

North Westdale News

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

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MARCH 2009

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From the Desk of the President



Dear friends and neighbors,

We are in the middle of the NWN term and I am pleased to report we are making good progress this year with respect to our goals and neighborhood improvement. We have strengthened our relationships with key civic offices and have our finger on the pulse of proposed neighborhood developments both positive

and negative. We are always fighting for your rights and the liberty of all our neighbors. As always, I want to encourage you to join us at St. Andrews Church to let your voice be heard about your concerns. For instance at our last meeting a concerned neighbor informed us about the Internet Café on National Boulevard adjacent to the 405 Freeway. This café has been a source of blight with respect to all-hours partying complete with underage alcohol and drug use as evidenced by the paraphernalia and garbage remnants in the parking lot. Items such as this will be a hot item for the NWN to eradicate with the help of the LAPD and we will stay on
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Waste Not, Want Not Turn Kitchen Scraps Into Something Great for Your Garden

By: Lillia Singer, Bella Garden Design

COMPOSTING your kitchen scraps is a win-win situation. This scenario works well if you have a lot of kitchen scraps. Choose a hidden area in your back yard. Dig a hole 2 feet deep. Add kitchen scraps; more finely chopped kitchen scraps decompose faster. Cover it with several inches of soil or garden clippings – leaves and some grass. Continue to add to the hole until full, adding more garden refuse on the top. Keep the pile moist. You may want to turn it occasionally. And then wait 6 months for it to decompose.

Want to compost your kitchen scraps but don't have room or time for a

composting pile? Cut up the scraps into 1 inch pieces and bury them in your flower or vegetable garden. Cover well with 3-4 inches of soil. Interested in the indoor bin composting? Email for the instructions (bellagardendesign@att.net).



COMPOST DO'S & DON'TS
DO:

Fruit and vegetable scraps
Egg and nut shells

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SAVE THE DATE!

Next Meeting:

Monday,
March 9

7:00pm

St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church
on Federal &
Clarkson

Upcoming
Meetings:

April 13
May 11
June 8

Agenda For Mar 9

1. Subcommittee Reports (Airport, Beautification, Crime, Outreach, Schools)
2. New Business
3. Open Floor

NWNA Diners Heading Overland

Next Dining Club Meeting: Overland Cafe

A very special thank you to Mark and Elliot for keeping their lovely Mar Vista eatery, The Curious Palate open late to feed the North Westdale diners last month! And thank you also to Lorraine Wells for making the arrangements for last month's dinner.

Yours truly enjoyed her juicy meatloaf burger immensely as well as the homemade cookies, cheese and rich hot chocolate. The homey atmosphere was the perfect compliment to food made from local produce, including products from the nearby Mar Vista Farmer's Market held on Sundays. The Curious Palate is conveniently just down

the block, so stop by for lunch or a snack after you do your marketing!

So what's on the menu? In April, the dining club will take our taste buds to:

Monday, April 6
Overland Cafe
3601 Overland Avenue
(south of Charnock)

To RSVP or join the club mailing list, email Lilia at bellagardendesign@att.net. Suggestions for future restaurants are always welcome!



So many great choices! Cheeses, fine chocolates and baked goods lined up and on display at the Curious Palate counter.

From the Desk of the President, cont.

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top of this until it is made right.

Keep your eyes peeled for the Spring Fling event hosted by the St. Andrews Church in May. Further details will be forthcoming, but the more neighborhood involvement the better! So don't be a stranger, come on out to our meetings, get involved and let your voice be heard.

Respectfully yours,

Tony

Tony Sanelli

Dues Reminder

It's Not Too Late to Get Your Dues In!

The NWNA would like to thank each and every one of you who paid dues for this year. For those who have not yet- shame on you! This will be the last reminder. Please, please, please send your dues payment to NWNA, P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA, 90064.

Dues results: 180 of the households have donated this year which is only 20% response rate. We should be at least double that level. This is a small \$10 minimum ask from the people who work year round for your rights and protecting our neighborhood.

Your dues help make our neighborhood a better place to live. They allow for this newsletter. They allow for a meeting room for us to operate at St. Andrews Church. They allow us to make donations to worthy local charitable causes such as a computer lab for Richland Elementary, support of LAPD events, and Airport watchdog groups like C.R.A.A.P. We subsist on a very tight budget and we all work to fight for better roads, traffic improvements, urban forestry protection, graffiti removal, and much more! Please mail that check right now – no excuses!

A Message from the MVCC:

Support the LAPD, Attend the Pacific Area Spring Carnival!

12312 Culver Blvd,
Los Angeles, CA 90066

March 20, 3pm-11pm
March 21, 12pm-11pm
March 22, 12pm-11pm



Come to the Pacific Area Spring Carnival and enjoy food, fun rides and games! Contact Pacific Community Relations Office at (310) 202-4524. Pre-sale tickets available (\$15 for 24 ride tickets). Free Admission!



The North Westdale Neighborhood Association is in Zone 2 of the Mar Vista Community Council. For more information, please visit us online at <http://www.MarVista.org>

The School Report: News & Events at Richland Avenue Elementary

Donate to the Silent Auction, Volunteer in the Garden, There's So Many Ways to Help!

THANK YOU DISNEY VOLUNTEERS FOR A GREAT DAY IN THE GARDEN!

Disney VoluntEARS and Richland Avenue families gardened together for a day on February 21. Over 60 teachers, parents and students worked with Volunteers from Disney to build new planter boxes, cut ivy, landscape the front of the school, mulch fruit trees and clean up the garden.

The garden gets better and better with each work day! Students are getting into the garden to plant and grow vegetables, some of which are donated to the Westside Food Bank. A big thank you goes to Connect L.A. for getting the Disney VoluntEARS to our school and to Whole Foods for donating lunch for our volunteers.

Our next big project for the garden is to clean up and complete the path so all of our students, including those who need mobile assistance, can have safe access to the garden. We are still working hard to raise \$3500 to be able to purchase the decomposed granite needed to cover the



path. Our garden is such a gem for our school, we feel privileged to have such a wonderful place for our students!

ATTENTION 6th GRADERS!

Did you know Richland Avenue also has a 6th grade? Please call the school to find out about our 6th grade class. Richland provides a safe, small environment with a wonderful teacher for our 6th graders.

LAST CALL FOR KINDER ROUND UPS

The last Kinder Round Up will take place later this month on:

Thursday, March 19, 2009

The Round Up is held at 9am in the library of Richland Avenue Elementary School. For more information, contact the school at (310) 473-0467.

INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL AND SILENT AUCTION MARCH 21

Richland Avenue's annual spring event, the International Festival and Silent Auction has



been scheduled for Saturday, March 21! Bring the kids for a fun day and support our local school. If you would like to donate an item or service to the silent auction, please contact Kami Turrou at turrschreib@earthlink.net or (310) 575-0058.

REMINDER!

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 and General Mills Box Tops for Education
- Sign up your grocery store club cards or WAMU debit card (follow procedures on their websites)
- 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 more information.

Waste Not, Want Not, cont.

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Coffee grounds* and tea bags
Leaves, bark and branches 1/2" diameter or less
Grass and plant trimmings
Wood chips and sawdust*
Wood ashes*

DO NOT:

Pet waste
All animal products – bones, meat, poultry, fat or oil
Dairy product
Crab or Bermuda grass
Diseased plants and weeds

*Large amounts of these products can alter the pH balance of your soil

St. Andrew's Happenings

11555 National Boulevard
Los Angeles, CA 90064



Book Soup Nights

Wednesday, March 4
Wednesday, March 18

As the days lengthen and the nights get shorter, come to St. Andrew's to take some time for slowing down and enjoying community. On Wednesday March 4th and Wednesday March 18th, the St. Andrew's community will gather for simple soup suppers at 6:30 PM followed by Evening Prayer. At 7:30 PM on these Wednesdays we will be discussing *The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why* by author and historian Phyllis Tickle. Please feel welcome to share in food, prayer and learning!

For more information, contact the St. Andrew's Lutheran Church office at (310) 477-0257.

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@acpartners.com.

Have a story idea or event that might be of interest to the neighborhood? Please email Victoria Sanelli at bunigr1@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.

THANK YOU BAHAA MIKHAIL

New block captain for 2500 Granville



BLOCK CAPTAIN OPENINGS

2600, 2800 Armacost
2700-2800 Burkshire
2700-2800 Barrington
2400 Bundy

12100 Clarkson
2400-2800 Stoner
2400, 2600-2800 Granville
2700-2800 Coolidge

Time commitment is just 15-30 minutes a month to make a difference to our neighborhood! If you, or someone you know, would make a good block captain, please let us know! Call Tony Sanelli at (310) 694-0228 or tsanelli@acpartners.com.

Upcoming Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Trainings

FREE course taught by the L.A. Fire Department.

Learn to protect yourself, family and neighbors in an emergency situation. Get trained to put out small fires, assess injuries, provide basic aid, conduct search and rescue, support police/fire department efforts and more. Visit www.cert-la.com for more dates and locations and general CERT information.



UCLA
Student Activities Center, 1st Floor
220 Westwood Plaza
Los Angeles, CA 90095
Thursdays, 9:30am-12:00pm
Mar 12, 19, Apr 2, 9, 16 and 23
Contact: Thomas Rodriquez
(310) 206-6191

Fire Station 43
3690 Motor Avenue
Los Angeles, CA 90034
Thursdays, 7pm-9:30pm
Mar 12, 19, 26, Apr 2, 9, 16, 23
Contact: Marisa Stewart
talksafety@yahoo.com



Police Report

Updated January/February crime statistics for Basic Car 14A25 (Mar Vista District) were not available at the time this newsletter went to print.

Do you have a submission for the North Westdale Neighborhood Association newsletter?



Deadline to be considered for the April issue is Monday, March 23rd