

P
V
E

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Summer
Issue
2017



let's watch out for each other

(310)378-4211 ext 2121
pvenwboard@gmail.com
www.pvenw.org

Then & Now... A Stroll Down Memory Lane

Today PVE Neighborhood Watch is 37 years old, and is looking to the future with an enthusiastic sense of purpose. We thank those that led the way, and we are in search of those who will take up the lead and carry forth the presence and purpose of PVE's Neighborhood Watch to keep our community safe and crime free.

Palos Verdes Estates is our "jewel by the sea." Rich in history and natural beauty, PVE was meticulously planned and designed nearly a century ago with the intention of creating an idyllic community where residents could enjoy a lifestyle of aesthetics, SAFETY and outdoor activities. For nearly 50 years it was a safe haven. But the 1970s brought a marked increase in "crimes of opportunity" as residents, feeling safe and unthreatened, left doors unlocked and windows open—an invitation to thieves. Criminals became bold and mobile, taking advantage of our lax safety precautions.

Our safe haven changed forever when a residential robbery took place in the Valmonte area. Homeowners were tied up and threatened at gun point. The reaction was dramatic as concerned residents crowded the Malaga Cove School for what turned out to be a standing room only meeting conducted by then Police Chief "Buck" Dollarhide.

In 1980 a group of residents led by Jill Barkley of Valmonte began the incorporated Palos Verdes Estates Neighborhood Watch, a 501(c)(3) organization, banding together to make a difference for community safety.

Public awareness was heightened as local media spread the word that PVE was NO LONGER AN EASY TARGET, covering the downturn in crime and featuring articles on crime prevention. Our message was "Be vigilant, NOT vigilantes". 1980-1984 boasted a record 48% drop in crime statistics.

Fast forward 37 years later, PVE Neighborhood Watch remains an integral part of PVE's crime prevention strategy. As many will remember,

we had an increased spike in crime in the fourth quarter of 2015. Once again, under the leadership of Chief Kepley and in conjunction with PVE Neighborhood Watch and engaged residents, we banded together to say "not here!"

PVE Neighborhood Watch increased Block Meetings and added Town Hall Meetings to get the word out on how to be watchful, aware and engaged. Through education on crimes occurring and recommendations for crime prevention techniques, residents were equipped with information to fortify their homes. With the diligence of the PVE PD and the continued calls of watchful residents, the crime statistics have sharply dropped over the past 12-18 months.

PVE's Neighborhood Watch needs your help to keep the momentum strong and our city safe. Our 2017 goal is to have all 5,200 homes become a part of Neighborhood Watch. That means every home being engaged and aware. Our Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinators are actively looking to have a Block Captain for each and every block.

When we have a strong Neighborhood Watch network (members, block captains and leaders), we are connected to preserve our safety. It also means we have the ability to be prepared in time of a disaster to make key connections with our Disaster District Program (DDP).

The PVE Neighborhood Watch is supported by your generous donations. Please use the enclosed envelope and help us expand our communication and support of this vital community resource. Help keep PVE the "jewel by the sea" that is a safe haven for all.



1980:
Jill Barkley of Valmonte begins Neighborhood Watch

1983:
National Night Out is established for neighbors to meet each other and strengthen ties

1980s:
Crime prevention mascot, McGruff makes his debut to "Take a Bite Out of Crime"

1980s:
Neighborhood Watch helps fund the 1st K-9 named "Palk", who was Officer Joe Hall's partner

2017:
Our goal is to have all 5,200 homes in PVE become a part of Neighborhood Watch! Join, donate, volunteer

LET'S BE GOOD NEIGHBORS
Be Safe
Be Aware
Be Prepared

Senior Health Fair

PVE-CARES is proud to host the 12th annual Senior Health and Wellness Fair in October. Stay tuned to the city website for more details. There will be lots of valuable health resources for seniors: free flu shots, medical screenings, exhibitors, free lunch. Ask the Doctor, Dentist, Pharmacist, and a drawing for door prizes.



PVE-CARES
for our seniors

PVE-CARES

Are you a resident who is aware of a senior on your block who might benefit from the free PVE-CARES Senior Program?

If so, contact Community Relations Officer Herrera at mherrera@pvestates.org or call (310) 378-4211 extension 2121. PVE-CARES is a city funded program and is offered free to PVE residents.

Tips for 911 Calls

It's best to make 911 calls from a land line, if possible. Cell phone calls may be directed to another agency if the signal bounces off the ocean or is redirected by the nearest cell tower. Police need to know your location in order to dispatch a car. **SAFETY TIP:** Put the PVE PD Number: (310) 378-4211 into your cell phone and make it a favorite. Your call will go to PVE PD Dispatch during an emergency.

in this issue:

SAVE THE DATE
Sunday, November 5
Neighborhood Watch Annual Meeting

- Neighborhood Watch is 37 years old
- FREE Membership This Summer
- Summer Vacation Safety Tips
- National Night Out 2017
- Identifying Suspicious Behavior

- Success Stories: Vigilance Works
- Reporting Suspicious Activity
- Historical Timelines
- Area Coordinator Reports

NW website: www.pvenw.org

President's Message:

By Larry Manth



Why did many of us decide to live in Palos Verdes Estates? Great schools, great neighbors, great views, and a great local police department. Neighborhood Watch partners with our police department to encourage residents to **say something** if they **see something** suspicious. We all love the security of having our local police department. When I see a PVE police cruiser parked near my kids' elementary school, I feel safe. Feeling safe is priceless. Knowing that I can pick up the phone and have the

police at my house in less than five minutes is something that 99.99% of people in this world CANNOT do. Knowing that we can have a block meeting with Chief Kepley to discuss crime and safety is priceless. Let's not all forget about how blessed we are to live in this community with the feeling of being safe. September 15th is National Tell a Police Officer "Thank You" Day. It would be nice if many of you remember to thank our police officers on this day. Have a great summer!

**This Summer:
Be Connected
Be Informed
Be Safer**

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

Nixle.com
Information and alerts from local public safety departments & schools sent to email and/or text.

PVENW.org
PVE Neighborhood Watch's website providing key information about neighborhood safety and membership. Find links to documents, articles, past crime reports and information to help you and your family be prepared.

Note that the PVE PD does not monitor these social media sites. If a crime has or is occurring, contact police right away.

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

Visit the PVE PD on Facebook and Twitter:
www.facebook.com/PalosVerdesEstatesPD/
twitter.com/PVEPD



JOIN · VOLUNTEER · DONATE Neighborhood Watch Membership is FREE THIS SUMMER

It's easy to become a new member or renew your existing membership to PVE Neighborhood Watch. Our goal for 2017 is to have all 5,200 households join our rosters and work together as neighbors to make our city a safe haven. Become a member today, volunteer your time and talents, or better yet, make a generous donation. Your donations to Neighborhood Watch are vital in helping our non-profit organization serve our city and all our residents. Donation dollars support the communications, educational events and community outreach programs that help neighbors become aware and prepare themselves against crime.

JOIN. VOLUNTEER. DONATE.

- Online: www.pvenw.org/membership
- Mail: Send your membership and donation in the envelope provided

Thank you for your continued support. We appreciate your membership, renewals and donations.

Summer Vacation is Here. Add a Layer of Police Protection.

You can beef up security even while you're away on vacation by notifying PVE PD of your travel plans. They have a special vacation check program for PVE residents. Visit the City's website and fill out these forms:
www.pvestates.org/services/police-department/home-vacation-check
www.pvestates.org/services/police-department/forms

Vacation Safety Tips for your Home

- 1) Let trusted neighbors know you'll be away.
- 2) Make sure mail is picked up daily from unlocked mail boxes by a trusted person, or get a locked mailbox to ensure mail is not stolen.
- 3) Use light timers within your house to make it look lived in.
- 4) Have talk radio or TV playing in your home.
- 5) Keep blinds, curtains and shades in their regular positions.
- 6) Place valuables out of site.
- 7) Don't announce your plans to gardeners, pool cleaners and other service people, and definitely not on social media. Make sure your children are aware of keeping this information off the Internet as well.
- 8) Lock garage, gates, doors and windows. Use deadbolts and have a stick or additional safety lock on sliding doors.
- 9) Consider installing an alarm system. If you already have one, use it.
- 10) Keep landscape trimmed back. Burglars thrive on convenience, concealment and camouflage in order to commit their crimes. For more ideas, go to the National Crime Prevention site www.ncpc.org.

Coming Soon: National Night Out Tuesday, August 1, 2017



Mark your calendars for National Night Out—PVE's annual celebration where neighbors get together in the spirit of strengthening community ties and promoting safety and vigilance in our area.

Each year PVE joins with neighborhoods across the nation by hosting block parties and community gatherings for National Night Out. It started in 1984 and continues as an annual community-building campaign that promotes neighborhood camaraderie and police-community partnerships. All in an ongoing effort to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. Today, 38 million neighbors in 16 thousand communities across the nation take part in National Night Out.

Your PVE Neighborhood Watch Board, in conjunction with our PVE Police Department, will again work together to encourage neighbors to have block parties, promoting one of the primary neighborhood safety strategies – knowing your neighbors.

It's fun to host a NNO Block Party! We have a number of residents who enjoy hosting an event each year. There is plenty of room for more.

Block party events have been held in neighborhood parks, open garages, backyards, patios and streets. They have included potlucks, desserts, ice cream socials, games, wine and cheese. Use your imagination!

Plan today to host an event on Tuesday, August 1, 2017. All you need to get started is register your event by contacting PVE Neighborhood Watch: pvenwboard@gmail.com. This will keep you on our list for further communications and plans.

Remember, it's our community, let's all be a part of it. It's our home, let's keep it safe by working together.

Faces and Places Through The Decades

<p>1924 First PVE Police Chief William Woosley</p>	<p>1939 City of Palos Verdes Estates is incorporated</p>	<p>1940 First PVE Mayor Fred Roessler</p>	<p>1940s PVE Police Officer</p>	<p>1950s PVE Police Force</p>	<p>1980 PVE Neighborhood Watch started by Jill Barkley of Valmonte. Now in its 37th year.</p>
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What Is Suspicious?



Not quite sure what constitutes suspicious activity worthy of a call to the police? **Anything that seems odd or out of place.** Your call could help prevent a crime, so don't be shy or worry about being a nosy neighbor. Life threatening emergencies should of course be reported to 911.

Things to watch for and report include:

- A stranger entering your neighbor's house when your neighbor is away—this could be a burglar.
- Someone screaming in distress—possible robbery or assault.
- Anyone removing stationary items from a car (license plate, gasoline, hood ornament).
- Anyone peering into parked cars—possible theft.
- Persons entering or leaving a business after hours—possible burglars.
- Persons loitering around schools, parks, secluded areas--possible sex offenders waiting for a victim.
- Door-to-door solicitors. (They must have a permit to operate in PVE). Watch for a while. Do they test doorknobs to see if they are locked? Do they go around to the side or rear yard? Do they work in teams where one person remains in front of the house while the other goes around the side? Is a car following them? If so they might be burglars.
- Anyone tampering or forcing their way into a residence, business, or vehicle.

- Anyone running in normal clothes (vs workout clothes) could be fleeing the scene of a crime, especially if they're sprinting or have their arms full.
- Anyone exhibiting unusual mental or physical symptoms may be injured, under the influence of drugs, or in need of medical or psychiatric assistance.
- Merchandise for sale at suspiciously low prices—possible stolen property.
- Loud explosive noise, sound of breaking glass—possible accident, burglary or vandalism.
- Heavy foot or vehicle traffic to and from a residence on a regular basis, especially during unusual hours--possible drug sales or a "fencing" operation.

Don't be reluctant to report something suspicious. Your observations may help our Police Department stop a crime in progress, or even better, prevent one from occurring in the first place. Familiarizing yourself with what is considered suspicious behavior, and acting on your suspicions helps keep PVE safe. Think about what could happen if you don't act.

Prepare to give the following information: What happened. Where. When. Any injuries. Vehicle license number. Direction of flight. Physical description of persons: clothing, age, race, sex, height and weight. To help you figure the suspect's weight and height compare it with your own. Note any unique characteristics for future identification.

PVE Police Department: (310) 378-4211

Neighborhood Watch At Work: Resident Success Story

Like so many residents, I love to walk on the streets and trails. I seem to never grow tired of seeing the landscapes and natural beauty of the area. My phone is filled with pictures of the sites and seasons I capture along the way.

As part of my Neighborhood Watch activities, my walks also become times to look out for anything that might be suspicious in the neighborhood. I notice if newspapers are collecting on the driveway and move them so it's not obvious that someone's not home. Sometimes I've found mail discarded from a mailbox theft I've returned to the addressee.

One day on my morning walk, I noticed a set of keys in a car door. I couldn't tell what house the car belonged to and it was a bit early to knock on doors. I called the PVE Police Department and asked if they would be able to identify the owner of the car and let them know the "safe place" I hid the keys.

The keys and their owner got back together again. Thanks to the constant encouragement of our Police Department to call if we see anything, it was easy to call and know that the solution quickly happen. It's one of the things that I love about our close and connected community.

Reporting Suspicious Activity Pays Off – PVE Detective Sergeant Luke Hellinga Tells 6 Stories of Reports Leading to Arrests

1 Just after midnight, a resident noticed a pickup truck driving slowly down their street, stopping at mail boxes. They called the police who responded and found not only mail from several different residences, but also methamphetamine. Two people were apprehended and arrested.

2 At 6:45 a.m. a resident noticed a Cadillac parked in an unusual position, with people inside who appeared to be passed out. They called the police who responded and found brand new unopened bottles of alcohol. Police called the owner of the Cadillac and confirmed that it was stolen but not yet reported. Two people were arrested for possession of stolen property and stolen car.

3 About 9 p.m. a resident noticed someone with a flashlight walking down his driveway. They called the police who responded and found two people with flashlights walking in the neighborhood. When suspects were questioned, police learned that one was on probation for robbery and one had a handful of quarters

stolen from another neighbor's car. They were arrested for possession of stolen property.

4 Sunday afternoon a resident reported seeing a parked car he didn't recognize and a person walking nearby. The police responded and found that the person associated with the car had three warrants for his arrest. He also had a stolen cell phone. He was arrested for the warrants and for possession of stolen property.

5 A resident reported a person walking down their neighbor's driveway. Police responded and located the person on the front porch of a different property. He was a transient and on probation for burglary and was subsequently arrested on suspicion of burglary.

6 A resident noticed a car parked in her driveway that she did not recognize. She called the police who found two people inside the vehicle, which was determined to be stolen. Officers also seized several items of personal property that they believed to be stolen. The suspects were arrested.

Cruising Through The Decades

PVE Police Cruisers from 1942-2017



1942
First PVE Police Car
Ford 6 Sedan

1950s

1960s

1970s

1980s

2015

2017

1994

Sergeant Vernon Vanderpool and Captain Michael Tracy killed in the line of duty



2001

20 flags placed in triangle in honor of 9/11



2012

K-9 Lobo and Officer Cecelia Williford



2014

PVE Celebrates its 75th Anniversary



2016

PVE City Officials with PVE PD and LACoFD and McGruff



Area Coordinator Reports

LUNADA BAY SOUTH Larry Manth

As summer approaches many of you will go on vacation. Remember to use the Police Department's vacation check services. Complete the form online so you can be assured that your home will be checked. Additionally, do not post your vacation plans on Nextdoor.com. You don't know who is viewing this site and posting your vacation plans may bring unwanted visitors to your home. Lastly, as schools are out for the summer, please be cautious when driving as there will be more children out and about, and we want to make sure to keep our kids safe. Have a safe and great summer!

LARRY MANTH Larrymanth@gmail.com

LUNADA BAY EAST Merlin David

Our main goal: a safe neighborhood. It requires everyone's help. As a close-knit, community, we benefit from the watchful eyes of our neighbors. If you notice something suspicious, please call the police: (310) 378-4211. Our amazing police love our help.

It helps to know your neighbors. Take time to meet them, welcome newcomers, help them feel safe and better prepared. If you feel uncomfortable, blame it on me. Tell them you were taking **Merlin's Summer Challenge**: to meet five neighbors this summer.

We would love more Block Captains—one for each street. Contact me for details.

MERLIN DAVID merlindavid@cox.net

LUNADA BAY WEST Anne Celestin

Palos Verdes Estates is remarkable, in the truest sense of the word. It's a community and place to be remarked upon. We have so much to be grateful for living in a beautiful and safe area. Neighborhood Watch is dedicated to safety, bonding with neighbors and being prepared in the event of an emergency. Please consider supporting Neighborhood Watch by donating, joining as a member, becoming a block captain, or becoming an area coordinator. Membership is FREE this year.

"My priorities are simple, they are yours!" Please contact me at (310) 634-6777

ANNE CELESTIN anne@prosourceadvisors.com

MALAGA COVE Cheryl Kohr

With our current effort to include ALL residents as members, now is the best time to join PVE Neighborhood Watch. If you are already a member, do you receive the valuable weekly Crime Report via email? If not, please contact us so that we can add you to the mailing, keeping you tuned in to criminal activity in our city. If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain, contact me at ckohr@hotmail.com. As always, watch and report any suspicious activity to the police. See Something? Say Something!

CHERYL KOHR c_kohr@hotmail.com

VALMONTE Karen Logan

During the recent Memorial Day Holiday, I was reminded how engaged neighbors make a safe neighborhood. We can all play a part in our safety by asking a trusted neighbor to watch our home and to make sure our homes looked "lived in" while we're away.

Join Neighborhood Watch today! We've waived the membership fee this year to encourage sign-ups. My goal is to have every household in Valmonte a member, creating a community roster for communications that will help neighbors be safe, aware and prepared!

KAREN LOGAN kklogan1@mac.com

MONTEMALAGA Position Open

Becoming an Area Coordinator is an important contribution to your neighborhood and to our city overall. You'll work towards uniting our residents, preparing for emergencies and disasters, and lowering the crime rate. It's a win-win for everyone. By becoming a NW Area Coordinator you'll take an active part in improving your community's well-being. With lots of help and resources from Neighborhood Watch, you'll have the tools and support you need to have a successful area. Contact Community Relations Officer Marcelle Herrera, or any NW Board Member for more information.

mherrera@pvestates.org pvenwboard@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

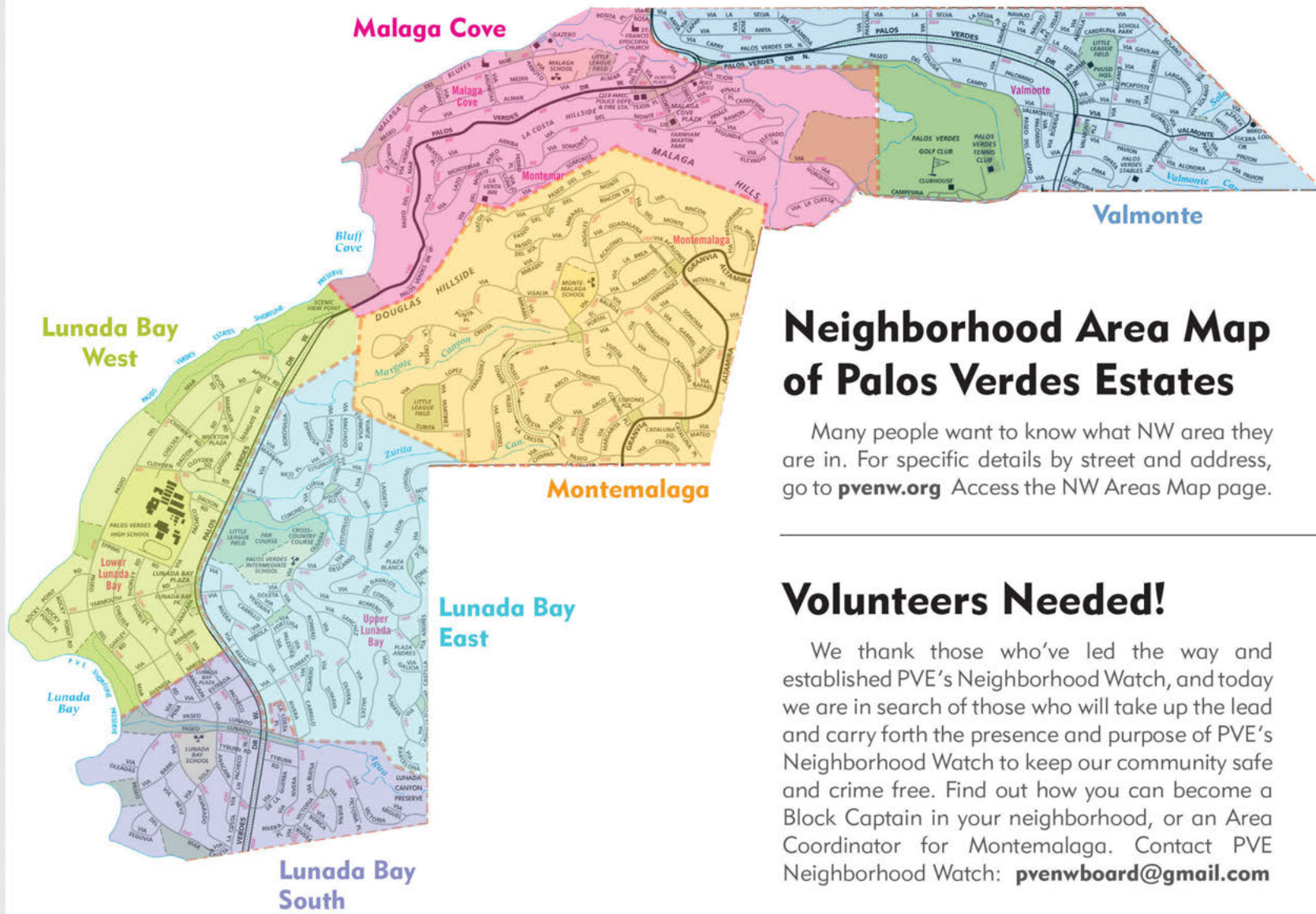


Karen Logan

Montemalaga Needs an Area Coordinator



Your Photo Here!



Neighborhood Area Map of Palos Verdes Estates

Many people want to know what NW area they are in. For specific details by street and address, go to pvenw.org Access the NW Areas Map page.

Volunteers Needed!

We thank those who've led the way and established PVE's Neighborhood Watch, and today we are in search of those who will take up the lead and carry forth the presence and purpose of PVE's Neighborhood Watch to keep our community safe and crime free. Find out how you can become a Block Captain in your neighborhood, or an Area Coordinator for Montemalaga. Contact PVE Neighborhood Watch: pvenwboard@gmail.com

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