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### **MAY®R'S CORNER**

onth after month, there seems to be an item reported to the LHH City Council that involves the La Habra Heights Fire Department (LHHFD).

Month after month, such reports are always positive indications of the professionalism of that department.

At our last council meeting, for instance, we learned that LHHFD has been selected by California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to house one of their fire trucks—one that happens to be set up to fight brush fires. It will be operated by our firefighters and be available for use by the city, and it can also be called on for service elsewhere in the state. Cal OES could have assigned this fire engine anywhere it wanted, but LHHFD was the department chosen.

As a department participating in mutual aid with surrounding departments, LHHFD is frequently called upon to support others in emergency situations. If our department weren't highly competent, others wouldn't come to them time and again for assistance. LHHFD has deployed several times in the past year to join others fighting brush fires in various parts of the state. In my thinking, if LHHFD weren't as good as it apparently is, other departments wouldn't be so trusting and ready to call on them.

What's also impressive to me is how often LHHFD has been selected to receive grants, which this fiscal year alone have totaled hundreds of thousands of dollars.



LHHFD has a compensated staff, but it is also host to a number of volunteers already trained in firefighting but in need of experience to become full-time, compensated firefighters in other departments. In a sense, they are saying: "We know where we can receive quality training and experience: at La Habra Heights Fire Department." Even paramedics serving the Heights are supervised under the auspices of a UCLA program.

Last month, the LHH City Council approved fulltime positions for three fire captains. These people have had careers with other departments and, like the volunteers, have chosen to serve with LHHFD. I can only imagine the experience and wisdom they bring to their jobs. If I were new to firefighting, I would certainly welcome the opportunity to spend my workdays with such incredible mentors.



It remains for me to thank the leader who has done so much to make this happen: LHH Fire Chief Doug Graft. His leadership has helped create a fire department ready for challenges both today and in the future.

I hope Heights residents will show appreciation to our

firefighters and paramedics without flames being nearby. Many of you have recently had the chance to do so, since LHHFD personnel have provided COVID-19 vaccinations, as well as transportation for residents to receive vaccinations. The goodness of this department has no end.

—Dennis Laherty





#### PRESIDENT'S PEN

ongratulations to the winners of our annual LHHIA Photo Contest (see pages 8 and 9). The entries were especially good this year, and the voting was very close. In addition to the winners, many of the entered photos will likely appear in future issues of *Heights Life*.

Congratulations as well to our Class of 2021 graduates honored on pages 10 and 11. We'll be featuring more graduates in the July issue of *Heights Life* (see the invitation on page 4).

**Music in The Park update:** We have tentatively booked four bands for Music in The Park concerts in late July and early August, contingent on our ability to comply with updated state, county and city Covid-19 guidelines, which we hope to receive by mid-June. Watch *lhhia.com*, *Heights Life* and *Guac Talk*, and we'll let you know as soon as we receive the necessary guidance.



**Annual General Meeting on September 1:** Because of ongoing uncertainties related to the pandemic, the LHHIA Board of Directors postponed our organization's Annual General Meeting and Election to Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Please save that date. We hope that restrictions on public gatherings will have eased sufficiently by that time that we will be able to hold the meeting at La Habra Heights City Hall. Watch *Heights Life* and *lhhia.com* for updates and details.

**Our thanks to Jane Noltensmeier:** On June 30, Jane Noltensmeier will be leaving the LHHIA Board of Directors after nearly a decade of service to the organization and Heights community, including two years as LHHIA president. At our meeting on May 12, the board expressed gratitude for Jane's numerous contributions and presented her a special gift.

Jane co-edited *Heights Life* along with Vicki Cooke for three years, then joined the LHHIA board and served for six years, during which she was chairperson of Welcome Wagon and an active participant in all our annual and special events each year. We wish Jane all the best, and we'll welcome her continued involvement in LHHIA activities.

—Pam McVicar

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#### Gary Dominguez, former LHH Fire Chief, passes away

ary Dominguez, 61, who served as Fire Chief of the La Habra Heights Fire Department from September 1, 2010, through March 22, 2012, passed away peacefully at his home on May 5 from brain cancer.



Fire Chief Doug Graft issued the following statement: "Chief

Dominguez came to the LHHFD after a full career at the Fullerton Fire Department, all the while training countless young firefighters at the Santa Ana College Fire Academy. We extend our deepest condolences to the Dominguez family." The City Council and staff added their condolences.

Chief Dominguez began teaching at the Santa Ana College Fire Academy in 1985 and instructed 122 fire academies and thousands of firefighters over the next 34 years. He simultaneously served the Fullerton Fire Department for 29 years, retiring in 2010 as the Division Chief responsible for operations. He was interim Fullerton Fire Chief in 2005.

He is survived by his wife Suzie, son Gary, daughters Amy and Kristina, sister Arlene and their families.



n this issue (pages 10 and 11) and in the July issue of Heights Life, we're once again celebrating our graduates from La Habra Heights, including those graduating from 8th grade, high school, college and advanced-degree programs. If you haven't already done so, we invite you to submit the information below to HeightsLifeEditor@gmail.com:

- · Name of the graduate
- School name
- · Photo of the graduate
- Brief paragraph about the graduate (honors, activities, etc.)
- Next school the graduate will attend (if applicable)

Please submit your information by June 15 for the July issue. By submitting, you agree to allow your images and information to appear in Heights Life and on the LHHIA website (Ihhia.com).



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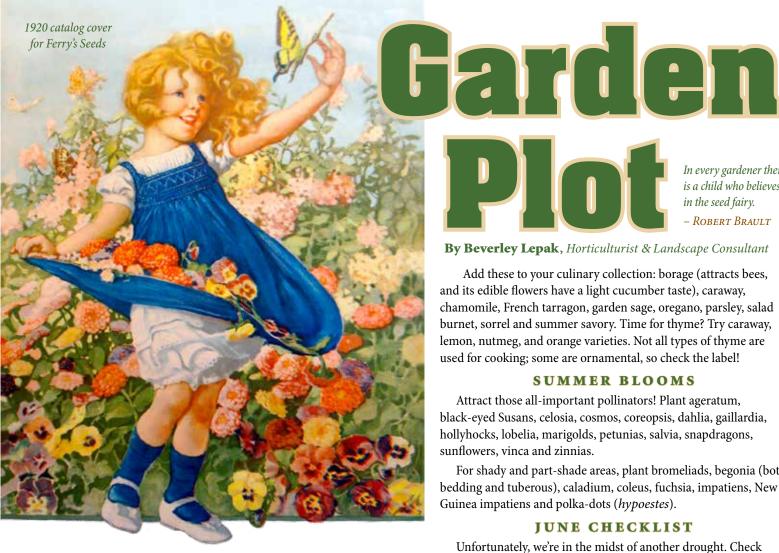


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**HE SUMMER SOLSTICE**, the first day of summer, will arrive on Sunday, June 20, at 8:31 p.m. Surprise dad for Father's Day (also June 20) by having the kids clean up the "grill station," transplant some yummy herbs in pots and place them near the BBQ for the chef!

We can enjoy outdoor gatherings with longer daylight hours and warmer weather. Keep the kids busy with summer gardening projects. Plant a summer garden. Make a corn or sunflower maze. Plant a butterfly garden—and be sure to include milkweed for monarch butterflies. Have the kids keep a garden log so they can track germination rates, identify insects and see how long it takes until harvest time. Make or purchase a bird bath and feeders for hummingbirds.

#### SUMMER VEGETABLES & HERBS

Harvest the last of your late-season spring vegetables and plant or sow seeds of beans, beets, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, endive, kale, lima beans, peppers, pumpkins, melons, okra, radishes, sweet potatoes, Swiss chard, summer squash, tomatoes and zucchini.

It's basil season! Sow seeds of different varieties: clove, large green, lemon, licorice, Genovese, Greek, mammoth and Thai, among many more. Sow in two-week intervals and pinch off flowers to keep the foliage full and flavorful.











In every gardener there is a child who believes in the seed fairy.

– Robert Brault

By Beverley Lepak, Horticulturist & Landscape Consultant

Add these to your culinary collection: borage (attracts bees, and its edible flowers have a light cucumber taste), caraway, chamomile, French tarragon, garden sage, oregano, parsley, salad burnet, sorrel and summer savory. Time for thyme? Try caraway, lemon, nutmeg, and orange varieties. Not all types of thyme are used for cooking; some are ornamental, so check the label!

#### SUMMER BLOOMS

Attract those all-important pollinators! Plant ageratum, black-eyed Susans, celosia, cosmos, coreopsis, dahlia, gaillardia, hollyhocks, lobelia, marigolds, petunias, salvia, snapdragons, sunflowers, vinca and zinnias.

For shady and part-shade areas, plant bromeliads, begonia (both bedding and tuberous), caladium, coleus, fuchsia, impatiens, New Guinea impatiens and polka-dots (hypoestes).

#### JUNE CHECKLIST

Unfortunately, we're in the midst of another drought. Check irrigation lines for leaks and adjust timers if needed. Mulch where you want to protect root systems and reduce weeds. Deeply water large trees and shrubs at least once a month over the summer, and water succulents and cacti a little. Some California native plants will start to go "summer dormant" around the end of June; lightly irrigating them is ok, but don't overwater them later in the summer.

Hungry critters will find your fruit and foliage irresistible! Fencing can help keep out those gophers, moles, squirrels and rabbits, but some will surely find ways into your garden. You may need to use additional methods to keep them under control.

"June drop": Some fruit trees will drop small and undeveloped fruits. This a natural process if a tree has too many fruits for the crop to develop fully. Trim off any non-producing branches and water sprouts to help healthier fruit ripen. Water fruit on a regular schedule and pick up and dispose of any rotting fruit.

We really need to keep up on brush clearance and trim along roadsides as the weather gets hotter and fire season worsens!

Happy Father's Day, and congrats to all our grads!

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- Daily physical activity.
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- Clean, well-maintained bathrooms.
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- Multilingual staff: English, Japanese, Urdu, Hindi and Spanish.

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## Annual La Habra Heights Improvement Association PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

Ithough it's rare, we occasionally have one person receive multiple prizes in our annual LHHIA Photo Contest. It happens in part because the voting process is "blind"—i.e., judges see only randomly-numbered photos and do not know names of individual photographers until after results are tabulated. This year, **Patty Kraikittikun-Phuong** received enough votes in a very close race to win both first *and* second. See her first-place winner on this month's cover; her second-place entry is shown below. Patty is obviously fond of Heights wildlife! The LHHIA Board of Directors, which judged the contest, sincerely thanks her and everyone who participated.

#### **SECOND PLACE** • Patty Kraikittikun-Phuong







**Jodee Morgan**, our third-place winner, has won first, second and third prizes in past contests. Jodee has been very active in Highland Riders for many years, and her portrait of a young rider is one of literally thousands of equestrian shots she has taken. Her photo below reminds us of better pre-Covid times when horse shows took place at The Park, and we're all hopeful that such community-building activities will soon resume.

**Seann Hogan**, who received an Honorable Mention from the judges, captured the essence of a lovely Heights evening with his view of the moon and city lights below. His photo reminds us why we cherish our "dark skies."

Watch future *Heights Life* issues, because we plan to publish as many of our remaining entries as possible. Please remember that you don't have to wait until contest-time to send your photographs to *Heights Life*—we appreciate receiving them all year long, and we'll still be happy to enter them in our next contest! Just email them to *heightslifeeditor@gmail.com*.

#### Jodee Morgan



#### **HONORABLE MENTION** • Seann Hogan





## Congratulations, LHH graduates!

From LHHIA and our entire La Habra Heights community

#### Nicholas Berduo

Nicholas, a La Habra Heights resident since 2012, graduated from La Habra High School with a 3.8 GPA. He played varsity basketball all four years and also played for La Mirada ACR's travel ball team. He plans to attend Fullerton Junior College for his first two years and then transfer to a university, and he hopes



to continue playing basketball while in college.

#### Dana Baroldi

Dana, a Los Compadres Scholarship winner, graduated from Sonora High School with academic achievement awards all four years. A varsity athlete in track and field, she was an MVP in 2018. In the Interscholastic Equestrian League, she was varsity champ in 2020. Memberships: National Honor Society,

Science Club and Future Farmers. She received a Merit Award Scholarship to the Colorado School of Mines, where she will study civil engineering.

#### **David Castro**

David graduated from 8th grade at Rancho Starbuck Intermediate School. He earned kindness awards and worked as a volunteer in the school cafeteria. He attends Kid Rock Music School in La Habra and plays drums at his church, where he also works as an aid and assists with



lessons. He has been accepted into the Forensics Academy at La Habra High School and aspires to study medicine in college and become a physician.

#### **Madeleine Chang**

Madeleine, a thirdgeneration resident of La Habra Heights, graduated with honors from Sonora High School, where she was captain of the water polo team, president of the French Club and a member of National Honor Society. CSF, IMPACT and the swim team. She won a



Presidential Scholarship to Chapman University to study psychology as a pre-med student.

#### Hanna Chong

Hanna is graduating with honors from Azusa Pacific University with a master of science degree in nursing. After working professionally as a pediatric nurse for 12 years, Hanna will now become an advancedpractice pediatric nurse practitioner. A member of the Sigma Theta Tau Honors Society, she is a children's health advocate.



#### **Chrysoula Gatsios**

Chrysoula graduated from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, with a master of education with a major in higher education and an emphasis in college sports leadership. She was an assistant dive coach and completed a graduate assistantship in athletics, compliance and community engagement. She plans a career in athletic administration.



Michael Lanfranchi

#### Michael graduated from Mother of Divine Grace School, where he was honored twice for scholarship by the National Latin Association. He has practiced mixed martial arts since age six, earning a second-degree black belt in Tai Kwon Do. He enjoys drawing and playing guitar.



attending California State University in Fullerton, where he will be majoring in electrical engineering.

#### Ashlynn Martinez

Ashlynn graduated from La Habra High School, where she was a member of both the La Habra High School Cheer Team as well as the school's nationally recognized and award-winning Competition Team for all four years. (She began cheerleading for La Habra Pop Warner back in 2015.)



Ashlynn will be attending Mt. San Antonio College to begin her studies towards a nursing career.

#### **Bailey Pepper**

Bailey graduated from La Habra High School, where she was involved in AP Heritage, National Honor Society, Varsity Cheer, Theater Guild and CSF. She competed in the OC **Mock Trial Competition** and Lions Club Student Speaker Program. She will be attending Cypress College, majoring in



psychology with an emphasis in criminology, and she aspires to become a psychologist.

#### Jacob Pepper

Jacob graduated from Rancho Starbuck Intermediate School. He has been accepted into the Heritage Humanities Magnet Program at La Habra High School. Jacob often volunteers at local events such as Operation Santa. For Love La Habra, he helped repaint local schools, La



Habra Children's Museum and a family home. He especially likes assisting families in need.

#### Emma Rowell

Emma graduated from La Habra High School. She was in the FPFA program and a varsity cheerleader all four years, including winning the CIF Championship. A member of Highland Riders, she has been showing her horse Cool Suede Shoes since she was six. Emma loves



animals and aspires to be a veterinarian; she will begin her studies at Cypress College.

#### Oscar Sing

Oscar graduated from La Habra High School. He made top 100 during his freshman year and then continued developing his keen interest in science, especially matters related to testing, the environment and global warming-which is why he plans to major in environmental



engineering when he begins his studies at California State Polytechnic University in Pomona this fall.

#### Nicole White

Nicole graduated from Heights Academy (homeschool junior high). In addition to studying traditional subjects, Nicole took French 101 at Fullerton College. Her favorite classes were science and history. She excelled in art, piano and PE. She even completed a 345-mile virtual bike/



swim/run across California. She looks forward to attending Fullerton High School in the fall.

**EDITORS' NOTE:** We will also feature graduates from La Habra Heights in our July issue of Heights Life (see page 4). Please submit a photograph and student details by June 15 to heightslifeeditor@gmail.com. If you submit a photograph of your student with his or her name and details, or if you are the age of majority and submit your own photograph with your name and details, you grant La Habra Heights Improvement Association (LHHIA) a nonexclusive right to publish the photograph and details in Height's Life, to display the photograph and details on the LHHIA website and to retain a digital copy of the photograph and details in the LHHIA photo archive. LHHIA will endeavor to properly match names, details and photographs; however, failing to do so correctly will not result in any liability to LHHIA or its staff. We will be glad to correct any errors in a future issue. Photo credits: Kylie & Co. Photography, Paul Luna: Luna Ink

of the student profiles for this issue.



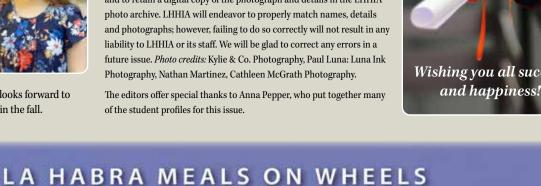




Photo: Bhupendra Singh (Pexels)







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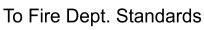
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2" business card ad: black & white (3.75"W x 2"H)	\$ 396.00	\$ 660.00
2" business card ad: color (3.75"W x 2"H)	\$ 506.00	\$ 770.00
1/4-page ad: black & white (3.75"W x 5"H)	\$ 660.00	\$1,100.00
1/4-page ad: color (3.75"W x 5"H)	\$ 880.00	\$1,512.50
1/2-page ad: color (7.5"W x 5"H)	\$ 1,210.00	\$2,200.00
Full-page ad: color (bleed: 8.625"W x 11.125"H)*	\$1,760.00	\$3,300.00
Full-page ad: color (non-bleed: 7.5"W x 10"H)	\$1,760.00	\$3,300.00
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1/4-page ad: black & white (3.75"W x 5"H)	\$ 330.00	\$ 550.00
1/4-page ad: color (3.75"W x 5"H)	\$ 440.00	\$ 770.00
1/2-page ad: color (7.5"W x 5"H)	\$ 660.00	\$1,100.00
Free non-profit 501(c)(3) ads	Based on space	available.
One-time ad		
1/4-page ad: color (3.75"W x 5"H)	\$ 165.00	
1/2-page ad: color (7.5"W x 5"H)	\$ 220.00	

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- Although we prefer digital files, we can scan good-quality camera-ready art. All typography and line art should be clean and sharp. If the ad includes photographs or pictures of half-toned images, they should be sharply focused and properly exposed. *Heights Life* is not responsible for the quality of photographic reproduction.
- Payment for each ad or ad cancellation must be received by the deadline date for ad artwork, which is the 10th of the month prior to the issue date (e.g., ad artwork and payment for the July issue are due June 10).
  - \* Text or photos that you do not want cut off must be within the 8.25"W x 10.75"H "live" area. For bleed ads, include at least 1/8-inch (.125-inch) bleed areas and trim marks.

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**Lauren Krynen (17)** • 562-245-7630 — Tutoring services for middle and high school level students in math (up to calculus), English, and AP prep.

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#### **LHH Community Events**

1

ublic meetings of the La Habra Heights City Council, the Planning Commission, the Roads Advisory Committee and the Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee have been suspended until further notice due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. However, some meetings will be held remotely and may be viewed on the internet with written and phone-in comments allowed. See *lhhcity.org* for more information.

JUNE 14 La Habra Heights City Council meeting: 6:30 p.m.

**JUNE 17** Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting: 6 p.m.

JUNE 20 Happy Father's Day!

**JUNE 22** Planning Commission meeting: 6:30 p.m.

**JUNE 23** Roads Advisory Committee meeting: 6:30 p.m.

#### **Emergency & City Numbers**

EMERGENCY	911
CITY HALL: lhhcity.org	562-694-6302
SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT (INDUSTRY STATION)	626-330-3322
RANGER SERVICES	562-698-1446
Fire Department (non-emergency)	562-694-8283
La Habra Heights County Water District	562-697-6769
Los Angeles County Animal Control	562-940-6898
FIDO COME HOME (report lost and found pets)	562-694-8090
REPUBLIC WASTE SERVICES	800-700-8610

#### La Habra Heights City Council

Brian Bergman	562-690-5047	Briansbergman@hotmail.com
CAREY KLINGFUS	.562-697-2561	carey@AELinspector.com
Dennis Laherty	.714-401-0873	.Dennis.laherty@gmail.com
JANE WILLIAMS	.562-697-5473	jwilliams90631@gmail.com
Norm Zezula	562-697-9914	.normzezulaLhh@gmail.com

#### **Community Service Opportunities**

Boy Scout Troop 883 • Call Brian Freeman at 562-743-1973
Boy Scout Troop 1814 • 951-538-8377 or cookmaster251@yahoo.com
Boys and Girls Club • 562-694-1805 • ourchildrensfuture.org
Habitat Authority • habitatauthority.org/waystohelp
Meals on Wheels • 562-383-4221 • LaHabraMealsonWheels.org
VCC: The Gary Center • 562-264-6000 • vccthegarycenter.org

#### = Become a member =

La Habra Heights Improvement Association is a 501(c)(3) volunteer organization (Tax ID# 95-2455456) that receives no funding from the City of La Habra Heights—so we rely on your annual dues and other donations to pay for our many community events and projects. Annual membership dues are:

Regular: \$35

Bronze: \$75

• Silver: **\$100** 

• Gold: \$250

Platinum: \$500+

Pay online at **www.lhhia.com** or mail your check (made payable to LHHIA) to: **LHHIA, P.O. Box 241, La Habra, CA 90631**.

P.O. Box 241 La Habra, CA 90631

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#### **LHHIA Board of Directors**

Ihhia.org

 (msldi9135@aol.com)
 562-902-0125

 Stan Carroll, Director (gw1763@gmail.com)
 562-697-1187

 Angela Owen, Director (arowen3@yahoo.com)
 562-201-1119

Heights Life: heightslifeeditor@gmail.com

Welcome Wagon: welcomewagonLHHIA@gmail.com

Chairperson: Vicki Cooke 562-694-4949



Residence burglary: 2, Burglary, other structure: 1, Forgery: 1, Vehicle & boating laws: 2, Vehicle burglary: 1, Persons mentally ill: 1, Petty theft: 1, Non-criminal: 2, Miscellaneous offenses: 1.

**TOTAL INCIDENTS: 12** 



Advanced life-support calls: 26 (15 in LHH, 11 in LA County), Basic life-support calls: 13, Public assist: 7, Fire calls: 6, Traffic collisions: 3, Automatic aid into Los Angeles County: 15.

TOTAL INCIDENTS: 55

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