



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Community/Law Enforcement Partnership Programs
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Crime Prevention Newsletter - February 2003

Recognizing the Early Stages of Addiction

The featured speaker at our January Crime Prevention meeting was Mr. Doug Thorburn. Mr. Thorburn is a certified administrator of the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator and an expert in Keirseyan Temperament. Both are used to describe, predict and explain healthy human behaviors. In addition, Thorburn has been a Certified Financial Planner since 1983, and is enrolled to practice before the Internal Revenue Service. Using his skills as an expert in human behavior, and his personal experience with an alcohol addicted partner, Doug Thorburn has developed an ability to spot alcoholism where it has never before been suspected. Addiction experts, some with over 30 years experience, admit that they did not previously possess the tools with which to identify early-stage alcoholism. Doug not only

explains the biological and behavioral differences between early and latter stage alcoholism, but also provides over 150 questions for the observer to use to tentatively diagnose this disease. Experts and lay persons alike now have the ability to protect themselves and, in many cases, prevent tragedy. Doug has authored two books on the subject, with two more in progress. Drunks, Drugs & Debits: How to Recognize Addicts and Avoid Financial Abuse, is believed to be the most



comprehensive work ever written on alcoholism. It is the first work to link alcoholism to the financial abuse of others and describe alcoholism in a way that allows observers to identify it near its inception. Addiction experts and authors Terence T. Gorski, Katherine Ketcham, Claudia Black, James Graham, Douglas Talbott, Forest Tennant and others have praised both his work and his courage in coming from outside the field to revolutionize it from within. Doug suggests actions that should be taken once this

disease is identified, with the goal of protecting others and assisting the addict to a far quicker recovery and higher chance of success than has previously been possible. For information, please contact Doug at 818-360-0985 or e-mail him at info@dougthorburn.com.

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New Guide's Aim Is to Help Prevent Elder Abuse

Guide designed to serve as comprehensive resource to address the serious and significant problems of elder abuse

The California Attorney General's Bureau of Medi-Cal Fraud and Elder Abuse (BMFEA), the Crime and Violence Prevention Center (CVPC), and the American Association of Retired People (AARP) recently announced the release of a comprehensive consumer guide to help Californians protect their elderly relatives and friends.

The booklet, "A Citizen's Guide to Preventing and Reporting Elder Abuse," provides helpful hints on how to detect the most common warning signs of physical, emotional and financial elder abuse and neglect in long-term facilities. The 36-page guide also offers guidance on ways to protect yourself and loved ones from becoming a victim and contains a list of valuable Web sites and other resources for additional advice and information.

"This guide serves as the most comprehensive and first-in-the-nation resource to address the serious and significant problems of elder abuse," said Suzanne Miller, AARP spokesperson. "Whether it is physical or emotional abuse, financial abuse or abuse that occurs within a long-term facility, this reference will be the first line of defense."

Collin Wong, executive director of the Attorney General's BMFEA, said selecting a residential care or skilled nursing facility can be an extremely difficult process for a senior and his or her family. One segment of the booklet provides helpful information about making this important decision. "We encourage potential residents and their families to visit the facility at different times of the day and night and to talk with those living there to determine whether they are happy and healthy in their home." Wong said. "Families should also ensure that the facility offers services their loved ones want: What kind of religious services are offered, does the staff speak the language the resident is most comfortable with, or are the activities the resident enjoys available?"

The guide represents the first in what will be other outreach programs funded by a three-year, \$6-million grant received by the Attorney General's CVPC to create a statewide Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Media Awareness Campaign. The guide is currently available in English, but Chinese and Spanish versions will be available soon.

The guide and other information on preventing elder abuse is available online at www.ag.ca.gov/bmfea and www.safestate.org. Consumers also may have copies of the guide mailed to them by writing the Office of the Attorney General, c/o Crime and Violence Prevention Center, 1300 I St., Ste. 1150, Sacramento, CA 95814.

Safe Communities Week

The week of March 24-31 will be designated as "Safe Communities Week" by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors. Sheriff Stations throughout the County will be hosting and/or participating in Crime Prevention and Community Relations related activities during that week. For event details, or to plan an event, contact your local Sheriff Station to make arrangements.
Stay tuned...

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

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Community Partners is published monthly by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Community/Law Enforcement Partnership Programs Unit. It provides a recap of the monthly Crime Prevention/Community Relations Meeting held on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The meetings are held from 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon at the PPOA office in Monterey Park. For more information, please call our office at (323) 526-5015.

VOLUNTEER BRIGADE

“Bird Dog” Still Observing For LASD

Several years ago, Los Angeles County Sheriff Leroy D. Baca, reinstated the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Aero Squadron. The idea was not new to the LASD. In 1926, they had the original “Sheriff's Aero Squadron”. It gradually disbanded for unknown reasons and at an unknown time. Sheriff Baca, being a man of vision, and learning from past successes, authorized the reinstatement of the Aero Squadron made up strictly of civilian volunteers. Only those volunteers who met the flying experience requirements, and were able to pass a law enforcement background check were accepted.



Frank Vranicar was one of those that answered the call. It was an opportunity for him to fly the department's Jet-Long Ranger and other aircraft, such as the Super King Air 200C. He also had the chance to volunteer his L-19 Bird Dog. It has been an interesting two years for Vranicar.

With the high demand for photo missions and the destruction of the Jet Ranger aircraft in an accident on top of the ten story Men's Central Jail Parking Structure (Frank wasn't flying), Vranicar's Bird Dog entered the picture. He volunteered his plane and himself to be available almost every Friday. The variety of missions are always interesting and have given Frank the opportunity to log more than 70 hours in his Bird Dog while serving the Citizens of Los Angeles County.

One of his most interesting flights was working with the stolen car detail (TRAP). Frank had a deputy in the back seat communicating with his partner on the ground in an “undercover” car. Both deputies were locating luxury automobiles which were purchased with stolen identities. Together, the deputies, Vranicar and his venerable Bird Dog located five automobiles, photographed them and set up this stolen car ring for a simultaneous raid. LASD got the bad guys, and the car dealers got their property back.

Frank uses the call sign, “Sheriff's Air 6,” which was the only call sign heard in the Los Angeles Basin for a fixed wing aircraft on September 14, 2001, when all other air traffic was grounded because of 9-11. He said it was an eerie feeling to be the only fixed wing aircraft flying in the otherwise always crowded and busy airspace.

Vranicar says he has a “sense of belonging,” and feeling of accomplishment for doing civic duty while flying for the Sheriff's Department. His L-19 Bird Dog accomplishes its missions equally as well as it's modern counterparts and continues to propagate the tradition first started in the Korean and Vietnam wars. Today, the Bird Dog and Frank Vranicar are still serving...for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. **Thanks Frank!**



One of Our Own

Way to Go!

by Linda Castro, Captain West Hollywood Station



Pictured L to R: Captain Linda Castro, Volunteer Kay Kaplan, Chief Michael Nagaoka

On December 14, 2002, Volunteer Kay Kaplan was responsible for the planting of 44 beautiful rose bushes around West Hollywood Station. Our roses won a blue ribbon at the Los Angeles County Fair and are a source of enjoyment and pride for the men and women of West Hollywood Station.

Kay Kaplan has been a station volunteer since 1991, and has become a treasured part of our station family. She tends to the roses and trains the trustees in the proper care for them. When they are in bloom, she clips them and puts them in vases throughout the station and lobby for employees and visitors to enjoy.

Recently, Kay arranged for the donation of the 44 new rose bushes. They were donated by Dr. Tommy Cairns, President of the American Rose Society and Mr. Luis Desamero, both world renown rosarians.

Kay has tended to the soil preparations over several weeks and even hired two rose landscapers to assist in digging up the plants. The roses were transported to the station and successfully transplanted.

Kay's efforts toward aesthetic appreciation don't receive a lot of fanfare in our law enforcement environment and she is extremely gracious and unassuming. We are greatly indebted to her and believe Kay Kaplan is to be commended for her actions.

FUN FACT

Beginning on February 13, 2003, admission to L.A.'s Museum of Contemporary Art will be FREE every Thursday this year, thanks to a grant from Wells Fargo & Co. The policy covers regular public hours, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., at all three MOCA locations--in downtown L.A., Little Tokyo, and West Hollywood. (Regular admission price \$8).

NOT SO FUN FACT

Stopping your car on a slick or flooded street is a challenge in itself. Adding fuel to the process is a dangerous proposition indeed. If you ever find yourself hydroplaning during a rainstorm or sliding across icy pavement in your car, the best way to stop is to think light. Take your foot off the gas and apply light pressure to the brake pedal. Avoid making any sharp turns until you can feel the tires catch the road. If you have ABS brakes, brake normally but do not "Slam" on the brakes. Please, NEVER use cruise control when driving in the rain or on ice. The acceleration during a skid could result in major damage to your vehicle and serious injury or death to you and your passengers.

SCAM ALERT!

Recently there have been a number of these calls being made. The caller claims to be a service technician or operator and needs to test your line. They ask you to press 9-0-# then hang up. This will allow the person to use your phone line and make calls anywhere in the world. Needless to say, you won't be the wiser until your \$1,000 phone bill comes at the end of the month. And never give out personal information over the phone to someone you don't know.

SAVE THE DATE!

FUNDRAISING AND ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING

The Gill Foundation's National and Regional Training Institutes are forums for nonprofit board members, staff, and volunteers to gather for fundraising and organizational development training. The next Regional Training Institute is February 21-23, 2003, at the Golden Nugget Hotel in Las Vegas, NV. The next National Training Institute is March 14-15, 2003, at the Warwick Hotel in Denver, CO. For information on registration or to contact the Gill Foundation visit the website at:

<http://coldfusion.affiliateshop.com/AIDLink.cfm?AID=027824>



DEPARTMENT IN FOCUS

YOUTH MENTORING PROGRAM

Safe Streets Bureau has collaborated with Catholic Big Brothers/Sisters in a youth mentoring program. The program is designed to develop a one-on-one mentoring relationship for at-risk youth. Mentors will spend between 2-3 hours a week with an assigned young adult. Most of these youth have no positive role models in their lives. The mentoring program serves as an intervention and prevention program to help keep youth from joining a gang. It gives them alternatives to the gang culture and lifestyle. It also strengthens their overall chances of avoiding the gang lifestyle.



The Bureau is seeking departmental volunteers to become mentors. Volunteers will have the opportunity to be a kids' hero. Safe Streets Bureau and Catholic Big Brothers/Sisters will hold informational and enrollment meetings. Counselors from Catholic Big Brothers/Sisters will be present to enroll interested volunteers. For more information, please contact Lt. Ornelas or Deputy Smith at (310) 603-3100/3111 or (310) 603-3114.

TERRORISM SEMINAR

"HOW EMERGENCY SERVICES RESPOND AND WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PREPARE"

On Saturday, February 15, 2003, between 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Industry Station, is hosting a free seminar at the Industry Hills Equestrian Center Pavilion. The seminar will be held at 16400 Temple Avenue in the City of Industry (first driveway east of Del Valle Avenue).

This event is being sponsored by the Industry Manufacturers Council. Presentations will be given by department experts along with experts from the Los Angeles County Fire Department, California Highway Patrol, and the Red Cross.

The topics presented are vital to the public and will be an excellent training opportunity. We encourage department members to inform your local community, civic, and business groups to attend.

For more information contact Industry Sheriff's Station Crime Prevention Unit, Sergeant Dean Scoville, or Deputy Sheriff Alonzo Vargas at (626) 934-3069.

TRAFFIC SERVICES DETAIL - TRAFFIC EDUCATION TRAILER

As spring approaches, many of you are probably preparing for your annual station open houses, city functions, or other public displays. The Traffic Services Detail would like to remind you that we have our Traffic Education Trailer fully stocked with giveaway and promotional items, as well as the latest information on the new helmet laws for minors, and some just plain old interesting pictures of crashes. We are ready to roll anywhere in the county on a moment's notice---or at least after receiving a memo requesting us.

If you would like us at one of your functions, please address a short memo requesting us to our unit commander A/Captain Scott E. Johnson of the Risk Management Bureau. For more information please call Sgt. Steven Gonzalez at 562-467-1152.



2003 CRIME PREVENTION EVENTS CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

MARCH

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| <p>10 Youth Mentoring Program Informational Meeting. Safe Streets Bureau. See page 5 for details. Contact Lieutenant Ornelas or Deputy Smith at (310) 603-3100 / 3111 or 3114.</p> <p>13 Volunteer Coordinator Orientation Training. Held at STAR Center. Contact Sergeant Dave Haney at (562) 946-7875 for details.</p> <p>15 Emergency Preparedness Network, Terrorism Seminar. Hosted by Industry Station. See Page 5 for details. Contact Deputy Alonzo Vargas at (626) 934-3069.</p> <p>19 CCPOA Monthly Luncheon meeting. Contact Deputy Dana Chemnitzer at (323) 526-5328 for details.</p> <p>20 Crime Prevention/Community Relations monthly meeting. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, in the PPOA Conference Room, Monterey Park. Contact the CLEPP office at (323) 526-5015 for details.</p> <p>20 Volunteer Coordinator's monthly meeting. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, in the PPOA Conference Room, Monterey Park. Contact the CLEPP office at (323) 526-5015 for details.</p> <p>20 Industry Sheriff's Youth Activities League 1st Annual Casino Night. 5:00 PM. Contact Sergeant Maria Gutierrez at (626) 934-3070</p> <p>21-23 The 59th Annual Temple City Camellia Parade and Festival. 10:00 AM-12:00 PM. Contact Deputy Jeffrey Peterson for details (626) 292-3353.</p> | <p>4 Region III Community Academy Begins. Hosted by San Dimas Station. Contact the Crime Prevention Staff at (909) 599-1261 for details.</p> <p>8 Industry Station 999 Run for Kids, 5k/10k run/walk. 8:30 AM. Contact Deputy Cook at (626) 934-3073 for more details.</p> <p>18 Crime Free Multi-Housing program seminar. West Covina City Hall. 8:00 AM. Reservation required. Contact Erica Booth at (626) 939-8549.</p> <p>20 Crime Prevention/Community Relations Monthly Meeting. 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM, in the PPOA Conference Room, Monterey Park. Contact the CLEPP office at (323) 526-5015 for details.</p> <p>20 Volunteer Coordinator's monthly meeting. 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM, in the PPOA Conference Room, Monterey Park. Contact the CLEPP office at (323) 526-5015 for details.</p> <p>22 Community Emergency Preparedness Training Seminar. 8:00 AM. Contact Deputy Lee or Deputy Budds at (323) 526-5015 for details.</p> <p>24-31 Safe Communities Week. Contact your local Sheriff Station for event details or to schedule an event.</p> |
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