

# Heights Life

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
La Habra Heights Improvement Association  
Volume No. 75 • Issue No. 1 • February 2023



*Members of the La Habra Heights Volunteer Fire Department posed for this fleet photo in 1972 (see story on page 6).*

## IN THIS ISSUE :

- First message from Mayor Norm Zezula (*see page 3*)
- Welcome to our new interim Fire Chief Mitch Brookhyser (*see page 4*)
- La Habra Heights Community Yard Sale scheduled for Saturday, May 6 (*see page 4*)
- *A History of the Heights* continues: "La Habra Heights Volunteer Fire Department" (*see page 6*)



# Inventory still low

## Homes are still selling for top dollar

**In Escrow**

2006 Papaya Drive, La Habra Heights



**In Escrow**

558 Lamat Road, La Habra Heights



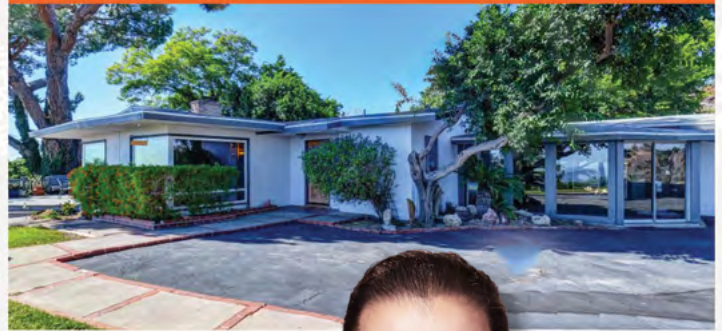
**In Escrow**

2160 Le Flore Drive, La Habra Heights



**SOLD** for \$1,400,000

2182 Ahuacate Road, La Habra Heights



**NEXTMOVE**  
**REAL ESTATE**

**Ray Fernandez**

Broker/Owner

**562.400.7004**

[NextMoveCA.com](http://NextMoveCA.com)

[Ray@NextMoveCA.com](mailto:Ray@NextMoveCA.com)

DRE#01895143

*Make your  
NEXTMOVE  
The Best Move!*



\*Ray is #1 in sales volume and price per sq.ft. according to data from the CRMLS.





We don't publish *Heights Life* in January to give our editors, board members and volunteers a holiday break—but please allow me to wish you a belated Happy New Year!

We had a wonderful turnout for our annual *Morning With Santa* party back in December, and we've shared some photos of all those happy families on pages 8 and 9. Thank you to boardmember Catherine Richert for chairing the event and to her energetic elves (*aka* community volunteers), including Barbara Stracner, who took care of all the crafts and prizes; Dan Stracner, who built three new games and took photos; our great student helpers (shown below), who ran the games and handed out prizes; and to all our board members and their families who helped with decorations and cleanup. Special thanks go to our generous event sponsor Jan Fiore.



Our next LHHIA event is our annual Easter Egg Hunt at The Park on Saturday, April 1, from 10 a.m. until noon. Save the date and watch for more details in the next *Heights Life*.

It's also time to remind all our talented Heights shutterbugs to start picking out your best three shots to enter in our annual Photo Contest (see below). Just email your high-resolution entries to [heightslifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:heightslifeeditor@gmail.com) by April 30, 2023.

—Lynn Kelley

## La Habra Heights Improvement Association

# ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

**Deadline for entries: April 30, 2023**

- First prize: **\$100**   • Second prize: **\$50**   • Third prize: **\$25**
- Please see complete *Official Rules* for this contest at [lhha.com](http://lhha.com).

## ON THE COVER

Members of the La Habra Heights Volunteer Fire Department proudly pose with their vehicle fleet in 1972. Fire Chief Virgil Fouts and Assistant Chief Richard Jerome (in hat) stand beside a 1966 Chevrolet El Camino; Jerome became chief in 1973. Behind them are five Jeeps equipped with water tanks and pumps for fighting small fires (at one time, the department had six Jeeps, some of World War II vintage). The truck lineup (left to right): 1968 Ford fire engine (conversion by Apache Fire Trucks), 1941 International fire engine (bought as Army surplus), 1960 International diesel tractor-truck with tanker trailer, 1945 Seagrave fire engine purchased from Whittier Fire Department and 1965 Ford utility vehicle. Please see the related story beginning on page 6.

## MAYOR'S CORNER



I am honored to be serving as your new mayor.

According to our *General Plan*, our residents decided to incorporate the City of La Habra Heights in 1978 for two basic reasons: to preserve our rural community character and to improve public safety. Our *General Plan* further states that “this community character is not an accident, but reflects the intentional efforts and commitment of residents over the past 75 years.”

During our January city council meeting, we recognized the intentional efforts and commitment of three of our residents: Fred Klein, Richard Beckman and John Richert.

Fred Klein is stepping down from the Planning Commission after serving five years as chairman. He previously served as mayor and was a city council member for 12 years. He also served on the Planning Commission during the early 1990s.

Richard Beckman has also finished his term on the Planning Commission. Richard served for 20 years with the La Habra Heights Volunteer Fire Department and was promoted to captain. He retired a few years ago as a division chief for the San Gabriel Fire Department. He was also a member of our Emergency Preparedness Committee for several years.

John Richert, a retired engineer, has served for six years on our Roads Advisory Committee. One of the primary reasons our residents voted for the current roads tax is that they were confident that John and other members of the committee would keep an eye on much-needed road projects.

We sincerely thank Fred, Richard and John for their years of dedicated service to our community.

The city currently has vacancies on the Roads Advisory Committee, Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness Committee, Investment Advisory Committee and Planning Commission. I urge interested residents to consider volunteering for these positions. To apply, visit our website at [lhcity.org](http://lhcity.org), where the heading “City Committee Vacancies” will appear in the third rolling panorama at the top of the home page—you can wait for it to appear automatically or click twice on the righthand arrow to reach it—then click on the provided link. You may also visit City Hall to apply (to make an appointment, call 562-694-6302 or e-mail [info@lhcity.org](mailto:info@lhcity.org)).

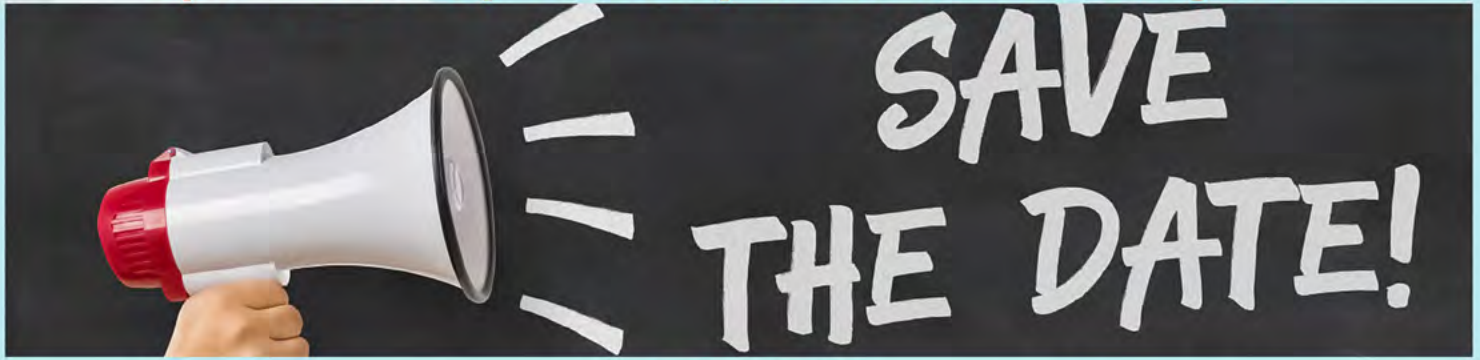
Our Volunteer Fire Department has been an integral part of our rural approach to public safety since 1942 (see the related story on page 6). A few months ago, Fire Chief Doug Graft (*right*) retired after serving the Heights for 10 years. Among his many accomplishments were strengthening our fire department's working relationships with La Habra and other nearby cities and with Los Angeles County, obtaining multiple grants to upgrade our firefighting and emergency response equipment, starting a successful fundraising golf tournament and spearheading creation of the memorial at City Hall to six firefighters who lost their lives in the Hacienda Fire in La Habra Heights in 1955. We offer our thanks and best wishes to Doug. [CONTINUED ON PAGE 4]





05.06.2023

Sponsored by the City of La Habra Heights



" 2023 "

YEAR OF CLUTTER FREE LIVING

## LA HABRA HEIGHTS COMMUNITY YARD SALE

**"LHH" RESIDENTS: RESERVE YOUR BOOTH TODAY! \$10.00 IF RESERVED BY MARCH 1ST  
\$25.00 IF RESERVED AFTER MARCH 1ST**

For more information email  
Susan Brooks - [lhhyardsale@gmail.com](mailto:lhhyardsale@gmail.com)

TDM

[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]



We recently welcomed our new Interim Fire Chief Mitch Brookhyser (left), who retired from the Los Angeles County Fire Department after 36 years of service. You can contact him at [Mbrookhyser@lhcity.org](mailto:Mbrookhyser@lhcity.org) or 562-694-8283.

Our city's trash pickup contract with Republic Services expires next year. The council invites residents to submit their criticisms, compliments and suggestions to Republic Services by participating in a survey in *GuacTalk* or visiting [lhcity.org](http://lhcity.org).

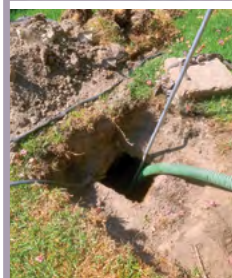
Our city elections in 2022 were canceled because only four candidates filed to run for the four seats that were up for election. While convenient for candidates, uncontested elections are a loss for our city—and even for candidates. Having to campaign door-to-door and answer direct questions during the League of Women Voters "Candidates Forum" are invaluable experiences not only for those who want to represent the people of La Habra Heights, but also for residents.

I urge you to take an active part in our city government by expressing your views and suggestions during the public comment period at La Habra Heights City Council meetings and by directly communicating with individual council members in person and via telephone or email (see our contact information on page 16). We need—and value—your input.

—Norm Zezula



## Septic Tank Pumping



Serving La Habra  
Heights since 1959

## Robert's Liquid Disposal

14018 Carmenita Road  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

562-864-2953



# Garden Plot

**By Beverley Lepak**  
Horticulturist & Landscape Consultant



**Valentine's Day** is just around the corner, and many of us really love to receive flowers! A beautiful bouquet is a lovely gift, but it doesn't last long. Potted flowers, herbs and other plants are presents that can last for years! Kids can have fun helping to choose and plant flowers, herbs and succulents in clay pots or baskets for parents, grandparents and other loved ones. Plant red, pink and white flowers—like cyclamen (shown in the photo above), primroses and pansies—in pots or along your entranceway to add a seasonal touch.

## Rain, rain, rain. . .

January brought much-needed, record-breaking rain, but February is usually our rainiest month, so stay prepared! Clean out gutters and drainage areas and collect water in rain barrels. Remove heavy branches and low-hanging limbs to keep them from snapping off. Strong winds can uproot and blow over top-heavy trees, especially when the ground is soaked (as it still may be after those January downpours). Turn off or adjust your irrigation systems to reduce your water bill.

Muddy boots! A boot-scraper is a handy idea, and using a good layer of mulch on muddy pathways will reduce foot and paw prints on your floors and carpets. Dedicated mudrooms are rare in our area, but you can still pick a spot to change shoes and dry off pet paws!

## Late-winter vegetables & herbs

The recent drenching of our vegetable gardens will likely lead to lots of weeds—and snails!—in the near future. Start weeding soon, clear out old and non-producing plants and begin using insect and animal controls with which you're comfortable.

It's time to plant arugula, artichoke, asparagus, beets, bok choy, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chicory, endive, kale, lettuce, mache, mustard greens, onions, potatoes, radicchio, radishes, rhubarb,

rutabaga, shallots, Swiss chard and spinach. A good layer of mulch will reduce weeds and keep pathways from getting so muddy.

Your herb garden could use some new additions now. Sow seeds of borage, caraway, chamomile, cilantro, chives dill, fennel and parsley. Add some perennial herbs too—plant them once and enjoy them for years!—including different varieties of mint, oregano, thyme, lemon balm, salad burnet and sorrel. Throw in some catnip to give your favorite felines a treat!

## Cool-season blooms

It may not be spring yet, but here in Southern California, your garden can look like it! Local nurseries will be fully stocked up with plenty of beautiful, easy-to-grow flowers such as alyssum, calendulas, cineraria, cosmos, cyclamen, Iceland poppies, larkspur, lobelia, marigolds, pansies, primroses (fairy and English), snapdragons, stock and viola.

Camelias are blooming! Visit Descanso Gardens in La Canada-Flintridge and the Huntington Library and Botanical Gardens in San Marino to see impressive collections of these lovely flowers.

## Chilly weather

Frost could still occur in February, so check weather reports for warnings. Use a crop or row cover to protect frost-tender plants—but don't use plastic, because it could cause a moist micro-climate that promotes harmful bacteria and fungi. If plants do get frost-damaged, do not remove damaged areas until mid-to-late March after frost danger is past; otherwise, you could damage surviving plant parts. Fertilize azaleas, as well as citrus, avocados and other fruit trees. Fully prune back berry brambles and grape vines, and get a head start on brush clearance, because all the rain we've had will soon cause a bumper-crop of dry fuel that could increase fire danger. **Happy Valentine's Day!**





# LA HABRA HEIGHTS VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

A HISTORY of the HEIGHTS (13th in a series—Part 1) by Dan Stracner

Edwin G. Hart, who founded, named and developed La Habra Heights, established a water company and began installing water lines immediately after he purchased the 3,500-acre property in 1919. By 1921, the first reservoir and water system were completed, and Hart began selling lots that included shares in his water company. He planted many avocado and citrus trees, as well as decorative trees and shrubs to beautify the hillside agricultural estates that he envisioned.

Hart started installing fire hydrants at a few locations in the Heights, because he knew that as the young trees grew, so would the danger of fire. He also knew that nearby Whittier had a volunteer fire department, and he anticipated that La Habra Heights might need one as well.



Whittier Volunteer Fire Department, 1904

Municipal fire departments with paid firefighters were rare in California at that time. Los Angeles County maintained a few far-flung fire stations. The one designated to serve the Heights was 25 miles away in San Dimas.

As La Habra Heights grew, the subject of some sort of local, organized fire protection was often discussed among Hart and Heights ranchers, farmers and homeowners.

When a group of residents, including Hart, formed the La Habra Heights Improvement Association (LHHIA) in January 1939, the need for fire prevention and protection was a major concern that proved to be justified just a few months later when a fire started above Reposado Drive and Hacienda Road. Brave local residents led by Cecil Knowlton tried to fight the fire with a bucket brigade and wet sacks, but the wind-driven flames swept rapidly eastward almost to Fullerton Road. By the time county firefighters finally arrived, the fast-moving blaze had already caused significant damage.

Hart and others began seriously to consider creating a volunteer fire department similar to the one Whittier had formed, but no decision was reached. Tragically, Hart, 65, was struck

and killed by a car while he was crossing a street in Los Angeles in December 1939.

For the next two years, resident discussions about forming a Heights-based fire brigade continued, but no action was taken—and then history momentarily intervened.

## THE IMPACT of WORLD WAR II

The United States declared war on Japan on December 8, 1941, the day after the infamous bombing of Pearl Harbor. Before the end of that month, Japanese submarines attacked 10 American merchant ships off the coast of California, sinking two and damaging six.

Fear of a Japanese invasion of California was rampant, and rumors spread that the fleet that had devastated Pearl Harbor was steaming toward Los Angeles.

On February 19, 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued his notorious Executive Order 9066, which led to the forced internment of more than 125,000 people of Japanese descent, mostly from California and 65 percent of whom were American citizens. They were considered “a threat to national security.”

On February 23, 1942, a Japanese submarine fired 16 shells from its deck gun into the Elwood oil field and refinery in Goleta, California, near Santa Barbara. It was the first Japanese attack on U.S. soil. Although damage was slight, the event prompted banner newspaper headlines and public panic. The very next day, the U.S. Office of Naval Intelligence warned that another attack on mainland California was expected within 10 hours!

## “BATTLE of LOS ANGELES”

At 2:25 a.m. on February 25, air raid sirens started wailing all over blacked-out Los Angeles County. Less than an hour later, the 37th Coast Artillery Brigade began firing furiously into the darkness at what were purported to be enemy aircraft. Five civilians were accidentally killed during the hour-long barrage, but when the “all clear” signal sounded and the sun came up, no sign of enemy invaders was found.

Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox quickly characterized the entire episode as a false

alarm caused by “war nerves,” and U.S. Army General George C. Marshall agreed, adding that enemy agents had likely been waging “psychological warfare” in California to cause mass panic.

Although the national press derisively dubbed the incident the “Battle of Los Angeles,” fear of invasion in California didn’t subside—in fact, it worsened.

In response to this succession of alarming events, citizens on the vulnerable West Coast began frantically organizing civil defense units to help protect their homes and neighborhoods. Whittier and La Habra joined in—the police department in La Habra even erected a tower from which binocular-equipped “plane spotters” could watch for enemy aircraft.

Newspapers and radio stations warned concerned citizens to be on the lookout for Japanese “5th column” saboteurs, especially arsonists who would set fire not only to structures, but also to forests and crops, thus wrecking havoc and spreading fear.

Civil defense volunteers were especially encouraged to become backup firefighters. In 1942 alone, Los Angeles County trained and equipped 1,400 civilians, including 350 women. Smaller fire departments, including those in Whittier and La Habra, also offered training for local residents.

Volunteer and auxiliary fire brigades sprang up all over California, especially in small communities that lacked access to municipal firefighting resources.

Not surprisingly, a number of fires in the state over the next several months were erroneously attributed to enemy sabotage.

But then a small seaplane was launched from a Japanese submarine off the Oregon coast on September 9, 1942. The pilot dropped two large incendiary bombs into the Siskiyou National Forest on the border between Oregon and California, igniting a forest fire. Although federal firefighters extinguished the blaze fairly quickly, this highly-publicized attack confirmed public fears that Japanese forces would use fire as a weapon against non-military targets on the West Coast.



The following month, on October 7, 1942, the little rural community of La Habra Heights joined the widespread wartime civil defense movement by organizing its own volunteer fire department. LHHVFD officially registered with the state of California as a non-profit corporation on October 20, 1942.

### LHHVFD in the 1940s

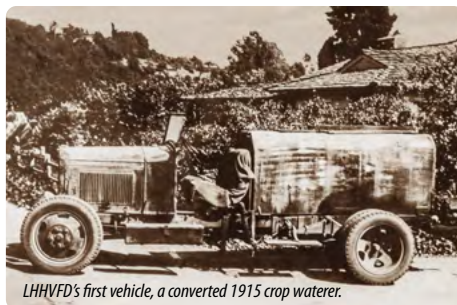
Clement Levins—who insisted that “fire protection is our number one need”—was the prime mover who convinced a group of his friends to create the new department. He served as chairman of the first board of directors, which also included Art Sucksdorf, who was appointed as the first fire chief, Sam Eastman, Larry Marsh, Young Wilhoite, O.D. Belanger and W.M. Derthick. Others who were very active during the war years were Cecil Knowlton (who became the second fire chief), Ernest Sherwood and Howard Cooper.

The fledgling department was long on energy and enthusiasm but short on equipment and money. The first thing they needed was a vehicle that could hold water. Howard Cooper had been watering his groves with a 1915 REO Speed Wagon truck with a water tank on the back, and it became the LHHVFD’s first official vehicle (see the photo, above right).

The group concentrated on recruiting and training volunteers and keeping a close watch on the Heights, as well as nearby Powder Canyon, considered a likely target for enemy arsonists. When an occasional brush fire sprang up, the volunteers alerted each other in rapid succession via a “telephone tree” and gathered quickly to put out the fire.

Meanwhile, they periodically sought donations from the community, including an all-out fundraising campaign in 1945. After garnering more than \$3,000, they purchased a much-used but well-maintained 1917 Seagrave fire engine with right-hand drive (see the photo above, right corner).

When World War II ended with the Japanese surrender on September 2, 1945, an abundance of surplus military vehicles



LHHVFD's first vehicle, a converted 1915 crop waterer.



Albert Arroues drives the 1917 Seagrave fire truck.



The LHHVFD fleet circa 1950, including (from left) three modified military Jeeps, 1941 International fire engine and 1917 Seagrave fire engine with right-hand drive (probably made in Canada).

soon became available at bargain prices, and in 1946, LHHVFD purchased a former U.S. Army 1941 International fire truck that carried 400 gallons of water (the second vehicle from the right in the photo above).

Thousands of surplus Jeeps also became available for prices ranging from \$100 to \$500. Although demand for these rugged little four-wheel-drive vehicles was high, LHHVFD managed to acquire three of them. Fire Chief Edgar Trefry drew up plans for adding water tanks to the front and rear of each Jeep along with pumps and hoses, and Roy Termain's Garage in La Habra handled the modifications.

Painted bright red, these “mini-fire trucks” were ideal for negotiating hilly and rugged terrain to extinguish small brush and grass fires. “Those Jeeps could go anywhere!” recalled Joan Klopfenstein, a dispatcher for the department for 43 years. Her three sons all became LHHVFD volunteers and Jeep drivers,

as did John Hart, son of the La Habra Heights founder.

Three more Jeeps were added later, and the Jeep fleet became a popular symbol for LHHVFD, even appearing on patches (see below), as well as mailbox stickers given to residents who donated to the department.

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 10]



Those “go anywhere” Jeeps!





# Morning U

December 17, 2022



LHHFD firefighters



We had new games (and old favorites).





# With Santa!





[CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

### LHHVFD GROWTH

The 1950s proved to be an eventful decade for LHHVFD. The department was busy installing fire hydrants throughout the Heights, even though installers were sometimes frustrated by the erratic and often inadequate water pressure in some locales.

Recruiting and training of volunteers continued apace. Some of them were students from La Habra High School and Lowell High School. If smoke appeared in the Heights, these student volunteers were released from their classes to head for the hills and help fight the fire.

### HACIENDA FIRE of 1955

La Habra Heights had experienced numerous small fires since the big one in 1939, but none had led to severe injuries or loss of life. Sadly, that changed on the blazing hot afternoon of September 2, 1955.

The day before the temperature had reached a record 107 degrees. The Heights was full of extremely dry brush. Just after noon, a small brush fire started near the intersection of Hacienda Road and Cañada Sombre Road. LHHVFD was busy elsewhere in the Heights, so two engines from the Los Angeles County Fire Department responded to the new alarm with a crew largely comprised of teenagers from a county forestry camp. They were led by Captain Glenn E. Rockey.

They quickly controlled the small fire, and as a precaution, 14 crew members began building a small firebreak in a nearby grove of eucalyptus trees. Suddenly intense flames literally exploded out of an adjacent deep draw, igniting the grass and eucalyptus trees around the crew—who were instantly engulfed in flame. Captain Rockey immediately grabbed a fire hose and charged into the inferno to try and save the crew, but he was soon overwhelmed by the fire and killed. Firefighter Marvin Paske wielded another hose and managed to save several crew members whose clothes were burning.

Firefighters continued to battle the blaze, and they had it almost under control when members of LHHVFD arrived to help. Once the fire had been knocked down, they beheld a grim sight. In addition to Captain Rockey, five young men had died: Franklyn Fay, La Verne Pendergast, Terry Kelly, Gregory Sambrano and William Strack. Seven more were severely burned. Heights volunteers helped suppress what was left of the fire and care for the injured.

Ten-year-old Heights native Scott Jones was an eyewitness to this tragedy, which became known as the Hacienda Fire. He vividly recalled the loud “whump” when the eucalyptus trees burst into flame. Scott grew up to become a 23-year member of LHHVFD.

In a solemn ceremony on January 7, 2017, the City of La Habra Heights and the Los Angeles County Fire Department dedicated a

permanent memorial at City Hall to those who perished. Captain Rockey was posthumously awarded the Los Angeles County Fire Department Medal of Valor, its highest honor. (See the February 2017 issue of *Heights Life* for a more detailed account.)



Los Angeles County fire investigators in 1955 point to marked places where four firefighters perished. Two others died nearby, and seven more were severely injured. It was the worst fire in La Habra Heights history—so far.



### UNION OIL FIRE of 1959

“A column of flame and black smoke towering hundreds of feet over the top of the hills sent alarm through fire-conscious La Habra Heights residents.” Thus a reporter for the *La Habra Star* began an account of a major fire at the Union Oil drill site No. 8 at “the top of the Heights” near East Road and slightly east of Fullerton Road on the evening of July 7, 1959.

First came a furious explosion, followed by a roaring blaze. LHHVFD firefighters, led by Chief Millard Schneller, arrived first on the scene with six pieces of equipment, and they worked hard to keep the fire from spreading to nearby tanks and other wells.

Five units from Los Angeles County Fire Department soon arrived and plunged into the fight. Meanwhile, heat from the conflagration ignited an avocado grove to the north, and the Heights volunteers shifted their attention to that fire. Thanks to a well-coordinated effort, both fires were contained within an hour.

[TO BE CONTINUED IN THE NEXT ISSUE]

**Editor's note:** We sincerely thank Joan Klopfenstein, who provided all the images on page 7 (and more to come in the next installment) and much valuable information. She and others who served as dispatchers will be featured in a future story covering LHHVFD activities in the 1960s and 1970s. Our thanks also go to Scott Jones for sharing his memories of LHHVFD and to Jonna and Sue Jerome, who offered information and photos; their parents, Fire Chief Richard Jerome and Captain Donna Jerome, will be discussed in our next article. In the near future, we will acknowledge many more who have helped with our research.

## Quilt Guild donates quilts & cash to local non-profits

Friendship Square Quilt Guild continued its annual holiday tradition by donating \$500 and quilts to the following non-profit organizations that fill special needs in local communities:

**La Habra United Methodist Church**, which supports the La Habra Resource Center and recovery groups, including AA; **HIS House**, which assists the homeless; **Tara's Chance**, which promotes well-being of those with special needs via equine activities; **St. Matthias Episcopal Church** in Whittier, which serves hot meals to the needy; **Rosie's Garage** (see photo), which offers students a safe-space after-school program; **The Whole Child**, a 65-year-old non-profit providing mental health, housing, parenting and nutrition-education services to vulnerable families. • To learn more, please visit [fsqg.org](http://fsqg.org).



## Downsizing! Fine furniture for sale

- Lexington seven-piece dark hardwood queen pier bedroom set with mirrors, lights (shown at right): **\$1,200** or best offer.
- Two matching Lexington dark hardwood armoires: **\$350** each or best offer.
- Dark hardwood modular office set: **\$650** or best offer:
  - Kathy Ireland dark hardwood drop-front secretary desk
  - Versailles four-section modular hardwood walls
  - Hardwood hutch tops and lateral files
  - Pair of matching wheeled hardwood filing cabinets
- Hardwood chest (67"H x 44"W x 19"D): **\$200** or best offer.
- Upholstered footstool (shown at right) with embroidered cover: gold leopards on black background: **\$175** or best offer.

Contact Heights resident: [redwaters3kids@icloud.com](mailto:redwaters3kids@icloud.com)





# Change your water... Change your life™

**N**ot all water is created equal! Kangen Water® is delicious, healthful, hydrogen-rich water created by Enagic's innovative water technology that has been in successful use around the world for more than 40 years.



Invented and made in Japan, Enagic devices filter your tap water and produce seven different ionized alkaline and acidic waters through electrolysis. These specialized waters can be used for a variety of purposes, including drinking, cooking, beauty care and cleaning.

Many common health problems are related to excessive acidity in bodily fluids. Drinking alkaline water reduces this acidity and works to restore your body to a more balanced, healthful alkaline state. Plain water has a neutral pH of 7.0, whereas

alkaline Kangen Water has a pH of 8.5 to 9.5. Unlike tap water, Kangen Water has no unpleasant odor, has a pleasantly sweet flavor and feels light and more refreshing in your mouth. It's also much better for you than expensive bottled water—and better for the planet as well because you won't need to deal with plastic bottles that clutter the environment and harm the ecosystem.

When you prepare food and beverages with Kangen Water, you'll be pleased and surprised by how much it enhances flavors.

Heights residents Graciela & Steven at **Vital Ascensions** invite you to try these state-of-the-art Enagic devices and learn how they can improve your family's life.



*Graciela & Steven, newly engaged La Habra Heights residents, will be glad to tell you more about the significant health benefits of proper hydration that you'll experience from switching from tap water and bottled water to pure, hydrogen-rich Kangen Water. In the last year alone, they have helped dozens of families make this healthful life change.*



## Get your free two-week water trial.

**562-318-8594**

[VitalAscensions.com](http://VitalAscensions.com)



@grottoboy  
@gracie.la



Distributor ID: 7347192





# California Arborist

## WE ARE THE EXPERTS!



### WHO WE ARE?

**California Arborist** was created to balance the professional workmanship and expertise in the landscape, tree trimming, and construction industries that consumers can trust, while still making it cost-effective for a wide variety of customers and jobs that these industries bring.

### WE DO IT ALL!

- ✓ Tree Health Assessment & Maintenance
- ✓ Tree Planting, Trimming, and Removal
- ✓ Weed Abatement
- ✓ Custom Hardscape
- ✓ Landscape Design & Remodel
- ✓ Complete Pool & Remodel
- ✓ Brush Clearance & Fire Prevention
- ✓ High-Risk & **24hr Emergency Services**



**OSCA**  
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY  
COUNCILS OF AMERICA



energy **API**

**TCIA**  
VOICE OF TREE CARE



Don't Wait, Call Today To Schedule Your

## FREE ESTIMATE

 **(562)698-3280**

STATE LICENSE #748668 • CTSP LICENSE #2177 • DPR LICENSE #140021

**GET IN TOUCH** |



14068 Lambert Rd., Whittier, CA 90605



[www.californiaarborist.com](http://www.californiaarborist.com)



# NORWALK/LA MIRADA Plumbing Heating & Air Conditioning

## La Habra Heights RESIDENT

- HVAC Services
- Water Heaters
- Home Inspections
- Sewer Stoppages
- Re-piping

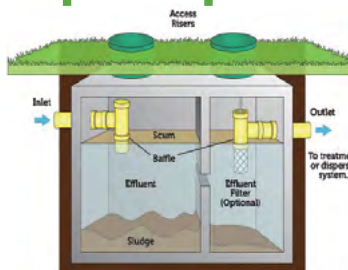
*Commercial  
and  
Residential*

**562-868-7777**

laplumber.com

*Since  
1958*

## Expert Septic Sewer Drain Service



- Septic tank pumping
- System cleaning & repair
- System design & installation
- Certification for real estate
- Full 24/7 service
- Serving La Habra Heights

**626-208-7090**

Golden Penny Sanitation Inc., C-42 License # 1063633

## Alan's Hauling & Tractor

*Free job site visit!*



C-12 licensed earthmoving,  
excavation & demolition services,  
trenching, trash hauling

**626-340-6903**



## SEE THRU WINDOW CLEANING

A Professional Window Cleaning Service

Residential and  
Commercial  
Pressure Washing

JOEL INNAMORATO  
(562) 587-7844  
Mobile: (562) 587-7844



QUALITY • PROFESSIONAL • EFFICIENT • CLEAN

NEW CONSTRUCTION / REMODELING  
COMMERCIAL TENANT IMPROVEMENT

**Bob Harrison**

O: (714) 990-6700  
C: (562) 755-1705  
F: (714) 990-6702  
E: rwhconst@aol.com

428 Berry Way • Brea, CA 92821  
www.rwhconstructioninc.com

Lic. #442893



**Chester Jeng DDS, JD, LL. M.**  
Loma Linda University Clinical Faculty  
General Dentistry & Orthodontics

744 W. La Habra Blvd.  
La Habra, CA 90631

www.drjengdds.com

Tel.: (562) 691-0738  
Fax: (562) 690-6360

## ALL CITY SERVICES

**Plumbing & Electrical Home Services**



Licensed and insured  
La Habra Heights resident  
Quality service at half the cost



**562-329-7886**



**Fido Come Home**

REPORT LOST  
OR FOUND PETS

**562-694-8090**





Service since  
**1986**

# WILLIAMS TREE SERVICE

P.O. Box 5557, Whittier, CA 90607-5557

**FREE ESTIMATES**

TRIMMING  
STUMP GRINDING  
PALMS  
INSURED  
COMMERCIAL



TOPPING REMOVAL  
GENERAL CLEAN-UPS  
FIREWOOD  
LICENSED  
RESIDENTIAL



Call Greg Williams

**(562) 692-8677**

Fax: (562) 698-4085

wtreedude@aol.com • State License #941245 • Bonded



**NORWALK/LA MIRADA**  
Plumbing  
Heating & Air Conditioning

**(800) 238-5558**  
**(562) 646-1222**  
www.laplumber.com  
HEIGHTS RESIDENT  
Quality Service Since 1958

**LINDA PIEQUET • HAIRDRESSER**  
Serving La Habra & La Habra Heights since 1976  
**(562) 697-2211**

**Give yourself the Gift of Health!**

Train in the privacy of your own home!

Cardio • Strength Training • Rehab • Sports-specific

**Chuck Dudley • Certified Health & Fitness Trainer**

**562-754-8686 • wcdudley@adelphia.net**



**MERCURY ESCROW** Since 1959

**Sales • Refinances • Commercial Properties**

Becky Marquez, Escrow Officer

410 W. Whittier Blvd., La Habra, CA 90631 • 562-265-3127 • 626-912-1651 • becky@mercuryescrow.com



**XCEL ELECTRIC**

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

Heights Resident • Free Estimate • Lic# C10-911443

**TIM BAGDONOFF • (562) 318-4651**

**COMPACT TRACTOR** STARTING AT  
**\$105** PER HOUR

With operator & attachments • Over 40-year Heights resident

Call Tom at **562-708-2665**

**RV Storage**

Inside & Outside

428 Berry Way, Brea, CA. 92821

**(714) 990 6703**

Tree trimming • Landscape • Cleanup

**714-749-3488 Hinkle**

Serving La Habra Heights since 1980

TREE SERVICE

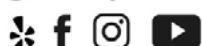


**Gateway Cities Krav Maga**

2430 W. Whittier Blvd, La Habra, CA 90631

562.266.1595

gatewaycitieskravmaga.com



**THE HONEY DO LIST GUY**

DO YOU HAVE UNFINISHED PROJECTS?

CALL BOB Lic.# 442893 & Ins. Contractor

**562-755-1705** Heights Resident 11 years





**\$509M+** **661+** **24 Years**  
Total Sales Volume      Homes Total Sold      Experience



**grat-i-tude**  
['gradə,tuəd] noun

feeling or showing an appreciation  
of kindness; thankful.



As we reflect on this past year, we are so grateful  
to our clients that entrusted us with their  
real estate needs in 2022. If moving is part  
of your plans in 2023, it would be our  
honor to be of service.

From our family at Fiore Team,  
*Jan, Nicolas, Sean and Michelle*



SCAN HERE

**Are you curious about  
what your home is worth?**



**JAN FIORE**

**562.522.9620**

**Jan@JanFiore.com | www.JanFiore.com**

Realtor® | DRE #01262942

1772 Hacienda Rd. La Habra Heights, CA 90631



**COLDWELL BANKER  
DIAMOND**  
DRE #01517694



Based on information from California Regional Multiple Listing Service, Inc. as of 1/6/2023 and /or other sources. Totals are reflective of career sales volume. All data, including all measurements and calculations of area, is obtained from various sources and has not been, and will not be, verified by Broker or MLS. All information should be independently reviewed and verified for accuracy. Properties may or may not be listed by the office/agent presenting the information. Coldwell Banker Diamond DRE #01517694



## LHH Community Events

Public meetings and events will be held in compliance with the latest Los Angeles County Public Health guidelines.

**Feb. 13** La Habra Heights City Council meeting: 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 14** *Happy Valentine's Day*

**Feb. 16** Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee meeting: 6 p.m.

**Feb. 22** Roads Advisory Committee meeting: 6:30 p.m.

**Feb. 28** Planning Commission meeting: 6:30 p.m.



P.O. Box 241  
La Habra, CA 90631

PRESORTED STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Santa Ana, CA  
Permit No. 4849

## Emergency & City Numbers

<b>EMERGENCY</b> .....	<b>911</b>
CITY HALL: <a href="http://lhhcity.org">lhhcity.org</a> .....	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
CAROL ENGELHARDT.....	562-217-0983	clengelhardt1@yahoo.com
DENNIS LAHERTY.....	714-401-0873	Dennis.laherty@gmail.com
JOHN PESPIA.....	562-694-1371	Jpm100@roadrunner.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  
BOY SCOUT TROOP 793 (female troop) • Call Carl Diamond at 562-706-8279 or email Carl@cdiamond.org  
BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB • 562-694-1805 • ourchildrensfuture.org  
HABITAT AUTHORITY • [habitatauthority.org/waystohelp](http://habitatauthority.org/waystohelp)  
MEALS ON WHEELS • 562-383-4221 • [LaHabraMealsonWheels.org](http://LaHabraMealsonWheels.org)  
VCC: THE GARY CENTER • 562-264-6000 • [vccthegarycenter.org](http://vccthegarycenter.org)

## Youth Employment Roster

JESSICA COBURN (17) • 562-447-3486 • Babysitting, dog walking, plant watering.

## = 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](http://www.lhhia.com) or mail your check (made payable to LHHIA) to: LHHIA, P.O. Box 241, La Habra, CA 90631.



## BOARD of DIRECTORS • [lhhia.org](http://lhhia.org)

Lynn Kelley, President (LHHIAPresident@gmail.com) and 'Halloween Haunt' Co-Chairperson (lynnkelley91@gmail.com).....	562-371-4603
Rick Brooks, Vice President & Webmaster (plumeriafarmer@gmail.com)	
Romalyn Litchfield, Treasurer (romalynl@hotmail.com).....	562-697-6264
Susan Brooks, Secretary & 'Easter Egg Hunt' Chairperson (susanbrooks827@gmail.com).....	714-222-5091
Pam McVicar, Membership Chairperson (Memberlhhia@gmail.com) and Youth Employment Roster (youthlhhia@gmail.com).....	714-504-3415
Catherine Richert, 'Morning With Santa' Chairperson (catherinerichert@aol.com).....	562-697-0962
Carolyn Boehringer, Advertising Co-Chairperson.....	310-849-4582
Monica Gunns, Advertising Co-Chairperson.....	714-412-2667
Angela Owen, 'Halloween Haunt' Co-Chairperson (arowen3@yahoo.com).....	562-201-1119
Gil Taylor, Director (excel@pristineprop.com).....	562-322-3453
Linda Letizia, Director (lindarletizia@gmail.com).....	562-303-8801

*Heights Life*: [heightslifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:heightslifeeditor@gmail.com)

Editors: Dan and Barbara Stracner.....	562-632-0691
For information about advertising in <i>Heights Life</i> , visit <a href="http://lhhia.org">lhhia.org</a> or call:	
Advertising Co-Chairperson: Carolyn Boehringer.....	310-849-4582
Advertising Co-Chairperson: Monica Gunns.....	714-412-2667

**Welcome Wagon**: [welcomewagonLHHIA@gmail.com](mailto:welcomewagonLHHIA@gmail.com)

Chairperson: Vicki Cooke..... 562-694-4949



## LHH Fire Report

DECEMBER 2022

Advanced life-support calls: 30 (15 in LHH, 15 in LA County), Basic life-support calls: 13 (8 in LHH, 5 in LA County), Public assist: 13 (7 in LHH, 6 in LA County), Fire calls: 9 (4 in LHH, 5 in LA County), Traffic collisions: 11 (4 in LHH, 7 in LA County). [Automatic aid into LA County: 38.]

**TOTAL INCIDENTS: 76**



## Sheriff's Report

DECEMBER 2022

Residence burglary: 4, Other structure burglary 2, Grand theft: 1, Identity theft: 1, Drunk driving: 1, Federal money offense: 1, Vehicle burglary: 2, Petty theft: 3, Misdemeanors: 1, Traffic accidents: 4, Non-criminal: 2, Miscellaneous: 1.

**TOTAL INCIDENTS: 23**