





# **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS**

Volume 9, Issue 1

West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630

January 2006

Officer in Charge, Sergeant Mike Padilla

### **Woodland Hills**

Senior Lead Officers **Tony Valadez # 31197 & Jodie McGee # 31677**(818) 374-7636 & (818) 374-7637

HAPPY NEW YEAR

WOODLAND HILLS! Jodie and I would like to wish everyone a prosperous and happy 2006.

Jodie and I would like to strengthen our neighborhood watch and apartment watch programs. We have seen decreases in crime levels, when neighborhoods have active neighborhood watch groups. We are looking to all of you to help us recruit new members, for existing groups, as well as starting up new groups. Apartment residents are also encouraged to get together and start an apartment watch program in your complex or community. If you have any questions, please call us at the office numbers, listed above.

Our next meeting is on February 14, 2006. The meeting will be at 6:30pm, at the Woodland Hills Public Library (22200 Ventura Blvd).

# West Valley Area

**Community-Police Advisory Board Meeting** 

Wednesday, February 8, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in the Police Station Community Room, at 19020 Vanowen Street.

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

The West Valley C-PAB Meeting is held on the second Wednesday of every month
The next West Valley Area –Police Advisory Board
Meeting will be March 8, 2006.

## **HOT OFF THE PRESSES!!!!!**

Log Onto <a href="www.lapdepolicing.org">www.lapdepolicing.org</a> today, and sign up for real time crime alerts, specific to your community! They can be sent to your computer or cell phone.

#### Winnetka

Senior Lead Officer Rachel Raigoza # 33626 10A33 / (818) 374-7631

The Los Angeles Police Department is reminding everyone to use extreme caution while driving around our schools. We ask that parents dropping off and picking up children do not double park and let children cross the street mid-block. We ask that all drivers obey all traffic laws, school rules and heed loading zones. We have had problems with vehicles speeding and drivers failing to stop for children crossing the street. Remember the rules are to protect your children and to control the traffic flow. Always allow yourself extra time to get to your destination safely. The safety of our children is most important.

There has been an increase of furniture and/or miscellaneous property being left on the sidewalks and streets that should be going to the trash. As a reminder, the Sanitation Department will come and pick these items **free of charge**. All you need to do is call 1-800-773-2489 and make an appointment for pick-up. Please help keep our neighborhood clean.

Our next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held on Thursday, February 9, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. at Demirjian School Auditorium, located at 6844 Oakdale Ave.

#### Reseda

Senior Lead Officers

Chris Crosby # 32835 & Janet Zumstein # 24571 (818) 374-7635 & (818) 374-7634 10 A 27 & 10 A 47

The cold and wet season is knocking on our door. This means wet and slippery roads which creates a hazard for all. To prevent many of the accidents here are some tips to follow while driving:

- 1. Reduce your speed!
- 2. Slightly over inflate your tires so that increases the space between tread. This will allow more water to be dispersed and lessen the chance to hydroplane.
- 3. Increase the distance between cars allowing at least a 3 second rule. A 3 second rule means that you should be able to pick a point that the car ahead of you and you should arrive at that point no sooner than 3 seconds later.
- 4. Stay to the left of the curb lane due to the water run off on the right side of the road. Be careful not to drive on the painted line, as it becomes more slippery.
- 5. Replace worn windshield wiper blades before the rainy season begin.
- 6. If you find yourself in a skid, look at where you want your car to drive towards, rather than looking at what the car is skidding towards. Which is usually the power pole that you are skidding nearer to. This means that you look down the road, where you want the car to go and put the amount of steering that will direct you to that point, no more.

#### 7. STAY OFF OF THE CELL PHONE

8. Slow down in the rain, yes we started with this one, but it is worth saying again.

Our next Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be Thursday February 9, 2006 at 7:00 pm. We will continue to hold out meetings in the West Valley Police Station Community Room, at 19020 Vanowen Street.

# Canoga Park

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

Vehicle burglaries and stolen vehicles are currently the most reported crimes in Canoga Park. Honda Accords and Civics along with Toyota Camrys (all 1999 and prior year models) are the car thieves vehicles of choice. West Valley Officers are making a concerted effort to turn this crime trend around. Thieves are usually opportunists who take advantage of a good situation when they find it. Always think in terms of denying opportunities to criminals. Even small attempts to protect yourself and your property could pay big dividends. Just remember, you must keep your guard up against opportunist criminals.

A3's Neighborhood Watch will again be at its new location. Our meeting for February will be held at the Canoga Park/West Hills Chamber of Commerce, at 7248 Owensmouth Ave, on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 7:00 p.m

#### Tarzana

Senior Lead Officers Kip Jackson # 31733 A67 / (818) 374-7638

Hello Tarzana,

I hope you enjoyed a safe holiday with family and friends. As we embark on a New Year I would like to remind you this time of year is choice for scam artists. Be aware that criminals pose as couriers delivering gifts. Others will pose as representatives of different charity organizations. The Police and Fire Department do not solicit funds for anything. If there is a question about police or fire charity, call your local police department or fire department and ask. Ask for identification and write that info down and give it to the police when you call to verify the charity. I can almost guarantee it is not a legitimate organization. Even if the charity name is "COPS" or "PALS", do not assume it is associated with any police or fire department.

Next neighborhood watch meeting will take place February 21st, 2006, 7:30 P.M., West Valley Police station (19020 Vanowen Street). I will be on Vacation until Feb 5<sup>th</sup>, 2006. Please call the general number to the Senior Lead Office 374-7630 for assistance.

#### Encino

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

Encino Neighborhood Watch, Welcome to 2006!

Block Clubs serve as the heart of the Neighborhood Watch program. They consist of the dedicated residents and stakeholders, who care about their neighborhoods. If your Block Club has not met in a while or is struggling to communicate within itself or with the Police Department, please consider hosting a meeting for your neighbors and call me. Such a meeting will especially make sense, considering the continuous number of property crimes and the high turnover in some neighborhoods or apartment-condo complexes (i.e., arrival of newer residents, who may not be aware of Neighborhood Watch). As usual, I will continue to make it a priority to attend your Block Club meetings and work with you to address the various problems that I can help vou with. you are interested in starting a Block Club in your neighborhood, call me, and I can help get you started, all you need is an interest and some neighbors who want a safe(r) place to live or work! If you have a specific crime concern, I can address that also, just let me know what your concerns are.

We will resume our quarterly schedule for the all-Encino Neighborhood Watch meetings on Tuesday, February 21, 2006 at 7:00 PM, at the Encino Community Center (4935 Balboa Bl).

# West Winnetka / South Canoga Park Senior Lead Officer Jericho Velasquez # 31026 10A57 / (818) 374-7630

Hello again West Winnetka/Canoga Park area. By the time you read this letter, the holidays have passed. I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday, and received all the presents they asked for.

We are currently having a large number of vehicles being stolen in the area of Owensmouth Avenue between Vanowen Street and Sherman Way. This problem is ongoing, and the only way to stop this is the community getting educated about crime. Remember, officers can't be in the area 24-hours a day. So as citizens, you need to educate yourself to prevent being a target. With that being said, here are a few things that I do to prevent my car from a target:

Utilize an anti-theft device, such as a club or an alarm system.

Park your vehicle in well-illuminated areas. As funny as it sounds, lock your vehicle. If you live in an apartment, make sure your parking structure is well illuminated. If not, speak with your apartment manager in regards to having lights placed inside the parking structures.

Our next neighborhood watch meeting will be held on February 21, 2006 at El Proyecto del Barrio located at 20800 Sherman Way. I'm looking forward to seeing all of you, so please be safe.

## **West Hills**

Senior Lead Officer
Peter Vanderburgh # 20382
10 A 51 / (818) 374-7632

As we start off a New Year, please follow through on your <u>New Year resolution</u> to help support our L.A.P.D's mission "to protect our neighborhoods" by getting involved. Make a difference, help make our community a safer place to live, work, and visit. Become a new member of our community watch by attending our next Neighborhood Watch meeting.

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. Our Neighborhood Watch meetings are scheduled for the second Monday of each new month (February 13 2006). The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m. at 7633 March Avenue at (Pomelo Elementary School).