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Cal Heights Home & Garden Tour - the Benefit and the Necessity

By Karen Highberger

October 6, 2019 is rapidly approaching, most likely faster for those homeowners who have generously offered their homes for our 2019 Home & Garden Tour. The CHNA Board is very excited with the selection of beautiful homes we have slated for this year's tour.

Our first tour, held in 1997, was the start of the fundraising program that has sustained our neighborhood projects, which include "The Heights" newsletter, our Clean Streets program, two neighborhood murals, alley cleanups, tree plantings, block parties, and the most impressive of the projects - the restoration of all of our vintage lamppost tops. In addition to providing funding for these various projects, the tour gives residents a great opportunity to show off their neighborhood, promote historic restoration, meet neighbors, and give back to their community. Whether you volunteer to open your home, work as a docent, attend the tour, or just promote it to your friends and family you are an important cog in this fundraising machine. Our entire neighborhood benefits from the tour. In the fast paced world we live in, it is refreshing to slow down for an afternoon and stroll Cal Heights admiring our period architecture and appreciating the hard work, design aesthetic, and dedication our residents pour into their homes. Our tour is inspirational eye candy for people who appreciate charming historic homes.

In addition to the projects listed above, CHNA is tasked with maintaining inventory of lamppost replacement tops. When the lamppost project was first proposed 20 years ago, we had to agree that we would provide the tops since the City did not have the budget for it. In 2015 when the project was finally completed we purchased four spare tops, in case of any damage. In the past four years we have lost tops to traffic accidents, negligent tree trimmers hired by the City, and vandalism. For the lampposts that have been damaged in traffic accidents, the City pursues restitution from the insurance companies of the drivers. Unfortunately to date, we have not received any money from the City or any insurance company. We were able to file a claim with the City for the damaged top caused by the tree trimmers, but it will be months before we get a decision. We have depleted our spare tops at this point and don't have material to replace a top that was damaged in a nasty accident at Falcon Avenue and Wardow Road. The plan is to use some revenue from the 2019 Home & Garden Tour to replenish our stock of tops so we can maintain consistency and keep an integral part of our streetscape vibrant.

With this in mind, it is very important that we have a successful tour. Please tell your friends and family about the tour and promote it as best you can. On October 6, we look forward to seeing you out and about walking, biking, scooting, or taking the trolley to admire this year's homes! ☺

President's Message

This marks the first occasion of me composing this message from an airport bar. I'm on my way home from an early July vacation that included small-town Midwestern fireworks (Homer, IL punches way above their weight-class for fireworks), a family wedding that's been at least 10 years in the making, and reunions with friends and family some of whom I've not seen since the maiden voyage of the space shuttle Discovery. Lovely as the time away was, I'd be lying if I said that I was not looking forward to being home. I'll be (long) home by the time any one reads this, and actively enjoying, I expect, the last phase of any trip away - which is the comfort of being back home among friends and neighbors.

I have two things I wanted to share. First the upcoming Home and Garden Tour. Home Tour preparation continues apace but time is starting to feel short in the preparation department. Double check that you've blocked off Sunday, October 6th on your calendar, and start letting friends and relatives know that tickets will be available for purchase soon. We always have room (and need) for help working the welcome booth, docents, runners, and volunteers in general. As always, reach out to info@calheights.org if you can help or if you have any questions!

Lastly, this is a new advertising season for The Heights and we appreciate all the businesses who have purchased ads here. Many have advertised with us for years and some are brand new to our area. Thank you! All of the advertising revenue supports the design and printing of the newsletter, which is published six times per year.

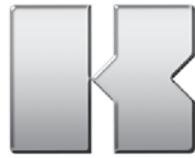
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Hugh Little
President, CHNA

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October 6th - Cal Heights Home & Garden Tour





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Cal Heights Looking Back

By Frances Stoner

We use flowers for the happiest of times and the saddest of times. We use them to convey love and communicate sympathy. We carry them in beautiful bouquets on our wedding day and drape them on our caskets on our last day. They delight us with their beauty and intrigue us with their aroma. Everyone loves receiving them on a special occasion or giving them to make an occasion special. So I wondered what is it like to have flowers surround you every day? Lucky for me we have a wonderful neighborhood flower shop that has been here for over forty years.

Melinda Levy Evans began her lifelong love of flowers by learning the business from her father, Victor Levy. As a young girl she spent time in her father's flower shops, sorting flowers, helping clean up, and learning design. Victor once owned four flower shops in the area. Most carried his name, but one located in the McCoy's Market became McCoy's Flowers, which finally moved here to Long Beach taking over the space at 611 E. Carson Street which was occupied by a dry cleaner in 1976. Melinda was able to purchase the shop from her father in 1985 and rechristened it Melinda McCoy's Flowers.

It turns out being surrounded by flowers is a wonderful thing. I was able to meet Arlene and Rebecca, two designers who learned the business from Victor and have stayed with Melinda for decades. They treat many of their longtime customers like family and have been there for them though happy and sad times.

"I absolutely love my job!" Melinda told me several times. Sure you have to be at the LA Flower Mart at 3:30 a.m. to get the best flowers, and Mother's Day and Valentine's are incredibly busy, but the rewards are great. She told me a touching story about a gentleman who has been coming in twice a week for over 19 years. He buys a bouquet to place on his wife's grave and sits with her for a while. The designers always take time to make the bouquet unique and special. "He is like family to us and we really care about him," noted Melinda. Maybe in this case, flowers bought as a remembrance became a path to friendship. ☺



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Are You Prepared?



In case you missed it, July 4 and July 5 we had a bit of shaking added to our Independence Day celebration. Many parts of Los Angeles county felt the effects of the Ridgecrest earthquake on both days. There is no better time than the present to get prepared for an earthquake, which some say "the big one" is well overdue.

According to the Center for Disease Control, here's what you should know about your First Aid Kit.

Store your first aid supplies in a tool box or fishing tackle box so they will be easy to carry and protected from water. Inspect your kit regularly and keep it freshly stocked. NOTE: Important medical information and most prescriptions can be stored in the refrigerator, which also provides excellent protection from fires.

The best supplies include:

- Hydrogen peroxide to wash and disinfect wounds
- Antibiotic ointment
- Individually wrapped alcohol swabs
- Aspirin and non-aspirin tablets
- Prescriptions and any long-term medications (keep these current)
- Diarrhea medicine
- Eye drops
- Dressings
- Bandage strips
- Ace bandages
- Rolled gauze
- Cotton-tipped swabs
- Adhesive tape roll

Other First Aid supplies include:

- Scissors
- Tweezers
- Thermometer
- Bar soap



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Emergency First Aid Kit - Home

(cont'd)

- Tissues
- Sunscreen
- Paper cups
- Pocket knife
- Small plastic bags
- Safety pins
- Needle and thread
- Instant cold packs for sprains
- Sanitary napkins
- Splinting materials

Emergency First Aid Kit - Car

Assemble a survival kit for your automobile with the following items. Storing some of these supplies in a small bag or backpack will make them more convenient to carry if you need to walk.

- Blankets
- Bottled water
- Change of clothes
- Fire extinguisher — multipurpose, dry chemical type
- First aid kit
- Emergency signal device (light sticks, battery-type flasher, reflector, etc.)
- Flashlight with fresh batteries
- Food (nonperishable — nutrition bars, trail mix, etc.)
- Gloves
- Rope for towing, rescue, etc.
- Paper and pencils
- Premoistened towelettes
- Prescription medicines
- Battery-operated radio with fresh batteries
- Small mirror for signaling
- Toilet tissue
- Tools (pliers, adjustable wrench, screwdriver, etc.)
- Whistle for signaling
- Jumper cables
- Duct tape

Also be sure to sign up for Alert Long Beach. In the event of an emergency, severe weather, or any incident that impacts city operations, a text message and/or voice message will be sent to the cell number and/or email address that you specify. Learn more at www.longbeach.gov/disasterpreparedness/alert-long-beach.



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From the 7th

By Roberto Uranga

I hope everyone is staying cool and enjoying this beautiful summer weather. Since we last spoke, hundreds of thousands of people celebrated Independence Day in our City. Visitors and residents had an opportunity to view a professional firework show over Alamitos Bay on July 3rd and a second professional fireworks show over the historic Queen Mary on July 4th. Neighborhood groups hosted block parties, bike parades, and picnics all throughout the City.

As you may know, On Monday, July 29th, the City of Long Beach will celebrate the grand opening of the new Civic Center, which includes a new City Hall and Port Headquarters. During the grand opening, the plaza will be activated with resources from departments throughout the City, and will include entertainment, food trucks, and a flag-raising ceremony. The community will be able to tour the lobby levels of the new City Hall and Port buildings as well as the Bob Foster Civic Chambers. Located on the site of the former Long Beach Courthouse, the new City Hall and Port Headquarters are seismically safe and environmentally sustainable, with solar power and rain water systems.

Please note, starting Tuesday, July 30th, my office will be located on the 11th floor of the new City Hall at 411 West Ocean Boulevard. The phone number and email address for my office will remain the same.

I would like to remind you that the Seventh District Aquarium Night will be taking place October 3, 2019 from 6:30 - 8:30 pm. Please mark this date on your calendar as the event is a fun family-friendly way to learn about life in the Pacific Ocean. I will also be hosting two Concerts in the Park with the Municipal Band at Los Cerritos Park on August 7th and August 14th. Please contact my office for more details.

As always, it is a pleasure and an honor serving the California Heights community. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or concerns. ☺

UPDATED 7th DISTRICT CONTACT INFORMATION

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Cal Heights In Pictures-Business Edition

By Tom Underhill

Business located at Orange & Wardlow

1. The Vintage Emporium
2. Orange Salvage
3. Steelhead Coffee



1. One Man's Junk next to Orange Salvage at Orange & Wardlow
2. The new Joe's Auto Center on Wardlow and Lemon
3. The new Pita Pitaki on Wardlow and Cherry



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- 2/17 - Bike Messenger
- 3/17 - Lucky Leprechaun
- 4/21 - Adventure Ride
- 5/19 - Blessing of the Bikes
- 6/16 - Necktie Ride
- 7/21 - Pool Party Ride
- 8/18 - Iron Kid Awards
- 9/15 - School Spirit Ride
- 10/20 - Zombie Ride
- 11/17 - Canned Food Ride
- 12/15 - Ugly Sweater Ride



**IN THE KNOW'LLS
What's New? What's Happening?**
by Blair Cohn, Executive Director BKBIA

"This morning, the sun endures past dawn. I realize that it is August: the summer's last stand." Sara Baume, A Line Made by Walking

Hope you are getting your fill of sunshine, the beach, swimming pools, movies, concerts, BBQ, friends' houses, road trips, sightseeing, and plenty of downtime relaxation. I have my eyes on the calendar and am looking forward to our family vacation in St. Joe, Michigan. I am NOT looking ahead to fall and football season (just yet) - just staying present and enjoying all of the summertime I can.

The straight scoop: People often ask me why am I so serious and passionate about the neighborhood? Why do I worry so much about the district and all of our businesses? Well, fundamentally it's because it's part of my job description. But the real reason is because I believe the people in our neighborhood deserve the best. The BKBIA works hard to keep the district clean and safe, attractive, activated and engaging, unique and fun. We really, really do want to see the area reach its full potential. As you may (or may not) already know, our contract with the city for redevelopment funds will come to an end in the next two years. These funds provide us the muscle to do what we do so you see the positive results. We are currently working with the City of Long Beach and the hired consultants to explore our organization, the district, and finding options for revenue sources. I don't think there is anyone that wants to see all the progress come to an end. I will be reporting back on the consultants' findings. And by the way, some community members may be asked to provide feedback for the study and strategic plan so stay tuned.

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Here are the monthly KBIA events to mark your calendar:

- **August 2:** First Fridays is our Woodstock Anniversary
- **August 14:** Literary Society
- **August 18:** Our monthly double header - Kidical Mass and the Brewery Knolls "Beer Trolley"
- **August 12:** Concert in the Park(ing Lot) featuring Western Standard Time Ska Orchestra, 3737 Long Beach Blvd.
- **August 19:** Concert in the Park(ing Lot) featuring The Delirians' tribute to the Buena Vista Social Club, 373 Long Beach Blvd.
- **August 22:** Knights of the Round (Turn)Table

Speaking of Woodstock...Calling all Hippies for First Fridays, August 2! We are seeking fun-spirited participants to:

- Dress up as a hippie
- Spread peace, love, and understanding
- Dance with the group in our dance mob at Carson & Atlantic and then dance at the Woodstock Anniversary Concert. (This is like the James Corden event "Crosswalk Musical" www.youtube.com/watch?v=BJd0-sRffFE.) Dancers will dance to "Age of Aquarius" and "Let the Sun Shine In" from Hair. We'll meet in front of Jamba Juice, 4085 Atlantic, at 7 pm or so and then the P.A. will blast the songs on a green light; security will protect the dancers as everyone makes a lap around the intersection.

After the performance all hippies will head over to the parking lot of Bixby Joe Coffee where the band MOVE will begin a Woodstock anniversary concert at 7:30 pm. Hippies should dance in front of the stage and spread the peace, love, and understanding.

We'll have food and drinks for everyone...and we'll be documenting the whole thing, too. Contact us at info@bixbyknollsinfo.com to join in!

Please take a moment to check out our updated website bixbyknollsinfo.com where you can sign up for all our newsletters. And PLEASE get out and walk, read, eat, drink, dance, shop, ride, or celebrate Bixby Knolls with us all month long. You can sign up for our newsletter there, too.

See you in the neighborhood,
Blair

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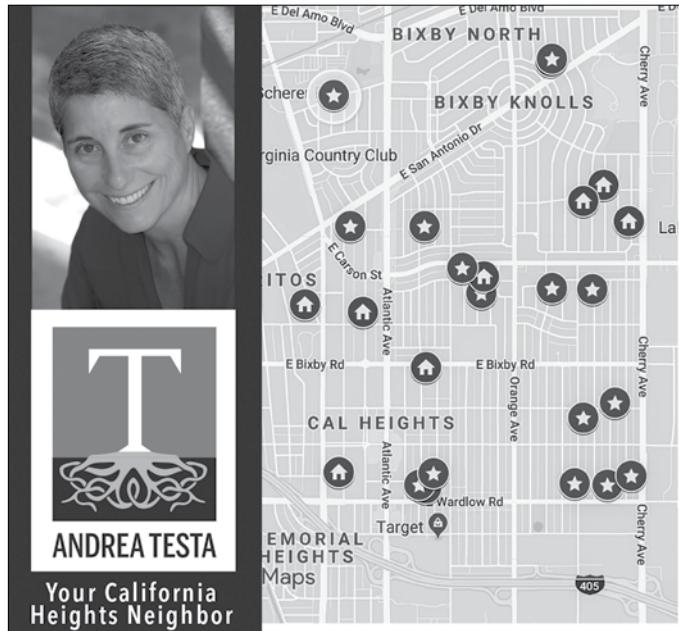
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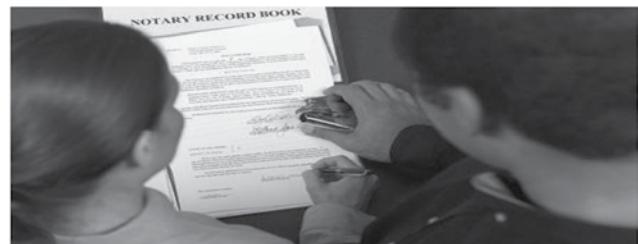


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Ricardo Lara, State Senate 33rd District
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Gavin Newsom, Governor
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