

70 Press Releases were issued during 2012, as follows:

<u>DATE:</u>	<u>TITLE:</u>
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1/6/2012	Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings - Updated
1/6/2012	Traffic Collision - Vehicle into a Building
1/27/2012	Traffic Collision - Vehicle v. Bicyclist
1/30/2012	Graffiti Vandals Arrested
2/2/2012	Trash Capture Devices
2/3/2012	Traffic Collision - Rollover
2/3/2012	Safeway Purse Theft
2/7/2012	DUI - Hit and Run
2/22/2012	Belmont Police Alert Public to Gift Card Scam
2/22/2012	Residential Burglary - Suspect Arrested
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3/20/2012	UPDATE: Suspect Arrested - Assault with Deadly Weapon
3/21/2012	Traffic Collision - Auto vs Ped
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4/30/2012	Residential Structure Fire
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5/2/2012	Free Social Media Safety Presentation
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5/25/2012	Suspect Arrested in Connection to Multiple Burglaries
6/1/2012	Modular Classrooms to be delivered to Ralston Middle School
6/4/2012	Armed Robbery - Gas Station
6/5/2012	Suspect Arrested in connection with March Bank Robbery
6/7/2012	Kitchen Fire Temporarily Closes Local Restaurant
6/12/2012	Community Informational Meeting on City's Proposed Sewer Rate Increase
6/18/2012	Modular Class Rooms to be Delivered to Fox School
6/20/2012	Daniel J. DeSmidt Named City's Top Cop
6/21/2012	Illegal Fireworks Responsible for Fire
6/22/2012	Modular Classrooms to Nesbit
7/6/2012	Encampment on Sugarloaf Mountain
7/10/2012	Suspects Flee From Police - Gun Recovered

7/18/2012	Police Seek Public's Help in Identifying Residential Burglar
7/18/2012	Continuing Study to Track Deer near Hwy 280
7/19/2012	Late Night Fire Damages Belmont Auto Repair Shop
7/19/2012	Garage Damaged in Residential Structure Fire
7/20/2012	Stolen Vehicle Suspect Arrested
7/23/2012	Vehicles Damaged in Fire Caused by Discarded Barbeque Coals
8/1/2012	Burglar Captured on Video Update
8/7/2012	Suspect Arrested in Craigslist Car Fraud (PDF)
8/7/2012	Residential Burglar Flees After Being Interrupted by Neighbor
8/15/2012	Adult CPR AED Classes Offered This Fall
8/22/2012	Belmont Firefighters Hit The Street this Thursday to Raise Money for Charity
9/11/2012	Injury Traffic Collision
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9/28/2012	PG&E Scheduled Gas Venting
9/30/2012	Attempted Homicide
10/1/2012	Police Seeking Witnesses in Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide
10/10/2012	Red Ribbon Week
10/15/2012	Three Suspects Arrested for Residential Burglaries
10/26/2012	Traffic Delays on Ralston Avenue
10/30/2012	6th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards
10/30/2012	Ralston Ave Traffic Collision Snarl Morning Traffic
10/31/2012	Council Passes Resolution Opposing the Sale and Purchase of Rat Poisons
10/31/2012	Suspect Arrested After Resident Calls in Suspect in Neighbor's Car
11/2/2012	Sandbags Setup Stations
11/2/2012	Motorist Sought After Collision with Woman in Wheelchair
11/5/2012	Suspect Arrested for Domestic Violence & Resisting Arrest
11/28/2012	Santa Visits Belmont Fire Station as Part of Annual Toy Drive
12/4/2012	City Hall Holiday Closure - 2012
12/10/2012	Suspect Arrested in Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide
12/10/2012	6th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program
12/18/2012	Bank Robbery

1/3/2012

Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

## Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings

*Belmont, CA* -- The City of Belmont is currently recruiting residents interested in serving on various City Commissions. The deadline to apply is 5:00 P.M. Friday, January 27, 2011, and the application is available on the City's website: [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

There are three openings on the Planning Commission for three-year terms. The Planning Commission meets the first and third Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 p.m. The Commission reviews and takes action on planning applications, and makes recommendations to the City Council on zoning and land use issues.

There are three openings for adult seats on the **Parks and Recreation Commission** for two-year terms. The Parks and Recreation Commission meets the first Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and makes recommendations to the City Council on matters pertaining to Belmont's Park and Recreation programs, as well as on capital improvements to the City's various parks and open space areas.

There are two openings for **Youth seats on the Parks and Recreation Commission**. The City Council will consider applications from Belmont residents who are between the ages of 13 and 17 years old. Parent/Guardian consent is mandatory. These seats are for one-year terms. Youth members are full voting members of the Commission.

There two openings on the **Finance Commission** for three-year terms, and one vacant position whose term expires in 2013. The Finance Commission meets bimonthly on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and participates in the budget review process, conducts an annual review of the City's investment policy, and, at the request of the City Council, evaluates proposals, programs and contracts for long and short term financial consequences. Finance Commissioners serve for three-year terms.

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 27, 2011. Applicants must live in Belmont. Except for a small stipend paid to Planning Commissioners, there is no compensation for these positions. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413

1/6/2012 Belmont Seeks Residents for Commission Openings – Updated

Belmont, CA -- The City of Belmont is currently recruiting residents interested in serving on various City Commissions. The deadline to apply is 5:00 P.M. Friday, January 27, 2012, and the application is available on the City's website: [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) under "City Council and Commissions," by calling (650) 595-7413, or in person at the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375.

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**In addition to the Commissions, the City is recruiting for an at-large member of the newly-created Tree Board, which was established with the adoption of the revised Tree Ordinance. The Board will meet quarterly and its scope of work includes hearing and ruling on appeals of denied Administrative Permits (for tree removal), establishing a community forest work plan, recommending public tree care policies, maintaining a list of recommended and undesirable tree species, and promoting public awareness of trees and of the City Tree Ordinance. The community member of this Board will serve a three-year term.**

To apply for any of these positions and to have an opportunity to make a contribution to your community, fill out the application form available on the website or from the City Clerk's Office (One Twin Pines Lane, Suite 375), and return it to the City Clerk no later than 5:00 PM on Friday, January 27, 2012. Applicants must live in Belmont. Except for a small stipend paid to Planning Commissioners, there is no compensation for these positions. It should be noted that incumbent members of all these commissions are eligible to apply for reappointment.

For more information, contact the City Clerk's Office at 650-595-7413.

# # #

1/6/2012 Traffic Collision - Vehicle into a Building

## **BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

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Type of Incident: **Traffic Collision – Vehicle into a Building**  
Case #: 1201-0038

Location: 926 Ralston Ave, Belmont  
Date: 1/6/12 Time: 0832hrs

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### **EVENT**

On Friday, January 6, 2012 at approx. 8:30am, Belmont Police and Fire units from Belmont, San Carlos and Foster City Fire Departments responded to a report of a vehicle that had driven into a business at 926 Ralston Ave. Upon arrival, emergency personnel found a 1999 Lexus sedan had driven through the front window of the Yee Studio, a children's art studio business. The business was not open at the time of the collision.

The driver, a 56 yr old Fremont woman, was attempting to park in the rear lot of the adjacent US Bank, but proceeded forward over a curb, across a driveway and through the front window of the business. The vehicle came to a stop inside the building after impacting the back wall of the structure. The driver sustained non life threatening injuries and was transported to an area hospital by paramedics. No one else was injured in the collision.

The building sustained major damage and will be boarded up, pending repairs. The cause of the collision is under investigation.

1/27/2012 Traffic Collision - Vehicle v. Bicyclist

## **BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

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Type of Incident: **Traffic Collision – Vehicle v. Bicyclist**  
Case #: 1201-0175

Location: 1200 blk Ralston Ave, Belmont  
Date: 1/27/12 Time: 1527hrs

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### **EVENT**

On Friday, January 27, 2012 @ approx. 3:25pm, Belmont Police and Fire units responded to the 1200 blk of Ralston Ave, on a reported traffic collision involving a bicyclist. While the incident is currently under investigation, the following is known at this time.

A 20yr old Martinez man was riding a bicycle E/B in the 1200 blk of Ralston Ave in heavy traffic. As he was passing a van & trailer, the bicycle collided with the trailer. The bicycle became entangled under the trailer and the bicycle and rider were dragged over 100', until the bicycle and rider were dislodged when they struck the curb. The driver of the van is cooperating with investigators and it appears that he may not have been immediately aware of the collision. Alcohol does not appear to have been a factor.

The bicyclist was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and was transported to an area hospital with undetermined injuries.

One E/B lane in the 1200 blk of Ralston Ave was closed due to the collision and is expected to reopen at approx. 5:00pm.

1/30/2012 Graffiti Vandals Arrested

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Type of Incident: **Graffiti Vandals Arrested**

Case #: 1201-0189

Location: Belmont Sports Complex – 550 Island Parkway, Belmont Date: 1/29/12 Time: 1535hrs

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**EVENT**

An alert citizen's call to Police led to the arrest of graffiti vandals over the weekend in Belmont. On Sunday, January 29, 2012 @ approx. 3:35pm a citizen called Belmont Police to report that four male subjects were spray painting graffiti on one of the buildings at the Belmont Sports Complex.

Officers responded and detained the four male juveniles; two 17 yr olds from Belmont, a 17 yr old from Redwood City and a 16 yr old from San Mateo. The names of the suspects are being withheld due to their ages. After an initial investigation, all four were released to their parents. At this time investigators are able to connect these juveniles to several additional instances of graffiti, which occurred over the weekend in Belmont and are investigating their possible connection to other graffiti in Belmont and surrounding communities. When completed, the investigation will be submitted to the San Mateo County District Attorney for charges.

“This type of vandalism costs the residents and business owners of Belmont a great deal of money and time each year to clean up” said Police Chief Don Mattei. “It also creates a blight on our community and we take prosecution of graffiti vandals seriously”, Mattei added.

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**The City of Belmont has joined  
“The Bay Area-wide Trash Capture Demonstration Project.”**

*Belmont, CA* – In most Bay Area communities, curbside storm drain inlets (“catch basins”) are the entry points to the storm drain system. Urban runoff carries trash and debris into the storm drain system, which discharges to a creek or the Bay. Belmont is dealing with this pollution problem by participating in the Bay Area-wide Trash Capture Demonstration Project and modifying 35 catch basins with full capture connector pipe screens that block trash before it passes into the system. With the devices installed, runoff water will still be able to pass through, but trash will be captured in the inlets which staff will clean out periodically.

Work started in March 2011 with three test devices, and an additional 32 more devices were installed by November 2011. Multiple locations in the commercial and retail areas were selected for the newly retrofitted storm drains. Research shows that these areas generate much of the trash that pollutes local waters.

The Bay Area-wide Trash Capture Demonstration Project is a collaboration of local, state, and federal agencies working to protect the environment. Funding for this effort has been provided in full or in part by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 and the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Estuary Partnership.

Capturing trash is a Municipal Regional Permit requirement of the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board. The current storm water permit, which covers the bay area Counties, requires each municipality to reduce trash in local creeks and trash “hotspots” by 40 percent by 2014. The 35 full capture devices will provide Belmont 17 percent of the 40 percent reduction.

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2/3/2012 Traffic Collision – Rollover

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Type of Incident: **Minor Injury Traffic Collision – Rollover**

Case #: 1202-0022

Location: 1000 blk of 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Belmont

Date: 2/3/12 Time: 1348hrs

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## **EVENT**

A portion of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, in downtown Belmont, was closed this afternoon after a driver collided with a parked truck, flipping the truck onto its side.

At approx. 1:45pm, a 70 yr old Belmont man was driving N/B in the 1000 blk of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, when he experienced a medical problem. His car, a 2007 Toyota Camry, veered to the right and struck a 1995 Ford pick-up truck, which was parked at the curb, flipping the truck onto its side.

The driver was checked at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and was released. N/B 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, between Emmett Ave & Ralston Ave, was closed for about an hour due to the collision, while Belmont Police conducted the investigation and tow trucks removed the vehicles.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 2/3/12 Time: 1500hrs  
Date: 2/3/12 Time: 1500hrs



**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



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Type of Incident: **Suspects Sought in Purse Theft**

Case #: 1201-0083

Location: Safeway – 1100 El Camino, Belmont

Date: 1/13/12 Time: 2051hrs

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**EVENT**

The Belmont Police want to alert the community to a purse theft that occurred at a Safeway store in Belmont earlier in the month and are asking for the public's help in identifying the suspects.

On Friday, January 13, 2012 a 79 yr old San Carlos woman was shopping at the Safeway store, located at 1100 El Camino in Belmont. The victim had placed her purse in the child seat portion of her shopping cart while shopping. Sometime between 5:30pm and 6:00pm, the victim walked away from her cart to gather some items and her purse was taken.

After a review of the store security cameras, investigators were able to learn that an African American male with a stocky build took the purse from the victim's shopping cart when the victim's attention was elsewhere. Store security cameras then show the male suspect leaving the store with the victim's purse. The male suspect was apparently in the company of an African American female, who left the store a short time later. Some of the victim's credit cards were later used in San Mateo. Belmont and San Mateo investigators are working closely on this investigation.

The full descriptions of the suspects are as follows:

**Suspect #1:** African American male, 35-45 yrs of age, medium complexion, medium height, heavy set, shaved or bald head and clean shaven

**Suspect #2:** African-American female, 35-45 yrs of age, dark complexion, medium height, heavy set, with her hair pulled back in a bun.

The Belmont Police Department is releasing photos of the suspects from the store security cameras in an effort to identify them.

What the victim did while shopping is a common practice; however, the Belmont Police would like to remind the public not to leave purses, cell phones or other valuables unattended in shopping carts. This case points out that it only takes a moment for a thief to steal your property.

Anyone with information on this incident and/or these suspects is asked to call the Belmont Police Department at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Date: 2/3/12 Time: 1320hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 2/3/12 Time: 1320hrs

2/3/2012

Safeway Purse Theft, (pg 2 of 2)



## BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



**Male Suspect – Belmont Safeway 1/13/12**



**Female Suspect – Belmont Safeway 1/13/12**

2/7/2012      DUI - Hit and Run

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Type of Incident: **DUI / Hit & Run**

Case #: 1202-0035

Location: 1200 blk North Rd, Belmont

Date: 2/6/12 Time: 0035hrs

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## **EVENT**

A 35 yr old Redwood City man was arrested early Monday morning for DUI and Hit & Run after colliding with parked cars in Belmont and nearly colliding with a police car in San Mateo.

On Monday, February 6, 2012 at approx. 1:25am, Belmont PD received multiple 9-1-1 calls of an accident involving a truck that had collided with 3 parked cars in the 1200 blk of North Rd. Upon arrival officers found that the truck had fled after the collision, apparently being followed by a neighbor who had heard the collision. In spite of major damage to both the 1993 Toyota pick-up he was driving, and the parked cars, the driver Fernando Ramirez age 35 of Redwood City, was able to drive off, leaving a trail of debris.

A short time later, Ramirez almost became involved in another collision on 37<sup>th</sup> Ave in San Mateo, where he nearly collided with an on-coming San Mateo Police car, which was on an unrelated call. After narrowly missing the patrol car, Ramirez abandoned the truck in an alley off 37<sup>th</sup> Ave, just west of El Camino. A short time later, Ramirez was located by San Mateo Police, hiding in the front yard of a house a few blocks away and was taken into custody without incident.

Ramirez was transported to an area hospital for non-life threatening injuries sustained in the collision and was cited at the hospital, by Belmont Police, for driving under the influence and hit and run.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 2/7/12 Time: 1630hrs

Type of Incident: **Belmont Police Alert Public to Gift Card Scam**  
1202-0121

Case #:

Location: Safeway – 1100 El Camino, Belmont  
1215hrs

Date: 2/21/12 Time:

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#### **EVENT**

The Belmont Police would like to alert the public to a scam involving gift cards that are sold from racks in supermarkets, drug stores and other retailers. Here's how it works.

New gift cards have a barcode, which corresponds to a barcode on the cardboard gift card holder. When you buy a gift card, it is activated at check-out when the barcode on the holder is scanned. In this scam, the suspect(s) steal gift cards from the rack in the store. They remove a gift card from its cardboard holder and replace it with the same brand of gift card from a different holder, reseal the holder and put it back on the rack. This way when you go to activate the gift card, you are actually activating the gift card the suspect has.

On Tuesday, February 21, 2011 @ approx. 12:15pm, two suspects, who appear to be involved in this type of scam were interrupted in a Safeway Store in Belmont, by an alert Belmont Police detective. The detective, who was in the store on another matter, saw a subject take several gift cards from the gift card rack and then head toward the door. As the detective was following the suspect, the suspect dropped the cards and fled to a waiting car, occupied by a second suspect. The suspects drove off, but were stopped by Belmont Police patrol units on Ralston Ave, approx. ¼ mile from the store.

Artie Adanandus age 21 of San Pablo, was arrested for evading police and driving on a suspended license, the second suspect, a 20 yr old Richmond man, was interviewed and released.

Belmont Police encourage people who are purchasing gift cards to examine the cardboard holder carefully. If the packaging is damaged, open, or shows indication of having been tampered with, report it to a store employee and choose a different card, which has intact packaging.

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2/22/2012 Residential Burglary - Suspect Arrested

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Type of Incident: Residential Burglary – Suspect Arrested

Case #: 1202-0114

Location: 1600 blk of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Belmont

Date: 2/19/12 Time: 0015hrs

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## **EVENT**

On Sunday, February 19, 2012 at approx 12:15 AM, Belmont Police were dispatched to a residential burglary at an apartment, in the 1600 block of 6th Ave. The victim reported that a subject had broken into his apartment and removed miscellaneous jewelry and electronics. During the investigation, information was obtained indicating the possible suspect was Nicholas Dillon, age 27 of Foster City.

At approx. 1:35am, as part of the investigation, Belmont PD officers contacted Foster City PD and learned that at that moment, he was being detained by FCPD for investigation of DUI. Belmont PD investigators responded to the scene of the traffic stop and recovered items that had been stolen in the burglary from Dillon's vehicle.

Dillon was subsequently cited by Foster City PD for DUI and booked into the San Mateo County Jail by Belmont PD on a charge of possession of stolen property.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 2/21/12 Time: 1715hrs



**BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT  
PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



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Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested in Connection  
with January Purse Theft**

Case #: 1201-0083

Location: Safeway – 1100 El Camino, Belmont

Date: 1/13/12 Time: 2051hrs

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**EVENT**

On Friday, January 13, 2012 a 79 yr old San Carlos woman was shopping at the Safeway store, located at 1100 El Camino in Belmont. The victim had placed her purse in the child seat portion of her shopping cart while shopping. Sometime between 5:30pm and 6:00pm, the victim walked away from her cart to gather some items and her purse was taken. After a review of the store security cameras, investigators were able to learn that an African American male with a stocky build took the purse from the victim's shopping cart when the victim's attention was elsewhere. Store security cameras then show the male suspect leaving the store with the victim's purse. The male suspect was apparently in the company of an African American female, who left the store a short time later. Some of the victim's credit cards were later used in San Mateo.

**3/1/12 UPDATE**

As a result of tips that were received by Belmont Police following the release of the suspect's photo from the store security camera, a transient Mark Damon Taylor age 44, was arrested today. Taylor is implicated in not only the theft of the purse, but also multiple additional counts of identity theft and use of a stolen credit card. Belmont and San Mateo Police investigators have been working together on this investigation since January.

A female, who was with Taylor at the time of the theft and appears in the security camera footage, is not being charged at this time.

The Belmont and San Mateo Police Departments would like to thank the media for informing the public about this case and would like to thank those members of the public who provided information, which lead to today's arrest.

The photo of Taylor from the store security cameras accompanies this press release (see page 2). Requests for a booking photo of Taylor should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

What the victim did while shopping is a common practice; however, the Belmont Police would like to remind the public not to leave purses, cell phones or other valuables unattended in shopping carts. This case points out that it only takes a moment for a thief to steal your property.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Date: 3/1/12 Time: 1530hrs

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 3/1/12 Time: 1530hrs

3/2/2012

Suspect Arrested in Connection with January Purse Theft, (pg 2 of 2)



## BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)



**Male Suspect – Belmont Safeway 1/13/12**

3/7/2012 Assault With a Deadly Weapon

## **BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

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Type of Incident: **Assault with a Deadly Weapon**  
1203-0028

Case #:

Location: Peets Coffee – 1200 El Camino, Belmont  
1135hrs

Date: 3/6/12 Time:

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### **EVENT**

On Tuesday, March 6, 2012 @ approx. 11:35AM, Belmont Police responded to a report of an assault outside Peets Coffee in the 1200 block of El Camino. While the investigation is on-going, the following is known at this time.

Two males became involved in an altercation in front of the business, during which the victim a 33 yr old Belmont resident, was struck with a crowbar. The suspect, who witnesses describe as a Hispanic male, approx. 5-10 with a stocky build, fled in a dark colored 1990's Acura sedan prior to police arrival.

The victim was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department Paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non life-threatening injuries. While the victim in this case is not cooperating with investigators, the information that has been developed indicates that the suspect and victim knew each other and today's assault may have stemmed from a prior on-going dispute.

Belmont Police are actively investigating leads and are asking anyone with information on this case contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000. More information will be released as it becomes available.

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By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 3/6/12 Time: 1520hrs

3/12/2012 Traffic Collision - Roll Over

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Type of Incident: **Traffic Collision – Roll Over**

Case #: 1203-0059

Location: 500 blk O’Neill Av, Belmont

Date: 3-12-12 Time: 1135hrs

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On Monday, March 12, 2012 @ approx. 11:35AM, Belmont Police and Fire responded to a report of a roll-over collision in the 500 blk of O’Neill Av. Upon arrival, Officers found a 2001 Ford Escape on its roof in the middle of the roadway.

The driver, Jesus Lizarraga-Rodriguez age 26yrs of Belmont, was able to get out of the vehicle before police arrived. Lizarraga-Rodriguez was checked at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and was found to be unhurt.

Officers determined that Lizarraga-Rodriguez was driving east on O’Neill Av, when he dropped a CD. He reached down to pick it up and drifted into the on-coming traffic lane. His vehicle then struck a Ford Expedition that was parked on the north side of the street and flipped over. A Honda Accord, parked behind the Expedition, was also damaged in the collision.

O’Neill Av was closed to through traffic for approx. an hour due to the collision. Lizarraga-Rodriguez was cited at the scene for being unlicensed.

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 3-12-12 Time: 1300hrs

3/13/2012 Graffiti Vandalism - Suspect Arrested

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Type of Incident: Graffiti Vandalism – Suspects Arrested

Case #: 1203-0056

Location: S/B Hwy 101, north of Belmont

Date: 3/12/12 Time: 0022hrs

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## **EVENT**

The actions of an alert citizen lead to a Belmont and San Mateo Police arresting graffiti vandals in the City of San Mateo early Monday morning.

On Monday, March 12, 2012 @ approx. 12:25AM, a citizen flagged down a Belmont PD Officer at Ralston Ave & Hiller St in Belmont and reported that a group of subjects were spray painting graffiti on the sound wall, on Hwy 101 north of Ralston Av.

The Officer responded to the area and found 4-5 subjects spray painting the sound wall, on the west side of Hwy 101 in San Mateo, just north of the Belmont City Limit. The suspects fled on foot as the Officer arrived and Belmont and San Mateo PD units responded to assist in an area search. A short time later another Belmont Police Officer apprehended one of the suspects near Laurie Meadows Park in San Mateo and a second suspect was apprehended nearby by San Mateo Police.

Kyle Klimas, age 21 of Belmont and a 16yr old San Carlos youth, whose name is being withheld due to his age, were arrested for vandalism. Klimas was cited and release and the juvenile was released to his parents. The investigation into the identities of the other suspects who fled is continuing.

Anyone with information on this investigation is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 3/13/12 Time: 1135hrs

3/20/2012 UPDATE: Suspect Arrested - Assault with Deadly Weapon

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Type of Incident: Suspect Arrested for Assault with a Deadly Weapon Case #: 1203-0028  
Location: Peets Coffee – 1200 El Camino, Belmont Date: 3/6/12 Time:1135hrs

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## **EVENT**

On Tuesday, March 6, 2012 @ approx. 11:35AM, Belmont Police responded to a report of an assault outside Peets Coffee in the 1200 block of El Camino. Responding officers found that two males became involved in an altercation in front of the business, during which the victim a 33 yr old Belmont resident, was struck with a crowbar. The suspect, who witnesses describe as a Hispanic male, approx. 5-10 with a stocky build, fled in a dark colored 1990's Acura sedan prior to police arrival. The victim was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department Paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

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## **3/20/12 UPDATE**

Belmont PD Detectives, working with investigators from the San Mateo County Gang Intelligence Unit, were able to identify the suspect in this assault as Orlando Jesus Rodriguez, age 40 of San Mateo.

On March 6, 2012, Rodriguez saw the victim at the Peet's Coffee in Belmont and attacked him with a crow bar. Rodriguez is a member of the "Wanted" motorcycle gang and investigators believe that this was a gang related attack, as the victim may have ties to the Hells Angels.

Rodriguez was located and arrested on the evening of Thursday, March 15, 2012 by the Daly City Police without incident. He was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City on charges of assault with a deadly weapon and that the assault was related to Rodriguez's association to a criminal street gang.

Further questions regarding this case should be referred to the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office. Inquiries regarding obtaining a booking photo of Rodriguez should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 3/20/12 Time: 1115hrs

3/21/2012 Traffic Collision - Auto vs Ped

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Type of Incident: **Traffic Collision – Auto v. Pedestrian** Case #: 1203-0103

Location: El Camino & Middle Rd, Belmont

Date: 3/19/12 Time: 1558hrs

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An 80 yr old Belmont woman was struck by a car, while jogging on El Camino, Tuesday afternoon. The woman was crossing Middle Rd at approx. 4:00 PM when she was struck by a 1988 Toyota that was making a right turn from Middle Rd onto S/B El Camino. The jogger was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non life threatening injuries. The driver of the Toyota, an 83 yr old Belmont man, was not injured.

The driver was attempting to make a right turn on a red light, when the collision occurred.

While the cause is still under investigation, it also appears that the driver's attention was focused on the on-coming El Camino traffic to his left, and he did not see the jogger, who stepped off the curb to his right. The jogger, who saw the Toyota, may have felt that she was safe as she was crossing with the light.

“It is important that both drivers and pedestrians stay alert.” “Drivers must check all around them, especially when making turns” said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. “Pedestrians also shouldn't assume that drivers see them.” “Just because you have a green light or a walk signal, it may not be safe to cross.” “Try and make eye contact with drivers, whenever possible, to make sure the driver sees you” Mattei added.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 3/21/12 Time: 0930hrs

3/22/2012 Bank Robbery

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Type of Incident: Bank Robbery

Case #: 1203-0116

Location: CitiBank – 1888 Ralston Ave.

Date: 3-22-2012 Time: 9:25 am

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EVENT:

Belmont PD officers were called to CitiBank on Ralston Ave today on the report of a robbery that had just occurred. Bank employees describe a middle aged male wearing a dark colored jacket and hat. The suspect also wore a flesh colored mask to alter his appearance, so ethnicity is difficult to determine. The man was armed with a handgun. The suspect entered the bank alone, approached a teller, passed a demand note, displayed the gun and demanded money. After receiving an undisclosed amount of cash, the suspect fled on foot through the east doors and walked north toward Academy Dr. The lone suspect may have made his getaway in a vehicle, though no witnesses were found to confirm this.

Belmont PD investigators are working with the FBI to develop additional leads. Investigators are also working with CitiBank representatives. Photographs of the suspect are now available. See attached. For the latest information please check [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) and click “Press Releases”.

Anyone with information on this case is asked to contact Belmont PD investigators at (650) 595-7400.



03/22/2012 09:26:20.30  
TELLER 5  
Surveillance  
CA0037DVR1



03/22/2012 09:27:31.39  
SIDE LOBBY  
Surveillance  
CA0037DVR1

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
March 30, 2012

**CONTACT:** Sgt. Tony Psaila  
650-595-7400

**Belmont Police Joins Effort to Crack Down on Cell Phone Use and Texting**  
*Texting and Driving Will Cost You... First Ticket Carries a Minimum \$159 Fine*

Belmont, CA – Beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> and continuing all through the month, the Belmont Police Department will be participating in ‘zero tolerance’ enforcement efforts for illegal cell phone use and texting violations as part of California’s second annual Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

A ticket for violating either the hands free or no texting law costs a minimum of \$159, and subsequent tickets cost as much as \$279. During 2011, Belmont Police issued almost 500 citations for illegal cell phone use or texting violations. While increased enforcement will be the focus during the entire month, two "maximum enforcement" days have been designated for April 3 and April 18, where Traffic Officers will be deployed for the specific task of targeting illegal cell phone and texting violations in Belmont.

Distracted driving is a serious traffic safety concern that puts everyone on the road at risk, joining speeding and alcohol as leading factors in fatal and serious injury crashes. As a result, law enforcement across the state, including the Belmont Police Department, are increasingly cracking down on cell phone use and texting.

“Our officers take distracted driving very seriously,” said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. “If you haven’t heeded all the safety messaging to put down your phone and just drive, be forewarned! Is that text message or cell phone call really worth \$159 or worse, a crash, injury or death? It’s just not worth it” Mattei added.

Drivers who use hand-held devices are four times as likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Younger, inexperienced drivers under 20 years old have the highest proportion of distraction-related fatal crashes. In addition, studies show that texting while driving can delay a driver’s reaction time just as severely as having a blood alcohol content of a legally drunk driver. When over one third of your brain’s functioning that should be on your driving moves over to cell phone talking, you can become a cell phone “zombie.”

There are simple measures drivers can take to minimize distractions in the vehicle:

- Turn your phone off or put it out of reach before starting the car.
- Alert callers that you are unable to take calls when driving by changing your voicemail message.
- Make it a point not to call or text anyone who may be driving, such as during the commute to and from work or school, especially parents calling teen drivers.
- If you do need to make an important call or respond to a text message, pull over to a safe place to do so.
- If going cold turkey is too much of a stretch and you just can’t turn your phone off, consider using one of the available mobile phone apps that holds calls and incoming texts.

“Changing the dangerous, illegal habit of using hand-held cell phones or texting while driving isn’t easy,” said California Office of Traffic Safety Director Christopher J. Murphy. “But recent studies show that California’s cell and texting laws have made a big difference – cutting deaths by nearly half. But half is not enough” Murphy added.

4/12/2012 Barricaded Suicidal Suspect

Type of Incident: **Barricaded Suicidal Suspect**  
Case #: 1204-0066

Location: 1100 Block Continentals Way  
Date: 4/11/12 Time: 1958 hrs

### **EVENT**

On Wednesday night at approx. 8:00 pm Belmont Police Officers responded to a townhouse in the 1100 block of Continentals Way. A man there reported that his wife was threatening suicide. Officers arrived and were met by the wife. She claimed that he had a gun and threatened to shoot the officers. The woman then barricaded herself in the townhouse.

Officers attempted to talk to the woman by phone but she was uncooperative. At one point she came to the front door and officers saw that she was bleeding from unknown injuries. Soon after the woman stopped answering the telephone calls. Fearing for the woman's safety officers entered the home, where she brandished a rifle and pointed it at them. She was detained after being struck by several Less Lethal shotgun rounds fired by the officers.

The surrounding neighbors were evacuated and traffic was diverted with the assistance of San Mateo County Sheriff's Office Deputies until the operation ended at approximately 11:30 pm.

The woman was transported to a local hospital where she is being held for psychiatric evaluation pending criminal charges including assault with a deadly weapon on the officers. Her injuries are not life threatening. One officer suffered a leg injury during the operation. He was treated and released from a local hospital.

###

By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Authorized By: Chief Don Mattei

Date: 4/12/12 Time: 0100 hrs

4/24/2012 Multi-Vehicle Injury Traffic Collision

Type of Incident: **Multi-Vehicle Injury Traffic Collision**  
Case #: 1204-0123

Location: 2100 blk Ralston Av, Belmont  
Date: 4/22/12 Time: 1831hrs

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## **EVENT**

On Sunday, April 22, 2012 @ approx. 6:30pm, Belmont Police and Fire units responded to a report of a multiple vehicle traffic collision in the 2100 blk of Ralston Av. While the cause of the collision is still under investigation, the following is known at this time.

A 1999 Toyota Camry was E/B on Ralston Av, approaching Alameda, driven by a 39 year old Belmont man. The driver was unable to stop for traffic that was stopped ahead of him and collided with a SUV. Upon being struck the SUV crossed the center median and collided with a Mazda mini-van that was W/B on Ralston Av. After colliding with the SUV, the Toyota continued E/B and struck a sedan causing a chain-reaction collision with other vehicles. In total six vehicles, including the Toyota, were involved in the incident.

Nine persons, the six drivers of the involved vehicles and three passengers in the Toyota, were treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics. The driver of the Toyota and his passengers were transported to area hospitals for non life threatening injuries.

While alcohol was not a factor in this collision, preliminary information indicates that speed may have contributed to the cause. Traffic on both E/B and W/B Ralston was diverted during the initial response and subsequent on-scene investigation. All lanes of Ralston were re-opened by 8:00pm.

Anyone who witnessed this collision, or has information on it, is asked to contact the Belmont Police Traffic Unit at 650-595-7400.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 4/23/12 Time: 1300hrs

4/27/2012 City of Belmont introduces Nextdoor

**April 27, 2012**

**Contact:** Lt. Patrick Halleran at (650) 595-7430

**CITY OF BELMONT INTRODUCES NEXTDOOR,  
A PRIVATE SOCIAL NETWORK FOR NEIGHBORHOODS**  
*Nextdoor Enables Residents to Communicate Online in a Private, Secure  
Website to Build Stronger and Safer Communities*

In an effort to help facilitate better communication with residents and help foster neighbor-to-neighbor communications, the City of Belmont has partnered with Nextdoor ([www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com)), a free and private social network now available for Belmont neighborhoods.

Nextdoor is free for the residents and the city. Each Belmont neighborhood has its own private Nextdoor neighborhood website, accessible only to residents of that neighborhood. Residents can use Nextdoor to get to know their neighbors, ask questions, exchange local advice and recommendations, local events, school activities and much more.

Neighborhoods establish and self-manage their own Nextdoor website. Information shared on Nextdoor is only visible to members who live in the neighborhood and who have verified their address. Information shared on Nextdoor is password protected and cannot be accessed by those outside the neighborhood or found on Google or other search engines. In addition, Nextdoor never shares personal information with any third parties.

Belmont City Departments, including Police, Fire, Public Works, Community Development and Park & Recreation are also able to post useful and important information to Nextdoor sites within the city, but will not be able to access the residents' websites, contact information, or content.

“We believe more engaged neighborhoods can create a stronger city,” said City Manager Greg Scoles. “Nextdoor is one way to help create a stronger and safer community for those that live and work here,” Scoles added. “Nextdoor is yet another tool for us to effectively share crime prevention and safety information, such as alerts of property crimes in their area or suspicious activity” said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei.

The 10 neighborhood areas in Belmont have already been mapped into the Nextdoor website and three of them, Homeview, Belmont Heights and the Central Neighborhood are already up and running on Nextdoor. Residents in these and in other Belmont neighborhoods can go to [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) to learn more and sign up.

4/30/2012 Stolen Vehicle Recovered - Suspect Arrested

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Type of Incident: **Stolen Vehicles Recovered – Suspects Arrested**

Case #: 1204-0161

Location: 700 blk Old County Rd, Belmont

Date: 4/28/12 Time: 0321hrs

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### **EVENT**

A noise complaint early Saturday morning lead to the recovery of four stolen vehicles and the arrest of four suspects in Belmont.

On Saturday, April 28, 2012 at approx. 3:20am, Belmont Police responded to a noise complaint in the parking area of an apartment complex in the 700 blk of Old County Rd. The caller also reported seeing a green minivan leaving the area. Responding officers found an Acura Integra with all four wheels missing. A check of the vehicle's license plate showed it had been stolen from San Jose.

A short time later, Officers located a green Dodge Caravan with four occupants, in the area. The wheels from the Acura were located inside the mini-van. It was also determined that the mini-van itself had been stolen from the 500 blk of Cambridge St in Belmont.

The four suspects in the mini-van were arrested on various charges, including auto theft and possession of stolen property. Two of the suspects were adults; Pablo Valles, age 18 & Francisco Chavez, age 18, were booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City on charges of Possession of Stolen Property. The other two suspects were juveniles and were released to parents after processing at Belmont PD. The names of the juveniles are not being released due to their ages. All four suspects are from San Jose.

Subsequent investigation by Belmont PD lead to the recovery of two additional stolen vehicles, a Honda Civic that had been stolen from the 500 blk of Crestview Av in Belmont and another Dodge Caravan that had been stolen from the 400 blk of Marine View Av.

The investigation into these suspects is on-going and Belmont Police are working with other Bay Area law enforcement agencies to see what other crimes the suspects may be connected to.

Anyone with information on these suspects or this series of crimes, is asked to call Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

*\*\*\* Note: Inquires regarding booking photos of the two adult suspects should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.*

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 4/30/12 Time: 1500hrs

4/30/2012 Residential Structure Fire

April 30, 2012

CONTACT: Lt. Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Residential Structure Fire**

***Belmont, CA –***

On the morning of Sunday, April 29th at approx. 8:00 AM, Belmont Fire and Police units responded to multiple 9-1-1 calls reporting a large amount of smoke coming from the garage of a residence in the 2400 block of Lincoln Ave.

Upon arrival, the first engine found smoke and flames coming from the garage of a single story home. Additional fire units were requested and apparatus from both San Mateo County and San Mateo City Fire Departments responded. The single occupant of the home, a 66 yr old male, was able to get out of the residence before emergency personnel arrived.

The fire was contained to the garage, however leaking fuel from one of the two vehicles in the garage presented a problem for fire fighters, who used foam to extinguish the fire. While the final cause has not been determined, preliminary investigation indicates that the fire started in the garage and spread to the roof. The garage and the two vehicles parked inside sustained heavy damage. There were no injuries to either the resident or emergency personnel.

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
May 2, 2012

**CONTACT:** Lt. Patrick Halleran  
650-595-7430

## **Crack Down on Cell Phone Use and Texting a Success**

*One Driver Cited for watching a YouTube Video!*

*Belmont, CA –*

During the month of April the Belmont Police Department participated in ‘zero tolerance’ enforcement efforts for illegal cell phone use and texting violations as part of California’s second annual Distracted Driving Awareness Month.

The following are the final numbers for distracted driving citations issued during the campaign in Belmont.

- |   |    |
|---|----|
| • 23123(a) VC - Using a cell phone w/o hands free device    | 59 |
| • 23123.5 VC - Texting/reading text based communication     | 1  |
| • 23124(b) VC - Minor using electronic communication device | 0  |
| • Other distracted driving violations*                      | 21 |

*\*Other distracted driving violations included unsafe lane changes, impeding the flow of traffic, unsafe speed, failing to yield right-of-way, stop signs and following too closely violations which we were able to articulate the cause of the violation was a distracted driver (talking to passengers, dog in lap, reaching for items in vehicle, etc).*

The total number of distracted driving citations issued by Belmont PD during this year’s campaign was 81, which is down from the 97 citations issued during last year’s campaign. “Hopefully, this is an indication that the driving public has come to realize just how dangerous distracted driving can be”, said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. “Our goal is not having to write any citations for these offenses”, Mattei added.

One stop of interest was one where an officer stopped a driver for texting while driving. “The driver was traveling at 30 MPH and clearly not looking at the road” said Lieutenant Patrick Halleran. “However, when the officer asked him what he was texting, the driver admitted he was not texting, but was watching YouTube videos...He was cited”, Halleran added.

A ticket for violating either the hands free or no texting law costs a minimum of \$159, and subsequent tickets cost as much as \$279. During 2011, Belmont Police issued almost 500 citations for illegal cell phone use or texting violations. Distracted driving is a serious traffic safety concern that puts everyone on the road at risk, joining speeding and alcohol as leading factors in fatal and serious injury crashes.

# Belmont Police Department Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

May 2, 2012

**CONTACT:**

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Belmont Police to Present Free Social Media Safety Class for Parents**

*Belmont, CA --*

The Belmont Police Department, as part of the Belmont Safe Schools Program, is presenting a free presentation for parents on Social Media Safety. The program is open to any parent, not just those living in Belmont. It should be noted that the information presented is geared for parents only and not intended for children.

The presentation will be on Wednesday, May 16, 2012 at 7:30 pm in the Taube Room at the Belmont Public Library at 1000 Alameda de las Pulgas, in Belmont. There is NO COST and Refreshments will be served. The speakers, Belmont Police School Resource Officers Andre Moniot & Milana Jordan will cover topics relating to use of social media by young people, including cyber bullying.

# Social Media Safety



**Wednesday, May 16, 7:30pm**  
**At the Belmont Library**  
**In the Taube Room**

Come to this relaxed but informative parents-only night at the Belmont Library. Belmont School Resource Officers Andre Moniot and Milana Jordan will give a slide presentation on social media safety that will include tips on how to avoid cyber-bullying. Great refreshments will be served!

For questions, please contact  
Ofc. Andre Moniot at the  
Belmont Police Department:

(650) 595-7400  
amoniot@belmont.gov



**Belmont Library**

**A SAN MATEO COUNTY LIBRARY**

1110 Alameda de las Pulgas, Belmont CA 94002 • 860.691.2288 • www.sml.org

5/24/2012 Commercial Burglary Suspect Arrested

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Type of Incident: **Commercial Burglary Suspect Arrested**

Case #: 1205-0154

Location: 400 block Old County Rd, Belmont

Date: 5/23/12 Time: 1545hrs

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**EVENT**

On Wednesday afternoon alert employee of a local business, helped Belmont Police capture a suspect who had just stolen a laptop from his office.

On Wednesday, May 23, 2012 at approx. 3:45pm, an employee was in the warehouse of a business in the 400 blk of Old County Rd, when he saw a subject walk past carrying a laptop computer under his arm. The employee thought it was suspicious and quickly checked the front office and found that a laptop, which had been on a desk was gone.

The employee ran after the suspect and confronted him. The employee was able to recover the laptop and attempted to detain the suspect, but after a brief struggle, the suspect was able to flee. The employee flagged down a passing Belmont Police patrol car and a short time later, Officers located Lawrence Andrew Howard, age 54 of Daly City, in the 700 block of Old County Rd.

Howard, who is on parole for burglary, was arrested without incident and booked into the San Mateo County Jail, charged with second degree burglary and violation of parole.

\* Note: Requests regarding a booking photo of Howard should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 5/24/12 Time: 1545hrs

5/25/2012 Suspect Arrested in Connection to Multiple Burglaries

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Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested in Connection with multiple Vehicle Burglaries**  
Case #: 1204-0175

Location: Belmont and other jurisdictions in San Mateo County  
Date: 4/29/12 Time: 1113hrs

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## **EVENT**

After several weeks of cooperative effort between 6 San Mateo County law enforcement agencies, a suspect connected with a series of vehicle burglaries has been arrested. Matthew Justin Garcia, a 26 year old transient, was arrested without incident in the early morning hours of May 17<sup>th</sup> in San Bruno. Garcia has been charged in connection with multiple vehicle burglaries in the Belmont, San Mateo, Redwood City, Hillsborough and Millbrae. He was also charged in connection with a stolen vehicle that he was driving at the time of his arrest.

Six Belmont vehicle burglaries, all of which occurred during April in the Hallmark area, were cleared with the arrest of Garcia.

Investigators from the Belmont, San Mateo, Redwood City, Hillsborough & San Bruno Police Departments as well as the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office worked on this joint investigation. "This is another example of the ongoing close cooperative relationship law enforcement agencies in San Mateo County enjoy", said Belmont Police Chief Don Mattei. "Crime and criminals don't respect jurisdictional lines and law enforcement agencies must work together", Mattei added.

\* Note: Inquiries regarding a booking photo of Garcia should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt

Date: 5/25/12 Time: 1300hrs

6/1/2012      Modular Classrooms to be delivered to Ralston Middle School

June 1, 2012

**CONTACT:**

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**Modular Classrooms To Be Delivered  
To Ralston School Over The Next Two-Weeks**

Belmont, CA --

The Belmont Police Department would like to alert residents and motorists to the upcoming delivery of modular classrooms to the campus of Ralston Middle School.

Beginning this Saturday, June 2nd and continuing for the next two weeks, large modular classrooms will be delivered to Ralston Middle School between 5:30am & 6:00am. The early hour was chosen so as to lessen the impact on traffic. The classrooms are part of a renovation & expansion of the facilities at the school. The classrooms are being transported on low-boy trailers and each truck-trailer unit is approximately 12' wide and 80' long. Each convoy will be escorted by pilot vehicles and Belmont Police. The convoys will enter Belmont northbound on El Camino and will travel westbound on Ralston Avenue to the school.

The delivery schedule for the modular classrooms is as follows  
(all deliveries to occur between 5:30 AM and 6:00 AM):

- Saturday June 2nd - 5 classroom sections
- Monday June 4th - 5 classroom sections
- Wednesday. June 6th - 3 classroom sections along with a crane
- Thursday June 7th - 5 classroom sections
- Wednesday June 13th - 3 classroom sections
- Friday, June 15th – 3 to 5 classroom sections

Similar deliveries of modular classrooms, to Fox Elementary School, will occur later in the month. Information on those deliveries will be sent out as the dates get closer. Questions regarding the construction project at Ralston Middle School or any of the other schools in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District should be directed to the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District Administrative Offices.

# # #

6/4/2012      Armed Robbery - Gas Station

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Type of Incident: **Armed Robbery – Gas Station**  
Case #: 1206-0011

Location: 76 Gas Station (699 Ralston Av)  
Date: 6/3/12 Time: 0210hrs

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## **EVENT**

Early Sunday morning two suspects assaulted an employee and stole an undetermined amount of cash from a Ralston Ave gas station. While the incident is still under investigation, the following is known at this time.

On Sunday, June 3, 2012 at approx. 2:10 AM, the night attendant at the 76 Gas Station at Ralston Av & Old County Rd, was coming back into the building after doing some maintenance. As he entered the building, the attendant was struck from behind and knocked to the ground.

The attendant then saw two suspects, one armed with a handgun, who ordered him to open the cash register. The suspects took an undetermined amount of cash and fled. No suspect vehicle was seen or heard. The employee received minor, non life threatening injuries.

The suspects are described as follows:

### **Suspect #1**

Pacific Islander male, 20-30yrs old, approx. 6' tall, 200 lbs with a muscular build. He was wearing a black hooded sweatshirt and a ski mask. This suspect was armed with an unknown handgun.

### **Suspect #2**

Hispanic male, 20's, approx. 5' 7" tall, 170 lbs with a medium build. He was wearing an unknown color sweatshirt with gray sweatpants and a ski mask.

Anyone with information on this crime is asked to contact Belmont Police Detectives at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Captain Dan DeSmidt  
Date: 6/4/12 Time: 0935hrs

6/5/2012 Suspect Arrested in connection with March Bank Robbery

Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested in Connection with March Bank Robbery**

Case #: 1203-0116

Location: CitiBank – 1888 Ralston Ave.

Date: 3-22-2012 Time: 9:25 am

**ORIGINAL EVENT:**

On Thursday, March 22, 2012, Belmont PD officers were called to CitiBank on Ralston Ave on the report of a robbery that had just occurred. Bank employees describe a middle aged male wearing a dark colored jacket and hat. The suspect also wore a flesh colored mask to conceal his identity. The suspect, who was armed with a handgun, entered the bank alone, approached a teller, passed a demand note and demanded money. After receiving an undisclosed amount of cash, the suspect fled on foot through the east doors and walked north toward Academy Dr. No suspect vehicle was seen or heard.

**\*\*\*UPDATE - 6/5/12\*\*\***

Belmont PD Detectives, working closely with the FBI and other Bay Area law enforcement agencies have identified the suspect in this robbery as Duron Williams, age 35 of Oakland. Williams is also suspected of committing 10 bank robberies and one attempted bank robbery in 11 different Bay Area cities, including the March 2012 robbery of the CitiBank in Belmont and the January 2012 robbery of the First National Bank in Millbrae. In the majority of the robberies he was armed with a firearm and Williams wore a sophisticated full face mask giving him the appearance of an elderly white male.

On May 29, 2012, Williams was located in the 4100 Block of MacArthur Blvd in Oakland and was taken into custody by Oakland & San Leandro Police, without incident. Search warrants were executed at Williams' residences in Oakland and Hayward and Detectives located additional evidence implicating Williams in multiple bank robberies, as well as a stolen van that Williams used during some of the robberies.

Currently, the Alameda County District Attorney's Office has charged Williams with several counts of robbery, assault with a deadly weapon, being armed with a firearm during the commission of a felony, convicted felon in possession of a firearm/ammunition and vehicle theft, relating to crimes that occurred in their county. The FBI is coordinating possible federal prosecution of Williams.

A booking photo of Williams, courtesy of San Leandro Police, accompanies this press release.



Williams, Duron Matukol

6/7/2012 Kitchen Fire Temporarily Closes Local Restaurant

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

***June 7, 2012***

**CONTACT:**

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

**Kitchen Fire Temporarily Closes Local Restaurant**

***Belmont, CA --***

Embers from a wood-fired grill caused a fire in the kitchen of a local Belmont restaurant Wednesday evening.

On Wednesday, June 6, 2012 at approx. 6:50 pm, Belmont Fire and Police units responded to a report of a fire in the kitchen at Hola Mexican Restaurant, in the Carlmont Shopping Center. Upon arrival, firefighters found the wall behind a wood grill was on fire.

Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish the fire and were on scene for approximately 90 minutes to ensure that the fire had not spread. There were approximately 30 patrons in the restaurant at the time of the fire. All occupants were safely evacuated and there were no reported injuries.

The fire was caused when embers from a wood-fired grill fell down between the grill and the wall, igniting the wall. Damage is estimated at approximately \$5000 and the restaurant will be closed until repairs are made.

# # #

# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 12, 2012

**CONTACT:** (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) pworks@belmont.gov

### **Community Informational Meeting on City's Proposed Sewer Rate Increase**

**Belmont, CA** – The City of Belmont will hold a Community Informational Meeting on the City's proposed sewer rate adjustments for Tax Year 2012/13 and 2013/14 on **June 20, 2012 from**

**4:30pm-5:30pm in the EOC Room-Second Floor, City Hall at One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA.** This meeting will include information on the status of the city's sewer system, need for the proposed rate adjustments, how the funds will be spent, proposed dollar impact to individual properties, estimating your sewer bill, and the process for protesting the increase. Residents are encouraged to come and receive information, and ask questions.

Subsequently, **the City Council will be holding a The Public Hearing on** the proposed rate adjustments on June 26, 2012 at 7:30pm in the City Council Chambers located at One Twin Pines Lane.

**The property owners may submit a written protest-** Written protests against the proposed rate change have to identify the address of the impacted property and include the signature(s) of the property owner(s). If the City receives written protests against the proposed sewer rates by the majority of the affected property owners prior to the end of the hearing, the Council will not approve the change. In compliance with Proposition 218, only one protest for each property will be counted. A written protest regarding the rate increase for sewer services may be mailed to City of Belmont, City Clerk Office, One Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002. All written protests need to be received by the City Clerk at or before the close of the Public Hearing.

Additional information about the proposed rate adjustments can be found on the City's website at [www.Belmont.gov](http://www.Belmont.gov) under Hot Topics, or by contacting the above phone number.

# # #

6/18/2012      Modular Class Rooms to be Delivered to Fox School

## **Modular Classrooms To Be Delivered To Fox Elementary This Week**

### ***Belmont, CA --***

The Belmont Police Department would like to alert residents and motorists to the upcoming delivery of modular classrooms to the campus of Fox Elementary School.

Beginning this Tuesday, June 19<sup>nd</sup> and continuing through Friday, large modular classrooms will be delivered to Fox Elementary School between 5:30am & 6:00am. The early hour was chosen so as to lessen the impact on traffic. The classrooms are part of a renovation & expansion of the facilities at the school. The classrooms are being transported on low-boy trailers and each truck-trailer unit is approximately 12' wide and 80' long. Each convoy will be escorted by pilot vehicles and Belmont Police. The convoys will enter Belmont northbound on El Camino and will travel westbound on Ralston Avenue to Hallmark Dr to Benson Way, ending at the school.

The delivery schedule for the modular classrooms is as follows  
(all deliveries to occur between 5:30 AM and 6:00 AM):

- Tuesday June 19th - 5 classroom sections
- Thursday June 21st - 2 classroom sections
- Friday June 22nd - 5 classroom sections along with the crane.

Similar deliveries of modular classrooms were made to Ralston Middle School over the past two weeks. Questions regarding the construction project at Fox Elementary School or any of the other schools in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District should be directed to the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District Administrative Offices.

###

6/20/2012 Daniel J. DeSmidt Named City's Top Cop



***DANIEL J. DeSMIDT NAMED CITY'S TOP COP***

*Belmont, CA --*

Belmont City Manager, Greg Scoles this morning announced the appointment of Captain, Dan DeSmidt as Belmont's newest Police Chief, effective July 1, 2012. He will replace retiring Police Chief, Don Mattei who has served as Chief since 2004.

DeSmidt is a 25 year veteran of the Belmont Police Department and has served as the second in command of the Department for the last few years. He is a product of the Belmont school system, attending not only Fox Elementary, Ralston Middle School and Carlmont High School but also Notre Dame de Namur University in Belmont. In addition he has his Master's Degree in Public Administration from California State University, Hayward. DeSmidt has risen through the ranks and served as School Resource Officer, Patrol Sergeant, Press Information Officer, Detective Sergeant, and Support Services Lieutenant until his appointment as Captain. He is a graduate of the FBI National Academy and a veteran of the San Mateo County Sheriff's SWAT team where he has served as Crisis Negotiator and Tactical Commander.

DeSmidt has helped manage the Police Department budget during difficult fiscal times and always found ways to retain the Department's high level of service for the community. DeSmidt said, "I'm humbled and honored to be chosen to lead the outstanding men and women of the Belmont Police Department. Together we will work to build upon the trust and mutual respect that has been forged with this vibrant community."

DeSmidt is committed to community policing and has spearheaded community outreach efforts for the Department from neighborhood presentations to improved social networking. He is very involved in the community and is a charter member of the Belmont Lion's Club. "Dan's professionalism and leadership has helped shape the Belmont Police Department into one of the most responsive law enforcement agencies on the Peninsula," said Scoles, "I am very impressed by Dan's enthusiasm and strong commitment to the community and I can't imagine Belmont finding anyone with a greater combination of integrity and experience for this important position."

6/21/2012      Illegal Fireworks Responsible for Fire

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
**June 20, 201**

CONTACT:  
**Lieutenant Patrick Halleran**  
(650) 595-7430

## **Illegal Fireworks Responsible for Fire**

*Belmont, CA --*

Two boys with a pack of firecrackers were responsible for a small fire in the Belmont hills Tuesday afternoon.

On Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at approximately 5:20pm, the Belmont Fire Department responded to a report of a fire in front of a residence in the 2200 block of Ewell Rd. Upon arrival, firefighters found the homeowner and neighbors spraying water on a fire in the landscaping. Firefighters extinguished the fire, which burned approx 10 feet of landscaping, and remained on scene for approximately 30 minutes to ensure it was out.

Two male juveniles, one age 14 of Belmont and the other, age 15 of Redwood City were contacted at the scene by Belmont Police. The identities of the juveniles are not being released due to their ages. "The boys were cooperative and said that they had lit a pack of firecrackers in the gutter, which ignited the nearby bushes," said Fire Chief Douglas Fry. "This fire could have been much worse, the area it was in is part of Belmont's heavily wooded western hills and it doesn't take much to have a catastrophe," Fry added.

The boys were admonished at the scene and turned over to their parents. Possession of fireworks is prohibited by the Belmont City Code and firecrackers are also specifically prohibited by State Law.

"I want to remind residents just how dangerous fireworks are, even the ones marketed as "Safe and Sane," said Chief Fry. Just because you can purchase them in other cities, it doesn't mean you can possess or light them off in Belmont." "It is much better to watch a professional display," Fry added.

This was Belmont's first firework-related fire of the year.

## **Modular Classrooms To Be Delivered To Nesbit Elementary Next Week**

### ***Belmont, CA --***

The Belmont Police Department would like to alert residents and motorists to the upcoming delivery of modular classrooms to the campus of Nesbit Elementary School.

Beginning Monday, June 25th and continuing on Wednesday and Thursday, large modular classrooms will be delivered to Nesbit Elementary School between 5:00am & 6:00am. The early hour was chosen so as to lessen the impact on traffic. The classrooms are part of a renovation & expansion of the facilities at the school. The classrooms are being transported on low-boy trailers and each truck-trailer unit is approximately 12' wide and 80' long. Each convoy will be escorted by pilot vehicles and Belmont Police. The convoys will enter Belmont northbound on Old County Rd from Harbor Blvd and will then travel eastbound on Ralston Avenue to Hiller St to Biddulph Way, ending at the school.

To accommodate these large vehicles, temporary parking restrictions will be in-place between 3:00am - 6:00am, on portions of Hiller St and Biddulph Way near the school.

The delivery schedule for the modular classrooms is as follows  
(all deliveries to occur between 5:00 AM and 6:00 AM):

- Monday, June 25th - 5 classroom sections
- Wednesday, June 27th - 4 classroom sections
- Thursday, June 28th – 3 classroom sections along with a crane

Similar deliveries of modular classrooms were made to Ralston Middle School and Fox Elementary School over the past month. Questions regarding the construction project at Nesbit Elementary School or any of the other schools in the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District should be directed to the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District Administrative Offices.

7/6/2012      Encampment on Sugarloaf Mountain

**July 5, 2012**

**CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430**

**TRANSIENT ARRESTED AFTER POLICE AND FIRE UNITS RESPOND  
TO REPORTED CAMP FIRE ON SUGARLOAF MOUNTAIN**

*Belmont, CA --*

A 30 yr old transient was arrested today after Police and Fire units responded to a reported camp with a fire pit on Sugarloaf Mountain.

On Thursday, July 05, 2012 at approx. 10:00am, Belmont Police were contacted by a hiker, who frequents the Sugarloaf Open space, on the western boarder of Belmont and San Mateo. The hiker had come across a campsite and was especially concerned because that the occupant(s) had an open fire pit.

Belmont Police officers hiked onto the mountain from the 2000 block of Bishop Rd in Belmont and found a make-shift encampment at the top. The encampment had several fire pits, including one inside a tent. During a check of the area they found a 30 year old transient, Okaye Gordon, who had been living at the camp for several months. At least one of the fire pits contained burning embers and because of this, Belmont and San Mateo Fire units were called to the scene, including an engine from the San Mateo Fire Department, which is specifically designed to handle fires in wilderness areas.

“The fire pit inside the tent contained burning embers and was pretty deep,” said Belmont Fire Chief Douglas Fry. “We were very fortunate that the wind didn’t spread embers from one of the fire pits.” “With all of the dry brush and grass it could have been a tragedy,” Chief Fry added. Firefighters remained on scene for approximately two hours to ensure that all of the embers from the various fire pits were extinguished.

Belmont Police arrested Gordon on an outstanding arrest warrant for assault. After his arrest, Gordon was found to be suffering from smoke inhalation and dehydration and was taken to an area hospital where he was cited on the warrant.

###

7/10/2012 Suspects Flee From Police - Gun Recovered

Type of Incident: **Suspects Flee from Police – Gun Recovered**

Case #: 1207-0040

Location: Christian Dr & Adelaide Wy, Belmont

Date: 7/9/12 Time:1033hrs

## **EVENT**

Belmont Police are looking for three subjects in a silver Honda, who fled from an officer and threw a handgun from their car during the pursuit yesterday morning. The gun was recovered, but the suspects are still outstanding.

On Monday, July 9, 2012 @ approx. 10:30AM, a Belmont Police officer on routine patrol came across an occupied vehicle parked on Christian Dr & Adelaide Wy, in a residential neighborhood, located in the western hills of Belmont. As the officer approached the car, the vehicle sped off on Adelaide Wy. The officer pursued the car to Ralston Ave and then onto eastbound Hwy 92. The officer was unable to catch the vehicle due to heavy traffic and discontinued the pursuit. Belmont Police recovered a semi-automatic handgun in the 3300 blk of Adelaide Wy, which was thrown from the suspect's car during the pursuit.

The suspects are described as three Hispanic males in their 20's and the vehicle they were driving was a Silver colored 2002-2003 Honda Accord 4-door sedan with no license plates. Belmont Police checked the neighborhood where the vehicle had been parked and have so far found nothing amiss. It is unknown who the subjects were, what they were doing in the neighborhood or why they had a gun.

Anyone with information on these suspects or their vehicle is asked to contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
Authorized By: Chief Daniel DeSmidt  
Date: 7/10/12 Time: 1045hrs

7/18/2012 Police Seek Public's Help in Identifying Residential Burglar

Type of Incident:

**Police Seek Public's Help in Identifying Residential Burglar Captured on Video**

Case #: 1207-0049

Location: 1500 blk 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Belmont

Date: 7/10/12 Time: 1257hrs

**EVENT**

Belmont Police are seeking the public's help in identifying a suspect in a residential burglary that occurred on Tuesday, July 10, 2012 between 12:55pm and 1:30pm at a residence in the 1500 block of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. The suspect and his car were captured on a neighbor's security camera.

The suspect, an unknown race male is seen pulling up in front of a neighboring residence and then walks to the victim's residence, which is out of view of the camera. He returns a few minutes later with a suitcase, which he loads into his vehicle and then leaves. Numerous items were taken, including jewelry and electronics. The suitcase used by the suspect to carry the items from the house was among the items taken.

The suspect is described as an unknown race male, wearing a plain white t-shirt, blue jeans and a black baseball cap. The suspect's vehicle is a blue or green 2-door Mercedes with large chrome rims.

"We are hoping that by putting the video out to the public, we will get the tip that will lead us to this suspect" said Belmont Police Chief Daniel DeSmidt.

Still photos from the video accompany this press release. To view the video go to the Belmont Public

Safety Channel on YouTube at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEwC-aQFe6Y&feature=plcp>



**Suspect vehicle parked in front of neighbor's residence    Suspect putting suitcase with stolen items in his vehicle**

7/18/2012 Continuing Study to Track Deer near Hwy 280

# Belmont Police Department

## Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

July 18, 2012

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

### **State Fish & Game in Western Belmont Continuing Study to Track Deer near Hwy 280**

*Belmont, CA --*

During the next two weekends, biologists from the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) and UC Davis will be back in the western hills area off Hwy 280, in the Belmont and Woodside areas continuing a study that began in December of last year, to track and put radio collars on several deer. The study, which is funded by Caltrans, is intended to help reduce collisions between motorists and deer and to protect the regional deer population.

Deer collaring will be performed during the weekends of July 21 and 22, and also July 28 and 29 from the hours of 5:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. (Saturday and Sunday).

Belmont Police are alerting motorists and residents in the western hills neighborhoods that border the watershed, that some trapping activity may be visible. DFG and UCD researchers are using tranquilizer dart guns and walk-in net traps. The dart guns are rifles fitted with scopes. After being tranquilized, the deer will be fitted with radio collars to track their movements and then released. The collars will automatically fall off within 6 months.

Personnel involved in this study will be in DFG uniforms (tan shirt with insignia, green pants) and will be driving marked vehicles. They will be accessing the watershed area from both Hwy 280 and the Hallmark neighborhood during the week.

This is the second phase of this study. The first phase was completed in December of 2011.

The results of this study will be available in the future.

###

7/19/2012 Late Night Fire Damages Belmont Auto Repair Shop

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:**

July 19, 2012

**Lieutenant Patrick Halleran**

**(650) 595-7430**

### **Late Night Fire Damages Belmont Auto Repair Shop**

#### ***Belmont, CA --***

A late night fire at a Belmont auto repair shop caused approx. \$100,000 in damage but did not spread to adjoining businesses due to quick action by firefighters.

On Wednesday July 18, 2012 at approx. 11:55 PM, Belmont Fire units responded to European Asian Auto Services at 150 Old County Rd on a reported fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found a covered storage area at the south side of the business fully engulfed in flames. Fire units from San Mateo, Foster City and San Carlos Fire Departments responded to assist and the fire was extinguished in approx. 30 minutes.

There were no injuries and the fire was contained to the storage area. Two vehicles parked in the storage area were destroyed, however firefighters were able to limit the damage to the business itself to minor smoke and heat damage. Two other vehicles, a van parked at a neighboring business on the south side of the storage area and a van parked on the street in front of the business were damaged by heat from the fire.

The cause of the fire is currently under investigation

7/19/2012 Garage Damaged in Residential Structure Fire

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT:  
July 19, 2012

Lieutenant, Patrick Halleran  
650-595-7430

### **Garage Damaged in Residential Structure Fire**

*Belmont, CA --*

A detached garage of a Belmont home was damaged by fire Wednesday afternoon.

On Wednesday, July 18, 2012 at approx. 3:00pm, Belmont Fire units responded to a reported structure fire in the 2300 blk of Coronet Blvd. Upon arrival, firefighters found smoke coming from the workshop area of a detached garage and additional fire units from San Mateo Fire, San Carlos Fire and CalFire responded to assist. The fire was extinguished in about 20 min and was confined to the workshop area. The resident was home at the time of the fire and there were no injuries.

Preliminary investigation indicates the fire was accidental and related to electrical equipment in the workshop.

7/20/2012 Stolen Vehicle Suspect Arrested

Type of Incident: **Stolen Vehicle - Suspect Arrested**

Case #: 1207-0101

Location: 400 block, El Camino Real, Belmont

Date: 07/19/2012 Time:1839hrs

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## **EVENT**

The quick actions of a victim and a witness led to the arrest of a car theft suspect just after 6:30 PM, Thursday night in Belmont.

On Thursday July 19, 2012 @ approx. 6:30 PM a San Mateo man stopped at the 7-11 Store in the 400 block of El Camino in Belmont. The victim parked his car in front of the store and left it running while he went inside. As the victim was leaving the store, he saw another man get in his car and start to back out of the parking space. The victim confronted the suspect and a struggle ensued between the victim and suspect. During the confrontation the victim was able to remove the suspect from the car. The suspect fled on foot, and was pursued by the victim and a witness. The victim and witness caught up to the suspect a few blocks away as responding Belmont Police units arrived, who took the suspect into custody without incident.

The suspect was identified as Alejandro Valencia, age 26 of Newark. Valencia was found to be under the influence of an illegal drug, and in possession of suspected methamphetamine. Both Valencia and the victim were treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics for non life threatening injuries sustained during the incident. Valencia was transported to an area hospital for further treatment, prior to being booked into the San Mateo County Jail on charges of auto theft, possession of methamphetamine and for being under the influence of a controlled substance. The victim did not need further medical aid and was not transported.

**\*Note:** Inquiries regarding a booking photo of Valencia should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 23, 2012

CONTACT:  
Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Vehicles Damaged in Fire Caused by Discarded Barbeque Coals**

*Belmont, CA --*

Barbeque coals that were carelessly discarded caused a fire in the parking lot of Motel 6 on Sunday evening that damaged two vehicles.

On Sunday July 22, 2012 at approx. 6:35 pm, Belmont Fire units responded to the Motel 6 at 1100 Shoreway Rd on a reported fire. Upon arrival, firefighters found the vegetation along the south fence of the motel property was on fire. The fire was extinguished quickly, but not before approx. 50 feet of ivy growing on the fence as well as two vehicles that were parked in the lot, were damaged.

There were no injuries and preliminary investigation indicates that the fire was caused by hot barbeque coals that were discarded in the ivy. Apparently an unknown subject had been using a barbeque in the pool area and was told to remove it by motel staff. The subject left the area with the barbeque and the fire was reported a short time later. It is unknown if the subject was a guest of the hotel.

Anyone with information on this fire is asked to contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400.

8/1/2012 Burglar Captured on Video Update

Type of Incident:

**Residential Burglar Captured on Video Arrested as a Result of Tips from the Public**

Case #: 1207-0049

Location: 1500 blk 6<sup>th</sup> Ave, Belmont

Date: 7/10/12 Time: 1257hrs

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### **EVENT**

On Tuesday, July 10, 2012 between 12:55pm and 1:30pm at a residence in the 1500 block of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. The suspect and his car were captured on a neighbor's security camera. The suspect is seen in the video pulling up in front of a neighboring residence and is then shown walking to the victim's residence, which is out of view of the camera. He returned a few minutes later with a suitcase, which he loaded into his vehicle and then he drives off. Numerous items were taken, including jewelry and electronics. The suitcase used by the suspect to carry the items from the house was among the items taken.

The suspect is described as an unknown race male, wearing a plain white t-shirt, blue jeans and a black baseball cap. The suspect's vehicle is a blue or green 2-door Mercedes with large chrome rims.

### **UPDATE 8/1/12**

Working on tips received from the public as a result of release of the surveillance video, Belmont Police Detectives were able to identify the suspect in this case as John Anthony Bentley, age 32 of Hayward. On the evening of Tuesday July 31, 2012, Belmont Police took Bentley into custody without incident at his residence, in the 600 blk of Schafer Rd, in the City of Hayward. A search of the residence resulted in Detectives collecting numerous items of evidence, including property taken in the Belmont burglary. The vehicle shown in the video, a green 2000 Mercedes CL500, was also found at the residence and is registered to Bentley. Bentley was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City on charges of burglary and possession of stolen property.

“We were hoping that by putting the video out to the public, we would get the tip that would lead us to this suspect and that's exactly what happened” said Belmont Police Chief Daniel DeSmidt. “We would like to thank the media for getting the information on this case out to the public and thank the members of the public who came forward with information. This is an example of the public and law enforcement working together to deal with crime” DeSmidt added.

Still photos from the video accompany this press release as well as a booking photo of Bentley. To view the video go to the Belmont Public Safety Channel on YouTube at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gEwC-aQFe6Y&feature=plcp>

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 8/1/12 Time: 1500hr

8/7/2012 Suspect Arrested in Craigslist Car Fraud (PDF)

Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested in Craigslist Car Sale Fraud**

Case #: 1208-0026, Location: 900 blk Ralston Ave, Belmont, Date: 8/4/12, Time: 1717hrs

## **EVENT**

A 59 yr old transient, who was staying in a local motel, was arrested Saturday after attempting to defraud a family over the sale of a vehicle that he advertised on Craigslist.

On Saturday August 4, 2012, a family responded to an add on Craigslist, from a subject selling a 2011

Nissan Altima. The victims arranged to meet the suspect, Christopher John Prew, at a Belmont Shopping Center to purchase the vehicle. After inspecting the vehicle, the victims agreed to purchase the car and gave Prew a \$500 cash deposit. Prew said that he would meet them later, where they could pay him the balance and he would hand over the car and the title. After Prew left with the vehicle, the victims grew suspicious and called Belmont Police. Officers determined that the vehicle Prew was selling was actually registered to Hertz Car Rental and had been rented by Prew.

Using information provided by the victims, Prew was contacted about the car and a meeting was set for another location in Belmont, with a person Prew thought was another potential buyer. Prew was taken into custody without incident a short time later, when he arrived in the Nissan. Prew was booked into the San Mateo County Jail on a charge of Theft by False Pretense and an outstanding arrest warrant out of Santa Clara County. The car was returned to Hertz.

Anyone who may have information on this incident, or any other similar crimes involving Prew, are asked to contact Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

**Note:** A booking photograph of Prew appears on page 2 of this press release. ###



Christopher John Prew  
(photo courtesy of San Mateo County Sheriff)

8/7/2012 Residential Burglar Flees After Being Interrupted by Neighbor

Type of Incident:

**Residential Burglar Flees After Being Interrupted by a Neighbor**

Case #: 1208-0015

Location: 1400 blk 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue

Date: 8/3/12 Time: 1240hrs

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Early on Friday afternoon, a neighbor who went to investigate the sound of breaking glass, interrupted a residential burglary in the 1400 block of 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.

On Friday, August 3, 2012 at approximately 12:40 pm, a resident in the 1400 block of 6th Avenue heard the sound of breaking glass coming from a neighbor's house. He went to investigate and saw an unknown male running from the backyard of the residence. The neighbor called 9-1-1 and several Belmont PD units responded to the scene. Officers conducted an extensive area search, but as of this press release the suspect remains outstanding.

The suspect is described as a white male in his 40's with no facial hair, approximately 5'11" tall with a stocky build. He was wearing a black colored baseball cap with a white colored rim around the bill, a black t-shirt, black shorts and tennis shoes. No suspect vehicle was seen. He was reportedly last seen on foot, in the area of Harbor Blvd and El Camino.

Belmont Police are actively investigating this case and ask anyone who saw this suspect or has any information on this crime to call the Belmont Police at 650-595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000.

8/15/2012 Adult CPR AED Classes Offered This Fall

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 14, 2012

**CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
(650) 595-7430**

**Adult CPR/AED Classes Offered This Fall**

***Belmont, CA --***

The Belmont Fire Department is pleased to announce that it is offering two 4-hour Adult CPR/AED classes this fall, taught by an experienced staff member of the Belmont Fire Department. Participants will learn to administer CPR in a safe, timely and effective manner to an adult (defined as being 12 yrs or older) and will also be trained on how to use an Automated External Defibrillator (AED).

Heart disease and stroke are the number one and number three causes of death and a leading cause of disability, among Californians. Compared to the rest of the country, California has an above average rate for coronary heart disease mortality. The public can make a difference and the first step is to learn CPR/AED.

The classes will be held on Tuesday, September 25, 2012 from 6-10pm and Tuesday, November, 6, 2012 from 6-10pm at Belmont Fire Station 14, located at 911 Granada St, Belmont. Each class limited to 12 students and participants must be 16 years of age or older. There is a \$50 fee that includes all course material and supplies. To enroll in the class, go to the Park & Recreation page on the City of Belmont website, [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov), and click the Register Now! button.

Persons with questions or need additional information about this course should call the Belmont Fire Department Administration at 595-7492.

*\*Course certification through MEDIC First Aid. MEDIC First Aid programs conform to national standards and are based on the same scientific guidelines and treatment recommendations used by the American Heart Association & American Red Cross for course development.*

8/22/2012 Belmont Firefighters Hit the Street this Thursday to Raise Money for Charity  
(Press release not found.)

9/11/2012 Injury Traffic Collision

## **BELMONT POLICE DEPARTMENT PRESS RELEASE**

Pursuant to California Government Code § 6254(f)

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Type of Incident: **Injury Traffic Collision**

Case #: 1209-0049

Location: 2700 block Hallmark Dr., Belmont

Date: 9/10/12 Time: 1557hrs

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### **EVENT**

A Belmont woman was injured Monday, when the Dodge Caravan she was driving collided with a parked Volvo SUV on Hallmark Dr.

On Monday, September 10, 2012 @ approx. 4:00pm, Belmont Police and Fire units responded to a traffic collision in the 2700 block of Hallmark Dr. The driver, a 79 yr old Belmont resident, was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and was transported to an area hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

Preliminary investigation indicated that the driver, who was southbound on Hallmark Dr, had an undetermined medical problem, drifted from the traffic lane and collided with the Volvo SUV that was parked at the curb. While speed was not a factor, it appears that the driver did not apply the brakes before the collision and the impact pushed the SUV approx. 30'. Both vehicles were towed from the scene.

###

9/21/2012 Burglars Arrested In Belmont

Type of Incident: **Burglars Arrested in Belmont – Tied to Cases in Belmont, San Mateo and Unincorporated San Mateo**

Case #: 1209-0101

Location: 300 block Chesterton Ave, Belmont

Date: 9/20/12 Time: 1055hrs

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**EVENT**

On Thursday, September 20, 2012 at approximately 10:55 am Belmont Police were alerted to suspicious activity in the 300 Block of Chesterton by alert neighbors who observed a vehicle driven by a female subject with two associated males who appeared to be “casing” residences on the block. Belmont officers arrived quickly and were able to stop the suspect vehicle, a dark colored Kia, and its three occupants in the area of Chesterton and Mountain View Avenues in Belmont. San Mateo Police Department responded to the area to assist, quickly followed by Belmont and San Mateo PD Detectives.

Investigation quickly revealed similarities between the subjects and vehicle involved and several residential burglaries committed this week in both the City of San Mateo and Unincorporated San Mateo (Sheriff’s Office Jurisdiction). Based on evidence of some of these crimes located at the stop on Chesterton Avenue, the three subjects were arrested.

Belmont Police, San Mateo Police, and the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office continue to work collaboratively to match the suspects up to a number of recent residential burglaries in this area. Some of the burglaries linked to these suspects include at least one burglary in Belmont, at least two in the City of San Mateo, and at least three in unincorporated San Mateo. Detectives are continuing to match property seized in this investigation to additional crimes in these and other jurisdictions – additional agencies are being contacted for crimes committed in these additional jurisdictions. Although there is still active follow-up being done on this joint investigation, at the time of this writing, the suspects below have been booked (the two Juveniles into Hillcrest, and the Adult into San Mateo County Jail) on several Residential Burglaries, Possession of Stolen Property, and Conspiracy.

**ARRESTED:**

Adult: Nyzeina Shameka Eberhart, Age 27, of San Francisco

Juveniles: Male, Age 15, of San Francisco, Male, Age 16, of San Francisco.

**MEDIA FOLLOW-UP:**

This Press Release involves Arrestees, with active follow-up investigation being conducted for multiple crimes in multiple jurisdictions. Any media follow-up should be directed to the San Mateo County District Attorney's office. Any media inquiries about booking photos should be directed to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

Belmont Police PIO – Lieutenant Pat Halleran – 650-595-7430

San Mateo Police PIO - Sergeant Dave Norris – 650-522-7626

San Mateo Co. SO PIO – Detective Rebecca Rosenblatt – 650-363-4800

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 9/21/12 Time: 1550hrs

Authorized By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 9/21/12 Time: 1550hrs

9/28/2012 PG&E Scheduled Gas Venting

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

September 28, 2012

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran  
(650) 595-7400

## **PG&E to Vent Natural Gas on Monday as Part of Pipeline Safety Enhancement Program**

*Belmont, CA --*

On Monday, October 1, 2012 between the hours of 1:00pm and 3:00pm, Pacific Gas & Electric will be venting natural gas from a pipeline located near the intersection of Highways 280 & 92, just west of Belmont.

This work is part of the 2012 Pipeline Safety Enhancement Program and is similar to gas venting that occurred earlier this week. Depending on weather conditions, the residents of Belmont and the surrounding area may smell natural gas. PG&E wants to assure the public that there is no danger to the public and they are taking steps to mitigate noise and odor.

Members of the public with questions or concerns about the smell of gas, please contact PG&E at 1-800-743-5000.

###

9/30/2012      Attempted Homicide

Type of Incident: **Attempted Homicide**

Case #: 1209-0157

Location: Southbound Hwy 101 @ Ralston Ave, Belmont

Date: 9/30/12 Time: 1546hrs

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## **EVENT**

Belmont Police are investigating a shooting that occurred Sunday afternoon on southbound Hwy 101 in Belmont. The case is still under investigation, but the following is known at this time.

On Sunday, September 30, 2012, shortly after 3:30pm, the California Highway Patrol responded to a report of an unknown medical emergency on Hwy 101 at the Holly St. exit in San Carlos. Upon arrival CHP and EMS personnel found that a red 2009 Dodge Charger had left the roadway and was in the bushes adjacent to the off-ramp. It was apparent that the vehicle had been shot multiple times and it appeared that at least one of the occupants was injured by gun fire. All of the occupants of the Charger, two adult males and an adult female, were transported to an area hospital for injuries sustained in the incident and subsequent collision. Southbound Hwy 101 between Ralston Ave. and Holly St. was initially closed to all traffic for approx. 35min due to the investigation. The freeway was reopened at approx. 4:30pm and investigators remained on-scene until approx. 9:30pm, when the Charger was towed.

Initial investigation determined that the shooting occurred on Hwy 101 at the Ralston Ave. exit. As a result, the Belmont Police Department took over the investigation, with assistance from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, the San Mateo County Forensic Laboratory and the California Highway Patrol.

Investigators are asking for the public's help in this case. It appears that this incident may have started on Hwy 101 at or near Hwy 92 in San Mateo and ended in the crash of the Charger at the Holly St. off-ramp in San Carlos.

Anyone with information on the events leading up to, during or after the shooting is asked to call Belmont Police at (650) 595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at (650) 598-3000.

Additional information on this case will be provided as it becomes available.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 9/30/12 Time: 2225hrs

10/1/2012 Police Seeking Witnesses in Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide

Type of Incident:

**Police Are Still Seeking Witnesses In Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide**

Case #: 1209-0157

Location: Southbound Hwy 101 @ Ralston Ave, Belmont

Date: 9/30/12 Time: 1546hrs

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**EVENT**

On Sunday, September 30, 2012, shortly after 3:30pm, the California Highway Patrol responded to a report of an unknown medical emergency on Hwy 101 at the Holly St. exit in San Carlos. Upon arrival CHP and EMS personnel found that a red 2009 Dodge Charger had left the roadway and was in the bushes adjacent to the off-ramp. It was apparent that the vehicle had been shot multiple times and it appeared that at least one of the occupants was injured by gun fire. All of the occupants of the Charger, two adult males and an adult female, were transported to an area hospital for injuries sustained in the incident and subsequent collision. Southbound Hwy 101 between Ralston Ave. and Holly St. was initially closed to all traffic for approx. 35min due to the investigation. The freeway was reopened at approx. 4:30pm and investigators remained on-scene until approx. 9:30pm, when the Charger was towed.

**10/1/12 UPDATE**

Belmont Police continue to investigate the shooting that occurred yesterday afternoon. Information gathered so far indicates that this was not a random shooting. No other vehicles were struck by gunfire and it appears that the Charger and its occupants were the intended target. It is unknown if this was a road rage incident or stemmed from some other dispute.

Two of the three occupants of the Charger, a 19 yr old male from East Palo Alto and a 23 yr old female from Santa Cruz have been released from the hospital. The third victim, a 24 yr old male from Menlo Park, remains in an area hospital for treatment of injuries sustained in the incident.

Belmont Police are asking anyone with information on the events leading up to, during, or after the shooting to call Belmont Police at (650) 595-7400 or the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at (650) 598-3000. Callers can remain anonymous.

Additional information on this case will be provided as it becomes available.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 10/1/12 Time: 1510hrs

10/10/2012 Red Ribbon Week

# Belmont Police Department Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

October 10, 2012

CONTACT: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Belmont Police Announce Annual Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest**

*Belmont, CA --*

The Belmont Police Department is inviting kindergarten through 8<sup>th</sup> Grade students, enrolled in any public or private school in Belmont or the Belmont-Redwood Shores School District, to participate in the 2012 Red Ribbon Week Poster Contest. Red Ribbon week this year is October 22-26, 2012. During that week Belmont Police Officers will be conducting drug and violence prevention activities at the schools.

The goal of the contests is to symbolize the importance of living an alcohol, drug and violent free healthy lifestyle. Entries will be divided into separate groups based on grade level and there will be one winner from each group. Posters will be judged on art work reflecting the theme, creativity, effort, and grammar. The theme of this year's contest is "**The Best Me Is Drug Free**". Examples of posters can be a drawing, painting, poem, or collage. Entries must be delivered to the front office of the student's school or at the Belmont Police Department, 1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, by 4 pm on Thursday, October 18, 2012.

Student winners will be honored at the City of Belmont council meeting on October 23, 2012. Winners will be invited to a pizza party following the ceremony. Winning art work will be displayed inside Belmont City Hall along with a Red Ribbon Week recognition plaque.

"We want to encourage our youth to adopt health life styles and this includes avoiding becoming involved with drug and violence" said Belmont Police Chief Dan DeSmidt. "I invite every K-8 student to participate in this event. Show how you are making the right choice to be drug free" DeSmidt added.

Now in its 27<sup>th</sup> year, Red Ribbon Week is the largest and oldest drug prevention campaign, reaching 80 million people nationwide. The National Family Partnership (NFP) created the campaign in response to the 1985 death of DEA agent Kiki Camarena, who was abducted and murdered by drug traffickers in Mexico.

Students can get a copy of the contest rules and a poster form, at their school office or by going to the Police Department homepage on the City of Belmont website at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov).

10/15/2012 Three Suspects Arrested for Residential Burglaries

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Type of Incident: **Three Suspects Arrested for Residential Burglaries in Belmont and Redwood City**

Case #: 1210-0064

Location: 1300 blk of Sunnyslope Av, Belmont

400 blk of Pine St, Redwood City Date: 10/12/12 Time: 1355hrs

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## **EVENT**

A call by an alert neighbor in Redwood City led to the arrest of three suspects for residential burglaries in Redwood City and Belmont, Friday afternoon.

On Friday, October 12, 2012 @ approx. 1:55pm, Belmont Police responded to a home in the 1300 blk of Sunnyslope Ave on a residential burglary that had just been discovered by the residents. The burglary had apparently occurred sometime after 9:00am, when the residents left home. While officers were on-scene, Belmont Police were contacted by Redwood City Police, who had three suspects in custody for another residential burglary.

The Redwood City case began at approximately 10:50am, when a resident in the 400 blk of Pine St, called 9-1-1, reporting a burglary in progress. Redwood City Police responded and took three suspects into custody without incident. During the investigation of that burglary, Redwood City Police found property from the earlier burglary in Belmont.

The three suspects, Raphaelle Jones, age 23 of Citrus Heights and Wyatt King, age 34 and Gabriel Carter, age 35, both of Oakland, were booked into the San Mateo County Jail, in Redwood City, on charges relating to both the Redwood City and Belmont burglaries. Additional follow up by detectives lead to the discovery that the suspects were also responsible for a residential burglary in Palo Alto on October 9, 2012. Charges in that case are pending.

**\*Note:** Inquiries regarding booking photos of these suspects should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 10/15/12 Time: 1330hrs

10/26/2012 Traffic Delays on Ralston Avenue

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 25, 2012

**CONTACT:** (650) 595-7425

1 Twin Pines Lane, Belmont, CA 94002

Belmont Public Works, [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov) pworks@belmont.gov

## **Traffic Delays Expected on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas in Belmont**

**Belmont, CA** –Traffic delays should be expected on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas beginning Monday, October 29, 2012 through Friday, November 2, 2012 from 9:00am – 3:00pm, due to construction activity, weather depending. Through traffic on Ralston Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas will remain open at all times. No work will occur on weekends. Two lanes of traffic, one in each direction and access for emergency vehicles will be maintained at all times. Construction work includes patching and repairing damaged sections of pavement. For any questions, please contact Public Works at 595-7425.

#

10/30/2012 6th Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 30, 2012

**CONTACT:** Nawel Voelker – (650) 595-7433

## **6<sup>th</sup> Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program**

Belmont, CA - The City of Belmont City Council proudly announces the upcoming 6<sup>th</sup> Annual presentation of the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM and is calling for any nominations from the community in both Residential and Commercial categories.

This recognition program is designed to acknowledge individuals, businesses, and community groups who have enhanced the City's community by making significant exterior improvements to their Belmont properties. Eligible improvements include the enhancement, upgrading, reconstruction, or replacement of a property, making it more visually appealing as well as enriching the surrounding neighborhood or district.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This program is an excellent opportunity to let the community know how much the City appreciates their effort to help make Belmont one of the most beautiful communities on the Peninsula."

For more information on the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program, to submit a nomination, or to obtain a nomination form, please call the Finance Department at 595-7433 or look on the City of Belmont website at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov).

10/30/2012 Ralston Ave Traffic Collision Snarl Morning Traffic

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Type of Incident: **Pair of Traffic Collisions Snarl Morning Traffic**

Case #: 1210-0146

Location: 1900 blk Ralston Ave & Ralston Av at Avon St, Belmont

Date: 10/30/12 Time: 0826hrs

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## **EVENT**

A pair of separate, but related traffic collisions snarled morning commute traffic on Ralston Avenue today.

The first, a collision between a car and a bicyclist, occurred at approx. 8:25am in the 1900 blk of Ralston Av. The bicyclist, a 62 yr old Belmont woman, was riding eastbound on Ralston Av when she collided with a Toyota sedan that was turning into the Carlmont Shopping Center, from westbound Ralston Av. The bicyclist sustained serious, non life-threatening injuries and was transported to an area hospital. The driver of the Toyota, a 42 yr old Belmont woman, was not injured.

As Belmont Fire Department Paramedics were treating the bicyclist, the ambulance that was en route to the scene, was involved in a collision on Ralston Av at Avon St. The ambulance was westbound Ralston, with its lights on and siren sounding, when a Nissan sedan, driven by a 64yr old Belmont woman, pulled out onto Ralston Av from Avon St, colliding with the ambulance.

As a result of the second collision, another ambulance had to be dispatched to the original incident involving the bicyclist. Belmont Fire and a third ambulance were sent to check on the driver of the Nissan, who was examined at the scene and released. The medics in the ambulance involved in the collision were not injured.

The initial collision, involving the bicyclist, is under investigation by the Belmont Police Department. There is no bicycle lane in the area of Ralston Av where the collision occurred. The collision involving the ambulance is being investigated by the California Highway Patrol, at the request of the Belmont PD. The CHP was called in as all the on-duty BPD units were committed to the first collision investigation.

In total, Ralston Avenue between Notre Dame Avenue and Alameda de las Pulgas was closed for approx. 90 min and was re-opened to all traffic at approx. 10:00am.

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 10/30/12 Time: 1300hrs

10/31/2012 Council Passes Resolution Opposing the Sale and Purchase of Rat Poisons

# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 31, 2012

**Belmont City Council Passes Resolution Opposing the Sale and Purchase of Rat and Mouse Poisons Deemed An Unreasonable Risk to Children, Pets and Wildlife**  
Belmont, CA –

At its October 9<sup>th</sup> meeting the City of Belmont City Council passed a resolution opposing the sale and purchase of rat and mouse poisons, which are deemed an unreasonable risk to children, pets & wildlife.

The use of such poisons is regulated by the State of California and this resolution does not mandate the ban of poisons, however, it does urge Belmont businesses to stop the sale of 10 specific rat and mouse poisons that do not incorporate safety measures specified in the US EPA's Final Risk Mitigation Decision for these rodenticides. The resolution also urges Belmont residents to avoid buying these products and encourages the use of less-toxic rodent control methods.

Please see the link below for a full text of the Council's resolution and supporting documents, including a list of the 10 specific rodent poisons:

<http://www.belmont.gov/Upload/Document/D240008766/8F-CC-10092012.pdf>

10/31/2012 Suspect Arrested After Resident Calls in Suspect in Neighbor's Car

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Type of Incident:

**Suspect Arrested After Resident Calls in a Subject inside a Neighbor's Car**

Case #: 1210-0155

Location: 1500 blk Sunnyslope Av, Belmont

Date: 10/31/12 Time: 0406hrs

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### **EVENT**

A 32 yr old man was arrested early this morning after an alert neighbor called 9-1-1 about a subject she saw inside her neighbor's parked car.

On Wednesday, October 31, 2012 @ approx. 4:05am, Belmont Police received a 9-1-1 call from a resident in the 1500 blk of Sunnyslope Av, who reported a male subject who she had seen inside her neighbor's parked car. Officers responded and a short time later detained a subject near the intersection of Sunnyslope Av and Lane St. The subject, Richard Heinz age 32 of San Mateo, was subsequently arrested for Attempted Theft and Possession of Stolen Property.

While the investigation is on-going, it appears that Heinz entered three unlocked vehicles in the 1500 blk of Sunnyslope and may be linked to a theft from another unlocked vehicle in the 900 blk of Ruth Av, which occurred earlier in the morning.

The Belmont Police would like to remind the public of the importance of locking your car, even if it's parked in your own driveway, and not to leave valuables in view inside your car. It is also important to look out for your neighbors and report any suspicious activity to the police immediately. A timely call to 9-1-1 can stop a crime.

11/2/2012 Sandbags Setup Stations

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

November 2, 2012

CONTACT:

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Sandbag Stations Now Setup for Winter Storm Season**

*Belmont, CA --*

As part of its on-going emergency preparedness efforts, the City of Belmont has setup two “fill your own” sites for residents in need of sandbags during the winter storm season. Sand and bags are available anytime 7- days a week (shovels provided) at the following locations:

- **Belmont City Corporation Yard - 110 Sem Lane**
- **Belmont Fire Station #15 - 2701 Cipriani Boulevard**

Residents, particularly those who live in areas that regularly experience some flooding, are strongly encouraged to pick up sandbags to ensure they are prepared for possible flooding. Residents may obtain up to 10 bags per Belmont address. Sand and bags are being provided by the Department of Public Works, who will maintain the sites during the winter storm season, which typically runs from November – March.

# # #

11/2/2012 Motorist Sought After Collision with Woman in Wheelchair

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Type of Incident: **Motorist sought after collision with a woman in a wheelchair**

Case #: 1211-0011

Location: 500 blk El Camino, Belmont

Date: 11/01/12 Time: 1848hrs

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## **EVENT**

Belmont Police are seeking the driver of a vehicle that struck a woman in a wheelchair in front of McDonalds on El Camino last night. The collision is currently under investigation, but the following information is known at this time.

On Thursday, November 1, 2012 @ approx. 6:45pm a 48 yr old disabled woman from San Mateo was traveling south on the west sidewalk, in the 500 blk of El Camino, in a motorized wheelchair. As she was crossing the driveway of the McDonalds restaurant, she was struck by a vehicle that was turning into the driveway from southbound El Camino. The vehicle, a black Mercedes sedan, stopped and the driver apparently had some type of interaction with the woman but left before police arrived. The woman's disability makes communication difficult and it is unclear what that interaction was.

The woman was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department paramedics and transported to an area hospital with non life threatening injuries.

Belmont Police are asking the driver of the Mercedes to come forward and provide a statement regarding the collision. Anyone who saw or has information on this collision is asked to contact the Belmont Police Traffic Unit at 650-595-7400.

###

11/5/2012 Suspect Arrested for Domestic Violence & Resisting Arrest

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Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested for Domestic Violence & Resisting Arrest**

Case #: 1211-0025

Location: 1000 blk Old County Rd, Belmont

Date: 11/5/12 Time: 0558hrs

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### **EVENT**

A 29 yr old Belmont man was arrested early today after assaulting his girlfriend and not letting her leave their house for several hours.

On Monday, November 5, 2012 @ approx. 6:00am, Belmont Police received a 9-1-1 call from a woman who reported she had been assaulted by her boyfriend, who would not let her leave their residence in the 1000 block of Old County Rd. Officers arrived within minutes and found the woman's boyfriend, Muhammad Magbool age 29, in front of the residence. When officers contacted Magbool he attempted to flee back into the residence. Magbool was uncooperative and fought with officers, who called for assistance from the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office. Officers were able to restrain Magbool, but not before he kicked out the side window of a Belmont Police patrol car.

The victim, a 26 yr old Belmont woman, was located inside the residence and was treated at the scene by Belmont Fire Department Paramedics for non life threatening injuries sustained in the assault. The woman told Officers that the assault had occurred around midnight and she had not been able to call 9-1-1 until 6:00am, when her boyfriend went outside. The victim was not transported and none of the Officers were injured.

Magbool, who is on parole for a previous robbery conviction, was booked into the San Mateo County Jail in Redwood City on charges of Domestic Violence Assault, False Imprisonment, Resisting Arrest, Vandalism and Violation of Parole.

**\*\*Note:** Inquiries regarding a booking photo of Magbool should be made to the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office.

###

11/28/2012 Santa Visits Belmont Fire Station as Part of Annual Toy Drive

# Belmont Fire Department Press Release

*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

November 27, 2012

CONTACT:

Lieutenant Patrick Halleran (650) 595-7430

## **Santa to Visit Belmont Fire Station as Part of Annual Toy Drive**

*Belmont, CA --*

On Thursday, December 13, 2012, Santa will be helping Belmont Firefighters to collect toys for needy children at Fire Station 14, located on Ralston Ave. at Granada St., as part of the annual Belmont Firefighters Toy Drive.

Belmont Firefighters have begun their annual Toy Drive for children in need. As part of this campaign the Belmont Fire Department will be holding an open house at Fire Station 14 on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> from 5pm to 8pm. The event will include an opportunity to visit with Santa, play in the snow\*, see the fire house, meet your firefighters and enjoy some holiday refreshments. Be sure to bring your camera to photograph your child with Santa.

Although not required, people attending the open house are encouraged to bring a new, unwrapped toy to support the firefighters' toy drive. Toys collected by the firefighters will be given to local children in need.

The open house & visit by Santa are part of the annual toy collection effort, which began this week. Anyone wishing to donate toys can drop them off between now and December 25<sup>th</sup> at either Belmont Fire Station.

- Station 14 – 911 Granada St. (corner of Granada St. & Ralston Ave.)
- Station 15 – 2701 Cipriani Blvd. (corner of Cipriani Blvd. & Ralston Ave.)

We accept new, unwrapped toys such as dolls, puzzles, board games, toy trucks/cars and action figures. Please do not to give DVDs or video game, as we never know what technology the child has access to. Also, we are unable to accept bicycles."

*\*snow courtesy of Belmont Iceland*

###

12/4/2012 City Hall Holiday Closure – 2012

**NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

December 3, 2012

Contact: Greg Scoles – (650) 595-7408

**BELMONT CITY HALL TO CLOSE**

Belmont, CA - City administrative offices will close from December 24, 2012 through January 1, 2013. Offices will reopen on Wednesday, January 2, 2013. The following will be closed:

- City Clerk
- City Manager
- Community Development
- Finance (including business licenses)
- Human Resources
- Information Services
- Permit Center (including building inspections)
- Public Works Administration
- Recreation Administration

Belmont Senior and Community Center and Belmont Community Learning Center (child care) will also be closed during this period.

There will be minimum staffing of Public Works maintenance personnel during the closure period.

Police and Fire emergency services will be fully operational.

For emergencies, call 911.

For non-emergency Police and Fire matters, sewer or storm related emergencies please call police dispatch at 595-7400.

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12/10/2012 Suspect Arrested in Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide

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Type of Incident: **Suspect Arrested in Freeway Shooting Attempted Homicide**

Case #: 1209-0157

Location: Southbound Hwy 101 @ Ralston Ave, Belmont, Date: 9/30/12 Time: 1546hrs

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#### **EVENT**

On Sunday, September 30, 2012, shortly after 3:30pm, the California Highway Patrol responded to a report of an unknown medical emergency on Hwy 101 at the Holly St. exit in San Carlos. Upon arrival CHP and EMS personnel found that a red 2009 Dodge Charger had left the roadway and was in the bushes adjacent to the off-ramp. It was apparent that the vehicle had been shot multiple times and it appeared that at least one of the occupants was injured by gun fire. All of the occupants of the Charger, two adult males and an adult female, were transported to an area hospital for injuries sustained in the incident and subsequent collision. Southbound Hwy 101 between Ralston Ave. and Holly St. was initially closed to all traffic for approx. 35min due to the investigation. The freeway was reopened at approx. 4:30pm and investigators remained on-scene until approx. 9:30pm, when the Charger was towed.

#### **\*\*\* 12/6/12 UPDATE \*\*\***

A suspect in this shooting was arrested today shortly after 1:00pm in Redwood City by Belmont Police in an operation involving several law enforcement agencies. The suspect, Eric Valencia Vargas, 18 yrs old of East Palo Alto, was taken into custody in the 700 blk of Veterans Blvd in Redwood City on an arrest warrant obtained by Belmont Police Detectives charging Vargas with multiple felonies including attempted homicide.

The Belmont Police investigators have been working continuously on this investigation over the past two months since the incident occurred, in cooperation with several Bay Area law enforcement agencies. Belmont Police would like to especially acknowledge the cooperation of the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office, San Mateo County Gang Intelligence Unit, San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force, San Mateo County Vehicle Theft Task Force, San Mateo County District Attorney's Office, East Palo Alto Police and the San Francisco Police. Thursday's operation, that culminated with the arrest of Vargas, involved officers from all of the listed agencies.

"This suspect is an extremely dangerous individual and we are pleased that he has been taken into custody," said Belmont Police Chief Dan DeSmidt. "The positive outcome to this investigation is due to the professionalism and high degree of cooperation between all of the officers and agencies involved," DeSmidt added.

\*NOTE: Inquiries regarding obtaining a booking photo of Vargas should be made to the San Mateo County Sherriff's Office.

###

By: Lieutenant Patrick Halleran

Date: 10/6/12 Time: 1615hrs

# NEWS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 6, 2012

**CONTACT:** Nawel Voelker – (650) 595-7433

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### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Beautiful Belmont Awards Program

Belmont, CA - The City of Belmont City Council proudly announces the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual presentation of the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program at the City Council Meeting on Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM. The City congratulates the 2012 Award recipients in the following categories – for **Commercial** – Village Properties renovation at 940 Emmett Ave., and for **Residential** – newly renovated homes at 1149 Villa Avenue, 1126 North Road, and 2013 Belle Monti Avenue.

This recognition program is designed to acknowledge individuals, businesses, and community groups who have enhanced the City's community by making significant exterior improvements to their Belmont properties. Eligible improvements include the enhancement, upgrading, reconstruction, or replacement of a property, making it more visually appealing as well as enriching the surrounding neighborhood or district.

City Manager Greg Scoles states, "This program is an excellent opportunity to let the community know how much the City appreciates their effort to help make Belmont one of the most beautiful communities on the Peninsula."

For more information on the Beautiful Belmont Awards Program, or to obtain a nomination form, please call the City Manager's office at 595-7408 or look on the City of Belmont website at [www.belmont.gov](http://www.belmont.gov).

12/18/2012 Bank Robbery

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Type of Incident: **Bank Robbery**

Case #: 1212-0115

Location: US Bank – 910 Ralston Ave, Belmont

Date: 12-12-18 Time: 1145hrs

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### **EVENT**

Belmont Police are investigating a robbery which occurred this morning at the US Bank on Ralston Avenue. While the case is currently under investigation, the following information is known.

On Tuesday, December 18, 2012, shortly before 12 noon, Belmont Police responded to the US Bank in the 900 blk of Ralston Ave on a report of a robbery, which had just occurred. Upon arrival, officers found that the suspect had fled.

Bank employees described the suspect as a white male adult, between 25-35 yrs of age, 5' 9" to 6' 0" tall, medium build, clean shaven. He was wearing an orange beanie type cap and a dark gray or black winter coat. The suspect entered the bank, approached a teller and demanded money. No weapon was seen and there were no injuries. At this time the loss is undetermined. The suspect was last seen exiting the bank onto Ralston Ave.

Shortly after the robbery, a silver sedan was seen traveling at a high rate of speed, southbound on 6<sup>th</sup> Ave from Hill St, in the area of the bank. It is unknown if this vehicle is connected to the robbery.

Belmont Police are working with the Federal Bureau of Investigation on this case and anyone with information is asked to contact either Belmont Police Detectives at 650-595-7400, the Belmont Police Crime Tip Line at 650-598-3000 or the FBI – San Francisco Field Office at 415-553-7400. **\*\*Photos of the suspect from the bank security cameras can be seen here:**



US Bank Robbery Suspect  
US Bank – 910 Ralston Ave, Belmont  
December 18, 2012