



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 10 West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630 October 2005

Officer in Charge, Sergeant Mike Padilla

E-Policing

Register your email address on www.lapdepolicing.org. In the future, you can receive crime information and other notifications, regarding your neighborhood, via email.

West Valley Area

Community-Police Advisory Board Meeting

Captain John Sherman, West Valley Area Commanding Officer, and Ms. Jeanette Capaldi, West Valley C-PAB Co-Chair, extend a welcome to anyone who would like to attend our monthly meetings.

Please note that October's monthly meeting was canceled. The next meeting will be held on November 9, 2005 at 7:00 PM, in the Police Station's Community Room, at 19020 Vanowen Street.

West Hills Senior Lead Officer

Peter Vanderburgh # 20382

10A51 / (818) 374-7632

The crime numbers in West Hills Area are falling below last year's crime numbers.

We are currently looking for a "Lewd Conduct" suspect who has been seen in the 23400 block of Welby Way between Berquist and Lederer, near Welby Elementary School. The suspect is described as a Male unknown, 5'08" - 5'10", 140-150 lbs., 18-25 years of age, short neatly kept hair, dark prominent eyebrows, and his activities occur between 9:30 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. If you have any information please contact Detective Rains at (818) 374-7845. Thanks for your help.

Our Neighborhood Watch meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each new month. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at 7633 March Avenue, at Pomelo Elementary School. See you there and **be safe**.

South Canoga Park Senior Lead Officer

Tony Valadez # 31197

10A57 / (818) 374-7636

Hello South Canoga Park. First and foremost, we would like to welcome Officer Jerry Velasquez, who was recently chosen to serve as your full-time Senior Lead Officer. Remember to congratulate Jerry the next time you see him.

Reporting Crime:

You are our eyes and ears out in your neighborhoods. With your help, we can close the gap on the criminals preying on your community and get more of them into jail. When reporting a crime, please use common sense. If it is an emergency, go ahead and dial 911. Think of an emergency as an event where people and or property are in **IMMEDIATE DANGER**.

We have non-emergency numbers for you to call when you need the police, but it is not an emergency. You can call **(877) ASK-LAPD (275-5273)** or LA City's new **311**. 311 is good only within the city of Los Angeles. The number is toll-free. 311 connects you directly with the city hall operator, who can forward your call to any LA City entity you may need. By using these non-emergency phone numbers, you free up desperately needed 911 lines and still get the police service you need.

Our Neighborhood Watch meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month. The next Neighborhood Watch meeting is scheduled for November 15, 2005, at 7:00pm. The location for this meeting is the Proyecto Del Barrio Clinic at 20800 Sherman Way. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

**Tarzana Senior Lead Officer
Kip Jackson # 31733
10A67 / (818) 374-7638**

I would like to thank my Tarzana Representatives for attending the Senior Lead Officer Summit!
I would like to talk about our "**Jeopardy Program**," that targets "at risk" children in the community. The program provides alternatives to gang involvement and other negative behavior. The goals are: to **decrease truancy, improve grades, improve self-esteem, increase conflict resolution and improve goal setting skills and decrease violent and other inappropriate behavior**. The Jeopardy program also helps kids with tutoring, free therapy with a licensed Psychologist, free YMCA membership, etc. There are field trips including the Sylmar Juvenile Hall "Scared Straight" Program, California Youth Authority, Group Homes, Sporting Events, Job Training Centers, and Museums. If you know of a candidate for the program, call Officers Rothman or Vargas, at (818) 374-7684, for more information.

I would like to remind everyone of our Neighborhood Watch Meeting every third Tuesday. The next meeting will be October 18th, 2005, 7:00 p.m., 19020 Vanowen Street, West Valley Police Station, Community Room.

**Winnetka Senior Lead Officer
Karen Rodriguez # 31201
10A33 / (818) 374-7631**

Hello Winnetkans!
I wanted to express my appreciation to each of you for the privilege of serving you as your Senior Lead Officer for the past 4-½ years. This tremendous experience has given me a wealth of knowledge that will assist me in all of my future endeavors. I learned as much from you, the community, as I have in the academy. Please continue promoting the concepts of Community Policing. Only with your help can we continue to make Los Angeles the safest big city in America.

Congratulations to **Officer Rachel Raigoza** who was recently chosen to serve as your new Senior Lead Officer. I have no doubt that you will be in good hands in the future.

Neighborhood Watch Meetings will continue to be held on the second Thursday of each month. The next meeting will be October 13th, at 7:00 p.m., at the Demirdjian School Auditorium, 6844 Oakdale Ave.

**Woodland Hills Senior Lead Officers
Tony Valadez # 31197 and Jodie McGee # 31677
10A75 / (818) 374-7631 and 10A73 (818) 374-7637**

Hello Woodland Hills. This month Jodie and I would like to discuss a major problem in the Woodland Hills Community. Vehicle break-ins are on the rise in the area. The major areas of concern are primary streets in residential areas, shopping center parking lots, and parking structures in the Warner Center area. Everyone can do their part in significantly reducing this crime.

The main concern we have is that people are leaving their valuables in their vehicles. Everything from purses, wallets, IPOD's, laptop computers, PDA's, money, and other small items of value. Jodie and I strongly suggest you leave NOTHING in your vehicle. If you cannot carry it out of the car, don't bring it into the car. You can go as far as emptying out your glove box and leaving it open when you park your car. Leaving these expensive items in your car will make you a prime target for a burglary from motor vehicle.

Even more important than taking all valuables out of your car is LOCKING YOUR CAR!!! We receive reports daily of unlocked cars being entered and property stolen. You can help reduce this crime as much as 50 percent if you and your neighbors lock your cars. Don't forget to set your alarm either.

Housekeeping:

Our November meeting has been cancelled, due to the Special State Election, on Tuesday November 8th. The Woodland Hills Library will be unavailable due to their status as an official polling place. We are planning a Holiday potluck for our December meeting. This meeting will be on Tuesday, December 13th, at 6:30p.m. The meeting will be held at West Valley Community Police Station, 19020 Vanowen Street, Reseda, at 7:00p.m. The meeting will be in the community room.

Encino
Senior Lead Officer
Mark Ro # 32212
10A87 / (818) 374-7628

As a follow-up to last month's article on homeless people and transients, I would like to briefly discuss campers and recreational vehicles ("RV's"). Over the last few months, several Encino residents complained of campers or RV's, parking for indefinite periods of time on their residential streets. As you can imagine, some of the negative by-products of these RV's include trash and other debris/liquids being "dumped" in the vicinity, as well as strange people loitering and sleeping in some of our neighborhoods. I would like for you to continue to report such activity to me. The L.A. Municipal Code prohibits people from using a vehicle, even an RV, as living quarters while parked on a public street. This law is seldom enforced and not always applicable to every single situation. However, I will work with you to ensure that this law is properly enforced to prevent undesirable, unsafe people and activities from coming into our neighborhoods.

Our next quarterly Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be at the Community Room, West Valley Police Station, on October 29th (Sat) at 10:00 a.m.

Reseda
Senior Lead Officers
Chris Crosby # 32835 & Janet Zumstein # 24571
(818) 374-7635 & (818) 374-7634
10A27 & 10A47

We in the Senior Lead Office have seen a great deal of crime prevention participation from the Reseda community. We have had two very good tips from community members, which has resulted in great arrests. One arrest was a suspect driving a stolen vehicle with property on his person from several residential burglaries. The second arrest was a stolen vehicle with a known felon in the vehicle. Tips such as these not only help us to make quality arrests, but it exemplifies the theory of you the citizens being the eyes and ears of the community and taking back the streets in which you live.

If there was one telephone number that we as Senior Leads can't stress enough it's #311. For all graffiti removal, tree trimming, potholes and large item pickups. #311 can be used to improve the quality of life in your community. For abandoned vehicles #311 can be phoned or the Senior Lead can be notified to resolve the problem. The 311 line is good for all city services!

We hold Reseda's Neighborhood Watch meetings every second Thursday of the month (October 13th) at the West Valley Police Station, 19020 Vanowen Street, at 7:00 P.M. We hope to see many more of the community attending these meetings.

Canoga Park
Senior Lead Officer
Royal Barber # 33970
10A3 / (818) 374-7629

With Halloween a few weeks away, I'm asking that our Neighborhood Watch groups get involved in making Halloween safe and fun. Halloween is a favorite time for neighborhood kids, but it may also be a favorite time for vandals who ruin the fun for everyone.

To keep Halloween safe, your block should set up "Trick or Treat" tables in your driveways. Get together with your friends for some hot "witch's brew" or share a batch of cookies and coffee in your front yard.

The idea is to get adults out on the street with the kids. A neighborhood with lots of activity is *not* an inviting place for taggers and others out to cause trouble. If you don't know your neighbors, this is a good time to meet them. **Be sure to have everyone turn on their outside lights.**

Parents should make sure that children are supervised while they enjoy the night's activities. Participate in block activities or take the kids to a local park or shopping center that offers Halloween activities. If they go trick or treating, do not let them go alone.

A3's Neighborhood Watch meeting location has changed. Our meeting for November will be held at the Canoga Park/West Hills Chamber of Commerce, at 7248 Owensmouth Ave, on November 8th at 7:00 p.m. See you there!

11th Annual Officer Appreciation Day

An Opportunity to Honor "Our" Finest in the
Los Angeles Police Department, West Valley Division!



*This year's Officer Appreciation Day will be held on
Tuesday, November 15th. Our community will be hosting
"Feed the Cops Day"*



at the new West Valley Police Station. Our officers serve us everyday, so please help us "serve" them on this one day. We cannot do this without the help and generosity of businesses and individuals in the communities that comprise the West Valley Area: Encino, Tarzana, Winnetka, Woodland Hills, West Hills, Canoga Park, and Reseda.

Please contact Barbara Hand at barbara@encinowatch.com, or call Jeanette Capaldi of the Community Relations Office at the West Valley Police Station at 374-7690. Find out how you can be a part of this special celebration. Please make checks to "West Valley PALS" (Fed. ID 23-7259848), and send to Barbara Hand, P.O. Box 261761, Encino, CA 91426.