

P
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NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Spring
Issue
2016



let's watch out for each other

(310) 378-4211 x2121
www.pvenw.org

Valmonte Gathers for **HUGE** Neighborhood Watch Event

On February 6th, nearly 200 Valmonte residents gathered for a Neighborhood Watch event at the Valmonte Elementary Learning Academy (VELA).

Police Chief Kepley provided an engaging presentation about the history of the PVE Police Department, the successes of capturing criminals in recent months and recommendations residents could employ to protect their homes. He provided updates on strategies the Department is using to collaborate with other local agencies and continuously improve the approaches used internally.

The Chief addressed questions and provided suggestions on how residents could support upcoming Police projects by becoming aware

of upcoming items on the City Council Agenda.

There was tremendous participation from residents, Police and Neighborhood Watch volunteers--another example of how our small town comes together for the common good. The event was supported by one of Valmonte's newest Block Captains, Liz Matthews, who helped to make the event a success.



New 2016 NW President, Larry Manth, addressed the group. The meeting was well represented by Block Captains, Neighborhood Watch Board Members and Area Coordinators.

If you're interested in having a NW Block Captain meeting or an Area Event, contact your Area Coordinator (see the Area Coordinators section of this newsletter for more information).

PVE's **Proud** Volunteers

More volunteer help has arrived! PVE Neighborhood Watch, one of several dedicated volunteer organizations in our community, collaborates with residents and the Police Department alike. The PVE PD has been working toward adding two new volunteer programs to help keep our community safe; the Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) and the Parkland Rangers (PR). Both programs are ready for deployment!

The first group of eight volunteers has completed the screening process and is now being trained by Police Department staff. These new community volunteers will serve as extra eyes and ears in our community, both in our streets and neighborhoods, as well as along the parklands and coastline.

The VIPS will be wearing a uniform consisting of a white police-style shirt with police shoulder patches and blue police-style pants. They will be driving the police department's volunteer police car which is an all-white car with the PVE PD markings as well as "VOLUNTEER" on the sides and rear. The new volunteers will be conducting vacation home checks, traffic control, observe & report, running errands, etc. The Parkland Ranger Volunteers will wear a different uniform more suitable to the trail conditions, which consists of a tan polo shirt and black pants. They will mostly patrol our trails and coastline

on foot and will monitor activity in and around the Parklands.

So when you see the VIPS or Parkland Rangers on patrol or at one of our many community events, be sure to stop and introduce yourself. And, if you would like to get involved as a community volunteer, we gladly welcome you. Please contact Marcelle McCullough at 310-378-4211.

Your Police Department continues to work with neighbors and community volunteers to inform, educate and service the residents of Palos Verdes Estates.



Hiking Trails in PVE

Our fair city is home to nearly two dozen spectacular hiking trails. They range in terrain and location, taking you along cliffsides and hillsides to sandy beaches and canyons.

Thanks to the generous amount of rainfall this season, you will see nature in full bloom.

For maps, distances, elevations and more detailed information visit: mapmyhike.com/us/palos-verdes-estates-ca/. Remember to report suspicious activity on the trails: 310-378-4211.

NW Meeting on April 5

Please join us for a Neighborhood Watch Meeting on Tuesday evening, April 5 at 6:30pm at Malaga Cove School, 375 Via Almar, in the Community Room. Guest speaker: Chief of Police, Jeff Kepley. Meet your police department, learn about crime trends, crime prevention and law enforcement efforts to stop crime. All are invited. For more information, contact Cheryl Kohr NW Area Coordinator for Malaga Cove at: cheryl_kohr@mac.com

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NW website: www.pvenw.org

President's Message:

By Larry Manth



Hello Fellow PVE Neighbors,

I was elected as our new NW President for 2016 to serve and represent our small town once called "a jewel by the sea". I believe we are fortunate to live in PVE, sharing a strong sense of civic pride, striving to keep our town as safe and idyllic as possible.

During the 4th quarter of last year, we saw an unprecedented increase in crime in our neighborhoods. But thanks to Chief Kepley, the PVE Police Department and YOU, residential burglaries decreased dramatically in January and February. One reason is the determination of our police department to track down criminals until they are caught, leaving no stone unturned, no street

unsearched. At the Valmonte neighborhood meeting, Chief Kepley's message to would-be criminals was: "If you come to PVE and commit a crime, we will get you!" All residents can play a part in crime prevention by calling 310-378-4211 to report suspicious activity. By doing so, you are helping to keep our small town safe.

Neighborhood Watch needs your help, and we are increasing our volunteers this year. If you can spend an hour a week, an hour a month, we will find a place for you. Please contact me at LarryManth@gmail.com if you are interested.

Take care and be on the alert!

Community Connections

Are you interested in getting neighborhood updates or learning more about PVE? Here are a few sites that post neighborhood-related information:

Nextdoor.com A private social network for neighbors to talk online about safety and local happenings.

Nixle.com Posts up-to-date information from local public safety departments & schools.

PVENW.org Neighborhood Watch's website promoting community ties, safety, crime prevention, disaster preparedness and neighborhood events.

PVESTATES.org PVE City website providing information about city government, history, city services, local news, community events, disaster preparedness and the environment.



How To Better Protect Your Home

PVE has experienced a rash of burglaries, and although these crimes have lessened, the PVE Police Department asks that we remain diligent about crime prevention. They offer a free Home Security Assessment, whereby a police officer will come to your home for an external security assessment. To request your assessment, contact the Police Department at (310) 378-4211. You can also do an assessment yourself using the form available on the city website. For more information visit www.pvestates.org.



If you have home security cameras, you may consider registering with the Police Department. The cameras could assist with solving criminal activity on your property, as well as on your block. For more information, visit the city website at www.pvestates.org/index.aspx?page=245

Anti-Theft Dots Identify Your Property

Police officers have received training on the use of Anti-Theft crime dots. When officers recover property, they will check to see if the property was marked with the Anti-Theft crime dots. If so, the officers can quickly contact the owner and reunite them with their property.

Residents are encouraged to mark their valuable property with these Anti-Theft dots. Applying Anti-Theft crime dots to your property is quick, simple, does not cause damage to the property, and is only visible with the use of a black light. The Anti-Theft crime dots are available for purchase at Malaga Cove Ranch Market and Lunada Bay Hardware.

Security Cameras

Camera surveillance systems are fast becoming the norm today. Many homeowners are integrating video surveillance with their home security systems for better protection. Today our tech-driven society places its trust in state-of-the-art systems that keep families and property safe. In recent years, security camera systems have become more versatile and affordable. You can choose from a wide range of hard-wired and wireless camera systems. Both types function in the same manner and are designed to capture or record video footage. Neighborhood Watch member and Block Captain Steve Friedrich has



volunteered to answer questions you may have about security systems. Steve can be contacted at sfriedrich@cox.net.

PVE resources for security cameras can be found on the City's website: www.pvestates.org/index.aspx?page=134.

The Caravans Are Coming National Night Out Tuesday, August 2nd

This year the NW Board of Directors and City Officials are discussing new ideas for celebrating National Night Out on Tuesday, August 2nd. The goal is to have larger parties and more time at each stop so neighbors can visit with representatives from the Police Department, Fire Department, City Officials, Neighborhood Watch and Officer McGruff. Stay tuned for more exciting information to be announced soon!



NW Renewal Made Simple

Many residents have mentioned it's hard to remember when it's time to renew their membership. We're making it easier by having a once a year membership drive by Area.

Mark your calendar for your renewal schedule:

- Valmonte: Feb/March
- Montemalaga: May
- Malaga Cove: July
- Lunada Bay South, East, West: October

Renew your membership online at our website: www.pvenw.org/membership or via PayPal or by sending in the form found on the website.

Only \$10

JOIN NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Beware of Scams

We are all targets of scams and phishing which often go unreported, or can be difficult to prosecute because they're considered a "low-risk" crime. **Some common scams are:**

- Telemarketing Fraud
- Beneficiary Scam
- Deceptive Sales Scam
- IRS/Treasury Scam
- Norton Anti-Virus or Computer Virus/Maintenance Scams

When you send money to anyone you don't know or give personal or financial information to unknown callers, your chance of becoming a victim of telemarketing fraud increases. Don't let this happen to you.

Common telemarketing fraud pitches—what a caller may tell you:

- "You must act 'now' or the offer won't be valid."
- "You've won a 'free' gift, a 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 a 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 the company or its 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

Libby's Lunch in the Slammer

At the November NW Annual Meeting, long-time PVE resident Libby Helms won the grand prize--lunch in the slammer with Police Chief Jeff Kepley. On January 28, Libby along with her invited guests Larry Manth, Kay Haggard and Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough were served a delicious Lasagna meal in jail. A private tour of the police station topped off the event. Thank you, Chief Kepley, for a memorable day. And thank you, Mama Terano, for catering a delicious lunch.



Is Your Mail Secure?

Although tampering with the mail is a Federal offense, breaking into personal and US Postal mailboxes is a growing crime.



Take these simple steps to secure your mail. The US Postal Inspection Service recommends:

- Use letter slots inside your Post Office or hand mail to a letter carrier
- Pick up your mail promptly. Don't leave it overnight.
- If you don't receive a check or other valuable mail, contact the issuing agency immediately.
- Immediately notify your Post Office and anyone with whom you do business via the mail for change of address
- Don't send cash in the mail.
- Request Post Office to hold mail when out of town.
- Leverage Neighborhood Watch program and exchange work and vacation schedules with trusted neighbors. Watch each other's mailboxes/homes.
- Consult with local Postmaster on availability of locked centralized or curbside mailboxes.

If you see a mail thief at work or believe your mail was stolen, immediately call police then call Postal Inspectors at 877-876-2455 (press 3)

For more information: <https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov> Home > Investigations > Mail Theft > How to Protect Against Thieves

Neighborhood Watch Needs A Secretary

The office of Secretary is open to a qualified resident of PVE. It is an opportunity for you to become involved in Neighborhood Watch, get to know other volunteer residents and help to keep our neighbors and our city safe. The term is for one year (2016) subject to re-election at the NW Annual Meeting held in November. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and a resident of PVE. Whether a long-time neighbor or a brand new one, being a part of the NW Board is a fun and meaningful way to connect with the community.

Duties include keeping minutes of the Board of Directors meetings and maintaining the minutes in a permanent record made available at all meetings. The secretary shall review the minutes of previous meetings and make corrections as needed, send notices as needed and perform other duties as may be prescribed in our Bylaws or by the Board of Directors. Past experience as a secretary or board member, familiarity with Roberts Rules of Order and knowledge of shorthand would be helpful. A personal computer and working knowledge of MS Word software and the emailing of minutes, notices, & memos is required. The Secretary must attend the regular monthly Board of Directors meetings and shall have all the Power & Duties of such Board Member.

Contact PVE Neighborhood Watch President, Larry Manth, for more information of responsibilities at pvenwboard@gmail.com.



2016 PHOTO CONTEST

PVE's Beautiful Parklands & Trails

Neighborhood Watch invites you to enter the 2016 Photo Contest "PVE's Beautiful Parklands and Trails". Be the lucky winner of \$100 cash.

- Open to all PVE residents, students who attend school in PVE and adults who work in PVE.
- Winning photo will appear in the Fall 2016 Neighborhood Watch Newsletter.
- Deadline for entries: August 31, 2016.
- Maximum of 5 photos per person.
- Email your photos as high resolution JPEG files to (pvenwboard@gmail.com).
- Include name, contact info (phone# or email address) and if under 18 include your parents' name and contact information.
- Indicate the date photo was taken and type of camera used.
- Winner will be notified by September 21, 2016.
- Judging will be done by the NW Board of Directors and photographers' names will be revealed to Judges after the winner is selected.
- Full recognition will be given to the lucky winning photographer. All entries may be used by PVE in future newsletters or city brochures. Have fun and start shooting!

WIN
\$100
CASH



Stay Vigilant with Vehicles

Valmonte residents are reporting a rash of vehicle break-ins. Other areas have also experienced thefts of laptops, wallets and more from unlocked cars. Our best defense is a strong offense. Remember to **ALWAYS LOCK YOUR CARS** even when parked in the driveway. Keep valuables out of sight, preferably not in the car. Remember your garage door opener can easily provide entry into your home as many of us have house access from inside the garage. So lock up and keep safe.

2016 Neighborhood Watch Board



L-R: Kay Haggard (Secretary), Merlin David (AC LBE), Anne Celestin (AC LBW), Karen Logan (AC Valmonte), Ron Sears (Treasurer), Cheryl Kohr (AC MC), Larry Manth (President), Steve Burns (Membership Coordinator).

Area Coordinator Reports

LUNADA BAY SOUTH Larry Manth

My wife and I chose Palos Verdes Estates for a number of reasons: great schools, safe neighborhoods, beautiful weather, and kid-friendly, to name a few. I grew up in Amherst, NY, a suburb of Buffalo. Amherst was rated the safest city in America for a number of years. I see PVE as quite similar to Amherst, except the weather of course. Living in PVE reminds me of my home town. Prior to having a family, I lived on the West Side and the Beach Cities. For families, nothing beats living in PVE. We should all be thankful for our wonderful community and its small town charm.

LARRY MANTH Larrymanth@gmail.com

LUNADA BAY EAST Merlin David

My wife and I lived in Redondo Beach and discovered Palos Verdes Estates while riding bicycles around the peninsula (we biked from Canada to Mexico and more). We got engaged at the lighthouse, and PVE seemed an ideal place to raise a family. 12 years ago we moved to Lunada Bay. Now I walk our two girls to school every day, and love being a part of this friendly community, being active with LB Elementary School activities, and hosting our 4th of July bicycle parade. I invite you to support PVE Neighborhood Watch, and together protect our neighborhood.

MERLIN DAVID merlindavid@cox.net

LUNADA BAY WEST Anne Celestin

I discovered Lunada Bay when I married Brent, a single Dad living in Lower Lunada Bay. We had his 3 older children, Jackson, Casey and Callie at Lunada Bay Elementary and now we have 6 year-old twins in Kindergarten. The kids have always walked to our local schools as we felt PVE to be a safe community. Recently, we have had to be more vigilant. Please help to keep our neighborhood safe and watch out for one another. If you see something, say something. Stay safe and I hope to see you in the neighborhood soon.

ANNE CELESTIN anne@prosourceadvisors.com

MALAGA COVE Cheryl Kohr

As a native of the Midwest, I never expected to live in California, much less in PVE! I was attracted to PVE's great reputation as a safe and quiet community. Upon moving here in 2012, I immediately joined Neighborhood Watch as a Block Captain and later became an Area Coordinator. What I enjoy most is the small town feeling, hiking trails, ocean views and clean air. We are all fortunate to live here. If you are not a current NW member, I urge you to join or renew. Interested in becoming a Block Captain in Malaga Cove? Contact me:

CHERYL KOHR c_kohr@hotmail.com

VALMONTE Karen Logan

Every day is like a "staycation" living in Valmonte. I love running, walking and hiking the many trails hidden within the trees or along the bluffs. My iPhone is filled with incredible views of our amazing city.

It's a pleasure to serve my community by being involved in Neighborhood Watch. My goal this year is to have a Block Captain for every street within Valmonte.

Join me keeping our neighborhood a safe place to walk, run and play. Contact me to get involved and see how fun and rewarding it is:

KAREN LOGAN kklogan1@mac.com

MONTEMALAGA John Teng

As far as I'm concerned, the most effective deterrent to the rising crime rate in our community has nothing to do with street cameras, security alarms, or police patrols, but rather on the friendships we cultivate with our neighbors. To that end, I invite you to contact me if you are willing to host a small dinner party at your home to meet a few more of your amazing neighbors. I'll pave the way and help you make an introduction. The more we break bread together, the more we will be building lasting friendships that work to better safeguard our families and community.

JOHN TENG brotherteng@gmail.com

Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinators:

Lunada Bay South



Larry Manth

Lunada Bay East



Merlin David

Lunada Bay West



Anne Celestin

Malaga Cove



Cheryl Kohr

Valmonte



Karen Logan

Montemalaga



John Teng

Calendar of Events

MAY

- 3 PVE-CARES Sing-along Event 11am – 1pm at the PV Golf Club
- 7 Bulky Trash and Electronic Waste Pickup Day

JUNE

- 6 Special Olympics Torch Run through PVE 10am – 11am

JULY

- 4 Independence Day Picnic at Malaga Cove School
- 14 Pet Vaccination Clinic at City Hall 4pm – 6pm

AUGUST

- 2 National Night Out 6pm – 8pm in Neighborhoods near you

SEPTEMBER

- 8 PVE-CARES' Doctor Talk 11am – 1pm at the PV Golf Club

OCTOBER

- 28 PVE-CARES Senior Health Fair 10am – 1pm at the Neighborhood Church

Think Local. Thank You, Local Businesses.

Special thanks to the local Palos Verdes Peninsula Directory for supporting PVE Neighborhood Watch in their 2016 Directory. Celebrating 61 years as a community resource for Palos Verdes residents to find local business and community information all in one place. The Directory is published for the benefit of Palos Verdes Hills Nursery School and Community Helpline. Check out <http://www.pvlifetoday.com> for Happenings in your Neighborhood.



City Council Meetings

Saturday April 9 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday April 26 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday May 10 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday May 24 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday June 14 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday June 28 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday July 12 – 7:30 pm

Tuesday July 26 – 7:30 pm

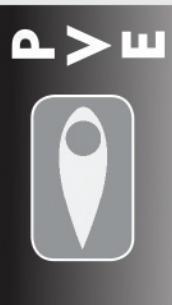
City Survey

The city is conducting a survey and your input would be appreciated. Go to www.pvestates.org to start the survey. Contact Marcelle McCullough at 310-378-4211 for more information. Thank you for your participation!

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ATTN: POSTAL PATRON

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



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