www.firstneighborhood.org

 First NFIGHBORHOOD

# $\mathbf{A}$ Property Owners Association

The First Neighborhood News is published by the First Neighborhood Property Owners Association 31830 Village Center Rd., Westlake Village, CA 91361 (818) 889-0632

**Homeowners Meeting** 

The Board of Directors meets the third Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is Wednesday, January 21, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center Cardroom. All homeowners are invited to attend.

#### **Office Hours**

The First Neighborhood office will be closed December 24, 25, 26, & 31, 2014 and January 1, 2015. Have a wonderful holiday!

#### Welcome Neighbors

These new residents have recently moved into our First Neighborhood and we welcome them. As new residents and members of the First Neighborhood Property Owners Association, you should call the Community Center office (818) 889-0632 if you have any questions regarding your new home or neighborhood.

Dean & Shelley, 4223 Hartfield Hamed & Maggie, 32023 Kingspark Court Scott & Betsy, 31707 Kentfield Court

#### **Christmas Tree Recycling**

Christmas trees will be picked up with your green waste on trash day. Please remove all tinsel, lights and the stand. If you have a large tree please cut it in half, the smaller trees can go right in your trash barrel.

#### **Greenbelt News**

In this season of holiday gift giving here's a gift idea for the entire First Neighborhood Community. I'll bet you were all wondering, what you were going to give to our Greenbelt this year? I mean what can you give to that neighborhood jewel that winds so beautifully and serenely behind our homes? How could you possibly add to its rich and lush splendor?

How about this neighbors, let's band



# Beautiful Home ~ 4401 Henley Court

together and make it our business to have a clean Greenbelt. Let's ALL make a concerted effort to pick up after our dogs. We have railed endlessly in this column about the health dangers that dog poop presents to the general public. We have added bag dispensers so that we now have eight places to grab a bag. We have even added garbage cans so that you never have to walk too far to dispose of the bag.

Through all this, we still see piles left unpicked up. We still receive complaints from neighbors who have stepped in those piles, or whose kids got sick after playing on the Greenbelt and getting dog mess on their hands. Please, please, please neighbors pick up the piles. If you see someone who is neglecting their duty, just nicely explain to them why it is important that we all cooperate in this effort.

Happy Holidays to all from the Greenbelt Committee. Here's to a clean Greenbelt in 2015!!!

#### **Rules & Regulations Regard**ing Recreational Vehicles

Trailers, campers, boats, jet skis or other recreational vehicles shall not be parked, other than temporarily, on a homeowner's property unless it is inside the garage or is fully screened from view so as to not be visible from the street or neighboring property. Temporary parking shall mean parking of said vehicles belonging to homeowner for loading and unloading purposes only, and in no event for a period in excess of 48 hours.

#### CC&R Highlights

Before proceeding with any alternation to the outside of your home (front, back, or sides), fill out and submit an Architectural Request form at least four weeks before scheduling the work. Remodels may take longer, so plan ahead. (The form is available by mail, the First Neighborhood website www.firstneighborhood.org, or you can stop by the First Neighborhood Office at the Community Center.)

# The Sheriff's Department Community Tips

### Holiday Safety

This holiday season, don't let the spirit of giving lull you into giving burglars, muggers, and pickpockets a better chance to do their dirty work. Crooks love the holidays as much as everyone else, but chiefly because it's an opportune time for crime.

Homes jam-packed with glittering gifts. Stores, malls and downtown streets teeming with unsuspecting shoppers. People rushing around, stressed out and careless, looking for last-minute gifts, trying to get everything done. It's enough to make a crook giddy with holiday joy. Here are some tips on how to celebrate safely this holiday season:

#### If you're traveling

- Get an automatic timer for your lights.
- Ask a neighbor to watch your home, and park in the driveway from time to time.
- Don't forget to have mail and newspapers collected by a neighbor. If it piles up, it's a sure sign you're gone.

#### If you're out for the evening

- Turn on lights and a radio or TV so it looks like someone's home.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave, even if it's just for a few minutes.
- Don't display gifts where they can be seen from outside.

#### If you're shopping

- Stay alert and be aware of what's going on around you.
- Park in a well-lighted space and be sure to lock the car, close the windows and hide shopping bags and gifts in the trunk.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card whenever possible.
- Deter pickpockets and purse-snatchers. Don't overburden yourself with packages. Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry a purse close to

# Community Center Calendar of Events December 2014 - January 2015

DECEMBER 2014				
Wednesday 3	Girl Scouts	12:30 p.m.		
Thursday 4	Girl Scouts	2:00 p.m.		
Friday 5	Cotillion	4:00 p.m.		
Saturday 6	Party	9:00 a.m.		
Saturday 13	Party	9:00 a.m.		
Sunday 14	Party	9:00 a.m.		
Wednesday 17	Girl Scouts	12:30 p.m.		
Thursday 18	Girl Scouts	2:00 p.m.		
Friday 19	Preschool sing-a-long	11:00 a.m.		
JANUARY 2015				
Friday 2	Party	9:00 a.m.		
Friday 9	Cotillion	4:00 p.m.		
Wednesday 14	Girl Scouts	12:30 p.m.		
Thursday 15	Girl Scouts	2:00 p.m.		
Saturday 17	Party	9:00 a.m.		

your body, not dangling by the straps. Put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.

• Shopping with kids? Teach them to go to a store clerk or security guard if you get separated.

If a stranger comes to the door, beware

Criminals sometimes pose as couriers delivering gifts. And it's not uncommon for people to try to take advantage of other's generosity during the holidays by going door-to-door for charitable donations when there's no charity involved. Ask for identification and find out how the funds will be used. If you aren't satisfied, don't give. Help a charitable organization you know and like instead.

Last but not least, don't let holiday stress get the best of your holiday spirit. Make time to get together with family, friends and neighbors. And think about reaching out in the spirit of the season and helping someone who's less fortunate or lonely.

Do your part to make the holidays a safe and happy time for everyone - except criminals.

#### Take a holiday inventory

The holidays are a good time to update "or create" your home inventory. Take photos or make videos of items and list descriptions and serial numbers. If your home is burglarized, having a detailed inventory can help identify stolen items and make insurance claims easier to file. Make sure things like TV's, VCR's, stereo equipment, cameras, camcorders, sports equipment, jewelry, silver, computers, home office equipment and power tools are on the list. Remember to check it twice!

If you have questions, please contact Deputy Shawn Brownell at (818) 878-1808 extension 3103.



## Westlake Village Places of Worship



St. Jude's Catholic Church ...... (818) 889-1279 Fr. Jim Stehly 32032 Lindero Canyon Rd. - Westlake Village, 91361 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Matthew Nolte, Pastor 30600 Thousand Oaks Blvd. - Agoura, 91301 Rabbi Barry Diamond 2420 E. Hillcrest Dr. - Thousand Oaks, 91362 The Church of the Epiphany ...... (818) 991-4797 (Episcopal) Rev. Melissa McCarthy 5450 Churchwood Dr. - Oak Park, 91377 The Calvary Community Church ..... (818) 991-8040 Shawn Thornton, Pastor

5495 Via Rocas - Westlake Village, 91362 Conejo Valley Congregational Church ......(805) 381-0484 Dave Clack, Pastor

750 Erbes Road - Thousand Oaks, 91362

Westminster Presbyterian Church... (818) 889-1491 Rev. Dr. Richard H. Thompson, Pastor 32111 Watergate Road - Westlake Village, 91361

First Church of Christian Scientist... (805) 495-3203 305 Conejo School Road - Thousand Oaks, 91362

New Hope Lutheran Church........... (818) 889-8700 Craig Beeker, Pastor 29295 Agoura Road - Agoura Hills, 91301

#### REFERENCE INFORMATION FOR HOMEOWNERS First Neighborhood Property Owners Association

Homeowners and Architectural Committee meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center. Your attendance is most welcome at all regular meetings. The Architectural Committee requests your applications for review and approval of all exterior modifications to your home or landscaping (reroofing, tree removal, etc.) Newsletter deadline is the 3rd Monday of each month. Please submit information in person, by phone or mail to the Community Center.

For Emergencies Or Problems: Police (Sheriff) 911 (Emergency) or 818-878-1808; 818-991-0522 (fax) Fire/paramedics 911 (Emergency) or 818-889-1122; 818-889-1626 (business) Animal Control 818-991-0071 Gas Leaks 1-800-427-2200 Electrical Power Loss 1-800-611-1911 Broken Water Main 818-251-2100 (Las Virgenes Water Dist.) **Telephone Repair** 611 Las Virgenes Water Dist. 818-251-2100 Vector Control Rodents 626-430-5450 Mosquitoes 310-915-7370 For General Information: **Community Center Office** 818-889-0632 (8:30 - 12:30 pm, Mon.-Fri.) Manager - The Emmons Company 805-413-1170 (8:30 am - 5:30 pm, Mon.-Fri.) City Hall 818-706-1613 Health Dept. 818-880-3409 LA County Health & Human Service Program 211 To Report Common Area Problems: Continuously Running Sprinklers: On City Property (Cul-de-Sacs, Medians, Park) 818-706-1613 (9 am - 5 pm, Mon.-Fri.) On First Neighborhood Property (Greenbelts Only) 818-889-0632 (8:30 am-12:30 pm, Mon.-Fri.) Lights Out On Greenbelt: Customer Service 1-800-655-4555 Community Center Alarm: Aid Alert Security 818-991-6002 Board of Directors: Architectural Committee: Brad Halpern - President Sherry Crakow Don Miller - Vice President Tony D'Amore Kelly Ray - Treasurer Al MacDonald Sophie Brown - Secretary Janie McKay Bill White - Member-At-Large Len Polan **Rich Shin** Greenbelt Committee: Robin Hirsch, Chairman (818) 822-7091 Bruce Gruver Allisyn Cashdan Notes

#### Minutes of the First Neighborhood Property Owners Association Board of Directors Meeting • October 15, 2014

The First Neighborhood Property Owners Association Board of Directors assembled and held its regular meeting on Wednesday, October 15, 2014 at the First Neighborhood Community Center at 31830 Village Center Road.

#### **Call to Order**

President Brad Halpern called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m. Members Present and Constituting A Quorum Brad Halpern, President Don Miller, Vice President Kelly Ray, Treasurer Sophie Brown, Secretary Bill White, Member-at-Large – Left early

#### **Others Present**

Len Polan, Architectural Committee Bruce Gruver, Greenbelt Committee Sharon Howard, Recording Secretary Tish Matthews, Association Manager

#### **Homeowners Present**

There was one homeowner present at the meeting.

#### **Homeowner Comments**

Len Polan spoke as a homeowner and discussed the importance of conserving water. Mr. Polan stated during this severe drought it is necessary to follow the watering guidelines.

#### **Greenbelt Report**

Bruce Gruver reported on the greenbelts. Mr. Gruver supplied the Board with a proposal from Tom Foster Construction to do some additional sidewalk repairs in the greenbelt.

 $\rm MOTION-A$  motion was made by Kelly Ray to approve the Tom Foster Construction concrete repair bid. Motion was seconded by Don Miller and passed unanimously.

Architectural Report

Len Polan reported for the Architectural Committee. Mr. Polan reported there needs to be a rule change to the Architectural Rule Book for the association regarding adding guidelines for owners interested in installing native landscaping. The Board asked Len Polan to look into hiring a consultant and present the draft rules to the Board. Once reviewed and approved the changes will be mailed to the membership for review.

The following applications have been approved by the Architectural Committee:

#0088	4518 Coolhaven Court	Fence Replacement
#0194	32031 Wallington Court	Solar Panels
#0295	31761 Bedfordhurst Court	Windows, Doors
#0328	31925 Benchley Court	Landscape, Paint
#0334	31922 Lyndbrook Court	Paint
#0359	31924 Kingspark Court	Tree Removal
#0556	31665 Village School Road	Driveway, Walkway
#0586	4439 Sevenoaks Court	Landscape
#0610	4410 Henley Court	Landscape
#0650	4403 Regents Court	Roof, Door

#### **Management Report**

Tish Matthews supplied the Board with a proposal from Premier Commercial Painting to paint the fascia board, eaves and door frames of the Community Center.

MOTION – A motion was made by Brad Halpern to approve the proposal from Premier Commercial Painting in the amount of \$2,880.00. Motion was seconded by Kelly Ray and passed unanimously

#### **Approval of Minutes**

MOTION – A motion was made by Don Miller to approve the September 18, 2014 Regular Minutes. Motion was seconded by Sophie Brown and passed unanimously

MOTION – A motion was made by Don Miller to approve the September 18, 2014 Executive Minutes. Motion was seconded by Sophie Brown and passed unanimously

#### **Financial / Delinquency Report**

Tish Matthews presented the Financial/Delinquency Report. Ms. Matthews reported the total cash on hand as of September 30, 2014 is \$548,477.66. Income is currently higher due to clubhouse rentals, summer camp income and collections.

MOTION – A motion was made by Kelly Ray to approve the September Financials. Motion was seconded by Don Miller and passed unanimously.

MOTION – A motion was made by Sophie Brown to approve the September Delinquency Report. Motion was seconded by Kelly Ray and passed unanimously.

#### **Old Business**

Kelly Ray reported there has been a delay on getting together with the City's landscaper regarding the beautification of Freedom Square. Ms. Ray stated they are very close to the final version of the project.

The Board discussed two proposals submitted to replace/repair the First Neighborhood pool decking. After a lengthy discussion the Board agreed to table this matter for a later date.

#### **New Business**

The Board reviewed a proposal from Slade Landscaping requesting a 3% contract increase effective January 1, 2015.

 $\rm MOTION-A$  motion was made by Brad Halpern to approve the 3% contract increase from Slade Landscaping. Motion was seconded by Kelly Ray and passed unanimously.

Tish Matthews presented the 2014-2015 insurance renewal proposal from LaBarre/Oksnee Insurance Agency.

MOTION – A motion was made by Don Miller to approve the 2014-2015 insurance renewal from LaBarre/Oksnee. Motion was seconded by Sophie Brown and passed unanimously.

Tish Matthews also presented the proposed budget for 2015 for the Board to review.

MOTION – A motion was made by Kelly Ray to approve the 2015 Budget. Motion was seconded by Don Miller and passed unanimously.

#### **Community Center Applications**

The following applications for the use of the Community Center were reviewed and approved.

NAMĖ	EVENT	DATE
Resident	Party	11/16/14
Non-Resident	Party	11/29/14
Non-Resident	Party	01/02/15
Non-Resident	Party	03/21/15
Non-Resident	Party	03/28/15
Non-Resident	Party	06/27/15

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Howard, Recording Secretary

# Sunset Magazine December Checklist

### Planting

Buy Bare-Root plants. Gardeners in coastal, inland, and low desert regions can begin planting bare-root this month. Roses show up at nurseries first. It's a good idea to shop early for the best selection. Later this month and early next month, deciduous fruit trees, cane berries and grapes, and perennial vegetables such as artichokes and asparagus will begin arriving. Plant all as soon as possible. Do not allow roots to dry out. If the ground is too wet for immediate planting, cover roots with soil or plant temporarily in containers.

Plant Winter Vegetables. Plant replacement for the winter crops you harvest. Beets, carrots, chard, kale, head and leaf lettuces, mustard, peas, radishes, and spinach can go in from seed. Broccoli, brussels sprouts, cabbage, and cauliflower do best started as seedlings.

**Finish Planting Bulbs.** Coastal, inland, and low-desert gardeners can continue to plant spring-blooming bulbs, including crocus, hyacinths, and tulips that have been prechilled at least six weeks.

#### Maintenance

**Care for Christmas Trees.** To prolong the freshness of a cut tree, saw an inch off the bottom of the trunk, then store the tree in a bucket of water in a shady area outdoors. When ready to bring it indoors, saw off another inch of the trunk before setting the tree in a stand filled with water. Keep the reservoir full (check it daily during the first week). It's best to keep living trees outdoors until shortly before the holidays. Don't leave them indoors longer than two weeks.



**Protect Frost-Sensitive Plants.** Move tender container plants under the eaves or indoors when cold weather is predicted. Cover plants in the ground with perforated plastic or burlap supported by some kind of frame that will keep the cover from touching the foliage (such as four tall stakes).

#### **Pest Control**

Apply Dormant Spray. As soon as their leaves fall, spray deciduous flowering and fruit trees with dormant oil to smother overwintering aphids, mites, and scale. If you haven't already treated trees for peach leaf curl, do so now. Add lime sulfur or fixed copper to the dormant oil. Spray branches, crotches, and trunk, as well as the ground beneath the tree's drip line. If it rains within 48 hours of spraying, repeat the treatment. Spray again at the height of dormancy and at the first bud swell. Gardeners at upper elevations or in the high desert can treat roses with dormant spray now, too.

**Prevent Beetle Damage.** Prune eucalyptus, pine and other trees susceptible to bark beetles now, while beetles are inactive. Chip the prunings or cover the firewood tightly with a trap to prevent beetles from laying eggs. (Beetles lay eggs on dead as well as live wood.)

#### LA County Sheriff's Department – Malibu Lost Hills Station Joins Nextdoor.com

Hello, my name is Lieutenant Jennifer Seetoo, and I am pleased to announce the Malibu Lost Hills Sheriff's Station will be using Nextdoor.com to facilitate virtual neighborhood watch and foster neighbor-to-neighbor communications. Nextdoor is a tool for us to effectively share information on crime prevention and safety, public events, and emergency notifications. You can expect to receive local crime and safety updates from the Malibu Lost Hills Sheriff's Station on Nextdoor. Please be assured that your website remains private. Sheriff's personnel will not be able to see any of the content on your neighborhood website, except for the direct replies to our posts. Please be aware that Nextdoor is not the appropriate way to request emergency services, police services, report criminal or suspicious activity, file a report, etc. If you require emergency services, please call 911. For non-emergency concerns, please call the Malibu Lost Hills Sheriff's Station business line at (818) 878-1808. We look forward to connecting with you on Nextdoor to build stronger, safer neighborhoods throughout the Sheriff's Malibu Lost Hills Station policing areas. Please join Nextdoor.com and download the app on your smart phone.

#### Street Cleaner

The street cleaner comes every Thursday. So remember to get your cars off the street so the entire neighborhood can be cleaned. Thank you.

#### Approved Architectural Applications

#0015	4501 Guildhall Court	
	Landscape	
#0051	4531 Yorkfield Court	
	Windows	
#0308	31980 Benchley Court	
	Roof	
#0449	4335 Hartfield Court	
	Roof	
#0513	4223 Abbington Court	
	Front Door	
#0542	31623 Village School Road	
	Tree Removal	
#0638	4525 Regents Court	
	Windows, Doors	

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#### DATED MATERIAL



### Electronic Communication Consent for POA Documents

We are asking all homeowners in the First Neighborhood Property Owners Association to authorize us to communicate with you by e-mail in lieu of first class mail, specifically for annual mailings such as the budget and audit reports, as well as newsletters, quarterly billing statements, and other documents concerning the Association. Any electronic record satisfies the "in writing" requirement, as long as it comes in a form that can be retained electronically or printed as per 2014 Davis Stirling Act 4035-4045. Transmitting the documents by e-mail will reduce printing and mailing costs for your Association. We would also be able to contact you quickly in case of an emergency in the community.

#### You can print out the form authorizing consent from the association website: www.firstneighborhood.org

We urge you to sign up for this method of communication if you have e-mail. If you do sign up, but change your mind in the future, you may revoke your consent at any time by notifying us in writing that you wish to do so.