





NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Volume 13, Issue 4 West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 374-7630 Sergeant Frank Avila

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Log onto www.lapdonline.org today! You can view information on 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!

TRIBUTE TO A COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER

West Valley Area LAPD lost a close friend, Ann Kinzle, on March 20, 2010. Ann lived in Reseda for more than 50 years, and her lifelong commitment to the community was recognized by the many organizations and individuals whose lives she touched.

Ann served as the Executive Director for the Reseda Chamber of Commerce for approximately 30 years. Ann was passionate about public safety. She had been a volunteer with the Los Angeles Police Department for 29 years, as well as a Crime Prevention Specialist for thirteen years, coordinating Neighborhood Watch meetings all over the West Valley. She was honored by the Police Commission for her many years of dedicated service to LAPD. She was also a Charter Member of West Valley Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB) and a Specialist Reserve Officer.

Among Ann's many achievements, one of her proudest accomplishments was her commitment to the LAPD. She was proud to say that the Reseda Chamber started the first ever Officer Appreciation Day, which is now an annual Citywide event.

Ann's commitment to youth and public safety dated back to 1980 when she became a board member of the West Valley Police Activity League Supporters (PALS). She helped open and establish the P.A.L.S. youth center and for five years, the Reseda Chamber was also housed in the same building. She spent five days a week with the youth and thanks to her training as a Specialist Reserve Officer, she was able to make a positive impact on the lives of many youth in our area. Then more recently in 2001, when Deputy-Chief Ron Bergmann started the San Fernando Coalition on Gangs, he called on Ann Kinzle for support. Ann became a charter member and was on the steering committee which continues to do great work with the prevention, intervention and suppression of gang activity among youth.

Ann will be missed by many, but especially by the L.A.P.D.

Community Police Advisory Board (CPAB)

We are currently recruiting community members for our Community Police Advisory Board. If you are a community member who would like to be involved in this panel which works closely with the police department and assists with community relations, please contact your Senior Lead Officer and let them know!

PROTECT YOURSELF

- Make sure your doors and windows are locked when you leave your house. Not locking or forgetting to lock your home is just inviting a burglar to break in and take whatever they desire.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight in your vehicle. Cell phones, lap tops, i-Pods, purses, wallets, etc. are commonly left sitting on the passenger seat. Opportunist car burglars go window shopping for an easy score: "Smash, Grab and Go" takes less than 10 seconds. The car alarm alone, will not prevent your property from being stolen.
- Open garage doors provide an easy access for a thief to see what you have to steal. Even if a thief doesn't enter your garage that moment, they know that most garage doors are not very secure, so when they want to come back, getting in is easy.
- Always secure your telephone number, mailing address, driver's license number and social security number. This is information that allows a thief to access to bank accounts, credit cards and in store credit card applications.
- Buy a cross cut (confetti) shredder to shred personal information and use it! Rummaging through trash bins on trash day has been a very common way that thieves can access your junk mail, bank statements and other information that you have tossed out, which allows them the opportunity to access personal information.
- Mail your bills from a local post office rather than putting them out for your mailman.
- ✓ Install a locking mailbox at your curbside or rent a postal mailbox for your incoming mail.
- ∠ Do not provide personal information on an internet website.
- ✓ Install anti-virus software and install a firewall on your computer. These prevent hackers from controlling your computer.
- Beware of phone solicitors. Never give out personal information to solicitors over the phone.
- ✓ Do NOT carry your passport, social security or birth certificate in your purse or wallet.
- Avoid carrying credit cards you don't regularly use.
- ∠ Do NOT list social security, driver's license number or telephone numbers on your checks.
- ∠ Do NOT keep your PIN number for your ATM or debit card on the card or in your wallet or purse.



ENCINO:

Senior Lead Officer Robert Trulik-Office (818) 374-7637 32325@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2572

Contact Officer Trulik for information on the next Encino Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

The New LAPD Anonymous Tip Services

The LAPD has developed two new anonymous tip services in response to public demand for a secure way to submit crime tips to authorities. You can now send tips anonymously through text messaging by typing "LAPD" and your message to "CRIMES" (274637). The message is encrypted, which masks the sender's identity before opening a dialogue with the LAPD Crime Stoppers.

There is also a new Web link where you can send the LAPD tips. Go to http://www.lapdonline.org/ and follow the link for "Anonymous Web Tips." This also uses a secure server which protects your identity and makes it impossible to track.

The LAPD wants information on any type of crime, and these resources provide a great way to help cut back the crime in our neighborhoods safely. Remember, tip services are for non-emergencies only, so if you have an emergency, always dial 911.

LAKE BALBOA:

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Senior Lead Officer Saul Paredes-Office (818) 374-7635 35275@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2554

Crime Trends/Statistics

There has been an increase in residential burglaries during this last month. Our auto related crimes continue to be a problem in our area, such as Burglary from Motor Vehicle. We continue to urge you to secure your valuables in the trunk and remember that i-Pod charging stations and phone chargers are a big temptation, please place all valuables in your glove box or truck. Remember the old saying, "Out of sight, out of mind." Please continue to secure your home, lock your back yard gates, and remember to use your home alarm system if you have one. The next big deterrent to fight crime is by starting a neighborhood watch on your block. If you are interested please call (818) 374-7630 and leave a message for your Senior Lead Officer.

Apartment owners, managers and property management personnel are encouraged to get involved and join the West Valley Apartment Watch Group. We certainly encourage the community to become the eyes and ears for the Police Department. Many violent criminals have been removed from our streets, thanks to the involvement of our neighborhood watch members and other residents in the community. Any suspicious people or vehicles in your neighborhood should be reported immediately to your police department at (877) 275-5273, and if it is an emergency call "911!"

Upcoming Community/Neighborhood Events

During April 2010, Neighborhood Watch Meetings will commence as usual. They will take place on the following dates in 10A17's area. Please note, that most Neighborhood Watch Meetings usually start at 7:00 p.m. unless otherwise designated. If you would like to schedule a meeting for any of the upcoming months please contact your Senior Lead Officer to schedule a meeting as soon as possible.

Wednesday, April 7th, 7:30 p.m., Lake Balboa Neighborhood Community Council will meet at 7412 Balboa Blvd. Saturday, April 10th, 9:00 a.m., the C.E.R.T. will meet at the Van Nuys Fly-Away at 7610 Woodley Ave 2nd floor

RESEDA:

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Senior Lead Officer Royal Barber33970@lapd.lacity.org
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Next Neighborhood Watch Meeting – <u>Thursday, April 8 – 7:00 p.m.</u> West Valley Community Room

What can I do about barking dogs in my neighborhood?

Although pets provide companionship and love, they also often times become a nuisance to the entire neighborhood if not cared for properly. All barking dog or other animal nuisance complaints are handled by the Los Angeles Animal Services, not the L.A.P.D. Barking dog complaints must be submitted in writing to the local animal services center with the name, address and phone number of the complaining party, a description of the nuisance, how it is affecting your quality of life, along with the address of the dog owner and dog owner's name, if known. Complaints about injured, stray, lost, or abandoned dogs, cats or other animals should also be addressed to this department. They are on call 24 hours a day, 7 seven a week for emergency situations. Their telephone number is (888) 452-7381; website: www.laanimalservices.com Complaints for the West Valley area should be sent to:

Los Angeles Animal Services 20655 Plummer St. Chatsworth, CA 91311

Never put yourself in harm's way with an injured and/or aggressive animal. The animal shelter officers are trained to provide you with skilled assistance to deal with situations that may arise in your neighborhood. They also deal with unleashed dogs, dogs running loose in the neighborhood, and owners that don't clean up when their dog defecates. Remember, you always need to provide Animal Services with the dog owner's address.

TARZANA:

Senior Lead Officer Daryl Scoggins Office (818) 374-7632 35828@lapd.lacity.org Cell (818) 731-2573

Contact Officer Scoggins for information on the next Tarzana Neighborhood Watch Meeting.

Nixle -- Sign Up (It's easy and anyone can join)

Free official alerts from the Los Angeles Police Department direct to your phone or email. Crime alerts, DUI Checkpoints and more. SIGN UP FREE!

Stay connected to what's happening in the locations that are most relevant to you! You choose the information you want, from urgent public safety alerts to community information. We'll send them the way you want them? by text, by email, or just over the web. Go to www.lapdonline.org to register.