

TOPANGA

AREA

Serving West Hills, Woodland Hills, Canoga Park, and Winnetka ²¹⁵⁰¹ Schoenborn St, Canoga Park



Volume 1, Issue 12

Topanga Senior Lead Office (818) 756-3070 Sergeant II Desi Ehrlich December 2009

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Hello Topanga Area!

Canoga Park, West Hills, Woodland Hills, and Winnetka



The Holiday Season is officially upon us! From all of us at your Topanga Area Police Station, we wish everyone a safe and wonderful Holiday Season. Remember, stay extra vigilant during this time of year and do not make yourself an easy target while shopping.

Since the last newsletter, Topanga has had some exciting and successful events occur; read on to learn more...

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Captain's Corner:

November was a very busy month for Topanga Area. We put a lot of work into gearing up for "Holiday Season" crime prevention. We planned our Town Hall meeting and provided support to Topanga Boosters who held a fundraiser to support the Topanga Station.

We owe many thanks to the community who support our efforts. I would like to pay a special thank you to Pastor Glenn Kirby, who offered the West Valley Christian Church, as a venue for Topanga's Inaugural Town Hall meeting held on November 19, 2009. Pastor Kirby and his staff provided a great deal of logistical and technical support that helped to make our Town Hall meeting such a great success.

I would also like to thank our Boosters organization, but more specifically the Boosters

fundraising committee who organized a fantastic fundraising event. The event was held at the Hilton-Woodland Hills on November 20, 2009. The event netted over \$15,000.00 which directly supports the Topanga Station.

In an effort to make the public aware of our crime fighting strategies during this Holiday Season, Topanga Area held a press conference at the Westfield Topanga Shopping Center. I extend my thanks to Westfield Topanga who allowed us to use their property for the press conference.



Topanga's Inaugural Town Hall Meeting

a Success!!! On Thursday, November 19, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. Topanga held its Inaugural Town Hall Meeting. Thanks to the hard work of the Senior Lead and Community Relations Office and the support of the community, Topanga's Town Hall meeting was a true success. Over 200 people attended this meeting! Many informative brochures were passed out and preventive presentations given. For those who were not able to attend and are interested in the "Topanga" prevention and tips brochure that was passed out, please contact the Senior Lead Office at (818) 756-3070.

(Town Hall cont'd)

Approximately 200 attendees filled out a five-question survey. The following are the results of that survey:

- Community "issues" that are most important to you are: 1. Property crimes (burglary, burglary from motor vehicle, stolen vehicles);
 Transients loitering, drinking in public and trespassing;
 Traffic enforcement;
 Day laborers loitering.
- What are your expectations of law enforcement?
 1. Make a safer community; 2. Professionalism;
 3. Higher visibility.
- ➤ Is Topanga Division meeting your expectations? Overwhelmingly YES!!!
- Where do you believe the responsibility of crime prevention lies?With both law enforcement and the community.
- ➤ Have you signed up for e-policing?

 This answer was split between: 1. Yes, and I find the information useful; 2. No, I was not aware of the program.

Thank you for filling out the survey. This helps give us a general idea of what is important to you. Your Senior Lead Officers will continue to work to address your concerns.

LAPD Goes NIXLE!!!



The Los Angeles Police Department has a new way to keep you informed of what is happening in your community. "Nixle" is LAPD's newest

technology that allows you to stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information in near REAL TIME. *You* choose the information you want, for the addresses *you* want, all delivered at no cost, by text message, email and web. Nixle technology sends the messages simultaneously to your email AND in a text message to your cell phone. Nixle will never be used for advertising, so try the service out...it's free! Register at: www.nixle.com. Click on the blue "register button" and enter your email and cell phone number. Signing up is simple so register NOW.

O CONTRACTOR POLICE

Recent news in my area:

This segment contains some activity in Topanga Division, but it is not intended to reflect all of the crimes in your area. **The most current**

updates for your neighborhood can be found on www.lapdonline.org.

On November 18, 2009, Detectives Foster and Parra were assigned to investigate a "commercial burglary" that occurred near Shoup Avenue and Sherman Way. The business owner had installed cameras in the interior and on the exterior of the building. The surveillance system captured detailed video images of the suspects. Detectives Foster and Para released these images to the public and began to receive information from the community using the LAPD "WE TIP" Network. Due to the outreach and investigative work an arrest of a career burglar was made for multiple burglaries being conducted in the West Hills neighborhood. This is a perfect example of the community and police working together!

Topanga area Patrol Officers Dunn and Hamada arrested a transient in the area of Canoga Park for an attempt rape. The transient suspect assaulted his girlfriend in front of witnesses in the area. Officers Dunn and Hamada followed up on multiple leads over the course of three days which ultimately resulted in the suspect's arrest.

On November 5, 2009, at approximately 0700 hours Detectives Do and Grabe of Topanga's Narcotic unit conducted a "narcotic compliance check" on a person who was on probation at the 7300 block of Independence Avenue. During the compliance check the Detectives discovered 10 plastic bindles containing cocaine. The suspect was once again arrested for cocaine sales. In addition, the suspect's mother was arrested for possession of forged government documents. Thanks to the Topanga Narcotics Unit on a great follow-up arrest of a local drug dealer!

In late November, a woman left her purse in her vehicle. When her vehicle was burglarized, her purse was stolen. A few days after the burglary, the suspect called the victim, told her that he had her purse and offered to return it to her, but only in exchange for money and other unspecified "favors." The victim called the Topanga Station and alerted officers. Undercover police officers from the Vice unit worked with the victim and made arrangements for an officer to pose as the victim and meet the suspect. When the suspect arrived at the pre-designated location, he was quickly arrested by the officers. This vehicle burglary had a happy ending but please, always remember to keep your valuables with you or conceal them out of sight.

DID YOU KNOW... If you live, work or own property within the boundaries of your Neighborhood Council District, you are a stakeholder and we encourage you to

get involved! Neighborhood Councils are advisory bodies to the Los Angeles City Council that act as a liaison between the local stakeholders and city government, making city government more responsive to local needs. If you want to make a difference in some of the decisions for your neighborhood and city, start by attending the Neighborhood Council meetings for your community.

The Topanga Area Community Police Station would like to thank the Woodland Hills Neighborhood Council for its generous purchase of inert training weapons for the officers of Topanga Division. These training aids will be used to safely practice and train police techniques utilizing realistic, safe training "weapons."



Need help with quality of life issues? Know your Senior Lead Officer, they are invaluable!! The Senior Lead Officers' main office number is (818) 756-3070.

SLO Dennis Cunningham, Basic Car 21A1

(Covering the North part of West Hills including part of South Chatsworth near the Chatsworth Reservoir)

Office (818) 756-3073 Cell (818) 731-2578 Email 34966@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A1 / 21A43 Basic Car meeting will be held every 2nd Monday of the month at 7 PM at Topanga Station. SLO Cunningham will also handle the group formerly known as the 17A83 Basic Car (Now called *North* West Hills Neighborhood Watch). This meeting is for the area north of Roscoe Boulevard to Plummer Street, West of Topanga Canyon Boulevard. The meeting is held at the Valley Dispatch Center 23001 Roscoe Boulevard every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.

SLO Sam Sabra, Basic Car 21A43

(Covering the South part of West Hills)

Office (818) 756-3074 Cell (818) 731-2558

Email 34819@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A43 meeting will be combined with the 21A1 Basic Car meeting and is held every 2^{nd} Monday of the month at Topanga Station at 7 PM.

SLO Brent Rygh, Basic Car 21A73

(Covering Woodland Hills - West of Topanga Canyon)

Office (818) 756-3075 Cell (818) 731-2581

Email 30450@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A73 meeting will be combined with the 21A97 meeting and will be held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at the Topanga Station at 6:30 PM.

SLO Charles "Sean" Dinse, Basic Car 21A97

(Woodland Hills - East of Topanga Canyon)

Office (818) 756-3076 Cell (818) 731-2568 Email 34920@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A97 meeting will be combined with the 21A73 meeting and will be held on the 1st Tuesday of every month at the Topanga Station at 6:30 PM.

SLO Janet Zumstein, Basic Car 21A57

(Covering South Canoga Park and Topanga malls)

Office (818) 756-3188 Cell (818) 731-2570

Email 24571@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A57 Basic Car meeting will be held every 3rd Tuesday of the month, at the Topanga Station at 7 PM.

SLO Alexis "Alex" Padron, Basic Car 21A5 (Covering North Canoga Park)

Office (818) 756-3191 Cell (818) 731-2583

Email 32977@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A5 Basic Car meeting is held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at Topanga Station at 7 PM.

SLO Jose Maldonado, Basic Car 21A29

(Covering Winnetka)

Office (818) 756-3079 Cell (818) 731-2569

Email 23639@lapd.lacity.org

<u>Please note that the location of 21A29's Basic Car</u> <u>meeting has now changed:</u> this meeting is held every **2**nd Thursday of the month at 7 PM at the Topanga Station

Sign up for E-policing! E-policing keeps you abreast of the latest crime news in your community, allows you to look up crime activity in your neighborhood, and much more at the LAPD web site www.lapdonline.org or www.lapdorlinemaps.org

Your Senior Lead Office wishes you a happy and safe Holiday Season!

Important Numbers to keep:

Topanga Front Desk TDD/TTY (818) 756-4800 (818) 756-5899 Comm. Relations Office (818) 756-3180 Senior Lead Office (818) 756-3070

Detective Desk (818) 756-4820 Vice Office (818) 756-4840

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency Dispatch (877) 275-5273

(877) ASK-LAPD

All other city services, please call 311



LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT



Stay instantly informed of trusted, neighborhood-level public safety and community information.

You choose the information you want, for the addresses you want, all delivered at no cost, by text message, email and web.

Simple Trusted No Cost

Sign up now at www.nixle.com

Go to www.nixle.com and click Register Now. No Cost & Easy!