

# NEIGHBORS UNITED



Faircrest Heights' Neighborhood Organization Since 1981 10<sup>th</sup> District, Los Angeles April 2015 Issue No. 4

**Please join us at our next Neighbors United meeting,**

**Monday, April 13, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.**

**at the Claude Pepper Senior Center, 1762 S. La Cienega Boulevard.**

*Faircrest Heights: One of the Hottest Neighborhoods In America In 2013—BusinessInsider.com*



## President's Corner By Laura Anderson

Hello Neighbors,

Remember the term "April showers bring May flowers? That no longer applies. Since Governor Brown declared stricter water use restrictions, we must redouble our conservation efforts. Remember, according to Los Angeles' Emergency Water Conservation Plan Ordinance, customers **cannot:**

- Use water on hard surfaces such as sidewalks, walkways, driveways, or parking areas (with exception of water brooms)
- Irrigate landscaping between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m.
- Allow excess water from sprinklers to flood gutters
- Use water to clean, fill, or maintain decorative fountains unless the water is part of a recirculation system
- Serve water to customers in eating establishments, unless requested
- Allow irrigation leaks to go unattended.

The City is working on applicable penalties for those who do not comply.

April is earthquake preparedness month. As a community we must be prepared to take care of our families and our neighbors when earthquakes and other emergencies occur. I am sponsoring CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training beginning next month. For details see page 2.

For our next meeting we have invited John Shull and Chris Hopkins of DR Horton, developers of the Sawyer Homes Project. They will give us a progress report on the construction of 60 single-family homes at Sawyer and Fairfax Avenues. Come and learn about the project and get answers to your questions and concerns.

Also, we'll discuss the upcoming block party and get your ideas and commitment to make the party a huge success.

We'll see you on Monday, April 13.

### *In this Issue*

- President's Corner
- Are You Ready? Earthquake Awareness
- CERT Training Classes
- La Cienega Farmers' Market Eviction
- Mansionization Update
- PICO Neighborhood Council

### *Agenda*

- Sawyer Homes Update – John Shull and Chris Hopkins
- Block Party Planning
- Neighborhood Council Update
- 10<sup>th</sup> District Update
- LAPD Update

### *LAPD Numbers*

Emergency 911  
Non-emergency 311 or  
877-275-5273  
(877-ASK-LAPD)  
Wilshire Station  
213-473-0476  
Senior Lead Officer Adam Green  
213-793-0647 (North of 18<sup>th</sup> Street)  
Senior Lead Officer Charles Thomas  
213-793-0786 (South of 18<sup>th</sup> Street)  
Anonymous Tip Line  
877-529-3855  
(877-LAW-FULL)

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Call 911 immediately if you see persons breaking into homes or loitering around neighbors' homes.

## **Are You Ready?**

April is Earthquake Awareness Month. It is a good time for us to check our readiness supplies and plans. We've included an emergency contact list to keep handy in the event of an earthquake or other disaster or emergency. For more information and important links to the emergency agencies go to <http://www.readyla.org/>

### **Contact List**

When an urgent situation arises, you may need to contact someone regarding an urgent situation at your residence or business. In your time of need, use this list to contact Utilities and City Services. Call 911 when there is a life or death situation that requires immediate response of emergency services such as the Police, Fire or the Paramedics. For Non-Emergency City-Hall Services, please call 311.

#### **FIRST RESPONDERS**

Emergency 911  
Non-Emergency Police 1-877- 275-5273  
Non-Emergency Fire Paramedics 1-800-688-8000  
Non-Emergency Terrorist Threats 1-877-284-7328  
TTY Service 1- 213-847-0652

#### **UTILITY COMPANIES**

DWP (Department of Water & Power) 1-800-342-5397  
Southern CA Gas Company 1-800-427-2200  
Los Angeles Animal Services 1-888-452-7381  
Los Angeles Emergency Management Department 1-213-978-2222

Park-Related Emergencies 1-323-913-7390  
Refuse Collection 1-800-773-2489  
Sewer / Storm Drain Problems 1-800-773-2489  
Storm Damage / Mud Slide Reports 1-888-524-2845  
Street Lights 1-800-996-2489  
Traffic Signals 1-213-580-1177

Trees Down / Debris Removal and Related Problems  
1-800-996-2489

#### **MULTILINGUAL**

American Red Cross 1-800-220-4095  
DWP (Department of Water & Power) 1-800-342-5397  
Department of Aging - Multilingual 1-213-473-1602

#### **KOREAN**

Southern CA Gas Company 1-800-427-0471

#### **VIETNAMESE**

Southern CA Gas Company 1-800-427-0478

#### **CITY SERVICES**

American Red Cross of Greater Los Angeles  
1-213-739-5200  
Building Inspection 1-888-524-2845  
Cal Trans (Road Closures) 1-800-427-7623  
City Services Within the City 311  
Department of Aging 1-800-510-2020  
Department of Disability 1-213-485-6334

### **Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT)**

In an effort to encourage strong community ties and preparedness, NU President, Laura Anderson, is sponsoring a free 7 week CERT Training course beginning Tuesday, May 5 and continuing through June 16.

The Community Emergency Response Team Program's concept was developed and implemented by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) in 1985. The Whittier Narrows earthquake in 1987 underscored the area-wide threat of a major disaster in California. Further, it confirmed the need for training civilians to meet their immediate needs. As a result, the LAFD created this program to train citizens and private and government employees.

The Northridge earthquake caused considerable damage to homes in Faircrest Heights. In addition, portions of the Santa Monica Freeway collapsed on Fairfax Avenue and an off-ramp fell right by the Carl's Jr. restaurant on La Cienega and David. Many of the men in the neighborhood banded together at that time and checked on senior citizens and neighbors who lived alone. We want to be prepared to protect ourselves and our neighbors when future emergencies occur.

Besides earthquake preparedness CERT training will cover issues like fire suppression, medical emergencies, search and rescue, terrorism and homeland defense. See the class schedule below:

## **Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT) Continued**

- Class 1 – May 5 (Introduction, Earthquake Awareness)
- Class 2 – May 12 (Disaster Fire Suppression Techniques)
- Class 3 – May 19 (Disaster Medical Operations 1)
- Class 4 – May 26 (Disaster Medical Operations 2)
- Class 5 – June 2 (Light Search & Rescue Operations)
- Class 6 – June 9 (Team Organization & Disaster Psychology)
- Class 7 – June 16 (Terrorism & Homeland Defense)

You must attend all classes to receive a "certificate of completion".

The CERT classes will be held every Tuesday evening from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. at the Claude Pepper Senior Center, 1762 S. La Cienega Boulevard. To register go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/o/lafd-cert-program-7803155391> and look for LAFD CERT - PICO/ROBERTSON.

## **La Cienega Farmers' Market Eviction**

The La Cienega Farmers' Market at the corner of La Cienega and 18<sup>th</sup> Street recently received an eviction notice from the management of La Cienega Plaza. We have been told that the reason for this eviction is to provide sufficient parking for Marinello Beauty School which is moving into the building at the location. This is despite the fact that Career Colleges of America, (the previous tenants), which occupied three floors in the same building never seemed to have a problem with available parking.

The Farmers' Market has operated at this location for 16 years and has provided a much need service to the surrounding communities of Faircrest Heights, Crestview, La Cienega Heights, SORO the Carthay neighborhoods and beyond. It has provided fresh vegetables and fruits, among other things within walking distance of its customers. Many neighbors have written letters to the La Cienega Plaza management asking them to reconsider, as closing or relocating the market would be a tremendous loss.

At our most recent contact, we understand that an extension was granted and negotiations are continuing in an effort to save the market. Be sure to go and show your support.

## **Mansionization Update**



The City Council voted recently for an interim control order (ICO) to put a temporary halt to developers demolishing single-family homes and replacing them with new out-of-scale 'big-box' homes that dwarf surrounding dwellings and change the character and scale of established neighborhoods.

The ICO would allow time to amend the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance and eliminate bonuses and exemptions that allow for construction of massive homes.

Unless the City Council votes to extend the ICOs that put a temporary stop to mansionization in the most affected neighborhoods, they will expire shortly . If you want to stop mansionization, make your position known by emailing our City Council members. You do not need to write multiple emails. One message sent to multiple recipients is infinitely better than doing nothing. And your message can be short and to-the-point. For instance: "Mansionization is ruining my neighborhood and our city, and it must be stopped. I support the ICOs and want the city to start work immediately on Councilmember Koretz's proposed amendments to the BMO." Send emails to:

[councilmember.koretz@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.koretz@lacity.org).  
[councilmember.wesson@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.wesson@lacity.org)  
[councilmember.huizar@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.huizar@lacity.org)

[councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org](mailto:councilmember.cedillo@lacity.org)

**PICO Neighborhood Council**

The PICO Neighborhood Council is looking for a few committed folks. There are vacant seats for a Senior Representative and an At Large Representative. For more information visit the PICO Neighborhood Council website at [piconc.com](http://piconc.com). Meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at Saturn Elementary School, 5360 Saturn Street, Los Angeles, CA 90019. All are welcome.

Yvonne Smith is our representative from Neighbors United-Faircrest Heights. She also serves on the Land Use Committee. Sue Beidleman is resigning as the Senior Representative and chair of the Land Use Committee. She will continue to be a stakeholder member of the Land Use Committee along with Mary Ann Yurkonis.

**Hearts and Flowers**

Our thoughts are with Thelma Hilliard and Tamara Lewis who are recuperating following a hospital stay and with all our members who have been unable to join us for meetings due to health issues.

Please keep in touch with neighbors who are ill, hospitalized, confined to their homes or bereaved. Give them a call or a visit to brighten their day. **Remember to notify your block captain or Virginia Thomas, our Hearts and Flowers chair, at 323-935-7104 or [stefflute1@aol.com](mailto:stefflute1@aol.com).**

Visit our website: <http://faircrestheights.weebly.com>. You can also access the website from [www.neighborsunited.net](http://www.neighborsunited.net). Be sure to submit articles, pictures and communications of interest to the Faircrest Heights community.

**Welcome New Neighbors**

We welcome our new neighbors and invite you to come and get involved. We need your ideas, your skills and resources to help us to maintain a great quality of life in our community.

**Dues for 2015 are Due**

It's that time again. Please use the membership form below to provide your information. Enclose your check for \$15 and mail it to Neighbors United, P. O. Box 35103, Los Angeles, CA 90035, bring it to a meeting, or give it to your block captain. By including your email address, we may be able to email future newsletters. If you pay dues in November or December, they are applied for following year. Your dues cover the cost of renting our meeting place, printing newsletters, postage, and other miscellaneous expenses, such as communicating with the City on planning and other issues. Thank you for your continued support.

**Please give your dues to your block captain, bring them to a meeting  
or mail them to:**

**Neighbors United P.O.Box 35103 Los Angeles, CA 90035**

**Neighbors United Membership Form**  
**The membership drive is happening now! Support Faircrest Heights.**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Yearly Dues: \$15.00**

**Please fill this out and give it with your check payable to Neighbors United to your block captain,**