

# NEIGHBORS UNITED



Faircrest Heights' Neighborhood Organization Since 1981 10<sup>th</sup> District, Los Angeles

May 2015

Vol. 5

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

**Monday, May 11, 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,

This month we've invited our Neighborhood Prosecutor, Mehrnoosh "Nooshi" Zahiri to give us an update on quality of life issues in our area. Nooshi works closely with LAPD's Wilshire Division to investigate and resolve matters of concern to residents, such as marijuana dispensaries, homelessness and nuisance issues. Also, our NU treasurer, Shan Wickramasinghe, will bring a treasurer's report and update on dues received to date .

Last month, Chris Hopkins from DR Horton/ Emerald Homes, discussed the status of the Sawyer homes project. He promised to return this month with additional information as well as home designs/plans. Come and learn about the project and get answers to your questions and concerns.

Our CERT training sessions began on May 6 with a full class. I'm very gratified about the interest and the commitment by neighbors to become informed and prepared.

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

Next month, we'll have a on CPR to give us all an opportunity to understand and possibly respond in emergency situations.

We'll see you on Monday, May 11.

### In this Issue

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### Agenda

- Chris Hopkins, Sawyer Homes Update
- Neighborhood Prosecutor - Nooshi
- Treasurer's Report - Shan
- 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.

## **Mayor Garcetti Visits 10<sup>th</sup> District**

Mayor Garcetti is hosting a series of meetings to solicit input from local residents on the needs of each neighborhood. Last week he and City Council President Herb Wesson met with 10<sup>th</sup> District representatives from business, neighborhood councils and associations for lunch. Mayor Garcetti and President Wesson took the time to interact with each person attending in an informal setting at Buffalo Wild Wings on Crenshaw Boulevard. Mayor Garcetti addressed the group, giving an update on his accomplishments—increased employment, housing for homeless women and children, among other things.

Going forward the mayor indicated that he expects to continue his focus on employment, housing and services for the homeless populations. In addition he indicated that for the 10<sup>th</sup> District, street paving (currently underway), tree trimming and sidewalk repairs will be completed. As you may recall, the Mayor named Pico Boulevard on of the City's "Great Streets". See <http://lagreatstreets.tumblr.com/tagged/PicoBlvd>.

Following the luncheon, Mayor Garcetti met with individuals and groups at the 10<sup>th</sup> District Office to receive input and concerns from neighbors. The mayor welcomes ideas and suggestions from community members. Interested persons can sign up to for a meeting with him or to receive a response at [http://www.lamayor.org/share\\_your\\_ideas\\_for\\_1\\_a](http://www.lamayor.org/share_your_ideas_for_1_a).

## **Expo Line Phase 2**

Phase 2 of the Expo Line which extends light rail service from the current terminus in Culver City to Santa Monica, is now testing train operations--overhead electrical system that power the trains, crossing gates and signals and other related systems. The testing will be conducted between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on weekdays. Metro officials noted that the testing could cause occasional traffic delays as trains cross intersections. Safety personnel will be on hand at all crossings during the tests. Motorists and pedestrians were warned to be on the lookout for trains and obey warning signs and traffic signals. Perhaps you've seen the trains as you've driven along the Santa Monica freeway near National, or along the way as you drove on west of Robertson.

There are seven new stations serving popular destinations along the Westside giving commuters the option to travel between downtown Los Angeles and Santa Monica in approximately 46 minutes – even during rush hour. Testing will continue through this year with an expected official opening date sometime next year.

## **LA DWP Considering Tighter Water Restrictions**

The Los Angeles Board of Water and Power Commissioners recently approved new water conservation rules that include giving city leaders the right to lower the number of lawn-watering days from three to two days per week. If approved by the Los Angeles City Council, the revisions would be made to the Department of Water and Power's emergency water conservation ordinance, which has been in place since 2009.

Department of Water and Power officials said the new rules give city leaders the flexibility to respond to mandates by Gov. Jerry Brown to reduce water usage by 25 percent if they find that not enough water is being conserved.

Under the proposed two-days-per-week schedule, outdoor watering at odd-numbered addresses would only be allowed on Mondays and Fridays, while even-numbered addresses would be limited to Thursdays and Sundays.

## **Mansionization Update**



Good News! On April 29, 2015 The City Council voted to extend (for 22 months and 15 days) the interim control order (ICO) which puts 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.

Please see the attached flyer with details on the ICO and the temporary changes to the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance (BMO). Next step, ask the City Council to adopt these changes permanently to the citywide BMO.

## **La Cienega Farmers' Market Update**

More good news! We have been told that for now, the Market will remain open while continuing to negotiate with the property owners.

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. The reason for this eviction is to provide sufficient parking for Marinello Beauty School which is moving into the building at the location. The Farmers' Market has operated at this location for more than 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. Thanks to the many neighbors who wrote letters to the La Cienega Plaza management asking them to reconsider, as closing or relocating the market would be a tremendous loss. Be sure to go and show your support.

## **News from LAPD – You're Invited**

**05/09/15:** LAPD Gun Buyback: On Saturday, May 9th from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm, the LAPD his hosting another gun buyback event at 2379 W Washington Blvd. We are giving \$100 Ralph's gift cards for handguns, shotguns, and rifles. \$200 gift cards are given for assault weapons



**05/13/15:** Coffee with a Cop•On May 13th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am, obey Vehicle Code 22450(a) and "stop" on by the Starbucks at 1258 S La Brea Ave (Northeast Corner of La Brea Ave and San Vicente Blvd) and meet with Wilshire Senior Lead Officers and Detectives. We want to work with you, the community, to make our area a safer place!

**06/20/15:** Cops for Tots Car Show -- This is the 17th annual event, presented by our friends over at Central Traffic Division. If you enjoy classic cars and want to help the children in the Children's Hospital of Los Angeles, please consider attending.

Also, check out <https://nextdoor.com/agency/ca/los-angeles/los-angeles-police-department/>

## **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.

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. Also you can email us at [neighborsunited2@aol.com](mailto:neighborsunited2@aol.com).

**The Pico Neighborhood Council Is Looking for You!**

Help protect and preserve our beautiful neighborhoods, you have a voice - use it!

The PICO NC serves about 70,000 stakeholders. We are involved in decisions that affect you, your family and your businesses.

The PICO NC was instrumental in creating: Educational School Gardens; medians along Pico; Health, Art and Music Festivals; and planting hundreds of new trees. We helped stop: the plan to turn PICO and Olympic into one way streets; i) illegal marijuana dispensaries; illegal billboards; and illegal development.

Come to our meetings, join a committee, or even join the PICO NC Board. All committees are open to new volunteers - follow your passion - Land Use, Outreach, Finance and more!

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.

We currently have three open seats waiting for you. Please come to our next general meeting, contact Brad S. Kane, President, PICO at [bkane@kanelaw.la](mailto:bkane@kanelaw.la). 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.

**Hearts and Flowers**

Our condolences to the family of Alice Duff of Hi Point Street.

Our thoughts are with Tamara Lewis who is recuperating following a second 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 [stefflut1@aol.com](mailto:stefflut1@aol.com).**

**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,**