

# Volume 20, Issue 2

West Valley Area Senior Lead Office

February 2016

Sergeant Frank Avila

Sergeant Larry Martinez

## WEST VALLEY COMMUNITY POLICE STATION NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEWSLETTER



# CAPTAIN'S CORNER

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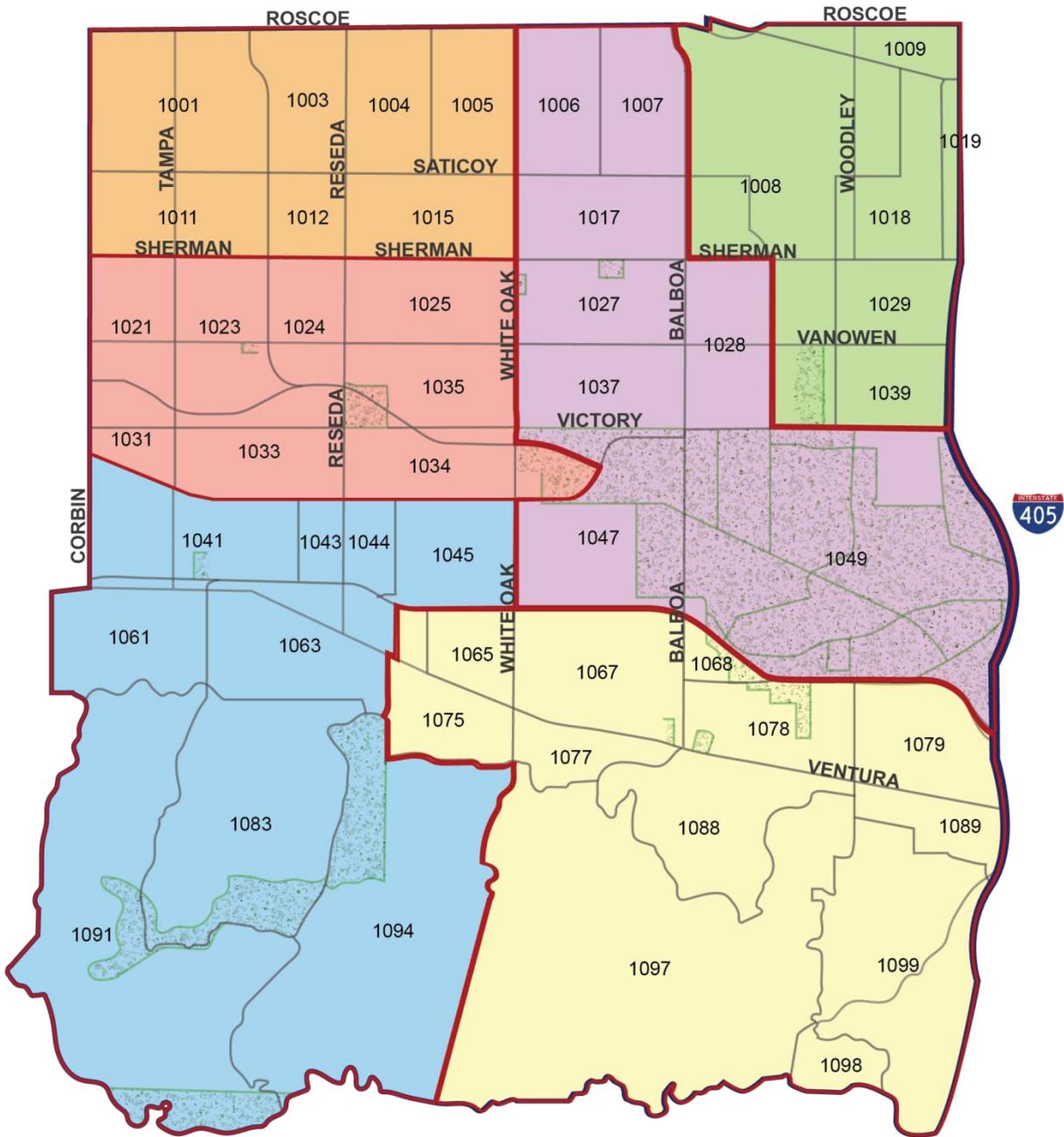


I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the warm welcome by many of the community members at West Valley. This is my third time around. I worked West Valley in 1997 as a field sergeant and returned in 1999 as the Vice sergeant. This is a great place thanks to the officers, supervisors, detectives, and civilian staff along with the community and the support they have for law enforcement and the LAPD.

West Valley Area is committed to reducing crime and the number of victims in 2016. We are developing strategies to address crime, focus on chronic offenders, and work with the community to improve awareness and harden the target. Through our combined efforts, we are sure to succeed in making our communities safer. My focus will be to continue our partnership, increase the membership and make it stronger. I hope to see you all soon.

Captain R. Ramirez

# WEST VALLEY BASIC CAR AREA MAP



	<p><b>10A3</b> SLO Denise Estrada 37033@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7629 Cell: 818-731-2580</p>		<p><b>10A17</b> SLO David Ham 25717@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7634 Cell: 818-731-2551</p>		<p><b>10A21</b> SLO Oscar Bocanegra 36252@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7637 Cell: 818-731-2572</p>
	<p><b>10A39</b> SLO Esteban Olivares 34728@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7635 Cell: 818-731-2554</p>		<p><b>10A83</b> SLO Isela Parra 34488@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7631 Cell: 818-731-2574</p>		<p><b>10A99</b> SLO Daryl Scoggins 35828@lapd.lacity.org Office: 818-374-7632 Cell: 818-731-2573</p>

# NORTH RESEDA COMMUNITY UPDATE



Senior Lead Officer  
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## **Reseda Neighborhood Council Meeting**

7 P.M.  
1st Monday of the month  
18118 Sherman Way, Reseda

## **Reseda Neighborhood Watch Meeting**

7 P.M.  
2nd Thursday of the month  
West Valley Community Police  
Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community Police  
Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

Residents of North Reseda,

It was awesome seeing some of you at the Third Annual Bob Blumenfield Bike ride that was held on Saturday, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January. Thank you to those who showed up; it was great meeting everyone, and I look forward to next year's bike ride - I hope to see more of you there!

Very briefly, crime went up slightly in the month of January compared to the previous month. Due to the crime statistics, we are focusing our efforts on improving the quality of life along the Reseda/Sherman Way corridors. The Senior Lead Officers of West Valley have performed task forces and other operations where we meet with business owners, and take enforcement action on all sorts of violators. We are working hard to reduce crime in the area in the attempt to develop a more family-friendly area, and to increase consumer visits to our local businesses.

That said, I'd like to stress on the importance of local businesses developing a close working relationship with the Senior Lead Officers. I encourage community members who are interested in starting business watches to contact me, as we are in the process of planning a business watch in the area in collaboration with City Attorney Raffy Astvasadoorian, and the council office.

Thank you, and be safe!

# SOUTH RESEDA COMMUNITY UPDATE

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Hi!!!

I would like to start off with a good, positive note regarding the Third Annual Bob Blumenfield Bike ride, which occurred on the 23<sup>rd</sup> of January. There were all different types of bicycles, the weather was fantastic, and it was a wonderful experience witnessing how the people of Reseda embrace their community. Let's make next year even a greater success by having a bigger presence.

There will be a Community Care Event honoring the late Officer Randal Simmons on February 6th at Randal Simmons Park (next to the West Valley Station) at 8:00 AM. The Care Event will be followed up with a collaborated effort with the Army National Guard Sunburst Youth Academy to clean up the Community of Reseda. While this is short notice, I hope you would be able to attend the event!

The Community of South Reseda experienced a 10.5% decrease in crime for the month of January. However, in the realm of Burglary from Motor Vehicles, there were 18 incidents, which was 5 more from the month prior. Please, let's be vigilant with our belongings to avoid being victimized - don't leave them in plain view in your vehicles, and remember always to lock your doors and windows.

Have a safe and wonderful February!

Senior Lead Officer  
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## **Reseda Neighborhood Watch Meeting**

7 P.M.  
2nd Thursday of the month  
West Valley Community Police  
Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community  
Police Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

# LAKE BALBOA COMMUNITY UPDATE



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Lately, one of the biggest concerns that LAPD has been dealing with are “quality of life” issues, such as dealing with the homeless and other non-criminal matters. In order to deal with these types of issues, the County and City of Los Angeles has established the **211 system**, which offers a number of city and county services to citizens, and only involve the police when necessary. Here are some of the services that 211 provides:

- Housing / shelter services
- Senior assistance
- Food services
- Veterans services
- Health care services
- Mental health services
- Youth programs
- Substance abuse programs

## **Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Meeting**

7 P.M.  
1st Wednesday of the month  
Gault Street School  
17000 Gault St.

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community  
Police Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

You can find more information on the services the 211 system provides by accessing their website: [www.211la.org](http://www.211la.org)

In the event of an emergency or a crime-in-progress, you should always call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies that require police response, call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273). By carefully assessing the situation you need assistance with and calling the appropriate services, you are more likely to receive the right kind of help in a more efficient manner. Calling 2-1-1 for quality of life, non-criminal issues also allows the police to focus on more pressing matters that require police presence. Help us to help you better.

# VAN NUYS/LAKE BALBOA COMMUNITY UPDATE



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## **Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Meeting**

7 P.M.  
1st Wednesday of the month  
Gault Street School  
17000 Gault St.

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community  
Police Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

They call him "The Kid" - a lone desperado waiting to explode in a rage that everyone in town fears. He comes and goes in a manner which seems almost insane. Sometimes, he is not seen in five or seven years, but when he does, he rains down with no mercy.

Yeah, it definitely looks like El Niño is here to visit our town once again. I, for one, am excited about it because California is in desperate need to replenish its water sources. However, the roads are not usually accommodating to such great amounts of H<sub>2</sub>O. When water saturates the asphalt, oils and debris float up to the surface creating significantly less traction on the streets or highways. Remember that it takes more than a foot to stop in the rain. The guy whose bumper you are riding doesn't care if he had to make a hard stop and you plowed into his rear; as a matter of fact, he will be grateful to pay for a new car and perhaps put his kids through college on your dime. Remember that aggressive driving and wet conditions add up to disaster.

On a related topic, the Sepulveda Basin is a beautiful area to golf, bird-watch or even just to drive through while commuting. Please be aware that during the heavy rains, the basin floods. This is not by accident or poor engineering - it is exactly what the basin was built to do! The Army Corps of Engineers designed the Sepulveda Basin to catch water and regulate it through the dam in order to keep anything down river from flooding. So if you see a way cool puddle on the road and want to impress all of the other commuters by making a big splash, don't be surprised if your Mini Cooper gets stuck in the middle because you did not anticipate the depth of the puddle.

Anyhow, remember that water is powerful. Make sure your gutters (both on your roof and on the street) are free of debris that could cause water to collect. If you have a leak on your roof and cannot afford to redo it, a little (or a lot) of Henry's and roof patching might be enough to hold you over this season. Another word of caution is that the rain will muffle just about any sound. So please remember to bring in all of the items you may have in your car that a burglar would see and want to steal. Not only will it be difficult for you to hear the breaking of a window in the rain but after the window is broken, your car will begin to take in water.

# TARZANA COMMUNITY UPDATE



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## **Tarzana Neighborhood Watch Meeting**

7 P.M.

2nd Tuesday of the month  
West Valley Community  
Police Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.

2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community  
Police Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

Hello, Tarzana Residents!

In the past month, I have taken some time to familiarize myself with the neighborhood, and I have had the privilege to meet with some of you. It has been a pleasure, and I hope to get acquainted to more of you as time passes.

The crime stats for the month of January have not changed very much from the month prior. I am pleased to say that the number of car thefts (grand theft auto/GTA) is significantly lower than that of January; however, the number of burglaries from residential homes and vehicles is still high. Remember to take security measures to secure your homes and cars - lock your doors, close your windows, set your alarms, don't leave any of you belongings in plain view if possible.

Also, be vigilant while you're out and about, or even when you're at home. Get to know your neighbors and work together to set up a neighborhood watch, or at the very least look out for one another. If you see any crimes in progress in your neighborhood, call 9-1-1. If you see suspicious people, or unfamiliar people conducting suspicious activity in your neighborhood, call 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273). Do your best to take a detailed description of the suspicious activity, the people involved, and their vehicle (if they have one). The more we understand about a situation, the better we can respond to it.

Take care out there!

# ENCINO COMMUNITY UPDATE



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## **Tarzana Neighborhood Watch Meeting**

7 P.M.  
2nd Tuesday of the month  
West Valley Community Police  
Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

## **Encino Neighborhood Council Meeting**

7 P.M.  
4th Wednesday of the month  
Council District 5 Office  
15760 Ventura Blvd, Suite 600  
818 971-3088

## **West Valley Community Police Advisory Board**

6:30 P.M.  
2nd Wednesday of the month  
West Valley Community Police  
Station  
19020 Vanowen Street

Greetings, Residents of Encino,

Here are the crime states for our area in the month of January: we had (8) robberies, (35) Burglaries, (4) cars stolen, (25) cars broken into, and (11) plain thefts.

Burglaries to homes are notably still the biggest problem and a hot topic of Encino. There were several homes that were left unlocked, with their windows left opened, and the alarm not set. We have repeatedly reminded residents to take careful measures to protect their property. Coming in second on the Encino hot sheet are burglaries from motor vehicles. While it might become redundant, we will keep saying this for everyone's safety and security: please remember to lock and secure your home, and if you have an alarm, set it. In regard to vehicles, always keep in mind the LAPD motto: HIDE IT, LOCK IT, KEEP IT - refrain from keeping valuables in your vehicles, especially in plain view. Also remember that something that may not be of particular value to you (such as gym clothes in a duffel bag), may be mistaken as something potentially valuable to a thief. By leaving items in plain view in your car, you are at greater risk of being victimized.

Please call police dispatch if you see anything suspicious at 1-877-ASK-LAPD (1-877-275-5273). If there is a crime in progress, call 9-1-1 instead.



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# LAPD West Valley Division

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**Stay Alert! Stay Informed!**

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follow us on:

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Twitter.com/@LAPDWestvalley

Facebook.com/LAPD.WV.Police

Nextdoor.com: sign in to your community

Nixle: Text your Zip Code to 888777

Website: [www.westvalleypolice.org](http://www.westvalleypolice.org)



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**Remember, Please do not Text and Drive!**