

Police Reports

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enue when a man in his 50’s approached them Wednesday. He was angry that one of their pamphlets portrayed President Obama wearing a mustache. The man got into a shouting match with the activists, saying it implied an approval of Hitler and the deaths of millions Jewish people. He said his father and uncles served in WWII and that it constituted inciteful behavior. The man said he knew friends he knew “friends in south central” who wouldn’t appreciate the poster. The activists returned the next day and said the man confronted them again three separate times, making more threats. The man told the activists he was “too busy in his life right now,” or he would make a citizens complaint for disturbing the peace. Police responded to the bank twice that day to tell the man the activists were within their rights.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
COUNTERFIT BILLS

Police were called to a bakery in the 1000 block of Manhattan Avenue after a female employee reported finding two suspected \$10 bills in the register that evening. She told police that at about 3:30 she discovered removed a “peculiar” \$10 bill from her register because she suspected it to be fake. At 4 p.m. a customer returned to the store because he believed they gave him a counterfeit \$10. The employee said the bill was wet and that ink appeared to be washed from the bill. The employee showed the officer both \$10 bills and he formed the opinion the bills were counterfeit after he observed they lacked security features typical of U.S. currency. The employee believed the bills were passed sometime during the day ad said the business had dealt with counterfeit currency in the past.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
THREATENING PHONE CALLS

A man called police to his residence in the 100 block of 44th Street after he said the boyfriend of a woman he “had a fling with” on vacation was threatening him over the phone. The man said he did not know the woman prior to his trip, and that she had left some items in his room during the trip. He mailed them back to her the week before and included his personal information if she wanted to contact him again. It was on Saturday he began receiving threats over the phone from a man possibly named “Kelly,” who said he was the woman’s boyfriend. Messages left on the victim’s phone alternated between angry, sometimes racist threats, and calm, conciliatory offerings to talk. The victim told police he was afraid “Kelly” might send somebody

over to hurt him and asked if he should buy pepper spray or a Taser. The officer recommended the man call his phone company to block the perpetrator’s phone, which he declined. The officer asked the man if he wanted to call “Kelly” in his presence so he could record the conversation. The man said he would think about it, but had to go to a surf competition and might call police later.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 9
BEACH THEFT

Officers were dispatched to the lobby after a man said his belongings were stolen from the beach after he went into the ocean near the pier at 4 p.m. The man said he returned at about 4:30 p.m. only to find only his shoes. His tote bag was stolen, containing a \$300 Blackberry, \$700 Time Force watch, a \$200 digital camera and \$90 sunglasses.

MONDAY, AUGUST 10
STOLEN SUBURBAN

Police responded to the 300 block of Highland Avenue after somebody called regarding a suspicious person around 12:30 a.m. They came into contact with a man who told them his white suburban had been stolen in the 200 block of Highland Avenue. He told police he parked his car around midnight, leaving his car unlocked with the keys in his center console. He then walked to the beach to “clear his head,” returning to find his car missing.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 11
SAND DUNE CRIME

Somebody rolled a city trash can down the dune at Sand Dune Park sometime during the night, spilling trash and cracking the trash can, causing \$200 in damage.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12
CLEANED OUT

Police responded to a home in the 1600 block of 9th Street after a woman told police she suspected her cleaning ladies robbed her husband of \$2,500 in cash. They discovered it was missing that morning. Two weeks after hiring house cleaners in March, one of them asked to borrow some money to help her sick husband. The woman told the cleaning lady the request was unprofessional and asked for her house key back, intending to fire both of them. The cleaning lady began to cry, apologizing and begging not to be fire. The woman relented, and a few months later the cleaning lady requested a loan again. The owner denied the request and said it was unprofessional, but did not fire her employees. Her husband said he last saw his \$2,500 a week before they called police.

Happy Tails



Drago was a big dog with a big heart and personality to match! His adoptive family had a Great Dane lady and was ready to take on this big guy. Here’s an update on his progress....

“Drago is doing great!! He is totally relaxed and at home. He is going in and out of the dog door at will. He loves to go to the park and play with the “neighbors”. He cracks me up!! He bounces and now he started crouching down and pouncing on Ella (sort of like a big cat) as she runs toward him. He and Ella are getting along really well. We did move them downstairs to sleep because he snores so loudly that no one was getting much sleep. He and Ella keep each other company downstairs (she doesn’t seem to mind the

snooring) and the first few days they were coming upstairs three to four times a night. Now they come up as soon as they hear us stirring which works much better. We stayed home on the 4th of July because I was concerned that he wouldn’t fare well.

We had a crowd of people over and he roamed around happily. When the fireworks started, he barked and ran back in the house. But then he calmed down and was fine. No issues. We switched him to a mix of Ella’s food and his food to gradually have him on the same food Ella is on.

He is eating all three cups in the morning and at night. Not sure if it’s because he likes it or he’s just afraid that she’ll get his food, but he’s put on a bit more weight from when you saw him.

Ribs are not as pronounced as they had been. He’s looking good! He is happiest when he can hang out with us. We all love him!! Thanks so much for giving us the opportunity to have him add so much to our family! The transition has been wonderful.” Sincerely, Joan

When you adopt a “pet without a partner”, you will forever make a difference in their life and they are sure to make a difference in yours. •

Permits

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spend his time at Sand Dune during peak hours, but only works 40 hours a week and spends time working at other parks. He made a distinction between the ranger and younger, lower-paid park attendants. “I think we need to acknowledge it’s a problem for some of these young [attendants],” Dolan said. “Let’s be honest about who we are able to hire and put in those kinds of positions... when you’re paying a 19-year-old teenager nine dollars an hour, verses paying a fully-dressed ranger in a uniform with authority, you get different results.”

Lou Le Roy of 27th Street and formerly of 33rd Street, felt that if a parking permit program was going to be implemented, it should go from at least Rosecrans Avenue to 24th Street and maybe even further. “That’s like pushing a water balloon on one end--everything’s going to go to the other end,” Le Roy said. “Someone mentioned that if an athlete’s going to climb that hill, he’s going to go two or three blocks to get to it.”

Traffic problems weren’t just limited to non-residents, Le Roy pointed out, since he has seen his neighbors ignore the rules. “They drive too fast,” Le Roy said. “They yell at cars when they drive up our street, but they’ll go through the stop sign at the bottom of the street when they’re going to pick up their kids or go shopping for groceries.” Le Roy also had a suggestion for people in need of alternatives to Sand Dune Park to get exercise. “There’s 18 miles of sand from Torrance beach to Santa Monica--there’s a good workout there for somebody,” he said. “And if they want to climb hills, the Santa Monica Mountains have great trails.”

Debbie Phillips of 33rd Street liked the permit and meter plan, calling for the plan to be implemented in a large enough area as not to impact residents just outside the permit zone. “I can guarantee the problem is from Rosecrans at the very least to 27th and up one to two blocks,” Phillips said. “If we don’t take it up that far, we’ll just push it up another block and make someone else as miserable as we are.”

For Phillips, the plan might improve what has become a poor quality of life for park

neighbors. “We have lived with the increasing crowds, the trash, the litter, the speeding,” she said. “And yes, the socks, they are still there.”

The Council discussed restricting the park to residents, which City Attorney Robert Wadden said might be overturned by the courts because little legal precedent exists for turning away non-residents. The Council decided for the time being not to explore charging non-resident fees because of cost, time and feasibility concerns.

Montgomery said controlling parking and traffic should be the first step to get a handle on the problems at the park. Powell asked Dolan to see that the City can allow residents living out of the area a chance to get permits. Cohen agreed, stating, “We could give out as many guest passes as anyone wants because we know they’re not going to give them to ‘Duners.’”

Dolan noted that if the PPIC approves the plan, the process will still take months because of the surveys and community meetings involved. “It’s not going to solve the problem this August, September or October--I mean let’s be honest about that,” Dolan said. “But it will be there next spring when it starts up again.”

Phillips encouraged the Council and Parks and Recreation Department to study the matter and give them their support. “If you embrace this and pass it, I personally am going to build a statue of Mr. Gill and I’m going to put it right in the middle of the east side of the turnaround at the bottom of 33rd,” she said.

Smart Key

A smart key recharge station will be installed at the corner of Highland and Manhattan Beach Boulevard next to The Kettle restaurant. The station will allow people to add money to keys that can be used for city parking meters. Keys cost \$25, contain \$5 in change and may be bought at downtown businesses including: Current Events, Subway, Tabula Rasa Essentials, Manhattan Beach Creamery, Shade Hotel, Elleni Couture and the Manhattan Beach Chamber of Commerce.



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