Oxnard St to the south, Corbin Ave to the west, and White Oak Ave to the east). Our area experienced an increase of seven burglaries (total of 13), 3 stolen vehicles (total of 11), and one Burglary Theft From Motor Vehicle (total of 20) for the month of March. This is not the direction that I want to continue to see crime going. Remember to keep your homes secured, lock your vehicles, and hide your belongings from plain sight from your car. Stay safe out there!
Mental illness is an issue that has gained attention in recent years. While there isn't always much we can do as individuals to help strangers, we can definitely help people we know personally. If you have a family member requiring mental evaluation who is in crisis and is a danger to themselves or others, call 9-1-1 for help.

It is important to note that when you call 9-1-1, the only information first responders have about the situation and your family member in need is based on what you tell the dispatcher. So, while talking to the dispatcher, make sure you provide him/her as much information as possible, including:

- Your name
- The **address** to which the police should respond
- The **nature** of the crisis
- **Prior** or current **violent behavior**
- **Weapons** or **access to weapons**
- **Name** of your family member in crisis
- **Age** of family member
- **Height & weight** of family member
- **Clothing** description of family member
- **Current location** of family member
- **Diagnosis** (Mental Health and/or Medical)
- Current **medications** (On or Off?)
- **Drug use** (current or past)
- **Triggers** (what upsets them?)
- State what has helped in previous police contacts
- Identify other **persons in the residence** or at the location
“She calls out to the man on the street, “Sir can you help me? I’m alone and have nowhere to sleep. Is there some place you can tell me?” As go the lyrics to the song "Another Day In Paradise" by Phil Collins. Contrary to the title of that song, most of the homeless people we see in the city are not living in paradise at all. Due to their substance abuse, mental illness(es), physical disability, and lack of funds, most of the homeless in Los Angeles are in need of customized programs in very specialized facilities. Unfortunately, there is no program or facility that can cater to every homeless person.

“You can tell by the lines on her face, you can see that she’s been there. Probably been moved on from everywhere because she didn’t fit in there.” This part of the song is very telling of how a lot of the homeless population feel like. The routine that they have developed is the only thing in their life that is consistent and it is difficult for them to just stop. The more that a person remains homeless, the more this routine becomes ingrained into their psyche - it becomes more of an addiction than the drugs or alcohol they are using. This is another reason why their assistance program(s) has to be crafted to suit their individual needs.

“She calls out to the man on the street, he can see she’s been crying. She’s got blister on the souls of her feet. She can’t walk but she’s trying.” This line of the song is a perfect description of the medical needs of a lot of the homeless community. They sustain so many sores, broken bones, and other physical illnesses sustained because of their lifestyles and habits. Sometimes the homeless may not know better to go to a doctor before their injuries worsen. Most times, they may not have the means to do so, e.g.: modes of transportation, finances, etc.

“He walks on, doesn’t look back. He pretends he can’t hear her. Starts to whistle as he crosses the street. Seems embarrassed to be there.” A lot of people ignore the homeless until it is too late and their situation has gotten so bad and out of control. What can the LAPD do about it? Usually not much. We can definitely look for LAMC and PC violations and take them to jail. Most often than not, they are released less than three days after they are arrested and go right back to their old routine. But there is hope: an LA County organization called the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). They are there to provide the homeless with resources and semi-personalized programs to get them off the street. They can be reached on the internet @ www.lahsa.org or can be called at 213-683-3333. They will respond to the location of the homeless individual or camp and provide them with services.

So if you do see an encampment or a homeless person that you believe needs resources to get off the streets, please communicate with LAHSA. They will respond and evaluate the situation, provide resources and perhaps save the life of someone’s brother, sister, mother, father, et cetera. And once the homeless person is given the proper services and moves on, it can be another day for you and me in paradise.
Technology is a bittersweet innovation. On one hand, it makes our lives far more convenient and efficient. On the other hand, this convenience and efficiency is also extended to criminals. Fraud is a type of crime that happens frequently in a city like ours, and technological advances have made it even easier to commit. Below are a few common ways criminals utilize technology to commit fraud:

- On the phone: Criminals may call you, claiming to be an official from the IRS, or warning that one of your family members is in jail overseas, and proceed to ask you to provide personal information and/or wire money to settle the problem.
- At ATMs: Criminals may install a “skimmer” on ATM machines - skimmers are devices that look like, and fit perfectly on top of the card slot of an ATM machine. If your card goes into a skimmer, it will extract all the information on your card and send it to the criminal. Meanwhile, the criminal might be watching from a safe distance or be using a hidden camera on the ATM machine to watch you enter your PIN-number.
- Credit Card Scanners: Credit cards that have microchips installed in them may be easily scanned and the information extracted by criminals with the right tools. Sometimes, all they have to do is walk by you and get close enough to where your card is located.
- On the Internet: Credit cards used for online shopping and online bank accounts may be vulnerable to hackers. Hackers can be hard to predict, detect, and capture because of the vastness and lack of security on the Internet.

Rest assured, there are ways to beat criminals at their game. Educate yourselves on the various scams that are happening out there. Be alert when you’re using the ATM. Learn about tools that you can use to block credit card scanners. Check your bank accounts regularly. Do your best to remain updated with current trends, so that you’re prepared to counter the actions of your unfriendly neighborhood scammer.
For the month of March we had (4) robberies, (20) Burglaries, (5) cars stolen, (25) cars broken into, and (13) plain thefts.

Burglaries to homes - this is still the hot topic of Encino. There were several homes that were left unlocked and windows left opened with the alarm not set. Please remember to lock and secure your home and if you have an alarm, set it. Please call police dispatch if you see anything suspicious at 877-275-5273 (non-emergency number).

Also we all can help reduce the number of vehicles being broken into by practicing the LAPD motto: HIDE IT, LOCK IT, KEEP IT. Please do not keep items of value in your vehicles especially in plain view.

On a similar note, while out at stores and dining locations, please do not place your belongings on the table to “save your seat” and walk away. Most of our plain thefts are from people leaving their items unattended. Many thefts might be avoided if we become more vigilant about our surroundings and taking care of our property.
Stay Alert! Stay Informed!

follow us on:

Twitter.com/@LAPDWestvalley
Facebook.com/LAPD.WV.Police
Nextdoor.com: sign in to your community
Nixle: Text your Zip Code to 888777
Website: www.westvalleypolice.org

Remember, Please do not Text and Drive!