

North Westdale News

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

VOLUME 33, ISSUE 1

SEPTEMBER 2011

Meet Your New Board!

Next Meeting: September 12 at 7pm
St. Andrew's Church (Federal & National)



Summer is over and it's time for the North Westdale Neighborhood Association to get back to work! Come join us for our first meeting with new board president, Bill Koontz.

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SIGN UP TODAY!



7th Annual North Westdale
MEGA Garage Sale
Saturday, October 29

It's Tony Sanelli's favorite event of the year — the annual North Westdale MEGA Garage Sale! Hundreds of shoppers will converge on our little neighborhood, so if you have unwanted items cluttering your home, this is the day to hold your garage sale. All you need to do is sign up with our MEGA Garage Sale coordinator, Tony Sanelli. NWNA pays for advertising and signage.

Sign ups will be taken at the next NWNA meeting on September 12 or you can contact Tony at (310) 694-0228, or via email at tony@sanellimortgage.com. If you would like to volunteer to help with signage or marketing, please contact Tony as well.

ITEMS OF INTEREST

Sep 12: Quarterly NWNA Meeting. 7pm at St. Andrew's Church (Federal & National).

Sep 20: North Westdale Book Club Meeting. 7pm at the Rhinehart Residence.

Sep 21: NWNA Airport Committee Meeting. 6pm at 12016 Clarkson Ave.

Sep 26: CERT Community Meeting. 7pm to 8:30pm at Fire Station 59 (11505 Olympic Blvd)

Oct 15: Mar Vista Fall Festival at Mar Vista Park, 10am-4pm.

Oct 29: NWNA Annual Mega Garage Sale. 8am-1pm at various locations throughout North Westdale.

Oct 29: Richland Avenue Elementary Scare Fair at Richland.

Dec 12: NWNA Quarterly Meeting. 7pm at St. Andrew's Church.

North Westdale Book Club

**September Reading:
New and Selected Poems by Mary Oliver**



This month we have a very unique selection, *New and Selected Poems* by Pulitzer Prize winning poet, Mary Oliver. In addition to our normal book discussion, everyone will also have the opportunity to read their favorite poem. Join us on Tuesday, September 20, for a mentally stimulating evening of literature!

The North Westdale Book Club meets on the third Tuesday of the month, location varies. To join the group email list or get more info, please contact Lillia Singer at bellagardendesign@att.net.

From The President's Desk:



Dear North Westdale Neighbors,
 Welcome back! I hope everyone had a good summer break. I'm excited about the upcoming year and the possibilities it holds for us here in North Westdale. I would like to take this time to again thank Baaha for stepping up and taking the reigns for a few years. I look forward to continuing on in his footsteps with some of the ideas and programs he developed and initiated.

I also look forward to testing out the quarterly meeting schedule we had agreed upon. My thought is that the work will progress through regular committee meetings but that those meetings will happen at neighbor's houses. A more relaxed informal atmosphere, less like work and more like neighbors getting together over some food and a

glass of wine to help improve the community we all live in. I think that the communication between us will continue on through the use of email, the yahoo newsgroup, the website and this newsletter here. I will again encourage everyone reading this to visit our website www.northwestdale.com and if you haven't already, please click on the link to join the yahoo newsgroup. Right now it one of the most effective communication tools we have at our disposal. It makes communicating with your friends and neighbors so much easier.

Thank you and I can't wait to see you all again at the next meeting.

Bill

Bill Koontz
 President, NWNA

Call-To-Action-Alert

From Martin Rubin, Chair of NWNA – Santa Monica Airport Committee

Day in and day out, Santa Monica Airport is polluting the air we breathe. Scientific studies by the South Coast Air Quality Management District and by UCLA demonstrate elevated pollution levels at hundreds, even thousands of times, normal levels. Is the health of your family at risk?

This is a very serious issue that calls for serious action.

Come and meet with us to learn more about what you can do.

When: Wednesday, Sept. 21, 2011 - 6:00 PM (usually the last Wed. of each month)

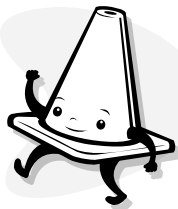
Where: 12016 Clarkson Road, Los Angeles, CA 90064 (meeting location may vary)

For more information contact:

Martin Rubin - Chair - (310) 479-2529 – martinrubin@earthlink.net

Bill's Safety Corner

Although we had a small uptick in home burglaries over the summer, the numbers this past month are looking pretty good. Thanks in part to the work of LAPD Senior Lead Officer, Drake Madison and you, the concerned neighbors of North Westdale. Thank you for keeping your eyes peeled and for communicating effectively with one another.



CERT Meeting

The next CERT Community Meeting will take place on September 26 at Fire Station 59 (11505 Olympic Boulevard) from 7pm-8:30pm.

Following a major earthquake, power may be lost for an extended period. Battalion 9 Coordinator, Patric Cohen will instruct attendees on how to cook, heat and power your way through the aftermath of an emergency. Get prepared!



The Richland Avenue Elementary School Report

NEW AYP SCORE = 806!

Congratulations to Richland Avenue Elementary students and staff! Yet again test scores are rising and Richland students continue on the path of academic excellence. Richland has achieved an AYP of 806, surpassing the state's goal for student achievement. The teachers and staff at Richland work hard to make sure every child receives the education they deserve, and the students are thriving. Well done kids!

SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED STUDIES

Our neighborhood school is now a School for Advanced Studies, focusing on math, science and technology, ensuring students receive a high level of classroom instruction for all, including high achieving and gifted students. Richland is equipped with all the modern technology available, including an updated computer lab, desktop computers in every



classroom and SMARTBoards available to every grade level. The most recent improvement is the introduction of iPad technology now available in some classrooms.

SPONSOR THE SCARE FAIR

Advertise your business while helping your neighborhood elementary school! Sponsorship opportunities are now available for Richland's annual Halloween Scare Fair. For more information, contact Kami Turrou at (310) 575-0058 or turrnschreib@earthlink.net.

YOUR SUPPORT REALLY MAKES A DIFFERENCE

Whether or not you have school aged children, your support of our local elementary school is an investment in the quality of life in our beautiful neighborhood. Neighbors are always welcome to join in Richland events — come see first hand what a great school we have right in our backyards!

- The School Cents Program starts September

15! Take your receipts to the Customer Service Desk (2nd Floor) and ask them to credit Richland Avenue Elementary.

- Save Campbell's Soup labels and General Mills Box Tops for Education. Turn in to the school office or bring to the next NWNNA meeting.
- Sign up your grocery store club cards (follow procedures on their websites), including Ralph's, Food4Less, E-scrip and Target Red Card.
- Office Depot's 5% Back to School program will give Richland credit for free school supplies with qualifying purchase. Designate Richland School ID #70010450 at check out.
- Volunteer for the Wonder of Reading program. Just one hour a week can make a huge difference for a child! Contact the school office at (310) 473-0467 for more info.

Treasurer's Report

North Westdale Neighborhood Association
Cash Sources and Uses
For the year ending June 30, 2011

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| Cash as of July 1, 2010 | 5,740.09 |
| Dues Received | 2,336.00 |
| Interest Earned | |
| Newsletter Ads | |
| Newsletter | 1,541.31 |
| Church - Meeting Hall Rental | 450.00 |
| Mailbox Rental | 46.00 |
| Garage sale | 40.00 |
| Supplies | 29.50 |
| Social event | 25.45 |
| Total Expenditures | <u>2,132.26</u> |
| Cash as of June 30, 2011 | <u>5,943.83</u> |



Mar Vista Fall Festival

**Saturday, October 15,
10am-4pm
Mar Vista Park**

Come on down and join your friends and neighbors in celebrating this year's theme, "Our Children, Our Future."

- Kids Activities**
- Food & Entertainment**
- Arts & Crafts**
- Inflatable Bouncers**
- Silent Auction**
- Community Business and Information**

Don't miss this fun event!



Monthly Farmers Market Report

How was your summer? Here are responses from several vendors of the Mar Vista Farmers Market when asked about their summer growing season. John from Summer Harvest Farms of Dinuba felt that a cooler than normal spring plus rain in late spring resulted in decreased production of peaches and nectarines. He feels the flavor of his fruit was good but the rain caused brown rot and less fruit brought to the market. He is beginning to transition to red grapes which should be available through November.

Chiuefuer of Central Valley Farms in Fresno has had a good summer with enough heat to keep his tables filled with vegetables. Eggplant requires much heat and his tables are currently filled with a several varieties. Eggplant should remain available well into September. Gloria from Tamai Farms in Oxnard has had problems this year with tomato production due to cooler than normal spring weather. She indicated that there was no initial production from her tomato plants but the coming crop looks more promising but still weak.

Yvette of Arnett Farms has had a great summer with several pluot varieties available longer than normal. Crimson Glow pluots should be available for another two weeks, which will be a long growing season. The same goes for Flavor King pluots with their robust flavor. Look for Arnett Farm's white peaches: the bigger the tastier.



Mar Vista Farmers Market

Every Sunday 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM
Grand View at Venice Blvd.
marvistafarmersmarket.org



Police Report

Senior Lead Officer
Drake Madison
33997@lapd.lacity.org
310-622-3973

Basic Car Coordinator
Sergeant Pompano
310-482-6334

Crime Trends

The following are the crime statistics representing 8/1/11 - 8/31/11:

Aggravated Assaults 0

Burglary (Vehicle) 13
Robbery 3
Burglary (Res/Biz) 15
Grand Theft Auto 7
Homicide 0
Sex 0
Theft 15

During this rating period Burglary (Residential/Business) has become a problem in 14A25 area. Remember most intruders seek easy targets to enter

quickly and quietly. Install window locks on each window, keep shrubs and hedges trimmed and install sensor lights all around your property. Ample lighting is a big deterrent for burglary suspects fear being seen committing their crime. Join your local Neighborhood Watch Program, it is still the best tool against crime.

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

| | |
|-------------------|------------------|
| President | Bill Koontz |
| Vice President | John Kuchta |
| Treasurer | Wayne Matsuyama |
| Secretary | vacant |
| 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 Bill Koontz at billk@marvista.org.

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

Deadline for the October issue is
Monday, September 26, 2011.

The North Westdale Neighborhood Association (NWNNA) 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. NWNNA strives to improve our neighborhood with activities ranging from crime watch to neighborhood beautification to local school support.

We're on the web!

www.northwestdale.com

Join The North
Westdale E-Mail List!

Go to:

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

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