

The Crest View

a periodic newsletter sponsored by the Culver Crest Neighborhood Association

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Greetings to our neighbors. If you haven't heard from us by now, then please accept this newsletter created by the Board of Directors of the Culver Crest Neighborhood Association (CCNA) as an introduction. We are all volunteers and our mission is to make life better for those living on Culver Crest.

NOTICE OF GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, July 20, 2005 6:30 pm at Raintree Denny's

Guest Speakers:

**Mr. Charles Herbertson, Culver City Public Works Director - re:Tellefson Hillside
Lt. Carlos Reynosa, Culver City Police Department - re: Culver Crest Neighborhood Watch
John Kuechle - Culver City Charter Revisions Committee Member**

**Nominations for the upcoming Board of Directors will be requested.
Elections will take place at our October, 2005 General Meeting.**

What follows is a partial list of what we have so far accomplished and a proposed agenda for issues to discuss in the future. We want and appreciate your input so please feel free to communicate with us to make your wishes known.

HILLSLIDE: The causes of the hillside and the remedies to the problem are still unclear and under continued discussion. Our city fathers have so far taken the position that this is not a matter of public concern because the slide occurred on private property. The five affected owners have all asked FEMA to grant them money to make repairs, estimated between (depending on who you talk to) \$2,000,000 and \$4,000,000. There is some issue whether there is a true public danger on Tellefson and the more such a danger is perceived, the more likely the City and FEMA will be responsive and take some positive action. What is of most concern is whether any work will be done before the rains come this fall and if not, what will the effect of any new rains be.

WLA COLLEGE: The College has signed an enforceable agreement that requires them to take specific steps to lessen the impact of the expansion of the college on the surrounding neighborhoods. The agreement is called a Memorandum of Understanding and calls for:

1. The construction of a second access road connecting the College to Jefferson Boulevard (at or near Leahy Street), which will hopefully reduce the amount of College traffic using Overland. Although the College may begin the construction of new classroom buildings whenever it wishes, it may not occupy the new buildings until the second access road is open to the public.
2. Construction activities may only take place between 8:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on weekdays, and between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. on Saturdays. Construction vehicles may not enter Culver City before 8:00 a.m., and may only enter the campus via the new access road from Jefferson. No construction parking will be allowed on Culver City streets. The entrance at Overland and Freshman is to remain free of construction vehicles.
3. The first project will be a new parking lot at the beginning of the construction process and will insure that there is, at all times, adequate parking on campus for its students and staff.
4. A berm will be constructed along Stocker Street between the College and Culver Crest. The berm will be landscaped and built to reduce noise and dust from the construction on campus.
5. The College's ability to hold entertainment and similar events on the campus is limited to certain hours, and the College will take steps to insure that these events do not unduly disrupt neighborhood residents.
6. The College has appointed an Ombudsman who will be reachable 24 hours a day to react to and deal with community complaints about the construction operations or the ongoing operations of the College (including special events).
7. The new \$1,000,000 professional track at the College will remain open from 5:30 a.m. until 8:00 p.m., seven days a week (except when being used by a College class or activity).

Many thanks to all who assisted in this fight with special hats off to Ken Kutcher (our Young Turk award winner) and John Kuechle (Above & Beyond award winner).

GENERAL HILLSIDE STABILITY: This is a separate issue involving the City's building codes and their application when anyone on the Crest chooses to remodel or rebuild a hillside lot. Our director, Howard Lichtman, an architect, is head of our subcommittee formed to monitor this issue. A couple of homes on Tellefson have recently been remodeled and it remains to be seen how their new construction and the City's new codes will work out. We will keep you posted.

HOLY CROSS CEMETERY: For many years, the overgrown trees, bushes and grasses covering the ravine behind Linda Way, Esterina Way and Maloney were a severe fire hazard. This danger was resolved when your CCNA wrote letters and put pressure on Holy Cross to live up to their obligations and clear the hillsides. Holy Cross just finished this project and a new fire road is now evident as is the clearings which are now visible. Thank you Holy Cross.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION: We are asking for everyone on the Crest to become a voluntary member of the CCNA. Dues are \$60 per year. Everyone is welcome to attend the meetings and present their issues whether they join or not, but it's important to track who we are and obtain funds necessary to defray expenses. An application is attached here to mail to us or bring to a meeting. Make your checks payable to "Culver Crest Neighborhood Association". For example, it would be helpful if we had the money to hire soils engineers to make and analyze borings on the hill to assist in speeding up the reconstruction process.

Our expenses so far have been mailers, stamps, paper and stationary, a traffic engineer to assist in the issues presented by the College, a court reporter, fees to file objections to the Draft EIR proposed by the College, signs to announce meetings and other related costs. No one on the Board of Directors receives any compensation and many of them help defray our costs right out of their pockets. All of our money is accounted for by our Treasurer and anyone is entitled to inspect our books and records.

If you or someone you know made donations to assist so far, no amount of words can express our thanks to you for this support. So far we have received over \$10,000 and at least one person donated \$1,000. **We are not a non-profit association** so donations are not tax deductible, therefore, making a contribution is even more appreciated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We regret the passing of two of our long time residents, George Vollmer and Esther Torn, this past week. George was an original Crest resident and both were very active in our community. Their impact on our lives will be missed. Our condolences to their families.

Our next general meeting will be Wednesday, July 20, 2005 starting at 6:30 pm at Raintree Denny's. Denny's would appreciate us buying food to say thank you to them for the room. We can seat about 100 people and the meetings are heavily attended, so come early if you want a good seat.

CREST TRAFFIC: At the request of the CCNA Board, Marycrest Manor agreed to help our traffic situation by re-scheduling the hourly deliveries of their supplier's trucks to more reasonable hours. Marycrest Manor has been asked to assist residents by having their employees slow down both coming and going from the Manor. Incidents of increased speed both at the top of Cranks and down Ranch to Overland have been reported. Not all of these drivers, however, are Manor employees. Much of the speeding is attributed to residents. We must all try to live in harmony so please watch your speed when traveling on the hill.

At the request of the Board, the CCPD will start early morning patrols and rush hour patrols to monitor the traffic and ticket any gross offenders. Remember, speed kills.

CULVER CITY CHARTER REVISION: For those in the know, our City is considering revisions to its City Charter. This should enable us to manage our affairs with more efficiency and lesser costs. The omnipresent John Kuechle, a member of the City's Charter Revision Commission, will speak and update us on this process at our next meeting. The hot button issue seems to be removing the micro-management from the hands of the Council and empowering a City Manager. What do you think about this and the many other issues they are tackling? They affect us!

ELECTIONS: The CCNA constitution requires elections to be held each October at our annual general meeting. Nominations for the upcoming Board of Directors are now being solicited. The Board will seat nine persons. You may vote for a slate or individual members in October and you may nominate a slate or any individual. Nominations will be made at the July 20 general meeting. The current slate being proposed consists of all of the current directors except Paul Jacobs who will retire from our Board in October. Thank you for your services Paul! The current Board members are listed on the masthead above.

DO YOU KNOW WHO YOUR BLOCK CAPTAINS ARE? Block captains have been serving almost every street on the Crest. They help by distributing flyers, serve as the first point of information and also work on your Neighborhood Watch. In our next issue we will introduce you to your block captains. Without their service, we are silent.

Subcommittee Heads:

West Los Angeles College:	John Kuechle	jmkuechle@yahoo.com.
Hillside:	Howard Lichtman	ldc.inc@comcast.net
Block Captain's Captain:	Rich Kissel	rich@richkissel.com

Cut along the dotted line

Send or bring to Mike Bauer, 10676 Esterina Way, Culver City, CA 90230
or bring it to the July meeting.

Application for Membership

YES! I want to join and support the Culver Crest Neighborhood Association!

Here is \$60.00 for my first year's dues and/or \$ _____ as a voluntary contribution

Name: _____ Tel: () _____

Address: _____

E-mail to : _____