October, 2016 Volume 37 - Issue 2

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



www.northwesdale.com North Westdale groups.yahoo.com/group/NWNA



Saturday, October 22 - 8 AM to 3 PM



12th Annual Neighborhood-Wide NWNA - MEGA Garage Sale

Take advantage of this opportunity to clear out clutter and things gathering dust in your house & make extra money! NWNA requests a registration donation of \$5.

Register with your name, address, and contact information. Deadline is October 14!

E-mail martinrubin@earthlink.net or call 310-479-2529

NWNA Meeting: Wed. Oct. 26 - 7 pm Guest speaker:



Los Angeles Police Department Senior Lead Officer Adrian Acosta



@ Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church 11555 National Boulevard, L. A. 90064

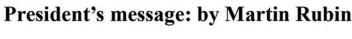
Community spirit on display at 3rd Annual NWNA Fall Block Party

by Joan Winters

The Polytones - photo by Tiffany Allegretti

The most amazing thing about last month's party, which we held in the parking lot at Saint Andrews, was seeing the enthusiasm and joy of the attendees. It was a happy event! This was community spirit on display, at its very best. The big bounce house, huge balloon sculptures made by clowns, and bubbles galore, attracted and excited the younger set. Our VP, Virginia Ernst and her sister Mary Delecki, hosted the Bake Sale for the third year. They, along with other neighbors, contributed delightful bakery items. The sale brought in \$50.00 to our treasury--and people left smiling with their purchases. Virginia mentioned to me how she also enjoyed talking with new neighbors. We were once again fortunate to have Monte Montgomery, his wife Claire, and Sharyn Scott, otherwise known as

the Polytones, perform for the third year. They are such a talented singing group, and they are neighbors of this community; you might even see Monte riding his bike. Monte was also the MC, stage manager, and sound engineer.





Hello Neighbors,

First off, I want to say how pleased I was to see everybody, young and old, enjoying themselves at our NWNA fall block party. It made all the planning and hard work worthwhile. My sincere thank you goes out to our sponsors; Councilmember Mike Bonin for the stage, tables and chairs; realtor Sherri Noel for sponsoring the talent, Mar Vista Community Council for covering the cost of the venue, Pastor Caleb and Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church staff, for their full cooperation on every level. Thank you to all who

entertained us. Thank you to all our volunteers and to all who came out to partake in welcoming fall and a new year for NWNA. Our stage manager and MC and keyboardist, Monte Montgomery, who also performs along with the Polytones, is a big reason for the success of our fall party. NWNA Vice President Virginia Ernst hosted the bake sale, and Natalie McAdams assisted with event details.

On Saturday, October 22, from 8 am to 3 pm, NWNA will hold it's 12th annual Mega Garage Sale. Resident's participate by setting their items out at their homes and we send out notice of the event via social media and other online ads for garage sales. A map of the homes participating will be sent out as well. Sign-up early. The deadline is October 14.

A number of neighbors have expressed concern regarding a noticeable up-tick in crime in our neighborhood. Several met to discuss initiating a neighborhood watch. Read Tiffany Allegretti's summary of the meeting on the next page, and please attend our October 26 meeting with LAPD Officer Adrian Acosta, 7 PM at Saint Andrew's. This will be our last NWNA meeting this year. However, our monthly newsletters will continue, and I am available by phone or email.

Our first meeting in 2017 will take place on January 25 with our guest speakers, Richland Avenue Elementary School Principal Gerard Granade and Daniel Webster Middle School Principal Peter Benefiel.

The Mar Vista Community Council appointed **Damien Newton** as Zone 2 Director. Zone 2 is North Westdale. I encourage all to participate in our neighborhood groups. The NWNA and the MVCC are here to amplify our community concerns.

The battle to close Santa Monica Airport continues. Official eviction notices have been sent to the two remaining Fixed Base Operators (FBO). The City of Santa Monica will then take over the operations of the FBOs and limit what services are offered to the minimal legally required. That's what I understand the plan to be. Several legal actions are already underway and a few more are possible. It is critical that we in North Westdale make our voices heard. Now is the time. The quality of the air you breathe is at stake; and much more too! Your involvement will make a difference. I speak from 20 years experience fighting for our air quality, as many of you already know. Please feel free to call or email me for more information.

I look forward to a productive year, and I hope to see many of you at our NWNA meeting with Officer Acosta on October 26.

Community spirit ... continued from front page (more photos on back page)

Speaking of neighbors, North Westdale continues to have plenty of talent. We wish to thank again local realtor Sherri Noel for sponsoring the talent show. We were disappointed that several of our acts had bad colds, etc., and weren't up to performing, but others did. Carolyn Goldman, another third-year veteran of the Block Party, was a real trooper and performed even though she had been ill earlier in the week. She sang two songs, including a request for Peter, Paul and Mary's "Puff the Magic Dragon," and asked that the audience sing along--quite fun, and

thank you again Carolyn. Radio Drive neighbor, Kyle Jones' son Moses, performed "Ode to Joy" by Beethoven. Kyle played guitar and sang Pearl Jam's "Elderly Women Behind the Counter in a Small Town" and teamed with his friend Eric Mercaldo on keyboard to perform an original Radiodriver number, "Standing Still." Martin Rubin, our NWNA president even got into the spirit and sang impromptu and without music, a verse of Bob Dylan's, "The Times They Are a Changing"-and he remembered the words! Five year old Emma Tjandrawidjaja sang "When You Believe" originally by Whitney Houston and Mariah Carey. She also sang Celine Dion's, "My Heart Will Go On." Her father, Arman, appreciated that Emma got this opportunity to perform at the block party. He said they had a great time and made new friends too!



Emma - Photo by Tiffany Allegretti

To everyone who performed, thank you for giving of yourselves, and for having the community spirit.

CALENDAR

Saturday, October 22: MEGA Garage Sale Wednesday, October 26: NWNA Meeting Wednesday, January 25, 2017: NWNA Meeting

Submit to the NWNA Newsletter

November Newsletter <u>Deadline</u>: October 23rd

Call: 310.479.2529 or email: martinrubin@earthlink.net

NWNA OFFICERS

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Virginia Ernst, Vice President
Joan Winters, Secretary
Matthew Roethle, Treasurer
Web Marten, Andrew Parks

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Support Your North Westdale Neighborhood.

September starts a new year for NWNA dues. Help our neighborhood association by making out a \$15 (or more) check payable to "NWNA". mail to: NWNA, P.O. Box 642522, L.A., CA 90064. You can also use the PAYPAL button on our website, www.northwestdale.com. NWNA expenses include the printing of our monthly newsletters, the rental of our meeting hall and special-meeting refreshments, website hosting, post office box rental, events like our Fall Block Party, and other expenses.

Whether you own or rent, please invest in our neighborhood.

NORTH WESTDALE CRIMES - FROM: AUGUST 24 to SEPTEMBER 20

FROM: maps.latimes.com/neighborhoods/neighborhood/sawtelle/crime/ - Compiled by Martin Rubin Location, Crime, Date and time (Address information is generalized by block to help ensure privacy is protected.)

/ 11300 Graham Place-Aggravated assault-Aug. 25, 7:45 am / Purdue and Pearl-Theft from vehicle-Aug. 26, 1:40 pm / 2500 Granville-Theft from vehicle-Aug. 26, 3:30 pm / 2700 Butler-Burglary-Aug. 27, 10 am / 2400 Purdue-Theft from vehicle-Aug. 27, 11 pm / 2400 Stoner-Theft from vehicle-Aug. 28, 5 pm. / 2800 Granville-Theft from vehicle-Aug. 28, 10:30 pm / 2800 Sawtelle-Theft from vehicle-Sept. 3, 6 am / 11800 Radio Drive-Theft-Sept. 3, 7 pm / 2400 Corinth-Theft from vehicle-Sept. 5, 3 pm / 11500 Clarkson Road-Burglary-Sept. 7, 2:30 pm / 2600 Stoner-Burglary-Sept. 8, 3 pm / 2500 Westgate-Burglary-Sept. 8, 4:30 pm / 2600 Stoner-Burglary-Sept. 8, 10 pm / 2400 Barrington-Burglary-Sept. 12, 10:14 am / 2500 Amherst-Burglary-Sept. 12, 3:30 pm / 11300 National-Theft-Sept. 14, 10:20 am

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

NORTH WESTDALE RESIDENTS MEET TO DISCUSS NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUP - by Tiffany Allegretti

With many concerned about a recent uptick in vandalism and burglaries and other property crimes, neighbors recently met with Pacific area senior lead officer Adrian Acosta and his partner Juan Ceja of the Los Angeles Police Department to form a neighborhood watch group. If there was one takeaway. "If you see something out of the ordinary, it's worth making a call," said Officer Acosta. Reporting crime is important because it determines how resources are allocated. LAPD allocates it patrol resources based upon where crimes have been reported. If you don't report crime, we may not be allocated the needed patrols to deter those crimes in the future.

Additionally, the lively discussion included common sense tips and practical advice to help neighbors be aware and vigilant. The officers shared some of the most recent methods employed by those who seemed to be looking to commit property crimes. For example, there have been recent reports of "students" going door-to-door soliciting donations for Venice High School. Officer Acosta pointed out that Venice High School does not participate in door-to-door solicitation. Some solicitors even go door-to-door in an information gathering expedition. With these examples in mind, it's important to be careful when dealing with strangers who come to your door. The officers offered the following advice: When a stranger knocks on your door, it is important to acknowledge the knock to let it be known you are home, just don't make yourself a target. Don't open the door too widely to solicitors. They may be scoping out your home for valuables to come back and steal later. Don't answer questions from solicitors because they may be trying to glean information to help them to know when you or your family members are home, how many people live with you, etc. And whatever you do, do not give any solicitor a check. A check reveals your bank and account number, which can be leveraged for identity theft, bank fraud and other crimes.

Officer Acosta reminded the group that the holidays are approaching, which means an increase in the number of packages delivered to homes all over the nation. Employing some easy to implement strategies can keep your shipments secure. Track your packages and know when they are arriving. Go online and register for an account with UPS, FedEx and the USPS-this is free. Each will send you notifications (text or email) of when packages will be delivered to you. Some shippers even allow you to make alternative arrangements to have a package delivered to a different location or at a different time that is more convenient for you. Be careful when disposing of packaging. An iMac box or cute Tiffany blue bag are confirmation that your home has high priced property that may make you a target.

Lastly, don't leave anything in your car. Even a cell phone charger or a handful of change within sight can be enough to encourage a break in. If at all possible, take your belongings with you and keep them out of sight. Organize block by block. Know your neighbors and look out for each other. If you are looking to install surveillance cameras, make sure you they function in low light, have sufficient image quality and store at least 10 days worth of data. All residents are also invited to join the NWNA Yahoo Group to stay on top of the latest goings on in the area. "People call us the first responders, no you are the first responders. You are our eyes and our ears. If you see something say something," said Officer Ceja.



Photos by Tiffany Allegretti



Kyle & Eric

Block Party 2016



Martin Rubin & Mike Bonin



Emma



Carolyn Goldman





2 Photos by Veronica Barr



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To inquire: call 310-479-2529 or email: martinrubin@earthlink.net Deadline for the November Newsletter: October 23rd