

# North Westdale News

P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA 90064

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SEPTEMBER 2008

Next Meeting,  
Special Appearance by:

**KARINA  
SALAZAR**



Principal, Richland Avenue Elementary

Come meet the new principal and get the latest scoop  
on what's happening at our local school!

## In Season at the Mar Vista Farmers Market

By: Wayne Matsuyama, North Westdale  
Resident

It's the beginning of September. As you take a walk through the Mar Vista Farmers Market you'll still see the fruits of summer: peaches, nectarines, pluots, cantaloupes and watermelon.

Watermelon may be on the wane but cantaloupes should be available for a month or two longer. Peaches and nectarines are also on the tail end of their season. But Tenerelli Orchards is growing several different peach varieties you may see well into the fall, weather permitting.

Figs are ripening all over town and you'll see them at the market for a few more weeks. Red flame and green grapes should be available through



the end of the month.

Dragon fruit is making its first appearance at the MV farmers market. This magenta, green and yellow colored fruit with its deep magenta center is native to the tropics of South America and Asia. The price of these dragon fruit, grown in San Diego, reflects the amount of care required to grow them in Southern California.

Heirloom tomatoes are beautiful and abundant. If you're looking for something new, look out for lemon cucumbers and Indian eggplants.

Mar Vista Farmers Market,  
every Sunday, 8:30 AM to  
2:00 PM, Grand View at  
Venice Blvd.

## SAVE THE DATE!

Next Meeting:  
Monday,  
September 8

7:00pm

St. Andrew's  
Lutheran Church  
on Federal &  
Clarkson

Mark Your  
Calendars!  
Upcoming  
Meetings

October 13

November 10

### Agenda

1. Crime Update/  
Issues
2. Neighborhood  
Issues (trees,  
crows)
3. Traffic Update
4. Annual Garage  
Sale Planning
5. Richland Avenue  
Elementary:  
Principal Meet  
& Greet

# From The President's Desk:



Dear Neighbors:

Hello friends and neighbors!

As our glorious Summer months wane I am thankful for the beautiful weather, beautiful neighborhood, and all my friends and neighbors in North Westdale. I hope everyone had a wonderful Summer break, and are now refreshed and ready to begin our

neighborhood meetings once again.

This is a new term for which I am excited and energized to bring new positive changes to our neighborhood, as well as maintain all the great facets that now exist. I have had several meetings with our VP Bahaa Mikhail and we have planned out a framework for increased safety, communication, beautification, and outreach. I look forward to your input and working with all of you personally as we continue to improve the neighborhood we love.

If you have not been to a meeting in a long time, this is your invitation. Do you have concerns or

issues you would like to have addressed by our community? Do you have a good idea for a new project or neighborhood improvement? Would you like to be a little more aware and involved in your community? Our next meeting is the perfect time to get started! See you there!

Your friend and neighbor,

*Tony*

Tony X. Sanelli  
President, NWNA

## 4th Annual North Westdale **MEGA Garage Sale**



Once again, it's time for the annual neighborhood garage sale! The North Westdale Neighborhood Association will take care of advertising the sale and posting signs on the day of the sale. We'll also be putting together a map of all participating houses (who let us know by the deadline of Oct 17).

All you need to do is organize your junk and be ready to set up shop on:

**Saturday, October 25**  
**8 a.m.**

To participate, call Tony at (310) 694-0228, or send an email to [tsanelli@acfpartners.com](mailto:tsanelli@acfpartners.com) with your address by October 17.

## The School Report

### Upcoming Events and News From Richland Avenue Elementary

Congratulations to Richland Avenue Elementary School students! Our great little school's most recent test scores increased by 40 points. Looks like all that studying is paying off! You can help Richland Avenue Elementary continue to provide a rich learning environment too ... read on:

#### ANNUAL HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

Save the date for Richland's annual Halloween Carnival. Funds raised this year will be used to improve the school garden and the school's new physical education program. This event is always fun for the whole family, so don't miss it!

#### SCHOOL CENTS

Don't forget to make use of the School Cents program when shopping at the Westside Pavilion. **Take all your receipts for purchases made at to the Customer Service desk (2nd Floor) and ask them to credit Richland Avenue Elementary.** For every dollar spent, Richland earns points toward school supplies. It's a great opportunity to help our local school earn new equipment and supplies.

THANK YOU to everyone who participated last year! Your purchases earned enough points to provide

Richland Avenue Elementary with \$700. Let's see if our neighborhood can top that this year!

#### SOUP LABEL AND BOXTOP COLLECTION

Richland is also collecting Campbell's Soup labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education. You know you're already eating that cereal and soup, so take an extra 10 seconds to save the label or box top and you'll be helping a whole school of kids.

You can drop both off in the school office (just slide it under the door if the office is closed) or bring by the NWNA meeting and we will collect and drop them off for you.



#### GROCERY CLUB CARDS AND WAMU

Did you know that your grocery club card can earn points for your local school? There's no cost to you. All you have to do is go to the Ralphps, Vons or Albertsons website and follow their procedures to register your club card and let them know that you want your purchases to count towards donations to Richland Avenue Elementary.

Washington Mutual has a similar program for their debit cards. If you bank at WaMu, register your card for Wamoola money to be donated to Richland Avenue Elementary. Shop, swipe, and give back to your neighborhood school ... it's easy!



### Become Part of a Tradition: Sponsor the Richland Avenue Elementary Halloween Carnival

Raising additional funds in public schools has become more important than ever. Budget cuts have put many school programs in jeopardy and the schools have to make up for those cuts through fundraising efforts. Your donation or booth sponsorship will go directly toward the funding of our new Physical Education Program, the Richland Learning Garden, school beautification and supplemental educational programs. In return we will list your business in our press release, school newsletter and website and we would be happy to display any promotional materials at our carnival. All donations are tax deductible.

Richland Avenue School is a neighborhood school on the rise with a population that includes special needs students, ESL students, general education students, parents and a dedicated staff and administration working together to create a strong, supportive community. We are one of the few fully adaptive schools that meet the needs of special education students, with these children fully participating in the school community.

To participate or for further information, contact Kami Turrou at 310/575-0058.

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

President	Tony Sanelli
Vice President	Bahaa Mikhail
Secretary	Amy Levy
Treasurer	Lillia Singer
Webmaster	Andrew Parke
Newsletter Editor	Victoria Sanelli

If you have questions or would like to volunteer and get more involved with the neighborhood association, contact Tony Sanelli at (310) 694-0228 or [tsanelli@acfpartners.com](mailto:tsanelli@acfpartners.com).

Have a story idea or event that might be of interest to the neighborhood? Please email Victoria Sanelli at [bunigrrl@gmail.com](mailto:bunigrrl@gmail.com).

*The North Westdale Neighborhood Association (NWN) serves the community bounded by the 405 Freeway to the east, National Blvd to the south, Centinela Ave/Bundy Drive (Centinela north of Ocean Park and Bundy south of Ocean Park) to the west, and the Santa Monica Freeway to the north, representing approximately 1,000 homes. All residents, both home owners and renters, are members.*

*There is an annual voluntary donation of \$10 per household. NWN strives to improve our neighborhood with activities ranging from crime watch to neighborhood beautification to local school support.*



**Join The North Westdale E-Mail List!**

Go to:

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA>

Click on the "Join This Group" button and follow the online instructions.



# THANKS CHERI THEAKSTON!

11400-11500 National Boulevard has a new block captain — Cheri Theakston.

## MORE BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED

2600, 2800 Armacost	2700-2800 Butler (west side)
2700-2800 Barrington	12100 Clarkson
2400 Bundy	2400-2800 Stoner
2400-2800 Granville	2700-2800 Colby
2700-2800 Burkshire	

Time commitment is just 15-30 minutes a month to make a difference to our neighborhood! Call Tony Sanelli at (310) 694-0228 or [tsanelli@acfpartners.com](mailto:tsanelli@acfpartners.com).



## Police Report

Senior Lead Officer  
Thomas Wicks  
310-622-3973

Basic Car Coordinator  
Sergeant Pompano  
310-482-6334

### Crime Trends

The following are the crime statistics representing 7/27/08 - 8/23/08:

- Aggravated Assaults 3
- Burglary (Vehicle) 13
- Robbery 4
- Burglary (Res/Biz) 10
- Grand Theft Auto 5
- Homicide 0
- Sex 0

During this rating period Burglary (Residential/Business) has become a problem in Basic Car 14A25 area. The victims in several incidents this period

left their homes unsecured giving suspects easy access to their property. Most burglary suspects seek the easy targets, get in quietly and get out unseen. Lock and secure your home every time you leave. Upstairs patio doors and windows also need to be secured, burglary suspects can reach them. Proper lighting can be a strong deterrent for burglary suspects, they detest being seen committing their crime. If you observe any suspicious activity be a good neighborhood and call the police right away. Join your local Neighborhood Watch Group it is still the best tool we have against crime.

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### Walking safety tips:

Walk at a good, steady pace, and keep your head up. Do not look down at the ground or look lost and unsure of yourself. Carry a whistle or other noisemaker. The sound may scare off an attacker or draw attention to your predicament.

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### Reminder:

A25 NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY MEETING  
Tuesday, September 9,  
2008 @ 7:00 p.m.  
Pacific CRO Trailer  
12312 Culver Blvd., Los Angeles

**NORTH WESTDALE NEIGHORHOOD CLASSIFIEDS will return next month!**

Email Tony Sanelli at [tsanelli@acfpartners.com](mailto:tsanelli@acfpartners.com) to place an ad or for more information.