

North Westdale Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA 90064

www.northwestdale.com



North Westdale

groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA

Coyote traveling on Ceilhunt
towards Richland.



Photo by
Jeff Overton

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT COYOTES

by Joan Winters, NWNA Secretary

When your pets are kept safe, wildlife will be better controlled

I along with two NWNA neighbors recently attended an evening community meeting held at the WLA Animal Shelter on Pico Blvd. Wildlife Officer Hoang Dinh gave a presentation with the topic, "Wildlife in the City of L.A."

We wanted to attend this meeting because last month at least one coyote was sighted in our neighborhood. Neighbors living on streets surrounding Richland Elementary School used social media to document the coyote traveling up and down streets in North Westdale.

Because it was seen by so many, in broad daylight, and in the area by the school, there was reason for concern. Animal services was called and came out into the community. People were told that they don't remove wildlife from neighborhoods unless they actually see and can document an actual attack--at which point the animal will be removed.

We had been working to schedule Officer Dinh to speak at our March 28 NWNA meeting, but unfortunately he had a conflict. We are requesting that he speak at our June 28th NWNA meeting.

At the meeting we three attended at the animal shelter, there were about 12 in attendance, mostly from outside of our immediate area. The wildlife officer conducted the meeting for over two hours, including a question-and-answer session. His presentation was excellent and very informative.

What I learned was surprising to me. Coyotes are actually native to our area, whether we see them or not, they have been here over 50 years, and had done a pretty good job of staying out of sight. Coyotes are highly adaptable to an urban setting. They can be more visible in the Spring, and in the daylight hours between 8 AM and 5 PM. From my meeting notes I thought the following would be of interest to the community: It is L.A. City policy not to remove the coyote from a neighborhood, nor is the City responsible for damage. Coyotes keep the rodent/insect population in check, and they are an important part of our ecosystem. The largest coyote found weighed 37 pounds. They can travel up to 26 miles per night. If some are removed from their established area, more will come to take their place. There has been one human fatality in 1981, in the city of Glendale. They can actually jump or climb over a tall fence or wall if they suspect it would be worth their while. Wildlife is protected from us harming them--it is against the law. If bothered on a walk, throw pine cones or sticks towards them. Pepper spray doesn't work on repelling coyotes. "People change the dynamics in a neighborhood--we need to have a change of thinking," said Officer Dinh, speaking from a humane point of view, and explaining ways to coexist with wildlife. The Humane Society of the United States is also in agreement. He mentioned it is important to target the conditions that attract coyotes. Most important, do not provide food, water and shelter for them, or socialize with them--these are wild animals. No pet food should be left outside for your pet that is in an unprotected area. Keeping your pet safe will help to control wildlife. Change your walking routine when walking your dog. Definitely keep your dog on a six-foot leash, no longer. And Officer Dinh noticed that many dog walkers are distracted by talking on cell phones instead of actually observing and being ready to protect the pet they are walking. In the city, he pointed out that coyotes can habitate in brush areas around freeways, such as we have in our community. They like to sleep in thick shrubbery where they are basically out of sight. The officer mentioned that construction sites are popular coyote hangouts because coyotes learn that discarded food is readily available; also, gardeners have been seen throwing leftover food to coyotes, or leaving it on the property where they work. So basically, what I learned from this meeting is that there are things that we can do to protect ourselves by acknowledging that there are coyotes around, hopefully not in sight, and we can protect our loved ones, including pets, by being vigilant and not making the area attractive for wild animals to have a comfortable life by having food, water and shelter provided to them. This way we can coexist with our native wild animals in a humane way.

Next Meeting - May 23: Election of Officers if necessary, since no one has expressed interest in running, **Interested in running?** - submit your statement of intention **by April 23** to be posted in the May newsletter.

President's message: by Martin Rubin

Dear Neighbors,

I hope this finds you all in good spirits.

Again, I encourage you to send me your contact information so I can add you to my NWN Members email list-serve; allowing communication between monthly newsletters. Let me know what issues are of interest to you and anything else you might want to comment about.

Since the March newsletter, showing the significant decrease in our NWN voluntary dues donations, there was an up-tick through both PayPal and our P.O. Box. Please consider donating earlier rather than later.

2015-\$3,015/2016-\$2,255/2017-\$1,365/2018 (so far)-\$936 (up from last month's \$210)

If just 1/2 of the approximately 1,600 homes, apartments, and condos contributed \$15, we would have \$6,000 to go toward our NWN expenses, that include the monthly newsletter, the rental fees for our NWN meetings at Saint Andrew's, the P.O. box, our annual fall block party, and other expenses. Information on how to pay dues is on the next page. Thank you in advance.

Due to a conflict we rescheduled the "SMO Update" with guest speaker Suja Lowenthal, Senior Advisor to the Santa Monica City Manager for our May 23rd meeting. She asked me to extend her apologies.

Block Captains have always served a **critical roll** in our neighborhood association. My sincere appreciation and thanks to all of you. In recent years, Condo and Apartment building Captains have been added. It is very important that we have the ability to notify our neighbors about topics that are of interest and often include very important issues. I am asking for additional volunteers to help deliver our monthly NWN Newsletters to the doors of our neighbors. Please volunteer. The list of blocks that need a volunteer are listed at the bottom of the next page. You may also volunteer to be an alternate to one of our 50+ Captains.

We meet two more times before summer break. The May 23rd meeting will include the "SMO" update and, if necessary, hold election of officers (see bottom of front page). For our June 27th meeting we are requesting a speaker from the West LA Animal Shelter to give the very informative presentation on "Wildlife in the City of L.A." that Joan wrote about on our front page feature story.

Sunday, April 22nd is Earth Day. It is critical that we all take time to consider how we can adapt our life-styles to enhance the environment of our planet.

Again, no April meeting. Next meeting May 23rd.

Thank you.

Feel free to reach out to me via email or phone.

Martin Rubin - martinrubin@earthlink.net - (310) 479.2529



NORTH WESTDALE CRIMES - JANUARY 21, 2018 to FEBRUARY 12, 2018

Compiled by Martin Rubin from: maps.latimes.com/neighborhoods/neighborhood/sawtelle/crime/

Crime, Location, Date and Time (Address information is generalized by block to help ensure privacy is protected.)

1. Theft-11300National-Feb.24,2:30pm
2. Theft-11300National-Feb.25, Noon
3. Burglary-2600Stoner-March01,5pm
4. Theft from vehicle-2400Centinela-March01-9:45pm
5. Burglary-2500Coolidge-March08,4pm
6. Aggravated assault-2700Sawtelle-March10-3:40pm
7. Theft-2700 Granville-March12,11pm
8. Theft from vehicle-2500Barrington-March13-10pm
9. Grand theft auto-2800Sawtelle-March14,11pm
10. Theft from vehicle-11700National-March16-6pm
11. Burglary-2800Granville-March20,12:30pm
12. Theft from vehicle-Sawtelle and National-March21-4pm



Our Pacific Area Senior Lead Officer: Adrian D. Acosta

37285@lapd.online 310.622.3973



NWNA OFFICERS

Martin Rubin, President

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martinrubin@earthlink.net

Virginia Ernst, Vice President

Joan Winters, Secretary

Matthew Roethle, Treasurer

Web Master - Andrew Parke

Newsletter Editor - Martin Rubin

Assistant Editor - Joan Winters

CALENDAR

April 07, 6:00 PM

MVCC Airport Committee Meeting
Saint Andrew's - Library Meeting Room

April 10, 7:00 PM

MVCC Board of Directors Meeting
Mar Vista Recreation Center

May 05, 6:00 PM

MVCC Airport Committee Meeting
Saint Andrew's - Library Meeting Room

May 08, 7:00 PM

MVCC Board of Directors Meeting
Mar Vista Recreation Center

May 23, 7:00 PM

NWNA Meeting - Saint Andrew's
SMO Update—Election of NWNA officers

MVCC information at: www.marvista.org

May NWNA Newsletter Submission Deadline: April 23

310.479.2529 or email: martinrubin@earthlink.net

Annual Dues - Homeowners & Renters



Please consider sending in your donation earlier rather than wait.
Donations were down last year. This year they are beginning to pick up.



Help our neighborhood association by making out a \$15 (or more) check payable to "NWNA", and mail to: NWNA, P.O. Box 642522, Los Angeles, CA 90064.

You can bring your dues with you to a NWNA meeting at Saint Andrew's Church.

Or use the PAYPAL button on our website, www.northwestdale.com,

Invest in our neighborhood. Your donation is important.

Dues donations update:

In our March NWNA newsletter I expressed the significant NWNA dues donations decrease. Since then, there has been an up-tick via both PayPal and our P.O. Box. However we are still far behind normal.

2018 (so far)-\$936 (up from last month's \$210)

2012-\$2,305/2013-\$2,730/2014-\$2,890/2015-\$3,015/2016-\$2,255/2017-\$1,365



Thank you to those who have already sent in their dues!



BLOCK/CONDO-APARTMENT CAPTAINS NEEDED

Barrington 2700/2800 (east side only) - **Granville** 2400/2500/2700 - **National** 11700/11800
Ocean Park Blvd. (between Centinela and Barrington)

Today, we have "50+" Block Captains who serve a critical roll in keeping our neighbors informed. Once a month they deliver the NWNA Newsletter to each door of their assigned block/condo or apartment building. Your volunteer service will help our efforts to protect our neighborhood.

A STRONG NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION DOES MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

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kw
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May Newsletter Deadline: April 23