

PVP Watch Newsletter – October 11, 2009

To Our Friends & Supporters:

November 3rd is Election Day and sample ballots and permanent absentee ballots have been mailed. If history repeats itself, perhaps 30% of peninsula voters will cast their ballots. Is this not dismal when 70% of the taxpayers have no interest in their community? Admittedly, it is difficult to make a change in National or California statewide offices; however each vote does matter on Peninsula offices whether they are City Hall, PV Schools or the library district. Everyone receiving this Newsletter should accept the challenge of assuring that five (5) friends / neighbors cast their respective ballots.

The PVP School Board

Running for reelection are Trustees Barbara Lucky & Malcolm Sharp. Both have demonstrated deep knowledge of PVP schools needs and issues. Both have voted wisely particularly on the complex financial issues confronting PVP schools. PVP Watch believes these two are the best qualified and supports their reelection for another term.

There is one other seat open with four candidates competing for this position. Three candidates Anthony Collatos, Gregory Royston & Heather Haddon Matson in an open forum on September 30th declared that they **would accept** financial support from the PVP teachers union if offered. Karen Bird and the two incumbents stated they **would not** accept teacher's union support. PVP Watch believes there is opportunity for conflict of interest when school board members accept teachers union financial support thus PVP Watch believes Karen Bird to be the optimum candidate for the 3rd open seat. PVP Watch believes it is past time for introducing performance pay into PVP schools and so far the teachers union has opposed this concept. More about these candidates can be found at: <http://www.smartvoter.org/2009/11/03/ca/la/race/01487000/>

League of Women Voters Forum

September 30th the League of Women Voters conducted a forum for the PVP School board candidates. An interesting development, as reported in Sunday's (Oct. 11th) Daily Breeze, was the League of Women Voters agreeing to edit the video tape that documented the forum.

It seems that one question asked of candidates Collatos and Royston concerned their previous voting records. Their responses seemed reasonable with Collatos responding that he believed he had voted but would have to check his records and Royston responding he had missed the previous election as he had been unexpectedly called away on a family matter. It would seem that the matter would have ended there.

Subsequently, as reported by the Daily Breeze, apparently the candidates approached the League of Women Voters and requested that this question and responses be edited from the video tape. Thus the mystery unfolds; why was an apparent innocuous question of concern and why did the League of Women Voters agree to edit the video tape?

PVP Watch believes the public should be able to hear the entire forum, not just the portions that the candidates like. Is it appropriate to alter the record of a public event after the fact?

Peninsula Library Board

Two seats are open and there are three candidates. Incumbent Constance Davenport and challengers Diane Robinson and Barry Yudess. There is Library candidate's forum scheduled for October 13th 7:00 PM at the Peninsula Center library. For more information on these candidates see: <http://www.smartvoter.org/2009/11/03/ca/la/race/02103000/>

Neighborhood Watch

The following message from Gail Lorenzen / RPV Neighborhood Watch Coordinator is being sent as a public service. Likely many received the original message.

VEHICLE BURGLARIES: Last week we had a rash of 11 vehicle burglaries, nearly all of them occurred to UNLOCKED vehicles. Every one of them occurred on streets or sections of streets not in Neighborhood Watch. The streets hit were 2 in Mira Catalina area, 2 on Rue Valois, 4 on Lower Via Rivera, 1 on Oceancrest, and 2 in Seagate/Beachview area. In every vehicle residents left watches, cell phones, suitcases, GPS's, vehicle registrations and garage door remotes, computers, shotguns and rifles, cameras, IPOD's, checkbooks, and radar detectors. What a haul for a crook! It was so easy just to open UNLOCKED doors and grab that they came out 4 nights in a row. Needless to say, our constant warnings about leaving valuable items in cars, especially unlocked, seem to fall on deaf ears, so there is nothing any of us can do except to suffer with the victims about crimes that could have been easily prevented.

SCAMS: We have warned residents about these crimes before but 4 of them have recently occurred to our elder adult residents as follows. Please give this notice to all elderly people on your block. Two victims were recently contacted by someone claiming to be the victim's granddaughter. In each instance, a woman claiming to be the victim's granddaughter said she was arrested for drunk driving in Canada and needed the victim to send money to someone in Canada. Each victim sent money (one sent \$2,935 & the other sent \$8,206). Another victim said that a representative from "Bank of America" called him and told him he had just won \$280,000. The victim was instructed to send money for a transaction fee & insurance for delivery of the package. The victim sent \$4,900 before realizing that he had been the victim of a scam. In the 4th report, the victims (older married couple) met the suspect in 2004 or 2005 and have since given him ap-

proximately 1.2 million dollars in cash and checks written to other parties. Although the suspect convinced the husband that he would receive a substantial return on his investment, no returns, dividends, profits or property were ever received by the victims. 2 female's suspects were also involved in this scam.

In summary:

(1) IF ANY FRIEND OR RELATIVE CALLS AND ASKS FOR MONEY, HANG UP, THEN CALL THE FRIEND OR RELATIVE IN PERSON AND ASK IF THEY CALLED.

(2) NO ONE SHOULD EVER PAY MONEY UP FRONT FOR SOMETHING THEY "WON," FOR SUCH THINGS AS TRANSACTION FEES, INSURANCE, DELIVERY, ETC.

(3) IF IT SOUNDS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE, IT PROBABLY ISN'T. IT'S A SCAM.

(4) ITS SAFE TO SAY THAT ALMOST NO ONE EVER WINS ANYTHING THESE DAYS, NOR DO PEOPLE GIVE YOU ESPECIALLY GOOD DEALS ON INVESTMENTS, DIVIDENDS OR PROFITS. ALWAYS CHECK THESE THINGS OUT CAREFULLY BEFORE YOU FALL FOR THEM. THERE ARE MORE SCAM ARTISTS OUT THERE THAN GOOD GUYS.

PVP Watch – Newsletter List

A reminder to ALL PVP Watch supporters. Should you change your e-mail address, don't forget to advise PVP Watch of your new address. We suggest that pvpwatch.com be added to your computer address book to assure delivery of PVP Watch Newsletters.

PVP Watch – Contributions

PVP Watch welcomes modest contributions and appreciates the many contributions received. Those desiring to contribute, please send checks to PVP Watch PO Box 7000-22, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA 90274. We thank those who have contributed for helping to promote PVP Watch.

Subscribers

The PVP Watch e-mail list continues to grow. For those who wish their addresses removed, please send notice to info@pvpwatch.com.

PVP Watch strives to bring current issues to www.pvpwatch.com. Those who have topics of community interest are encouraged to bring those issues to PVP Watch.

The Editorial Committee