

# Palos Verdes Estates Police Department Weekly Crime Report July 12-18, 2016

Jeff Kepley, Chief of Police

Prepared by Marcelle McCullough, Community Relations Officer

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**07-12-16 Identity Theft Unknown**

Prior to 06-28-2016, unknown suspect(s) used the victim's personal information to open a social security account.

**07-13-16 Impaired Driver 300 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 2:33 AM., an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.

**07-14-16 Impaired Driver PV Blvd & Calle Miramar**

At approximately 10:34 PM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving under the Influence of a Controlled Substance and Possession of a Controlled Substance.

**07-15-16 Impaired Driver 1100 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 1:05 AM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Possession of a Controlled Substance, an outstanding Warrant, and Possession of Contraband in a Custody Facility.

**07-16-16 Impaired Driver 400 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 1:50 AM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.

**07-16-16 Traffic Offense PVDN @ Via Campesina**

At approximately 3:17 AM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Unlicensed Driver/No Identification.

**07-17-16 Identity Theft Unknown**

From 06-20-16 to 07-14-16, unknown suspect(s) used the victim's personal information in an attempt to open lines of credit.

**07-17-16 Traffic Offense 200 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 12:52 AM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving on a Suspended License.

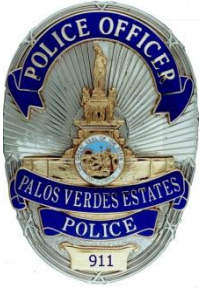


**07-10-16                      Battery/Impaired Driver                      2100 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 6:28 PM, officers responded to a 9-1-1 call from a driver who was punched by the suspect during a road rage incident. The suspect was subsequently arrested for Battery and for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.

**07-11-16                      Impaired Driver                      2700 Blk PVDN**

At approximately 2:35 AM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.



# Palos Verdes Estates Police Department

## Weekly Crime Report

### June 28-July 4, 2016

Jeff Kepley, Chief of Police

Prepared by Sandy Marchese, Community Relations Assistant

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**06-28-16 Identity Theft Unknown**

Prior to 06-28-16, unknown suspect(s) obtained the victim's credit card information by unknown means and made several fraudulent purchases.

**06-28-16 Vehicle Tampering 2500 Blk Via Pinale**

Prior to 06-28-16, unknown suspect(s) poured an unknown substance into victim's vehicle gas tank.

**06-29-16 Drugs 3100 Blk PVDN**

At approximately 12:48 AM, officers conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for an outstanding Warrant and arrested a passenger for Possession of a Controlled Substance and Drug Paraphernalia.

**07-01-16 Traffic Offense 500 Blk PVB**

At approximately 10:57 PM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and arrested the Driver for Driving on a Suspended License.

**07-01-16 Burglary 800 Blk Via Somonte**

Between approximately 06/25/2016 and 06/30/2016, unknown suspect(s) tried unsuccessfully to gain entry into victim's home by attempting to break open the front door.

**07-01-16 Vehicle Burglary 3300 Blk Via Campesina**

Between approximately 9:00 AM and 6:05 PM, unknown suspect(s) punched a lock on the victim's vehicle to gain entry and removed a GPS unit.

**07-02-16 Impaired Driver 500 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 12:09 AM, officers conducted a traffic stop and arrested the driver for Driving under the Influence of Alcohol.

**07-02-16 Vandalism 2400 Blk Via Campesina**

From 07/01/16 to 07/02/16, between approximately 7:00 PM and 8:30 AM, a known suspect(s) used a blunt object to damage the victim's vehicle and smeared fecal matter onto the passenger side door handle.

**07-02-16 Warrant Arrest 300 Blk PVDW**

At approximately 10:59 PM, an officer contacted the owner of an illegally parked vehicle and arrested the subject for an outstanding Warrant.

**07-02-16 Traffic Offense 2600 Blk Via Campesina**

At approximately 10:35 PM, an officer conducted a traffic stop and issued the driver a citation for driving without illuminated headlights or tail lights.

**07-02-16 Vehicle Burglary 3300 Blk Via Campesina**

Between approximately 4:00 PM and 10:0 PM, unknown suspect(s) entered three separate vehicles and removed the victims' property. Two vehicles were forcibly entered and the third was entered via a slightly opened window.



## PALOS VERDES ESTATES

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

### CRIME REPORT

July 19-25, 2016

#### CITY NEWS

**Do-Not-Drink Notice CANCELLED: Cal Water Service Update (7-27-16; 1:30 p.m.)**  
Post Date to City Website ([www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org)) :07/27/2016 1:34 PM

CalWater advises that the "do not drink" order has been lifted. Notification to all affected properties is underway.

The CalWater website <https://www.calwater.com/pv-do-not-drink-notice/> states the following:

On Monday night, July 25, 2016, you were advised to not drink the water and use bottled water for drinking and cooking due to a security breach at a tank that could have affected water quality. We have now brought fresh water into the system and conducted field measurements, and results indicate that it is safe to resume normal water use.

We advised you to take this precautionary measure out of an abundance of caution because protecting your health and safety is our highest priority. Preliminary water quality test results indicate that the disinfection was working as intended.

We apologize again for the inconvenience and are conducting a full investigation with the State's Division of Drinking Water and local law enforcement to ensure the water supply remains safe for our customers.

You may submit your receipts for bottled water purchased during this time for reimbursement by Cal Water. For more information, call Cal Water's Customer Center at (310) 257-1400.

#### WERE YOU PREPARED WITH A CACHE OF WATER?

Throughout the year we encourage residents to be prepared for any type of emergency. Water being our most needed commodity, the need to store some extra on hand is an excellent idea. Be sure to rotate the stock regularly. For more preparedness tips see our attached "Get Ready" Guide.

## FROM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – TUESDAY, AUGUST 2nd

National Night Out is Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. This year your PVE Neighborhood Watch Board decided to celebrate NNO by reducing the number of caravan stops to allow more quality time for meeting and asking questions of your city and police officials. Last year we had 3 separate caravans and tried to cover 17 locations. This year we are planning on making caravan stops at the following locations. Open to all Palos Verdes Estates residents you are welcome to participate in any of the below NNO Caravan Stops:

6:00-6:30	VAL	Valmonte Plaza	<b>Karen Logan &amp; Block Captains</b>	<a href="mailto:kklogan1@mac.com">kklogan1@mac.com</a>	Karen Logan
6:40-7:10	LBW	Lunada Bay Plaza (Req: Road closure Via Pacheco from Yarmouth)	<b>Anne Celestine</b>	<a href="mailto:anne@prosourceadvisors.com">anne@prosourceadvisors.com</a>	Anne Celestine
7:15-7:45	MC	515 Paseo del Mar	Kim Hall	<a href="mailto:khall118@hotmail.com">khall118@hotmail.com</a>	Cheryl Kohr

6:00-6:30	LBS	2631 La Costa Place	<b>Linda Fester</b>	<a href="mailto:Lfester21@gmail.com">Lfester21@gmail.com</a>	Larry Manth
6:40-7:10	LBE	Via Carrillo Park	<b>Merlin David</b>	<a href="mailto:merlindavid@cox.net">merlindavid@cox.net</a>	Merlin David

We are aware that change is a challenge. Our goal this year is to have fewer caravan stops with larger gatherings located throughout the city that will allow everyone more time to visit with the city and police officials and representatives and for the caravans to end before dark. We encourage everyone to celebrate this national event. It is a time for neighbors to meet one another, and together learn what is going on in our community and prevent crime from happening in our neighborhoods.

Officer McGruff hopes to see you at one of the above caravan stops – we also wish those planning to have a separate NNO party a nice evening and event.

**AND REMEMBER:** Be careful about what you post on Social Media, NextDoor, etc. we don't want the criminals to know our plans. Thank you for your community support.

## SCAMS – Occurring in Torrance and also in PVE



SOURCE: TORRANCE PD:

**SCAM** – An executive secretary or finance officer receives an email from the “President/CEO” of the company requesting a “**wire transfer**” of funds for payment of product or service. The email address from the President/CEO is very similar to the authentic email address assigned. Often, the President/CEO is out of the country and the content of the email contains accurate names and information about the company and the request appears legitimate. Most of these scams originate in China, Japan, Russia and Canada.

**SCAM** – The callers identify themselves as a **Police Officer/Detective with a local law enforcement agency (TPD) telling them they failed to turn up for jury duty advising that a warrant for their arrest has been issued.** They instruct the victim to obtain a Pre-Paid Visa, MasterCard, or Green Dot card at a local retail store (CVS, Walgreens, etc.) for several hundred dollars or more. Once the victim obtains the Pre-Paid Card they are instructed to scratch off the serial number/security code on the reverse and give it to the caller. With this information the caller now loads the money onto a new card or into a new account such as PayPal.

**SCAM** – The caller claims to be a **representative from a Utility Company (SCE, GAS, WATER)** advising you are late on payment and if you don’t immediately pay your bill, utilities will be shut off. Again, the instruction is to obtain a Pre-Paid Debit Card and follow the instructions noted above.

**SCAM** – The caller claims to be a **representative from the “City of Torrance/Civil Engineering” or another department within that city.** They advise that their residence needs to buy plumbing or electrical upgrades to comply with city requirements according to City Manager “LeRoy Jackson”. The caller often uses the names of current city employees as leverage. Again, they are instructed to obtain a Pre-Paid Debit Card and follow the instructions noted above. (Recent PV Case)

**SCAM** – The callers identify themselves as “**Agents**” with the **I.R.S. advising they failed to make payment on their taxes.** They often have the victims Personal Identifying Information such as name, date of birth, address and household members. All of which are available on many websites that contain “public records”. With this information they convince the victims through intimidation tactics (fines, arrest) to resolve the delinquencies over the phone using the same Pre-Paid method.

**SCAM** – There are also cases targeting the elderly in which callers obtain the name of a grandchild and call saying he or she is in jail and needs to be bailed out. They provide the relatives name and personal information and demand payment via Pre-Paid Visa or MasterCard.

**SCAM** – The callers identify themselves as **Microsoft Employee’s and advise you they are aware of the “Error/Virus” message on your computer.** They ask you to log onto your computer and instruct you to press certain keys giving them access and control over your computer at which time they have all your personal identifying information. In short, they hold your computer “hostage” and demand payment to repair and restore it.

**SCAM** – The suspect copies/pastes existing rental/vacation properties and then re-posts them on “Craig’s List, Zillow or Westside Rentals” with a different contact and phone number from the legitimate rental. The properties are listed below the current market to attract renters. When the victim calls they are instructed to go look at the property and are given a “lock-box” combination or advised where “hidden keys” are located to gain entrance. Upon agreeing on the rental price the victim is instructed to make a “cash security deposit” into a bank account. The suspect advises the victim they will then meet at the property to sign the rental agreement and provide them keys. However, they never show up and the bank accounts are quickly closed.

**SOLUTION:** Don’t give personal details like credit card numbers, bank account information or social security numbers over the phone. If you are suspicious, ask the caller for their information, get a call-back number and call the respective agency to verify. Then, report the incident to the police. Utility Companies and Government Agencies NEVER ask for payment to be made using a Pre-Paid Visa, MasterCard or Green Dot Card. **Finally, if the callers are using intimidation tactics and pressuring you to make the payment now...don’t do it!**

## NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORS

Deputies from Lomita Station will continue with increased traffic enforcement on Palos Verdes Drive East, particularly the area known as “The Switchbacks,” between Crest Road and Palos Verdes Drive South in Rancho Palos Verdes. This stretch of roadway has become increasingly popular with motorcyclists and sports car enthusiasts from all over the region, drawing complaints of speeding, unsafe passing, reckless driving, and excessive engine noise. The noise generated by illegally-modified motorcycle exhaust systems is a major quality of life concern and infringes on the peace and tranquility of nearby residential neighborhoods.

Since deputies started their “ZERO TOLERANCE” approach to violations last May, a total of 33 citations have been written on this stretch of roadway. The majority of citations (22) were issued to motorcyclists for a variety of violations including loud exhaust, no license plates, speeding, and crossing the double yellow lines. In addition, 2 arrests were made and a motorcycle and a passenger car were impounded.

Our goal is to protect all users of the roadway and to preserve peace in the area. We also ask all motorists to be mindful of safety on this narrow stretch of road, which is also heavily traveled by bicyclists and pedestrians.

Lomita Sheriff’s Station provides law enforcement services to the cities of Lomita, Rancho Palos Verdes, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, and unincorporated communities in San Pedro and the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

You can partner to prevent or report crime by contacting Lomita Sheriff’s Station at (310) 539-1661 to report suspicious activity. Or if you wish to remain anonymous, call “LA Crime

Stoppers” by dialing 800-222-TIPS (8477), or text the letters TIPLA plus your tip to CRIMES (274637,) or by using the website <http://lacrimestoppers.org>.

To receive detailed, up-to-date information directly from the LASD via e-mail, register for “Nixle” alerts at [www.Nixle.com](http://www.Nixle.com) and register for “LASD-HQ Newsroom (SHB,) Los Angeles County Sheriff,” and also register for your local LASD Station area. Or text your zip code to 888777 to receive text alerts only. Standard text messaging rates may apply.

Captain Dan Beringer  
Lomita Sheriff’s Station  
[www.lomita.lasd.org](http://www.lomita.lasd.org)

## SAFETY MESSAGE

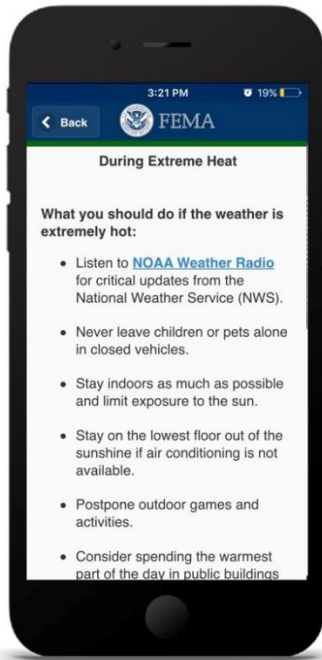
[View in browser](#)



## Beat The Heat with the FEMA App

It's hot across the U.S. and folks are out traveling for summer break. Download the FEMA app for free on the [App Store](#) and [Google Play](#) to stay cool and know ahead of time when extreme heat and other severe weather is on the way. Add up to five locations to include your upcoming travel destinations, and watch over family and friends out-of-town. The FEMA app also provides other safety tips to help you stay prepared:

- **What to pack** in an emergency kit with an interactive checklist.
- **What to do to** stay safe before, during, after each type of emergency.
- **Where to go** with directions to open shelters and where to talk to FEMA in person if disaster strikes.



# BEAT THE HEAT

## DOWNLOAD THE FEMA APP



**Download the FEMA App Today ▶**

Help us promote the FEMA app on your social media networks with the [FEMA app social media toolkit](#)

-The FEMA Ready Campaign Team



**NOAA National Weather Service**  
**Southwest California – NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard**  
**weather.gov/losangeles**

*This email is intended for critical weather partners in Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.*

**...Above normal temperatures with potential heat impacts for areas away from the coast Tuesday through Friday...**

**...Elevated Fire Danger through late in the week...with brief critical conditions over the Los Angeles County Mountains and the Antelope Valley...**

**...Threat of showers and thunderstorms across the Los Angeles and Ventura Mountains and the Antelope Valley Friday through Sunday...**

### **MAIN IMPACTS**

- Increased heat stress Tuesday through Friday due to high daytime temperatures and warm overnight minimum temperatures for several days in a row.
- Potential for extreme fire behavior and rapid fire growth in existing fires...or with any ignition that occurs.
- Risk of dry lightning and gusty downdraft winds. Moderate to heavy showers could cause debris flows in recently burned areas.

### **FORECAST CONFIDENCE**

- **High confidence** in temperature forecast and fire danger through Friday
- **Moderate confidence** in heat impacts.
- **Low confidence** in thunderstorm chances.

### **SYNOPSIS**

An upper ridge of high pressure will slowly build over Southwest California through late in the week...resulting in an extended period of hot and dry conditions. The warm days combined with warm overnight minimum temperatures may result in heat-related impacts for areas away from the coast. The hot and dry weather combined with gusty winds will cause elevated fire danger for interior areas, with locally critical conditions for the Los Angeles County Mountains and the Antelope Valley each afternoon through late in the week. There will be a slight chance of monsoonal moisture moving into the area from the southeast late in the week, with a slight chance of thunderstorms over the mountains of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, and the Antelope Valley Friday through Sunday.

**NWS will continue to provide email updates if the forecast changes or check our website at [weather.gov/losangeles](http://weather.gov/losangeles)**

**Contact NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard at (805) 988-6619 for 24x7 forecast updates (unlisted).**

Monitor NWS Los Angeles/Oxnard [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for additional information.



**PALOS VERDES ESTATES  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CRIME REPORT  
July 12-18, 2016**

**CITY NEWS**

**City Council Meeting**

Date: 7/26/2016 6:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers of City Hall

[340 Palos Verdes Drive West](#)

[Palos Verdes Estates, California 90274](#)

[Add to my Outlook Calendar](#)

Posted by Chief Kepley on Nextdoor 7/19/16:



Have you noticed more young people in your neighborhood lately walking around while looking at their cell phone? Chances are they are playing the new social media game called "Pokémon Go" which has become a true phenomenon. Pokémon is a game that is played on a smart phone and uses a virtual map blended with reality. The players walk around to match real locations to the virtual map wherein virtual characters and game features are displayed.

While the game appears to be harmless, there appears to be risks involved. There have been increases in suspicious person sightings throughout the region as game players venture in areas not normally traveled. There have also been reports of injuries, for example two players walked off a cliff in San Diego County (<http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/Two-Men-Fall-Down-Cliff-While-Playing-Pokemon-Go-386743551.html>).

If you see someone walking near your home looking at their phone, they are probably playing this game. However, don't take chances. If you are not sure and if they appear suspicious to you please call PVEPD at 310-378-4211. No one should be trespassing on your property or loitering around to play this game.

## FROM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

### NATIONAL NIGHT OUT – TUESDAY, AUGUST 2nd

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- VALMONTE
  - Valmonte Plaza
  - Host NW Area Coordinator Karen Logan at [kklogan1@mac.com](mailto:kklogan1@mac.com)
  - Neighbors should contact their Block Captains to find out more information about an event in their area. If someone needs to know their Block Captain, contact Karen at the above email.
  
- LUNADA BAY ( 3 locations)
  - Lunada Bay South - 2631 La Costa Place
  - Hosts NW President Larry Manth [larrymanth@gmail.com](mailto:larrymanth@gmail.com) and NW Lunada Bay West Area Coordinator Anne Celestine at
  
  - Lunada Bay West - Lunada Bay Plaza
  - Hosted by NW Area Coordinator Anne Celestine [anne@prosourceadvisors.com](mailto:anne@prosourceadvisors.com)
  
  - Lunada Bay East – Via Carrillo Park
  - Hosted by NW Area Coordinator Merlin David and his team of Block Captains
  - Merlin can be reached at [merlindavid@cox.net](mailto:merlindavid@cox.net)

We are aware that change is a challenge. Our goal this year is to have fewer caravan stops with larger gatherings located throughout the city that will allow everyone more time to visit with the city and police officials and representatives and for the caravans to end before dark. We encourage everyone to celebrate this national event. It is a time for neighbors to meet one another, and together learn what is going on in our community and prevent crime from happening in our neighborhoods.

Officer McGruff hopes to see you at one of the above caravan stops – we also wish those planning to have a separate NNO party a nice evening and event.

AND REMEMBER: Be careful about what you post on Social Media, NextDoor, etc. we don't want the criminals to know our plans. Thank you for your community support.



## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH IS LOOKING FOR A SECRETARY**

Neighborhood Watch (NW) is us! Neighbors, watching out for neighbors, working with our PVE Police Department to notify them of suspicious activities in our neighborhoods.

Part of the beauty of our community is the safety and friendliness of our neighborhoods. We can keep our special community safe by:

- Getting to know our neighbors
- Employing safe practices
- Being aware of scams
- Protecting our homes from opportunities for crime
- Notifying our Police Department of suspicious activity
- And getting involved.

Being a member of Neighborhood Watch is easy! Just complete and mail the MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION form or JOIN ONLINE for the nominal membership fee of \$10 per year. Membership includes many benefits (see our MEMBERSHIP page) and keeps you connected as a key part of our neighborhood safety strategy. Join us in making our community and neighborhoods safer!!

**NW NEEDS YOU!**

The office of Secretary is open for a qualified resident of PVE. It is an opportunity for you to become more involved in helping to keep our neighbors and city safe. The term is for one year (2016) subject to re-election at the NW Annual Meeting held in November. Applicant must be a resident of PVE and be over 18 years of age.

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

Contact: Kay Haggard, VP PVE Neighborhood Watch to apply or for more information of responsibilities at [pvenwboard@gmail.com](mailto:pvenwboard@gmail.com).

Neighborhood Watch is a non-profit organization founded in 1983.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS**

## **SUMMER CONCERTS**

### **LBHOA Summer Concert Series #4 July 24, 2016 5:00pm Lunada Bay Park**

Enjoy the LBHOA Summer Concert Series with *Heartbeat City*, a Cars Tribute Band. The fun starts at 5pm in the Lunada Bay Park. Bring a picnic, a blanket, and a friend!

This season figures to be even better than last, with a 6 concert series. For the full line-up, go to <http://www.lbhoa.org/summer-concert-series-schedule-shaping-up/> .

This event is generously hosted by DeBaal & Rau, Re/Max

For additional information, visit the website at <http://www.lbhoa.org/>.

Lunada Bay Park is located at 2201 Palos Verdes Drive West in Palos Verdes Estates (Palos Verdes Drive West & Via Carrillo)

### **Malaga Cove Concerts in the Park:**

**Farnham Martin Park, PVE**

**Each Concert begins at 7:00 pm and generally ends at 8:00pm**

- **Bad Haggis featuring Eric Rigler – July 20<sup>th</sup>**
- **Joanna Medawar Nachef Singers - July 27<sup>th</sup>**

<http://malagacoveconcerts.com/> & <http://malagacoveconcerts.com/about-us>

### **Suggestions for an Enjoyable Evening**

**Chairs** – Please use low back chairs everywhere except on the outer edges and far back area – please don't block others.

**Blankets** – Please don't save more room than you need and be cognizant of the fact that we have limited room for sprawling.

**Talking** – Most people would like to enjoy the music which is difficult if people are chatting loudly or calling to friends or family – please keep conversation to a minimum during the concert as a courtesy to the Artist and fellow audience members.

**Safety** – Please consider bringing a flashlight, especially toward the latter dates in August – it gets dark early!

**Children** – Children are welcome to attend. In order to ensure their safety, and enjoyment of all concert-goers, please supervise your children at all times.

**Donations** – Yes, the concert is free to the public, but there are expenses involved and our intent is to upgrade our sound system for future concerts. Also, in our effort to bring you the best possible talent, sometimes the sponsors' donations doesn't quite cover their costs. Please consider a suggested \$5 per adult donation to help keep the concerts flourishing – it is strictly voluntary and very much appreciated!

### **Some No-No's**

Please, for the enjoyment of all, and our continued ability to use the Park, there is to be **NO...**

- Dogs of any size.
- Walking on the fountain
- Throwing of balls or other items near the gallery
- Running or walking on retaining walls
- Playing or running through landscape areas or in the Parking lot
- Smoking in the Park area

### **Remember to GO GREEN! Please Recycle!**

The blue trash cans are for glass and aluminum and the trash boxes are for all other trash.

## **SCAMS – Fake Check- Overpayment, Friend in Need & US Treasury**

### ***Please be Vigilant***

*The following monthly scam information is provided by the KEEP-SAFE Coalition. For more information on scams and the KEEP-SAFE Coalition, visit their website at <http://keep-safe.org/>*

### **OVERPAYMENT AND FAKE CHECK – SCAM #1**

With overpayment scams, fraudsters play the role of buyer and target consumers selling a product or service. It usually works this way: The buyer "accidentally" sends you a check for more than the amount they owe you. They ask you to deposit it into your bank account and then wire them the difference. A deposited check can take several days or more to clear. When the original check turns out to be a fake and bounces, the victim is still on the hook to pay the bank back for any money withdrawn. Fake checks can be used for any type of scam, so always wait for a deposit to clear before writing checks against the funds.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Please be wary of unsolicited calls, emails received, etc. Never provide your personal information to an unsolicited caller or unconfirmed internet contact. If you**

have been a victim of a scam or fraud, please call the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department at (310) 378-4211.

More scams below

## **FRIEND IN NEED – SCAM #2**

Source: David Mikkelson

Distress scam involves an impersonator who pretends to be relative in urgent need of money.

Scam: Impersonator pretends to be a relative in urgent need of money.

Examples: [Collected via e-mail, April 2006]

*Someone reporting to be our grandson called us today to say he had been picked up on a dui in Toronto, Ontario, Canada and needed \$5,100 to make bail. He said to send a MoneyGram via WalMart. When we asked for a specific address, he gave one in, Toronto Ont Canada. I asked him a question only our grandson would know the answer to and the caller couldn't answer correctly. He called back about 10 minutes later, my husband said "Who the hell are you?" and the caller hung up. Our grandson goes to college in Tucson and we live in California so it took us a while to catch on to this scam.*

*(My husband initially was getting ready to go to WalMart before I caught up with him. What if I hadn't been home?) I reported this incident to the consumer fraud hotline.*

[Collected via e-mail, June 2010]

*I'm writing this with tears in my eyes, my family and I came down here to London, England for a short vacation unfortunately we were mugged at the park of the hotel where we stayed, all cash, credit card and cell were stolen off us but luckily for us we still have our passports with us.*

*We've been to the embassy and the Police here but they're not helping issues at all and our flight leaves in less than 3hrs from now but we're having problems settling the hotel bills and the hotel manager won't let us leave until we settle the bills.*

*Am freaked out at the moment. I Need Your Help Urgently..*

Origins: Some scammers exploit the avarice of people looking to get something for nothing, some take advantage of honest people who are simply trying to conduct straightforward business transactions, and some — perhaps the worst of all — victimize people who are motivated only by a good-hearted desire to help out those in need.

The scheme described above falls into that last category. The basic set-up is that a scam artist gleans just enough information about a family (e.g., names, ages, addresses, phone

numbers) to be able to impersonate one of them during a brief phone call to another family member. The scammer will place a call and claim to be in some form of distress (e.g., a victim of legal problems, theft, or fouled-up travel arrangements) that has left him stranded far from home and in desperate need of someone to wire him some cash. In many cases eager-to-help relatives will promptly send money as instructed, not realizing until it's too late that the person they've been talking to is an impersonator and not a genuine family member. (Grandparents are particularly common targets of this scam: They may be easily fooled by an impersonator because they often have only sporadic contact with their grown grandchildren and therefore may not be very familiar with a particular grandchild's adult voice and may not have current information about the grandchild's whereabouts or activities that might give away the impersonation.)

Such con artists use a variety of avenues through which they make contact — while some telephone their intended victims, others send e-mails, while still others send text messages to cell phones. Some of those who have reported being taken advantage of say they were approached via instant messages through social networking sites such as Facebook.

If you should receive such a call, text message, or e-mail and can't be sure whether it's on the level, the best approach is to elicit as much information as possible from the caller, then contact a direct relative (e.g., a parent, sibling, or child) of the person the caller is claiming to be and try to verify the information. (For example: "I just received a call from someone who identified himself as your brother, Bill, and he said his wallet was stolen in Calgary and he desperately needs some money to get back home. Do you know if Bill is traveling in Canada right now?")

Another approach to use if you can't reach other relatives right away is the one employed in the example quoted above: Ask the caller a question that an impersonator would be unable to answer. Be careful to pose a question that requires more than knowledge of basic family information (e.g., names, birthdates, addresses), because that information is too easy for outsiders to look up — instead, ask about something like a detail of a family event that someone who was not present would be extremely unlikely to know about.

In general, pleas for money from people with whom you have only casual or infrequent contact should be handled with Ronald Reagan's signature phrase in mind: "Trust, but verify."

### **US TREASURY CALL – SCAM #3**

Don't believe everything you hear on voicemail.

Resident called to warn neighbors about a call supposedly from the US Treasury Office. The voicemail indicated she should return the call to 203-405-9863.

Scammers are calling private numbers and warning people of impending action by the Treasury Department. It sounds something like this....

“This message is intended to contact you. My name is Gil Martin and I am calling regarding enforcement actions executed by U.S. Treasury intending your serious attention. Ignoring this will be an initial second attempt to avoid an appearance before a magistrate or grand jury for federal offenses.”

In one instance, the message included a number to call back. When that number was dialed, a man answered the phone claiming he was with the treasury department. In the background, other people making similar calls could be heard.

The man hung up when questioned about his business.

Some who have picked up the phone say they were told they had to pay back taxes immediately or they would be arrested. They are instructed to wire money or put it on a pre-paid credit card.

If you get a call like this one, the IRS says to call the Treasury inspector general at 800-366-4484 or file a [report online](#).

## PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION

### A Plan of Escape if there is a Fire in Your Home



If a fire starts in your home, you may have only one to two minutes to escape. Your ability to get out safely depends on having working smoke alarms and planning ahead.

The U.S. Fire Administration has tips for [creating a fire escape plan](#):

- Walk through your home, and identify two ways out of each room. Make sure everyone in your home can escape from both ways. This will help them prepare in case one way is blocked by fire.
- Choose a meeting place outside in front of your home. This is where everyone can meet once they've escaped and where firefighters can see you and know you are out.
- Sound the smoke alarm, and practice your escape drill with everyone in your home.

Get more information about fire escape planning on the [U.S. Fire Administration website](#). You'll find videos, flyers, and other resources to share with family and friends. Many of the resources are available in English and Spanish.



**PALOS VERDES ESTATES**

**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

**CRIME REPORT**

**July 5-11, 2016**

## **CITY NEWS**

### **City Council Meeting**

Date: 7/12/2016 6:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers of City Hall

[340 Palos Verdes Drive West](#)

[Palos Verdes Estates, California 90274](#)

[Add to my Outlook Calendar](#)

## **FROM NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH**

### **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH NEEDS A SECRETARY**

The office of Secretary is open for a qualified resident of PVE. It is an opportunity for you to become more involved in helping to keep our neighbors and city safe. The term is for one year (2016) subject to re-election at the NW Annual Meeting held in November. Applicant must be a resident of PVE and be over 18 years of age.

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Contact: Kay Haggard, VP PVE Neighborhood Watch to apply or for more information of responsibilities at [pvenwboard@gmail.com](mailto:pvenwboard@gmail.com).

Neighborhood Watch is a non-profit organization founded in 1983.



## COMMUNITY EVENTS



### LOW-COST PET CLINIC

**THURSDAY, JULY 14, 2016**  
**5:30 pm - 7:00 pm**

Please bring cats at 5:30 pm & dogs from 5:30 - 6:45 pm

Hosted by the City of Palos Verdes Estates  
Vet Services provided by the SCVVC

**UPPER DECK PARKING LOT at CITY HALL**  
**340 Palos Verdes Drive West, Palos Verdes Estates, CA**

For complete details on clinic participation requirements and other pet care information:

**www.scvvc.org      scvvc.pets@gmail.com      (714) 993-9193**

- Only healthy pets can be vaccinated
- De-worming & Flea/Tick Control products available (prices depend on pet's weight)
- Prior Rabies Certificate is required to receive a 3-year Rabies vaccine; otherwise the vaccine will be good for 1 year (License Renewal Notice containing Rabies expiration date may be accepted)
- Bring other vaccine records if possible
- If you have a CAT, proceed immediately to Cashier's table
- \$2 Hazardous Materials Disposal Fee will be charged per pet
- Prices below reflect a \$3 Cash Discount per pet
- Credit/Debit Cards are also accepted for veterinary services (\$3 additional fee per pet)

NOTIFY OUR STAFF UPON YOUR ARRIVAL IF YOUR PET HAS EVER HAD A REACTION TO A VACCINE, HAS RECENTLY SHOWN ANY SIGN OF ILLNESS, IS ON MEDICATION OR UNDERGOING TREATMENT FOR ANY MEDICAL CONDITION, IF IT IS NURSING PUPPIES/KITTENS, OR IF IT MIGHT BE PREGNANT.



#### **AVID MICROCHIPS for DOGS & CATS \$28**

(Includes PetTrac Registration & 24/7 Lost & Found Pet Recovery Assistance)



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Optional for Cats: (Purevax Non-Adjuvant Rabies) (12 wks & older) (1-year) **\$20** (3-year) **\$48**

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♥ Pets should always receive an initial series of vaccinations, then boosters in one year. Thereafter, annual vaccinations or vaccinations every three years are recommended, depending on the type of vaccine and on the pet's environment. Ideally, pets should receive one of their sets of initial vaccines between 14 to 16 weeks of age to achieve the best immunity against disease. During your pet's initial vaccine series, do not wait longer than 6 weeks apart to have your pet vaccinated and do not vaccinate less than 2 weeks apart. All pets adopted from shelters should receive vaccine boosters 1 month after adoption. ♥

## SCAMS – Caller (310) 562-3833 and IRS

Resident reported receiving a call from (310) 562-3833 where the caller knew her name and inquired about Housesitting. When the resident declined his services the caller



became very aggressive and rude. In “Googling” the number there have been other reports of similar calls with varies “offers for services”. The concern is our older adults that may become intimidated by such a caller. Please be aware of the number and as always. Never give personal information, bank information or purchase services without references.

**IRS SCAM:** I would like to share this frequent call we have received claiming they are from the IRS and required us to return the call saying we owed the IRS and will be prosecuted. The phone # is 509 331 5220 (we did not return the call).

## PUBLIC SAFETY INFORMATION

SWAPPING SPIT (SALIVA) INCREASES YOUR  
RISK FOR MENINGITIS/MENINGOCOCCAL DISEASE

**STOP**  
BEFORE YOU  
**SWAP**

Protect Yourself. Get Vaccinated.



We need your help in getting the word out. Your partnership will help amplify our messaging as we conduct a vaccination outreach campaign.

Public Health has created information to encourage vaccination for Invasive Meningococcal Disease and increase awareness of preventive measures. Meningococcal disease is a rare, but serious disease that can lead to swelling in the brain and spinal cord, loss of a limb, deafness, brain damage or even death. Recent LA County data shows more cases than usual among gay men/men who have sex with men (MSM).

To help protect our friends, families, and the people we serve, we would like to share our Public Relations toolkit. The toolkit will provide you with the framework to create or fine-tune your messaging. For example, the material could be posted on your website and put on display at a public library, community center, shuttle bus, community bulletin board, or a public counter...

Please feel free to use the following:

- [Invasive Meningococcal Disease website with vital information \(in Spanish\)](#)
- [FAQ on Meningococcal Disease \(in Spanish\)](#)
- [Fact Sheet for Meningitis \(Meningococcal Disease\) in Gay Men/Men who have Sex with Men \(in Spanish\)](#)

- [Clinics that offer free Meningococcal vaccine \(in Spanish\)](#)

If you use social media, please retweet, share or post the material provided.

For background information:

- July 7, 2016 [Press Conference Video](#)
- July 7, 2016 [Press Release: LA County Partners with Community Providers to Encourage At-Risk Gay/Bisexual Men to Get Meningococcal Vaccine \(in Spanish\)](#)
- July 1, 2016 [Press Release: Invasive Meningococcal Disease in LA County - Disproportionate Number of Cases in Men Who have Sex with Men \(in Spanish\)](#)
- June 24, 2016 [Press Release: Public Health Urges Vaccination for Those at Risk for Invasive Meningococcal Disease](#)
- June 24, 2016 [Health Alert](#)

Thanks again for all your help in getting this important information out!

## SUMMER CONCERTS IN PALOS VERDES ESTATES

Find the entire line ups here:

**Lunada Bay Concert** schedule is as follows:

July 12: Hollywood U2, U2 Tribute Band  
July 26: Blue Rhythm Orchestra, Big Band/Swing  
August 9: Mike Stocksdale, Indie/Folk  
August 23: Country Nation, Country/Western

For additional information, visit the website at <http://www.lbhoa.org/>.

Lunada Bay Park is located at 2201 Palos Verdes Drive West in Palos Verdes Estates (Palos Verdes Drive West & Via Carrillo)

**Malaga Cove Concerts:**

<http://malagacoveconcerts.com/> & <http://malagacoveconcerts.com/about-us>

### Suggestions for an Enjoyable Evening

**Chairs** – Please use low back chairs everywhere except on the outer edges and far back area – please don't block others.

**Blankets** – Please don't save more room than you need and be cognizant of the fact that we have limited room for sprawling.

**Talking** – Most people would like to enjoy the music which is difficult if people are

chatting loudly or calling to friends or family – please keep conversation to a minimum during the concert as a courtesy to the Artist and fellow audience members.

**Safety** – Please consider bringing a flashlight, especially toward the latter dates in August – it gets dark early!

**Children** – Children are welcome to attend. In order to ensure their safety, and enjoyment of all concert-goers, please supervise your children at all times.

**Donations** – Yes, the concert is free to the public, but there are expenses involved and our intent is to upgrade our sound system for future concerts. Also, in our effort to bring you the best possible talent, sometimes the sponsors' donations doesn't quite cover their costs. Please consider a suggested \$5 per adult donation to help keep the concerts flourishing – it is strictly voluntary and very much appreciated!

### **Some No-No's**

Please, for the enjoyment of all, and our continued ability to use the Park, there is to be **NO...**

- Dogs of any size.
- Walking on the fountain
- Throwing of balls or other items near the gallery
- Running or walking on retaining walls
- Playing or running through landscape areas or in the Parking lot
- Smoking in the Park area

### **Remember to GO GREEN! Please Recycle!**

The blue trash cans are for glass and aluminum and the trash boxes are for all other trash.



**PALOS VERDES ESTATES  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
CRIME REPORT  
June 28-July 4, 2016**

**CITY NEWS**

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