

4-month project increased patrols around schools

CHP ups its presence in El Dorado Hills

By **MIKE ROBERTS**
Village Life staff writer

CHP Commander Bill Donovan told El Dorado Hills' residents at the March 19 town hall meeting that the highway patrol has been more involved in their community in the last four months than at any time in the last two years. The increased CHP presence, he said, is responsible for lowering the number of collisions and making the school zones safer.

"I've had a lot of positive feedback from the community that sees us out there," he said. He also gets calls from those who are less enthused at the increased police presence.

"They just need to pay their ticket and they'll be fine," he joked.

Donovan said that the four-month program hasn't been a "sweep." It's simply been a staff increase in the El Dorado Hills area, especially during school drop-off and pick-up times.

The preliminary statistics look good. "We're starting to see some good things: fewer accidents and fewer injuries," he

said.

Collisions are down by 16 percent west of Bass Lake Road.

"We want to change the attitude of the drivers here," he said. "To do that, we have to write some tickets."

CHP officers have written a couple hundred tickets in the last four months. They've also given over 100 verbal warnings and helped out over 100 motorists.

There's an officer and a sergeant in EDH during the day, supplemented with overtime shifts, "so certain days you'll see four or five officers in this area."

The EDH Fire Department has provided the CHP sergeant office space at Station 85. Call for office hours. Donovan said he preplans staffing levels, and then adjusts the plan daily based on specific neighborhood complaints.

Call 877-CHP-1926 to report speeding or other neighborhood traffic violations in your village. mroberts@villagelife.com



Village Life photo by Mike Roberts
CHP CAPTAIN BILL DONOVAN addressed residents at the EDH Town Hall transportation meeting, and explained the increased CHP presence, especially around schools in the last four months. Donovan has also established a field office at EDH Fire Station 85 for locally deployed officers to use as a "home base."

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FLC Job and Volunteer Fair

Folsom Lake College's Volunteer & Job Fair will be held on Tuesday, April 15, from 10 a.m. to 1p.m., at the main Folsom campus, 10 College Parkway.

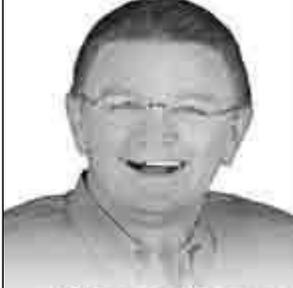
The fair will feature local employers looking to hire, as well as local nonprofit agencies seeking volunteers. If anyone is looking for a job or wants to give back to their community, the Folsom Lake College Volunteer & Job Fair is the place to be. Free job skills workshops will be held throughout the day.

Admission to this event is free (a daily parking pass can be purchased for \$1). For more information about the event, call (916) 608-6713.



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