



Volume 03, Issue 9

BACK TO SCHOOL!

September 2011

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

As another summer blends into yet another autumn, we at Southwest Community Police Station remind you to be ever vigilant about your family's safety.

As hours at the swimming pool become hours at school, remember to watch out for children and school buses as they move about the neighborhoods.

As you travel to purchase school supplies and clothes for the kids' new school year, be extra careful in traffic since it is heavier than in the summertime.

Always remember to secure your homes and vehicles, keeping valuables out of sight to limit temptation for burglars. Be watchful and aware of your surroundings as you walk in parking lots, on the street and in shopping areas to deter the efforts of thieves and robbers.

Police personnel need your help to prevent crime. We need you to take part in securing the community by watching out for your neighbors and your families, and being aware of unusual activities or persons in the area. Extra efforts you make to monitor your neighborhood and to secure personal property assists law enforcement in the performance of our duties.

As autumn leaves begin to fall, let us work together to ensure crime trends fall as well.

MELISSA A. ZAK, Captain Commanding Officer Southwest Community Police Station

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CRIME PREVENTION

Community awareness is the key to crime prevention. If you are interested in establishing a Block Club in your area, please contact your Senior Lead Officer for assistance.

CRIME AND ARREST INFORMATION

Officers in Southwest Division have been working extremely hard to reduce crime, provide a safe environment and a better quality of life for the residents and business owners of the Southwest Area.

3SLO1-ADAMS BLVD NEIGHBORHOOD

Crime Trends

During the past 8 months of the year, Senior Lead Officer Sanchez is happy to report that the Adams Boulevard Neighborhood has experienced considerably low crime. Furthermore, there were no reported crime clusters(5 or more crimes in one reporting district). Kudos goes out to all community stakeholders for their participation in keeping this neighborhood safe. Keep up the great work!

Crime Tips-Stopping Teen Violence

- 1. Learn safe routes for walking in the neighborhood, and know good places to seek help. Trust your feelings, and if there's a sense of danger, get away fast.
- 2. Report any crimes or suspicious actions to the police, school authorities, and parents. Be willing to testify if needed.
- 3. Don't open the door to anyone you and your parents don't know and trust.
- 4. Never go anywhere with someone you and your parents don't know and trust.
- 5. If someone tries to abuse you, say no, get away, and tell a trusted adult. Remember, it's not the victim's fault.
- 6. Don't use alcohol and other drugs, and stay away from places and people associated with them
- 7. Stick with friends who are also against violence and drugs, and stay away from known trouble spots.
- 8. Get involved to make school safer and better having poster contests against violence, holding anti-drug rallies, counseling peers, and settling disputes peacefully. If there's no program, help start one!

- 9. Settle arguments with words, not fists or weapons.
- 10. Help younger children learn to avoid being crime victims. Set a good example and volunteer to help with community efforts to stop crime.

3SLO15-WEST ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer(SLO) Tracy Hauter advises a prostitution problem has been plaguing the West Adams community for the past several months. Many community stakeholders gathered in June at a community meeting about the issue. The Southwest VICE Unit, along with the Department's Detective Support teamed up and aggressively worked the area of Western Avenue from Adams Boulevard to Jefferson Boulevard. The Southwest VICE Unit alone made 138 prostitution related arrests, 4 pimping arrests, 218 alcohol related arrests, and 221 citations were issued in the area. Senior Lead Officer Hauter worked with Council District 8 to have trees trimmed and better lighting in this community. Many of you may notice that the area is now quieter, at least for the mean time. Also, be advised that Southwest VICE and SLO Hauter will continue to monitor the area.



SLO Hauter would like to thank Marco Flores and the ANNA Block club for a wonderful National Night Out event. It was a great turnout and she hopes to see all of you again next year! SLO Hauter would also like to thank Prett Galloway and the BJC Block club for hosting their annual Resource Fair. It was another great event in West Adams!

Finally, SLO Hauter is proud to report on another successful community project. Many residents of the West Adams reported observing several bulky items and trash littering the sidewalk at Adams and Raymond. Senior Lead Officers Hauter and Sanchez facilitated with the City of Los Angeles to pick up all abandoned property resulting in better *curb appeal*. See the photo below.



3SLO19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK

Crime Trends

Crime is down in the North University Park Area, however Senior Lead Officer Thomsen would like to encourage the community to become proactive in keeping our neighborhoods clean. As such, the "Bulky Item Program" program was designed so community members that have bulky items, such as couches, refrigerators, iron tubs, etc. can call 1-800-773-2489 and have them picked up.

Crime Tips-Halloween Safety

Halloween is right around the corner and Senior Lead Officer Thomsen would like to provide community members with a few safety tips.

Halloween has been celebrated on October 31st in the United States since the early 1800's and is traditionally a family-oriented holiday when children get to dress up and enjoy candy and other treats.

In order to assist the Los Angeles community in enjoying this fun-filled holiday as safely as possible, the Los Angeles Police Department has compiled the following Halloween safety tips for children and their parents.



Children should never be allowed to go out alone on Halloween.

Children should never eat any treats until they have been examined.

All fruit should be cut and closely examined before eating.

Advise children that they should never enter strangers' homes.

Never invite children into your home.

Children should never accept rides from strangers.

Children should never take shortcuts through backyards or alleys.

Set a specific time limit for your children to be out on Halloween night.

Give wrapped homemade treats only to children you know.

Instruct children not to stray from their group.

A responsible adult should escort children while trick-or-treating.

Adult escorts should carry flashlights.



3A31-JEFFERSON PARK

Crime Trends

September is National Disaster Preparedness Month. During this month take the time to formulate a comprehensive response and evacuation plan for you and your family.

On October 3, 2011 at 6:30 pm, Senior Lead Officer Biondo and the Southwest Community Police Station will host a Town Hall/C-PAB (Community Police Advisory Board) Meeting at 3010 Crenshaw Boulevard. Special guest, Captain J. Green from LAFD will discuss disaster preparedness and answer questions regarding evacuation plans, disaster preparedness kits and citizen responsibilities. Please take the time to attend this important event and receive some good information regarding disaster preparedness. Hope to see you there.



Crime Tips-Community Preparedness

Suggest that local organizations (of which you are a member) undertake a specific preparedness program or acquire special training to be of assistance in the event of a damaging earthquake.

Participate in neighborhood earthquake preparedness programs.

Attend training for neighborhood residents in preparedness, first aid, fire suppression, damage assessment and search and rescue.



Develop self-help networks between families and neighborhood through a skills and resources bank, which includes a listing of tools, equipment, material and neighborhood members who have special skills and resources to share.

Identify neighbors who have special needs or will require special assistance.

Have neighbors agree to hang a white flag (bed sheet) out after the quake if everyone and everything is OK.

3SLO41-BALDWIN HILLS VISTA/ VILLAGE GREEN

Crime Trends

Acting Senior Lead Officer Ryan Lee** reports that Southwest officers continue to monitor the Baldwin Hills area for isolated burglaries that are occurring during the late morning early afternoon hours.



The best defense against burglaries is a personal security plan. Alarms, exterior lighting, deadbolts, and window locks are protective measures to increase your personal security and safety.

If you see a stranger near your home or your neighbor's home, and they appear suspicious, please contact the police immediately.

**Note: Officer Beard will be returning from vacation September 13, 2011.

3SLO55-JEFFERSON PARK/WESTERN CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Oleg reports an increase of Street Robberies along Western Avenue in the Jefferson Park neighborhood. Victims coming from bus stops and automated teller machines (ATM) are being targeted. Items taken are usually gold jewelry and purses. Community members should use extreme caution and remain on guard when they leave their homes.



Crime Tips-Burglary Prevention

Do not allow strangers into your home, even if they are hurt or say they need help. Keep the door locked and call the police for them.

Do not advertise that you live alone.

Don't be afraid to call the police to investigate suspicious circumstances, unusual people or strange noises. It is better to be safe than sorry.

When you move into a new home, change the locks.

Keep your curtains or shades closed at night.

Don't leave notes on your door announcing when you will be home.

Keep outdoor lights on at night.

Never give information to an unknown caller. Report nuisance calls to the police and the telephone company.

Keep your doors and windows locked. If it is warm and you leave your door open for circulation, keep the screen door locked.

If you arrive home and your door is open or things appear to be out of place - don't go in your home. Leave and call the police.

Write down license numbers of suspicious vehicles to give to the police, if necessary.

Helpful Phone Numbers

Graffiti Removal:

(311)

Abandoned Vehicles:

(800/222-6366)

Bulky Item Trash Pick Up (Illegally Dumped Trash):

(800/773-2489)

Department of Health:

(213/351-5110)

Citywide information:

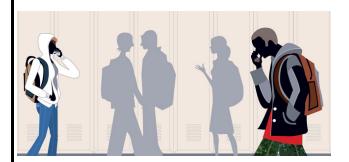
(311)

3SLO59-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Crime Trends

As we approach a new school year, Senior Lead Officer Nichol Garner is encouraging USC students and the surrounding community to stay safe and to also keep their valuables safe. If you see anyone suspicious in your neighborhood call DPS. DPS and LAPD will respond.

Students should lock their residential and vehicle doors. Keep valuables out of plain sight and also remember to shut and lock your windows when you leave your home.



Crime Tips- E Policing

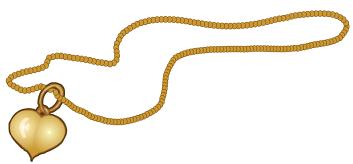
The LAPD E-Policing program enables Senior Lead Officers, Area Captains, and Detectives to e-mail Newsletters, crime trends, and other important information to you. It is easy, sign up now. Get LAPD crime maps, join/start a Neighborhood Watch. Log on to our website at www.lapdonline.org and click on E-policing.



3SLO63-BALDWIN VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Saldana reports that Baldwin Village has seen an increase in street robberies.



Suspects have been approaching victims and taking their jewelry from them. One reason why this is happening is that price of gold has increased to nearly \$1,800.00 an ounce. Citizens are encouraged to hide their jewelry underneath their clothing to prevent future robberies from occurring. Stay alert and report suspicious activity to local authorities.

Crime Tips-Lock It, Hide It, Keep It!

LAPD will be launching a campaign to prevent Burglaries from Motor Vehicle and vehicle theft. The message is simple:

Lock It:

Lock your vehicle every time you leave it unattended and always lock your valuables in the trunk.

Hide It:

If you don't have a trunk, hide valuables under the seats, in the glove box, or other compartments within the vehicle.

Keep It:

Personal responsibility is the best prevention to safeguard personal property and to prevent becoming a victim.



3SLO73-LEIMERT PARK/ CRENSHAW CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

The month of August, as could be expected with the warm weather, saw a slight increase in street robberies in RD 0393. Senior Lead Officer Sasajima reports that Southwest Officers have been working diligently to combat this trend by conducting extra patrols along the Crenshaw Corridor, paying special attention to the busy bus stops. Southwest Robbery Detectives, following up on evidence discovered during a robbery on the 4100 block of Garthwaite Ave, identified an 18 year old Rollin' 40's gang member as a suspect in numerous robberies in the area. The suspect was soon apprehended by Southwest Patrol units and numerous felony charges have been filed, including robbery, possession of a firearm, and kidnapping.

Community members are encouraged to utilize www.crimemapping.com to view updated crime statistics in their neighborhoods. While specific details of the crime are not made available on this site, it still provides an accurate picture of crime trends in specified areas. Searches can be conducted by entering an address and selecting a radius of up to 2 miles.

<u>Crime Tips-Back to School Safety Tips</u> (From the American Red Cross)

As children around the nation are returning to school, many of them will be spending time home alone after school until their parents get home from work.

The American Red Cross has steps parents and children can take to make these after-school hours safer and less stressful.

When talking to kids about being at home alone, parents should stress the following steps, and post them somewhere to remind the child about what they should, or shouldn't, do until mom, dad or caregiver get home:

Lock the door and make sure all the windows are closed and locked.

If the home has an electronic security system, children should learn how to turn it on and have it on when home alone.

Never open the door to strangers. Always check before opening the door to anyone, looking out through a peephole or window first. Only open the door for people that parents and guardians have given you permission to let in the house. If unsure, contact your caregiver.



Never open the door to delivery people or service representatives. Ask delivery people to leave the package at the door or tell them to come back at another time. Service representatives, such as a TV cable installer, should have an appointment when an adult is home.

Never tell someone on the telephone that the parents are not at home. Say something like "He or she is busy right now. Can I take a message?"



Do not talk about being home alone on public websites. Kids should be cautious about sharing

information about their location when using chat rooms or posting on social networks.

Never leave the house without permission. If it's okay to go outside, children should contact their parents and tell them where they are going, when they are leaving, and when they will return. If mom and dad are still at work, children should call them when they leave and when they return home.

Do not go outside to check out an unusual noise. If the noise worries the child, they should call their parents, an adult, or the police.

Don't talk to strangers.

Do not have friends over to visit when your parents aren't at home. Do not let anyone inside who is using drugs or alcohol, even if you know them.

If the child smells smoke or hears a fire or smoke alarm, they should get outside and ask a neighbor to call the fire department.

Crime Tips-Reporting a Crime by Text

If you have a crime you would like to report anonymously you can now text the letters LAPD plus your tip to #274637. You can also call 877-LAPD-24-7.



<u>UPCOMING COMMUNITY</u> <u>AND NEIGHBORHOOD</u> WATCH EVENTS



Are your kids struggling to complete their home work assignments? If so, then join St. Agatha's Catholic Church every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. They have a Life Skills Academy that will teach your children the skills they need to succeed in life. They will also provide tutors to help your children with their homework. For additional information, contact Senior Lead Officer Sanchez.

The Southwest Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) *usually* meets the first Monday of every month at the Child Guidance Center, 3787 S. Vermont Avenue. If you are interested in attending, please contact Toni Rodgers @ 213/847-5800.



St. Paul Church is hosting a Senior Citizen Fair on September 17th, 2011 from 9AM to 4PM. Contact SLO Hauter at 323/387-9617 for additional information.

*Dates and times are subject to change. Please consult with your Senior Lead Officer prior to attending any listed event.