



# Heights Life

A COMMUNITY MAGAZINE  
La Habra Heights Improvement Association  
Volume 75 • Issue Number 5 • June 2022

*It's time for*

## **MUSIC IN THE PARK!**

*See page 8*

Photo Contest *(page 4)*

LHH Graduates *(page 6)*



# For Sale by Ray Fernandez

## LA HABRA HEIGHTS LOCAL MARKET UPDATE

APRIL	2022	2023	% Change
New Listings	10	6	-40%
Pending Sales	6	0	-100%
Closed Sales	7	2	-71.4%
Days on Market	57	10	-82.5%
Median Sales Price*	\$1,450,000	\$1,274,944	-12.1%
Average Sales Price*	\$1,444,143	\$1,274,944	-11.7%

Based on statistics pulled from PWR market reports | April 2023

\*Does not account for seller concessions and/or down payment assistance.  
Activity for one month can sometimes look extreme due to small sample size.

These statistics reflect all agents and not just Ray's sales for the date range specified

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## MUSIC IN THE PARK!

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Lynn Kelley



## P R E S I D E N T ' S   P E N

Just a final reminder that our La Habra Heights Improvement Association Annual General Meeting of the Membership and Election of the Board of Directors will take place on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at La Habra Heights City Hall at 6:30 p.m. A reception will start at 6 p.m., followed by the general election of board members and officers at 6:30 p.m. All LHHIA members are cordially invited.

Congratulations to our Photo Contest winners (see page 4), and thank you to all our LHHIA members who entered!

On page 6 you'll find photos of our first group of La Habra Heights graduates—congratulations to them all! In our July issue, we'll again be running photos of graduates from 8th grade, high school, college and advanced-degree programs. Please send your photos and student details by June 10 to [heightslifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:heightslifeeditor@gmail.com).

We start our summer Music in The Park concerts on June 21 (see page 8). We thank LHHIA board members Monica Gunns for the great band lineup and Carolyn Boehringer for arranging food trucks.

Below are photos from the city's highly successful community Yard Sale at The Park on May 6, which turned out to be a bonanza for bargain seekers. We thank LHHIA board member Susan Brooks for organizing and managing the well-attended event.

—Lynn Kelley



Norm Zezula

## MAYOR'S CORNER



On behalf of our city council and staff, I thank all our residents who participated in our recent "Brainstorming Workshop" at City Hall. Its purpose was for us to hear your ideas and concerns, rather than for us to express ours. Even though some of our fellow residents sometimes had different points of view, they treated each other with respect. It was a dialog, not a debate.

Concerns were expressed about public safety, park maintenance, park access that complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), code enforcement, the need to inform new residents about our codes, road conditions and repairs, and the need to improve interactions between residents and City Hall.

### Public safety concerns

Public safety concerns included reducing fire hazards (e.g., see the "no fireworks" notice on page 5); formulating a comprehensive emergency evacuation plan; ensuring timely access to fire, paramedic and other emergency services; improving crime prevention; and more effectively discouraging speeding and other unsafe driving practices on our narrow, winding roads.

Several residents suggested working with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to help Heights neighborhoods reinstate Neighborhood Watch and Neighborhood Disaster Preparedness groups. However, as one long-time resident pointed out, for such "neighbor helping neighbor" groups to be effective, not only do neighbors need to meet each other, they must also maintain social contact with each other on a regular basis in order to build and maintain trust.

### Code-enforcement concerns

Code-enforcement concerns included obtaining building permits before starting construction, enforcing our "Dark Skies" policy, abiding by requirements to plant and preserve trees and other vegetation as a condition of approval for standards modifications, and preserving our rural environment as defined by our General Plan. Much of our code enforcement is "complaint driven." The intent was to allow those living in a neighborhood—who would therefore be most impacted—to decide whether or not a particular violation is merely a "no harm, no foul" technical violation (e.g., an "offender" has one too many dogs, but they are not causing any problems).

Unfortunately, the complaint process can be abused, and occasionally an individual uses it to harass a neighbor out of personal spite. Some complainers simply dislike certain aspects of our rural environment. Last year, a relatively new resident made numerous complaints about barking dogs, but no one else in the neighborhood regarded this as a problem. While there can always be too much of anything, one wonders why someone who hated barking dogs decided to move to a city with a General Plan that explicitly encourages animal ownership. The complaining resident has since moved.

However, such abuse of the code-complaint process weakens the trust among neighbors that is vital for the long-term viability of Neighborhood Watch and Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness groups, thus undermining public safety in general.

—Norm Zezula





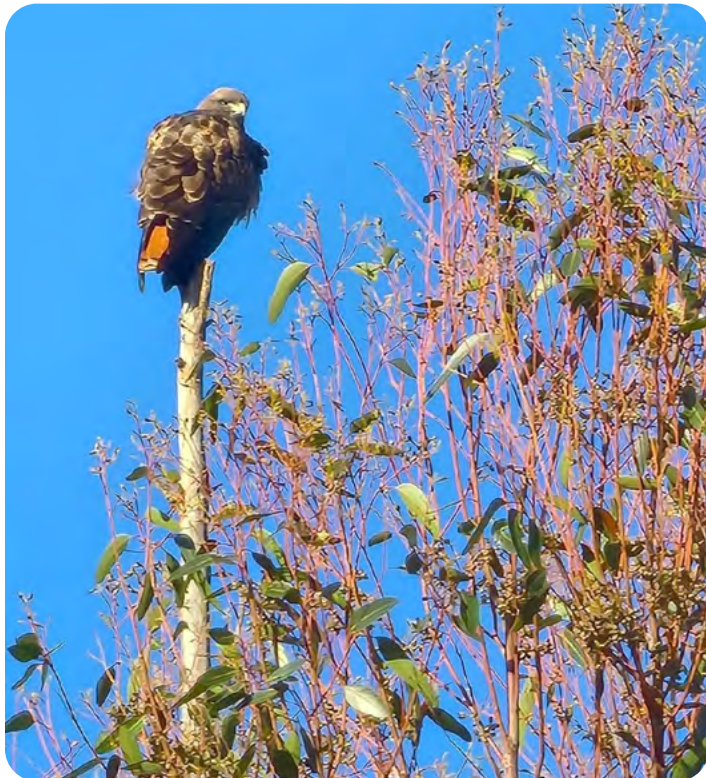
## LHHIA PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS

**First place** (above): *Before the Storm* (12/26/2022) by **Dorothy Roberts**

**Second place** (below, left): *Red-tailed Hawk* by **Melinda Kang-Larrabee**

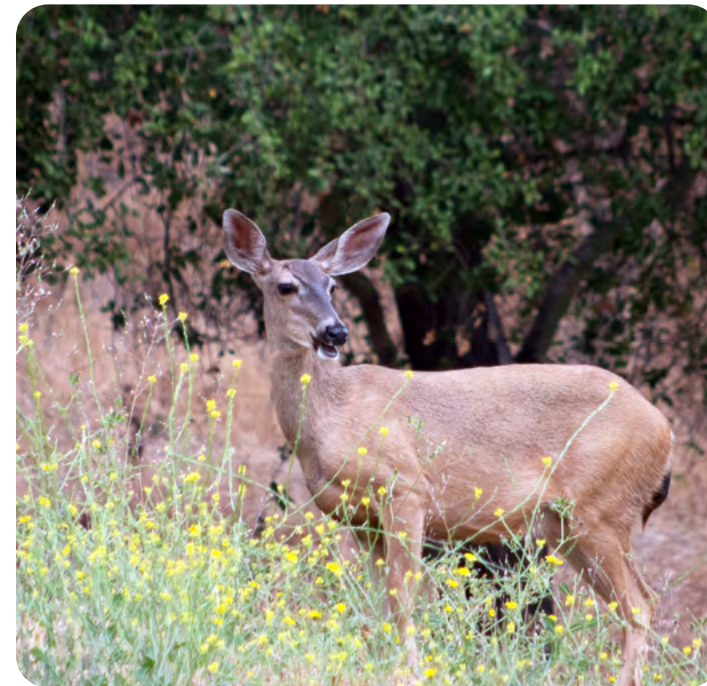
**Third place** (below, right): *Squirrel Eating Avocado* by **Christine Gallagher**

**Congratulations to our winners!** We thank all our LHHIA members who entered 33 fine photos in this year's contest. Judging was by random number (i.e., judges did not know names of individual photographers). Watch future issues of *Heights Life*—you might see your photo published!



## HONORABLE MENTIONS

From the top down: *Laughing Doe* by **Jodee Morgan**; *Hooded Orioles and Allen's Hummingbird* by **Brian Burgess**; *Out for a Stroll* by **Ray Bravo**.



**An important reminder  
from LHH Fire Department**



## **All fireworks are strictly *illegal* in La Habra Heights!**

The July 4th holiday will soon be here, which means that an astonishing fireworks show will be raging down the hill and all around us.

But because La Habra Heights is such a high-fire-danger area, we absolutely *cannot* join in these annual festivities. In fact, *all* fireworks are strictly *illegal* in our community, and we take all fireworks violations very seriously! The LHH Fire Department and resident volunteers will be actively patrolling the Heights and watching for violations—and violators can be **finned up to \$3,000** for each occurrence!

It's especially important to get this message to new Heights residents who may not be aware of this vital restriction. If you have new neighbors, please warn them—and immediately report any violations you see by calling LHHFD at **562-694-8283**.





# Congratulations, Class of '23!

We'll run more grad photos in our July issue.  
Send them to [heightslifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:heightslifeeditor@gmail.com).



## Jack Downs

Jack graduated with honors from La Habra High School. He will be attending Fullerton College with an eye toward a career in aerospace. He already has an internship lined up at Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), and he aspires to work for SpaceX in the future.



## Lily Oclaray

Lily graduated from Fullerton Union High School, where she was captain of Varsity Cheer. Her academic honors included AP Literature, IB Literature and AP Government. She plans to major in education at Sonoma State University.



## Thomas Hess

Thomas graduated from Sonora High School, where he received an academic achievement award (4.0+ GPA). He will be attending Virginia Tech and majoring in mechanical engineering. He served his community as a member of Fullerton Service League of Boys.



## Lilian Sing

A graduate of La Habra High School, Lilian achieved a 4.1 GPA. She was part of the Heritage Program and a member of the French Club, Key Club and Link Crew. She plans to study psychology at Cal State Fullerton. Her artistic interests include painting, sewing and making jewelry.



## Rose Marshall

Rose graduated from the Mississippi College of Law, where she was on the Dean's List and Dean's Ambassador, and she earned a Pro Bono Certificate. A Mississippi National Guard member, she aspires to serve in the U.S. Army Judge Advocate General's (JAG) Corps.



## Shannon White

Shannon graduated with high honors from UC Berkeley, earning the Charles E. Murgia Prize in Latin and awards in Greek and Roman studies. She will attend Columbia University to work toward her Ph.D. in classical studies.

# Garden Plot

By **Beverley Lepak**  
Horticulturalist &  
Landscape Consultant

**H**ERE ARE THREE FUN, EDUCATIONAL GARDEN PROJECTS TO HELP keep kids busy this summer—and they're fun for adults too! For all three, you'll need a level area that receives full sun most of the day. Calculate how much space you'll need (the photos will give you a good idea), including pathways and planting areas. Amend the soil with compost and level out the areas. Then you'll be ready to build and plant!

### SUNFLOWER HOUSES & TOWERS

To create easy-to-grow sunflower houses and towers, you'll first need to decide how high you want structures to be, because different varieties grow to different heights. For example, Mammoth varieties grow to seven feet or more, and Skyscraper sunflowers can easily top 12 feet! Check seed packets to find out final heights. (See the photo *above, right*.)

On the ground, mark off where you want your structure. It can be any size or shape—square, circular, triangular—but leave an open “room” in the middle. Sunflower stalks will form “walls.” Use a shovel to trench around the perimeter and clear away weeds and grass to form a planting bed about a foot wide. Dig down about a foot to loosen the soil, but don't dig in a two-foot-wide area, which will become your doorway. Form a floor by removing weeds and grass from inside the perimeter and cover it with mulch to retard weed growth. You can improve the floor by adding paving stones. If children will be sitting on the floor, you might want to cover it with an old blanket, quilt or piece of canvas.

Plant sunflower seeds about an inch deep every 10 to 12 inches. If you want really dense “walls,” plant two rows of seeds, leaving a foot between rows and staggering seed placement so that leaves from individual stalks will overlap. Water seeds daily, keeping the soil moist, and sprouts will appear in a week or so. At this point you can add fertilizer; a blend of liquid kelp and fish emulsion works well, as does standard granular fertilizer containing nitrogen (especially important), phosphorus and potassium. Once your young sunflowers have a few sets of leaves, gently mulch around stalk bases to keep down weeds and grass. Your sunflowers will reach full height in around 10 weeks, and your new house will be ready for playtime!

### BEAN POLE TENT



When you buy bean plants or seeds, be sure to get *pole* beans—not bush beans—that produce long vines that will climb up poles and trellises (bush beans don't have such vines).

You can purchase poles at garden centers, but any long, slender piece of wood—including trimmed tree branches—will work. Bamboo poles are ideal and available online and at local stores, and you can also use PVC pipe. The pole length should be about six feet, but use longer poles if you



*Sunflower house*

want to make a taller, wider-based structure that can hold multiple kids. The number of poles you'll need will depend on how big you want the base of your finished structure to be.

The easiest bean pole tent to make is a “teepee.” Mark out a four- to five-foot circle and dig six-inch-deep pole holes that are one foot apart. You'll need about a dozen poles. Lean all poles toward the center and overlap them to form a pointed-top frame (see the photo *below, left*). Lash poles together securely at the top with sisal twine, zip ties or wire. String twine or wire around the outside of the framework, leaving about a six-inch gap between strings, to create a trellis for bean vines to climb. This trellis doesn't need to be all that precise—bean vines are very agile!

At the base of each pole, plant your bean plants or sow bean seeds. Add water and wait for vines to start reaching out and climbing! You'll be surprised how quickly they grow (about two months), and kids will enjoy checking on their daily progress.



You can get creative by using thinner, more-flexible sticks and branches to make smaller, curved-top structures (*left*). Whatever tent shape you choose, kids will love crawling inside their leafy green hideaway.

### CORN MAZE

A corn maze can be adapted to whatever space you have available. It can be in the form of a circle or other geometric shape, a spiral or a simple winding pathway.

Decide whether you want your pathway to be wide or narrow. Trace your pattern out on the soil and sow corn seeds according to planting instructions on the seed pack, usually about 10 to 12 inches apart.

Protect seedlings by covering them with plastic strawberry baskets to discourage birds and rabbits from eating them. Mulch pathways to keep out weeds, help retain soil moisture and reduce mud on shoes when it's time to navigate the maze in two to three months.

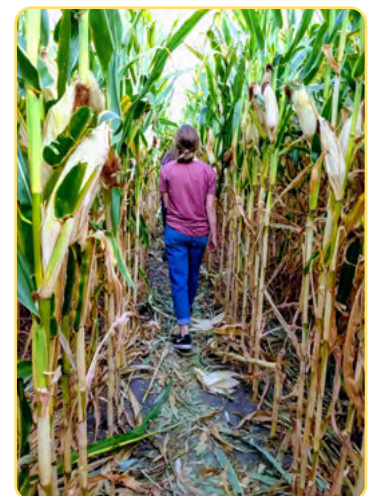


Photo credits (clockwise from top): Susan Bauer, Susan Young (lovelygreens.com), Rozelle Hansen (Pixabay), Lib Gerber.



Concerts start  
at 6:30 p.m.

La Habra Heights Improvement Association presents

# MUSIC IN THE PARK

Join us at The Park in La Habra Heights, 1885 N. Hacienda Road

Our free LHHIA summer concerts wouldn't be possible without the generous support of our sponsors and our very special *Friends of Music in The Park*. We especially thank our Premier Sponsors: Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn, Ray Fernandez (NextMove Real Estate) and Royale Energy / Matrix Oil. It's not too late to join them—all your contributions are greatly appreciated!



## June 21

# BRENT PAYNE



Brent is a crowd-pleasing, award-winning country and western singer from Oklahoma. He's known for high-energy performances with lots of crowd interaction, and he has a high-gear band that enhances every show.



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### COUNTRY & WESTERN FAVORITES



## June 28 TOM JONES & BOBBY DARIN tribute



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Music of Bobby Darin  
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**Ron  
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& his band



## 4 lads from liverpool

## July 12

A tribute to THE BEATLES

### COMING UP



### July 19

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### August 2

## Linda & Friends

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famous musical collaborators.



### July 26

## Woodie & the Longboards

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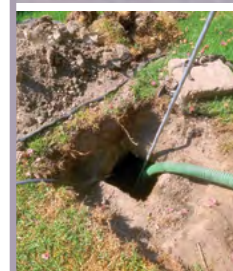
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alkaline Kangen Water has a pH of 8.5 to 9.5. Unlike tap water, Kangen Water has no unpleasant odor, has a pleasantly sweet flavor and feels light and more refreshing in your mouth. It's also much better for you than expensive bottled water—and better 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.



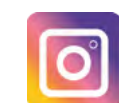
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## La Habra Meals on Wheels fundraiser

# A Hot Night in Havana

**Saturday • June 24 • 6 to 10 p.m.**

**\$70 PER PERSON**—Includes full Cuban dinner catered by Tropicana Bakery & Cuban Café, Cuban drinks, beer & soft drinks, entertainment, silent auction & raffle.

**Purchase tickets at [lahabramealsonwheels.org](http://lahabramealsonwheels.org)**

Park at La Habra Christian Church, 1400 Bella Vista Drive in La Habra Heights, and take shuttle to the Fernandez home.

**For more information, call Carmen Miller at 562-451-9047.**

*All donations are greatly appreciated!*





# California Arborist

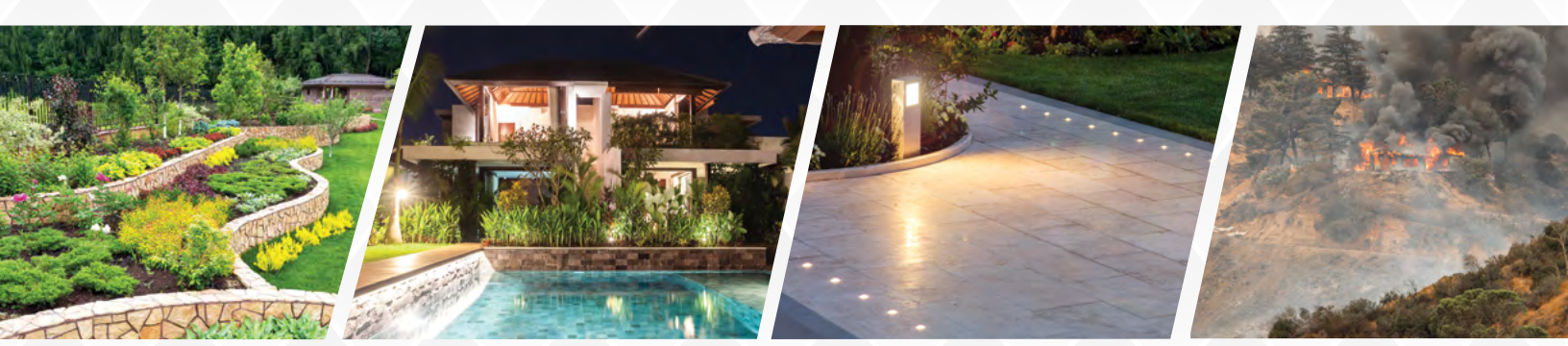
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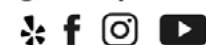


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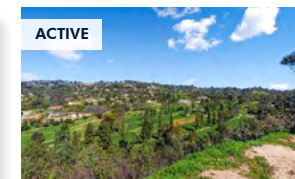
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# JAN'S SPRING ACTIVITY

Even When The Market Shifts Jan Still Delivers



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La Habra Heights  
\$200,000



**2508 Tortosa Avenue**  
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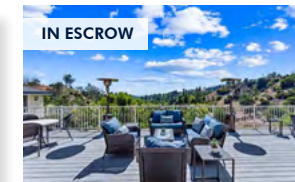
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**605 Picaacho Drive**  
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**2342 Valle Drive**  
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**13740 Kumquat Circle**  
Riverside  
\$945,000

Represented Buyer



**231 Bishop Drive**  
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\$850,000 | 13 Days on Market

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**1136 E Avocado Crest Road**  
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Represented Buyer & Seller



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Based on information from California Regional Multiple Listing Service, Inc. as of May 10, 2023 and /or other sources. 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



## Heights Community Events

- June 4** Highland Riders Horse Show at The Park: 8:30 a.m.  
**June 12** La Habra Heights City Council meeting: 6:30 p.m.  
**June 15** Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness: 6 p.m.  
**June 21** **MUSIC IN THE PARK:** Brent Payne Country Band: 6:30 p.m.  
**June 24** "A Hot Night in Havana" (Meals on Wheels fundraiser—see page 10)  
**June 27** Planning Commission meeting: 6:30 p.m.  
**June 28** **MUSIC IN THE PARK:** Tom Jones & Bobby Darin Tribute: 6:30 p.m.  
**June 28** Roads Advisory Committee meeting: 6:30 p.m.



P.O. Box 241  
La Habra, CA 90631

## 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	<a href="mailto:Briansbergman@hotmail.com">Briansbergman@hotmail.com</a>
CAROL ENGELHARDT.....	562-217-0983	<a href="mailto:clengelhardt1@yahoo.com">clengelhardt1@yahoo.com</a>
DENNIS LAHERTY.....	714-401-0873	<a href="mailto:Dennis.laherty@gmail.com">Dennis.laherty@gmail.com</a>
JOHN PESPIA.....	562-694-1371	<a href="mailto:Jmp100@roadrunner.com">Jmp100@roadrunner.com</a>
NORM ZEZULA.....	562-697-9914	<a href="mailto:normzezulaLhh@gmail.com">normzezulaLhh@gmail.com</a>

## 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](mailto:cookmaster251@yahoo.com)  
 BOY SCOUT TROOP 793 (female troop) • Call Carl Diamond at 562-706-8279 or email [Carl@cdiamond.org](mailto:Carl@cdiamond.org)  
 BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB • 562-694-1805 • [ourchildrensfuture.org](http://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)

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Gil Taylor, Treasurer ( <a href="mailto:excel@pristineprop.com">excel@pristineprop.com</a> ).....	562-322-3453
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Pam McVicar, Membership Chairperson (Memberlhhia@gmail.com) and Youth Employment Roster ( <a href="mailto:youthlhhia@gmail.com">youthlhhia@gmail.com</a> ).....	714-504-3415
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**Heights Life:** [heightslifeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:heightslifeeditor@gmail.com)

Editors: Dan and Barbara Stracner.....562-632-0691

For information about advertising in *Heights Life*, visit [lhhia.org](http://lhhia.org) 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

APRIL 2023

Advanced life-support calls: 33 (17 in LHH, 16 in LA County), Basic life-support calls: 6 (4 in LHH, 2 in LA County), Public assist: 7 (6 in LHH, 1 in LA County), Fire calls: 8 (7 in LHH, 1 in LA County), Traffic collisions: 4 (all in LHH, 1 in LA County), Automatic aid into LA County: 21.

**TOTAL CALLS: 58**



## Sheriff's Report

APRIL 2023

Residence burglary: 1, Grand theft: 1, Grand theft, vehicle: 1, Forgery: 1, Non-aggravated assault: 1, Under influence of narcotics: 1, Persons missing or found: 1, Traffic accidents: 2, Non-criminal: 1, Vehicle burglary: 1, Misdemeanors: 1, Weapons laws: 1.

**TOTAL INCIDENTS: 13**