



LOS ANGELES POLICE DEPARTMENT NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



Devonshire Area Neighborhood Watch Newsletter ♦ February 2013

Message from the Commanding Officer, Devonshire Area

Thank you to everyone who attended Devonshire Area's District Meeting on January 17, 2013! Your Devonshire Senior Lead Officers and I were very pleased to see such attendance and participation. The dialogue was positive and it set a very positive tone to kick off the New Year. I would like to thank Frank Bush, Chief of the Department of Building & Safety Code Enforcement Bureau, Councilman Mitch Englander and the City Attorney's Office for their outstanding presentations! Additionally, I would like to extend great appreciation to Pastor Alex Kim and World Vision Church in Porter Ranch for graciously hosting the event.

With the New Year upon us, I would like to remind everyone about the "Lock It, Hide It, Keep It" campaign. Though the holiday season is over, it's always a good idea to lock your car doors and don't leave any valuables in plain sight! Together, we can make a difference combating crime!



Kris E. Pitcher, Captain
Commanding Officer
Devonshire Community Police Station

POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS POLICE LINE DO NOT CROSS

BASIC CAR AREA HIGHLIGHTS
SLO Supervisor, Sgt. Ruthann Scott
(818) 363-1726

Basic Car Area 17A23
Senior Lead Officer Dan Del Valle
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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

The crime of concern for our area is Grand Theft Auto (GTA). GTA's have been occurring from Rinaldi to Lassen Sts, and Topanga Canyon Blvd. to Corbin Ave. The vehicles are generally stolen in late evening to early morning hours. We had a cluster of Burglary crimes that occurred in the area of 20500 Kingsbury St., but they were quickly cleared by the arrest of multiple suspects. Please let others know of the crime activity occurring in the area and report suspicious activity.

CRIME & PREVENTION TIPS

ARE YOU PREPARED FOR THE BIG ONE?

The 'Big One' generally refers to a major earthquake, but really it could be any major catastrophe. This is a question we should all ask ourselves and make sure to plan for the 'Big One'. It's not a question of 'if' because the reality is that a major earthquake or catastrophe will eventually happen. If we

prepare ourselves and plan properly, we will do just fine when things are going a bit chaotic. Here are a few tips to consider when making your plans:

- Escape routes out of your home and the safest area to remain when catastrophe is occurring;
- Keep shoes or foot wear under bed or nearby for broken glass on floor;
- Shut off your main gas valve;
- **DO NOT LIGHT CANDLES/FIRE** (assess damage first before you blow yourself up);
- Emergency lighting - flashlight w/additional batteries;
- Clothing stored in backpacks. (Backpacks can come in handy later);
- Nonperishable food and bottled water (3 days' worth is good start);
- Portable tent (house or apartment may not be safe);
- Portable radio and cell phone w/alternate charging capabilities;
- Alternate meeting location if home destroyed and unsafe; and
- Identify out-of-state family/friend contact.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS

The Basic Car 17A23 Neighborhood Watch meeting is February 28, 2013. (17A23 Basic Car Neighborhood meetings are on the 4th Thursday of every month, at St. John Eudes Church - 9901 Mason Avenue, starting at 7:00PM.) This is our first meeting of the year, so I hope to see you there!!!!

Basic Car Area 17A35
Senior Lead Officer Dario Del Core
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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS - Residential burglary activities are occurring in the Porter Ranch Sector, North of Rinaldi St. between Tampa Ave. and Reseda Blvd. Consistent with the "door knock approach", entry is being made by forcing doors/windows, and (as usual) jewelry, money, firearms and electronics are among the most popular items being taken.

While LAPD continues apprehension efforts, I would like to prompt area residents to become more vigilant in monitoring the neighborhood. We can remedy this by generating more Neighborhood Watch groups which will not only make the neighborhoods less vulnerable, but will also make living in the area more enjoyable.

CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION - Call me if you would like to incorporate your immediate block in our Neighborhood Watch program and I will come out and conduct the presentation. All I ask is that you invite the neighbors on your block and host the meeting in your home or backyard. You can reach me at the Devonshire Senior Lead Office, **818 363-1726**.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS

Our next meeting will be on Thursday, February 21, 2013 at 7:00 PM at Saint Euphrasia Church, 11767 Shoshone Avenue in Granada Hills.

Basic Car Area 17A49

Senior Lead Officer Janine Angeles

Cell (818) 325-7749 - E-mail: 30392@lapd.lacity.org

CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

The following crime statistics are from December 9, 2012 to January 9, 2013. There were 13 Grand Theft Autos, two Robberies, 17 Thefts, 14 Burglaries, one Aggravated Assault and 37 Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicles. The crime in our basic car area is down 31% from last year at this time!

CRIME PREVENTION INFORMATION

With the new year, a lot of us are trying to get in shape. Here are a few tips if you decided to walk to get in shape:

- Avoid traveling alone at night;
- Confine walking to well-lit, regular traveled walks and pathways;
- Avoid shortcuts and keep away from shrubbery, bushes, alleyways, or any other areas where an assailant might be lurking;
- Avoid the athletic fields and tennis courts after dark;
- Do not accept rides from casual acquaintances;
- If threatened by an approaching vehicle, run in the opposite direction. The vehicle will have to turn around in order to pursue you;
- When getting out of a car, take a look around to make sure that you are not being followed. If you think you are being followed, cross the street and, if necessary, keep crossing back and forth;
- If you are pursued, call for help and run to a campus building, business or residence, enlist the aid of a passerby, flag down a passing motorist, or as a last resort pull a fire alarm. Do anything that might attract attention or summon assistance;
 - If you are walking alone and someone passes you, check to be sure that person has continued walking in the other direction.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH AND EVENTS - Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 at 7:00 PM at Emeritus of Northridge (17650 Devonshire Street).

Basic Car Area 17A67

Senior Lead Officer Ignacio Murillo

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

Basic car A67 is has been looking pretty good. We ended 2012 in a positive note. Our current area of concern is Parthenia Blvd between Tampa Avenue and Reseda Blvd where we are experiencing an increase of GTA's (Stolen Vehicles). **Don't forget to set your vehicle alarms or place a theft prevention device on your car to prevent it from being stolen!**

CRIME AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Even though our basic car has been doing very well, the residential burglaries in Devonshire Division are still occurring. So this is just a friendly reminder.. Often when you're at home, someone will come to the door and you don't feel like answering the door. If you don't answer the door, make sure the person at the door understands someone is home. You can call out, "What do you want?" or "I can't come to the door right now," or something to that effect. Burglars will often knock at front doors to ascertain if a home is occupied prior to breaking in.

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS

Our next Basic Car Meeting will be Wednesday, February 27, 2013, at 7:00 PM at Calahan Elementary School, located at 18722 Knapp Street in Northridge.

Basic Car Area 17A81

Interim Senior Lead Officer John Parker

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

The following crime statistics are from December 2012. There were 24 Grand Theft Autos (GTA), three Robberies, 36 Thefts, 15 Burglaries, one Aggravated Assault, and 19 Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle (BTFMV). Most of the theft has occurred in the Northridge Fashion Center at various stores, as well as, GTA and BTFMV in the mall parking lots. The "De Soto Corridor" (between Roscoe Blvd and Nordhoff Street) has seen an increase in GTA and BTFMV from 6:00 PM to 6:00 AM.

CRIME TIPS - As we begin the New Year, remember the following:

- Lock and secure your vehicles, and always set your alarm or use an anti-theft device;
- Park near well lit areas and remember where you parked;
- For SUV's, back into parking stalls to prevent third row seat theft and engrave your Driver's License info on the seats to help identify you;
- Never leave any valuables in plain sight such as cell phones, GPS devices, laptops, backpacks, purses or shopping bags. If you must leave the items in the car lock them in the trunk; and
- If you see a crime, get as much detail as possible (i.e. license plate, suspect/vehicle info, and direction of travel), then call 911 (Emergency).

By taking a few precautionary steps, you can protect your property. Remember to "**Lock it! Hide it! Keep it!**" Be safe and healthy for 2013!

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS - Our next Basic Car Meeting will resume on February 21, 2013 at 21001 Plummer Street (Sunburst Mobile Home Park) at 7:00 PM.

Basic Car Area 17A95

Senior Lead Officer Kate Luna

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CRIME TRENDS AND LOCATIONS

We are off to a great start this year with no crime trends and no violent crimes reported. We ended 2012 with an increase of 1.4% in part I crime but a 3.8 % decrease of part I crime in Devonshire as a whole.

CRIME TIPS – SAFETY WHILE EXERCISING

The number one New Year resolution is to lose weight. Many of us have made the decision to be healthy this year and to work out. One of the problems behind working out is finding the time to do it. People work, take care of families and have a long list of duties and responsibilities. This means people usually walk or run early in the morning and later in the evening. Unfortunately, criminals are well aware of this fact and may prey on someone out by themselves. If you're going to start a routine, find a partner. It's a great idea to have someone with you while you walk or run. In any case, be aware of your surroundings and if use an IPOD, keep the volume low so you can hear anyone approaching from behind. Stay safe!

NEIGHBORHOOD EVENTS - The next basic car meeting will be on February 14, 2012 at 7:00 PM, at The Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 17037 Plummer Street.