

THE HEIGHTS

CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Preservation Award	1
President's Message	2
Is Your Dog Polite?	3
Home Tour Thank You!	4
Home Tour Gallery	5
Stress-Free Entertaining	7
From the 7 th	8
From the North Division	9
At Your LB Library	10
Keep it Safe!	10
Eco Corner	11
New Bizz Buzz	11
Calendar	12

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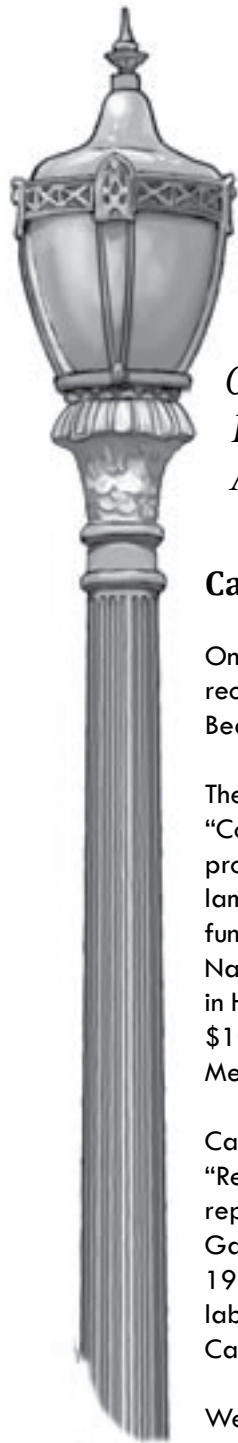
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newsletter@calheights.org

Official CHNA Website

www.calheights.org

The Heights is a bimonthly publication of the California Heights Neighborhood Association. All residents are invited to contribute articles and opinions. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and brevity. Opinions expressed are not necessarily shared by all residents nor the editor. Our goal is to provide a voice to our community and keep residents informed of issues affecting California Heights.



Contextual In-Fill Award



Cal Heights to Receive Preservation Awards

On the heels of the 2011 Home and Garden Tour, California Heights will be recognized for two separate preservation awards to be presented by Long Beach Heritage at their annual awards banquet in February.

The California Heights Neighborhood Association will be awarded the "Contextual In-Fill" award for its ongoing historic lamppost restoration program. Since 1996, the program has restored 136 of the 286 original lampposts still standing along the neighborhood's streets, using a variety of funding sources including private "Adopt a Lamppost" commitments, Long Beach Navy Memorial Heritage Association grants and approximately \$40,000 in Home and Garden Tour proceeds. The CHNA board has dedicated another \$10,000 for the next round and has applied for the current cycle of Navy Memorial Trust grants. We'll keep you posted!

CalHeights residents, Christine and Craig Bouma, will be honored with a "Restoration and Preservation" award for their attentive period sensitive repair and renovation of their home that appeared on the latest Home and Garden Tour. The two story grand Spanish Colonial Revival home, built in 1936 by architect James R. Friend at an original cost of \$9000, has been a labor of love for the Bouma family, only the second owners of this significant California Heights home.

We thank Long Beach Heritage for recognizing our efforts to maintain the historic character that lends our community its unique sense of place and intrinsic and financial value. ❁

president's message

A MESSAGE FROM JOHN ROYCE

Here we go again! As we slide into the season, it's that time of year when many of us get overwhelmed with everything the holidays thrust upon us, and when most of us declare, "Next year, we'll spend more quality time with our loved ones!" If we dedicate at least a portion of our activities to local events and shopping, imagine the extra time we could save to do just that! Several less hours fighting traffic and searching for that perfect parking space at the mall could grant a relaxing evening hosting family or friends around a fire, a quiet dinner out or a Saturday afternoon baking cookies with the kids.

Our local restaurants and shops often depend on a successful holiday season to get them through the year. American Express will promote its 2nd annual Small Business Saturday on November 26th in answer to Black Friday, traditionally one of the biggest shopping days of the year. Cardholders can register their cards for cash back when they pledge to spend at least \$25 at local businesses that accept the card, visit smallbusinessaturday.com.

Of course, we hope you extend your support past November 26th! According to the 3/50 Project, an organization dedicated to America's brick and mortar small businesses, \$68 of every \$100 consumers spend at local businesses return to the community in payroll, taxes and other expenditures, compared to \$43 when spent at a national chain. Most online purchases return nothing to our community. Many small business owners and their employees live in the community we share, and isn't supporting each other one of the first lessons of community?

One of the best ways we can attract more local shops and restaurants to our area is to support the ones we have. So please, dedicate at least a portion of your holiday spending to local shopping and dining this season. Our community will benefit, you'll save money on gasoline and maybe, just maybe, you'll have more time to spend on the together time that far too often gets lost in the holiday shuffle. ✱

Happy Holidays!



John Royce



Are you remembering to use your CalHeights Dining card?

It's good through the end of the year! So make sure it's in your wallet before you go to Baba Ghanouji, Baja Sonora, Black Bird Cafe, Cafe Bixby, Deluis, EJ Malloy's, Elise's Tea Room, Georgie's

Place, The Mirage, Patricia's, Red Brick Pizza and Roxannes Lounge!

Enjoy periodic updates on local happenings, resident alerts, and lost/found pets! Just sign up at calheights.org/contact.htm

Join us on facebook.com (search on California Heights Neighborhood Association)



Please don't post on the posts! Report lost/found pets at lostpets@calheights.org.

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Test Your Canine Etiquette: Is Your Dog Rude or Polite?

by Terry Long

"Hi, my dog just wants to say 'hello!'"

Woah, woah, woah! What if mine doesn't?

We teach children to ask before they approach a dog. That early child training is intended to keep children safe from dogs who might bite or jump on them. In dog training, "asking permission" to greet other dogs and people is a basic impulse control skill, but it takes a self-disciplined human on the other end of the leash to make it work.

Yes, I know that we are supposed to "socialize" our pups from an early age. But, socialization does not mean running up to every child, person, and dog. That's actually not polite. Here are a couple tips to follow for polite greetings.

1) Resist the Urge: Don't stop and greet every dog you see. Doing so builds up an unrealistic expectation in your dog and, as a result, can create frustration (pulling on leash, whining, barking, etc.) when you choose not to. And believe me, a lot of dogs I work with who look terribly aggressive on the end of the leash started with leash frustration.

2) Ask Permission: Stop several feet away from someone you want to meet and ask, "Is it okay for our dogs to meet?" If they agree, but then prompt their dog to "be nice," you might want to call your dog away and ask the other person "how" their dog greets other dogs.

3) Train Polite Greetings: An appropriate greeting involves a) giving your dog permission to approach another dog only after they have responded to a Sit-Stay cue; b) all four paws remain on the ground, off the other dog, and c) your dog stays out of the other dog's face. Rushing up to another dog's face and making any kind of physical contact is inappropriate and problematic, resulting in many scuffles between dogs. Control your greetings by training a Sit-Stay. This helps make sure that your dog's excitement level is under control, and it also gives you time to decide if the other dog is one you really want your dog to greet. Greeting another dog can also be a powerful reward so use greetings as a reward for good behavior!

By keeping these basic rules in mind, you and your dog will become canine etiquette ambassadors.

Terry Long, CPDT-KA, is the owner-founder of DogPACT, a LB-based training company. She provides private consultations, agility training, and limited-enrollment positive reinforcement classes through the LB Department of Parks, Recreation & Marine. www.dogpact.com or (562) 423-0793. ✱

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Home Tour Appreciation!

Thank you all in the various rolls you played in donating personal time, services and support to make our Home and Garden Tour Sunday a success. We couldn't have done it without you! If by chance we overlooked your name, it was not intentional! We also thank our Home Tour booklet and dining card advertisers; we hope the tour introduced some new faces to your local businesses!

Thank you Ferdinand Arcinue, Jen Belt, Dan Berger, Bixby Knolls Florist, Ginny Blankers, Craig and Christine Bouma, Jennifer Boutwell, Allen and Illana Brackett, Nicole Burik, Darlene Burtsfield, Thor Carlson, Mel Carson, Mark Chambers, Karla Campos-Fuentes, Ishtiaq A Chisti, Bill Cliatt, Blair Cohn, Dana Crompton, Nancy Cruz...

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Mark Tokunaga, Denise Vilven, Rob and Kerrie Weaver, Dave and Pat Wheeler, Christy and Kate Whitney, Julie Woolley & the Vintage Emporium, Kurt Wiborg, Lisa Wibroe, Todd Wiessenhutter, Laura Willbanks, Jerry Wilson, Cynthia Wolff. ❁

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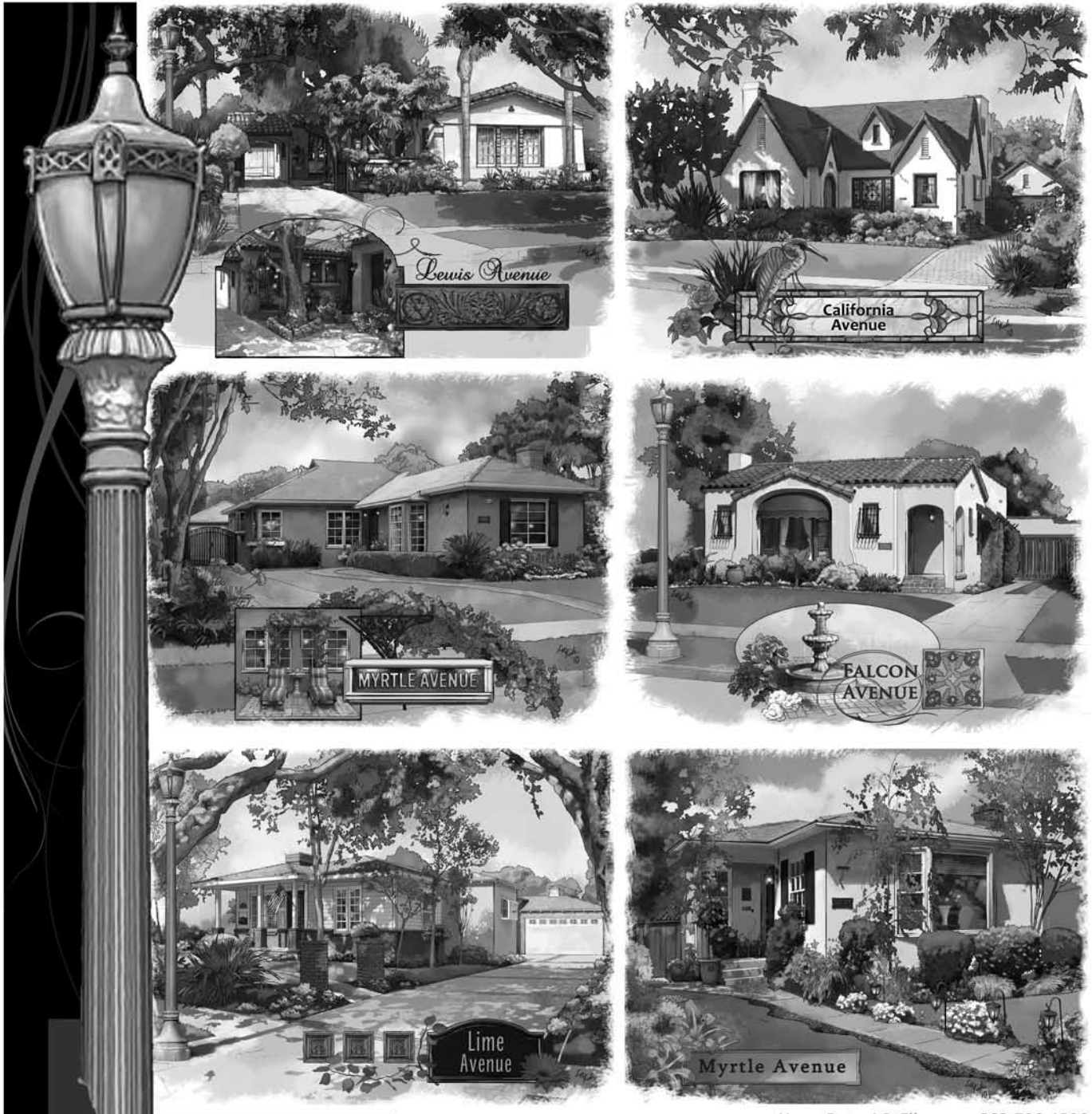
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Stress - Free Holiday Entertaining

by Chef Lousie

Entertaining during the holidays can be really stressful and exhausting!! Here are a few tips to ease the stress.

1. Serve all cold appetizers for your party. This way your kitchen stays cool and you can lay out the items in advance as a buffet. An assortment of international cheeses is always a hit along with some fruit, sliced vegetables, crackers and fresh bread to make any guest happy. I recommend Venissimo cheese shop in Belmont Shore. Lisa is the manager and can be reached at (562) 433-4986. The great thing about this shop is your receipt shows all the cheeses you bought plus wine pairing ideas. Sliced meats like salami, basturma, and prosciutto are great additions. If you wanted a larger spread, add olives, hummus, smoked fish and your Mediterranean platter is complete. My favorite store for these items is Jon's International Market in Westminster - (714) 898-4371. They have other locations as well. The prices are reasonable and you can order 1/4 pounds of most items, which means you can have lots of different selections. Their olives are delicious and very inexpensive.

2. Keep the beverages simple. A non alcoholic punch or warm cider, water and red and white wine, if desired, are all you need. The staff at the Wine Country in Signal Hill (562/597-8303) are very helpful and will assist you with your decisions.

3. Make your favorite cookie dough ahead of time, roll them into logs, cover with plastic wrap and freeze. A few hours before your guests arrive, take out an assortment and cut into slices. Lay them out on a cookie sheet and put into the fridge. Begin baking as your guests arrive for that freshly baked cookie smell. Don't forget to put a timer on!

4. As your guests arrive, place a few cinnamon sticks, cloves and two sliced oranges in water and boil for a holiday scent.

Remember that your guests would rather be socializing with you than watching you slave away in the kitchen!! Enjoy the holiday season!!

*Louise Solzman is Executive Chef and owner of Delius Restaurant in Signal Hill. **

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From the 7th District

James Johnson Councilmember

Dear Friends,

We have several important projects underway in the Cal Heights area. Many of you have probably seen the work going on Wardlow Road. In order to be as efficient as possible, the Water Department is completing repair work now so that they don't have to rip up the new street later on.

Like you, I look forward to being able to drive down a newly paved Wardlow Road. On Orange Avenue, you might notice that Public Works has started work on the stoplight at 36th Street. This will take several months to complete, but the concrete and electrical infrastructure work is already underway. We have gone to great lengths to make sure this new light matches the historic feel of the Cal Heights neighborhood.

A few weeks ago, the City Council voted to invest \$18.4 million in critical projects throughout our city. We will be using these one-time funds to make significant improvements in quality of life throughout Long Beach; investing \$1 million more in our sidewalks, \$565,000 more in residential tree trimming, and \$4.5 million more on basic infrastructure such as street maintenance. By making these investments, we will be improving our neighborhoods while reducing costs over the long run, as deferring basic maintenance now can cause much more costly repairs later. Additionally, we are spending a large sum of money (\$7.95 million) on additional public safety needs, our top priority, as well as providing additional funds for our parks and libraries. For a complete and detailed list of items to be funded, please visit www.jamesjohnsonlb.com.

Finally, as some of you already know, my wife, Nicole, and I recently welcomed two new babies into our lives. The twins, Maria Elena and Theodore Robert, were born in the same Long Beach hospital Nicole and I were 33 years ago. Both Nicole and the babies are doing well and recovering from over 9 months of hard work. I am truly blessed to welcome Maria and Theodore into a city with such a bright future, and I know that the Long Beach they experience will be even better than the one Nicole and I knew growing up.

Your neighbor,

James Johnson

7th District Councilmember

www.JamesJohnsonLB.com

(562) 570-7777 Office

district7@longbeach.gov ✱



From the North Division

by Commander Galen Carroll

The holiday season is approaching and the Long Beach Police Department would like everyone to take extra precautions during this festive time of year.

Suspicious activity should always be reported immediately, whether you are at home or away. Below you will find a few simple tips that may prevent you from becoming a victim.

While shopping:

- Place all gifts and packages in your trunk or out of sight
- Always be aware of your surroundings and walk with confidence
- Park in well-lighted areas
- Avoid shopping alone; there is safety in numbers
- Try to use credit or debit cards for purchases to avoid carrying large amounts of cash
- Keep your car doors locked and windows closed
- If you carry a purse or bag, carry it up close to your body
- Have your car key in your hand prior to getting to your vehicle

Suggestions in and around your home:

- Keep gifts away from windows
- Install motion sensor lighting in a location that it cannot be easily tampered with
- Keep bushes and shrubbery trimmed down to eliminate places for thieves to hide
- If traveling, postpone mail/newspaper deliveries so your home doesn't look deserted
- Do not store gifts in vehicle or unsecured areas

Follow these steps when reporting a crime to the police:

- Remain calm
- Call 9-1-1
- Identify yourself (name, address, and phone) and give your location
- Describe what is happening or what you saw happen.
If there is a suspect or vehicle, be able to provide the police dispatcher with a detailed description and the direction of travel.
- Be patient and remain on the line until the police dispatcher's questions have been answered.

May you and your family enjoy safe and happy holidays! ❁

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At Your Long Beach Public Library

by Jennifer Songster

Did you know that reading aloud to young children is the single most important activity to prepare them to begin reading on their own? Study after study has shown that sharing books introduces children to words and rhythms not typically heard in conversation, television, and movies; it demonstrates books as a source of fun and imagination; and it provides children with background knowledge and access to experiences that help them make sense of their own experiences and surroundings. All of which lead children to discovering the pleasures of reading on their own. There is no reason to stop reading together, however, just because they are reading themselves -- quite the contrary, in fact! Continuing to read together even as late as middle and high school provides adults and teens opportunities for exploring together different types of literature, expanding their vocabularies, talking about books, and creating a special time with one another.

If you are looking for some new titles to share with your young children, the Long Beach Public Library can help! We have just updated the preschool book list "Great Books to Read Aloud." This list, which has 15-20 titles and brief descriptions, is a great place to start finding books that otherwise might get lost in the sea of books at your neighborhood library. Plus, at the Dana Neighborhood Library (3680 Atlantic Ave), once you and your children finish reading the list together, they will receive a certificate and a prize!

Here is a selection of titles you can find on the preschool list.

Shark vs. Train, by Christopher Barton

LMNO Peas, by Keith Baker

Press Here, by Herve Tullet

My Heart is Like a Zoo, by Michael Hall

The Quite Book, by Deborah Underwood

Use your Long Beach Public Library card to put a few on hold through our website (www.lbpl.org) and then pick them up at the Dana Neighborhood Library! ❁

Keep it Safe

With the closure of Burroughs Elementary, more students at Longfellow means more traffic on Bixby Road, Orange, Olive and California Avenues, and many of you have already noticed that increase. Please remember that some children still walk to school, and with winter coming, lower light in the morning and afternoon hours affects visibility. Please observe speed limits, pay careful attention at intersections and follow the school drop off rules. If your kids walk, talk to them about pedestrian safety and traffic rules. ❁



Winter Irrigation

Santa Ana winds might blow with occasional warm spells, but with the sun low in the sky, night-time temps dropping and shorter days, our clay soils retain moisture longer and plants need much less water, even if it's not raining. Save money and water by reducing your irrigation to once or twice per week, and remember to turn them off when rain is forecast.

For California native gardens, if a soaking rain doesn't come along soon, one deep soak will wake them from their summer sleep! Then leave irrigation off; they'll prosper on natural rainfall through winter.

New Biz Buzz

Backstage Coffeehouse at Long Beach Ballet

1122 E Wardlow Rd. - Intimate neighborhood charm, supporting LBB!

Lucy B Vintage Inspired Lingerie

3925 Long Beach Blvd. - For fashion lingerie, hosiery, swimwear, maternity and athletic bras and more.

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Don't forget our emerging local shopping and dining near Orange and Wardlow! All within a short walk you can visit Vintage Emporium, Orange Avenue Salvage, Blackbird Cafe, Pudgy Beads, Hole' Mole', Roxanne's Lounge, Backstage Coffee, Surrender Salon, Babe's.*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Thursdays: 8:30 am litter pick up - see calheights.org click on Clean Streets.

Saturdays: Strollers Walking Group - 7:30 am at our local Atlantic Avenue It's a Grind.

Bixby Rollers Bicycling Group, 8 am
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Bike Saturdays! — Bike to local businesses for special perks & discounts - bikelongbeach.org

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- Dec 2** - First Fridays Holidays! Christmas Tree & Menorah Lighting
Meet near the fountain at Nino's, 6-6:30 pm
- Dec 3** - Annual Belmont Shore Christmas Parade, 2nd Street, 6 pm
- Dec 4** - Old Time Christmas Festival at Rancho Los Cerritos
rancholoscerritos.org
- Dec 4** - Bembridge House Victorian Christmas, features rooms decorated by local historic districts in this Victorian local gem - 493.7019
- Dec 4 - 8** - Top Latke Chef Cook Off (12/4, 1pm) & Chanukah Vendor Fair, Alpert JCC, 3801 East Willow - alpertjcc.org
- Dec 10** - Annual Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade
between Burnett & PCH, 5 - 8 pm
- Dec 10 - 11** - Christmas Candlelight Tours at Rancho Los Cerritos
Reserve tickets now at 570-1755 or rancholoscerritos.org
- Dec 15** - BKBIA Community Holiday Party at EXPO!
Food, music & holiday cheer, 7 pm
- Dec 17** - Christmas in Bethlehem Community Event - Children are invited to experience the center transformed into a Bethlehem marketplace, calheightsumc.org, 595-1996, 9am
- Dec 17 - 18** - The Nutcracker - Our own Long Beach Ballet's holiday tradition, longbeachballet.com
- Dec 18** - BK Shop Local Holiday Bazaar, EXPO 10 am - 4 pm
- Dec 23** - Community Chanukah Shabbat Dinner
Alpert JCC, 3801 East Willow, 5:30pm - 7pm,

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

7th District Council - James Johnson
570-7777 email: district7@longbeach.gov

8th District Council - Rae Gabelich
570-1326 email: district8@longbeach.gov

54th District Assembly member- Bonnie Lowenthal
495-2915 web: democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a54

Airport Noise
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California Heights Neighborhood Association
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California Heights ReLeaf
997-9094

Dana Branch Library
570-1042

Fire Department
570-2500

Graffiti Paint-Out
570-2773

Garage Sale Hotline
570-YARD (9273)

Long Beach Building Department
570-6651

Long Beach Animal Control
570-PETS (7387)

Neighborhood Preservation Information
570-6194

Neighborhood Watch Program
570-7229

Parkway Tree Trimming
570-2700

Police Department Dispatch
435-6711 or Emergency 911

Police North Substation Information
570-9800

Rancho Los Cerritos
570-1755

Senior Check-In
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Street Potholes
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Connie W.

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