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424-6727 | info@calheights.org

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Stacey Morrison

#### **Lamppost Restoration**

Karen Highberger

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A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood!

By Kerrie Weaver

The California Heights Home and Garden Tour, held every two years, is an opportunity for our charming historic neighborhood to showcase our vintage homes and lovely gardens as well as raise vital funds for projects like Clean Streets, ReLeaf, lamppost restoration and the new mural on the corner of Bixby Road and Orange Avenue.

On Sunday, October 15th, the California Heights Neighborhood Association proudly hosted its' 16th Home and Garden Tour. It was another wonderfully successful tour with over 500 guests and volunteers experiencing California Heights hospitality.

Once guests were checked in at Bixby Road and Lewis Avenue they could stop by and check out information from the Historical Society of Long Beach and Long Beach Heritage or purchase a Cal Heights t-shirt, tote or prints of the new mural while listening to music performed live by local resident Lee Hansen.

Guests walked, biked, or rode the trolley to the six beautiful homes featured on this year's tour, each with its own lovely garden. Docents were on hand to greet guests and guide them through the homes providing them with information on the original features to the home as well as any sympathetic additions or remodels that were completed over the years.

A small but enthusiastic group of quests took a short break from the tour to attend the presentation by architectural photographer and author Alexander Vertikoff. Alexander Vertikoff is one of the leading photographers in the United States and his iconic images have graced every cover of "American Bungalow" magazine since its' inception.

CHNA would like to send out a big thank you to everyone who helped to make this event such a great success! Thank you to our primary sponsor, local realtor Lewis Ebersole, the generous homeowners who opened their homes and gardens to hundreds of people and the docents and volunteers who donated a few hours of their time to helping us put on this event.

## President's Message

By Hugh Little

I would like to personally thank everyone in the neighborhood (and beyond) for how this year's Home Tour went. So far as I can tell, a good time was had by all, and a great time was had by many. To our home owners, advertisers, hundreds of volunteers, and attendees: we could not have done it without you, and you have all left us with renewed vigor to put into our efforts for 2019. And while it's still fresh in everyone's memory, do feel free to contact us if you have any suggestions for ways we could improve future tours. I can't guarantee we'll be able to incorporate each suggestion, but we would certainly welcome feedback and constructive criticism.

Honestly, I don't have a lot to cover this time around. It's been a pretty busy year for us; the mural at the California Heights Market came to completion, the Home Tour was as successful as we could have hoped for, and we're coming up on the weather that I look forward to all year. I write this with the mother of all winter colds, but I'm doing so with one of the first cool breezes blowing in my office window that I can remember in some time.

I think everyone in the neighborhood is ready for Thanksgiving and the myriad of winter holidays we've all more than earned the right to enjoy this year. I wish you and yours the most pleasant holiday season you could hope for.

Kindly,

Hugh Little, CHNA President

### **BIXBY ROAD CLOSURE COMING TO CAL HEIGHTS**

We were just notified that the next phase of the major pipeline repair under Bixby is coming to Cal Heights starting Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>. Bixby Road will be closed to eastbound traffic (heading towards the airport) between Brayton and Gundry. The bike lanes in both directions will likely be closed as well. This work will last about 7 months.

If you have any questions or concerns about the construction, please contact the Metropolitan Water District at CommunityRelations@mwdh2o.com.









## **Cal Heights Looking Back**

By Frances Stoner

We are lucky to live in a neighborhood where many generous homeowners share their lives with us by participating in the California Heights Home Tour. How does one make the decision to let total strangers walk though their home, peek into rooms and admire the place you live every day? Diana Evans volunteered to proudly share her home with us this October.

Diana loves her Long Beach home, but this was not her only house. She and husband Dennis both loved hiking and fishing and bought a house in the eastern Sierras. With beautiful views and fresh mountain air, this was a wonderful house nestled in the pine trees and a place they thought could be their forever home - until it was taken away.

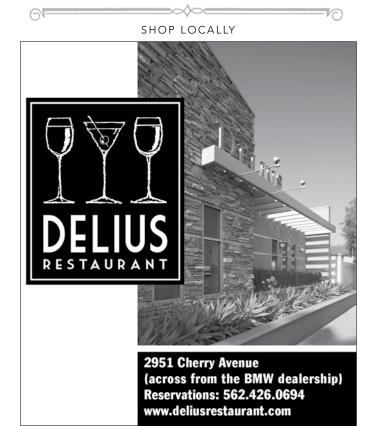
In 2015 the Round Fire, driven by 50 mile an hour winds, destroyed 40 homes in Swall Meadows, including Diana and Dennis's dream home. "When it started it was so far away I could not believe it could come close to us," Diana recalled. Then the firefighters knocked on the door and ordered them to leave immediately. They quickly looked around wondering what to take, grabbed their cat and headed to a local cafe to await word on what would become of their home. After two long days they finally left to return to Long Beach and their jobs. Diana remembered the shock she felt when an insurance adjuster called to tell her the home was completely destroyed. Diana laments the loss of personal things, memorabilia collected over 20 years, photos and also practical things like tax forms and letters.

Initially they tried rebuilding the main house, but became frustrated with all the bureaucracy and instead turned their attention to the little garage that was left. Diana loves to decorate, searching for distinctive pieces she can use to create a unique home environment. She poured her energy into completing the little garage they now call the Casita, complete with the mountain views they love.

People react to loss in different ways. For Diana, sharing the home she created here in Cal Heights was a way of giving back to her neighborhood. In light of the recent devastating fires that have swept our state and destroyed so many homes, I hope we can follow Diana's example and be thankful for what we have.

Mark your calendar:

**SMALL BUSINESS SATURDAY 11/25** 







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## **Cal Heights In Pictures**

By Tom Underhill

Images 1, 2 & 3: Call Heights Home & Garden Tour

- 4. The Goodyear Blimp flies above Cal Heights
- 5. Beach Streets
- 6 & 7. Veterans Day Parade









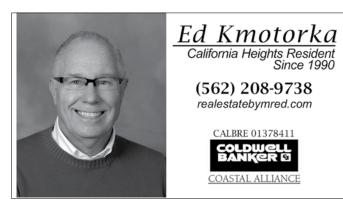






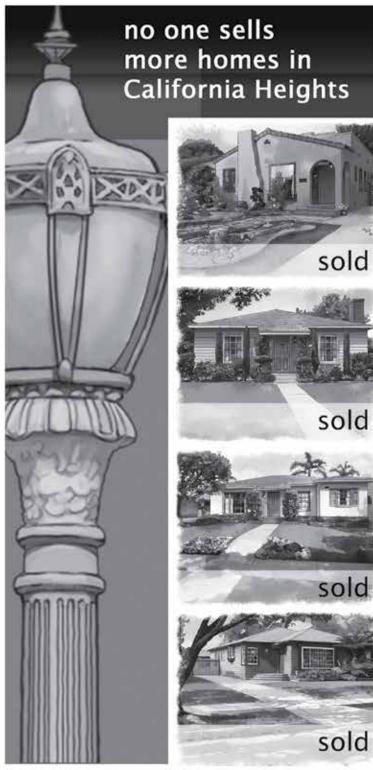
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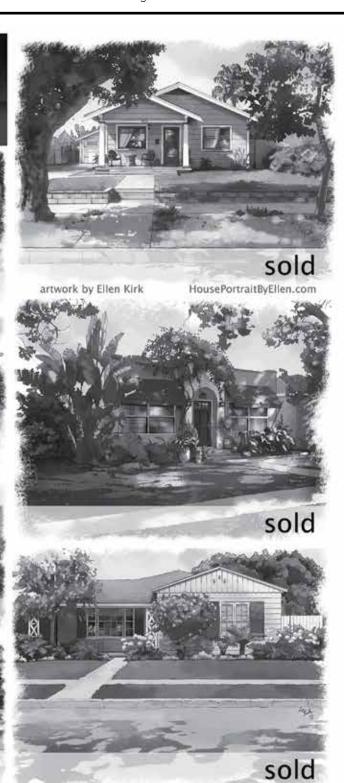














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## **Historic District Leaders Meeting Update**

By Karen Highberger

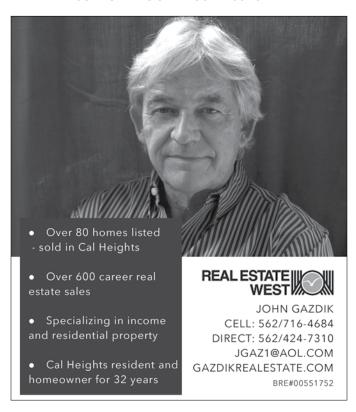
Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup> marked the last Historic District Leaders Meeting of 2017 hosted by Long Beach Heritage in conjunction with Development Services Staff. The meetings are held at the Bembridge Heritage Homesite. For the past few years, the meetings have been held on a fairly regular basis and it has proven to be beneficial to the Historic Districts, as well as City Staff. Long Beach has 17 Historic Districts and these meetings give the various groups an opportunity to network and share the concerns and challenges of their neighborhoods as well as seek solutions from other attendees and Staff.

As many of you know, the City has been working on updating the Historic Guidelines for all of the Districts and things are progressing nicely (after a very long wait!). The anticipated completion date is the middle of next year. Bluff Park and Cal Heights will be finished last, due to the size of the Districts. The format is very user-friendly and provides style overviews for various architectural styles as well as maintenance and repair guidelines. You can find this information at www.longbeach.gov under Planning/Historic Guidelines. If you are considering work on your home, this is a great reference and will answer many questions.

Another issue discussed at the past two meetings was the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) ordinance the City is finalizing. It has been mandated by the State that cities must allow ADUs. The State has provided mandatory requirements, but cities are allowed to tailor their ordinances within the mandate. After much discussion, LB is limiting the size to 850 square feet. The details are still being hammered out and they hope to have the City Council vote on the ordinance before the end of the year. Many other items factor into the process, such as minimum lot size, setbacks, and zoning. In Historic Districts, these units will be held to the same architectural standards as an addition in order to maintain the character of the neighborhoods.

The proposed Land Use Element maps have been another point of discussion. The latest maps were released on November 10<sup>th</sup> and input from the Historic Districts was noted by Staff and building heights were reduced adjacent to the Craftsman Village Historic District as well as the Rose Park Historic District and Belmont Heights Historic District. The CHNA Board reached out to Staff and we were able to get a neo-industrial buffer zone on Cherry Avenue adjacent to Cal Heights between 33<sup>rd</sup> Street and Wardlow Road. This area had originally been slated for regular industrial. A special thanks to Board Member, John Moreland for taking care of this for our neighborhood.

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## At Your Local Library

If you've been to Dana in the last week you might have missed a familiar face, Ms. Silke. She has been temporarily reassigned to the Bret Harte Neighborhood Library. We miss her a lot, but are very happy to have Ms. Josephine fill in for her. Ms. Josephine comes to us from the Main Library and most recently the Bay Shore Neighborhood Library. She brings with her 20 years of library experience and a passion for reading and customer service.

Hopefully you had a spooky but fun Halloween! Here at Dana, Mr. Carl opened Dr. Frankenstein's Lab, a Halloween program for tweens, teens and family. We decorated fresh candied apples and teased our senses with a sensory shelf of monkey skulls (coconuts), witch fingers (carrots) and brains (cauliflower). The event was a big hit and will definitely be returning next year.

Mr. Carl will resume story time on Fridays from 10:30 to 11:00 am. All young readers are invited to listen to stories, rhymes and participate in a craft project relating to the theme. TED Talks resumed Saturday, November 4th and will be held every Saturday from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. TED Talks (via video) feature experts giving lectures on topics such as technology, entertainment or design. Interesting conversation follows the lectures.

Dana is excited to announce its first Dessert Raffle, just in time for Thanksgiving! The way it works is simple;

- pick up a book review slip from the library,
- review any book, magazine, or graphic novel,
- turn in your review for a raffle ticket.

Repeat as many times as you like. The drawing will be held at 12 noon on Friday, November 17th and winners will be notified the same day.

Dana Library will be closed on Thursday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> and Friday, November 24th for Thanksgiving. We will open again Saturday, November 25th at 10 am. Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family from Dana Library staff. We are so grateful for your continued support.

Josephine Caron, Senior Librarian, DANA Neighborhood Library 3680 Atlantic Ave., (562) 570-1042

FOOD DONATION Food Finders is accepting food and monetary donations through the end of the year. For details contact Diana Lara at (562) 283 1400 x 101 or dlara@foodfinders.org.



From the 7th
By Roberto Uranga

Fall is here and I hope you are staying cool with these high temperatures. My staff and I have been working diligently to communicate with constituents and city staff to make sure public safety, improvement projects, and any other concerns are being addressed timely.

Last month, Steve Lauricella was newly appointed as Commander of the North Division Long Beach Department. Commander Lauricella began his career with the City of Long Beach in 1988 as a volunteer Reserve Police Officer. In 1990, he was hired as a police officer and worked various assignments including patrol, a Field Training Officer, the Domestic Violence Detail, and the Gang Investigations Detail. He promoted to sergeant in 1997 and was assigned to patrol, the Field Training Program, the Office of the Chief of Police, the Sex Crimes Detail, and the Warrant/Labor Relations Detail. In 2013, he promoted to lieutenant and was assigned to the Special Victims Section and the Internal Affairs Division.

We are also excited to announce our 64th Annual Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade, a unique community event sponsored by the City of Long Beach and numerous local partners, which will take place on Saturday, December 9th at 5 pm. If you are interested in becoming a part of the Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Parade legacy by participating, volunteering, donating to support the parade or just want to learn more about this unique community event call my office at 562-570-7777 or visit www.longbeach.gov/district7 to download a parade application.

Lastly, I would like to thank Clean Streets for meeting every Thursday from 8 to 9:30 am, to clean our neighborhood. They meet across the street from Foasberg Cleaners on Wardlow if you are interested in joining them.

I'm glad to represent the residents of California Heights, and I look forward to continuing to work together! As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Please sign up for my newsletter by sending an email to district?@longbeach.gov to stay informed about community news and upcoming events. (562) 570-7777 &



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# IN THE KNOW'LLS What's New? What's Happening?

by Blair Cohn, Executive Director BKBIA

We all agree that every day is a good day to support our local businesses. And we all know how important it is for our local economy. AND we all know that a healthy, thriving business district is important for our neighborhoods. So we rely on all of you to participate and help with this wonderful village of ours.

To help celebrate Small Business Saturday and all of our amazing businesses, we brought back the Bixby Knolls BINGO card for you to play between now and November 30<sup>th</sup>.

YOU, the community member, just needs to shop, dine, or use services in the district, then attach your receipts to the BINGO card and turn them in to win!

Simply download the BINGO card or find one at a local business and start playing! The BINGO game runs from October 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>.

Event details, sales, programs, and other fun bits are posted on www.bixbyknollsinfo.com and on Facebook/bkbia and will be updated on a regular basis until the event day.

The rules are simple: When you have BINGO, mark off the correct boxes, attach receipts from the corresponding businesses and drop off in the EXPO Arts Center mailbox at 4321 Atlantic Avenue. Or take a pic/scan in your card and receipts and email to info@bixbyknollsinfo.com.

Enter as many times as you wish using a new card. You can find the cards below, on our website or in person at a few different locations around the neighborhood.

**THE PRIZES** The two grand prizes are a \$100 and a \$75 gift card to your BUSINESS OF CHOICE (any business within the Bixby Knolls Business Improvement Association District). And if you do a "blackout" of the card (filling in every square) you automatically get a \$100 gift card to the business of YOUR choice.

We want to invite everyone to "DISCOVER" a local business between today and November 30<sup>th</sup> to shop, dine, and/or use a service in the "greater Bixby Knolls area." Take this time to meet our small business owners and spend some money in their place.

**THE FACTS** Here are the "borrowed" stats for why it's really that important to contribute to your local economy.

**Shopping small is a big deal** It's easy to think small businesses get overshadowed by major corporations and Black Friday madness. Mom-and-pop shops don't have the resources to pull off million-dollar promotions. But, they do have the upper hand when it comes to impacting the economy. In fact, small businesses drive much of the US economy. Just how many small businesses are there in the US? Currently, there are 28 million American small businesses, which account for 54% of all US sales.

It's not just the number of small businesses that give them an economic advantage. Small businesses provide many benefits to consumers that large corporations simply cannot.

**Keep money local** Circulating money in the same locality helps that community thrive. A strong network of local funds enables individuals and businesses within a community to support each other.

**It Feels Good** When you support small business, you support your town, your city, your local area all around. It gets right down to the heart of the matter: helping others in the case of small businesses will truly help yourself in the process.

On behalf of the BKBIA, we wish you all a wonderful holiday season full of good cheer and laughter. And please commit to doing some shopping, dining, and use the services around the district.

See you in the neighborhood!

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6:30 to 7:30 pm Wardlow & Lemon

Thursdays: Clean Streets Litter pickup - 8 am at Wardlow & Lime Saturdays: Strollers Walking Group - 7:30 am at our local Atlantic

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9 am to 1 pm longbeachrecycles.org

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Roberto Uranga, 7th District Council 570-7777 email: district7@longbeach.gov

Al Austin, 8th District Council

570-1326 email: district8@longbeach.gov

Patrick O'Donnell, 70th Assembly District 562-495-2915

Ricardo Lara, State Senate 33rd District 562-256-7921

Animal Control

570-PETS (7387)

**Airport Noise** 570-2665 / 570-2600

**Building Department** 570-6651

California Heights ReLeaf 997-9094

**Code Enforcement** 

Monday thru Friday: 570-2633 Saturday: 570-0000 www.lbcode.org

**Community Watch North Division** 570-9825 or 570-9827

**Dana Branch Library** 570-1042

Fire Department 570-2500

**Graffiti Paint-Out** 570-2773

**Garage Sale Hotline** 570-YARD (9273)

**Neighborhood Preservation Information** 570-6194

**Parkway Tree Trimming** 570-2700

**Police Department Dispatch** 435-6711 or Emergency 911

**Police North Substation Information** 570-9800

**Senior Check-In** 

570-7212

Special Garbage Pickup (2 free per year) 570-2876

**Street Potholes** 570-3259