

P
V
E

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Fall
Issue
2014



let's watch out for each other



Chief Jeff Kepley Joins PVE Police Department

As your new police chief, and the newest member of the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department, please let me express how honored and excited I am to be a part of the Palos Verdes Estates community!

As a leader in law enforcement, part of my role and responsibility is to establish collaborative and meaningful relationships with our residents. Much of that work has already been done here through our existing programs resulting in impressive levels of community involvement, engagement, and outreach. Our existing programs, such

as Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART), Disaster District Program (DDP), and the PVE CARES program, provide a wide spectrum of services and support that surpass those in many other communities. Our Neighborhood Watch for example, is unique in the way in which it is a non-profit, managed by a board of directors and self-sufficient, while still in partnership with the police department.

This partnership has never been more relevant, with recent home burglaries being reported in cities all over the

continued on page 3

Scams Target PVE Residents

by Community Relations Officer McCullough

As Community Relations Officer for PVE Police Department, I receive calls daily of scams occurring on our residents. Many receive my weekly report alerting you to these scams, however, many of you do not.

By signing up as a Neighborhood Watch general member, you receive a weekly email from me with the crime report, a cover letter of crime trends, safety tips, ongoing scams and much more. To be added to the list, just return the envelope in this newsletter with your \$5 annual donation to the non-profit organization PVE Neighborhood Watch. If you are unable to make the \$5 contribution, contact my office so we can work to get you this vital information.

Scams and phishing happen to all of us. I even get suspicious email here at the police department. But most scams target our more mature population in large part because seniors are thought to have a significant amount of money sitting in their accounts.

Financial scams also often go unreported or can be difficult to prosecute, so they're considered a "low-risk" crime. However, they're

devastating to all of us but are particularly devastating to seniors and can leave them in a very vulnerable position with little time to recoup their losses.

It's not just seniors who are targeted – everyone is at risk of financial abuse.



When you send money to people you do not know personally or give personal or financial information to unknown callers, you increase your chances of becoming a victim of telemarketing fraud.

Here are some warning signs of telemarketing fraud—what a caller may tell you:

- "You must act 'now' or the offer won't be good."
- "You've won a 'free' gift, vacation, or prize." But you have to pay for "postage and handling" or other charges.
- "You must send money, give a credit card or bank account number, or have a check picked up by courier." You may hear this before you have had a chance to consider the offer carefully.
- "You don't need to check out the company with anyone." The callers say you do not need to speak to anyone including your family, lawyer, accountant, local Better Business Bureau, or consumer protection agency.
- "You don't need any written information about their company or their references."
- "You can't afford to miss this 'high-profit, no-risk' offer."

If you hear these or similar "lines" from a telephone salesperson, just say "no thank you" and hang up the telephone. For more on this story go to www.PVENW.org

Tips for 911 Calls

Make 911 calls from a land line. Calls from cell phones will sometimes be directed to another agency. The first information to provide is location so police know the area to dispatch a car. If you are calling from a cell phone instead of a land line, program the non-emergency number; **310-378-4211** into your cell phone which directs your call directly to PVE PD Dispatch.

Lunada Bay's Harvest Festival & Oktoberfest

Sunday, October 26th from 2-7pm

Bring your lawn chair or blankets and enjoy face painting, hair dying, balloon animals, bungee and art exhibit. German craft beers and sausages available for purchase.

2-4pm: Pumpkin Races and Dog Costume Parade

4-7pm: Oktoberfest Band and Beer Garden

5:30-6pm: Celebrate the Cities' 75th with cake



in this issue:

- Scams
- Message from Police Chief
- Community Spirit
- Annual Meeting
- Photo Contest Winner

- National Night Out
- Teen Disaster Preparedness
- Crimes in Broad Daylight
- Area Coordinator Reports

NW website: www.pvenw.org

President's Message:

By Karen Logan

Hello PVE Neighbors,

As a resident of PVE, it's easy to feel safe and secure in such beautiful surroundings. However, it's increasingly important to employ recommended practices to keep our homes, families and neighborhoods safe.

In my neighborhood, we had a burglary recently. It was a heartbreak to realize that someone has lost things that were special to them and has had their private space violated. This event was a wake-up call to be watchful and aware.

Help us build a stronger Neighborhood Watch and a safer community in these simple ways:

- Get to know your neighbors, meet someone new
- Call to report suspicious activities
- Keep home locked and secure
- Join or renew Neighborhood Watch membership
- Become a Block Captain



Criminals have become more clever. They knock at our doors, call us on our phones and approach us through our email. We must be continually watchful and seek to stop crime at these gateways.

Your Neighborhood Watch Board and Community Relations Officer, Marcelle McCullough, provide information on crime trends and best practices for protecting your family and your privacy and security. Read the weekly crime reports and check our website for updates on scams, crime prevention and other safety topics.

For more information contact Marcelle McCullough our Community Relations Officer, (phone: 310.378.4211 or e-mail: mmccullough@pvestates.org) or email me.

Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Prepared

Karen Logan

2014 PVE Neighborhood Watch President
www.pvenw.org pvenwboard@gmail.com

Mark Your Calendars!

Neighborhood Watch invites all Residents to "Meet and Mingle" at the Annual Meeting Sunday, November 2, 2014 at 3pm

Please join us at City Hall for an opportunity to meet new Police Chief, Jeff Kepley, and our Police Officers. Get your questions answered and learn what your Police Department and Neighborhood Watch have accomplished in 2014 and what is planned for 2015. With refreshments, fun prizes (including a chance to win a catered meal with the Chief in a jail cell) and photo ops you won't want to miss it!



Catch the Spirit...Community Is What You Make It

By Kay Finer, past President, PVE Neighborhood Watch

How can we preserve our neighborhoods and community and make them even better? In this fast-paced social media-driven world, what more can we do to stay connected and create more "face time"?

Some of the answers for the future may go back to 1989 when the City celebrated its 50th Jubilee. Five major events took place over 50 days, unprecedented in the city's history! As one of many early organizers, I was tasked with recruiting over 900 volunteers, many were Block Captains and members of PVE Neighborhood Watch. Amazing talents and leadership bubbled to the surface. Life-long friendships and associations formed as great ideas transformed into the creation of fun and memorable events for all ages.

Thousands lined up to watch the Jubilee Parade as it wound through the city with marching bands and huge floats including a replica of the city's 1927 entry in the Rose Parade with King Neptune as the centerpiece! Malaga Cove Library presented the history of the city and Founders Day honored early leaders from the 1920's and 1930's. Sports Day included a 10K race, cricket and family activities at Roessler Pool. A Gala magically transformed Malaga Cove Plaza as the buildings were bathed in multi-colored lights and vintage cars surrounded the 750 residents gathered for a formal dinner and dancing under the stars. Oh, and of course, there were fireworks!

Those who "caught the spirit" continued volunteering long after the 50th. Funds were

raised saving the historic Roessler Pool from demolition establishing the Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club, a jewel by the sea. Beautification projects improved Malaga Cove Plaza and restored King Neptune Fountain, the site of the city's celebration of incorporation in 1939. PVENW grew as neighbors came to know each other through the Jubilee, and the city became a safer place to live.

We had "face time" and connected, called each other and visited during PVENW meetings and other gatherings. What will our community be in the future? Ruth Gralow, Mayor during the Jubilee, stated "We live in one of the most wonderful communities that exists. Together, we can keep it this way."

The 75th Anniversary is a new opportunity for residents of all ages to discover the importance of participation for the next generation. Catch the spirit, join in the festivities, give back when you can and stay connected through PVE Neighborhood Watch.

Go to www.pve75.com for a listing of 75th Anniversary activities including the Diamond Jubilee on October 18th at the Palos Verdes Golf Club. Kudos to the PVE 75th Celebration Committee for organizing exciting celebratory events throughout the 75th year for residents and families to enjoy.



Fundraiser award recipient enjoying dinner in PVE Police Department Jail (circa 2000)

Pictured: L-R Rosemary Kruft, Rita Barnett, Peggy Hensley, Stella Horton

PVE 75th Anniversary NW Photo Contest Winner

By unanimous vote Palos Verdes High School student, Arianna Proul, won the 75th Anniversary Photo Contest and \$100. Her photo is of the PVE Beach & Athletic Club--Past and Present. Congratulations, Arianna. We thank all those who submitted entries!

Photo Contest Partner

Special thanks to Mark Comon of Paul's Photo for supporting our last three photo contests. Paul's Photo is the photographic hub of the South Bay. This family-owned business has been part of the community since 1961. It's a one-stop shop for all of your photographic needs. Meet Mark at: 23845 Hawthorne Blvd., Torrance, Calif. 90505 (310) 375-7014.



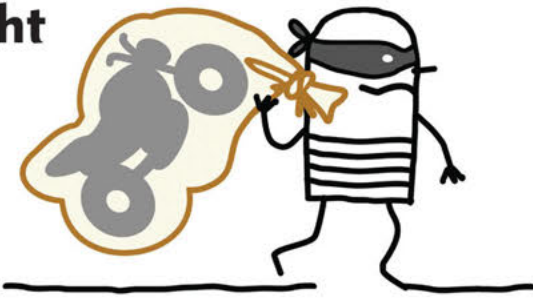
National Night Out on August 15, 2014 had Largest Turnout Ever!

Officer McGruff, City staff, Police, Fire department NW/NART volunteer representatives split into 3 caravans visiting 19 parties resulting in PVE's largest NNO celebration in history. A special thank you to the host and hostesses. It was neighbors meeting neighbors, City officials, McGruff, kids checking out police cars and fire trucks, adults relaxing having fun, with good food and much more. Living in PVE is special.



Things that go "Bump" in Broad Daylight

Bumps and mysterious noises don't just happen in Halloween stories or on dark and stormy nights or when you're alone. This is a true tale -- prevent the "gremlins" from "haunting" your home—



close your garage and exterior doors and gates!

It was a sunny morning and Gladys was going about her daily activities at home. She lived in a city very much like PVE, on a quiet, beautiful street with neighbors she trusted. She was used to hearing the sounds of birds and blowers as part of daily life in her neighborhood.

Unexpectedly, she heard a bump. She shook her head as if to shrug off the mysterious sound and continued on with her tasks. A few minutes later, she heard a bump, bump. What could that be? Something down the street? Something on the TV? She continued her tasks and then bump, bump, ting, bump! OK, now she had to explore. Could it be coming from her garage? She opened the door leading from her house into her garage. To her shock and horror she saw that two men were loading up her washer and dryer into a truck and were just about ready to leave. She stood frozen in the doorway. She had left her garage door open and now it had become a gateway to crime!

Don't let this happen to you! Always close your garage door when you're not inside the garage.

- Garages are filled with valuable items and may provide a gateway directly into your home
- Open garage doors, exterior doors and gates send a message to would-be criminals that we are not paying attention to details or being careful about the security of our homes
- An open garage door is an invitation to theft, or worse!

Police Chief *continued*

the South Bay. So I encourage those in our community not yet involved, to find a way to participate. Your Neighborhood Watch needs you! You are the eyes and ears within the community that can alert the police department of suspicious activity or other matters needing immediate police attention.

Get involved, get to know your neighbors, and join Neighborhood Watch today.



Students' Disaster Preparedness Project *by Resident, Teresa Durko*

A special community project began three years ago when guest speaker, Marcelle McCullough talked about disaster preparedness at a PVE Verde Los Hermanos group meeting (a Mother/Son charitable organization) and what they could do to protect their homes in case of a major disaster. This appealed to three young boys, Dirk Durko, Holden Maudin, and Ryan Kumar. They learned how to shut off a typical home's main gas and water line. They were encouraged to go out to their neighbors and help locate and identify their gas meters by marking the valve with orange duct tape and attaching the correct tool to turn off the flow of gas and water in an emergency.

Their primary focus was gas meters because following an earthquake, a gas leak is the most dangerous risk, possibly resulting in an explosion and/or fire. The boys now 18 have helped better prepare their community, completed Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), taken CPR and First Aid courses and are involved with their school and the City of PVE disaster preparedness programs.



Area Coordinator Reports

LUNADA BAY SOUTH Larry Manth

I hope everyone had a great summer. Fall is approaching and school has started. Please watch out for kids walking to school and slow down. Daylight is starting to dwindle down, so please pay special attention when you are driving. As always, keep an eye out for suspicious cars or people in your neighborhood and don't hesitate to call the police department to have them checked out. Once again NW will have a booth at the Lunada Bay Harvest Festival and I encourage you to stop by and say hello. The Festival is October 26th at the Lunada Bay Plaza.

LARRY MANTH Larrymanth@gmail.com

LUNADA BAY EAST Carolyn Lizdenis

As a mom with children, it's fun to get together with your neighbors while your kids play together, like we did at our National Night Out party. However, some of our senior neighbors said they would not be attending because they no longer had a spouse, or young kids, and they would feel like an outsider at the NNO party. I tell you this to hopefully inspire you to make an effort to get to know your senior neighbors. Neighborhood Watch is just as much about watching out for our neighbors as it is about watching out for bad guys in our neighborhood.

CAROLYN LIZDENIS Teamdonate.re@cox.net

LUNADA BAY WEST Anne Celestin

I am thrilled serving as the new area coordinator, grateful for the amazing welcome and meeting so many of you at our NNO. Being on the 75th PVE Anniversary Committee, the NW Board asked me to suggest a way in which NW could contribute to this milestone and supported our idea of 75th Anniversary Streamers. You may have seen the purple, white and green ribbons on mailboxes or hung in front yards along PV Drive, Paseo Del Mar, Via Valmonte or on your street? We wanted something eye catching and to create conversation. Hopefully it has, and you will fly your streamers still available at City Hall. See you in the neighborhood!

ANNE CELESTIN anne@prosourceadvisors.com

MALAGA COVE Cheryl Kohr

Malaga Cove had two National Night Out events August 5. Block Captains Joan Ernster and Elaine Bohner coordinated the annual Via Somonte Block Party with 56 attending. The Yang's hosted a fun gathering in Lower Malaga Cove with 39 in attendance. Thank you for being a member of Neighborhood Watch and remembering to renew. If you are not yet a member, please join for \$5 per year. As always, watch and report any suspicious activity to the police. Feel free to contact me.

CHERYL KOHR c_kohr@hotmail.com

VALMONTE Robert Smith

As the new Valmonte Area Coordinator, I would like to thank all the Block Captains and individuals that helped make this year's neighborhood "National Night Out" a huge success. As a result, I was able to introduce myself as the AC to some of our captains and many neighbors. So, this would be a good time for us to schedule our Valmonte annual meeting. All Valmonte Block captains and neighbors who are interested in participating and learning more about Neighborhood Watch, please contact me.

ROBERT SMITH rsmith@seniorlivinglifestyle.com

MONTEMALAGA needs an AC

Our NW Area Coordinators truly make a difference in our community. As a Police Department we value their service and appreciate their efforts in coordinating a strong Block Captain program and well connected neighborhood. In Montemalaga we need an Area Coordinator. If you would like to make a difference to ensure a safer community for your family and neighbors, contact Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough at 310-378-4211 for an application. It's fun, and there is plenty of support from the NW Board and Police Department.

MARCELLE MCCULLOUGH MMcCullough@pvestates.org

New Volunteer Programs--Patrol Support & Parkland Rangers

We have received great interest from within the community for volunteer opportunities with the City and specifically, the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department. As such, two programs, Parkland Rangers and Volunteers in Patrol, are being developed for consideration by the Palos Verdes Estates City Council in the coming months. Thank you to all those who have shown interest, and we will continue to keep a list of names of interested volunteer candidates on file to be forwarded to the police department volunteer program managers when the programs are developed and approved for start-up.

For more information or to add your name to the list contact: Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough at PH: 310-378-4211 ext 2121 or mmccullough@pvestates.org.

Calendar of Events

OCTOBER

- 02 Get to Know Your City - Roadmap to City Services
- 16 Get to Know Your City - Planning/Development
- 24 PVE Senior's Health Fair
- 9-13 Heritage Days - Art & History at Malaga Cove Library
- 18 75th Anniversary Diamond Jubilee Evening at PV Golf Club 5:30pm
- 26 Lunada Bay Harvest Festival & Oktoberfest



NOVEMBER

- 02 Neighborhood Watch Annual Meeting
- 08 Shredding event PV High School

Malaga Cove Block Captains Meet to Support Safety

Malaga Cove Neighborhood Watch Block Captains, led by Area Coordinator Cheryl Kohr, met for the second time this year to learn about recent area trends and how our PVE Police Department is working with neighbors to support our safety. Service Officer Placek came to speak on how a dispatcher works to collect information when you call to report suspicious activities. She provided Block Captains with the following strategy to help provide information on a suspicious vehicle:



CYMBOL

- Color
- Year
- Make
- Body type
- Other distinguishing marks/traits
- License

NW 2014 Board



Larry Manth, AC Lunada Bay South
 Robert Smith, AC Valmonte
 Karen Logan, President NW
 Carolyn Lizdenis, AC Lunada Bay East
 Anne Celestin, AC Lunada Bay West
 Janet Earl, Vice President
 Kay Haggard, Secretary
 Cheryl Kohr, AC Malaga Cove
 Steve Burns, Membership Coordinator
 Ron Sears, Treasurer

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. POSTAGE PAID
 TORRANCE, CA
 PERMIT #256

ECRWSS

ATTN: POSTAL PATRON

NEIGHBORHOOD
 WATCH



P.O. BOX 925
 PALOS VERDES ESTATES
 CALIFORNIA 90274