Homeowners should lock up this Holiday Season

News in English

Minister for Police Michael Daley and Attorney General John Hatzistergos today warned holidaymakers not to get complacent about securing their home over summer, even though break and enter offences are falling.

Mr Daley said that break and enter offences had fallen by 17.6% over the past four years.

"That's almost 9,000 fewer homeowners this year alone who've gone through the financial pain and difficulty of coming home to find their home has been broken into and their possession stolen," he said.

"The NSW Police Force does a great job driving down crime as these break and enter statistics show.

"However, the holiday season is when thieves take advantage of empty homes and people need to be aware of the preventative measures they can take to avoid becoming a victim of crime.

"I'd encourage all home-owners to lock their windows, doors, security

gates and garages, and move valuables out of sight of windows.

"If you're leaving the car at home, make sure it's also locked and that there are no valuables, such as GPS devices, in sight.

"Asking a neighbour to routinely check your mailbox is also important as an overflowing mailbox is a telltale sign of an empty house," Mr Daley said.

Mr Hatzistergos said people need to secure their properties when they are at home to deter opportunistic offenders who may watch a property for some time before attempting to

"We want everyone to enjoy their holidays, but that means taking appropriate safeguards and precautions," he said.

"There are a number of simple precautions people can take.

"Be discreet when activating alarm systems, don't give out security access codes and make certain power boxes are properly locked so alarm and lighting systems cannot be deac-

"Its also important not to leave spare keys lying around as intruders



can take your keys and return to your home when you are away," he said.

The NSW Government has developed a list of handy security tips called the "Designing Crime of out of Your House Checklist" which is available at http://www.crimeprevention.nsw.gov.au.

Mr Daley urged those who aren't going away to help Police by reporting any crime or suspicious activity around their neighbourhood as soon as possible by calling the Police Assistance Line on 131 444 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

> John Hatzistergos Attorney General Michael Daley Minister for Police, Minister for Finance

EUROVISION:

The 10 Greek participants revealed

Greek Television, ERT, has confirmed the names of the 10 contenders for their national selection after negotiations with the record companies and artists.

Greek broadcaster, ERT, have officially announced the 10 candidates who will compete in their 2010 national selection: Giorgos Alkaios & Friends

Yorgos Karadimos -Manos Pyrovolakis & MP3 Second Skin - Christos Hatzinasios Despina Ricci - Katerine Avgoustakis Group Melisses - Eleftheria Eleftheriou Group Emigre

The line-up includes Belgian Katerine Avgoustakis who took part in the Flemish selections to represent Belgium in the Eurovision Song Contest 2006; she scored a hit in some European countries earlier this year with her cover of Ayo Technology. Giorgos Alkaios is a successful singer/songwriter who scored his biggest hits in the 1990s. In the list there are also some newcomers like the band Melisses or X-Factor contestant Eleftheria Eleftheriou from Cyprus who also tried to sing for her country in 2006.

The date of the national selection is not known yet, but ERT planns to hold it in late February or early March. The songs will be presented to the TV audience in a televised show on ERT at the beginning of February.

In 2009, This Is Our Night by Sakis Rouvas represented Greece in Europe's favourite TV-show.

(source: eurovision)

Omeros magic



dining style, you should hurry to make a booking at Omeros on the Beach.

John Omeros, owner/manager of the Ramsgate Beach landmark, has planned a special dinner menu for patrons looking for what could only be described as a more refined way of seeing in 2010.

You could begin your New Year's Eve dinner

F YOU would like with a choice of three to celebrate New entrees: a seafood med-Year's Eve in fine ley of king prawn and avocado salad, oysters, and a blue swimmer crab tartlet with avruga caviar tartlet or smoked salmon crepes, or an Omeros's favourite salt and pepper soft shell crab.

And finish in 2010 with a choice of three sweets: a sorbet trilogy or lemon tart or chocolate mousse cake, accompanied, perhaps, by a glass of champagne!

Between the entree and the sweets there is a choice of four main courses, including another Omeros's favourite treat, the confit of melt-in-the-mouth duck, served with bok choy and roast beetroot and an orange and port wine reduction.

Omeros on the Beach, Cook Park, Grand Pa-Ramsgate; rade. 95295391

> Article from The Leader

