

North Westdale News

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

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 10

DECEMBER 2009

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town!

Monday, December 14

5:00 p.m.

St. Andrew's Church

National Blvd & Federal Ave

The LAPD is escorting jolly old St. Nick around town. Don't miss his stop right here in North Westdale! Please note that in VIP style, Santa will be announced with sirens, music and flashing police lights — it will be loud, so don't be alarmed. Santa will stop for approximately 30 to 60 minutes to visit with the neighborhood children and pose for photos.



Next Meeting: Guest Speaker

Lori Gilder, L.C.S.W.

Mar Vista Village, OWLS
(Older, Wiser Living Seniors)



The Mar Vista OWLS organization is a new non-profit group founded by neighborhood volunteers whose mission is to help older adults in our community continue living at home with dignity, independence, and an enhanced quality of life. Based on a program that began in Beacon Hill Village in Boston, MA in 2001, come learn more about this innovative concept.

For more information on "Aging in Place" programs, visit beaconhillvillage.org or contact Lori Gilder at village@marvistaowls.org.

SAVE THE DATE!

Next Meeting:

Monday,

Dec 14

7:00pm

St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church
on Federal &
Clarkson

Upcoming
Meetings
(Second Monday
of the Month):

Jan 11

Feb 8

Mar 8

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



From The President's Desk:

Dear Neighbors,
I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving! 2009 has been a tough year for a lot of people all around the country, and our neighborhood is no exception. I've heard so many stories of people losing their jobs and homes, it almost seems unreal. Yet even with all the challenges,

there is still much to be thankful for!

Officer Wicks was scheduled to attend our last meeting; however, he was involved in a traffic accident and was unable to join us. We look forward to rescheduling his visit, and, more importantly, we wish him a fully speedy recovery!

At our last meeting, we decided to postpone the vote to update our bylaws so that we can offer some extra time for input. Please go to www.northwestdale.com to review the proposed changes, and we welcome your feedback!

One of the most important topics addressed in November was the Santa Monica Airport. A study, conducted by UCLA scientists, determined that air pollutants (ultrafine particles) were 10 times higher than normal 300 feet from the runway and 2.5 times normal 2000 feet away.

The study was released November 18th, and several news outlets reported the story. The LA Times wrote, "A tiny fraction of the width of a human hair, ultrafine particles can travel deep into the lungs, penetrate tissue and even travel to the brain. Studies show that elevated exposure to the particles presents a health risk for children, older adults, and people with respiratory and cardiovascular diseases."

Marty Rubin, the Director of Concerned Residents Against Air Pollution and a North Westdale resident for many years, has long asserted exactly the finds of this study. If you would like to learn more

about this study and the possible next steps in addressing this issue, please attend our next NWNA meeting.

As always, we want to see you at our meetings, and we welcome your participation! If would like to play a role in our neighborhood, please feel free to call me at 310-709-6431, email me at bahaa@netpayservices.com and/or come to our next meeting! I hope to see you there!

Your friend and neighbor,

Bahaa

Bahaa Mikhail
President, NWNA

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Reports
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Treasurer
3. Guest Speaker: Lori Gilder
4. Committee Reports
 - Bylaws – We will vote on the proposed bylaws changes presented last month.
 - Budget – Annual Dues
 - Crime – Recycling Center Update
 - Richland
 - Outreach
 - Beautification
 - Airport – UCLA Report
5. New Business
6. Adjournment

Become a Block Captain!

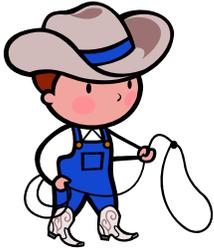
Help to energize our neighborhood! It's easy and takes very little of your time. Interested? Then don't hesitate. For details contact

Block Captain Leader Marty Rubin at:

(310) 479-2529 – Thank you!

The School Report: News & Events at Richland Avenue Elementary

YEE-HAW! KINDERGARTEN ROUND UP



Come and check out Richland Avenue Elementary's kindergarten program! The first kinder round ups of the year are scheduled for:

January 28 @ 9am
February 26 @ 9am

GET INFO ONLINE RICHLANDBOOSTER.COM

Keep up with the latest on Richland Avenue Elementary events and support programs (like the ones listed below) — visit [www.richlandbooster.com!](http://www.richlandbooster.com)

SCHOOL SUPPORT PROGRAMS

Don't forget there are many everyday ways you can support our local school:

- Turn in receipts for Westside Pavilion purchases at the Customer Service Desk (2nd Floor) for the School Cents Program.
- Save Campbell's Soup labels, General Mills Box Tops for Education and Capri Sun Juice Bags.
- Sign up your grocery store club cards (follow procedures on their websites), including Ralphs, Food4Less, Albertson's, 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 school librarian Susie Moreno at (310) 473-0467 for info.



St. Andrew's Christmas Events

Kindermesse (Children's Mass)

December 20 at 10am

Come for a fun Christmas pageant with refreshments to follow!



Christmas Eve Service

December 24 at 11pm

Service will go for just over an hour — a perfect way to add meaning to the season!

By-Laws Proposals:

Vote Next Meeting (Dec 14)

1. Boundary Changes
2. Agenda & Minutes Posting
3. Executive Committee Formation
4. Budget Expenditures

To review details, go to our website at northwestdale.com. We'll be voting at the next meeting (December 14), so please attend and provide your feedback!

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

President	Bahaa Mikhail
Vice President	Bill Koontz
Secretary	Amy Levy
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 Bahaa Mikhail at 310-709-6431 or via email at bahaa@netpayservices.com.

Have a story idea or event that might be of interest to the neighborhood? Please email Victoria Sanelli at bnignrrl@gmail.com. Deadline for the next issue is Monday, December 28 for the January issue.

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.

We're on the web!
www.northwestdale.com

**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.



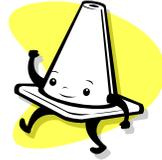
Police Report

Senior Lead Officer
Thomas Wicks
310-622-3973

Basic Car Coordinator Sergeant
Pompano
310-482-6334

Updated crime statistics were not available at the time this newsletter went to print.

Safety First! Bill's Safety Corner



By: Bill Koontz

As the holiday season is upon us, when you go shopping try and put your presents in the trunk of your car and out of plain sight, even in the mall parking lot. The number one crime in Northwestdale and all of the westside is BTMV or Burglary Theft from Motor Vehicle.

Monthly Farmers Market Report

If you're searching for holiday gifts, look no further than the Mar Vista Farmers' Market. This year P.O.P. Candy has tins of their delicious butter crunch candies in 6 oz. or 1 lb. sizes. Each is filled with an assortment of their freshly made products. P.O.P. Candy is at the market the third Sunday of each month. For more information go to gopopcandy.com.

Harry's Honey sells honey-sweetened jams: grape, apple, peach, cherry and strawberry/rhubarb. You'll also find BBQ sauce and whipped honey. Honey sticks make great stocking stuffers. You can choose among root beer, wild watermelon, sour strawberry, amaretto and sour apple.

Visit Ha's Apple Farm for Fuji apple butter, peach jam and Bartlett pear jam. Avila and Sons will have gift boxes of assorted nuts and dried fruits. Orchids always make a beautiful gift. At Sheri's Orchids you can select from colorful dendrobiums, oncidiums, cymbidiums and lady's-slippers.



Mar Vista Farmers Market

Every Sunday 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM
Grand View at Venice Blvd.

MVCC Board Meetings
Second Tuesday of every month
Mar Vista Rec Center, 11430 Woodbine
NEXT MEETING: Dec. 8 at 7 PM & Jan. 12 at 7 PM
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COMING SOON: Elections for MVCC Board of Directors
January 11, 2010 ~ Candidate Filing Period Begins
February 10, 2010 ~ Candidate Filing Period Ends
April 11, 2010 ~ 10:00 am - 4:00 pm: Election Day
For more information email info@marvista.org
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Visit us EVERY SUNDAY @ the Mar Vista Farmers' Market
9 AM - 2 PM at the corner of Venice & Grand View
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NWNA is served by MVCC Zone 2 Director
Bill Koontz, billk@marvista.org
Sign up to receive email announcements at
www.MarVista.org