

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 642522, L. A., CA 90064

www.northwestdale.com - groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA



Change of date: NWNA — SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 8, 2015 - 7:00 PM

**Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church - Fellowship Hall
11555 National Blvd. Los Angeles, 90064 (Federal and National)**

GUEST :

CONGRESSWOMAN KAREN BASS

COMING - MAY 27 - ELECTION OF NWNA OFFICERS: PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER WANT TO RUN FOR OFFICE ?

Email: martinrubin@earthlink.net - your 150 words or less statement, regarding your intent to run for a specific office, and other campaign information you would like printed in the April and/or May NWNA Newsletter and placed on the NWNA website: www.northwestdale.com.



February 11 NWNA Meeting Attracts More Than 60 Neighbors

All three presentations on the EXPO Line , development, and traffic included lively public discussion.

*Glenda Silva, Exposition
Construction Authority
presents an update on the
EXPO Line progress.*

*Photo by:
Pastor Caleb Crainer*

NWNA OFFICERS

Martin Rubin, President
(310) 479-2529
martinrubin@earthlink.net
Virginia Ernst, Vice President
Joan Winters, Secretary
Matthew Roethlis, Treasurer

Web Master - Andrew Parke
Newsletter Editor - Martin Rubin
LAPD Liaison - Natasha Lopez

NWNA Meetings Wednesdays 7:00 PM

April 8th, 2015
(Karen Bass)

*May 27th, 2015
June 24th, 2015

*Election of officers

**WANTED - Block Captains (& Alternates) - Also:
Apartment Building Captains**
2600 Barrington (east side) / apartment buildings!

Each month, Block Captains receive the proper number of newsletters to deliver to their assigned block(s) or apartment building. You do not need to live on the block you volunteer to do.

Help our neighborhood stay connected.

Have a story idea, news, or an event of interest to the neighborhood?

Deadline for the April, 2015 Newsletter: March 20th, 2015

Call: 310.479.2529 or email: martinrubin@earthlink.net

\$ Thank you to those who have already sent in their dues! \$
Annual Dues - Homeowners & Renters

Please help by making out a \$15 (or more) check payable to "NWNA".

Or, you can bring your dues with you to the April 8th, 2015 - 7:00 PM meeting at Saint Andrew's Church.
You can also use the PAYPAL button at, www.northwestdale.com, or give your donation to your block captain.



President's message: by Martin Rubin

Greetings! Spring will begin Friday, March 20, 3:45 PM.

Our February meeting was very informative with a good turnout of neighbors. For links to important information regarding "ReCodeLA", visit: www.northwestdale.com. Look for links to "Animal Corner", and Crime Reports too.

There will be no meeting this month.

At our **Wednesday, April 8th Special Meeting** we will welcome our **Congresswoman Karen Bass**. I have also invited newly elected **Congressman Ted Lieu** and our **L.A. Councilmember Mike Bonin**. To read Karen Bass's letter to the FAA, see the February, 2014 NWNA Newsletter on our website archive.

Elections are coming in May. If you want to have your name placed on the ballot, email me your 150 word or less statement to be published in the NWNA Newsletter and on our website. Be aware of the newsletter submission deadline.

We are now on par with the past couple years for dues collection. **Thank you to all who have donated!**

Santa Monica Airport issues are at a very important stage now, and I strongly encourage all who are interested in representing your interests, such as health, safety, and quality of life, to please contact me.

I hope to see you all on April 8th at Saint Andrew's to welcome Karen Bass.

Martin Rubin, NWNA President - martinrubin@earthlink.net - 310.479.2529



Go Green!

This newsletter was printed
on eco-friendly paper stock.



Pacific Area Senior Lead Officer - Adrian D. Acosta
37285@lapd.lacity.org - 310.622.3973

Visit: NWNA.com for links to: "L.A.P.D Crime Statistics"

And to "5 Points of Contact" for Pacific Police Division

Anti-Graffiti Request System <http://anti-graffiti.lacity.org/>

Also check out the MyLA311 app for a variety of City Services.

<http://lacity.org/MyLA311/index.htm>





What does a Greatschools.com rating of "5" mean?

By a Richland Parent

I am a proud parent of children who attend, and have attended Richland Avenue. My friends and I have children in High School who are in honors and high honors classes, we truly feel Richland provided our kids a super solid beginning for their education!

Often, when talking to our neighbors, parents will ask us "How could we send our kids to Richland, they only have a "5"? You know what? That "5" means nothing! Really!

AYP scores (By the way, these will no longer be used. Another system is in the works, that will provide a more comprehensive view of a school,) and the greatschools.com ratings are so mysterious and difficult to understand they hold very little merit as a determiner of the value and quality of a school. They are but one small peek into a school, and not a very complete one at that.

Scores and ratings are based on the percentage of students who score proficient or advanced, kind of. Richland tests about 120 students, whereas another school may test over 400 students. Six kids not scoring well will have a greater effect on the percentage than 6 kids with similar scores at a school with more students. By the way, many kids at Richland receive perfect, or near perfect test scores.

Beyond that "5" is where things get exciting! Richland students receive the individualized attention elementary school students deserve. Principal Granade knows all the kids and their families and treats all with respect. He is constantly looking for ways to make our school special through the programs and enrichment he brings in. Teachers have a passion for teaching and bring much to the classroom. If our students need extra support, they get it. Gifted and High Achieving students receive weekly GATE classes. The school has programs with string quartets, authors, assemblies to raise self-esteem, ongoing career talks for our 5th and 6th graders, drumming, outdoor gardening education, screenwriting, sports tournaments, weekly music and so much more!! Booster club is active and vibrant and plans activities to create a strong community.

Come see for yourself that a "5" means nothing! The last Kinder tour is March 26 at 9am. Mr. G is always happy to schedule an appointment and tour if you can't make the tour.

If you are walking around the neighborhood and you run in to Jennifer Karp, Jennifer Kanter, Heather & Norm Jones, Marybeth Micelli & Damien Newton (probably on bikes), Tom & Debi Huang or one of many other Richland families, feel free to stop them and chat about Richland. They are all more than happy to share their experience!!

Open House is scheduled for March 20, come on by. The In-N-Out Truck will be there! We look forward to seeing you at school!

Crime Report By Natasha Lopez - NWA - LAPD Liaison

From the crime mapping and LA crime stats for January for NWA:

By Category: Burglary(3) - GTA (1) - Theft from Vehicle (3) - Personal Theft (2)

By Time of Day: Total crimes midnight through 11:59AM: (5)

Total crimes noon through 11:59PM: (4)

Officer Acosta reminds us of the importance of locking and securing our residences when we are away, even if it's just a short time. Half of the burglaries in the recent surge he witnessed could have been prevented had those residences been secured.

Visit northwestdale.com to view crime statistics archives.

Friends of Daniel Webster Middle School



Booster Club

Contact: 818.554.9155
310.235.4600

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Animal Corner

by Jacquie Jordan

www.northwestdale.com

In my few months of taking in a pair of abandoned domestic cats, I have come to recognize the issue of feral homeless cats in our neighborhood. Feral cats are homeless cats, the wild offspring of domestic cats and are primarily the result of pet owners' abandonment or failure to spay and neuter their animals, allowing them to over populate more unwanted felines. To complicate our neighborhood situation, upon

doing my research, I have come to learn through speaking with organizations such as www.kittybungalow.org, that five years ago, an injunction went into effect ostensibly placing a gag order on City Officials to discuss, refer or finance anything that had to do with Trap, Neuter, Return (TNR). TNR is considered the humane solution to the overpopulation of stray cats through sterilization. This is a successful program in cities all over the United States that cuts the euthanasia rate (I prefer to call it the genocide rate) of unwanted cats to ZERO!

Apparently, a bureaucratic loophole has put this injunction in place and has kept the City's Humane Cat Plan from going into affect. The details, I won't bore you with, nor do I fully understand because the consequence already trumps the reason. If, however, you have more knowledge or require more information, please feel free to email me at JacqJordan@aol.com, or go to kittybungalow.org (Kitty Bungalow:Charm School for Wayward Cats www.kittybungalow.org) which has a full page detailing the injunction. With that said, since this injunction has been in place the result is more unwanted cats, and a higher rate of kill cats at shelters. One can easily dismiss the cats being killed in the shelter as hissy, mangy, feral cats, but the truth is that the fluffy kitten offspring are paying the price with their lives.

N.I.M.B - I remember learning that phrase in college. Not in My Backyard. Unfortunately, this problem is in our backyard, and if we clean it up in our own backyard, we do our neighborhood and the cats, a great service - only having to deal with one generation of homeless cats.

This April is cat mating season. We have two months to organize our own Trap. Neuter. Release program. Remember a pair of breeding cats can have two or more litters per year, which can exponentially produce 420,000 offspring in seven years. I would like to see my \$2.00 increase it's value like that in seven years. The price tag of this neglect in our own neighborhood is that 10,000 cats will be killed this coming year, with some city shelters at a nearly 60% feline kill rate. Our Government Animal Services use Trap and Kill, since Trap, Neuter, and Return cannot be legally discussed at this time.

I'm advocating that our neighborhood do a volunteer - humane Trap, Neuter, Return, in order to create a short-term solution for a long-term problem. If you recognize, notice, or have feral cats identified in your neighborhood, please contact me and we will work with local organizations for free spaying and neutering over the coming weeks. I am also seeking local volunteers to put door hangers on our neighbors front doors with similar information, options, and opportunities, before mating season begins.

In Neighborly Service,
Jacquie Jordan—JacqJordan@aol.com

Journey into Wholeness

Sundays and Wednesdays in Lent
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
11555 National Blvd.



The North Westdale Neighborhood Association
Is in Zone 2 of the
Mar Vista Community Council.



For More Information, Visit:
www.MarVista.org

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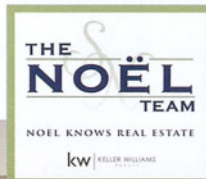
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Deadline for the April, 2015 Newsletter is March 20th, 2015