

P
V
E

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Spring
Issue
2013



let's watch out for each other

Message From Chief John Eberhard

At the Annual Neighborhood Watch Meeting in November, 2012, I, along with Captain's Mark Velez and Tony Best spoke on Assembly Bill 109 – commonly referred to as the Public Safety Realignment bill. For those who don't know, this bill started with a Supreme Court decision that determined that California prisons were overcrowded to the point of violating the prisoners' constitutional rights. In order to satisfy guidelines set by the Supreme Court, the State drafted AB 109 which calls for the early release of prisoners and shifts the burden to our county jails.

When public safety realignment was first implemented in October, 2011, the county was receiving about 1,000 offenders on Post Release Community Supervision (PRCS) each month. Since that time, the numbers have leveled off and the county is now receiving 500-600 individuals per month. Of the individuals that have been under the Probation Department's supervision for a year or more, about one in every three (33%) are successfully completing their supervision term. This means that they were not returned to custody for a new charge.

The Probation Department is releasing about 300 individuals a month from supervision. In L.A. County, all PRCS individuals must serve a full 12 months before they can complete the supervision period. As the number of individuals in state prison that qualify to be released on PRCS declines, it is expected that the number of individuals supervised by the Probation Department will decline as well. Prior to the implementation of AB 109, the Probation Department had expected that about half of the individuals released to local supervision would be high-risk to re-offend, about a quarter would be medium risk, and about a quarter would be

low risk. However, the actual results have been about 50% to 60% high risk, 40% medium risk, and virtually no low risk.

What this means is that there are significantly more criminals on the street today due to the implementation of AB 109 and the likelihood of them committing a crime is high. While there are no known PRCS individuals living in Palos Verdes Estates, there are many that live in neighboring cities and commit crimes in PVE. While we did see a 4% decrease in Part I crimes in 2012, so far this year we have seen an increase in property crimes such as burglary, theft and vandalism. I ask that you help be our eyes and ears and report suspicious activity to the police department and take all precautionary measures to reduce your chances of being victimized.



Student Photo Contest Winner!

Congratulations to 16 year old PV High School Student Miss Samantha Medina, daughter of Monica Rivera who submitted the winning photo taken near the Neighborhood Church on Paseo Del Mar. Winner of the Neighborhood Watch "PVE Is My Home Town" Photo Contest, Samantha receives \$100 cash from Neighborhood Watch and a Photo Class Certificate at Paul's Photo in Torrance valued at \$200.



Congratulations to Miss Medina, winner of the NW Student Photo Contest


PAUL'S PHOTO™
23845 S. HAWTHORNE BLVD. - TORRANCE, CA 90505
VOICE: 310-375-7014 FAX: 310-373-0053

A Pair and a Spare

PVE Neighborhood Watch is embarking on a **new membership drive program** to increase involvement and improve networking. NW members are asked to contact the **"pair"** of neighbors on either side of them, and the **"spare"** across the street. Imagine if every current member brought in three new members! Please reach out and ask those around you to join Neighborhood Watch and make us stronger and more effective than ever.

PVE Prepares

This summer will offer two opportunities for PVE Residents to practice their disaster preparedness skills:

- **CERT Training is May 11, 18 and June 1.** Go to www.pvpcert.org for more information.
- **DDP will be conducting a disaster drill** on June 8th and needs your help to simulate volunteers checking in to assist. We only need your assistance for 2 hours. For more information go to www.pvestates.org

PVE Trails in the News

PVE Trails can be a place to enjoy the nature and beauty of our community. However, they can also be a place where mischief can occur. What is being done and what can you do to help our trails be safe and secure? Read the article on page 3 and find out more.

in this issue:

Crime Trends
NW "My Neighborhood" Photo Contest
PVE Community Programs
PVE Trails Made Safer
PVE CARES

Photo Contest Honorable Mentions
Photo Contest Dispatcher's Pick
Vacation Safety Tips
NW Membership Application
NNO Guacamole

President's Message:

By Karen Logan

I am excited to be a part of Neighborhood Watch, not only as a continuing Member but also as this year's Neighborhood Watch Board President. It is a privilege to work with a team of Board Members and Area Coordinators that are committed to the continuing education, engagement and safety of our citizens.

The Board has been working energetically in the first few months of this year to build our Block Captain team so our neighborhoods can become more connected and informed. You will see on the Area Coordinators report, that we have expanded from 4 Areas to 6 Areas in order to align with the Disaster Preparedness (DDP)



Districts which is all part of our strategy to have the various safety, disaster and service organizations of the city work together in a more coordinated way.

As we prepare for vacations, it's a good time to revisit how we are keeping our homes safe. Refer to the article on Vacation Safety Tips to help you prepare for your travel. Many of these tips are good practice for your regular routine.

I am looking forward to having more of our community become Members of Neighborhood Watch and take advantage of the variety of benefits. Many of you reading are a part of our growing network of eyes and ears looking to keep our neighborhoods free of crime. We, as citizens of this city, are a powerful partner with our Police Department.

PVE is a great city with so much beauty and wonderful neighbors. It is a treasure worth protecting and taking care of and it takes all of us together.

Be Aware, Be Prepared, Be Safe!!

Karen Logan

PVE NW Member Photo Contest

"My Neighborhood"

Our student photo contest was such a success that PVE Neighborhood Watch invites all current and new PVE NW Members to have fun with your camera and capture "My Neighborhood" with your photos. Winning entries in three categories of People, Places and "Neighbors On Watch" will be judged on creativity, aesthetic & photographic quality and capturing the spirit of your neighborhood. The winning photo in each category will appear in the Fall 2013 Neighborhood Watch Newsletter. Winners receive \$100 from NW and a \$200 Gift Certificate for Paul's Photo Class. For complete contest rules email mmccullough@pvestates.org and put Fall Photo Contest Rules in Subject line.

Winner notified by September 27th. Judging by the NW board of directors. Full recognition will be given to the lucky winning photographers. All entries may be used by PVE for use in future newsletters or city brochures. Have fun and start shooting!



NNO Guacamole Dip

The guacamole served at a NNO party has finally been found. It's perfect Spring fare, and served best with NEIGHBORS. Enjoy!

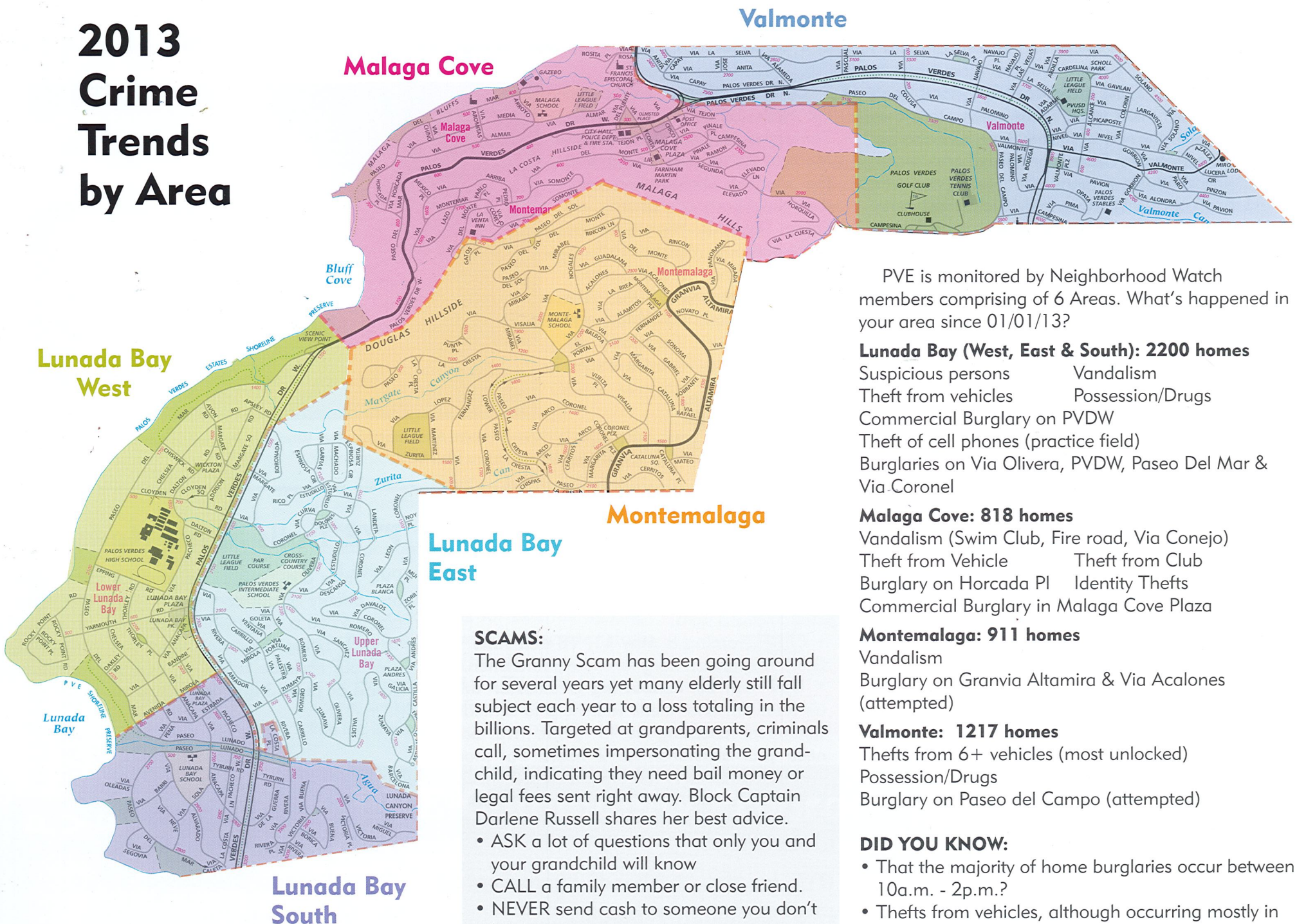
Ingredients:

- 6 large avocados
- 1 medium Roma tomato, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup finely chopped cilantro

- 2 tablespoons thinly sliced scallions
- 1 to 2 medium serrano chiles, seeded and minced
- freshly squeezed lime juice to taste
- 1 tablespoon Hawaiian Alaea salt

Remove pits and scoop avocados into bowl. Mash until chunky. Add remaining ingredients and stir to combine. Adjust seasonings and serve immediately.

2013 Crime Trends by Area



PVE is monitored by Neighborhood Watch members comprising of 6 Areas. What's happened in your area since 01/01/13?

SCAMS:
The Granny Scam has been going around for several years yet many elderly still fall subject each year to a loss totaling in the billions. Targeted at grandparents, criminals call, sometimes impersonating the grandchild, indicating they need bail money or legal fees sent right away. Block Captain Darlene Russell shares her best advice.

- ASK a lot of questions that only you and your grandchild will know
- CALL a family member or close friend.
- NEVER send cash to someone you don't know
- DON'T be in a hurry to try to save the person, weigh the facts and be extremely careful

DID YOU KNOW:

- That the majority of home burglaries occur between 10a.m. - 2p.m.?
- Thefts from vehicles, although occurring mostly in the evening hours will pick up during daylight hours as the weather gets warmer, particularly along the beach?

PVE Trails Need A Watchful Eye

By Karen Logan

One of the treasures of our city are the many miles of trails and fire roads that are enjoyed by runners, hikers, bikers, dog-walkers and horseback riders. Unfortunately they are also used by people with less healthy purposes in mind. Trails are sometimes used for taking drugs, drinking alcohol, smoking, sex and other nefarious activities.

What the PVE PD is doing:

The police department has responded to many neighbor alerts about suspicious activities. They have added regular patrolling to some of the most popular trailheads to monitor parked cars and other indicators in order to be pro active. They also frequently monitor the trails using department ATVs and by walking into the trails. As with all of the streets, homes, parking lots, stores and other areas in the city, there is more square footage to monitor than the diligence of the PVE Police Department can do on their own.

What can you do to help keep our trails safe?

Keeping PVE safe is a joint venture by residents and police. Watchful neighbors provide the police department with additional eyes and ears in areas they are not able to drive by and see while on patrol. The police department is enabled into specific action when they are given a call of suspicious behavior from a resident. The police can be pinpointed to where they're needed most by just the call of a neighbor. The department is diligent to follow up on these calls and many neighbors have contributed to the quick response to those targeted areas that are needed, including our trails.

As residents of PVE, we can all call and make a difference in the safety of our community including it's trails. As a member of



Neighborhood Watch, you can get education and information about scams and crimes in the area and methods to keep your home your house your family and yourself safe.

**See suspicious behavior?
Call PVE PD: 310-378-4211**

PVE-CARES – Caring For Those Who Cared For Us

By Kay Haggard

Meet Rob Blee, PVE-CARES Coordinator, and retired PVE Police Officer of 28 years. Rob oversees 20 volunteers to support our City's unique senior program.

The 2010 census revealed startling statistics. Our nation's population of senior citizens (age 65 and older) was 13.3%. It also revealed that the proportion of senior citizens in PVE far exceeded the national average at 24.2% (over 3,000 citizens). This reflects over 2,100 homes having a member of the household 65 years or older.

Knowing the aging population in our city, PVE-CARES offer resources to help our senior residents stay safe and independent in their own homes. The program is offered FREE to all PVE residents age 65 or older or any "dependent adult" age 18 to 64. A dependent adult is defined as anyone with physical or mental limitations that restrict one's ability to carry on normal activities or to protect rights.

Just by completing the membership form, you understand the importance of being a part of this program. If you were at home alone and needed

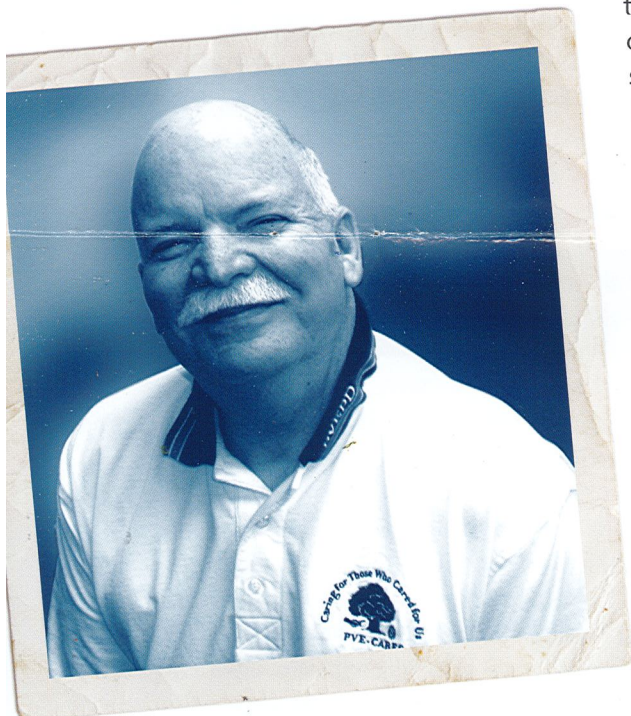
medical attention, who would you want to be notified and how could they be contacted? What is the name of your doctor? Is there a family member you feel would be better prepared to handle the situation? The contact information you provide is kept confidential with PVE PD but is vital information when it really counts.

Every senior doesn't need assistance; however, by registering and having your name in the Program's "Reference File", the information becomes important in the event of an emergency situation or disaster. Knowing who and where our elderly population is allows us to respond accordingly.

Additional membership benefits include trusted resource references for help with senior's needs and to help maintain the ability to reside safely in our own homes. The PVE-CARES Program is much more – they sponsor and host educational and social events for the members throughout the year. Some upcoming events: The Senior's Prom (dance) scheduled for May at the PVE Golf Club with Big Band music; July a band concert in Lunada Bay; September a luncheon at the PVE Golf Club; and the really BIG event – the Senior's Health Fair October 25. Free and scrumptious food is always an incentive to attend any of the PVE-CARES' events, but staying active, learning new things, meeting interesting fun people and seeing friends and neighbors is what residents can expect.

Register for FREE by calling the PVE-CARES Coordinator at (310) 378-4211, ext. 2131. After you have submitted your name, address and telephone number, a PVE-CARES Volunteer will schedule a time to meet with you and register you for the program and explain benefits offered. Rob and his volunteers always carry ID and wear a uniform shirt similar to the one he is wearing in the photo, when a PVE-CARES Representative visits you. Call and register today for this unique PVE PD seniors program.

You'll be thankful you did.



Community Assistance and Resources for the Elderly and Seniors = CARES

NW Student Photo Contest Honorable Mention and PVE Dispatcher's Pick



Thank you to all that submitted such wonderful photos. We would like to acknowledge three honorable mention photos which showed wonderful creativity. And the PVE 9-1-1 Dispatcher's Pick. Congratulations to all.

- Honorable mention:
1. Claire McBride 17 years old
 2. Dylan Glass Refeld 17 years old
 3. Ian Olfarnes 17 years old

Dispatcher's Pick: Rebecca Tenenbaum age 16

Area Reports

MONTEMALAGA Paula van Adelsberg

I have enjoyed my first quarter as the Montemalaga Area Coordinator, having met enthusiastic block captains and a supportive and helpful Board. I'm happy to be more involved with so many caring people in my community. But Montemalaga needs more block captains! The following streets are without block captains: La Cresta, Via Zurita, upper Via Coronel Via Martinez, Gatos Place, Via Fernandez, Via Margarita, Via Arco, Via Acalones, Via Nogales, Rincon Lane, Via Panorama, Via Mirada, and Via Cerritos. If you live on any of the above streets, please consider giving a small amount of your time to help make your neighborhood safer and better prepared for an unexpected disaster.

PAULA VAN ADELSBERG paulavan1@earthlink.net

LUNADA BAY Carolyn Lizdenis

This Spring we are actively trying to grow our Neighborhood Watch membership, and increase the number of Block Captains. I'd like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank those who have stepped up to be a Block Captain: Sheila O'Neil-O'Connor, Barbara Blunt, Mike Franich, CC Cunha, Barbara and Maury Hauser, Carol Holmes, Brita McGee, Elisa Partridge, Mark Sampson, Sara Shulz and Richard Briggs, Gene McCarthy, Jessica Irani, and Kiran Samuels. Out of about 2000 households in Lunada Bay, we currently have 12 active Block Captains. We need more! Please contact me, if you are interested in finding out what it takes to be a Block Captain, or you are, but were not named here. Thank you. Carolyn Lizdenis, 310-308-9299

CAROLYN LIZDENIS Teamdonate.re@cox.net

MALAGA COVE Margo Greenberg

Twenty-one percent of the Malaga Cove homes belong to the Neighborhood Watch program. I strongly encourage having 100%. Please join today and begin enjoying the benefits of being a member by receiving weekly email crime reports, notices of current safety events, social events and ongoing safety education and community functions. Malaga Cove has 11 Block Captains and need more. All that is required is that you get to know your neighbors and try to informally meet them once a year. If you have any questions about the Neighborhood Watch program, please contact me and become the eyes and ears in keeping your block safe. Thank you.

MARGO GREENBERG lomagreen@cox.net

VALMONTE Kyle Daniels

Fellow Valmontians, thank you for the warm welcome to the Neighborhood. My wife Colleen, young son, and I recently moved to Via Solano and love it. Colleen was born and raised in Palos Verdes, me Hermosa Beach. I work for the LA County Fire Department Lifeguard Division and have a business background. I hope you'll join me as a block captain and help keep our neighborhood safe and a wonderful place to live. Look forward to meeting you.

KYLE DANIELS surfrealtor@gmail.com

LUNADA BAY AREA COORDINATORS NEEDED:

Neighborhood Watch Areas are broken into 6 areas and currently we have two vacancies for Area Coordinator; one in Lunada Bay West and one in Lunada Bay South (see map on page 4 for area descriptions). Becoming a Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator is an important contribution towards uniting our community, eliminating crime on your street or block and preparing for emergencies, such as disasters.

Serving as a Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator (NWAC) is rewarding and provides meaningful opportunities to build and strengthen partnerships with neighbors, neighborhood associations, the police department, the fire department, and the city government. Most importantly you will get to know your neighbors and make Palos Verdes Estates a safer place, block by block. If you are willing to support Block Captains in your area please contact Community Relations Officer McCullough at 310-378-4211.

MARCELLE MCCULLOUGH mmccullough@pvestates.org

Ten Tips for Vacation Safety for Your Home

Vacation time is just around the corner. Planning for a trip requires a number of preparation steps. Make sure that your checklist includes preparing your home for safety. Use these recommended tips by many safety experts.

1. Let trusted neighbors know you'll be away so they can keep an eye on your home. Have them pick-up papers, packages or unexpected mail left in front of your home or on your driveway. Discontinuing paper delivery is not always reliable.

2. Submit a "Vacation Watch Form" to the PVE PD. This is a free service provided by our Police Department. Officers will drive by to keep an additional eye on your home. Forms can be obtained from the Police Station, your Area Coordinator or email Officer Marcelle McCullough (MMcCullough@pvestates.org).

3. Make sure mail is picked up daily from unlocked and unattended mailboxes by a trusted person. Better yet, get a locked mailbox to ensure that mail is not stolen. Our city has experienced theft of mail from unlocked street mailboxes.

4. Use multiple light timers within your house to make it look lived in. Consider photo-electric lights for external lighting which will go on when it becomes dark and turn off during the day.

5. Have talk radio or TV playing in your home, set up on a timer to make it sound like life is happening within your home.

6. Keep blinds, curtains and shades in their regular positions. Put valuables out of site.

7. Don't announce your plans – part 1. Gardeners, pool cleaners and other service people do not need to know that you will be out of town. Have your trusted neighbors know who is expected to be providing services in your absence.

8. Don't announce your plans – part 2. Facebook, automated email response or other social media should not have alerts that you are gone. Make sure your children are aware of the importance of keeping this information off the internet, as well.

9. Lock garage, gates, doors & windows. Make sure that all doors have deadbolts and sliding doors have a stick or additional safety lock. Slowing down a would-be burglar can make a difference.

10. Use or consider installing an alarm system. This is a step that can provide an additional level of safety and security.

Burglars thrive on convenience, concealment, and camouflage in order to commit their crimes. Take away all three with some thoughtful preparation. With just a few steps, your home can be safer while you're away, ready to welcome you back when you return.

For more ideas and information, go the National Crime Prevention site (www.ncpc.org).



PVE Community Programs

On March 12th leaders of all five PVE Community Programs met to support each other's programs. In attendance were John Douglass-DDP, Bob Sylvest-NART, Karen Logan-NW, Rob Blee-PVE CARES and Cheryl Dawson-CERT.

To receive vital emergency and crime updates register for free at www.Nixle.com



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