

NEIGHBORS UNITED



Faircrest Heights' Neighborhood Organization Since 1981 – 10th District, Los Angeles

November 2016 Issue No. 11

**Please join us at our next Neighbors United meeting,
Monday, November 14, 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,

November is a time of thanksgiving and showing gratitude. Each year we collect canned foods and non-perishable items for our Gratitude Food Drive. We invite you to bring food items to our November meeting. All goods will be donated to a local food bank to assist with Thanksgiving meals.

It's time to start planning our annual holiday party. We need volunteers to make it a great celebration. You can help with decorating the tree and coordinating the food and entertainment. This is a family event, not a regular meeting—except for the brief election. So mark your calendars for December 12 and bring the family.

Also in November, we will plan for our annual Neighbors United election, which will be held at our holiday party. Please start thinking of volunteering to hold an office. We especially need a recording secretary. Our election is informal. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to assist us.

Flu Season is Coming- get free flu vaccination soon! Stay well.

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'll see you on Monday, November 14 at 7 p.m.

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- The La Cienega Farmers Market Has Moved
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Agenda

- Update on R1R2RG Zoning Hearing
- Faircrest Heights Pothold Blitz
- Annual Holiday Party Planning
- Annual Food Drive
- PICO Neighborhood Council Update
- LAPD Update
- 10th District 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.

Proposed New Single Family Zones for Faircrest Heights (and other neighborhoods Submitted by Traci Considine

On August 29, City Planning hosted an info session/hearing to present a single family zone (“R1R2-RG”) proposed for Faircrest Heights (and other neighborhoods) that would call for new 2nd stories to be located toward the rear of the house and new garages to be located at the rear of the property, and would set maximum floor area ratios depending on lot size.

Many spoke in favor of R1R2-RG, which would protect our neighborhood character while offering flexibility for additions, remodels and new construction. However, especially in adjoining neighborhoods, some spoke to oppose this new zone, using rhetoric like ‘no one wanted to live south of Pico or east of Robertson until’ [they started tearing down and mansionizing our outdated, ill-kept homes]. I couldn’t disagree more. I think we DID and DO want to live in this neighborhood and DO want to protect our neighborhood character, scale, affordability, vibrance and diversity, history, sense of community, and quality of life. Of course, we may want to renovate or reasonably expand our homes; R1R2-RG would allow that. For lots that are less deep than the norm (such that R1R2-RG’s 2nd story setback requirement would be infeasible) Planning proposes the R1V2-RG zone, which allows the 2nd story to be located at any location above the first.

These matters initially went before the City Planning Commission (CPC) on October 13 and though public comments were taken (and, as we understand, the hearing closed) the CPC’s discussion/decision was ‘continued’ to Thursday November 10. **We will report on this hearing at our meeting on Monday, November 14.**



Got Potholes?

As part of the city’s Neighborhood Council Initiative Program, the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) works with neighborhood councils twice per year, to dispatch two workers and a small asphalt truck to do small asphalt repairs on potholes and pop outs, and patch eroded or cracked areas. PICO Neighborhood Council, which includes 11 neighborhoods, is offered the opportunity to outline the 15 most urgent requests for the neighborhood council area. So that we can get some Faircrest Heights addresses onto the list for PICO NC’s next “Pothole Blitz” scheduled for December 12, we need your help!

Please email specific street addresses and a brief description of the problem (pothole, pop-out, crack or erosion) to neighborsunited2@aol.com and neighborsunited@piconc.com **by Friday, November 18**. If you can also attach a photo, that would be very helpful. If you do not have access to email, you can relay addresses to our association president (and PICO NC board member) Laura Anderson or our PICO NC Faircrest Heights representative Yvonne Smith at our November meeting.

Please note that the truck will have black asphalt (not concrete), so if you request *sidewalk* repairs as part of this pothole blitz, the areas will be patched with black asphalt, not concrete. Outside these ‘pothole blitzes’ you can *always* make service requests at <http://bss.lacity.org/request.htm> for issues such as pothole or street repairs; street needs resurfacing; tree needs trimming; fallen tree, branches, or palm fronds; alley needs cleaning; street needs sweeping; object/debris in street; leaf blower violation; broken or damaged sidewalks; sidewalk obstruction; problem with/on median; downed palm fronds; and permits for tree pruning, tree removal, root pruning and stump removal. Large requests (such as the major overhaul or resurfacing of alleys) are best addressed to representatives in our council office (323-733-8233) who can help prioritize and seek funding for more major repairs.

Annual Holiday Party

It’s almost time for our annual family holiday party to celebrate the holiday traditions of our many diverse cultures. We can proudly say that the Faircrest Heights Community is among the city’s most diverse areas with religious and non-religious neighbors, Asian, African, European, Latino, to name a few.

Over the years, even the names of our neighbors reflected our diversity. We have actually had neighbors with the following names: Brown, Black, Gray, Green, Redd, Tan, and White and—yes—Blue. It is fun getting to know our neighbors and learning about their holiday traditions. Bring the family and your favorite holiday dish.

Unlike the block party, the holiday celebration is a more intimate setting where neighbors can sit and talk while eating delicious foods brought (and in many cases prepared) by our neighbors. We have entertainment by our neighbors and sharing of our great stories.

At Monday's meeting we will have sign-ups for the Holiday Pot Luck so you can let us know you'll be bringing your favorite dishes or desserts. Also you can volunteer to help with decorating, setting up and cleaning up. This is a great time to bring your family and fellowship with neighbors. If you have a talent, we'd love to see or hear you perform. **We look forward to seeing you there.**

It's Election Time Again

As a reminder, it's time for our election of officers for Neighbors United. We are hoping that you will volunteer to for a position. Let us know at the meeting what you which office you would like to hold. If you miss the meeting, just email us at neighborsunited2@aol.com or send a note via the website at <http://faircrestheights.weebly.com> and let us know which office you'd like to fill. We will vote at our December meeting just before our annual holiday party. Please let us know of you interest by Saturday, November 26, 2016 so we can include your name on the candidate's slate at our December newsletter.

The La Cienega Farmers' Market Has Moved



The La Cienega Farmers' Market has moved from the corner of La Cienega and 18th Streets. **You can now find all your favorite vendors a few feet to the west on 18th Street in the La Cienega Plaza parking lot behind Togo's Sandwich Shop.**

Farmer's Market Director Cynthia Ojeda tells us live Jazz & Blues music, performed by professional musicians has been added. She said people enjoy lingering after they've shopped, and many use the market as their dinner destination, so the music is a real treat.

In addition to the usual vendors, there are new additions: SZ Ranch is a poultry and beef rancher who will be providing us with fresh cuts of both meats, along with their seasonal pumpkins. L.A. Burger Co will be grilling their famous gourmet burgers and offering sides like freshly made onion rings; plus Sliders for the tots and light eaters

It's important that we help to ensure that the La Cienega Farmers' Market growers and vendors continue to thrive, especially after our recent move! Tell your friends! The market serves our community two days a week:

Wednesdays- 9:00 am - 2:30 pm at Kaiser West Los Angeles, 6041 Cadillac Ave. (Located at the Hospital's front entrance.); and

Thursdays - 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm (7:30 pm Daylight Saving Time) - Be sure to support our neighborhood farmer's market.

Cool Blocks LA Program Seeks Community Leaders

Thanks to Los Angeles City Council's unanimous support, the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance is launching its Cool Blocks LA program and seeking Cool Block Leaders from Council District 10.

Cool Blocks LA uses a block-based, neighbor-to-neighbor organizing model to help households conserve water, reduce climate change, prepare for disasters, and foster neighborhood safety.

To apply, visit [here](#) to learn more about how to get involved with Cool Blocks LA as well as other environmental initiatives led by the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.

Block Captains Needed

We're in need of new block captains for the 1600 block of Point View, the 1400-1500 blocks of Stearns Drive, and the 1800 block of Fairfax. Let us know at the meeting or at neighborsunited2@aol.com if you will help.

2017 Dues are Due

Our 2017 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 2017.

Your dues cover the cost of renting our meeting place, postage, printing newsletters, 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. Rosters for 2016 will be provided to you by December 1, 2016. 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 bring it to the meeting or mail it to Neighbors United, P. O. Box 35103, Los Angeles 90035.

Want to Receive Neighbors United Newsletters Via Email?

If you'd like to receive Neighbors United newsletters (and/or emergency updates, which – knock on wood – we hope will be rare!) by email, please send your name, address and preferred email address to **neighborsunited2@aol.com**, and encourage interested neighbors to do the same. The more efficiently and broadly we can reach our neighbors, the more cohesive, informed and engaged we can be as a community. **Be aware, however, we still need your dues to pay rent for our meeting space, post office box and other expenses associated with planning department and other civic activities.**

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.

Hearts and Flowers

Thinking of you, Patty Kennedy.

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 our Hearts and Flowers Chair, Helen Nelson, at 323-934-0752, your block captain or email us at neighborsunited2@aol.com**

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,

P.I.C.O. NC & Tree People Present...

FREE RAIN BARRELS

** IF YOU QUALIFY FOR REBATE*

The Rainy Season Is Here (we hope)!

Get your home ready with a rain barrel or two!

How are they free?

Distribution is November 12, 2016 from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at 5931 W. 18th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90035 .

Go to http://www.socalwatersmart.com/?page_id=5389
to confirm you are eligible for the rebate.

Purchase these rain barrels for **\$85.00** each in advance.
To order your barrels go to <http://www.rainbarrelsintl.com/events-order.asp?id=220>
When you pick up your barrel you will get a receipt.

Once you get your receipt you can request your rebate at:

<https://mwd.conservationrebates.com/Disclosure.aspx>

Catching and re-using rainwater minimizes flooding,
decreases ocean pollution & nurtures trees + plants.

Pre-order your re-purposed, 58-gallon, black or terracotta
rain barrel for just \$85 through Rain Barrels International.

Location

L.A.C.E.S.

5931 West 18th Street
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P.I.C.O. NC & Tree People Present...**FREE RAIN BARRELS** ** If you qualify for rebate*

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