# **NEIGHBORHOOD** WATCH

Spring Issue 2014



let's watch out for each other

# "Clyde" the Criminal Gives Home Safety Advice

by Cheryl Kohr

Hi, my name is Clyde and right now I am cruising your neighborhood, looking for an easy target. I was told PV is a wealthy place, so that's why I am here. Bingo! Here's a house with newspapers on the ground, outside lights on in the daytime, mail still in the mailbox, and packages and flyers around the front doorway. Sure looks like no one is home. All right! This is the one I'll hit. I win, you lose.

### Is this your house?

Clyde here again. I'm still cruising. This house has a car in the driveway. It has signs that say "security system" and "beware of dog." I hear a dog barking and a radio playing inside. I had better skip this place and move on. Too risky.

When residents become complacent, they let their guard down. It's easy to do, but it sends a message to would-be criminals that your home is an easy target. Don't let that happen! Please make your home unattractive to burglars and make our city safer for all. Here's how:

- Keep garage door closed
- Clear bushes/trees from doors and windows
- Keep doors/windows closed and locked
- Ask neighbors to watch your house when you are away
- Submit a vacation notice to PVE Police Dept. Suspend newspapers and mail
- Install and use timers for indoor light fixtures • Install and use outdoor lights with motion sensors

• If you have an alarm system, use it every time you leave, day and night.



# Message From Interim Police Chief David H. Hinig



First, let me thank all of our valued Neighborhood Watch members for their dedication and efforts to keep our community safe from crime. Your vigilance is a critical component of law enforcement in PVE.

Even with all of our efforts, property crimes are on the rise throughout the entire South Bay and PVE is no exception. The release of 25,000 "non-violent" felons from State Prison under the guidelines of AB 109 has set in motion a chain of events that keeps criminals on the streets rather than incarcerated. Too many of these individuals engage in criminal activity to sustain themselves and unfortunately we suffer from their egregious conduct.

To enhance our crime prevention work, the Department will soon be launching two new programs; these are "Volunteer Patrol" and "Parkland Rangers." The persons who apply to assist in these endeavors will become additional "eyes and ears" and will add yet another dimension to community protection. For those of you who may have an interest in joining these new efforts, or becoming a Neighborhood Watch General Member, Block Captain or Area Coordinator (for Montemalaga, Valmonte or Lunada Bay West) we ask that you contact Marcelle McCullough for more information.

Keep in mind, that as we approach the summer months, I'd like to ask everyone to share some important crime prevention tips with your neighbors. We are particularly vulnerable during the summer because so many people are on vacation or taking day trips with their children who are out of school. Vacant homes make perfect targets for criminals.

Please remind your friends and neighbors to remove valuables from cars, don't leave keys in the ignition, and lock vehicles, even if you are only away for a few minutes. Additionally, lock your residence, and set the alarm when leaving home. These tips are so fundamental, yet the

### **PVE's 75th Anniversary**

In December 2014, PVE will celebrate its 75th Anniversary, an important milestone in the City's history and an opportunity to celebrate the community. Residents of all ages are encouraged to support the celebration's



festivities. For more information, or if you have any questions, please email PVE75@pvestates.org or call City Hall at 310-378-0383.



It helps strengthen personal connections and contributes to a happier, safer neighborhood!

## **National Night Out**

"America's Night Out Against Crime", began in 1984 as an effort to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back. PVE's National Night Out will be in August. Stay tuned for more details and start planning your block party now.

# in this issue:

**Clyde the Criminal** 

Message from Interim Police Chief **Treasure Hunt on NW Website** 

NART

Kids Pick-A-Pledge

Safe Cycling

Pet Preparedness Kits

Area Coordinator Reports

**Patrol Support and Parkland Rangers** 

NW website: www.pvenw.org

# **President's Message:**

By Karen Logan

### Hello Neighbors,

Now more than ever is the time to be watchful and diligent! With the uptick in break-ins and the increasing boldness of criminals, we need to ensure that we are vigilant in employing basic safety measures to protect our homes and families. Neighborhood Watch is each of us watching and acting in simple ways:

- Keeping garages closed even when at home
- Locking doors and windows for homes and cars
- Using motion sensor lighting and alarms
- Calling if you see suspicious activity



These four key items will signal would be criminals "WE ARE WATCHING!" For more tips check out pvenw.org (Resources).

Each of us as active citizens can do our part. Our Neighborhood Watch Program and our Police Department rely on our Block Captain network to be a local support for neighbors. The 2014 goal is: Double our Block Captain network to provide better service to our community for safety and disaster. Will you help us reach our goal?

Whether you are a new neighbor or a long-time resident, being a Block Captain is a rewarding community contribution. Contact Marcelle McCullough or your Area Coordinator for more information.

Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Prepared

Karen Logan

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

# Treasure Hunt on Neighborhood Watch Website: www.pvenw.org

Did you know that PVE NW has a website that is full of treasures? Find these treasures and more at pvenw.org:

- Vacation Security Request Form to request police drive by to check on your home while you're away
- Links to list of current scams and frauds
- Checklists for keeping home safe and prepared
- Forms for reporting crime information
- Membership and Block Captain forms
- Information on PVE safety programs (PVE Cares, NART, DDP and more)
- Blog with great information on safety and awareness for our community
- Past NewslettersMuch more!

Be Safe, Be Aware, Be Prepared!

### NART Volunteers Needed – Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team of PVE

Bob Sylvest leads the 53 men and women member volunteer Disaster Service Organization of Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team (NART) under the direction of the PVE Police Department to provide emergency communication in response to a disaster or emergency involving PVE.

City services will be overwhelmed and we need to be self-sufficient until outside assistance arrives. In a disaster, there may also be no water, electricity, cell phones or internet communication and battery-operated radios will be the only way to communicate. NART will provide field updates to PVE police and fire, alerting them to gas leaks, a need for heavy equipment or police or urgent medical assistance. To be ready for a sudden and extended demand for radio connectivity 24/7 for several days, 100 operators are needed for the City of PVE, and NART is looking for new members.

NART communications are closely coordinated with the City's Disaster District Program (DDP) and the cities' Emergency Operations Center.

Members need to be 18 or over, have a ham radio (\$125 to \$300), and hold a technician level Ham radio license (free and open to all ages). Morse code is no longer required to obtain a Ham license. To find out more about how to become a NART member and when the next Ham Radio License Classes are held, visit NART'S website at: www.palosverdes.com/nart





With families enjoying the warm weather, it's easy to forget to be careful. But kids can PICK-A-PLEDGE and be part of the NW Family Safety Program. It's easy. Here's how:

- 1. Talk with your parents about which pledge to choose.
- 2. Keep track of your progress for 28 days.
- 3. Bring your completed form to the PVE Police Dept. for a special prize (by July 30).
- 4. Have FUN helping your family be safe this summer!

### PICK A PLEDGE:

- I will make sure that our garage door is closed when we leave.
- I will make sure that doors are locked when we leave.
- I will not mention vacation or travel information on Facebook before we go.
- I will not open our door to strangers.
- I will make sure that windows are closed and locked when we leave.
- I will make sure that the alarm is set when we go out.
- Create your own pledge:

### My pledge is:

Put the date in the box for each day that you complete your pledge:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Week 1							
Week 2							
Week 3							
Week 4					N SIK		9
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# **PVE's First Safe Cycling Event**

Sponsored by the Lunada Bay Elementary School and its PTA and supported by Montemalaga Elementary, the Beach Cities Cycling Club, PVE PD and West Basin Municipal Water District, 50 students completed a bike education event April 6th covering proper helmet fit, bike inspection/ maintenance and rules of cycling and all received a certificate of completion.



Pets should not be left behind. Families with pets should include them in emergency planning and know the boarding facilities and petfriendly motels in surrounding areas. A pet preparedness kit should include:

- 1. Water. At least a week's worth for each pet.
- 2. Pet Food: 7 days' worth of pet food; can opener and couple portable bowls.
- 3. Cleaning Supplies: For a cat,

include a small litter box, scoop and one week supply of litter. For dogs, have plenty of plastic bags. Paper towels and disinfectant are a smart idea too

- 4. Medication: Have a list of medications and instructions for each pet. If possible, include a 2-week reserve supply of pet meds in their original packaging.
- 5. First Aid: Compile a first aid kit that includes gauze, tweezers, a thermometer and other emergency basics.
- 6. Leash and Collar. Have these ready so you can easily transport your pet.
- 7. Comfort Items: Many pets sense something is wrong which can cause stress. Include a toy, blanket or something else to make your pet feel safe and secure.
- 8. Paperwork: Copy your pet's medical records, microchip information, pet insurance policy, adoption papers and any other important documents. Include a recent photo of your pet in case you become separated.
- 9. Veterinary Information: Make a list of phone numbers including your regular vet's office and emergency clinic.

For more info go to: www.totallyunprepared.com

# Police Chief Hinig continued

vast majority of thefts and burglaries in PVE occur because people do not follow the guidelines above.

Smart Bike Rider

GRIM

Last, it has been my pleasure to serve the community as the Interim Police Chief for the past six months. I've had an opportunity to meet many of you and I could not ask for a more wonderful group of people to be affiliated with. A new, full-time Chief has been selected and is expected to begin service in PVE on June 1st. The announcement will be forthcoming and I know the new Chief will be an active participant with PVE NW. Thanks again and continue to share our crime prevention mantra - "if you see something, say something."



If you see something suspicious, call the police department at 310-378-4211. Be prepared to offer as much information and detail as possible. Find out more online at www.pvenw.org.

### VISIT THE PVE NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH WEBSITE:

### www.pvenw.org







### VE-CAKES

The PVE-CARES Program is a unique program created by the PVE Police Department to assist in "Caring for Those Who Cared for Us". PVE-CARES offers many resources to help residents prepare to remain safe and independent in their own homes, and PVE-CARES also hosts several social events throughout the year.

Any PVE resident age 65 and older or any "dependent adult" age 18 to 64 may be registered for PVE-CARES. 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.

You can register yourself or a loved one 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 all the wonderful benefits offered.

### **Upcoming PVE-CARES events:**

July 21, 2014: Big Band Concert Lunada Bay Park

September 11, 2014: Doctors Talk Palos Verdes Golf Club

October 24, 2014: Health Fair Neighborhood Church



The City of Palos Verdes Estates will be celebrating its 75th birthday, the theme for the upcoming photo contest. Enter your earliest, historic, artistic photos that emanate PVE, along with your reasons for living here.

WIN

**\$100** 

CASH



PVE residents can submit photos between now and August 31, 2014 to pvenwboard@ gmail.com. Winners notified by September 27, 2014, with the winning photos appearing in the Fall NW Newsletter, website and Annual Meeting.

# **Area Coordinator Reports**

### LUNADA BAY SOUTH Larry Manth

As we approach the summer months, many families will go on vacation. Please consider extra safety measures to secure your home. Tell your neighbors and ask them to check your home. Also go on-line to the PVE website (www.pvestates.org) and complete a vacation form for the Police Department. Burglaries and thefts continue in Palos Verdes Estates, and the extra caution is worth it. If you see someone parked on your street you don't know acting suspicious, call the police to check them out. Let's try and work together to keep out the bad guys and make our neighborhoods crime free!

### LUNADA BAY EAST Carolyn Lizdenis

Spring is here, next comes summer when many new families move into our neighborhood. Welcome them by bringing them a plate of cookies, and invite them to become a member of Neighborhood Watch. I remember when it was done for me, and the thoughtful gesture was awesome and a great way to start a new relationship. Preparing for vacations, remember you can request the police do a drive by your house every once in a while if you provide them with your travel dates. If you or anyone you know has any questions regarding Neighborhood Watch, please give me a call. Carolyn Lizdenis 310-308-2999

### MALAGA COVE Cheryl Kohr

As the new Area Coordinator for Malaga Cove, I look forward to working with the NW Board, Malaga Cove Block Captains, and members. At this time, we are in need of Block Captains to increase our coverage. Have you ever considered volunteering as a Block Captain? It requires a minimal amount of time and effort, yet the appreciation and thanks from your neighbors certainly make it worthwhile. If you want to find out more, check out the NW website: www.pvenw.org or contact me at c\_kohr@ hotmail.com.

### LARRY MANTH Larrymanth@gmail.com

### CAROLYN LIZDENIS Teamdonate.re@cox.net CHERYL KOHR c\_kohr@hotmail.com

### VALMONTE

Valmonte is a beautiful part of PVE and a gateway to Redondo Beach, Torrance and Rancho Palos Verdes. With many visitors driving our neighborhoods, it is important to be watchful and aware. Valmonte is well represented on the NW Board, but we are in need of an Area Coordinator and would love to have more Block Captains. Being a Block Captain is a nice way to get to know your neighbors. Contact Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough to find out more.

### MONTEMALAGA & LUNADA BAY WEST Positions Open

Both Montemalaga and Lunada Bay West need Area Coordinators. The role of a Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator is to assist the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department and the Neighborhood Watch Board to maintain an active roster of Block Captains within their area.

Becoming a Neighborhood Watch Area Coordinator is an important contribution towards uniting our community by eliminating crime and preparing for emergencies, such as disasters in your area. By becoming a NW Area Coordinator you would be taking an active part in making a difference for your community's well-being.

You are not in this role alone, you will have the tools and support you need to have a successful area. Contact Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough, or any NW Board Member for more information.

#### MARCELLE MCCULLOUGH mmccullough@pvestates.org

MARCELLE MCCULLOUGH mmccullough@pvestates.org



TN: POSTAL PATRON

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### **New Volunteer Programs--Patrol Support and Parkland Rangers**

Palos Verdes Estates Police Volunteers are dedicated to providing excellent service through relationships that build trust, create a safe environment, and enhance the quality of life for those who live and work in Palos Verdes Estates. They embrace the Police Motto of "Commitment to Community."

We see this commitment in our existing volunteer programs of Reserve Officers, DDP, PVE-CARES, NART and Neighborhood Watch and are extremely excited to share with you two new opportunities to volunteer; Volunteers In Patrol Support (VIPS) and Parkland Rangers (PRs).

Volunteers In Patrol Support (VIPS) and Parkland Rangers (PRs) are individuals who provide a minimum of 12 hours of their time per month to assist the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department by performing non-hazardous duties that do not require the exercise of peace officer powers. The VIPS and PRs have many overlapping duties, but volunteers need not participate in both groups. Volunteers are free to select the program they feel best fits their interests and experience or they may wish to participate in both.

VIPS will always be teamed with a partner when going into the field for patrol duties. In general, VIPS will only be deployed during hours of daylight; however an emergency or special event in the community might require service into the night-time hours.

Parkland Rangers will usually deploy with a partner. However, there may be occasions where an individual Ranger is allowed to hike into the Parklands without a partner. In most cases, Parkland Ranger deployment will be limited to hours of daylight. In the event of an emergency where Ranger expertise in the Parkland is needed, Rangers may be deployed at night; however such deployment will always be with a partner and with proper communications equipment and under the direction of a police supervisor.

For more information on any of our volunteer programs please contact Community Relations Officer McCullough at 310-378-4211.

# NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH



# P.O. BOX 925 PALOS VERDES ESTATES CALIFORNIA 90274

# **Calendar of Events**

### MAY

- 04 "Founder's Tea" at La Venta (tickets required)
- Household Hazardous Waste and E-Waste Roundup, RPV City Hall
  9A-3P
- LA County Fire Dept. Community Emergency Response Training at Peninsula High School (free) 3 Saturdays: 5/10, 5/17, 5/24

### JULY

- 04 Independence Day Celebration Malaga Cove School
- 20 75th Anniversary Celebration "Afternoon in the Plaza" Wine and Food Event (tickets required)

### AUGUST

TBD Neighborhood Watch National Night Out

### OCTOBER

- 18 75th Diamond Jubilee Gala at PV Golf Club (tickets required)
- 24 PVE-CARES Senior Health Fair Neighborhood Church

# **NW Area Coordinators**

Area Coordinators Larry Manth of Lunada Bay South (pictured left) and Carolyn Lizdenis of Lunada Bay East (pictured right) welcome our newest Area Coordinator Cheryl Kohr of Malaga Cove (pictured center).

