



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

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West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630 September 2006
Sergeant Pete Foster

Log Onto www.lapdonline.org today! You can see the crime in your neighborhood, get the monthly newsletter and sign up for e-policing, a real-time way to get information from LAPD to you!

Please join us for the following
West Valley Area Events:

CPAB Meetings: September 13 & October 11, 2006 7:00 PM, West Valley Station, Community Room

West Hills, 10A51, Senior Lead Officer Pete Vanderburgh
20382@lapd.lacity.org / (818) 374-7638 office or (818) 731-2573 cell

From SLO Peter Vanderburgh, Hello West Hills Community, I'm back.

I will be on my vacation period and then return on September 16th. In the mean time, Officer Rachel Raigoza will fill in for me; she can be contacted at (818) 374-7631 to assist you with your concerns. We had a community meeting on August 14th where I asked what I could do for you, and what the current community issues were. I worked quickly to resolve those issues and will continue to work to improve the quality of life and crime issues in West Hills.

A reminder, Please plan to attend The West Hills "Big Community Fall Fest Event" this coming October 8th at Woodlake and Saticoy Streets, see you there!

We need more community attention roughly between Roscoe and Saticoy Street and Fallbrook to Shoup Ave. The reason is an increase in Burglary from motor vehicle crimes. We need you to remember to remove all items of value (iPods, cell phones, cameras, G.P.S units, etc) that can be seen inside your vehicle and also lock the car. The thought here is "**out of sight out of mind**". So help us reduce your chances of being a victim by crime prevention.

West Hills crime pattern is lower than other communities in West Valley Area, but you must still be vigilant and always keep your guard up. Secure your property, and look out for your neighbors. Also keep an eye out for "graffiti artists" in the area of Valley Circle and Victory at the strip mall (rear alley).

Our next Neighborhood Watch Meeting will be on Monday September 18th / October 16th, at 7633 March Ave 7:00pm.

**Woodland Hills, 10A73/75, Senior Lead Officer Kip Jackson
31733 @lapd.lacity.org / (818) 374-7636 office or (818) 731-2574 cell**

I would like to introduce myself as the new Senior Lead for Woodland Hills. I was recently moved from West Hills. In case you don't know, Officer Tony Valadez has been promoted to Sergeant. We will all miss him very much. Tony was a leader and pioneer in a lot of ways, including the new "LAPD E-POLICING web-site, (You should all be signed up by now).

I can't promise to fill Tony's shoes, but I will handle your community and crime problems and assist everyone as much as possible. I will currently be covering all of Woodland Hills (10A73/75). I look forward to developing a relationship with the Woodland Hills Community!

Please be patient in this transitional stage, as there will be some growing pains. I hope to meet everyone at the next Neighborhood Watch Meeting September 12th /October 10th, 2006, 6:30 p.m., 22200 Ventura Blvd.

**West Winnetka & Canoga Park, 10A57 Senior Lead Officer Janet Zumstein
24571 @lapd.lacity.org / (818) 374-7634 office or (818)731-2570 cell**

Hello everybody, you have a new Senior Lead Officer. SLO Velasquez is gone for an extended time on active military leave and I, Janet Zumstein was re-assigned to his area. I have been a SLO in Reseda for nearly five years. I am excited about my new area and look forward to serving you.

The Grand Opening of the Westfield Topanga Mall is on October 6, 2006 at 10:00 AM and is open to the public. The mall added 140 new stores, is remodeled and is said to be state of the art!

Stolen vehicles are still a big problem throughout our division. Be careful where you park your car. If you can, park your car in a well-lit area with no personal belongings exposed and always lock your car.

Our next meeting is September 19th / October 17th, 2006, at 6:30 PM, at 20800 Sherman Way (El Protectyo del Barrio), Canoga Park, 710-9322. I hope to see you there!

**Tarzana & Encino, 10A67/10A87, Senior Lead Officer Rob Trulik
32325 @lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7637 office or (818) 731-2572 cell**

Hello Sherman Oaks and Encino,

I would like to thank the residents first of all. I am happy to report that we only had 2 Residential Burglaries in the Encino / Sherman Oaks area for the entire month of July. That is down 88 percent from the month before. Please stay focused on Burglary prevention and do not let your guards down. On other news, we are once again enforcing the abandon vehicle / 72 hour parking rule. If you are aware of a vehicle that you think might be abandoned or has not moved in some time please call 1-800-ABANDON (800-222-6366). In closing as you have probably seen in the news the Valley is seeing an increase in Street Robberies. The suspects are targeting the Victims for wallets and purses. They not only care about money but also want credit cards for identity theft reasons. I would like to remind my Citizens to always walk the streets of the City in pairs or groups if possible. Always walk in well-lit and heavily traveled areas. Please travel as light as possible and do not bring un-necessary items on your walks. Please stay safe and aware! PS. Please feel free to contact me if your are interested in starting or attending a Neighborhood Watch meeting in your neighborhood.

Reseda 10A27 & 10A47 Senior Lead Officer Jodie McGee
31677@lapd.lacity.org/ (818) 374-7635 office or (818) 731-2569 cell

Hello Reseda, this is Officer Jodie McGee your Reseda Senior Lead. As you are probably not aware Officer Janet Zumstein has been re-assigned to the South Canoga Park/ West Winnetka Area. Officer Zumstein will be taking over for Officer Jerry Velasquez while he is away on Military Duty. Officer Zumstein will sorely be missed by all! I would like to renew the Reseda Neighborhood Watch List. Please contact myself, Nancy Sweeney, or Garth Carlson and update your status and contact information as an active Block Captain, PCR or block club member, we need your e-mail addresses as well!

“SUMMER SAFETY TIPS”

Burglaries and Motor vehicle thefts still are a major concern for the LAPD and the citizens of West Valley.

What to do?

- 1) While out of your home or apartment, lock and secure all your doors and windows.
- 2) When you leave your vehicle, lock and secure your doors and windows.
- 3) If you are leaving your vehicle at L.A.X. or Burbank Airport for a prolonged period of time, empty your glove box at home take your vehicle's registration with you and leave the glove box open. This way when suspects walk by your vehicle they already know there is nothing inside to take and they will pass it by.

Please, report all crimes no matter how small you think they are, that is the only way the Los Angeles Police Department can track crime and possibly link suspects back to your crime. Thanks for your Help

Our next meeting will be on September 14th / October 12th, at 1900hrs Guest Speaker Officer Joe Breyer from the West Valley Transient Unit In September.

Winnetka, 10A33 Senior Lead Officer Rachel Raigoza
33626 @lapd.lacity.org (818) 374-7631 office or (818) 731-2568 cell

Hello Winnetka,

I am back from vacation, and I see that we are having a robbery problem throughout the division, but especially in Winnetka. I ask that you be cautious of your surroundings, and watch the people that are around you when you are out shopping or doing regular activities. Our other reported crimes have slowed down a bit, but this can change at any time, so keep things locked, and out of sight.

The children are going back to school, so please leave early enough to slow down, follow all posted signs and be patient while driving, remember our kids lives are at risk!

I look forward to seeing you all at our next neighborhood watch meeting at the Demirjian School on September 14th / October 12th at 7:00 pm.

Editors note: To the lady who wrote the letter regarding the stealing of lawn flags on the 4th of July- you are always welcomed to call us for advice! Another option you could have used in this situation would have been to call 311 and ask for police dispatch, or call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273), and given the information to the dispatcher, who would have sent a police car out!

**Canoga Park, 10A3, Senior Lead Officer Alex Padron
32977 @lapd.lacity.org / (818) 374-7636 office or 731-2583 cell**

Hello everyone, I want to cover some quick and easy tips to make your home a bit less vulnerable to residential burglaries. These are just the some basic if you log on to the Los Angeles Police Web Site at www.lapdonline.org there is a very comprehensive list of Burglary prevention tips. I will cover this topic more in depth at our next neighborhood watch Meeting with is set for Tuesday, September 12, 2006 at 7:00 PM at 7248 Owensmouth. It is the Chamber of Commerce building which was once an old fire station just south of Wyandotte Avenue.

- Trim all shrubbery around your home so that it is at least six inches below the bottom of your window.
- Trim tree limbs so that they are at least eight feet off the ground, leaving a clear field of vision towards the home.
- Use outside lighting in an efficient and appropriate manner by investing in timers and motion sensors. Night-time burglars hate it when a sensor light goes off.
- All exterior doors should be equipped with deadbolt locks that are at least 1 inch in length.
- Sliding glass doors and large windows should be equipped with secondary locks such as a 'Charlie Bar' that goes across the entire window.
- Get an alarm system that works and if you already have an alarm system make sure you perform regular maintenance on it. Make sure you can see the alarms signs from the street because a burglar will see them as well. Get a dog that barks, if getting a dog is not an option for your home, then fake it. Use large dog bowls and large dog toys to make criminals think you own a large animal.
- Install signs that note that you have a guard dog on duty.
- Photograph all your valuables, collectibles and especially your jewelry. Just in case you are a victim of a burglary. Also, engrave your valuables and tools with your California Driver's License so that we can find you and return your items just in case your are victimized.
- Get to know your neighbors, they are you best defense and can only report suspicious activity when they know who or what doesn't belong in the area or your home. Knowing your neighbors also builds a sense of community that I believe everyone can benefit from.
- Lastly, join our neighborhood watch groups. You'll get to meet your neighbors and learn what is happening in your community

The Next Canoga Park Neighborhood Watch Meetings will be held on September 12th / and October 10th, 2006. The location is the Chamber of Commerce Building at 7248 Owensmouth. This is your chance to meet your NEW Senior Lead Officer, and make your concerns known, and welcome him to Canoga Park!

