



THE HEIGHTS

NEWS FROM THE CALIFORNIA HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Covid-19 Testing Locations	1
President's Message	3
Cal Heights Looking Back	4
From the 5 th District	5
Meat & Vino	6
What Was There Before?	7
Cal Heights in Pictures	8 & 9
In the Know'lls	10
Calendar & Important #s	12

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New Covid-19 Testing Locations

Last month, due to increased cases of COVID-19, the Long Beach Health Department opened an expanded drive-thru and walk-up testing site for residents.

With the capacity to test 3,000 people a day, the public testing clinic will be located in the former Boeing parking lot, near 3590 E. Wardlow Road. The Boeing site will be open from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2:30 to 5 p.m. weekdays.

Health Department officials said people should get tested if any symptoms are present or if they have been in close contact with someone who has or is suspected to have the virus, regardless of vaccination status.

Appointments strongly suggested: Individuals who do not have access to the Internet or need assistance making an appointment online can call the City's Information Line at (562) 570-INFO (4636) (open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.). All appointments are for PCR tests. Rapid antigen testing is available upon request at the testing site. Below is a partial list of locations near California Heights, for more details visit longbeach.gov/covid19testing.

Location	Date and Time	Make a PCR Appointment
Former Boeing Parking Lot 3590 E. Wardlow Rd., 90807 - Drive-thru option available for PCR test with an appointment - PCR & Rapid tests available	Mondays - Fridays 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2:30 - 5 p.m. Saturdays 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.	https://lb.fulgentgenetics.com/appointment/screen/priority?siteid=FSS-STE000021 
Long Beach City College-Veterans Stadium 5000 E. Lew Davis St., 90808 (Enter on Conant) - Drive-thru & walk-up - PCR & Rapid tests available	Mondays - Fridays 9:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. 2:30 p.m. - 5 p.m.	https://lb.fulgentgenetics.com/appointment/screen/priority?siteid=FSS-STE000002 
Long Beach City College - PCC Campus 1305 E. Pacific Coast Highway (Parking lot 1, corner of Orange and Pacific Coast Highway) - Walk up only	Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.	Non-appointment Only

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President's Message

I hope you had a happy, healthy and safe holiday season. As I write this, we appear to be just over the hump of the Omicron surge. Here's hoping this was the last of this scale we have to deal with. For better or for worse, in my household at least, it seems that we are settling into what feels like it will be our new normal. That new normal involves an awful lot less face to face, much less physical, contact with friends and neighbors. I miss that, but it's left me appreciating even more the distant contacts I have with folks when I'm out and about.

Life and commerce go on in our neighborhood, though, and it seems right now that we've lost fewer of our local businesses over the course of this than I'd have expected. The new year seems to already be yielding a new crop of businesses and restaurants along Wardlow and up Atlantic. Having a butcher's shop within walking distance of my house has been a particular delight, and I hope that novelty is not going to wear off any time soon.

Take care. 🐾

Thanks,



Hugh Little
President, CHNA



Thank you Clean Street's volunteer George Janquart! Read more about George in Frances Stoner's column, *Cal Heights Looking Back* on page 4.

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Cal Heights Looking Back

by Frances Stoner

Did you ever come across an old photo album, open it and wonder what the story was behind each snapshot? Maybe the photo is of a beautiful beach scene in the 60's or a cute house with two young boys playing outside or even a photo of a newly minted graduate of the Los Angeles Police Academy proudly standing at attention. If you are lucky enough to know Cal Heights neighbor, George Janquart, you get to see each of those snapshots come alive.

Born in Fort Knox, George came to Long Beach as a young boy. As George and I talked I was amazed at his incredible memory, often recalling names, dates, and events as if they occurred yesterday. As he regaled me of his youth, I could see a snapshot of his time as a track star running the half-mile for a school record at Long Beach Jordan, his days as the Student Body President at LBCC, and even running the concessions down at the beach where he was lucky enough to meet his future wife, Maryanne.

His 26 years in the LAPD could have filled several albums, including encounters with criminals, fighting with an irate man, and finding a burglar who actually chose to hide under the bed. One funny encounter involved confronting a naked man carrying a surfboard, but we won't take a snapshot of that! His law enforcement career took him from the beaches in Venice, to the docks of San Pedro, to working with the Scientific Investigation Division, to helping to train and certify officers at the San Pedro Pistol Range (where once a civilian wanted to practice shooting his elephant gun).

The many diverse moments of George's life include mentoring young boys, including his own young sons, in the Boy Scouts; hiking Mount Whitney; serving 21 years in the Army Reserve; and teaching Woodshop to 8th grade boys (which may have prepared him for the rigors of the LAPD).

George and Maryanne came to Cal Heights in 1973 after George saw the neighborhood while carpooling with a co-worker. Here they have raised their two sons, made countless friends, created wonderful memories and given so much back to our neighborhood. George has volunteered for the Home Tour, is active in the weekly Clean Streets litter abatement program and helps deliver our newsletter - where I was fortunate to have met him.

Each of us create these snapshots of our lives every day. Just like George and Maryanne we are lucky to have our life's album full of the many things that living in Cal Heights brings us: community, friends, and family. 📸



From the 5th

Welcome to the new 5th District!

I'm excited to welcome all our Cal Heights neighbors into the newly drawn 5th District. I also wanted to let you know that as your Councilwoman, I am committed to building a bright future for all Long Beach neighbors through promot-

ing job growth, small business success, as well fostering new opportunities for the collaboration of community partners. Gaining this neighborhood through the redistricting process has motivated me even further to make sure that you all have someone in local government you can turn to.

As many of you know, I used to live in Cal Heights, so I know these neighborhoods fairly well. In my remaining time on the City Council, I look forward to visiting, catching up and getting to know them even better. My family and I have already started visiting all the local restaurants and shops and talking to our new neighbors. I hope to meet as many of you as possible in the coming months!

In the meantime, I want to let everyone know that my office and I are here for you. I enjoy hearing your thoughts and more importantly, I am here to make your government work for you. I want everyone to feel free to contact my team for any help, request, or concerns. My team and I are here to listen and help. If you have any immediate concerns, please contact us at (562) 570-5555 or email us at district5@longbeach.gov. To keep up to date on all the latest information regarding the 5th District as well as city happenings, please sign up for our Neighborly News email newsletter by scanning the QR Code!

I look forward to embracing this new addition to the Fifth District community and serving you all as my time on the Council comes to an end. Be healthy and stay safe.

Sincerely,
Councilwoman Stacy Mungo 🐶



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Cal Heights Welcomes Meat & Vino Market

By Marion Saffery

Meat & Vino Market is now up and thriving in Cal Heights, and we have a feeling you're going to like it. The shop, which opened December 4, 2021, is located on Wardlow, just west of Myrtle.

Meat & Vino Market is owned and operated by Al Valadez and his wife, Diana, and, according to Al, is a boutique-style butcher and wine shop with an emphasis on pairings. The shop has an upscale, elegant vibe and a well-stocked butcher counter featuring restaurant-quality cuts, most of which can't be found at a typical grocery store.

"With our beef, we don't do anything other than Certified Angus Beef—which is also known as Upper Choice or Prime—and wagyu," Al said. "We also have a little bit of lamb, chicken, pork, and some seafood. We try to bring in a little bit of everything."

Store shelves are packed with a variety of unique rubs, sauces, spices, snacks, tools, and charcoals to help customers cook the meats properly and to amp up their flavor.

"Everything in the shop should pair up with wine or a craft beer, and we're really selective about the items we bring in," Al said. "So if you grab a bottle of wine, there are all kinds of cheeses, charcuterie options, and snacks—all of these things will pair up to make your eating experience more flavorful."

Al and Diana are on-hand to provide information about how to successfully prepare the cuts, and about which wines and/or craft beers will pair best with customer selections. Pamphlets, printed on heavy card-stock, feature recipes, cooking tips, and pairing suggestions, so customers can take their cooking experience to the next level.

"A lot of people don't know what to do with a nice piece of steak, and you can really ruin a nice piece of steak if you don't cook it properly," Al said. "So this is just a little bit more information, and it gives the customer an experience to come to the butcher shop."

Meat & Vino Market is located at 901 East Wardlow Road, and is open weekdays from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and weekends from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. For more information, visit meatandvino.com, or call (562) 283-3002. 🍷

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What Was There Before?

By Manny Valenzuela

Have you noticed that when you travel east of Falcon Avenue, the historic lampposts give way to newer "cobra head" streetlights?

It has been said that a number of years ago, perhaps around 1970, the City started replacing old lampposts in the eastern portion of the neighborhood, working its way west, until heroic neighbors stopped the City from replacing more of our beloved historic lampposts.

Were you there to witness the removal of these lampposts, or know the history of what happened? Do you have a picture of one of these removed lampposts from Walnut, Gaviota, Rose, or Gardenia Avenues? Let us know! Share your story and photographs at info@calheights.org.

Stay tuned, we will report our results! 🐍



Two lamppost styles in Cal Heights - A cobra head on the left and a historic lamppost below



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Cal Heights In Pictures - Shop Local!

By Tom Underhill



The Cohn Family



Cal Heights Historic Lamppost



Clean Streets Volunteers - Cleaning up every Thursday



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IN THE KNOW'LLS

What's New? What's Happening?

by Blair Cohn, Executive Director BKBIA

An artist friend told me: "The finished product is in the marble. Look at that block of marble long enough and you will see it. Then start chiseling away." This is what we do for our street art and parkway enhancement projects. There's the National Park, Bixby Butter, and the murals. It's also what we do each day in our office plotting and scheming to keep the energy moving around the district. So what will we see and do as the year progresses?

I imagine that we will see some sameness and yet a lot could be different. We still have a funding issue, and the city gave us marching orders to work on new revenue streams so lots of energy will be put towards that for sure. We are still in the groove of planning our summer concerts, flash events, Mardi Gras parade, Women's History Month, and (hopefully) our favorite Long Beach County Fair at First Fridays in April. We are excited to see new businesses building out and getting ready to open. Even through the pandemic, the wet weather, and holiday season, entrepreneurs have come to Bixby Knolls to open up shop.

We just shed the post-holiday-January-vibe. February would normally be the kick-off to our Black History Month celebration beginning at First Fridays. However, given the increase of the Omicron cases, the organizers of the event held at the Expo Arts Center will move the celebration until June First Fridays as part of the "Juneteenth" celebration. First Fridays "Lite" is in our vocabulary until things feel more safe and normal.

I am very happy to brag that the Bixby Knolls Strollers just turned 14 and have walked roughly 2,766 miles together, which is just about from Long Beach to Philadelphia! The Bixby Knolls Literary Society turns 14 this month. Our Knights of the Round (Turn)Table have returned for your listening pleasure. We have maintained our core services of our Clean Team (litter and weed abatement) and CSI Patrol Service continues its security patrols around our district. It's reassuring to have this "sameness" as our base to work from.

At the time of this writing, we are looking ahead to our annual "State of the Business District" meeting now set for mid-March depending on the health status of the world and any variant running amok. We will speak specifically about what we did in 2021, what we plan to do in 2022.

Another normal is our outreach to our business members. It is always a priority, and we look for new ways to assist, promote, and feature our members through social media so the entire community is familiar with the services, retail, and restaurants in the neighborhood. You all play a major role in the health and vibrancy of the district so keep up the great work with your support (and pocketbooks).

A continuous THANK YOU to all who have donated to the Bixby Knolls Community Foundation 501c3. These donations have made a world of difference, and all donations go directly towards our core services and business assistance. We are welcoming all donations at any time through our website: <https://bixbyknollsinfo.com/donate/>

Again, we highly recommend you sign up for our newsletters. Please go to www.bixbyknollsinfo.com and do so. You will be fully "in the Know'lls" with what's happening around the district.

Now back to chiseling out the marble block for something great.

Happy Birthday to Alissa Cohn.

Les bon temps rouler!

Blair 🐶

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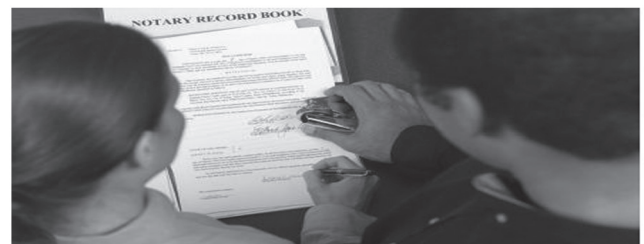

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Thursdays: Clean Streets Litter Abatement - 8:00 a.m. at the corner of Lime & Wardlow. Masks are required.

Saturdays: Strollers Walking Group - still informally on - walk at your own pace and time. There will be no group gathering in the morning.

First Friday of each Month: firstfridayslongbeach.com

Every Second Saturday: Hazardous Waste Collection at EDCO, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. longbeachrecycles.org

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