

NEIGHBORS UNITED



Faircrest Heights' Neighborhood Organization Since 1981 10th District, Los Angeles February 2015 Issue No. 2

Please join us at our next Neighbors United meeting,
Monday, February 9, 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

Greetings Neighbors!

Over the last few months, our community has experienced several residential

burglaries. With all the disturbances in our neighborhood recently I thought it fitting to have someone come and present the newest home security device options. I have invited Lance Johnson from ADT Home Security to be our guest speaker this month.

This is not an endorsement of any company, but an opportunity to hear of options available to protect your home. We encourage you to seek information from this or other companies if you are interested.

The MOST important thing YOU can do is CALL THE POLICE to report a CRIME or any SUSPICIOUS activity. You have to be the eyes of your neighborhood. And remember you can always remain a pair of anonymous eyes!

Thanks to Derek Dood and Jeff Miller who shared articles of interest with us. Please see Derek's timely tips on protecting your home on page 2 and Jeff Miller's information on the Sawyer Project on Page 3.

Last month we listed our new officers and block captains. We inadvertently omitted our new Parliamentarian, Fern Paillet. Also, Dana Perhson was erroneously shown as the block captain for the 1500 block of Hi Point. She should have been shown as the block captain for the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Stearns Drive.

Our Primary Nominating Election for the City of Los Angeles is Tuesday, March 3, 2015. There are important amendments to the City Charter and voting for our 10th District City Council representative. Be sure to go to the polls or send in your absentee ballot. Voting is an important privilege and responsibility.

Hannv Valentine's Day to all We'll see you on Monday February 9

In this Issue

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- Security Tips from Derek Dood
- Wilshire Smartphone App
- Suburbia Alive and Well on Fairfax
- New Neighbors United Officers-Correction
- Dues are Due

Agenda

- Lance Johnson from ADT Home Security
- Sawyer Project Update
- Neighborhood Council Update
- 10th District Update
- LAPD 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.

Security Tips from Our Neighbor Derek Dood

Our thanks to neighbor, Derek Dood, wrote to us about the recent rash of residential burglaries in Faircrest Heights:

...When thinking about how to prevent this from happening to you, there are a few things you should keep in mind. When thieves break into homes, there's a greater chance of them doing so during the day when many people are at work. Also, around 40 percent of annual household burglaries in the United States are not forced entries, meaning someone was able to walk, climb or crawl inside of houses almost as easily as if the owners left a key in the door [source: Bureau of Justice Statistics]. [source: home.howstuffworks.com].

- 1) First, and most importantly, get a home security system installed. My wife and I have ADT and we are thrilled with them. One day we left for the grocery store and the front door was unlocked and it blew open! ADT called us immediately and we rushed back to shut and lock the door. Also, when they call you, they ask if you want them to contact LAPD. This is a huge benefit if you are out of town. It's an amazing service for around \$30/month and its tax deductible, and you get a discount on your homeowners insurance!
- 2) Don't leave valuables like expensive bikes or motorcycles in the front yard or driveway. Make sure to put them in the garage or inside the house. Also, don't leave your 60 inch flat screen TV in plain sight from the road! Make sure to keep blinds closed, especially during the day when you are at work. Also, keep other expensive items hidden from outside view. Another idea is to grow shrubs or tall plants to help cover the view from the street and make access to the window more difficult. Just make sure to keep them trimmed so that burglars can't hide behind them. In front of my home, I have tall plants and olive trees that are impossible to crawl behind because they are close to the house and trimmed.
- 3) Make it look like you're home during the day when you are away or at work. Leaving on a light, or some Neil Young playing might make intruders think twice before breaking in.
- 4) Be careful with windows: Although you should always lock your windows before leaving the house, you can install a simple pin or nail into to the frame to stop it from raising more than a few inches. This will add an additional layer of security in case someone pops off the screen and you have left the window unlocked. If you have a wooden window frame, you can drill a hole at your desired height above the sash, where the top and bottom window meet. Then, insert a thick metal pin or a sturdy nail into the hole. You can remove the stopper if you want to open the window completely and put it back in for security. [source: home.howstuffworks.com].
- 5) Never leave a spare key under your mat! Always leave a spare key with a trusted neighbor, or your mother-in-law if she lives next door, or close by.
- 6) Let a neighbor know if your leaving town for more than a day or two. Have them keep an eye on your place and offer to do the same for them. You could even go as far as having them park in your driveway.
- 7) Never leave signs of an empty house. Have a neighbor pick up the mail and newspapers, and make sure someone keeps the lawn cut, and the snow shoveled if you live in a cold area where snow falls.
- 8) Getting to know the people you live around is one of the most important safety steps you can take. Closer-knit neighborhoods generally report fewer break-ins [source: Olsen] because strangers will stick out, and people are more likely to keep a casual eye on other people's security. Neighborhood Watch Programs, started in the 1960s, can be very effective at lowering and preventing crime. According to the National Crime Prevention Council, more than 30 million people in the United States have joined these groups [source: National Crime Prevention Council]. [source: home.howstuffworks.com].

Wilshire Smartphone App

LAPD's Wilshire Division has a smartphone application available for iPhone and Android phones. For the residents of the Mid City/Wilshire area of Los Angeles, this application provides valuable police related information such as:

- Information about the Wilshire Community Police Station
- An interactive phone directory
- Interactive maps for: location of the station, divisional boundaries, and points of interest
- Calendar of events
- Crime information
- Anonymous tip reporting
- Resources to many city services, including LA 311
- Crime prevention tips
- Hospitals
- Links to: Neighborhood Councils, City Council Members, the City of LA, City Attorney, Wilshire police social media, and other police services

On the App Store, search "LAPD Wilshire" to download for Iphone (the app was formally known as "Wilshire Division" prior to 09/15/14)

City of L.A. "MyLA 311" smartphone app. You download and install the app on your phone, then submit a request for pretty much anything: bulky item pickup, trash bin replacement, pothole repair, sidewalk/street crack repair, street light replacement, etc.

Suburbia Alive and Well on Fairfax Avenue – Submitted by Jeff Miller



Our neighbor, Jeff Miller shared this article with us. He found it on a website called "Building Los Angeles:

America's most prolific home builder is once again plying its trade in Mid-City Los Angeles. As pointed out by a few keen observers, Fort Worth-based developer D. R. Horton recently broke ground on a 60-lot residential subdivision at the corner of Sawyer Street and Fairfax Avenue. Each new home will stand two-stories, offering three and four bedroom floor plans

ranging from 2,590 to 2,900 square feet in size. Renderings from Santa Monica-based Van Tilburg, Banyard & Soderberg Architects portray a series of Spanish Revival style houses, inspiring one e-mail tipster to quip that it "looks like a piece of the Inland Empire has landed in Mid-City." Asking prices will reportedly start at \$1.2 million (ouch).

In previous years, the approximately ten-acre development site served as home for the classic KHJ AM Radio Towers. Built in the mid-1930s, the towers were a well-known landmark for commuters along the Santa Monica Freeway until their demolition last Spring. For more on their history, check out this article from the Long Beach Report (<http://www.lbreport.com/news/mar13/khjtower.htm>).

For more information go to: <http://buildinglosangeles.blogspot.com/2014/08/suburbia-alive-and-well-on-fairfax.html>

Hearts and Flowers

Our condolences to Ben Browdy, whose mother passed away recently. She was an original home owner in Faircrest Heights in 1941.

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.

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

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. Thanks to Justin Tsai our webmaster

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,

YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBORHOOD REALTOR AND NEIGHBOR

FREE

LAURA ANDERSON INVITES YOU TO A PAPER SHREDDING EVENT

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH, 10AM - NOON

FEB 2015

LACES
Los Angeles Center For Enriched Studies
1000 W. 18th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90004
Tel: 323 646 6569

ANNUAL PANCAKE BREAKFAST
LACES PARKING LOT on 18TH
5931 W. 18TH STREET

AMERICAN SHREDDING
.com

**PERSONAL IDENTITY
CONFIDENTIAL
CLASSIFIED
TOP SECRET**

Faircrest Heights
A COMMUNITY

I want to give back to **Faircrest Heights** by helping you get rid of unwanted documents. With that, I will sponsor **American Shredding + Raffle** for our neighborhood.

So, bring all your documents to have them **shred** (disappear) before your very eyes!

LACES Parking Lot on 18th
5931 18th Street

See you there!
LAURA

363031 363031

RAFFLE TICKET

KEEP THIS COUPON RAFFLE
REDEEM FOR PRIZES

BLOOM CAFE \$40
eco dog \$35
PAPER OR PLASTIK CAFE \$25

\$500
WINTER
GIVEAWAY!

**I WILL PAY \$500 FOR YOUR MOVING COSTS
IF YOU LIST BEFORE MARCH 31ST, 2015**

MARKET VERY HOT WITH LITTLE INVENTORY. IT'S A GREAT TIME TO SELL!

LOOKING TO BUY OR SELL A HOME? 323 646 6569



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AGENT OF THE YEAR
kw | 2013

kw | LARCHMONT

118 N. LARCHMONT BLVD. | LOS ANGELES, CA 90004

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