



# Westlake Charter News

Volume 1, Issue 4

April 18, 2008

**Westlake Charter School**

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## Welcome our new W.A.V.E leaders

### Congratulations to our WAVE Officers-Elect!

Elections were held Tuesday and I must say I am thrilled with the outcome! Three very capable parents were elected and, since the election, have already confirmed a future appointment for Treasurer! Do you personally know these parents? Please read about them online at [http://westlakecharter.com/wave\\_home.php#Meetings](http://westlakecharter.com/wave_home.php#Meetings) (from the WAVE pull-down menu) or see their statements in the office.

Here are some words I would use to describe them:

**Scott Williams, VP of Business:** Self-initiating, reliable, sensible, wise, thorough, pleasant, courteous, and bold

**Paul Hobie, VP of Parent Participation:** Involved, available and flexible, easy-going, friendly, diplomatic, dependable, and humorous

**Ann Alan, Secretary:** Detail oriented, behind-the-scenes, amiable, kind, thoughtful, consistent, conscientious and caring

**Emily Chan, Treasurer:** CPA, energetic, resourceful, productive, cheerful, team-player, trustworthy and diligent

Please show them your support as we transition our leadership over the next few months. The new officers will officially take their positions on July 1<sup>st</sup>. Yes, they will be looking for a President who shares their passion for the school and who will represent the WAVE to the WCS Board, administration and parents.

This team is great news for our future, but there's still major work to be done this year! Look in this issue for information on the **International Festival**, the "**Night in Natomas**" **Auction** and many other ways parents can make a difference at WCS. Let's finish this year at an even higher place than last year!

Peggy McAllister  
W.A.V.E. President

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## WCS Students Give Back to the Community Locally and Globally

Our students have been hard at work all year exercising their community service skills.

A major goal of Student Council is to become an active leader in the community service projects that WCS students undertake each year. **The first project they are tackling is Creek Clean-up on April 26th.** Student Council and the 4th graders took part in the "Digging into Creeks" educational program offered by the Effie Yeaw Nature Center on Thursday, April 10th. The focus of this program is to develop awareness and understanding of community creeks as part of a larger watershed system and to reinforce the importance of protecting creek habitats and wildlife. Students enjoyed a slide show which included photos of previous Creek Clean-up Days. The students are motivated more than ever to doing their part to clean-up our local creeks. And they are motivating their younger peers also by sharing all that they learned on this program.

In addition to creating a flier about this event, Student Council Class Representatives are going to their respective

*(Continued on page 3)*

## Parent Participation Opportunities

Here is a current listing of opportunities to earn hours. It's also a great way to learn what's happening, get involved, and meet great people.

- **Auction Planning meetings**

April 19 @ 9:00am

April 23 @ 7:00pm, Spanish room

Tracy Roman 649-3259 or [romanclan5@yahoo.com](mailto:romanclan5@yahoo.com)



- **Thank You Thursdays (April 24)**

Help our Hospitality Team say "Thanks" to our staff this month

Danielle Steuben 927-4558 or [danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov](mailto:danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov)

- **Creek Clean-up**

April 26 @ 9:00am, Steelhead Creek

Cynthia Ortiz 515-1786 or [ortizlink@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ortizlink@sbcglobal.net)

- **Yard duty**—help us give the kids more freedom to play in both the playground and the fields during recess. Plus it allows the school to put additional staffing \$ into the classrooms instead! Contact the office.

- **Campus monitoring**

- **Library help**

Wednesdays and Thursdays



More parent participation hours available on the Parent Participation Page of the WCS website. Check back often for updated opportunities.

## Family Fun

Here are some fun ideas to do this month. Go with other Westlake families or maybe you'll meet some there and make some new friends.

### PJ & Game Night—April 18 @ 6:00-8:30pm



Come in your PJ's, play some games, and just have a fun evening with other families! Best of all, it's FREE!!!

Location: NMS multipurpose room

Brought to you by the Community Building/Hospitality Team.

### Creek Clean-up— April 26 @ 9:00am

Due to overwhelming number of volunteers, we now have two sites.

See pg 5 for details and directions.

Cynthia at 515-1786 or [ortizlink@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ortizlink@sbcglobal.net)

Earn Parent Hours at the same time!



### WCS Art Exhibit & Capitol Tour—

April 24 @ 4:00pm

Contact Jenn Short 319-2008 for reservations.

### UCDavis Picnic Day—April 19 @ 9:00am

This annual Open House is fun for the whole family.

Visit [picnicday.ucdavis.edu](http://picnicday.ucdavis.edu) for more information.

Got an idea or group/club and would like to invite fellow Westlake families? Email [newsatwcs@gmail.com](mailto:newsatwcs@gmail.com)

## Think on this ...



### How many is 6000?

Imagine how many cans and bottles that is. Would it fill a car? A room? That is how much we have kept out of our landfills.

Good work everyone!!!

# School News

(Continued from page 1)

classes to talk to the students about the importance of creeks and delivering Creek Clean-up posters and bookmarks. The Council also plans on having a small station set up by Steelhead Creek with items such as magnifying glasses, nets, creature peepers, and clipboards so children can explore the creek when they are done with the clean-up effort.

The second project the Council is tackling is the **Recycling for the Heifer International Project**. Student Council members are picking up bottles and cans from the classrooms on a weekly basis. Each class is striving to be able to purchase a gift of an animal. Here are their goals:

- |                             |                         |                         |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Burwinkel - Honeybees       | Smith - Trio of Rabbits | Skipper - Water Buffalo |
| Stevenson - Flock of Ducks  | Thorall - Goat          | Crenshaw - Heifer       |
| Hightower - Flock of Chicks | Maynard - Pig           |                         |
| Osterhoudt - Sheep          | Rog - Llama             |                         |
| Acquisto - Flock of Geese   |                         |                         |

To date, our school has made \$325 from recycling. **That is over 6000 bottles and cans recycled so far.** Way to go! Not only are our kids helping end world hunger, but they are also helping the environment by being active recyclers. For more information, you can visit the website [www.heifer.org](http://www.heifer.org).

In addition, Mrs. Burwinkel is in the process of making a video about the Heifer International Project at our school. The hope is to raise awareness in the community (businesses and our families) and to obtain donations to the project efforts. The Executive members of the Student Council have already been videotaped explaining the origins of Heifer International and its purpose. In the upcoming weeks, each class will be filmed for the movie/commercial.

Remember to keep collecting those recyclables! **Only plastic and aluminum drink containers** (look for the CA Redemption Value sign) can be turned in for cash. And please remove any plastic lids.

## Thank You...

... to **Craig Smith** for donating our new WCS Recycling banner!

... to **Urban Creeks Council of Sacramento** and **WAVE** for sponsoring the "Dipping into the Creeks in the Classroom"

## Spring is Here...



The students at WCS would like to report that our garden is growing well. All the vegetables are now labeled in English and Spanish to help us learn. All 233 students have had a chance to plant various flowers and vegetables including herbs, red potatoes, carrots, beets, strawberries, eggplant, cucumbers and pumpkins.

About 15 of us were there recently when our gardener came to water the garden and he harvested five big broccoli heads which were ready. We all quickly ate them raw in about 10 minutes.

The lettuce and radishes are almost ready to harvest and we ask our fellow students to not pick any vegetables unless our teacher or gardener is there and says it's OK to pick them.



Please take time to come by and look at our garden.



*courtesy of Paul Hobie and our WCS Gardener*

# Announcements



- ‘We Love Our Teachers’ Box Tops contest is going now until May 1st. The class that collects the most Box Tops will win flowers for their teacher during Teacher Appreciation Week.

- **International Festival** is May 17th. **We need more booth volunteers** to make this event a success. It's so easy and fun. Don't believe me? Ask us what's involved.

Contacts: Cathi Nanni [pcnanni2004@yahoo.com](mailto:pcnanni2004@yahoo.com)

Cris Santa Croce [csantacroce@marykay.com](mailto:csantacroce@marykay.com)

- **“Night in Natomas” Auction** is June 7th. Please think of the many different ways you might be able to make this event a success. Auction items are now being accepted!

Contact: Lisa Corr [lcorr@smymylaw.com](mailto:lcorr@smymylaw.com) or

Tracy Roman [romanclan5@yahoo.com](mailto:romanclan5@yahoo.com)

- **Sacramento Treasures**— Looking for more summer programs in our area? Check out [sacramentotreasures.org/summer](http://sacramentotreasures.org/summer) for programs hosted by Sacramento Zoo, Crocker Art Museum, and Old Sacramento.

- **Camp Invention**—A summer camp program to be held at Westlake and directed by Ms Thorall. For more information, visit [www.campinvention.org](http://www.campinvention.org) or contact Ms Thorall at 567-5760 [christina.thorall@gmail.com](mailto:christina.thorall@gmail.com)

## Contact information

Principal	Christine Smith	<a href="mailto:admin@westlakecharter.com">admin@westlakecharter.com</a>	567-5760
Board	Phil Nanni	<a href="mailto:pcnanni2004@yahoo.com">pcnanni2004@yahoo.com</a>	
WAVE	Peggy McAllister	<a href="mailto:wave@westlakecharter.com">wave@westlakecharter.com</a>	419-6057
Communications Team	Jude Hansen	<a href="mailto:judehansen@gmail.com">judehansen@gmail.com</a>	564-1932
Fundraising Team	<b>Open Chair position contact WAVE</b>		
Community Building/Hospitality	Danielle Steuben	<a href="mailto:danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov">danielle.steuben@doj.ca.gov</a>	927-4558
Family Nights Out	Ann Alan	<a href="mailto:amalan72@aol.com">amalan72@aol.com</a>	515-4768
Box Top	Tanya Carter	<a href="mailto:tanyacarter@comcast.net">tanyacarter@comcast.net</a>	419-9798
Ink Cartridge Recycling	Greg Zumstein	<a href="mailto:g_zumstein@hotmail.com">g_zumstein@hotmail.com</a>	359-7617
eScrips	Toni Coleman	<a href="mailto:colemanfive@sbcglobal.net">colemanfive@sbcglobal.net</a>	419-9015
My School Matters	Lisa Casalegno	<a href="mailto:myschoolmatters@westlakecharter.com">myschoolmatters@westlakecharter.com</a>	502-5550
Parent Participation	Laila Cifolleli	<a href="mailto:cheflaila@sbcglobal.net">cheflaila@sbcglobal.net</a>	207-6746
Parent Hours Recorder	Sherri Sanders	<a href="mailto:wcs_vol_hrs@yahoo.com">wcs_vol_hrs@yahoo.com</a>	



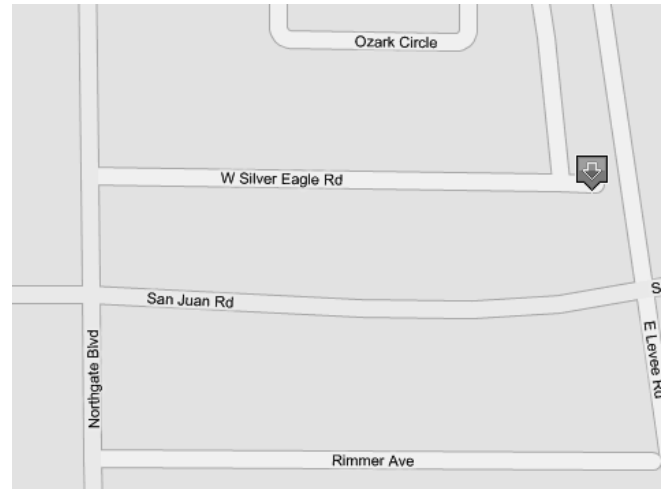
For questions, comments, or to submit information to be included in the newsletter, please email [newsatwcs@gmail.com](mailto:newsatwcs@gmail.com). Please note that all information must be submitted by the 5th of each month. Content is subject to the approval of the principal prior to publication.

# Creek Clean-up

First we clean, 9-11:30 a.m.

## Directions to Steelhead Creek (site #1):

Travel on to Truxel Rd.  
Turn left on to San Juan Rd. if coming from the north  
turn right if coming from the South.  
Turn left on to Northgate  
Turn right on to West Silver Eagle (next to El Pollo Loco)  
We will meet at the dead end on the levee road.  
Carpooling is encouraged.



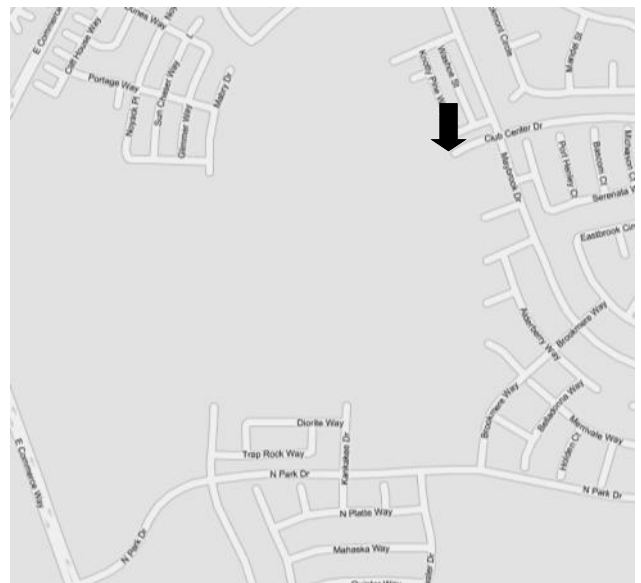
## Directions to Creek Clean-Up (Site #2): (Recommended to families with young children)

### From Westlake Charter School:

Travel East on Del Paso Rd.  
Turn left on East Commerce (next to Safeway shopping center)  
Turn right on North Park  
Turn left on Kokomo  
Turn right on Club Center Dr.  
Park along Club Center Dr. near Maybrook  
Clean-up will be along the bike trails and waterways off of Club Center Dr.

### From Natomas Blvd. (near Raley's shopping center):

Travel North on Natomas Blvd.  
Turn left on Club Center Dr.  
Cross Maybrook and park along Club Center Dr.



**Festivities and lunch at Discovery Museum start promptly at noon. We suggest bringing a change of clothes rather than going home to change.**

Then we celebrate, 12-2:00 p.m. at the Discovery Museum .

## Directions to Discovery Museum:

Take I-80 Reno  
Exit Watt Ave.  
Turn right on to Watt Ave.  
Turn left on Auburn Blvd.  
Discovery Museum is on the left side  
3615 Auburn Boulevard, Sacramento  
Park at Renfree Field just east of the Center



Watch out for the flyer that Student Council created for more information about what to bring and to expect for the day.