





NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWS

Volume 8, Issue 4

West Valley Senior Lead Office (818) 756-9891

April 2005

Officer in Charge, Sergeant David Wright

Mark Your Calendar!

April 13, 2005, 7:00 pm, at 6844 Oakdale Ave, The Demirdjian School will be our Yearly

West Valley Community Outreach Meeting.

This will take the place of your neighborhood watch meetings for the month.

Please plan to join us for this important meeting!

Meet Captain Sherman, Captain Justice and learn how to safeguard your home and property from crime!

Topics of discussion will include a "Consent Decree Update".

West Valley Area

Community-Police Advisory Board Meeting

April Meeting is cancelled due to the Community Outreach Meeting- We will see you there!

The West Valley C-PAB Meeting is held on the second Wednesday of every month

The next West Valley Area Community –Police

Advisory Board Meeting will be May 11 2005.

Tarzana

Senior Lead Officer Kip Jackson 31733 10 A 67

Hello Tarzana, I have good news. The news is you have a permanent Senior Lead Officer who is dedicated to helping you resolve quality of life issues by using every resource available to repress crime in Tarzana.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the following people for their participation and involvement in bringing this community together to be a safer place to live and work:

Nicole Moye, Field Deputy,

City Councilman Zine's Office.

Len Shaffer, President of the

Tarzana Neighborhood Council,

Helen Norman, President of

Tarzana Property Owners Association.,

Jesse Dizon, Executive Director.

Tarzana Chamber of Commerce.

Kathy Delle Donne,

Tarzana Improvement Association Your efforts in working to better the quality of life in Tarzana are recognized and appreciated.

Just for the record, crime continues to drop in Tarzana, we are down 25% this year. That's great, but don't let your guard down just yet, we still have significant crime problems here in the West Valley. That is reason for concern, and I would appreciate you telling a friend to get involved with a Neighborhood/Apt Watch. It takes a collaborative effort to repress crime, and together we can make a difference.

Last but not least, I encourage all of you to attend the West Valley Area Community Outreach Meeting, April 13th, 2005. This meeting will take place of all scheduled Neighborhood Watch Meetings this month.

Winnetka

Senior Lead Officer Karen W. Rodriguez 31201 10 A 33 / 10 A 57

Hello Winnetkans! After such a long, wet, cold winter, I know that we all are looking forward to warmer days and fresh springtime air. I know that I will be opening up every window in my house and letting that fresh air clear out the memories of those long winter months. I expect that many of you will be doing the same. Here is where the police officer in me comes out. You need to make sure you LOCK and SECURE all of your windows and doors when you leave your homes.

I get all of the crime reports for Winnetka and I review them thoroughly. The common thread that runs through almost all of the burglary reports is that homes are entered during the day, when most people are at work. Suspects enter through open windows and doors! With some security measures taken by the homeowners, most burglaries are preventable crimes!

In addition to locking your windows and doors while you are away, here are some other tips for protecting your home: Keep the shrubs around your home trimmed below window level. Remove any flyer's or newspapers from the front of your house that make your home look unoccupied and most importantly, remember the number one rule of Neighborhood Watch. Keep an eye out for your neighbors and report ANY suspicious activity. Enjoy the springtime and be safe.

Our monthly Neighborhood Watch Meeting for the month of April was cancelled in lieu of the Community Outreach Meeting on April 13, 2005. We will return to our regular schedule of the second Thursday of each month in May, at the Demirdjian School, located at 6844 Oakdale Ave.

Woodland Hills

Senior Lead Officers Tony Valadez & Jodie McGee 10 A 75 10 A 73

Reporting Crime:

You are our eyes and ears out in your neighborhoods. With your help, we can close the gap on the criminals preying on your community and get more of them into jail. If it is an emergency, go ahead and dial 911. Think of an emergency as an event where people and or property are in IMMEDIATE DANGER. We will respond as quickly as possible. If your police needs are not an emergency, please do not call 911. By calling 911 for a non-emergency (i.e.: directions, barking dogs, neighbor/business disputes, etc.) you will tie up the line for someone who may be in immediate danger..

We have non-emergency numbers for you to call when you need the police, but it is not an emergency. You can call (877) ASK-LAPD (275-5273) or LA City's new 311. 311 is good only within the city of Los Angeles. The number is toll-free. 311 connects you directly with the city hall operator, who will forward you call to any LA City entity you may need. You can also call West Valley Police Station directly at (818) 756-8543. By using these non-emergency phone numbers, you free up desperately needed 911 lines and still get the police service you need.

When you are reporting a crime, be sure to tell the dispatcher all the details you can about the crime. This includes: suspect / vehicle description (including the license plate), location / direction the suspect went, and any weapons the suspect has (that you have actually seen). This information is crucial for officers responding to your call.

Meeting Update: Our neighborhood watch meeting for April has been rescheduled for April 13th, at 7pm. This will be an area-wide meeting. (See front page)

Encino

Senior Lead Officer Mark Ro, 10A87

Several residents in the Encino area have had their vehicles broken into. In most cases, the vehicles were parked on residential streets. Unlike most burglaries from vehicles, the targeted items consisted of personal information and documents (i.e., credit card and bank statements, U.S. mail etc). Please remember to safeguard your personal information inside your residences. In general, it would be a good idea to <u>not</u> use your vehicle as a "locker" to store personal items, including personal information. In recent months, officers while conducting routine pedestrian and traffic stops, have recovered stolen credit cards/statements and bags of mail from suspects that are engaged in identity theft as well as other theft-related activities. Knowing that identity theft is relatively easy to carry, we should take the extra steps in preventing theses types of crime as well. A future Neighborhood Watch meeting (quarterly schedule is pending) will cover identity theft in more detail.

Reseda

Senior Lead Officers Crhis Crosby 32835 & Janet Zumstein 24571 10 A 27 10A47

Reseda! We have seen a problem on Reseda Boulevard and Sherman Way regarding Business Burglaries. For those of you who work along this area please lock and secure your business. After hearing this, we have good news. In the month of February we had asked our patrol officers to pay special attention to this area of Reseda. In doing so, a business burglary suspect was caught in the night. The suspect used the roof to gain entry. So please call the police immediately if you see a person on a business rooftop after business hours. Keep up the good work and we will continue to work hard to combat the problems that effect the quality of life in Reseda.

On 3-9-05, we held the Semi-Annual Senior Lead Summit Meeting. All community members that live and work in our Division were invited to attend. The three topics of concern that were addressed: abandoned shopping carts, graffiti and over grown trees blocking traffic signs. We need your help in these three areas.

If you see an abandoned shopping cart please call (800) 252-4613 to have it removed. If you see stop signs, street signs, or traffic signals with visibility being blocked by foliage, please call 3-1-1. With your help in these areas, you can help us improve the safety of our community.

Community Service Notice:

SENIOR ACTION FAIR

Protect Yourself Against Fraud & Abuse

Tuesday May 17th, 2005 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. New Jewish Community Center at Milken 22622 Vanowen St. West Hills, Ca

Complimentary Breakfast and Lunch

Event is Free,

but reservations are required

Please RSVP by Tuesday May 10th, 2005 to Lauren Velazquez at (310)394-9871 Ext 261.

or e-mail <u>Lvelazquez@wiseseniors.org</u>

Wise Senior Services www.wiseseniors.org

West Hills

Senior Lead Officer Peter Vanderburgh 20382 10 A 51

"You can run, but you can not hide from the long arm of the law". If you were not up to current events in West Hills Community,

"Jesse James Hollywood" was arrested in Brazil. Jesse was a fleeing fugitive wanted for the murder of Nicholas Markowitz who lived with his lovely family in West Hills. This homicide took place on 8/9/2000, in Santa Barbara, California.

As a theft preventive measure, we ask all our Community Members to please make sure to remove all items of value that can be seen in your car, and secure them in the trunk. As your Senior Lead, I can not over emphasize this enough, so please tell everyone you know.

Our meeting will be cancelled on April 11th, 2005, and we would like you attend our Community Outreach Meeting on April 13, 2005 at 7:00 p.m. The Meeting will be held at 6844 Oakdale Ave, the Demirdjian School.

Canoga Park

Senior Lead Officer Royal Barber 33970 10A3

DON'T BE THE NEXT VICTIM. Just locking your car may not always be enough. Think about other deterrents such as a kill switch, steering wheel locking bar, brake locking bar or an alarm. Try not to make your car look inviting to a thief. Keep your valuables and what may appear to be valuable out of sight.

We have noticed an increase in Gang related crimes in Canoga Park. Please call 311 to report groups of possible gang members congregating near your home or business. West Valley Area has an excellent Special Enforcement Unit specifically designated to help in controlling gang crime, but we need your eyes, ears and phone calls to help us stop their violence!

We are always looking for ways to further develop our Neighborhood Watch, Apartment Watch and Business Watch. If you're reading this article and are not involved in one of our programs, or if you have any ideas on how we can make our program even stronger, please call the Senior Lead Office at (818) 756-9891.