



# Newsletter

December 2012

## City Spotlight-PVE Police Captains



*Captain Mark Velez was born and raised in the South Bay. After graduating from high school, Captain Velez was hired by the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department in 1989 as a non-sworn Services Officer (dispatch/jail). Since then, Captain*

Velez has held the positions of Reserve Police Officer, Police Officer, Detective, Field Training Officer and Sergeant. In 2004, he attained the rank of Captain and currently serves as the Support Division Captain, which encompasses the Detective Bureau, communications and jail facilities, as well as budget and project management. During his tenure at the department, Captain Velez has continued his education in the areas of public administration and law enforcement. In his spare time, he enjoys vacationing with his wife, exercising and reading.



*Captain Anthony Best was born and raised in Long Beach. After graduating high school, he enlisted in the US Marines and served four years on active duty. In 1995, Captain Best began his career in law enforcement with the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department as a*

Services Officer (dispatch/jail). In 1996, Captain Best accepted a police officer cadet position with the Department. After graduating from the Orange County Sheriff's Academy as class sergeant, he immediately began to distinguish himself, becoming the Department's first motorcycle officer. He later became a canine handler and was promoted to the rank of Police Corporal in 2006. Captain Best then rose to the rank of Police Sergeant in 2007 where he worked as a patrol Watch Commander, the Department's Range Master and, most recently, as the Department's Training Sergeant. All the while,

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### Palos Verdes Estates City Council

Mayor ..... George F. Bird, Jr.  
Mayor Pro Tem ..... James F. Goodhart  
Councilmember ..... Rosemary Humphrey  
Councilmember ..... Ellen Perkins  
Councilmember ..... John Rea

Website: [www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org)

Email City Hall at [CityClerk@pvestates.org](mailto:CityClerk@pvestates.org)

Regular City Council meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. for study and closed session and 7:30 p.m. for the regular agenda. Regular Planning Commission meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The Parklands Committee meets the second Monday of the month at 7:30 p.m. The Traffic Safety Committee meets the second Wednesday of the month at 4:00 p.m.

Meetings are held in Council Chambers - 340 Palos Verdes Drive West. All agendas for City Council, Committee and Commission meetings are posted on the City Hall bulletin boards at least 72 hours before the meeting. For more information call City Hall at (310) 378-0383. Fax: (310) 378-7820

# City Spotlight-PVE Police Captains

.....Continued from page 1

Captain Best continued his education, ultimately obtaining a bachelor's degree in Occupational Studies. Captain Best brings a history of leadership and performance to the position of Police Captain

where he oversees the Operations Division, which involves the enforcement efforts of the department and its personnel involved in the protection of life and property. He is married with three children.

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## Ambassador Program

Our City is very different from most other local cities as we have a variety of atypical rules and processes. Some of these include the Tree Management Policy, Neighborhood Compatibility and the Homes Association's deed restrictions. Although these help protect the quality of life and property values in the City, they often lead to confusion, especially for new residents.

To address this issue, the City is implementing a new outreach program which we have termed as our

“Ambassador Program”. Staff will contact new homeowners and offer them a visit with our Planning and Public Works Director, either at City Hall or at their home. The Director will review the home's address file with the property owners, explain City rules and processes, and answer any questions the homeowner might have. Typical subjects would be the processes for adding onto a home, methods to remedy view-encroaching vegetation and means to address traffic issues.

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## Staying Safe During the Holiday Season



Since the holiday season is upon us, the Police Department's Detective Bureau would like to offer some safety tips so you can survive this hectic time of year without becoming a victim:

- Keep personal belongings, such as a GPS, lap top or purse, out of view. Visible items in a car can create an enticement that thieves often can't resist.
- When you leave your home, remember to close and lock all windows and doors; and, if you have an alarm make sure you set it. Although we have one of the lowest crime rates in the South Bay, don't forget to take the basic precautions to secure your home.
- If you have items delivered to your home, try to be there when they are delivered, or have the items delivered to a trusted neighbor.
- When you are out shopping and enjoying the holiday season, remember to be aware of your surroundings. Park in a well lit area, go with a friend when visiting unfamiliar places and remember to never let your purse or wallet out of your sight.

Lastly, if you are traveling this holiday season, please submit a Vacation Check Request Form. In order to help prevent your home from being burglarized, you may complete and submit a

.....Continued to page 3

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# Staying Safe During the Holiday Season

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Vacation Check Request to the Palos Verdes Estates Police Department by going to the City website at [www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org) and typing in "vacation check" in the top right search box. In addition, make arrangements for someone to pick up your mail and

newspapers, or stop delivery. An overstuffed mailbox is a sure sign that no one is home, and criminals are tempted to check your mail for personal information and holiday gifts.

## Santa's Coming to Town-TWICE!



Santa Claus will visit PVE two times in December! He will first make his annual early stop in Lunada Bay Plaza on Thursday, December 20<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Then, on Monday, December 24<sup>th</sup>, he will arrive at Malaga Cove

Plaza at 6:00 p.m. Make sure all your good girls and boys pay him a visit!

## Holiday Tree Pick-Up



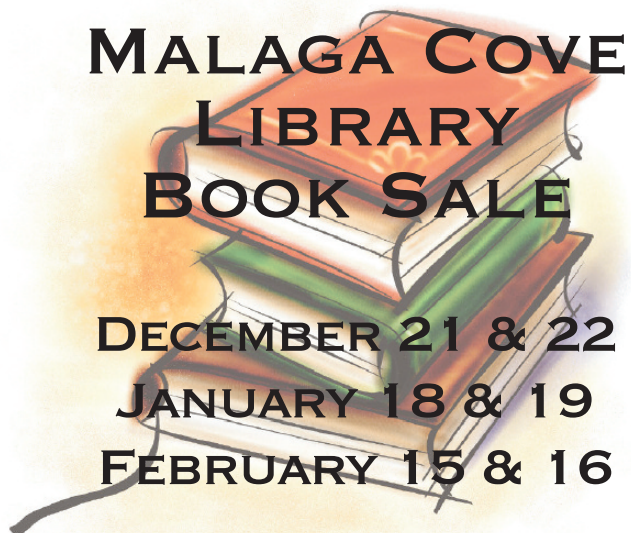
The City's waste hauler, Athens Services, will provide FREE Holiday Tree removal from your curb for all residents of Palos Verdes Estates on Saturday, December 29, 2012 and Saturday, January 5, 2013. For pickup, place your whole tree in the front of your property and be sure to remove stands and decorations such as tinsel and ornaments. Lightly flocked trees are acceptable. Please contact Athens Services at (888) 336-6100 for more information.

## Council Agendas Available

To enhance service to residents, City Council agendas are posted at City Hall, 340 Palos Verdes Drive West, the Golf Club Pro-Shop, 3301 Via Campesina and Malaga Cove Library, 2400 Via Campesina, by the Saturday morning preceding the Tuesday evening City Council meeting. Agenda and staff reports are also available online on the City website at [www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org). If you are interested in receiving the Agenda via email, please subscribe; click on "Join E-News" on the homepage.

## MALAGA COVE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

DECEMBER 21 & 22  
JANUARY 18 & 19  
FEBRUARY 15 & 16



# Rainy Season Resident Preparation

How can you be prepared for a wet season as the winter months approach? Follow these guidelines to make sure you are well-equipped during the rainy season:

- Clean all rain gutters, swales and drainage pipes on private property.
- Is your property subject to flooding? How can water be diverted? Obtain sand bags for emergencies. Empty sandbags are available 24/7 in the Police Department lobby with sand available in the parking lot at the west end of Via Tejon. Additionally, filled sandbags are available inexpensively from most home improvement stores.
- Trim your trees, especially if they are large, densely-foliaged and/or shallow-rooted.
- If needed, examine and repair roofs, gutters, window caulking, and insulation.

- Keep large flashlights, extra batteries and/or lanterns on hand in case of an electrical failure.
- Turn off automated sprinkler systems when rain is expected.
- Keep the following utility company phone numbers handy:

Southern California Gas Company:  
(800) 427-2200

Southern California Edison:  
(800) 655-4555

California Water Service:  
(310) 257-1400

Verizon  
(800) 483-4000

Call the City Public Works Department or the City Streets and Parks Department at (310) 378-0383 for storm-related concerns during regular business hours. If outside normal working hours, call the non-emergency Police Dispatch number at (310) 378-4211.



## FREE PV Transit Services

### FREE Bus Service on New Year's Eve

PV Transit will again offer free transportation bus service, to residents of the Palos Verdes Peninsula only, on New Year's Eve.

This service will be provided from 6:00 p.m. on December 31<sup>st</sup> to 2:00 a.m. on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Reservations (one way or roundtrip) may be made in advance starting on December 21<sup>st</sup> by calling (310) 544-3710 between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Same-day reservation service also will be provided on December 31<sup>st</sup>.

Remember, plan ahead for a safe and Happy New Year!!

### Google Maps



PV Transit information is now available on Google Maps! Through the technology of Google Maps, Google's Transit Trip Planner integrates PV Transit stop, route and schedule information to make trip planning quick and easy. Simply enter where you are, where you want to go, and when you want to be there; Google will do the planning for you. The Google Transit Trip planner can be accessed at [www.palosverdes.com/pvtransit/](http://www.palosverdes.com/pvtransit/). Call (310) 544-3710 or more information.

# Palos Verdes Homes Association Annual Meeting

**A**ttention all Property Owners! Have you returned your ballot? Your help is needed to establish a quorum for the Annual Meeting of the Palos Verdes Homes Association on Tuesday, January 8, 2013 at 8:00 pm. The meeting will be held in the Council Chambers of PVE City Hall, 340 Palos Verdes Drive West. Please sign and return your ballot as soon as possible, or fax it to the PVHA office at (310) 373-9115.

All property owners are invited to the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting. Issues will be discussed formally, and informally, and refreshments will be served. For further information, call the PVHA office at (310) 373-6721.

The Palos Verdes Homes Association was established in 1923 and is now in its 89<sup>th</sup> year of continuous service.



## Update - PACE CAR PROGRAM

**I**n October, the City initiated the Pace Car Program, a citizen pledge to observe all traffic laws and drive the speed limit. The program includes a pledge form for interested individuals who will in turn receive a vinyl decal to display in his/her rear car windows to alert others you have taken the pledge and that you drive the speed limit.

We have provided several decals since the program began. We hope that as the days and months progress, more will be interested and pledge to safe driving. The pledge is available online ([www.pvestates.org](http://www.pvestates.org), under "Documents Online" then "City Manager"). Please print and mail in/drop off at City Hall, 340 Palos Verdes Drive West, Palos Verdes Estates, CA 90274. Two decals will then be mailed to the address you provide.

## Business License Renewals Due

**A**s a friendly reminder, business licenses expire December 31, 2012. Please renew your business license by January 31, 2013, in order to avoid late penalties. Business licenses are required for any business conducted in the City. If you do not receive your license renewal by mail in December, or are a new business requiring licensing, please contact the City's Finance Department at (310) 378-0383.

Home occupation businesses are permitted under certain limited conditions to ensure there are no impacts on neighbors. If you operate any business from your home, you need to secure a home occupation permit for 2013. If you operate a business solely from a location outside the city, you should use that location's address for any state licenses or correspondence so that you are not required to get a City license as well.

Please call the Finance Department for more information about either of the licenses above.

## Strong Cities | Strong States

**T**he City of Palos Verdes Estates is one of the most recent cities profiled as part of the ongoing "Strong Cities | Strong State" campaign, a project of the League of California Cities and the California City Management Foundation (CCMF). The website highlights local government success stories across California. "Strong Cities | Strong

State" seeks to position cities as vital, necessary and equal partners in building a better California.

Please visit the City of Palos Verdes Estates profile at: [www.strongcitiesstrongstate.com/city/palos-verdes-estates](http://www.strongcitiesstrongstate.com/city/palos-verdes-estates).

**City of Palos Verdes Estates**  
340 Palos Verdes Drive West  
Palos Verdes Estates, California 90274

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*City Hall will be closed on the following holidays:  
December 24th & 25th in observance of the Christmas holiday  
January 1st in observance of New Year's Day  
January 21st in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day  
February 18th in observance of Presidents' Day*

CITY OF PALOS VERDES ESTATES

## ***In This Issue***

<i>City Spotlight-PVE Police Captains</i> .....	<i>1, 2</i>
<i>Ambassador Program</i> .....	<i>2</i>
<i>Staying Safe During the Holiday Season</i> .....	<i>2, 3</i>
<i>Santa's Coming to Town-TWICE!</i> .....	<i>3</i>
<i>Holiday Tree Pick-Up</i> .....	<i>3</i>
<i>Council Agendas Available</i> .....	<i>3</i>
<i>Malaga Cove Library Book Sale</i> .....	<i>3</i>
<i>Rainy Season Resident Preparation</i> .....	<i>4</i>
<i>FREE PV Transit Services</i> .....	<i>4</i>
<i>Palos Verdes Homes Association Annual Meeting</i> .....	<i>5</i>
<i>Update - PACE CAR PROGRAM</i> .....	<i>5</i>
<i>Business License Renewals Due</i> .....	<i>5</i>
<i>Strong Cities   Strong States</i> .....	<i>5</i>