

North Westdale News

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

VOLUME 27, NUMBER 3

SUMMER 2005

A Little Bit About: **The North Westdale Neighborhood Association**

If you've moved into the neighborhood recently, you may not yet know about the Neighborhood Association, a group that includes you and everyone who lives here.

The Association was founded about 25 years ago as a crime watch. It has succeeded admirably at that mandate: crime in our area decreased almost immediately and has remained low ever since. And over the years, we have found additional ways to take advantage of being organized. The Association has supported notable community projects by providing volunteers, coordination, publicity, infrastructure, and the Association's name. Among the projects are Santa Monica Airport control, preventing construction of a business park nearby, acquiring Emergency Response provisions, several tree planting and beautification projects, a graffiti removal day, and the establishment of the School Community garden.

City services. We monitor city services such as tree trimming, paving, sanitation, recycling, utilities, and traffic control, and work together with the relevant departments to maintain a better neighborhood infrastructure.

Emergency team. We send volunteers to Emergency Response Team training with the Los Angeles Fire Department, to work as a neighborhood rescue team in the event of a major earthquake or other emergency. The team played an active role in the aftermath of the 1994 earthquake.

Beautification. We participated in the establishment of the school garden at the corner of Brookhaven and Colby Avenues, and planted street trees along Pico Blvd and throughout the neighborhood, including along Brookhaven Ave.

Traffic. We were active in a successful campaign to halt development of a large business park at the east side of the Santa Monica airport that would have increased traffic and pollution in our neighborhood. We continue to fight for stricter airplane noise and safety regulations at the Santa Monica Airport.

Connections. We maintain close contact with our city council member and local police officers. We send representatives to meetings of the Santa Monica Airport Commission and the Police Department's Community Advisory Committee to communicate neighborhood interests to those organizations. We recently formed a neighborhood/school relations sub-committee.

Networking. We belong to the Mar Vista Community Council, part of the citywide system of neighborhood councils established by the 1999 City Charter that is beginning to have a real impact on City Council decisions.

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Neighborhood Meeting

Monday September 12

7:00pm Sharp!

Don't Miss It!

All meetings take
place at
St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church on
Federal and Clarkson
unless otherwise
noted.

Find out what's
going on in the
neighborhood. Hear
what's happening
with schools, airport
issues, Mar Vista
Community Council,
neighborhood
events, crime
statistics, and more!

A Sincere

THANK YOU!

Get Involved!

**Martin Rubin,
Founder and
Director**

**Concerned
Residents
Against Airport
Pollution**

P.O. Box 643033

**Los Angeles, CA
90064**

**Website:
jetairpollution.
com**

**E-mail:
jetairpollution
@earthlink.net**

**Phone:
(310) 479-2529**

THANK YOU Amy Levy for becoming our new Association Secretary. Amy is a past president of our association and we appreciate her continued commitment to our neighborhood.

THANK YOU Vicki Sanelli for becoming our new Events Coordinator. Our first neighborhood event will be a "Mega-Garage Sale." (see article in this newsletter)

THANK YOU Homer Wolf for his vision and dedication to the Brookhaven Trees Project. Homer arranged and coordinated the entire project. No small feat! Beginning with the approval from Richland School to cutting concrete to coordinating the planting! His dedication to the project and the neighborhood continues with weekly watering of the trees. You can always find Homer by Richland garden every Wednesday at 6p.m.

THANK YOU to the **volunteers** who have adopted trees and who continue to care for them week after week during the critical first year.

THANK YOU to **Starbucks Coffee at National and Barrington**, and its manager, **Joe Bresler**, for providing complimentary coffee for our annual meeting this past June. It was delicious, as always!



Gardener's Corner



Pots and other containers are ideal design elements for your patio, garden, balcony or indoor. Learn how to plant in containers successfully, best ways to take care of your plants and arrange containers on your patio and/or garden. We will cover the basics of designing with containers, including the best plants, how to arrange them and what does and doesn't work. I will discuss soil, proper watering and feeding of container plants.

When: October 1, 2005 from 9:30a.m. to noon

Where: 11430 Clarkson Road, Los Angeles, CA 90064

Cost: \$15 per person

This class is limited to 10 people. For reservation please call **Lillia Singer** at **310.444.0687**.

Have You Visited Our

NWNA WEBSITE

The Association's website is 3 years old. It has matured into a solid community resource, with a combination of information you won't find anywhere else. Among the things you will find there:

- Neighborhood announcements
- Links to adjacent neighborhood associations
- Links to nearby grass-roots organizations such as Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution and the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust
- Newsletters from the fire department's emergency response team
- A link to our local police station
- Monthly crime statistics for our immediate area
- Contact information for city services

Visit the website at www.NorthWestdale.com and contact the webmaster with your suggestions for the website. We want it to stay responsive to the neighborhood's needs.



**Come Join in on North Westdale's
MEGA**

Garage Sale

When: September 17 - September 18

Where: The whole neighborhood!

Pico/National/Bundy/Sawtelle.

Why: Strength in Numbers! Let's make a big splash in the area!

This sale will be advertising the block sale section of the L.A. Times and local newspapers! In addition, large signs will be posted on the days of the block sale! If everyone joins together, we can create a ton of traffic and buzz as *THE* place to shop!

What you can do.

Get your goodies ready to sell! Either set up shop at your house or come meet **Tony and Vicki Santelli** and make a big store at their house located at 2751 Barry Avenue! Please let Tony know if you are participating and how you would like to set up so he can include the info in our advertising! Tony can be reached at tonysanelli@unitedpacificmortgage.com or **310.702.8279 (cell)**.

Please contact him with any questions!

Logo Needed!

**North Westdale
Neighborhood
Association is
looking for a logo,
and we want you to
design it!**

**We're hoping for
something sharp and
simple to identify
this great
neighborhood.**

**Contest is open to
everyone who wants
to be creative.**

**For more details,
for questions, or to
submit your
artwork,
e-mail or call
Pete Castro
at
pete@petecastro.com
or
(310) 442-6170.**

Crime Trends

The following are the crime statistics representing April 22, 2005 through May 20, 2005 :

- * Aggravated Assaults 0
- * Burglary / Theft from vehicle 17
- * Robbery 3
- * Burglary (Residential/Business) 21
- * Grand Theft Auto 13
- * Homicide 0
- * Sex 2

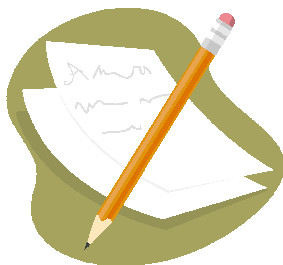
During this rating period Basic Car 14A25 has continued to experience an increase in Burglary (Residential/Business). Burglary suspects detest light for fear of being seen so place sensor lights all around your home. Do not leave doors and windows open for ventilation especially if you are not home. Unsecured second story doors and windows are not out of reach for burglary suspect they often use them to gain entry to your home or business. Whenever you are not home lock and secure all entryways including doggie doors and garages. Place some interior lights and/or a radio on a timer to give the appearance that someone is home. If you observe a burglary in progress be a good neighbor and call the police right away.

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

President—	Pete Castro
1st Vice President—	Sigita Blum
3rd. Vice President—	Jim Donaldson
Secretary—	Amy Levy
Newsletter—	Dee Dee Irwin
Webmaster—	Andrew Parks
Event Coordinator—	Vicki Sanelli

Pete can be reached at 310.442.6170

A Note From Pete Castro

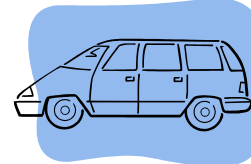


We live in a wonderful neighborhood! One important reason why has always been our strong neighborhood association. I'd like to encourage everyone — long-time residents and especially new arrivals — to get involved and help create community!

There are so many ways you can become involved, from becoming a block captain (drop off the monthly newsletter to a certain block and voice any concerns on behalf of that block — a great way to keep the neighborhood informed and to meet your neighbors) to getting involved with school and airport committees.

Find out more by contacting **Pete Castro** at pete@petecastro.com or 310.442.6170. Get involved in some small way. It makes a difference and keep our neighborhood safe and strong!

Eyes Of The Neighborhood



Neighbors on two blocks have noticed a silver Odyssey van (no license number) whose occupants appear to be casing the neighborhood, and we have alerted the police department. If you notice any suspicious activity, particularly involving this vehicle, tell your block captain or **LAPD's Senior Lead Officer Craig White at 310.622.3973.**

Creativity Needed

North Westdale is looking for a new newsletter editor. If you are interested, please contact Pete Castro at 310.442.6170. Now is your time to show off your creativity!

It's Dues Time Again

Once again block captains are collecting your voluntary dues to defray operating costs of the Neighborhood Association. The suggested donation is \$10 per household.

Currently the Association's operating expenses are about \$1000 a year. The sum covers the cost of printing the newsletter, a post office box, a server for our website (www.NorthWestdale.com), and miscellaneous expenses.

You can give your donation to your block captain, bring it to the meeting in person, or send it to the Neighborhood Association at P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

