



Paradise Valley Police Department **CRIME PREVENTION BULLETIN**

January 2020

The Paradise Valley Police Department is providing this bulletin to keep residents informed on joint successes collaborating with our community.

OUR MISSION:

Provide high-quality police services to our community, reduce crime and the fear of crime, and by working with all citizens, to preserve life, protect property, promote individual responsibility and encourage community involvement.

Questions?

Steven McGhee

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Crimes Solved by Resident Action

Written by Steven McGhee (#194) - Paradise Valley Police Officer

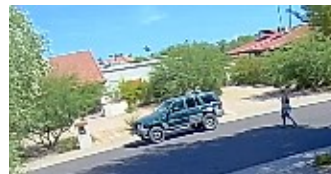
Editor's note: Mark's name has been changed to protect his identity.

In April 2019, the Paradise Valley Police Department announced that it had joined the free Neighbors app by Ring to provide the Town of Paradise Valley with real-time, local crime and safety information.

Chief of Police, Peter Wingert, shared how in the Department's endeavors to find real-time solutions to real-time issues, the new application brings forth the ability to promote neighbors connecting with their neighborhood and with our law enforcement personnel regardless of the video surveillance system they choose to use. It's a platform tailored to our public safety needs. It was mere months after that the Police Department would find its first, real-life story of its own.

It started as an ordinary day. The sun was shining, birds were out, and the streets were full of residential activity.

Resident, Mark, was arriving home when his neighbor visited to show his family a video of a suspicious vehicle posted to Neighbors by Ring. The neighbor continued to tell Mark that a related female was walking along the street,



Neighbors by Ring video shared & contained suspects of mail theft.

seemingly taking extra interest to the front of the houses, was noticed as she passed by taking photographs of Mark's house. She was then observed walking up to another neighbor's front door with empty hands and then returned to the street with a box. Suddenly, a green Jeep pulled up, she entered it, and she took off. As the two neighbors were discussing it, Mark recognized the green Jeep from the video shown pass through the area again and called the police.

Police Volunteer, Russ Mosser, heard of the incident and wanted to share his insight to encourage others to act. He said, "No one should be bashful from reporting something to the police that doesn't look right." He affirms how it's important for all of us to be diligent and share information. Russ said, "When we catch an individual from a crime, we prevent their future crimes, and send a message to other criminals that PV residents are reporting them and their activities."

Even though Mark wasn't a Police Volunteer, on a Block Watch, nor did he have specialized training to detect crime, he knew the female's behavior was suspicious and that the involved green Jeep had already been reported as suspicious by other neighbors. Knowing his neighbor was out of town, Mark used his wit and mindfulness for safety to take immediate action, which made a difference in his community.

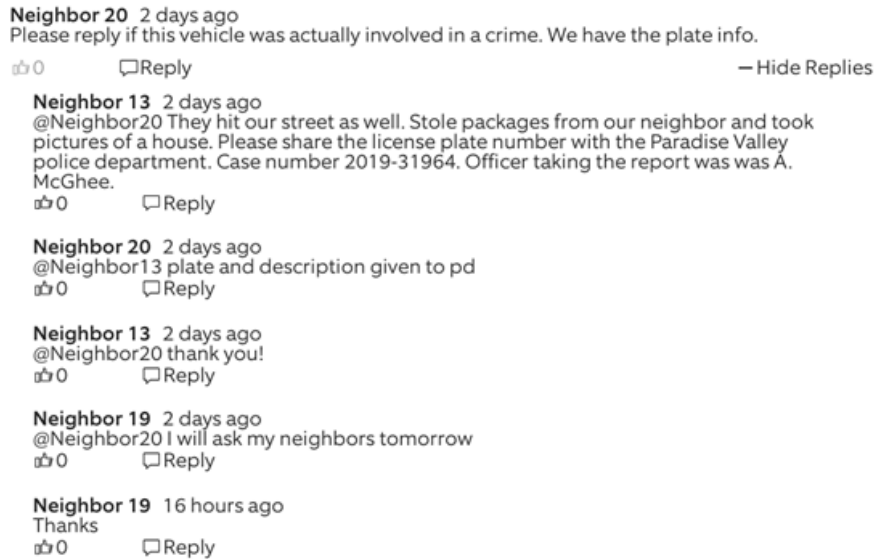
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Crimes Solved by Resident Action

After filing the police report with Officer Amy McGhee, Mark found the original post on Neighbors by Ring and shared the incident report anonymously as “Neighbor 13” onto the platform. This was an element that connected missing pieces in the case.

Officer Amy McGhee had located the victim then received an unexpected call. It was “Neighbor 20” from the platform who received a push alert from Neighbors by Ring on his phone about the suspicious Jeep. He was directly behind the vehicle and captured the license plate! Officer Amy McGhee remarked, “It was awesome to see how fast social media works!”

When the final report was submitted for Detectives to review, it was discovered the same vehicle was linked to a suspect in a recent burglary investigation. Detectives were able to utilize information from witnesses and other evidence to build their case



Neighbors by Ring interaction of two neighbors on a third neighbors post to collectively assist police in solving a local crime.

for the arrest of two suspects related to the package theft and solve a burglary.

The success of this story stems from the impact that a connected community has when they are willing to act and share information with one another in-person, online, and by giving the police a call.

Residents can text ‘PVPD’ to 555888 from their smartphone to download the Neighbors app for free on iOS and Android and use the app to; join their neighborhood, share crime and safety-related videos, photos and text-based posts; and receive real-time safety alerts from their neighbors, local law enforcement and the Ring team.

PD Volunteers

The Paradise Valley Police Department invites those in our community who have an interest in serving their community and learning more about law enforcement to apply to be volunteers.

There is a wide variety of tasks that can be performed by volunteers, ranging from administrative work, to managing a police department program, to providing professional services, to assisting officers on patrol, to coordinating special events.

To learn more, please visit www.ParadiseValleyPD.com And select “Police Volunteers” from the upper right side of the website for more details.

The Paradise Valley Public Safety Foundation, Inc.

The Foundation accepts private donations for the benefit of public safety, as a supplement to the steadfast funding, commitment, and programs supported by the Town Council through its allocation of public funds.

It is easy for individuals or businesses to make a secure on-line donation and immediately receive a receipt for your tax records. Simply go to www.pvpublicsafetyfoundation.org

You can arrange a personal meeting to discuss how the Foundation can fit in to your charitable plans by reaching the President of the Foundation, Mike Cummiskey, at 602-619-7595 or mike@pvpublicsafetyfoundation.org



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