



January 2020

President's Message:

"It's Los Angeles, but it doesn't feel like L.A."

As many of you probably noticed, the New York Times recently profiled Cheviot Hills, highlighting for the rest of the world how special our neighborhood is. "*Cheviot Hills, Los Angeles: Quiet Affluence Amid the Urban Hustle.*" (Oct. 29, 2019.)

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/29/realestate/cheviot-hills-los-angeles-quiet-affluence-amid-the-urban-hustle.html>. As one resident aptly stated in the article, "It's Los Angeles, but it doesn't feel like L.A."

Of course, most of us didn't need the New York Times to realize how fortunate we are to live in this extraordinary community with great neighbors, peaceful tree lined streets and unrivaled location. The NYT article follows others like it extolling the quality of life in Cheviot. A few years back Redfin accurately predicted that Cheviot Hills would be one of the hottest real estate markets in Los Angeles. <https://la.curbed.com/2014/8/25/10056290/prediction-las-next-hot-housing-hood-is-cheviot-hills>.

While these accolades are nice, they have a downside - crime. *Crosstown*, the Los Angeles based data-driven newsletter, recently reported that while burglaries were down across Los Angeles, "in 2018, wealthy enclaves like Hancock Park and Cheviot Hills had the highest burglary rates in the city." Moreover, in the Cheviot Hills/Rancho Park area these figures have increased during the first quarter of 2019. In the first quarter of 2018 Rancho Park had 90 burglaries. In the first quarter of 2019, that figure more than doubled to 198.¹ <https://xtown.la/2019/05/13/for-la-burglaries-tarzana-now-takes-top-spot>; see also <http://maps.latimes.com/neighborhoods/neighborhood/cheviot-hills/crime/#latest>. For better or worse, the secret that is idyllic Cheviot Hills is out!

So what can we do to protect and preserve our neighborhood? One of the services the Cheviot Hills Home Owners' Association (CHHOA) provides is funding for a 24/7 patrol by APS Security Systems. In addition to having one car patrolling Cheviot Hills full time we share a second car with the California Country Club Homes Association. In addition to patrol service, APS locks gates, checks homes, and provides vacation and after hours property inspections for CHHOA members.

¹ Crosstown collects publicly available LAPD data on reports of burglary and attempted burglary in Los Angeles. LAPD data only reflects crimes that are reported to the department, not how many crimes actually occurred.

We would like to increase our security efforts; we need your help - membership is at a decade low. There are approximately 1450 homes in Cheviot Hills. Currently, only 385 homes are dues paying members. In 2014 there were 524 members. In 2005, there were 722 dues paying households. We have the ability to make our community safer, and we should.

In addition to security, the CHHOA seeks to promote and maintain the quality of life described in the NYT article. In this regard, we work with Film LA to help manage filming in our neighborhood. We work with various City agencies managing traffic and landscaping efforts. We work with the City to have trees replanted when the City removes dying or unsafe trees which have damaged the sidewalks. We oversee the maintenance of the medians on Manning and Motor Avenues. We work with Rancho Park to manage special events so they have minimal impact on the neighborhood. We provide grants and financial support to local charity events and local public schools. We work with the City to manage the locations of new cell towers to keep them from being an eyesore (to the extent possible) and we have worked with the operators of the Rancho Park oil drilling site to ensure compliance with safety measures.

We hope to do more in the coming year but we need your support. If you love your community as we do, please join (or renew your membership with) CHHOA. The Association's efforts to maintain the residential nature of Cheviot Hills are funded by voluntary annual dues of \$95 per household. You will find a mailer accompanying this newsletter or you can join on-line at <http://cheviot hills.org/join/>

We also welcome each of you to join us at our monthly meeting to provide input on how to further improve our community or voice any concerns you may have. Meetings are open to the public and are held at 7:00 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month at the Griffin Club. Please stop by.

Finally, let me close by wishing you all the joys of the recent holiday season and much happiness throughout the coming year. We are so grateful to have the opportunity to represent our great neighborhood. May each of you and your family have a spectacular 2020!

Sincerely,
Robert Keehn, President
Cheviot Hills Home Owners' Association

Note – by attaching the NYT article, the CHHOA Board does not endorse business entities mentioned in the article.

The following article was printed and included in the annual mailing. Due to copyright issues the article cannot be posted online. You can find the article here <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/29/realestate/cheviot-hills-los-angeles-quiet-affluence-amid-the-urban-hustle.html>