

Plan to Attend

# WHPOA ANNUAL ELECTION MEETING

**WEDNESDAY  
NOV. 10,  
2004**

**VILLAGE  
CHURCH OF  
WESTWOOD**

**343 CHURCH LANE**

**7:15 p.m.**

**Speaker:  
Los Angeles City  
Councilman  
JACK WEISS**

**Special Guest:  
Senior Librarian of  
the new Westwood  
Branch Library  
CHERYL COLLINS**

**Refreshments  
Hosted by  
WHOLE FOODS  
MARKET  
Gayley Avenue  
Westwood**

# NEWS

WESTWOOD HILLS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER FALL 2004

## Neighborhood Security, New Library Highlight Annual Meeting

**O**ur Westwood Hills Property Owners Association Annual Meeting has become a favorite fall event for the neighborhood. It is our annual chance to introduce and honor our new members. Also it is a wonderful opportunity to say hello to our friends and neighbors and to meet our City Councilman, Jack Weiss, who is our featured speaker. The agenda provides time for socializing over refreshments provided by our most wonderful neighborhood market—WHOLE FOODS. Thanks again to manager Dave Gonzales, who is our

host for the second year.

Our LAPD Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore will be on hand to represent the Los Angeles Police Department. Our new Neighborhood Watch block captains will be introduced at the meeting, along with Security Committee chair Lori Fontanes.

With the new Westwood Branch Library nearing completion on Glendon Avenue south of Wilshire, it is not to soon to begin to think about how we can enjoy and contribute to this new community treasure. Our very special guest, Senior Librarian

Cheryl Collins will give us the latest information about the new library's plans and a new Friends of the Westwood Library group that is forming. Help us to extend the warmest welcome to Cheryl and this long-awaited addition to our community.

It wouldn't be Westwood if we didn't talk about traffic. Our traffic wizard Debbie Nussbaum will be on hand to collect your additions to her "to do" list. As always we will begin the meeting by electing I elect new members to serve on the Board.. See you there.

**L**ooking back is not always a pleasure, but this year we have a lot to be happy about. For example, the Los Angeles City Council approved a version of the Palazzo Westwood project at Weyburn and Glendon that is much closer to the project envisioned in the Westwood Village Specific Plan that the one first brought forward. For that, we owe thanks to Laura Lake and Save Westwood Village, to the many Westwood Hills neighbors who spoke out in favor of sensible, balanced development in the Village, and, of course, to our Councilmember Jack Weiss, who came through for us in many ways. After ten years of controversy about how this site will be developed, the approved project will provide for more housing and less retail, improved parking and traffic circulation on Glendon Ave. and preservation of Glendon Manor, an historic Westwood Village residential building.



**Looking forward**, we still have a lot on our plates. The Federal Government appears to be pressing forward with plans to build a million square feet of office and service facilities, with limited parking, alongside the existing Federal Building at Wilshire Blvd. and Veteran Ave. An environmental impact report on that project is expected later this year or early next. The Veteran's Administration is studying ways to develop its property, and UCLA continues to find buildings to expand and replace. Thankfully for those of us who use Veteran Avenue, the graduate student housing project is scheduled for full occupancy by the Winter quarter. New housing for undergraduate students will be coming on line on the north campus later next year but we will have to wait until 2006 for the opening of the new replacement hospital, which is behind schedule due to tardy state inspection. Construction of an addition to the Kreiger Child Care Center at Sunset and Bellagio Way is set for early next year.

**Great news** is that our neighborhood continues to attract energetic and active new homeowners and families and our WHPOA continues to thrive. Now *that* is something to look forward to and to get excited about.

Thanks as always for being wonderful neighbors.

Carole Magnuson  
President

## Traffic Report

### Good News!

**A** few traffic calming measures are scheduled to be implemented in Westwood Hills. The aim is to minimize the impact of commuter traffic in our residential neighborhood.

On westbound Montana at Glenroy **LIMIT LINES** will be added to the **KEEP CLEAR** message on the road. **LIMIT LINES** mark the intersection and show motorists where to stop to keep the intersection clear. This should help residents exit from and turn onto Glenroy when evening westbound traffic backs up on Montana.

### Speeding Problem

Speeding on Bentley, Cashmere, Greenfield, and Glenroy avenues is routinely observed. In response to resident complaints, LAPD has recently been ticketing motorists on Glenroy for traveling 35 mph or greater. LADOT has agreed to make **ALL WAY STOP SIGNS** at the intersections of: Greenfield & Cashmere; Cashmere & Denslow; and Bronwood & Glenroy. This will break up the long expanses of street where higher speeds can be achieved. Apologies to residents for any inconvenience but slowing traffic means greater safety for all.

Why stop signs and not speed bumps? The

city Traffic Calming Budget for speed bumps recently was cut \$585,000 leaving only \$330,000 per year. Because of the reduced funds, the criteria for speed bump locations are being tightened and streets with slopes will have a difficult time qualifying.

### Safety Program

A recent accident on Montana at Levering, has brought many suggestions on what to do to improve safety on Montana. Any steps taken must take into account the need to minimize additional traffic and cut through traffic on Westwood Hills' small residential streets.

Traffic slowing measures for Montana will be attempted. Given the heavy traffic volume on Montana, the project for improving safety by reducing excessive speed is an important task. Watch for neighborhood signs, speed radar trailers, and possibly edge lines in an attempt to reduce speeders. Slower moving traffic naturally creates a safer environment. It makes turning onto Montana from residential streets safer by affording more time to complete a turn because cars are closing the distance between first being sighted on twisty Montana and the intersection at a slower rate. Pedestrians, as well as old and new drivers are allotted greater reaction time and safety at slower speeds. With all the cell

phones and other distractions drivers have, maybe the speed limit on Montana should be reduced to 25 mph.

Opinions and ideas are always welcome.

—Deborah Nussbaum,  
Traffic Committee

### Watch the Road campaign sponsored by Operation Traffic

Watch the Road is an education and awareness campaign designed to reduce the bad behavior of roadway users in Los Angeles County that contribute to traffic crashes. The campaign targets drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists; its goals are to save lives, reduce injuries and relieve traffic congestion.

Top Ten Roadway User Bad Behaviors:

- 1.. Driving too fast for conditions
2. Aggressive driving
3. Inattentive driving (e.g., cell phone)
4. Driving / Cycling / running through red traffic lights
5. Driving Under the Influence (DUI)
6. Not yielding to pedestrians
7. Walking without looking
8. Walking outside crosswalks
9. Cycling against traffic
10. Not buckling up!

Learn more about the program at [www.watchtheroad.org](http://www.watchtheroad.org)

## Crime Report

According to our Los Angeles Police Department Senior Lead Officer Michael Moore, our neighborhood crime rate is holding steady at about three incidents reported each month. Most of the crime reported in Westwood Hills between June and mid-September involved thefts of and from automobiles. Three exceptions include a purse snatching that occurred in the early morning hours on Sepulveda Blvd. in June and two home burglaries.

### Home burglaries

Police said a thief entered a home in the 100 block of Veteran Ave. through an open window about 9:20 a.m. on Sept. 2. Sometime between Aug. 31 and Sept. 2, burglars used a dog door to gain access to a home in the 200 block of Greenfield Ave. Items of value were taken from both homes. Police caution homeowners to secure their homes and set alarms during daytime and evening hours.

### Car thefts and break-ins

In June, a Porsche was stolen from the 100 block of Denslow and thieves broke into vehicles parked during the day on Veteran near Sunset In July and August cars were stolen from the 100 block of Bronwood and the 300 block of Dalkeith.

Property was stolen from an unlocked car parked on Bentley Avenue, front and rear license plates were taken from an unlocked Volvo parked on Ophir Drive and thieves broke into a car parked in the 100 block of Bronwood.

In late October, residents in the 300 block of Thurston observed two white men using a flashlight to look into cars parked on the street and in driveways and later attempting to break a car window with a crow bar. The suspects drove away in a black pick-up truck.

## Neighborhood

### Automatic Gas Shut-off valves

In the event of an earthquake, a broken gas pipe could create a devastating fire that could easily spread to other surrounding homes throughout our neighborhood. It is a good idea and a safety benefit to the entire neighborhood to have automatic gas shut-off valves installed in as many homes as possible. These valves are now required by law when you sell your house.

Many older homes have the gas meter installed under the house. This exacerbates the potential for fire in the event of a broken gas pipe because gas builds up in such an enclosed area, rather than being dissipated into the open air. The Southern California Gas Company will come

out and give a free estimate of what would be involved in moving the gas meter to a safer location outside the house.

Linda Trozzolino, a neighbor on Montana Ave., is spearheading an effort to make homeowners aware of the value of cut-off valves and is willing provide information and to put you in touch with her contractor. She may be reached at [trozzolino@aol.com](mailto:trozzolino@aol.com) or 310-471-8646.

### Parking warning:

Many of our streets don't meet the City's standards for parking on both sides because they are less than 28 feet wide. New fire equipment is wider than older models. The result is that emergency access on narrow streets can become blocked when large vehicles park opposite each other. This happened on Ophir Drive this summer when the Fire Department was blocked by parked cars when responding to an emergency call. As a result, the Fire Department asked the City to restrict parking on Ophir Drive to one side of the street only—reducing on-street parking from 100 spaces to just 50, and causing considerable hardship to residents of a street already burdened by illegal student parking.

Don't let this happen on your street! Ask your neighbors to park sensibly and to require that their contractors do the same.

**Question:** Is it a good idea to put out peanuts and birdseed to feed birds in your yard?

**Answer:** Our ornithologists says "No". Our environment produces abundant food for both seed and insect eaters. Birds don't need the food and feeding birds seeds or peanuts attracts ravens, doves, or, much worse, squirrels and rats who destroy our gardens and homes, and spread disease. Not to mention encouraging the occasional raccoon.

## Board of Directors Nominated

New Board of Directors members are elected each year at the Annual Meeting from a slate proposed by a nominating committee comprising three Board members and two non-Board members. The Committee, which this year was chaired by Harriet Miller, generally seeks homeowners who represent all geographical areas of our neighborhood. The Board chooses officers of the Association at its first meeting of the year.

Members nominated for the 2004-2005 Board are **Margot Barron** (Tavistock); **Judith Summers Brown** (S. Bentley); **Barbara Dobkin** (Tilden); **Carole Magnuson** (Ophir); **Deborah Nussbaum** (Cashmere Terrace); **Susan Polep** (Barlock); **LeAnne Schwartz** (Glenroy); **Jay Slater** (Cashmere Terrace); **Terry Tegnazian** (Cashmere).

Directors who will be serving the second year of their 2-year terms are **Aphrodite Banks** (Veteran); **Lori Fontanes** (Dalkeith); **Leona Heritage** (Denslow); **Wayne Hodges** (Thurston); **Martin Kaplan** (Sunset); **Larry Londre** (Cashmere); **Alvin Milder** (Greenfield) and **Harriet Miller** (Cashmere).

## Welcome New Members

WHPOA welcomes new members: **George and Tatiana Linscott** (Bronwood); **Terry and Mayer Akhtarzad**; **Nicholas and Amanda Weinstock**; **Jeff and Kathryn Cutter**, (Cashmere); **Laura La-Corte and Andrew Reif**; **Sarah and James Pearson**, (Denslow); **Matthew V. and Joanne D. Pauley**; **Michael and Jennifer Revy**; **Bryan and Carol Haserjian**, (Glenroy); **Robert Thayer and Sandra Smith Thayer** (Homedale); **Sandra W. Sherman** (Levering) **Rebecca and Wilbank Roche**, (Tavistock); **Ryan and Victoria O'Hara**, (Thurston); **Glenn C. Robbins**, (Veteran Ave).

### Westwood Hills Property Owners Association

Carole Magnuson  
*President*

Alvin Milder  
*Vice President*

Margot Barron  
*Treasurer*

Susan Polep  
*Secretary*

*Directors*  
Aphrodite Banks  
Karen Fields  
Leona Heritage  
Wayne Hodges  
Martin Kaplan  
Harriet Miller  
Deborah Nussbaum  
LeAnne Schwartz

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## Block Party Has Lasting Benefits

Recently I was talking with WHPOA president, Carole Magnuson, about all of the neighborly things that have come out of the last two **Cashmere, Tilden & Montana Neighbor Block Parties**. Our goals were met: **"get neighbors to chat. Let's meet and greet each other in our neighborhood."**

We now have a weekly Wednesday Night Walkers at UCLA, dinner parties and other neighborly get-togethers. People wave to each other as they walk their dogs or wash cars. We had two families who lived across Cashmere for more than 20 years talk and introduce themselves. Amazing how small the neighborhood becomes.

Here's a little about the block party. We had a few founding families (**Patti & Larry Londre, Dana & Don Lumpkin, Linda Trozzolino, Susan & Bill Armistead, Margie & Peter Morgan, Asa & Steven Tucker, Bill & Evelyn Savage**) who were the core planning and producing group. Then we invited everyone using emails, signs, posters and this newsletter.

Another goal was to not spend money and to have no costs for entrance by hosting it potluck. It seems like everyone wants to be a part. Neighbors loaned tables and coffee pots, brought name tags, hot dogs, enchiladas, brownies, salads, fruit and vegetables and dip, soft drinks, lemonade, and more. Music comes from a CD player. And a tent shaded our driveway - very comfortable.

Think about a party that you don't have to drive to, this spring or summer?

One of the most important things is to get the word out. A sample of our flyer is posted under "Files" on the WHPOA groups website. We've already picked our date for June 2005. Our Cashmere Tilden, Montana Block Party is scheduled for Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from Noon to 4PM. See you there.

—Larry Steven Londre, Board of Director and Membership Chair