

North Westdale News

VOLUME 31, ISSUE 8

OCTOBER 2009

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

5th Annual North Westdale **MEGA Garage Sale** Saturday, October 24

Once again, it's time for the annual neighborhood garage sale! NWNA 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 roll out your wares onto the driveway! To participate, email Lillia Singer at bellagardendesign@att.com.

The NWNA Garage Sale is proudly supported by:



SAVE THE DATE!

Next Meeting:

**Monday,
Oct 12**

7:00pm

**St. Andrew's
Lutheran Church
on Federal &
Clarkson**

Monthly Farmers Market Report

Ha's Apple Farm has its first crop of Empire apples and Bartlett pears. The Empire apples are tart and crunchy; the Bartlett pears are sweet and juicy. Arnett's Farm from Fresno is carrying Yali pears, Mama pears and Asian pears. Arnett's has a wide selection of its fruits available for sample, so taste and buy your favorites.

Several of the farmers indicated they won't have many new vegetable selections until their winter crops are available later in the year. You can expect to see summer vegetables until colder weather returns. Gloria of Gloria's Fruits and Vegetables says that as the weather begins to cool, tomatoes get a bit sweeter as they spend more time on the vine before ripening. Also seen at the Mar Vista Farmers Market are okra leaves, yam leaves, pumpkin leaves and opo (a squash-type vegetable found at Central Valley Farm and Fresno Fresh Farm).

Take a minute and stop by the Mar Vista Community Council tables to stay informed about the area whether it's local walking tours, saving fire station #62, the rain barrel program or upcoming community events.



Mar Vista Farmers Market

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

MEETING AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Welcome
2. Reports
 - President
 - Vice-President
 - Treasurer
3. Mega Garage Sale
4. Committee Reports
 - Bylaws – We will present updated procedures to govern the budget process.
 - Budget – Important discussion about this year's budgeting. There is also a donation request to support the Richland Scare Fair.
 - Crime – We will discuss the shooting on Pico & Sawtelle, the arrest of two individuals involved in a Santa Monica shooting, and an update on the Recycle Center.
 - Richland Outreach
 - Beautification
 - Airport
5. New Business
6. Adjournment



From The President's Desk:

Dear Neighbors,

It's been quite a month since our last meeting! Our September meeting was our first since our summer break, and it was action packed!

Ms. Salazar, the Principal at Richland Avenue Elementary, was one of two guest speakers and provided

us with a very positive update! She reported that enrollment is up, and test scores are up as well. Although the school has been impacted by these economic times, Richland has qualified leadership, an effective Booster Club and a commitment from the NWNA to do what we can to help Ms. Salazar and the rest of the administration to achieve their goals. We will continuously update you throughout the school year, and we welcome your input.

Yegal Sadgat was our second guest speaker, and he described the negative impacts of having the recycling center, at National and Sawtelle, in our neighborhood. Although this has been an ongoing issue for more than a year now, it seems to have become a bigger issue recently and is causing greater concern for more of our neighbors. Please join us at

our next meeting for an update on this issue.

Since our last meeting, our neighborhood has been impacted by two shootings just outside our borders. The first occurred on September 18th at Pico and Sawtelle. The second shooting occurred two evenings ago in Santa Monica, and the suspects were chased by police and eventually caught near Bundy and Pearl. These two crimes have raised serious concerns in our area, and have been discussed quite a bit on our Yahoo! Group. I encourage you join our message board at, <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA>, and to attend our next meeting to get more information about these crimes.

We are very fortunate to live in a safe neighborhood that is filled with people who care! If you 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

Health Kit Drive at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church

A Small Way You Can Provide a Big Help to People in Crisis Around the World

St. Andrew's is making and collecting health kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR). These health kits will go to people who are in refugee and other crisis situations. Last year, LWR sent health kits to Zimbabwe, Cambodia, Georgia, Peru, Serbia and 23 other countries that have experienced humanitarian crises. LWR is a well respected non-governmental organization that consistently is rated very highly for its low overhead and effective programs. To learn more about the health kits, visit: <http://www.lwr.org/beinvolved/how.asp>

If you would like to donate a health kit, St. Andrew's will be very thankful! Kits can be

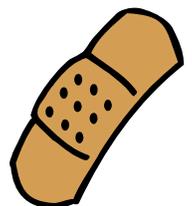
dropped off in the office on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday or Friday between 9 AM and 1 PM. Here are the instructions. Include the following items in each health kit:

- One hand towel, dark color recommended
- One washcloth, dark color recommended
- One bath-size bar (4-5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in its original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging
- One sturdy comb, remove packaging
- One metal nail file or nail clippers with file attached,

remove packaging (do not substitute cardboard emery boards for the file)

- Six Band-Aids® (or similar brand), preferably 1/2" to 3/4"; secure together with a rubber band

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed. All items should be new and in good condition. Wrap smaller items in the washcloth; wrap washcloth and remaining items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Do not enclose the kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.



The School Report: News & Events at Richland Avenue Elementary Annual Scare Fair To Be Held October 24!

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, 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. — NOTE: All Ralphs Club Card users must re-register their cards as of September 1, 2009!
- 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.

RICHLAND AVENUE SCHOOL

SCARE FAIR

HALLOWEEN FUN AND GAMES!

SATURDAY/SABADO OCTOBER/OCTUBRE 24

1 PM-5 PM



ADDITIONAL HAUNTED HOUSE HOURS

THURSDAY OCTOBER 29 5:00 PM-8:00 PM

FRIDAY OCTOBER 30 5:00 PM-8:00 PM

SATURDAY OCTOBER 31 5:00 PM-9:00 PM

\$5 ADULTS \$2 CHILDREN UNDER 12

11562 RICHLAND AVENUE

Yahoo! Are You Part of the Group? Neighbors Discuss Crime Activity in North Westdale

In the last two weeks of September, the NWA Yahoo! Group experienced an unusual increase in the amount of emails related to crime. In addition to the shooting on Pico & Sawtelle, there were two burglaries reported and a manhunt for two suspects involved in a shooting in Santa Monica.

This is of course all anecdotal evidence, and hopefully the apparent increase is just an anomaly. However, it is a reminder to us to keep an eye out for each other. Exchange contact info with your neighbors and if you see anything suspicious call LAPD at (310) 482-6334 to report it.

Safety First! Bill's Safety Corner



By: Bill Koontz

On Oct. 15th at 10:15 am the state of California will be participating in the worlds largest earthquake drill. While it may not be convenient to crouch under your desk at that time, it is important to check your emergency supplies of batteries, water and food. For more info go to www.shakeout.org.

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 Tony Sanelli at (310) 694-0228 or tsanelli@acfpartners.com.

Have a story idea or event that might be of interest to the neighborhood? Please email Victoria Sanelli at bunigril@gmail.com. Deadline for the next issue is Monday, August 31, 2009 for the September 2009 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.



BLOCK CAPTAIN OPENINGS

2600, 2800 Armacost
2700-2800 Berkshire
2700-2800 Barrington
2400-2800 Stoner

2500 Barry
2400 Bundy
12100 Clarkson
2400, 2600-2800 Granville

Help keep our neighborhood informed and connected —please volunteer to be a block captain! Time commitment is just 15-30 minutes a month (basically the time it takes to pass out the newsletter)! You do not have to live on the block you are block captain for. Call Tony Sanelli at (310) 694-0228 or tsanelli@acfpartners.com for more information.



Support Your Neighborhood! Dues Collection Next Month

Suggested Donation: \$10 per Household

Next month block captains will distribute your newsletter with an envelope for dues, so please keep an eye out for this very important issue. When you get the envelope put your dues in it (suggested \$10, but more is appreciated) and return it to your block captain. You can also mail your dues to P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

Dues are completely voluntary and are used to cover the cost of printing this newsletter, host our website, sponsor events like last month's Mega Garage Sale, and support issues and organizations that improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.



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 7/1/09 - 7/31/09:

Aggravated Assaults 2
Burglary (Vehicle) 10
Robbery 2
Burglary (Res/Biz) 8
Grand Theft Auto 6
Homicide 0

Sex 0

During this rating period Grand Theft Auto (GTA) has become a problem in Basic Car 14A25 area. The majority of incidents that occurred this period were vehicles left unsecured. Lock and secure your vehicle even if you leave for only a few minutes, a professional car thief needs only a minute or less to remove your vehicle. Do not hide spare keys inside or outside of your vehicle. Thieves know all the hiding

places. Ample lighting also helps deter GTA suspects, place sensor lights around your home as well as the garage. Join your local Neighborhood Watch Group, it is still the best tool we have against crime.

SAFETY TIP

Keep yourself safe at home: lock doors and windows when you are at home alone. Forty percent of home invasions occur because a door or window was left unsecured