

THE SCOTCH TAPE



WHY CULINARY CLASS IS WORTH JOINING

La Habra High School’s Culinary Arts class introduces students to the basics of cooking and nutrition, and provides hands-on training to develop important life skills. Many students find this class enjoyable and beneficial as it has very much to offer.

(Story by Miranda Jones continues on page 2)



NEW STUDENT DRIVERS ADD TO PARKING CRUNCH

By Cecilia Munoz

With the annual arrival of Spring, many juniors at LHHS are earning their driver’s licenses, which means more students driving and the availability of parking spots, which are already in short supply, becoming an increasing challenge to find. Many students are left to figure out “DIY” spots in order to park at school. *(this article continues on page 2)*

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FROM THE FRONT PAGE: WHY CULINARY CLASS IS WORTH JOINING

Students are involved in weekly cooking sessions, which cover the topics of knife safety, recipe interpretation, measuring techniques, and sanitation. This interactive approach guarantees that the students learn these skills to use in their daily lives. Food safety in this class is essential and vital and encourages students to be clean and safe.

Culinary Arts serves as a gateway to the food service industry, and this class introduces students to various career paths, ranging from culinary arts to hospitality management. This class is very beneficial for not only students' educational and professional futures, but also teamwork and being a team player. Students work together, getting assigned different roles such as dishwasher, sous chef, and executive chef.



Beyond learning technical skills, this class offers an enjoyable environment. Students work together by sharing ideas, doing projects together, and more. By students how to work together smoothly, it helps them to know their strengths and weaknesses. When students are aware of this, other group members can help them with what they struggle with. This class also helps students with time management because students need to have their dish finished by the end of class.

Lily Castaneda, a senior from La Habra class, who's in culinary arts, says, "I love this class because it's so interactive and teaches you how to work with others! My favorite thing that I've made in this class has to be fettuccine alfredo."

Students have the opportunity to make pretty much whatever they want. Students have made pizza, sushi, beignets, cookies, spring rolls, and much more. With students being free to make almost anything they want, it helps them expand their creativity and try making new things.

Overall, La Habra High School's Culinary Arts provides students with practical skills, career exploration, and a great learning atmosphere. This class helps prepare students for future challenges and it has benefited thousands of students at La Habra High School. For students looking to build confidence, try something new, and make great food, Culinary Arts is the class for you.

FROM THE FRONT PAGE: PARKING CRUNCH

Although LHHS sells parking passes to all students able to provide a license to the school, spaces are still limited due to the amount of kids at LHHS.

With the recent increase in juniors driving causing parking spots to become less available, it also doesn't help that many students that park in the lot don't always pay for a parking spot. When students pay for a spot, they receive a hang tag showing the school year. Students are required to hang this from their rear view mirrors for proof of owning a spot.

LHHS campus security are able to ticket those who park in the lot, but don't often enforce this, leaving too much parking in the spots unaccounted for to the office. This is what causes the overflow of parking spots for student drivers.

Often, when there are no more parking spots available, students park at the end of rows on lined areas. Students will park in staff spots, too, leaving staff without spots.

Another common place for students to park is in EV charging stations, even if they don't have an electric car. One of the most frustrating places students will park when regular spots aren't available are the coveted (and paid for) senior spots.

Senior spots are reserved parking spots designated for seniors that ensure them a numbered spot to park in every day. When somebody takes these spots, a student will take another senior spot, and the chain continues, throwing off all student parking spots.

This parking spot dilemma has been a stressor for many students for months now, but LHHS campus security has yet to enforce any tickets to those taking parking spots without paying.



THE GOLF TEAM EXPERIENCE

By Liam Howard

Being a member of the La Habra High School golf team has been one of the most rewarding experiences of my life. While it may just be “golf” to others, to me, it’s about the dedication, time, and effort it takes to earn a spot and maintain the level of commitment expected from us.

Unlike other sports, golf demands individual accountability. There’s no bench to sit on to wait your turn to play, as every player is responsible for their own game, pushing the team to be their best.

One of our biggest privileges as team members is having access to our state-of-the-art golf facility, the Golf Lab. This facility gives us an advantage that other schools wish they had. With advanced technology like launch monitors, tempo machines, and simple swing trainer tools, we can experiment and fine-tune our swings to achieve greatness.

Another great thing about the team is our ability to raise money. Our program takes pride in the amount of money we raise for our team, as it allows us to continue to purchase gear like clothes, shoes, gloves, and even more golf equipment for the lab. We fundraise in and outside the school throughout the year. Whether it be selling ice cream during lunch or hosting a big golf tournament at a country club, our team will always raise money.

For many of us, being part of the golf team is more than just a sport, it’s an opportunity to grow and create lasting memories.

“Ever since joining the golf team my freshman year, I’ve loved it,” says Ryan Tristan. “All the opportunities we get to play at all the different courses.”

Jeremy Rodriguez, another member of the team, said, “I’ve gotten to make new friends and play a game that I love, all while doing it for school.” It’s this combination of camaraderie, passion for the game, and the pride of representing La Habra High that makes being part of the gold team such a one-of-a-kind experience.



LHHS DIVES INTO BIKINI BOTTOM WITH THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL

By Jack Lee

The La Habra High School Theater Department proudly produced the Spring Musical, Nickelodeon’s The Spongebob Musical, from March 7-14, receiving a positive reception from the audiences in attendance.

The musical follows the titular character Spongebob Squarepants and friends on an adventure to save Bikini Bottom from a world-ending disaster. Popular characters like Sandy Cheeks, Patrick the Starfish, and Mr. Krabs sing catchy songs as the team fights for the fate of Bikini Bottom.

La Habra High School’s Theater and Tech Department worked for nearly four months to bring this musical together. The cast and crew had lots of songs but my personal favorite is “Daddy Knows Best” sung by Mr Krabs (Myst Bowman) and his daughter Pearl the Whale. Bowman had the best standout performance.

“When we worked on Spongebob, a lot of rehearsing and teamwork from the cast and tech crew went into the show,” says Bowman, explaining how the scale of this show was much bigger than the fall production of “Clue.”

After seeing the show, La Habra High School students and families enjoyed this musical as a fun, goofy look into Bikini Bottom on stage. Congratulations to the LHHS Theater Department on another successful show!





STUDENTS SELF-ORGANIZE TO COMPETE FOR GLORY

By Kayla Walsh

Senior Assassin has been a beloved high school tradition for decades. While its exact origins are unclear, the game likely started sometime in the 1980s or '90s. Each year, seniors take part in this intense water gun battle, where the goal is simply “eliminate or be eliminated,” all for the chance to win a prize.

Signing up for Senior Assassin is easy. At La Habra, players enter the game by filling out a Google Doc and paying a \$10 initiation fee. Once registered, they gain access to a private Instagram page where organizers post game updates, rule changes, and most importantly the latest eliminations. This is also where players can see active bounties, a list no one wants to end up on.

To take someone out, you need to catch them off guard but only in the established places. Certain locations are considered safe zones, meaning players cannot be eliminated there. These safe zones include school grounds and parking lots, religious properties, inside homes (unless permission is given), and workplaces. Additionally, if a

player is wearing floaties or goggles, they’re completely off limits, unless there is an active purge going on. Purge day is a free day for all players, this means that you can get any player out, not just your target.

The pressure is on each round for students, students must take out at least one target from their assigned group. Fail to do so, and your name lands on the bounty list,



making you an open target for all remaining players. If you can’t escape the bounty list in time, you’re eliminated from the game permanently.

“I was loving the game the first few hours, but now I feel on edge anywhere I go,” says Samantha Kim.

While the competition can be intense, the thrill of the chase and the bonds formed along the way with team members is unmatched. Whether players join for the fun, the challenge, or just the prize, Senior Assassin remains a memorable experience that caps off their high school journey in an unforgettable way.

JOIN JOURNALISM! SEE MR. NEAVEZ IN ROOM 230 FOR MORE INFORMATION.



TWO NL TEAMS WITH BIG EXPECTATIONS IN 2025

by Mia Soza

The Los Angeles Dodgers and Philadelphia Phillies stand out as big NL candidates for the 2025 World Series as we approach opening day.

To no one's surprise, the Los Angeles Dodgers have the highest expectations. Being reigning champions, that doesn't mean they were opposed to new offseason additions. In fact, they had some of the best in the league.

Two-time Cy Young award winner and top free-agent starting pitcher Blake Snell signed a 5-year, \$182 million deal with the Dodgers this offseason, and it doesn't stop there.

They also signed Japanese phenom Roki Sasaki, who's considered one of the best young pitchers in the world.

This leaves the Dodgers with the best starting pitcher rotation in the league: Blake Snell, Yoshinibu Yamamoto, Tyler Glasnow, Clayton Kershaw, Dustin May, and eventually Shohei Ohtani.



Moving East, is another team with an All-star packed rotation: The Philadelphia Phillies.

Even before the offseason, the Phillies had four top-tier starters that set them up for success in 2025. But with speculations that their top prospect Andrew Painter may be called up the bigs this season, the Phillies are left with 5 potential top notch starters to kick off 2025.

It'd be hard to believe they're not entering the season with a chip on their shoulder, having made it to the playoffs the last 3 years and walking away without the World Series Championship. Inevitably, the Phillies have heard just about every form of trash talk there is, but manager Rob Thompson doesn't pay it any mind.

"I'm not sure if the outside noise, whatever you wanna call it, affects us that much," Thomson told reporters. "We have a championship-caliber ball club."

This may be the last chance for the Phillies before a rebuild is necessary. Whether or not they can pull it off—only time will tell.

HUMANS OF LA HABRA - A NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Over the course of the next several issues of *The Scotch Tape*, our journalists will include specific stories about the people that make up La Habra High School, ranging from students to staff members and even members of the local community who have made a significant impact on our school.

Our goal with this endeavor is to show that LHHS is strong because of the community that has come together to support our school. We hope you will enjoy reading about our people as much as we have enjoyed interviewing them!



THE POWER OF TEACHING

by Evelyn Garcia

Teachers have the ability to inspire and shape the lives of students every day. Students can take the lessons they learn inside the classroom and apply it to their daily lives. Through dedication and passion for their job, teachers give off unwavering support to their students that can last a lifetime. Their impact and influence can foster personal growth and encourage students to pursue their dreams with confidence. Lauren Vargas, who teaches English and Yearbook here at LHHS, had a teacher just like this.

“He didn't let me be a victim, he didn't let me pity myself,” Ms. Vargas says. She talks about her MUN teacher, Mr. Rimmel, who was a teacher who really started her love for teaching.

Ms. Vargas always knew she wanted to do something where she could connect with kids. As a kid herself, she had a hard time, which led her to want to be someone stable in a kid's life. Vargas always loved literature and writing, so becoming an English teacher came naturally to her.

Ms. Vargas carried on the lesson that her MUN teacher had given her.

“I teach exactly how he used to teach me,” she states. Teaching his philosophy is something that Lauren Vargas strives to do. Upholding a safe, comfortable, and fun environment in the classroom is something many students love about her class. Many of her previous students even come back and visit her as she has turned into the type of teacher that students can rely on.

A great teacher is someone who can leave a lasting impact. For Lauren Vargas, Mr. Rimmel was no different. Teachers like them are something that kids strive to hold on to. They leave an imprint on students that will never be forgotten. That's what teaching means to Lauren Vargas.



APPRECIATION IS ONLY THE START OF ONE'S JOURNEY

by Liam Howard

Mario Rizo, a science teacher, credits much of his professional growth and motivation to a pivotal moment in his early career.

While working in his credential program at Schurr High School, Mr. Rizo needed a camera to record a training class. Unsure of where to turn, he went to a much more experienced teacher and colleague. This teacher was known for their kindness and willingness to help newcomers, and out of the kindness of his heart, this teacher went out of his way to help Mr. Rizo out.

This teacher got an entire substitute teacher for his class so he could help Mr. Rizo. Mr. Rizo recorded his session, and the teacher gave valuable feedback on the recording, a gesture that left a lasting impression.

Reflecting on the experience, Mr. Rizo credits this moment as the inspiration behind his teaching philosophy to “Always help others.”

He named this chapter of his life “Doing my best,” a fitting title for his commitment to being a teacher, and when asked if you could go back in time what would you do differently, he said, “Be more appreciative.”





THE JOYS OF TRAVELING

by *Miranda Jones*

My name is Lara Johnson and I am an English teacher at La Habra High School. I've been teaching for 25 years! I am so old! I enjoy travelling, as I do it a lot. My favorite places that I've visited are Israel and Europe.

The reason that I travel is because I love adventure, experiencing new cultures and people, the history, the food, everything! I love it. I like seeing and experiencing other cultures because it is humbling and allows me to see the world from a different perspective. I love going off the beaten path and really getting to immerse myself in the culture versus just visiting the "touristy" places.

I really want to visit Egypt and Greece since I've never been to those places before. I love trying different food while I'm travelling, I always try to eat the food of the region I am in - not go to McDonalds or Starbucks. I try to find what food/foods a culture or region is known for and try it.

Currently, it looks like I may be back in Israel or Africa this summer. My favorite person to travel with is my husband. I love bringing my daughters with us so they can experience the journey with us. All three of my girls love travelling because we have always taken them with us when traveling.

I would like to add that a great way to see the world is by getting out there and giving back. I have often traveled out of the country to go and serve in other places. I have helped build homes and churches, cleared fields to prepare it for planting crops for an orphanage, helped put on a vacation Bible school for children, and taught English classes. These experiences have enriched my life in so many ways. It became about loving people and serving others.



A LOOK INTO LA HABRA'S PAST

by *Kiki Huizar*

Everyone has interesting stories to talk about, but none could compare to local LHHS community member Loretta Luna's, especially when she talks about the city of La Habra through her eyes.

"I was born in 1943 here in La Habra; I'm 81 years old," says Loretta.

"On Lambert and Cypress, there was a hospital where I was born," she says, describing the changing landscape of the city.

She talks about the place where she lived, stating, "I lived in the Campo Colorado on Motovestia...there were about 6 rows of red homes."

After talking about the good side of her childhood, she then talks about the bad side of it.

"We also had segregation here in La Habra," she says. "There was a school here called Willson school, and only Mexican people were allowed to go there; we weren't allowed to go to Washington or any other school."

She continues, saying, "My mother and other ladies in the campo got together and went to the city meeting and they were able to get all the kids to Washington and other middle schools. That's how I was able to attend every middle school in La Habra."

Bad things have happened in the past in La Habra, but that's not what La Habra is known for.

Loretta says, "La Habra was a town of orange groves, walnut trees, and avocado trees."

After, Loretta talks about all the little shops that were all over the streets. "Off Motovista and 4th street, there used to be a little store at the corner, then as you go up the hill there used to be a pool hall and a barbershop... there also used to be a Catholic church there where I did my first communion."

"All my childhood was here in La Habra, and I enjoy La Habra very much."





THE JOYS OF TRAVELING

by Miranda Jones

My name is Erica Wiessner. I'm a senior at La Habra High School. I would consider myself productive because I like staying busy most of the time. I like to follow routines as they help keep me consistent and organized.

My routine after school varies based on my commitments. Usually, I go home or get some food, and sometimes I have practices or ASB events after school. When I don't have events, I go home and listen to music or watch Netflix and do my homework.

I'm proud of my commitment to learning another language. I dedicate time each day to learning French to keep improving and learning beyond what I'm learning in the classroom.

I stay productive by managing my time well and minimizing distractions. I stay motivated by constantly setting goals for myself to keep improving, and I reward myself when I achieve my goals.

I am on varsity cheer, and I enjoy being on the team. I am part of multiple clubs. I am President of Heritage Club, part of Track Club, President of Disney Club, member of FCA, member of Best Buddies, and much more.

I am proud of myself for all of my accomplishments because I know I've worked hard to achieve a lot of my successes, such as good grades, living a healthy lifestyle, and much more.

I'm really looking forward to college. I can't wait for the new experience and the beginning of the next chapter of my life.



A FUTURE VALEDICTORIAN

by Cecilia Munoz

Kelly Kaufman is a current sophomore at LHHS, scheduled to graduate in 2027, and is currently working hard to be valedictorian for her class.

Kelly begins by explaining her mother's job. Kelly's mom, Dr. Sylvia Kaufman, used to be the principal of La Habra High School, which has left Kelly with high standards. Now, with Dr. Kaufman as an Assistant Superintendent for FJUHSD, she still works closely with the school.

Kelly shares that her mom's position within the district has created a sometimes complex experience for her at school. She understands that teachers know who she is, but Kelly wishes that more teachers would see her for who she is as a hard-working student rather than the daughter of a district-level administrator.

Both of Kelly's older brothers, Troy and Tommy Kaufman, were valedictorians of their class. With Troy graduating with the class of 2022 and now attending Harvey Mudd, and Tommy graduating with the class of 2024 and now attending Stanford, Kelly hopes to follow them with the legend they've left with LHHS.

Kelly further explains that she feels she has some type of high standard to meet with both of her brothers being valedictorian; she doesn't want to let her family down and hopes to be the same.

Kelly Kaufman currently holds the #1 spot in her class, and she shares how she achieves such good grades and a high ranking. "I plan out my homework and prioritize school over my sport, water polo, and my intern job. Sometimes, it gets hard to balance, but school always comes first for me."

Lastly, Kelly leaves advice for her classmates on how to achieve good grades as well. "Be on top of when things are due, and have some type of schedule to track it."

