

Volume 02, Issue 6

JUNE 2010

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

COMMANDING OFFICER'S MESSAGE

The social fabric of the Southwest Area is wonderfully diverse and full of tremendous opportunities and yet there is room for improvement. As the Commanding Officer of Southwest Division, I can assure you that our officers are hard at work, yet we need your support to assist us in resolving the problems in our community.

One of the most effective ways to make a difference in our community is to join a block club. In doing so, community members have a chance to network with each other in an effective and organized manner. It's also an opportunity to improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods by implementing problem solving strategies specific to each area of concern.

Another option to consider is joining the Southwest Community Police Advisory Board(CPAB). The mission of the Southwest CPAB is to work in partnership with the residents and business owners of the Southwest Area in an effort to enhance public safety and reduce the fear and incidence of crime.

As the commanding officer of Southwest Area, I can assure you that the officers of this division will continue to work day and night to pursue the safe and peaceful communities you deserve and with your help, there is nothing we can't accomplish!

STEVEN K. ZIPPERMAN, Captain Commanding Officer Southwest Community Police Station 22302@lapd.lacity.org

SOUTHWEST

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PATROL COMMANDING OFFICER

ARTHUR J. MILLER, CAPTAIN I

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(213) 928-8223

NON-EMERGENCY DISPATCH

SPANISH

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EMERGENCY DISPATCH

911

SOUTHWEST DIVISION CRIME TIP

(213)485-7492

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY

RELATIONS OFFICE

(213)847-5800

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CRIME PREVENTION

Community awareness is the key to crime prevention. If you are interested in establishing a Block Club in your area, please contact your Senior Lead Officer for assistance.

CRIME AND ARREST INFORMATION

Officers in Southwest Division have been working extremely hard to reduce crime, provide a safe environment and a better quality of life for the community of Southwest Division.

3SLO15-WEST ADAMS NEIGHBORHOOD

Crime Trends

The West Adams Avenues have been experiencing a series of Burglary From Motor Vehicles(BFMV) and Residential Burglaries during early morning hours. A Suspect was seen breaking into vehicles parked in carports along 2nd and 3rd Avenues. The suspect is described as a male black, 20-25 years old, 5'-09 to 6'-00 tall, 160 lbs to 170 lbs, with pigtail braids and has a thin build.

To report or request additional information regarding this crime, please contact Senior Lead Officer Hauter.



Senior Lead Officer Hauter would like to thank the Adams Normandie Neighborhood Association for their Community Beautification Day held on May 1, 2010. They planted flowers down the famous "Paseo Walk". It was a beautiful success!

Officer Hauter would also like to thank those of you who attended her Business Watch meeting on May 18th, 2010. If anyone Business owners in the community would like to join, please contact Officer Hauter.

3SLO19-NORTH UNIVERSITY PARK

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Salazar reports a slight increase in residential Burglaries in the area between Normandie to Vermont Avenue from Exposition Boulevard to Martin Luther King Boulevard. These crimes occur during the early morning hours(between 0700 am to 12pm). Southwest Division has increased patrol efforts in the affected area and will be putting together a Burglary Suppression Detail scheduled for the first week in June.

Crime Tips-Residential Burglary Awareness

To reduce the chance of your property being burglarized, consider these preventative measures:

Keep shrubs and trees trimmed. Foliage that provides privacy for your home also allows criminals to attack your property unnoticed and undisturbed.

Each day take the time to double check that all doors and windows are locked/secured before leaving.

Consider an alarm, especially one that is linked with a monitoring service. If you opt to place an alarm in your home, be sure you obtain an alarm permit from the city.

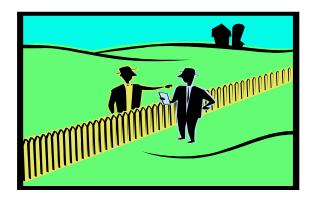


Consider installing more lighting around your property. Purchasing lighting with timers and/or motion sensors will negate the necessity of remembering to turn on/off lighting.

Remember to make arrangements to have mail picked up and newspaper service suspended. Uncollected

mail/newspapers can be a sign to would-be burglars that a residence is unoccupied.

Network with your neighbors. Consider having someone you trust keep an eye on your residence when you are away. Ask them to immediately report any suspicious activity or persons to the police.

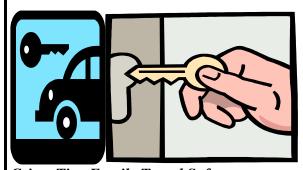


Become involved. If your block does not have one, start a Block Club. If it does, join.

3SLO31-JEFFERSON PARK

Crime Trends

As the school year closes and families and individuals prepare for summer vacation, Senior Lead Officer Biondo reminds Jefferson Park residents to be mindful of being prepared and taking extra precautions while you are traveling and with your possessions while you are away. Also, remember to lock and secure your residence and vehicles,



Crime Tips-Family Travel Safety

The Los Angeles Police Department offers the following travel and tourist crime prevention tips. This information is meant to contribute to the personal security of tourists while traveling. You can never be too careful, too prepared or too aware.

Following these crime prevention tips can help protect tourists against the occasional pitfalls that can occur, even to the most experienced traveler.

Before you leave

- Preventing crime during family travel starts
 with making sure your home is protected
 while you're away (find out more about
 securing your home and property). The key is
 to make it look like you never left:
- Keep shades and blinds in their normal positions.
- Stop mail and newspapers, or ask a neighbor to pick them up every day.
- Put several household lights on timers so they turn on and off at appropriate times.
- Arrange to have grass mowed (or snow shoveled) while you're gone.
- Make sure all your door and window locks are in working order and use them.
- Activate your home alarm (if you have one).
- You might even leave a radio on or put it on a timer- anything that might suggest someone's home. And don't forget to lock all doors and windows when you leave.

Packing your bags



- Preparing for a family trip requires a lot of planning. You need to decide where you're going, where you'll stay, and how you'll get from one place to another. You also need to decide what to take with you. Planning can decrease the chances of crime joining you on your journey. Some tips on what to take:
- Clean out your wallet or purse before you go; take only essential credit cards. Plan to use credit cards or traveler's checks instead of cash whenever possible.



- Carry your purse close to your body, or wallet in an inside front pocket. Better yet, take a "fanny pack" or wear a money pouch under your clothes.
- Pack as lightly as possible. Lots of heavy, cumbersome bags will slow you down and make you more vulnerable to getting robbed.
- Expensive, designer luggage can draw unneeded attention to your belongings. Pack your things in inconspicuous bags.
- Keep a separate record of the contents of checked luggage.
- And keep anything of value such as medicine and jewelry in a carry-on that stays with you.
- If you are going on an extended vacation, consider shipping large bags to your destination in advance. For the return trip, mail bulky new purchases home, or ask merchants to do it for you.

Out and About

- Your home is secured and you're packed. Now it's time to go. While you and your family are traveling, it's important to remember that tourists make tempting targets for thieves. Often lost or distracted, weighed down with bags, and carrying cameras, plane tickets, money, and other valuables, unsuspecting travelers can attract crime like a magnet.
- The best advice for you and your family is to do all you can to blend in with the crowd.
- Don't display expensive jewelry, cameras, bags, and other items that might draw attention.
- Check maps before you go out so you can tour confidently.
- Stick to well-lighted, well-traveled streets at all times no shortcuts.

- Always lock your car when it's parked, even if the stop is brief. Keep valuables out of sight, preferably locked in the trunk. Don't advertise that you're a tourist by leaving maps and guidebooks on the seat or dashboard - keep them in the glove compartment.
- Traveling safely with your family also means sticking together and keeping an eye on your children at all times. Make sure they know where you're staying (name and address), and teach them what to do if they get lost or separated. You might want to agree on a meeting place, just in case. And by all means, make sure your kids know not to accept rides or favors from strangers.

Make your family vacation a memorable one for all the right reasons.

3SLO41-BALWIN HILLS/VISTA AND VILLAGE GREEN

Crime Trends

With the summer months fast approaching, it is important that residents continue to be vigilant in locking and securing their residences. People often leave their windows and doors open to allow for ventilation which is good however, they are reminded to lock and secure them when they leave. Do not make it easy for burglars to enter your residence.



Officer Beard has received a few complaints about transients drinking in public and loitering at the bus stop located at La Brea/Rodeo. Please contact Officer Beard at 323-387-9621 is you have any further information about this complaint.

Crime Tips-Graffiti Information:

• There has also been an increase in graffiti within our community. The city of Los Angeles has a website that allows citizens to report graffiti in their community. The website is http://anti-graffiti.lacity.org. The address or cross streets for the graffiti is all that is needed for this website.



3SLO55-JEFFERSON PARK/WESTERN CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Olega reports that the Jefferson Par/Western Corridor area has seen an increase in stolen vehicles and Burglaries From Motor Vehicles(BFMV). Please don't leave personal items in plain view like laptops and I-Pods. Secure all doors and windows. Keep a close eye on any suspicious activity and report it to 911.



<u>Crime Tips-Helpful Phone Numbers & Personal</u> <u>Safety</u>

Graffiti Removal:

(311)

Abandoned Vehicles:

(800/222-6366)

Bulky Item Trash Pick Up (Illegally Dumped Trash):

(800/773-2489)

Department of Health:

(213/351-5110)

Citywide information:

(311)

Tips on Personal Safety

Keep your doors locked at all times.

Never open your door to a stranger. Use your peephole to see who is at the door before you open it. Ask for identification before allowing a meter reader or repair person into your home.

Keep your car doors locked while you are driving and while the car is parked.

Don't give your name, address, charge card number or Social Security number to an unknown caller. Never give your name or address on your message machine. Say something like: "I'm sorry we are unable to take your call now. Please leave a message at the tone."

Never surprise a burglar. If you see something that makes you think your home may have been robbed, do not go in. Go to a safe place and call the police. The burglar may still be around.

Don't flash large amounts of cash or jewelry in public.



Be extra careful in areas with high crime rates, especially at night.

- If you have information on crime that is occurring in your neighborhood you can contact the Southwest Division Crime Tip Line at 213-485-7492.
- The LAPD is also accepting anonymous crime tips via cell phone. You can text your information to CRIMES (274637) and begin your message with the letters LAPD

3SLO57-UNIVERSITY VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Burglary from Motor Vehicles and Theft from Motor Vehicles are still a continuous problem in and around the USC area. Senior Lead Officer(SLO) Garner advises everyone to be mindful and secure your vehicle(s). Make sure your valuables are out of your vehicle. Southwest Division also noticed a slight increase in residential burglaries in this area during the month of May. Remember to lock your doors and secure your windows when you are leaving your residence. If you see anyone suspicious in your neighborhood call DPS. DPS and LAPD will respond.

Crime Tips-Carjacking Victims(Prevention):

Carjacking Stealing a car by force has captured headlines across the country. Statistically your chances of being a carjacking victim are very slim, and prevention actions can reduce the risk even more.

Why is Carjacking a Problem?

No one knows for certain, but some explanations include:

- It's a crime of opportunity a thief searching for the most vulnerable prey. Sometimes, it's the first step in another crime.
- For some young people, carjacking may be a rite of passage, a status symbol, or just a thrill
- Cars, especially luxury ones, provide quick cash for drug users and other criminals.
- Sophisticated alarms and improved locking devices make it harder for thieves to steal unoccupied cars.
- It's easy to buy, steal, or barter for guns in this country. A pointed gun makes a powerful threat.



- More teens and adults commit crimes of violence than ever before.
- Intense media interest may have created "copycat" carjackers.
- Though carjackings can occur anytime, a sizable share appear to take place during the late night hours.
- Carjacking isn't just a problem in large cities it happens in suburbs, small towns, and rural areas.

• Carjackers look for opportunity. They don't choose victims by sex, race, or age.

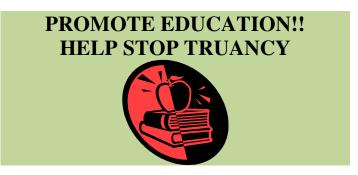
Anywhere, Anyone

- Most local and state criminal codes don't define "carjacking." It's reported as either auto theft or armed robbery.
- This means that no solid statistics exist on time, place, and victims.

3SLO63-BALDWIN VILLAGE

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Thomsen has received complaints regarding juveniles loitering during school hours at the 7-eleven at Coliseum Street and Martin Luther King Boulevard. Please contact Officer Thomsen at 323/387-9614 if you have any further information regarding this complaint.



3SLO73-LEIMERT PARK/CRENSHAW CORRIDOR

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Sasajima reports that Southwest patrol officers have made outstanding arrests of burglars, or would-be-burglars, in the past month. Residential burglaries have continued to plague the Southwest Area Communities, including Leimert Park. Residents are reminded to keep an eye out for their neighbors and report any unusual persons or activities to the police.

There seems to be an increase in the appearance of various graffiti vandalism in the Leimert Park Area. Please keep a watchful eye out for individuals committing these crimes and notify police with any

information. Also, please take action in requesting graffiti removal via 3-1-1 or submitting a request via web by going to http://anti-graffiti.lacity.org/

Crime Tips- Vandalism:

Vandalism/Graffiti Prevention Look around your community. Do you see...

- Walls covered with graffiti?
- Knocked-over trashcans or mailboxes?
- Broken street lights?
- Spray paint on stop signs?
- Broken public telephones?
- Missing street and traffic signs?
- Writing or torn pages in library books?
- Public restrooms with broken doors and graffiti?

Vandalism Costs

Schools pay out millions of dollars each year to clean up graffiti, repair buildings, or replace vandalized equipment. That means less money for new books, computers, sports equipment, and student activities.

Local governments (and their taxpayers) pay the bills for broken street lights, stolen signs, and vandalized parks.

Businesses pass the costs of vandalism on to customers through higher prices.

Vandalism Hurts

People feel angry, sad, and frightened when something of theirs -- a mailbox, a garden, a car antenna -- is destroyed for no reason.

Vandalism indirectly claims other victims -- a child is injured because a stop sign was stolen, a person can't reach 9-1-1 because the public phone is broken.

Who and Why?

Most vandals are young people -- from grade schoolers to teens to young adults -- who damage property for one or more of the following reasons:

- Boredom
- Anger

- Revenge
- Defiance
- Alliance

Graffiti is often the first sign that gangs are taking over a neighborhood. Gangs use graffiti as their street "telegraph," sending messages about turf and advertising their exploits. Graffiti identifies territorial boundaries, lists members, and communicates with rival gangs. The gang says "This place belongs to us."

A community's first step in taking back its streets from gangs is getting rid of graffiti immediately. This power struggle can't be won overnight, but persistent communities working in partnership with law enforcement almost always emerge as victors. Once the graffiti is gone, use landscape designs (such as prickly shrubs or closely planted hedges), building materials (such as hard-to-mark surfaces), lighting, or fences to discourage vandalism.

You Can Help Prevent Vandalism

- Educate the public, especially young people about the costs of vandalism.
- Clean up vandalism as soon as it happens -replace signs, repair playground equipment, paint over graffiti.
- If you see anyone committing vandalism, report it to the police, school authorities, or someone who can take action.
- Remember, vandalism is a crime.
- Protect your house or apartment from vandalism by using good lighting and locking gates and garages.
- Support recreational programs for young people in your community. Volunteer your time, donate money or supplies, and help in any way you can.

Take a Stand!

• Tap into the energy and idealism of youth. Involve young people in all vandalism prevention efforts.

- Organize a graffiti clean-up project in your neighborhood.
- Work with Neighborhood Watch and ask the City or a local business for cleaning supplies and paint.
- Work with schools or the arts community to paint murals on areas that are vulnerable to graffiti. Make it a contest for teens.
- Adopt a street or park, perhaps in cooperation with a church or business. Plant trees, bushes, and flowers. Repair equipment and install trash containers. Organize a monthly park patrol to clean up litter and keep an eye on things.
- Ask police or a City agency to start a hotline for reporting vandalism.
- Have a community meeting on vandalism to discuss its victims, costs, and solutions.

With combined efforts, we can keep this community clean.

3SLO99-VERMONT SQUARE

Crime Trends

Senior Lead Officer Anderson reports officers assigned to the Vermont Square community have been working tirelessly to reduce crime and make it a safe environment for everybody.

Unfortunately, there has been an increase in residential burglaries in the area between King Boulevard to 43rd Street and Normandie Avenue to Vermont Avenue. These burglaries have been occurring during the day while people are at work. Suspects have been known to make their entrance through rear doors and rear windows.

You can help to prevent these crimes from occurring. Look out for your neighbor. Report any person acting suspicious. Remember you know who belongs on your street more than the police do.

Ensure you lock and secure all doors, windows and carports. If your home is burglarized, avoid touching any areas you believe the suspect may have touched and call the police immediately.



Crime Tips-Anonymous Reporting

If you have a crime you would like to report anonymously you can now text the letters LAPD plus your tip to #274637. You can also call 877-LAPD-24-7.



SUBSTATION-CRENSHAW MALL

Crime Tip-Senior Crime Prevention

The three general rules to promote Senior Crime Prevention are:

Stay Alert! Be tuned-in to your surroundings; don't be taken by surprise. Be aware and prepared, even in your own neighborhood.

Stand Tall! Walk confidently, don't show fear, and don't look like a victim.



Trust Your Instincts! If you feel uncomfortable in a place or situation, leave right away and get help if necessary.

FARMERS MARKET AT THE PLAZA!

The plaza proudly welcomes the Crenshaw Farmer's Market. The Farmer's Market will be held in the parking area near Stocker and Santa Rosalia every Saturday from 10pm to 3pm. The Crenshaw Farmers Market (formerly the Leimert Park Farmers Market) is one of seven markets sponsored by Sustainable Economic Enterprises of Los Angeles embodying the commitment to make healthy food available in a wide spectrum of the Los Angeles area.



<u>UPCOMING COMMUNITY</u> <u>AND NEIGHBORHOOD</u> <u>WATCH EVENTS</u>



Are your kids struggling to complete their home work assignments? If so, then join St. Agatha's Catholic Church every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30pm to 9:30pm. They have a Life Skills Academy that will teach your children the skills they need to succeed in life. They will also provide tutors to help your children with their homework. For additional information, contact Senior Lead Officer Sanchez.

The Southwest Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) usually meets the first Monday of every month at the Child Guidance Center, 3787 S. Vermont Avenue. If you are interested in attending, please contact Toni Rodgers @ 213/847-5800.

**Note: Due to Fourth of July Holiday, the next CPAB meeting is scheduled for July 12, 2010.

Budlong, Juliet, and Catalina Block Clubs will be hosting their annual "Resource Fair," on August 14, 2010. Stay tuned for further information or contact Senior Lead Officer Hauter at 323/387-9617.

The 26th Place Block Club is looking to expand their block club. If you live in the area of 26th Place and Cimarron Street you are encouraged to attend. For additional information, please contact Senior Lead Officer Tracy Hauter.

Do you live in the community of Harvard Street, between Adams and Jefferson? Senior Lead Officer Hauter is looking to start another block club in that particular area. If you are interested, please email Officer Hauter at 35896@LAPD.LACITY.ORG.

Jim Gilliam Park located at 4000 S. La Brea Ave offers free afterschool activities for children of all ages. If you are interested and would like to find out more information regarding these activities, please contact Denise Stansell (Director) at 323/291-5928.

A new mentoring program will also be offered at Jim Gilliam Park. If you would like to find out more information regarding the new mentoring program, please call Senior Lead Officer Thomsen at 323/387-9614.

If you reside in the area of Cloverdale Avenue, south of Coliseum Street and would like to get involved with a community block club, please contact Senior Lead Officer Beard at 323/387-9621.

The solution starts with you. Get involved! The 3800 block of Cloverdale has officially started a block club. There was a rather small turn out at the first meeting. If you live in this area and would like to get more involved please contact Senior Lead Officer Beard for additional information.

The St. James Area Block Club meets the first Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm. The Wisconsin Street Block Club meets the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm. The Estrella Block Club meets the third Wednesday of every month at 6:00 pm. For boundaries of these block clubs please call Senior Lead Officer Salazar 323/387-9616.

Renovations are complete at Martin Luther King Park. Go check out the new baseball field, playground, basketball and tennis courts. Also, Join the new University Little League at Martin Luther King Park. Sign-Up Now! Contact Raul Claros at 310/844-5591.

Come join the Community Village Project. Be the change in your neighborhood. Create a safe park for our children to play. Clean up and take pride in our neighborhood. Make our community healthier and safer by removing harmful and irresponsible businesses. For more information call Karume at 323/750-9087 x263.

The area of Burnside Avenue south of Coliseum is starting a block club. If you live in this area and would like to get more involved in your community, please contact Senior Lead Officer Beard for more information.

The Central Area neighborhood council meeting will be held on Monday, June 28, 2010. 6:30 pm. For additional information, contact Senior Lead officer Anderson at 323/387-9623.

*Dates and times are subject to change. Please consult with your Senior Lead Officer prior to attending any event.