



H. Allen Hight April 2011

### Get Ready for "May is Bike Month!"

Natomas elementary and middle schools are participating in the 2011 May is Bike Month. This regional campaign, also called "Million Mile May" encourages cycling as an alternative form of transportation to improve air quality and promote health.



Please encourage your child to ride their bike during the month of May. If you live within one mile of your school, it is only a 10-minute ride, which is considered one full trip. Students will record their trips each day in class, which allows them to win weekly prizes. Parents, you can also participate with your neighbors and co-workers in bicycling to work and for errands and recreation. If you want to join your child as they pedal their way to helping the region make it to a million miles, visit [www.MayIsBikeMonth.com](http://www.MayIsBikeMonth.com) for more information or contact North Natomas TMA at (916) 419-9955.



### 70 Bikes for Tykes!

The North Natomas TMA would like to say "thank you" to all those who donated old bikes for our Bike Donation Drive. We are happy to report that we received 70 bicycles! Our very own mechanic has been diligently working on repairing the bikes and we plan on re-allocating them to local students in April. Stay tuned!



Officer John Banks

### Retired Officer to Bring Local Traffic Improvements

Natomas will soon be getting an extra shot of traffic safety as retired Sacramento Police Officer, John Banks, recently accepted the position of Traffic Safety Officer for the North Natomas Unified School District, working for newly elected District 1 Sacramento Councilmember Angelique Ashby. His mission is to provide great customer service and a safe environment for students and staff at the various school locations throughout Natomas. Banks says he is looking forward to implementing changes that will improve current traffic issues locally.

During his time with the police department, Banks worked with the Patrol Division, Traffic Division, Youth & Family Services and Problem Oriented Policing Team. He is certified as the department's Child Passenger Safety Seat Technician and was bestowed with two Bronze Medals of Valor.



### UPCOMING EVENTS:

**April 8** - Families In Action Social Night - pizza provided 6:30 p.m.

**April 13** - NUSD Board Meeting 6:30 p.m. 1901 Arena Blvd.

**Every Wednesday** - Walking Wednesday!



Christa Erlank

### A School Bus Without Wheels?

Sure, we've heard of a night without stars and a bird with no song, but a bus without wheels? Thanks to volunteer Christa Erlank, North Natomas is home to the Walking School Bus, an organized parade of kids commuting to school on foot in a safe and supervised setting. The troop, led by Christa, meets at Kokomo Park each Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. and then heads off to Hight Elementary by 7:40 a.m.

The Walking Wednesday program has so many benefits, she says, including bonding time with her sons, the chance for everyone to meet new friends, and a continued decrease in morning traffic. Plus, the students' faces light up every time they get their cards punched or are awarded prizes for participation. The perks of the program just go 'round and 'round!



### Get Up To \$250 in Bike Rebates - Deadline April 30th

Biking weather is here and the pavement and trails are calling! In celebration of the season, the Bicycle and Accessory Rebate Program is now accepting applications.



Adults may receive up to \$250, or 40 percent, back on a new bike and \$100 back on children's bikes. Don't forget the bells and whistles with an additional accessory rebate worth up to \$50. The accessory rebate applies to adults only.

Rebate recipients are chosen and notified by a committee and will be required to attend a cycling clinic before a rebate check can be issued.

Applications must be postmarked by April 30th. Visit [www.NorthNatomasTMA.org](http://www.NorthNatomasTMA.org) to apply.

### Celebrate Earth Day on April 22

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EARTH	GREEN	PLANET
CONSERVE	REDUCE	WILDLIFE
ECOSYSTEM	REUSE	RESOURCE
ENVIRONMENT	RECYCLE	OCEAN

