



TOPANGA AREA

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



Volume 1, Issue 3

Topanga Senior Lead Office (818) 756-3070
Sergeant Kim Harper

March, 2009

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Hello Topanga Area!

Canoga Park, West Hills, Woodland Hills, and Winnetka,

Hello everyone, and welcome to our 3rd issue of the Topanga Area Neighborhood Watch Newsletter. As Topanga enters its second full month of operation many exciting things have been happening...read on to find out how the men and women of Topanga have been hard at work for you!



Captain's Corner:

We have been up and running for seven weeks now. I am proud to advise you that our Officers and Detectives at Topanga have been extremely productive! Topanga is leading in arrests throughout the Valley. I am very happy with our response time. Topanga is truly the TOP!

I would like to personally thank our Community for being so supportive and involved.

Did You Know... One of the best informational tools regarding the happenings of LAPD available to the community is right at your fingertips? In August 1998, the Department launched the largest, most comprehensive law enforcement web site on the World Wide Web, "**LAPDOnline.org**." This site, (www.lapdonline.org), provides the community with an additional tool through which to receive information on community-police events, personnel assignments, crime trends, and other relevant information of community interest. If you haven't familiarized yourself with this site, do so, as there are many informative and helpful tips as well as news targeting your specific area.

"Quality of Service" is Topanga's motto. With the use of our motivated officers and volunteers we hope to create a new philosophy at the Topanga Desk by providing the best service possible. Topanga's goal is to develop a strong relationship with the community and the Private Security sector through meetings, exchanging information, education and awareness, etc. Remember... *Community Awareness is the key to Crime Prevention!*

The Topanga station employs approximately 260 personnel and serves the areas of Canoga Park, Winnetka, West Hills, and Woodland Hills. The personnel at Topanga Station are definitely some of the hardest working officers in the area and have handled an amazing 266 arrests, 1044 radio calls, and wrote 590 tickets since February 1, 2009 (keep up the awesome work!).

We would like to reiterate that with any new station there will be some change. We are working on making the transition as smooth as possible. If you live in the area serviced by Topanga and need to speak with a Police Officer, you need to know **the address and phone number of YOUR new Topanga Station: 21501 Schoenborn St., Canoga Park, (818) 756-4800.**

Your Senior Lead Officers (SLO's) remain the same except for the northern portion of West Hills which is now handled by Senior Lead Officer Sam Sabra and a portion of Canoga Park north of Roscoe handled by Senior Lead Officer Alex Padron. **If you are not sure who your Senior Lead Officer is, then please call**

(818) 756-3070 and we will be glad to tell you who your SLO is and why they are important to you.

TOPANGA SENIOR LEAD SUMMIT:

Date: Wednesday, March 18, 2009

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Place: Topanga Community Room

**Topic: Community Problems for
your
specific target area.**

Space will be limited to the first 15 people per SLO Area! Please RSVP by 3/11/09 to (818) 756-3070 to reserve your spot!

Your Senior Lead Officers (SLO) in Topanga Division are:

SLO Sam Sabra, Basic Car 21A1

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

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

Email 34819@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 Sabra will also handle the group formerly known as the 17A83 Basic Car Meeting that Topanga took over from Devonshire Division (Now called *North West Hills Neighborhood Watch*). This meeting is for the area north of Roscoe Blvd to Plummer St, West of Topanga Canyon Blvd. The meeting is held at the Valley Dispatch Center 22222 Roscoe Blvd every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 7 PM.

SLO Janet Zumstien, Basic Car 21A43

(Covering the South part of West Hills)

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

Email 24571@lapd.lacity.org

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

SLO Brent Rygh, Basic Car 21A73

(Covering Woodland Hills - West of Topanga Cyn.)

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

Email 30450@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A73 meeting will be combined with the 21A97 meeting and held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Woodland Hills Library located at 22200 Ventura Blvd at 6:30 PM.

SLO Charles "Sean" Dinse, Basic Car 21A97

(Woodland Hills - East of Topanga)

Office (818) 756-3076 Cell (818) 731-2568

Email 34420@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A97 meeting will be combined with the 21A73 meeting and held every 2nd Tuesday of the month at the Woodland Hills Library located at 22200 Ventura Blvd at 6:30 PM.

SLO Jericho "Jerry" Velazquez, Basic Car 21A57

(Covering South Canoga Park and Topanga malls Office)

Office (818) 756-3073 Cell (818) 731-2578

Email 31026@lapd.lacity.org

The 21A57 Basic Car meeting will be held every 3rd Tuesday of the month, at 20830 Sherman Way (Valley Village) 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 will be 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

The 21A29 Basic Car meeting will be held every 2nd Thursday of the month at 6844 Oakdale Ave at 7 PM.

These "Basic Car" meetings cover the entire area that your Senior Lead Officer is responsible for. If you would like to start up a smaller Neighborhood Watch group in your area, contact your Senior Lead Officer for advice and assistance.



Significant Arrests:

On 02/13/09 an outstanding arrest was made by Officers Rosales and Azodi. The Officers responded to a "Shooting Just Occurred" broadcast. The suspect had shot two victims with a 12 gauge shotgun. As Officers arrived they observed the suspect running and throwing a shotgun into the wash. Officers went into foot pursuit and the suspect ran into a house. LAPD resources were requested and the house surrounded. The suspect was arrested shortly after. Due to the Officers' immediate response and great observational skills, the suspect did not get away. Fantastic job!

On 02/14/09 thanks to great investigation skills, another outstanding arrest was made by Officers Hourigan and Quispe. Officers responded to a forgery suspect radio

call. Officers arrived and observed a suspect exiting the store and arrested him. Another Suspect was arrested shortly thereafter. The Officers' investigation revealed the suspects had attempted to purchase four MAC laptops valued over \$10K. The Officers obtained a search warrant and seized other electronic items from one of the suspect's residence. Great job on the fast response and due diligence which yielded a great multi-burglary arrest!



Recent news in my area:

We would like to keep you informed on the crime activity in your area. This segment contains some of the activity in Topanga Division, but it is not intended to reflect all of the crimes in your area. **For the most current updates for your neighborhood, please visit www.lapdonline.org**

Theft still appears to be the number one crime. Leaving valuables in plain sight only invites the opportunist; please remember to keep your personal items out of plain view!

Burglary was on the rise in the latter part of January. A "Community Alert" was issued by Topanga Station to be on the lookout for Suspicious Persons. These people pose as magazine sellers, curb painters, etc. who knock on your doors soliciting services. The crime trend was male blacks, 18-30yrs, posing as salesmen attempting to sell goods or services. If they find out you are not home, they may try to burglarize your home. We are suggesting that you do not open your door, but make them aware that someone is home. If the knocking persists and they attempt to break in, call 911. If they leave, safely monitor their activity. If they act suspiciously please contact police, non-emergency dispatch at 1-877-275-5273 (1-877-ASK-LAPD).

There was a cluster of BFMV's, (1) Aggravated Assault and (2) Grand Theft Autos near the 20500 block of Ventura Blvd.

In the area west of Desoto to Topanga Canyon Blvd. and south of Victory to the 101 Freeway there was an increase of property crimes this past month.

Topanga Vice Unit made an arrest for Prostitution in the 20200 block of Ventura Blvd.

Several residential burglaries occurred north of Burbank Blvd., West of Valley Circle.

Topanga Vice acted on tips from the Senior Lead Office and made arrests by a liquor store near Sherman Way and Shoup Ave. The arrests included drinking in public and gambling.

Due to the recent Community Alert and the timely response of "suspicious persons," Patrol Officers arrested a person for soliciting sales w/o permit. This arrest led to the further charge of possession of marijuana.

In the area of Saticoy/Sherman Way between Mason and Winnetka there was an increase in residential burglaries. Many of these burglaries were a result of suspects posing as door-to-door solicitors.

A felony arrest was made at the Topanga Mall for Grand Theft. The suspects had been targeting the Mall for the past three months and have finally been caught.

On 02/03/09 at approx. 11 PM a suspect was arrested for a "hot prowler" burglary in the 19000 block of Covello St. in the Winnetka area ("hot prowler" means while residents are in their home).

An ongoing problem continues to be shoplifting and theft in or around the 6400 block of Fallbrook and 6600 block of Topanga Canyon Blvd. Topanga Senior Lead Officers and Loss Prevention Mgrs have been working together (extra patrol) to defray this activity.

You can sign up for updates, look up crime activity in your neighborhood, and much more at the LAPD web Site www.lapdonline.org or www.lapdcrimemaps.org



Upcoming Events:

- ✂ 3/18: Topanga SLO Summit – Topanga Station
- ✂ 5/25: Memorial Day Parade – Canoga Park
- ✂ 6/6: CPAB Summit – Location TBD
- ✂ 7/4: July 4th Extravaganza – Warner Ctr. Park
- ✂ 8/4: National Night Out – Warner Ctr. Park

THANK YOU!!! From the Los Angeles Police Department, Topanga Area Community Police Station

Comm. Relations Office (818) 756-3180

Senior Lead Office (818) 756-3070

Important Numbers to keep

Topanga Front Desk (818) 756-4800

TDD/TTY (818) 756-5899

Detective Desk (818) 756-4820

Vice Office (818) 756-4840

Emergency 911

Non-Emergency Dispatch (877) 275-5273

All other city services, please call 311

**Topanga Area Basic Car Map
Senior Lead Officer Assignments**

BASIC CARS

