

North Westdale Neighborhood Association

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

www.northwestdale.com



North Westdale

groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA

HAPPY EARTH DAY - April 22

May 24 NWNA Meeting

**Guest: LAPD SENIOR LEAD OFFICER
ADRIAN ACOSTA**

plus

Presentation: Security System "The RING video doorbell"

Plus: Election of Officers

*if necessary, since no one has expressed interest in running,
and all four present officers are willing to serve for another year.*

Interested in running to be a NWNA officer?

Please submit your statement of intention by April 27 to be posted in the May newsletter.

North Westdale Neighborhood Association Minutes for March 29, 2017

by Joan Winters - Secretary

Called to order: 7:00 PM Attendance: Approximately 25

Martin Rubin spoke briefly about how he had hoped that our Los Angeles City Councilmember Mike Bonin would be able to attend this meeting since we had advertised it in the NWNA newsletter, but unfortunately he had to decline at the last minute due to family commitments. On SMO, Martin conveyed his disappointment with the City of Santa Monica and the FAA for the, at least, 12-year extension of the airport's closure and the adverse effects he feels will be subjected onto our community by their mutual agreement. He also mentioned the importance of neighborhood involvement, and that in the crime report that he compiles there were fewer crimes. He mentioned the annual NWNA elections in May and mentioned that, so far, no one has stepped forward to run for office. He also mentioned that the four current officers would most likely serve for another term if no one runs for office.

Guest Speaker: Len Nguyen, Senior Field Deputy from Councilmember Bonin's office. Len presided over the meeting for the better part of an hour informing us about current activities in CD 11, and answering questions from attendees regarding their concerns in North Westdale. Neighbors brought up cut-through traffic problems, such as cars speeding and going through stop signs and Len mentioned that during peak cut-through traffic time, police presence is needed. He also discussed with us homeless encampments, no legal sleeping in vehicles, and oversized overnight vehicle parking. Len had mentioned that some of the overnight 2 AM to 6 AM restricted parking signs were mistakenly worded as far as describing the vehicles that are oversized.

For the remainder of the meeting, several neighbors brought up the current situation with Santa Monica Airport, and one neighbor encouraged Len Nguyen to relay to Mike Bonin to encourage our City Attorney Mike Feuer to represent Los Angeles. Len presented a certificate of appreciation to Martin Rubin and Joan Winters for their 15-year work as founders of Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution. Adjournment: 8:20 PM

President's message: by Martin Rubin



Hello Neighbors,

Spring is a great time of the year, and with all of the rains our gardens have certainly benefited from them. And with Earth Day being a little later this month, it is a good time for us to reflect on taking care of our environment in ways that we actually can - such as continued recycling, wise water usage, gardening without chemicals and in an organic manner - which includes not using leaf blowers (which are illegal to use in this city anyway unless they are 500 ft. away from a residence) and generally thinking about selecting plants that are native to our environment. That can actually

be a fun and rewarding thing to do because not only do we reap the rewards of those beautiful California native plants, such as saving water once they are established, we are attracting beneficial insects such as the Monarch butterfly, which appears to be disappearing, and bees which are great pollinators-they too are fewer than ever. Planting milkweed is great to attract Monarchs. Colorful nectar plants such as most of the salvias and quite a bit of native plants attract butterflies, and hummingbirds, of course, love them too. For many years our garden has had a ceanothus-the California blue lilac, which is a great bee attractor, and it is quite beautiful and smells wonderful. These are great ways to attract bees which greatly contribute to our gardens. We are trying to keep up with pulling weeds, brought on by the rains, because besides being unsightly they can choke the sunlight and nutrition from a plant, thus killing it. We know from experience. Those of you who have installed rain barrels are probably benefiting now from the water collected. It's a good feeling to walk over to one and flip up the nozzle to fill up a watering can!

When I think of our environment, Santa Monica Airport always comes to mind, and how it is adversely affecting our community. We often go out on errands to other places in this city, come back to our home and almost always we are struck with the stink of strong jet fuel emissions which are wafting into our neighborhood from a jet (or often more than one) sitting on the runway waiting for clearance from LAX.. It is an absolute shame that the city of Santa Monica, especially touting itself as a very "green city", continues to pollute the residents of the city of Los Angeles, and yes, neighbors near the runway of its own city. We and many constituents of our Los Angeles City Councilman Mike Bonin have been urging him to get the city of Los Angeles involved in protecting the neighborhoods surrounding SMO that he represents, such as our area, Venice, and Mar Vista. It is very clear now that the city of Santa Monica is not going to look out for the residents of another city. That is why we need the strong representation of the great city of Los Angeles, our local government, to help fix a situation that is reprehensible, and should definitely not be overlooked because of city "politics" with another city.

I can be reached via email at martinrubin@earthlink.net or by phone at (310) 479.2529

CRANE FLIES—NOT GIANT MOSQUITOES

By Joan Winters, NWN Secretary

You may be seeing more crane flies than usual this spring because we just had our rainiest winter in years, according to Chris Conlan, San Diego County's supervising vector ecologist.

They're harmless to people and this is the time of year you usually spot them after the rain and as spring temperatures start to warm up. Their bodies sometimes reach an inch or more in length, but they can look even bigger because of their six, long, stilt-like legs. They don't bite; they don't suck blood. In fact, most adult crane flies don't eat at all. Those that do, drink nectar. They're not a public health issue like mosquitoes. Now that their populations are high, and because they're attracted to lights, this is also the time of year they can often get into houses through open doors and windows. An easy way to get them out of the house without killing them is to ease a broom up to them until they rest on it, and then take it out and shake it free.

To keep them from coming in, one thing you can do is turn off your porch lights, limit your outside lighting or retrofit them with yellow bug lights. That way fewer crane flies will be drawn to the light, where they can fly into your house when you open the door. Once again, crane flies can't hurt you. They're ungainly, but they're harmless.

Since this is the month of Earth Day, please consider not using chemicals around your house and garden that can harm children, pets, birds and beneficial insects such as ladybugs, bees and butterflies. It has been established that the best gardens are maintained organically.

Happy Earth Day !

NWNA OFFICERS

Martin Rubin, President
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Virginia Ernst, Vice President

Joan Winters, Secretary

Matthew Roethle, Treasurer

Web Master - Andrew Parke

Newsletter Editor - Martin Rubin

Public Relations - Tiffany Allegretti

C A L E N D A R

May 06, 6:00 PM

MVCC Airport Committee Meeting

May 09, 7:00 PM

MVCC Board of Directors Meeting

May 24, 7:00 PM

NWNA Meeting / Officers Election

June 03, 6:00 PM

MVCC Airport Committee Meeting

June 13, 7:00 PM

MVCC Board of Directors Meeting

June 28, 7:00 PM

NWNA Meeting

Saturday, Sept. 09

NWNA Fall Block Party

NWNA Newsletter Submissions

May Newsletter
Deadline: April 27

Call: 310.479.2529

or email: martinrubin@earthlink.net

MVCC AIRPORT COMMITTEE

Meets the first Saturday of each month at 6 PM at Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church
11555 National Blvd. , (in the library) Next meeting: May 6

<http://www.marvista.org/airport-committee.php>



NORTH WESTDALE CRIMES - FEB 26 to MARCH 30, 2017

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. **Burglary**-2700 Armacost-March 7, 5 pm
2. **Theft from vehicle**-Richland & Barrington-March 9, 2 pm
3. **Theft** - National & Sawtelle-March 21, 2:15 pm
4. **Theft** - 11400 National-March 21, 5 pm
5. **Aggravated assault**-National & Inglewood-March 30, 7:20 pm
6. **Theft** - 12200 Sunsetpark Way-March 30, 10 pm

Our Pacific Area Senior Lead Officer:

Adrian D. Acosta

37285@lapd.online - 310.622.3973

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Five-story residential project planned near the Expo Line in West LA

129 units would replace a Sawtelle strip mall

According to an article in Curbed Los Angeles -
by Elijah Chiland -April 2, 2017

A strip mall in Sawtelle could soon make way for a new residential development with 129 units, according to an initial study published on the Department of City Planning website [<http://planning.lacity.org/>] last week. The five-story, DFH

Architects-designed structure would be built atop a two-level underground parking structure with 154 spaces for cars and an additional 146 spaces for bikes. 17,776 square feet of open space would also be featured in the project, while proposed amenities for residents include a gym, barbecue area, lounge, and rooftop community garden.

Of the 129 units, 63 will be studios, 60 will be one-bedrooms, and the remaining six will be two-bedroom units. 15 of the total units will be set aside for residents making less than half of the median income in the area, though it's not clear what size those units will be.

Located at 11460 Gateway Boulevard, the project site is convenient to the Expo Line, sitting roughly halfway between the Sepulveda and the Bundy stops. It's one of many projects planned along the newly extended light rail route. Those include the huge Casden West LA project set to rise at Pico and Sepulveda and the flashy Martin Expo Town Center, which could soon replace a Cadillac/GMC dealership at Olympic and Bundy. According to the study, construction on the project will begin in 2018, wrapping up about 20 months later.

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May Newsletter Deadline: April 27