

NEIGHBORS UNITED



Faircrest Heights' Neighborhood Organization Since 1981 10th District, Los Angeles April 2016 Issue No. 4

Please join us at our next Neighbors United meeting,

Monday, April 11 2016 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

Greetings Neighbors,

April has brought us a few showers. Hurray! We continue to be well behind the needed rainfall amounts for the season, so we'll take every drop we can get.

Last month we explored reverse mortgages and many of our neighbors turned out to learn about the program. Of course that is a program aimed at homeowners who are at least 62 years of age.

What about homeowners who are under 62 but due to circumstances need help paying their mortgages? This month we've invited Dianne Alonte of American Home Funding to discuss the Home Affordable Refinance Program (HARP) to help homeowners refinance their mortgages due to a loss in property value versus the actual mortgage. More than 900,000 homeowners have taken advantage of this program.

Although many homes in our area are selling at record prices, there are neighbors who love the community and want to stay but may need help. The HARP program has been extended through 2016. Be sure to come and hear about this important option for homeowners. As always, Neighbors United presents speakers on a variety of subjects and interests and in no way promotes or endorses the services provided by our guest speakers.

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

We'd also like to encourage neighbors who have lived here for a while but have not come to a meeting lately to come and get involved. We need your help to maintain the great quality of life in Faircrest Heights.

We'll see you on Monday, April 11 at 7 p.m.

In this Issue

- President's Corner
- News from Crescent Heights Magnet School
- New Captain at LAPD Wilshire Division
- PICO NC is Coming to Faircrest Heights
- PICO NC Candidates Forum and Election
- Update on Mixed Use-100 Unit Apartment Complex
- April is Earthquake Preparedness Month
- Earth Day 2016
- Neighbors Watching out for Neighbors

Agenda

- HARP Program – Speaker:
Dianne Alonte, American Home Funding
- LAPD Update
- 10th District Update
- PICO Neighborhood Council 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 18th Street)
Senior Lead Officer Charles Thomas
213-793-0786 (South of 18th Street)
Anonymous Tip Line
877-529-3855
(877-LAW-FULL)

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

News From Crescent Heights Language Arts/Social Justice Magnet

Crescent Heights Language Arts/Social Justice Magnet school is now enrolling students into the transitional kindergarten program (TK). For more information, please visit the campus at 1661 South Crescent Heights Boulevard or call 323-931-2761.

New Captain at LAPD Wilshire Division

As part of a recent LAPD reorganization, Rolando Solano was appointed as the new Captain at LAPD's Wilshire Division. He is replacing Captain Leslie who recently transferred to Central Division. Captain Solano joined the Los Angeles Police Department in April 1990, and has held assignments at Foothill, Van Nuys and Central Divisions where he worked patrol, foot beats, and vice assignments. During his tour of duty in Central Vice, he initiated abatement proceedings against several drug and prostitution ridden motels. These abatements eventually cleared the area for the establishment of the Staples Center/LA Live entertainment properties. He served as an element member for a crime suppression platoon in Metropolitan Division where he received the Police Commission Meritorious Unit Citation for teamwork during his deployment at the "North Hollywood Bank of America Robbery".

PICO Neighborhood Council is Coming to Faircrest Heights



Beginning on Wednesday, April 13, all PICO Neighborhood Council (PICO NC) General Board meetings will be held at the Claude Pepper Senior Citizen Center. This makes it easier for Faircrest Heights neighbors to attend the meetings and take an active role. Committee meetings will continue to be held at 5651 West Pico Boulevard, Suite 102.

PICO Neighborhood Council Candidates Forum and Election

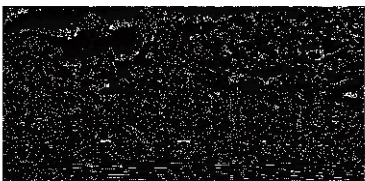
In preparation for the upcoming PICO NC election day, a candidates forum will be held on Sunday, April 24 from 2 to 4 PM at Paper or Plastik Café, 5772 West Pico Boulevard. Be sure to attend to hear from the people who want to represent us on the PICO NC Board.

Election Day: Sunday, May 1, 2016, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm - Vote in person at Vons' parking lot, 1430 S. Fairfax Ave, Los Angeles CA 90019

Our own Neighbors United president, Laura Anderson is running for the vacant Business Representative Seat. Two other persons are running for the seat. If you are a business owner within the borders of PICO NC, please come to Vons Market at PICO and Fairfax on May 1 and vote for Laura. Please see her enclosed flyer.

PICO NC has launched its revamped website (piconc.com) and community newsletter (<http://us13.campaign-archive2.com/?u=809c2ddeabeab4942f57d2b04&id=71b01e7b91&e=2099bfdcc2>). Check them out.

Proposed Mixed Use-100 Unit Apartment - Update



Mark your calendars and plan to attend the PICO NC Land Use Committee meeting on Thursday, April 21 for an update on the proposed mixed-use development at 6116-6144 W. Pico Boulevard. The proposal is to build a 100-unit apartment complex over ground floor retail space. A hearing is tentatively set for Friday, May 6.

Last month we asked neighbors to write comments to the Los Angeles Planning Department regarding an application for a Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) submitted by developers for the proposed project. Also a letter was sent on behalf of Neighbors United citing concerns expressed at our meeting with the developer's representative. We encourage all community members who are concerned to attend the upcoming meeting. Your input is critical if we are to stop or modify this project.

April is Earthquake Preparedness Month - 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

Earth Day



Earth Day is an annual day on which events are held worldwide to demonstrate support for environmental protection. It is observed on April 22 each year. The April 22 date was designated as International Mother Earth Day by a consensus resolution adopted by the United Nations in 2009. Earth Day is now coordinated globally by the Earth Day Network (EDN),- and is celebrated in more than 192 countries every year.

Friday, April 22nd, the first in our five-year countdown to Earth Day's 50th: Earth Day 2020! The theme for Earth Day 2016 is "Trees for the Earth!" Our planet is currently losing over 15 billion trees each year due to deforestation, land development, and bad forest management (that is roughly 48 football fields every minute). EDN is announcing Trees for the Earth (#Trees4Earth), a plan to plant 7.8 billion trees by Earth Day's 50th in 2020. That is one tree for every person on the planet! Trees for the Earth will focus on those regions of the world most affected by deforestation. However, we can help by planting and maintaining the health of our community trees.

Neighbors Watching Out for Neighbors

Do you know what good neighbors do? They watch out for each other. Recently on two occasions “knock-knock” burglars decided to test a couple of houses. In one incident they actually got in, but thanks to good neighbors, police were called immediately and caught one of them. Looks like one got away.

The next day, an “unknown” person who had been “casing” the neighborhood, started up the driveway of a neighbor. An alert neighborhood made it known that the person was being watched and he called the police. The potential intruder turned and walked swiftly away and headed toward the Kaiser parking lot where LAPD close behind.

Kudos to those alert neighbors. This is what you call NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH!

Hearts and Flowers

Thinking of you friends and neighbors who cannot be with us at meetings.

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**

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

2016 Dues are Due

Our 2016 membership dues of \$15 are due and payable now. (Neighbors who are 80+ years old are exempt from dues; however, to receive the newsletter, you must complete a membership form and note that you are 80+. Your age will not be made public.) If you just paid dues in November or December, they are applied for 2016.

Your dues cover the cost of renting our meeting place, printing newsletters, postage, and other miscellaneous expenses. Newsletters are available to all of our neighbors who have paid dues. The names of neighbors whose dues are paid will appear on our membership roster, which is developed for the sole benefit of our community.

The membership roster is provided only to paid members and is not to be shared with anyone outside of Neighbors United. In addition, only paid members on your specific block will receive a roster of your block. Officers and block captains have a complete roster. The roster is particularly useful for emergency contacts. Please use the membership form below to provide your information. Enclose your check for \$15 and mail it to the Neighbors United post office box. Thank you.

**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,