

Newsletter

Spring 2016



Palos Verdes Estates
City Council

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James F. Goodhart

Mayor Pro Tem
Jennifer L. King

Councilmember
Betty Lin Peterson

Councilmember
John Rea

Councilmember
James D. Vandever

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Energy & Environment Expo: April 23



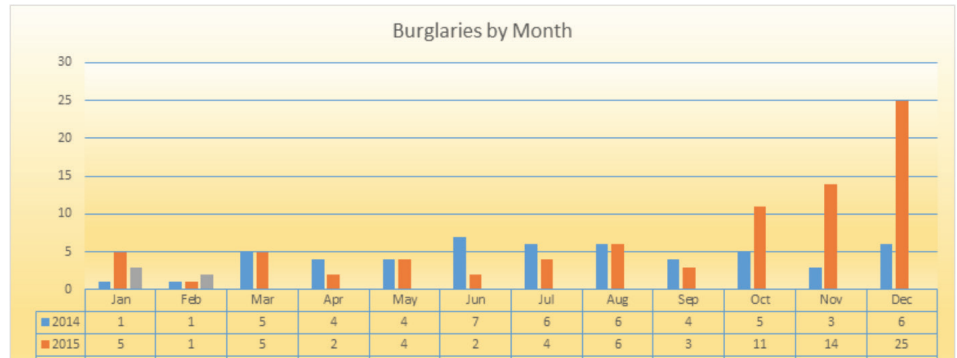
The City will host its second annual Energy and Environment Expo on April 23 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. This free event will take place on the green belt in front of Palos Verdes Estates City Hall (340 Palos Verdes Drive West) and at Civic Center Park adjacent to City Hall. In conjunction with this event, the City and its waste hauler will provide free compost (while supplies last) to residents. Please note this is a

self-serve pick-up. Residents must bring their own sturdy containers/buckets. Assistance will be provided.

For more information regarding the variety of educational booths and activities to be featured, please visit the City's website www.pvestates.org or call (310) 378-0383. Continue to Go Green and Protect our Valuable Environment.

Regular City Council meetings are held the second and fourth Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Regular Planning Commission meetings are held the third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The Parklands Committee meets the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 p.m., and the Traffic Safety Committee meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. Meetings are held in Council Chambers - 340 Palos Verdes Drive West. All agendas for City Council, Commission and Committee meetings are posted on the City Hall bulletin boards and the City Website at least 72 hours before the meeting. For more information call City Hall at (310) 378-0383; Fax: (310) 378-7820.

Crime Trends – A Message from Police Chief Kepley



As you may have heard, PVE suffered a rash of residential burglaries during the last three months of 2015. In fact, 50 of the 82 burglaries in 2015 (60%) occurred during that last quarter in October, November and December (See chart). This crime spree was unprecedented in our community, caused a great deal of unrest in our neighborhoods, and increased our crime rate by 40%. While this burglary trend was widespread across the Los Angeles region and not unique to our area, I am happy to report that the crime spree in PVE has ended.

Since the beginning of 2016, Part 1 crimes have returned to normal levels. Now, I recognize that each burglary represents a victim family that has endured a great sense of invasion in their home and a loss of their sense of safety that we all enjoy at home. To that end, there is no minimal acceptable level of burglary. However, for comparison purposes, during the month of January 2016, there were 3 burglaries

in PVE as compared to 25 in December 2015.

It is difficult to accurately identify or attribute the actual causes of crime increases or decreases, but I believe our residents' crime prevention efforts and involvement in Neighborhood Watch played a large part in the decrease. Diligent reporting to the police by our residents about suspicious activities increased significantly during that time. Another factor, the hard work that the patrol officers and detectives at PVEPD employed in arresting 15 out-of-town burglars associated with PVE burglaries is something that I am very proud of. Combined, our burglary suppression strategies have worked.

Question: So, what do we do now that crime has returned to low levels in PVE? Answer: We do the same things that helped reduce the crime to maintain our low crime rate. How? To begin with, we must maintain our collective sense of

commitment and awareness within our community. We must continue to strengthen community connections by knowing our neighbors, taking note of unfamiliar visitors and goings-on in your area, joining Neighborhood Watch, and reporting unusual or suspicious activities to PVEPD. We need to continue taking crime prevention seriously, etc. We need to invest in gate locks, alarm systems, camera systems and anything else to reduce the odds of home burglary.

Working together, we can maintain the recent crime reduction, and continue to send the message to those out-of-town criminals that PVE will not stand for crime. Our homes are burglar resistant, we don't leave valuables in plain sight within our cars, and we work together to report crime to the police here in PVE.

Together, we can make a difference!

Jeff Kepley
PVE Police Chief

¹Part 1 Crimes refers to the list of the most serious criminal offenses defined and categorized by the FBI, and is the system used across our country for police agencies to track and measure crime trends.

²Historically, there have been between 0 and 3 burglaries per month in PVE, while unacceptable, still extremely low compared to most other communities.

State Extends Emergency Drought Regulations

California Water Service (CalWater) has advised the City that on February 2, the State Water Resources Control Board (State) extended its mandatory water-use reductions and restrictions through October 2016. This means Palos Verdes Peninsula residents must continue to reduce their water use by 36 percent.

Following the April 1 snowpack assessment, the State may decide whether to modify these drought regulations. As such, water budgets for CalWater customers are continuing. Water customers also are eligible to bank unused water units for future needs and credits. CalWater is mailing information to its customers about this extension and will have information posted on their website.

CalWater customers whose water budget was adjusted through the appeal process will receive separate correspondence regarding their budgets.



Live Webstreaming

The City launched a new web feature to enhance public access to City meetings in October 2015. City Council and Planning Commission meetings are now live-streamed. Meetings can be watched in real time at www.pvestates.org under City Government on the new City Meetings page by a click on "View

Live." Live audio streaming of the Parklands Committee and Traffic Safety Committee meetings can also be heard now in the same manner. Recordings are then posted in the Available Archives section on the same page, enhanced by the ability to click-and-view on an Agenda item of interest.



Harry H. Brandel, Jr. Scholarships Available

Are you a student majoring in, or intending to major in, architecture, landscape architecture, civil engineering, land use planning or fine arts? Scholarship applications are now available. Completed applications must be postmarked by Thursday, March 31, 2016. Contact the Palos Verdes Homes Association for further information at PVHA@PVHA.org or (310) 373-6721.



Palos Verdes Golf Club Accepting Applications

The Palos Verdes Golf Club is currently accepting applications for membership, with guaranteed priority admission given to PVE residential property owners. PVGC is also hosting a series of prospective member Open House events. Upcoming dates are as follows: March 20, April 10, & June 5. For additional information or to arrange a tour, please contact Kelly Stortz at (310) 791-7941 or kelly@pvgc.com.

The Palos Verdes Golf Club celebrated its 75th anniversary in 1999. Numerous enhancements over the years have modernized the course, which still retains its traditional character as designed by William (Billy) Bell and West Coast architect George Thomas.

The Palos Verdes Golf Club is semi-private and many of the starting times are reserved for members. The clubhouse is open to the public for dining and special events.

Taking Care of Our Trees



Walking path along Granvia La Costa (P.V.Dr.W.) with eucalyptus trees

Our trees are getting older and the drought is making an impact. Preservation and safety of our urban forest is a priority. In the early 1900's, a grove of Sugar Gum Eucalyptus was planted to frame the City entrance at Palos Verdes Drive West and usher in potential investors and new residents. In April 2015, due to health and safety concerns, 14 trees were removed and the remaining trees were trimmed. Six new Southern Magnolia tree were also planted to restore the original planting.

In November 2015, City staff began installing a main irrigation line on Palos Verdes Drive West to get water to the large ficus trees that grace the Lunada Bay area. With normal rainfall,

these trees do well without irrigation but the long term threat of a drought requires intervention so the community does not lose these beautiful trees.

Citywide efforts in 2015 provided trimming of more than 1,700 trees. Unfortunately, 260 trees were removed due to safety concerns or restoration of views. More than 100 new trees were planted to renew our urban forest. Residents can help increase our forest by obtaining a no fee permit to plant an approved street tree in front of their property. In 2016, a tree inventory will be proposed to help identify the quantity, species, location and health of our trees so that we can better manage this valuable resource.



Mayoral Rotation Council Meeting

On behalf of the Mayor and City Council, you are cordially invited to attend an Adjourned Regular Meeting of the City Council on Monday, March 21, beginning at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers of City Hall. The City will honor the outgoing Mayor and the City Council will elect and install a new Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tempore. We invite you to join us in honoring our current Mayor, the newly-elected Mayor and Mayor Pro-Tempore for refreshments following the ceremony.

Interested in serving on a City Commission or Committee?

Civic minded volunteers wanted! The City is accepting applications for the regularly expiring terms on the Planning Commission, Parklands Committee and Traffic Safety Committee as of July 1, 2016. Interested Palos Verdes Estates residents are encouraged to volunteer and submit an application for the positions.

There will be three available positions on the Planning Commission, three available positions on the Parklands Committee and two available positions on the Traffic Safety Committee. Appointments are for a two-year term beginning in July. Commission/Committees meet monthly as follows: Planning Commis-

sion meets on the 3rd Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.; the Parklands Committee meets on the 2nd Thursday at 7:30 p.m.; and the Traffic Safety Committee meets on the 1st Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

Applications are available at City Hall or online at www.pvestates.org (on the Home Page, click on "I Want To..." then "apply to serve..."). They are due to the City Clerk's office by Friday, April 29. Interviews by the City Council will take place in late May.

Questions about applications, or this process, may be directed to the City Clerk's office at (310)378-0383 or by email to cityclerk@pvestates.org.





PVE Citizens Academy

Would you like to learn more about your local City government? If so, you should consider applying to the PVE Citizens Academy. This free program, open to Palos Verdes Estates residents, will familiarize and inform participants on municipal operations/services, budgeting, police and fire services, environmental programs and community recreation as well as the City's history and vision for the future. The program will help prepare local citizens who have an interest in serving as resources, ambassadors, volunteers, and future elected and appointed leaders of the City.

The 10-session program held on Wednesday evenings and two Saturdays. Participation will be limited to a maximum of 27 people (25 adults and 2 high school students). The Academy will take place from April 20, 2016, through the end of July. Applications are now available on the City's website and at City Hall. For more information, please call (310) 378-0383.

Fiscal Stability Continues

As part of the biennial (two-year) budget process for fiscal years 2014-15 & 2015-16, the City has maintained a prudent 50% level of fund reserves with an estimate of \$9 million by June 30, 2016. Given its size and high dependency on a narrow band of revenues sources, mainly property tax, these reserves levels are vital for Palos Verdes Estates to enjoy and foster its status as a predominantly resident City.

Most people may be surprised to know that County property tax is a shared funding source and the City of Palos Verdes Estates

only receives 11 cents of each property tax dollar paid to the County. The property tax pie is cut into many pieces. It also is important to note that general City property tax does not cover the provision of Fire services, which obtains its funding from a ten-year Fire Parcel Tax set to expire in 2017. While we enjoy a stable and strong property tax base, its ability to fund key operations is quite fragile and must be watched closely. Hence, the maintenance of healthy reserves is a way of life for our City.

Household Hazardous Waste Round-Up



The Palos Verdes Peninsula's next Annual Household Hazardous Waste (HHW)/Electronics Waste (E-Waste) Roundup will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Rancho Palos Verdes City Hall/City Yard located at 30940 Hawthorne Boulevard. This event is jointly sponsored by the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts and the Department of

Public Works. The Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Program provides the opportunity to properly dispose of unwanted household chemicals that cannot be disposed of regularly.

What can you bring?

- Motor Oil, Antifreeze, Paint, Paint Thinner
- Turpentine, Cleaners with Acids or Lye
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Household and Car Batteries
- Old Computers and Television Sets
- Sharps or Used Needles

As a reminder, the City of Palos Verdes Estates is unable to accept hazardous materials and has discontinued the ability for residents to drop off e-waste in front of City Hall. The City will now host quarterly round-up events. For more information, please call (310) 378-0383.



Bulky Trash Pick-Up – May 7

The popular curbside pickup of bulky items has been expanded to provide two events in 2016. As an extra benefit to our residents, e-waste will now be included. The first combined Bulky Waste and E-Waste collection day is scheduled for Saturday, May 7. Items should be placed at curbside no later than 6:00 a.m. Items placed at the curb after 6:00 a.m. will not be taken.

Bulky trash is defined as: furniture; appliances; water heaters; refrigerators (compressors removed); stoves; sinks; lawn furniture; doors; windows; screens; mattresses; beds and rugs. E-waste such as TVs, DVDs players, radios, printers, computer monitors and microwave ovens also will be accepted. Unacceptable items include: construction waste; green waste; and hazardous waste such as cleaning products, automotive fluids and pool chemicals.

You may contact the waste hauler directly if you have construction waste and are in need of a temporary debris container. For more information you may contact Athens Services at (888) 336-6100 or visit www.AthenServices.com.



Nixle Public Safety Alerts

The Palos Verdes Estates Police Department has partnered with Nixle, a public safety communication system, for Police personnel to send timely community safety information directly to subscribers via email or text message. Notifications also can be accessed online through the Nixle website.

To directly receive text alerts to your phone, text the number 888777 (in the "recipient" field) and the zip code 90274 (in the message field). There are no spam messages associated with the service, but standard text messaging rates do apply.

To subscribe online and receive email notifications, go to www.nixle.com, click "Sign up" in the top right corner, fill out the online form and click "I Accept. Sign me up!" Don't delay; do it today.



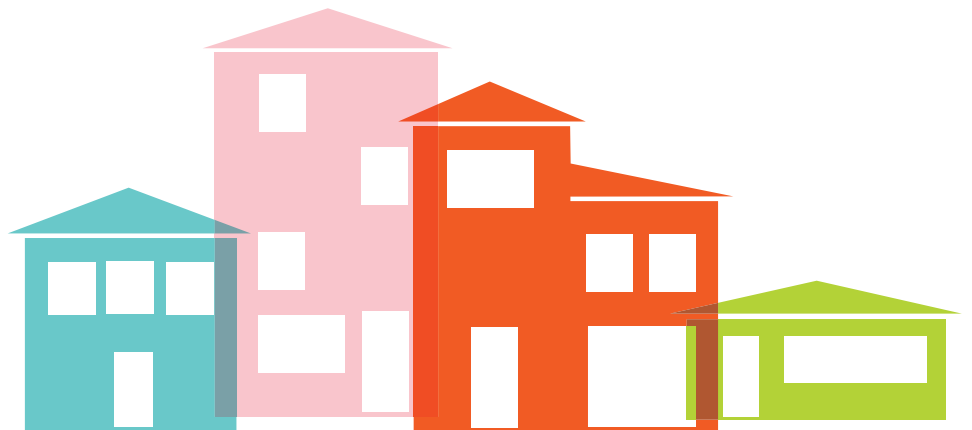
Join Neighborhood Watch

Neighborhood Watch groups are a smart and effective way for residents to deter crime, maintain community safety, and work in conjunction with the Police Department.

When you register for Neighborhood Watch (a tax-deductible donation of \$5 per year), you will receive weekly crime reports reflecting current crime trends and other Police Department communications along with Neighborhood Watch newsletters. In addition, membership supports community programs such as National Night Out, the Independence Day Celebra-

tion, PVE CARES, and the Palos Verdes Peninsula Community Emergency Response Team.

If you are interested in becoming a member, a Block Captain or an Area Coordinator for Neighborhood Watch, please contact the City's Community Relations Officer Marcelle McCullough at (310) 378-4211 or visit www.PVENW.org for more information. Always remember, if you spot any criminal activity, the best thing to do is call 310-378-4211 immediately or 9-1-1 for life threatening emergencies.



Palos Verdes Tennis Club Junior Round-Up

The Palos Verdes Tennis Club offers fun and challenging group workouts for youths ages 4 to 17. Home to six USPTA certified tennis professionals with notable experience in training juniors, the Club offers a combination of coordination and agility drills to assist in the development of well-rounded tennis players.



Quick start tennis equipment is utilized to get the most out of the “Hot Shots” program which is available to children as young as 4 years old. The “Hot Shots” workout is offered on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30 to 4:15 p.m.



The older juniors (age 7 and up) are grouped by level from 1 to 4. Level 1 and 2 are beginners to intermediate, and level 3 and 4 are more experienced players. Level 1, 2 and 3 workouts are on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m, and level 4 workouts are on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.



You do not have to be a member of Palos Verdes Tennis Club to participate in the junior workouts. For more information, and to sign up, please visit the Club’s website at www.pvtennisclub.com.

Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club – 2016 Summer Swim Lesson Program

The Palos Verdes Beach and Athletic Club (PVBAC) once again will offer youth swim lessons at the PVBAC pool, beginning in June, for club members and non-members.

Swim Lesson Sessions

(Tuesday – Friday)

Session 1: JUNE 14 - JULY 1

Session 2: JULY 5 - JULY 22

Session 3: JULY 26 - AUGUST 12

Lessons are provided for children of all skill levels beginning as young as age 6 months. Lessons are 30 minutes in duration with the first session beginning at 10 a.m. and the last session beginning at 12:30 p.m. This is a lesson program only – no recreational swimming is available. PVE resident, non-member cost is \$180/session.

Space is limited, so please contact the PVBAC at (310) 375-8777 now for more information or to enroll. Sign-ups begin May 2 for PVE Residents. The PVBAC will handle registrations and payments directly.



Palos Verdes Stables Lesson Program

Palos Verdes Stables offers a multi-tiered lesson program from beginner ponies to advanced horses. Lessons are provided for all ages from tots to adults.

Palos Verdes Stables takes great pride in providing a safe and supportive environment for children to thrive and succeed. The tots program introduces young children to

not only ride horses but love them. Participants are taught how to appropriately brush, tack and ride ponies. The lesson program offers a wide range of options from 1/2 hour private lessons for beginners to hour long group rides for more advanced riders.

For more information, call (310) 378-3527.





Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration

The annual Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration is scheduled for Monday, July 4, 2016, on the grounds of Malaga Cove School.

This longstanding, successful community-wide event could not happen without the hard work and dedication of the Palos Verdes Independence Day Celebration

Committee. This committee initially was founded in 1962 by PVE resident volunteers. The event continues to be funded by private donations from Peninsula residents and is supported by the City of Palos Verdes Estates.

The goal of this event is to applaud American values, celebrate our nation's independence, mag-

nify our heritage of freedom and promote patriotism.

The committee welcomes residents interested in joining its effort in presenting this community event. For more information on the event or how to donate your time or resources, please contact Sharon Ryan at (310) 378-3370 or by email: travelser@yahoo.com.

Join E-News

The City website home page, at www.pvestates.org, has a handy and easy tool to allow you to stay connected to City news and events. Just click on "Join E-News" on the front page of the web site and you are seconds away from automatically connecting to agenda items, news-

letters and city announcements. Links are included for City Council meetings, and meetings of the Planning Commission, Parklands Committee and Traffic Safety Committee. A link to Neighborhood Watch also is available. You can connect with one or all. Please join us!



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