

# Beverly Hills Weekly

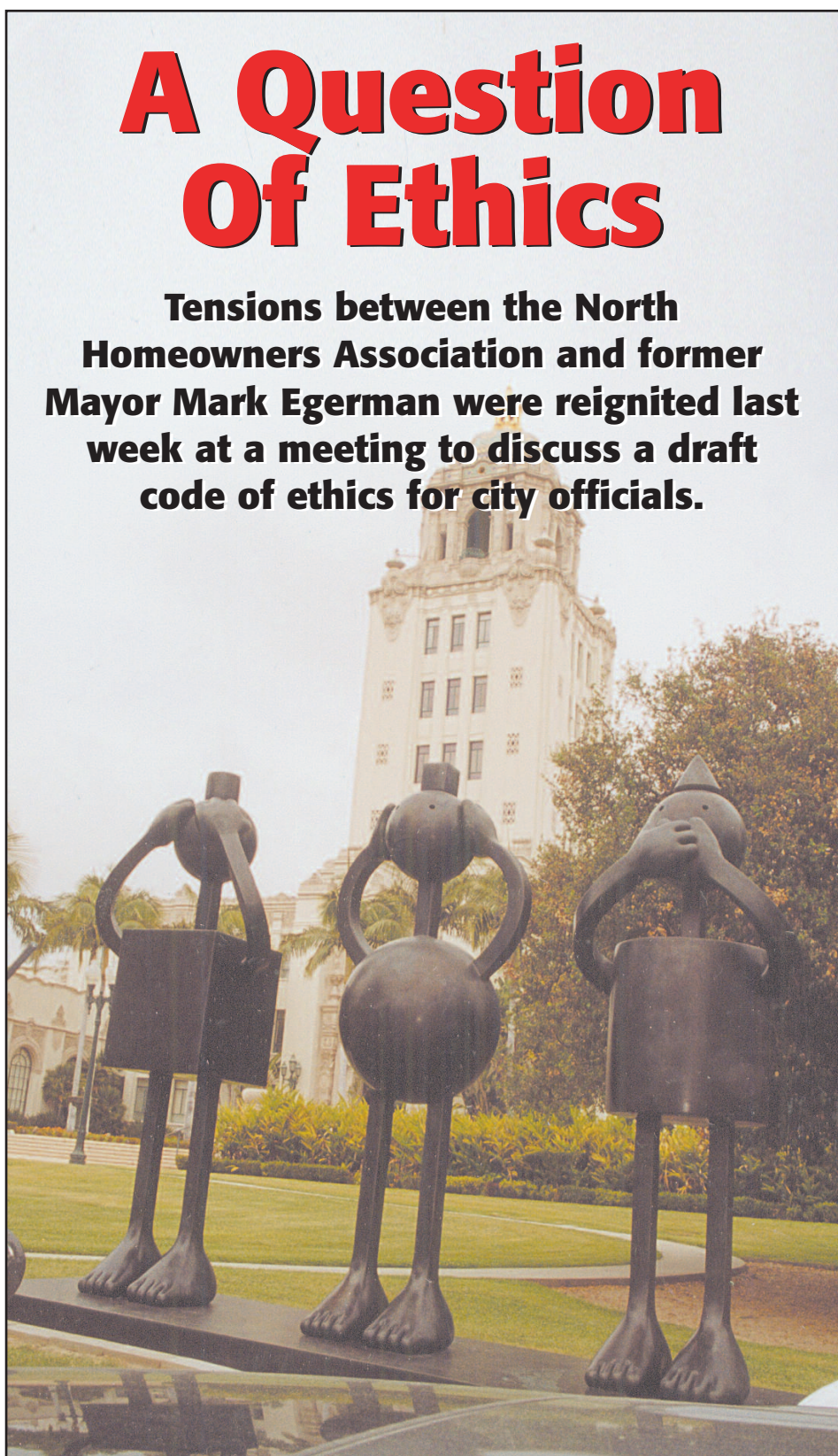
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Issue 343 • April 27 - May 3, 2006

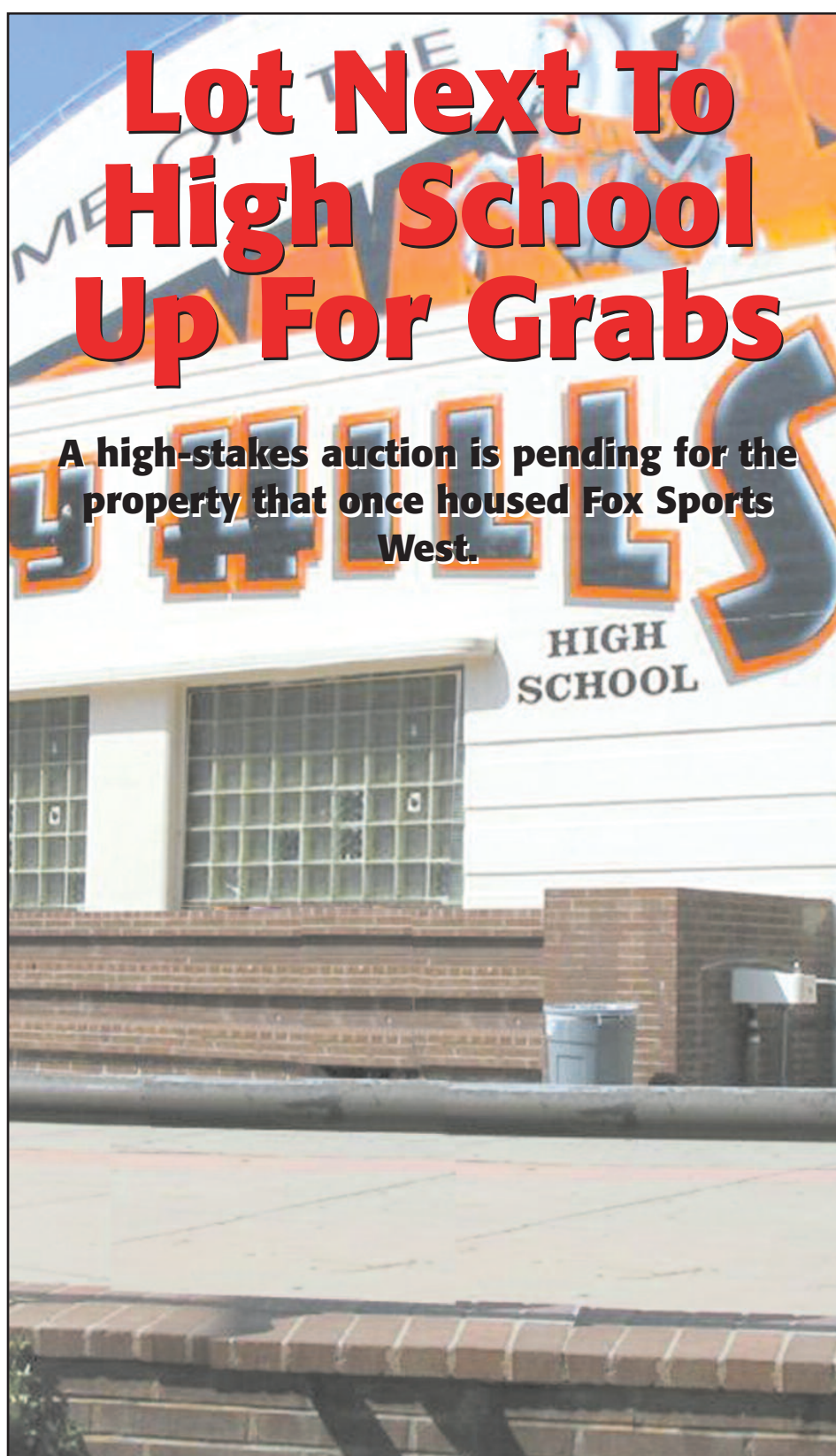
## A Question Of Ethics

**Tensions between the North Homeowners Association and former Mayor Mark Egerman were reignited last week at a meeting to discuss a draft code of ethics for city officials.**



## Lot Next To High School Up For Grabs

**A high-stakes auction is pending for the property that once housed Fox Sports West.**





# letters & email

## “Driveway Apron Parking May Be Prohibited”

I corrected your first attempt at the definition of “apron” (as in apron parking) and you still got it wrong. It is the cut-out part of the PARKway (not cut-out part of the driveway). The driveway does not extend that far. Are you careless, irresponsible, or just sloppy? Either way, your error perpetuates the misconception that the “apron” is the homeowner’s private property, when it is not. I doubt you will print this letter as written (with no errors) or print it at all, but at least correct your mistake and be careful in the future. My Irish Setter can type more accurately than you people.

**Arnie Sklar**  
Beverly Hills

## “The Final Days of Robinsons-May”

I am glad that Rudy Cole acknowledged his failure to give credit to Beny Alagem and the major remodeling he has done to the Beverly Hilton hotel. If any of your readers haven’t been recently, I highly recommend visiting the hotel. The lobby is stunning, as are the ballrooms and the hotel

rooms. Rudy is right to recognize that these are tremendous improvements. And if I might add, this is probably a good sign of things to come. I’ve not seen the whole plan yet, but I agree that removing the above-ground parking structure is a plus. I also believe the largest benefit of improving the site and modernizing it (as well as making it more visually appealing!), is the protection of the hotel for years to come. The Hilton is not only important to us because of the Golden Globes, it is important to us because of the revenue it generate for the City. I look forward to learning more about Mr. Alagem’s plans to improve what the hotel can be for our City.

**Les Bronte**  
Beverly Hills

## “Neighborhood Watch Keeps An Eye On Disaster Training”

Thank you for your April 20th (issue #342) coverage of Neighborhood Watch possibly expanding to include disaster preparedness. I’m happy to see that such a program is once again being considered and implemented.

I say “once again” because we already had such a program called the Beverly Hills Community Safety Association (BHCSA), developed out of the Neighborhood Watch Program fourteen years ago, from 1992-95. It was housed in the Beverly Hills Police Department’s Community Relations Office, under the auspices of Chief Marvin Iannone, Captain Bill Hunt, and immediately supervised first by Sgt. Tom Van Ausdell and later by (then) Sgt. Mike Hines, together with the approval and assistance of Fire Chief Bill Daley and City Manager Mark Scott.

The BHCSA slogan was “Be Trained – Be Informed – Be a ‘Community Resource’” and, to that end, we held free monthly Saturday training programs to any interested Beverly Hills residents, with coffee (and, yes, doughnuts) at the Police Department in the morning, where a Disaster Preparedness film was shown and discussed with trained police personnel. This was followed in the afternoon by a trip across the street to the Fire Department’s C.P.R. offices, each person bringing their own bag lunch, using the remaining half day to be trained and fully accredited in Red Cross First Aid and C.P.R. procedures. We trained possibly hundreds of community members in this way, having them take a single day to become a “community resource” – a resident, neighbor, student, employee in Beverly Hills who would know how to care for themselves as well as others in case of a disaster, before a heavily-in-demand police and fire department could come to their aid.

We educated the public, registered people for training, sponsored Scared Safe programs, attended school and PTA meetings, homeowner groups, Safety Fairs, Affaires in the Garden, and even produced and sold Beverly Hills Disaster Kits. In addition, we visited Chamber and community organizations such as the YMCA to distribute educational materials, to encourage participation, and request each group or employer to send a representative to the Board and help provide volunteers for our activities.

*letters cont. on page 4*

## WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND?

You can write us at:  
140 South Beverly Drive #201  
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

You can fax us at:  
310.887.0789

email us at:  
editor@bhweekly.com



## SNAPSHOT



“DAY OF REMEMBRANCE”  
NORTH REXFORD DRIVE

## Beverly Hills Weekly

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## Hubbard's Departure Surprises District

**Supt. Jeff Hubbard to move to Newport-Mesa Unified School District July 1.**

By Michelle Zenarosa



Three-year BHUSD Superintendent Jeff Hubbard.

Beverly Hills Unified School District Superintendent Jeff Hubbard announced his acceptance for the position of Superintendent of Schools at the Newport-Mesa Unified School District in Orange County on Monday to the surprise of the district board members.

"This is very fresh," said Board of Education president Myra Lurie. "We had absolutely no inkling that this was about to happen. At this moment we are just regrouping."

According to Hubbard, the decision was

made, in part, to be closer to his family and his 5-year-old daughter, Lilly.

"BHUSD has changed my life and all for the better," Hubbard wrote in a statement to the district on Monday.

Hubbard came to Beverly Hills in 2001 from Rim of the World Unified School District in Lake Arrowhead where he served as a drama teacher, principal and assistant superintendent. He first served as assistant superintendent for Human Resources under former superintendent Gwen Gross before becoming Superintendent of Schools in October 2003.

After a series of two interviews, including one with Newport-Mesa's 38-member Superintendent Selection Advisory Board, which consisted of parents, teachers and administrators, Hubbard was named as top candidate for the N-MUSD position.

Newport-Mesa is scheduled to hire its new superintendent May 16.

"I cannot express, in words, my gratitude for the honor of being your superintendent," Hubbard wrote. "Our district truly is the best of what public schools offer and

that is due to your efforts. How blessed I am to have had the opportunity to work with each of you. The district is in really terrific shape."

Current N-MUSD superintendent Robert

*city & schools cont. on page 4*



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
455 N. Rexford Drive  
310.285.1123  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210-4817  
FAX: 310.858.5966

### NOTICE OF INTENT TO PREPARE AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (EIR) AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

**DATE:** Monday, May 1, 2006

**TIME:** 7:00 p.m.

**LOCATION:** Public Works Offices  
Ground Floor Lounge  
345 Foothill Road  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

An Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is being prepared for a proposed plan for the Former Industrial Area as described below. As the first step in preparation of the public is invited to attend a meeting to comment on the draft plan and raise environmental issues that should be addressed in the EIR. The City of Beverly Hills will be the LEAD agency for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA").

#### Project Description

The draft plan is a body of development policies under consideration for the City's Former Industrial Area, located between Maple Drive and the City's Civic Center, north of the alley between Burton Way and Third Street, and south of Santa Monica & Beverly Boulevards (see map above). The area includes the former railroad right-of-way which is subject remediation of arsenic in its soil. The draft plan provides for municipal service and recreation uses, as well as office and retail uses, and residential uses in combination with other commercial uses ("mixed use"). Heights permissible under the draft plan would be 75 feet at Foothill Road, tapering down to 30 to 45 feet around the periphery of the area (Maple Drive, Civic Center Drive, Third Street, Beverly Boulevard). The draft plan contemplates the opening of vehicular access from Santa Monica Boulevard to Foothill Road, relocation of the City yards, City office development at Third and Foothill, and would address the Community Recreation Center under consideration, private development adjacent to the Recreation Center, and other potential development under the draft plan's proposed policies. The draft plan represents an outside envelope of possible policies for consideration in the Environmental Impact Report. Implementation of the draft plan would require amendments to the City's General Plan and to the City's zoning and Municipal Code.

#### Public Meeting

At the meeting, after a description of the draft plan is given and the basic elements to be analyzed in the EIR are described, any interested agencies, organizations, and members of the public will be encouraged to present suggestions concerning what environmental issues should be included in the EIR. While the focus of the meeting is to get a full airing of the environmental issues that are important to the community, comments on the draft plan are welcome as well. Land use, traffic, parking, historical/cultural resources, utility/public services, noise, air quality, and aesthetics have been identified by an environmental initial study of the draft plan as potentially significant environmental effects of the plan. The oral and written comments made during the meeting will not only further assist in inventorying of potential environmental effects of the plan and formulating project alternatives which are to be addressed by the EIR, but they can also be considerations in shaping the plan. All oral and written comments will be provided to the Planning Commission and the City Council for their consideration at their respective public hearings, for which separate notice will be provided.

The meeting will be held in the City's Public Works Office Building/Water Treatment Facility at 345 Foothill Road, near Third Street. Due to limited on site parking in a surface lot next to the building at 345 Foothill Road (meeting location), additional parking will be provided at the 336 Foothill Road building and adjacent parking lot. Signage will be posted at the entrance of parking facilities to inform availability of the public parking for the meeting. In addition, on-street metered parking along Foothill Road, Third Street and Civic Center is available which would be free of charge after 6:00 p.m.

The City also invites written comments. These should be addressed to:

*Beverly Hills Community Development Department  
455 North Rexford Drive, Room G40  
Beverly Hills, California 90210  
ATTN: Larry Sakurai, Principal Planner*

To ensure that the Environmental Impact Report addresses any specific concerns that the public may have, comments should be submitted as early as possible, but need to be received no later 30 days from the date of receipt of this notice to ensure that the EIR will address them.

After the Draft Environmental Impact Report has been prepared, the Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the EIR and on the draft plan. Separate notices of the availability of the Draft EIR and of the hearings on the draft plan will be released at later dates.

The case file on the draft plan is available for public review at the Planning Office, 455 North Rexford Drive, Room G40, Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Copies of the checklist of initial environmental issues (initial study) to be addressed by the EIR are also available in the Planning Office. If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact us at 310.285.1123.

LARRY SAKURAI  
Principal Planner

\* Site: Lot 12, 9315 Civic Center Dr, Assr. No. 4342-015-040; Owner: Beverly Hills Land Company; subject to voluntary cleanup program; Environstor Database No. 19400017, Site Code 301247-11; Webpage: [http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile\\_report.asp?global\\_id=19400017](http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/profile_report.asp?global_id=19400017)



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#### FOCUS ON BEVERLY HILLS NEIGHBORHOODS COMMUNITY MEETING SCHEDULE

Time and Date	Location	*Area to be discussed
Sat. 10 a.m. - Apr. 29, 2006	Hawthorne School, 624 N. Rexford Dr.	North
Wed. 7 p.m. - May 3, 2006	Hawthorne School, 624 N. Rexford Dr.	North
Sat. 10 a.m. - May 6, 2006	City Hall, Room G-30, 455 N. Rexford Dr.	Business District
Wed. 6:30 p.m. - May 10, 2006	Library Auditorium, 444 N. Rexford Dr.	Business District
Sat. 10 a.m. - May 13, 2006	La Cienega Tennis Center Sunset & Rodeo Rooms 325 South La Cienega Blvd.	East
Wed. 7 p.m. - May 17, 2006	La Cienega Tennis Center Sunset & Rodeo Rooms 325 South La Cienega Blvd.	East
Sat. 10 a.m. - May 20, 2006	Roxbury Park Auditorium, 471 S. Roxbury Dr.	West
Wed. 7 p.m. - May 24, 2006	Roxbury Park Auditorium, 471 S. Roxbury Dr.	West
Sat. 10 a.m. - May 27, 2006	Beverly Vista School, 200 S. Elm Dr.	Central
Wed. 7 p.m. - May 31, 2006	Beverly Vista School, 200 S. Elm Dr.	Central

\*Call 310-285-1126 for detailed information or visit [www.beverlyhills.org](http://www.beverlyhills.org) and click on the General Plan shortcut.

city & schools cont. from page 3

Barbot is retiring after eight years serving the Orange County school district, which serves more than 22,000 K-12 students. Barbot did not return the *Weekly's* phone calls in time for its deadline.

The district, which has a total of 22 elementary schools and five high schools, is significantly larger than the BHUSD student population of approximately 5,300 students. The face of the student population also differs with BHUSD's 208 socio-economically disadvantaged students versus N-MUSD's 6,885 socio-economically disadvantaged students.

The two districts also had differing Academic Performance Index (API) results, with N-MUSD scoring an overall of 729 against BHUSD's overall score of 841 in 2004.

N-MUSD's district, 40 miles south of Los Angeles, also has growing influx of Spanish-speaking students with the affluence of the Newport area being comparable to Beverly Hills with its median family income set at \$111,116.

"In Beverly Hills, you have an affluent to extremely affluent neighborhood whereas in Newport-Mesa you have an extremely affluent neighborhood all the way down to people who may be on subsistence," said

Dore Gilbert, M.D., who attended Beverly High from 1964 to 1967 and is currently Saddleback Valley Unified School District (SVUSD) Board President, a neighboring district to Newport-Mesa. "There are more similarities between the two than there are differences, but the differences are size and the fact that there are all types of financial backgrounds in Newport-Mesa."

Gilbert's Board of Education faced a

**"BHUSD has changed my life and all for the better," Hubbard wrote in a statement to the district on Monday. "I cannot express, in words, my gratitude for the honor of being your superintendent...The district is in really terrific shape."**

similar issue last year when then-superintendent Jerry Gross, who is married to former BHUSD Supt. Gwen Gross, retired from the Saddleback district. According to Gilbert, SVUSD hired a search firm to advertise and recruit for a new superintendent. The district then narrowed the search down to nine candidates and then to five

before holding interviews and choosing their best candidate.

Although Hubbard has accepted N-MUSD's offer, the district has not yet formally approved Hubbard's hiring. N-MUSD's Board of Education is visiting BHUSD today to confirm the findings of the interview process.

"It's not a done deal yet. Not until I get approved will I be giving my resignation,"

Hubbard said. "I just didn't want to have [the N-MUSD school board] come up here to meet the PTA and all these people and not tell them what's going on."

All seven N-MUSD board members will be in attendance today to meet with a variety of community leaders including PTA and Beverly Hills Education Association

presidents, BHUSD board members, several BHUSD principals, Chamber of Commerce CEO Dan Walsh, Councilmember Barry Brucker and BHUSD parents, among others.

"If visitation and contract negotiations go well, the N-MUSD Board will take formal action to offer a contract to Dr. Hubbard in mid-May," the N-MUSD Board wrote in announcement Monday.

N-MUSD Board President David Brooks and Vice President Linda Sneen did not return the *Weekly's* phone calls.

BHUSD will appoint an interim superintendent before hiring someone for the permanent position.

"We will obtain an interim superintendent and then we will be doing a full-on search which will be a collaborative process that will include that will take into account everyone's interests," Lurie said. "We have some very positive and exciting possibilities here [for interim superintendent] but I can't really say who at the moment."

If Hubbard is fully approved by N-MUSD board members, his last day in Beverly Hills would be June 30.

letters cont. from page 2

Fortunately, the organization and training was well established by the time of the 1994 Northridge earthquake which, although it thankfully did not bring great damage to

Beverly Hills, gave credence to the importance of our task and efforts.

I don't know exactly what happened to the organization, as my husband and I lived in Indonesia for a time after that in late 1994

and lost touch, but I think it may have taken over by the City and evolved into CERT.

The purpose of this letter is two-fold: first to provide a bit of history describing previous efforts at disaster preparedness in our

city and, secondly, in the hope that some of the former organization's work could be replicated in this new effort.

*Joan Marcy  
Beverly Hills*

## "How To Protect The Little Known, Hidden Equity In Your Existing Life Insurance Policy"

**Dane Point, Calif.** – Thousands of life insurance owners are sitting on dormant equality that they don't know exists, according to **Stewart Ford**, Dana Points' leading financial consultant and advisor

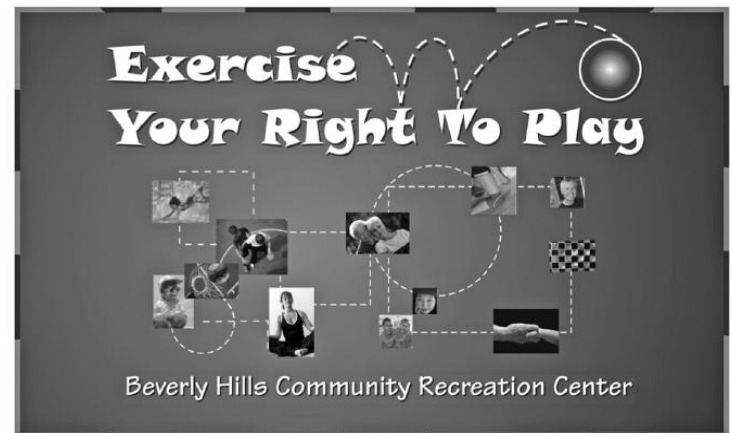
"By simply getting an **appraisal** on their policy, many life insurance policy holders could identify how much of this dormant equity exists in their individual situation" Ford was quoted as saying at a recent financial industry event. He continued, "Over the past several years an entire industry has formed around the business of purchasing life insurance policies, often for **sums greatly exceeding the cash value of the policy.**"

**"This has created many new planning opportunities that never existed"**

When asked to give some examples of these opportunities, Ford listen several:

- A life insurance policyholder who no longer needs the coverage can now in many instances receive **a significant payment for the sale of their policy.** Rater than simply 'cash in' a policy or let a policy lapse, an appraisal of the policy can often identify hidden equity.
- A life insurance policyholder who is paying premiums on their policy may find that **selling** the policy and buying a new, more effective policy could result in the same level of coverage with no additional out-of-pocket premiums, or selling of the policy for **cash**
- A policyholder who owns an existing policy may be able to actually increase their level of coverage by selling their existing policy and buying a newer, more efficient policy.

Anyone age 65 or older with an existing life insurance policy with a death benefit of \$250,000 or more is free to call for a free **"Uncovering Hidden Equity Appraisal Kit"** to determine the level of hidden equity in their existing policies. Supplies of the **"Uncovering Hidden Equity Appraisal Kit"** are limited but will be distributed free of charge while supplies last. To get your kit with no cost or obligation, call 1-800-617-5413, a 24-hour, recorded message and business line.



**You're invited to attend a Charette -**  
*a visual brainstorming session used to develop design ideas.*

Attend one of these interactive meetings to tell us your ideas about what to include in the proposed

### **Community Recreation Center**

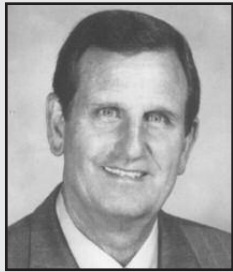
Sunday, May 7, 1 pm  
Monday, May 8, 7 pm  
Wednesday, May 10, 10 am

Beverly Hills Public Library  
444 N. Rexford Drive

RSVPs required: (310) 285-2537  
Department of Recreation and Parks

# editorial

## School Board: Bring Back Bushman



Ben Bushman

This week's surprise announcement of the upcoming departure of Supt. Jeff Hubbard to accept the superintendent position in Newport Beach (see page 3) leaves our Board Education in quite a quandary.

Hubbard will indeed be a tough act to follow.

But just as with recruiting new faculty, May is not the optimum time to be conducting a superintendent search. The best candidates are often already placed in other districts -- leaving only the candidates who didn't get hired elsewhere.

Unlike when Supt. Gwen Gross departed in 2003 to accept the top spot in Manhattan Beach, there is no obvious successor waiting in the wings.

Rather than hurry the process and select someone who may not be a good fit for the position, we have the perfect candidate for the interim superintendent job. Former Beverly High principal Ben Bushman.

Rushing to fill a position never works. The last thing we want to do is select someone for the job who isn't a good fit. We all remember what happened with Robert Pellicone. After a disastrous reign, Pellicone was terminated by the Board in 1999 despite only less than

one year on the job. Several interim superintendents followed.

During his 38 years with the BHUSD, including 14 as Beverly High principal, the fastidious Bushman was famous for working on weekends and never even taking a sick day. Too active to ever formally retire, Bushman currently works as an administrator with the Redondo Beach Unified School District.

Among his many other accomplishments, Bushman recruited the charismatic and highly effective Beverly High principal Dan Stepenosky. Bushman also single-handedly supervised the renovation of the high school campus, saving the district thousands in construction costs.

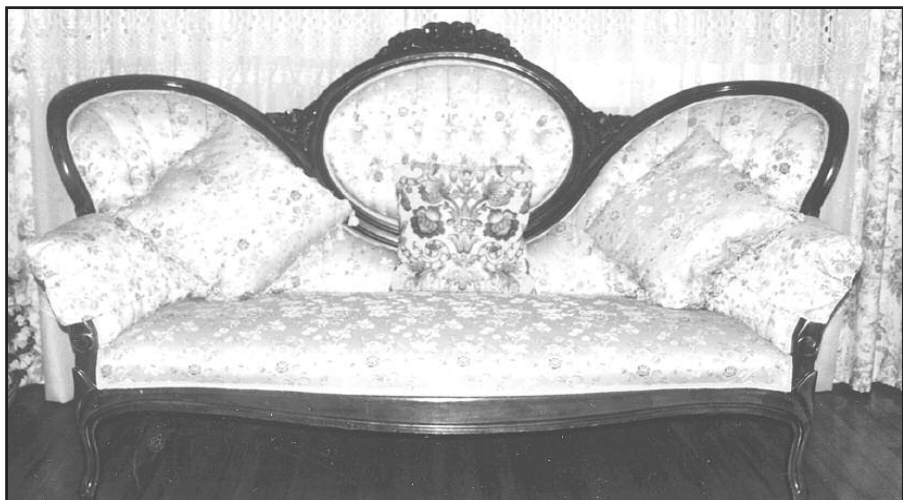
We need a friendly familiar face -- not an outsider -- to run our schools until things settle down.

With many important construction projects still underway in the district, as well as new principals coming in at Beverly Vista and Hawthorne, the BHUSD can't fiddle with an amateur placeholder or an out-of-towner. Bushman is the right choice to lead the district as an interim superintendent until a more permanent replacement can be found.

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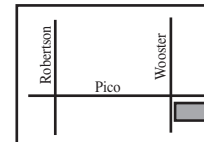
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# Fibromyalgia?

*"Free Report Reveals The Shocking Truth About the "secret" Treatment Your Doctor Probably Doesn't Know...And Likely Hopes You Never Learn..."*

**Beverly Hills** – A new, free report has recently been released that reveal the "untold story" behind fibromyalgia pain. Fibromyalgia misdiagnosis and mistreatment is rampant and leads to countless years of unnecessary suffering. This free report reveals a natural procedure that is giving fibromyalgia sufferers their

"lives back." – with "miraculous" results for many. If you suffer from fibromyalgia you need this no B.S., no "gimmicks" free report that is giving hope to fibromyalgia sufferers everywhere. For your free copy, call toll-free 1-800-713-6950, 24 hr. recorded message.

# aroundtown

## Partying For A Cause

Society of Young Philanthropists to hold May 13 gala to raise \$50K for Darfur genocide victims.

By Michelle Zenarosa

"We're going to go out and party anyway. So why not do so for a good cause?" said Society of Young Philanthropists (SYP) member Gabriel Halimi.

With an attitude like that, who wouldn't want to join SYP? Since the organization's inception in 2004, the Westside group of young professionals has fundraised upwards of \$40,000 for various charities just by throwing parties.

The organization's upcoming event, scheduled for Saturday, May 13, is expected to generate \$50,000 and at least 500 guests will be in attendance. Proceeds from the event will directly benefit those suffering from the genocide in Darfur, Sudan, via the American Jewish World Service (AJWS).

"We wanted to hit a humanitarian organization that everyone would relate to," said Sharon Neman, vice president of community relations for SYP. "We felt AJWS helped so much in the developing world and it would impact everybody. Within AJWS, the Darfur genocide issue is what

needs help the most."

Since 2003, Sudanese armed forces, backed by the Sudanese government, known as "Janjaweed" have been fighting two rebel groups in Darfur. As a result of the conflict, the government and its armed forces have implemented a campaign of "ethnic cleansing" against the civilian population who are members of the same race as the rebel groups. According to Human Rights Watch, over 400,000 people have been killed, thousands of women and children have been raped and assaulted, and more than 2 million Darfurians have been displaced from their homes to date.

"We're looking to help a wider array of people and what's going on in Darfur is such a tragedy," Halimi said. "I see some of the similarities of what was going on in Darfur to what happened to Jewish people in Europe during the Holocaust. It took so long for people to become aware of what really was going on. When we said 'never again', we meant it."

The May 13th gala at Vibiana Place in



One of the candle-lit bungalows from SYP's gala last year, which raised \$30,000.

downtown Los Angeles will feature open bar, sponsored catering, live entertainment and raffle prizes. Confirmed sponsors include the Beverly Hills Hilton, Warner Independent Pictures, Smashbox, Davines Hair Products, Organic To Go, and Spa on Location. VIP table buyers will enjoy complimentary bottle service and gift bags. Tickets to the event are available for minimum donation of \$175 before May 1 and \$200 after May. No tickets will be sold at the door.

"We don't necessarily want to change

people, we just want people to really be aware of their surroundings," Halimi said. "Young people want to have fun and go out and there's no reason we can't bring what people like to do— hanging out with their friends, going to a good party, networking— together hand in hand with philanthropy for the world community. That's why so far we've been a fairly successful organization. We're just giving people what they want in a way that they can feel good about it."

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# from the hills of beverly



## Hubbard Stuns District

City's proposed ethics rules raise free speech issues.

By Rudy Cole

The Beverly Hills education community was obviously the last to know, but for some weeks school Superintendent **Jeff Hubbard** has been the leading candidate for the top job in the Newport-Mesa Unified School District, a position he has now apparently been offered.

Hubbard's reason for leaving and accepting the new position are both personal and professional. He has a 5-year-old daughter in the Newport area and wants to be more available for her, and his new district provides significantly greater education challenges— it is at least four times larger than our district.

Education professionals throughout Southern California apparently knew that Hubbard was being considered for the Newport-Mesa job, but it came as a complete surprise to our board of education. They first knew Hubbard intended to leave Sunday morning when he called a "shocked" board President **Myra Lurie**. Monday, Hubbard had sent an e-mail to associates and friends

that prompted an outpouring of phone calls and emails throughout the city.

Hubbard was, to put it very conservatively, highly regarded in and outside the system. His only touch of real controversy came when he acted to transfer Beverly Vista principal **Irene Stern** to the Adult School, a move that led to her resignation, something she wanted to rescind. But Hubbard had tremendous support in the community, the professional staff, teachers, parents and students.

He was probably more popular than any superintendent since **Ken Peters**.

Interestingly, I felt more anger when **Gwen Gross** also ended a short term as school head to accept a job in the Manhattan Beach area. Gwen, also a highly regarded educator, left in much the same manner. She informed then school board President, now councilmember, **Barry Brucker** by phone— Brucker was in Hawaii when he received the call. But Gross had just helped lead a successful bond campaign, the rebuilding was

only beginning and she had made herself a very visible school leader. Hubbard ruled with a more modest approach to public exposure. Gross can be credited for bringing Hubbard to Beverly Hills.

However, Hubbard had far better people skills than any superintendent since Peters. Gross was indeed very good, but Hubbard scored the most impressive advances in all categories of comparative evaluations that the district has had in years. He helped end years of internal school board problems, and in his orderly, disciplined manner told the school's message extremely well.

The reason Hubbards' leaving is very different than Gross' in that Gwen went to a district not that much different from our own, while Hubbard has moved on to a much larger school system and has made a big leap in his professional career, including, according to some reports, much higher economic benefits.

It's not an easy call when someone is considering another job, no matter at what level. Do you tell your current employer you have applied elsewhere and jeopardize your current situation when you may not obtain a new position? Selfishly, we all would have wanted Hubbard to stay here; it's painful to lose him and more so since we have had so much turmoil in the superintendent's office in the past 10 years. We had one retire when

the then board helped push him out the door despite community protests; another hit the road amid charges of unauthorized spending.

We are very lucky to have the strong hand of board President Myra Lurie on the job. Her knowledge of the district, unifying leadership on a highly focused board, the least contentious we have had in many years, and the confidence the whole education community has in her leadership will ease the anxiety the school community has.

As for a replacement, the process should be carefully undertaken. Hubbard will certainly have some suggestions, and we need his knowledge and help in finding a new superintendent. But I agree with publisher **Josh Gross** that it might be well to consider an interim leader who knows the district— **Ben Bushman**, the retired former high school principal. Ben is now an assistant superintendent in a Redondo Beach school and may not want to make himself available, but he is well liked by teachers and parents and would have a calming impact on the schools, shaken by the loss of Hubbard.

Now, let's try to put some rumors to rest. Hubbard's leaving had nothing to do with the Beverly Vista school principal controversy. Hubbard had the backing of the board on that issue and continued to have the support of the parents of the school district. He wasn't out looking for a new job, no head hunters were trying to place him elsewhere and he liked his job and our community. It's simply that he saw a marvelous new challenge in a much larger school district and a chance to be closer to his young daughter. We should

*rudy cont. on page 8*

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*rudy cont. from page 7*

be grateful for what he accomplished and wish him well in Newport Beach. They stole a great guy fair and square.

\*\*\*

Meanwhile, back at city hall, the move to create an "ethics" ordinance has raised some side issue that could have a chilling impact on this and future councilmembers.

Last week, staff presented a "draft code of conduct" proposal for council consideration and the mayor appointed a sub-committee to study the staff report. Most of the proposals are well intentioned, hardly revolutionary and designed to remove any possible questions of propriety or conflict of interest, although questions do persist on whether the city needs an "ethics" ordinance.

However, some of the sections of the draft report need some very careful thought. One example has to do with "confidential" disclosure. Consider these words: "Councilmembers shall not disclose confidential information concerning the property, personnel, government or other affairs of the city, whether written or oral including but not limited to confidential information received in a closed session without proper authorization." (Emphasis added.)

Suppose a councilmember learns something at a study session that should not be confidential, that has serious impacts on our city and that need to be known? Has he or she been silenced by this rule? And who will give the "proper authorization" to make public matters that need airing?

Here's another example of assuring that

the "party line" is followed, again from the draft report: "Personal opinions and comments of council members may be expressed only if the councilmember expressly clarifies that these statements do not represent the positions of the city council. The councilmember shall not allow the inference that their personal opinions and comments are the official policies or positions of the city council." The intent may have been to assure that the adopted views of the council are property understood, but the effect goes much further and could lead to inhibitions on dissent.

Democracy is never as efficient as totalitarianism— not that this draft reaches that level of repression, but any action that prevents honest disagreement, dissent or keeping the public fully informed, is not healthy in a democracy.

More on some other questions about this ordinance later.

\*\*\*

Few people in our business community represented their own industry more visibly than **Elaine Young** who died last week following a brave battle with cancer. Elaine was more than the "real estate broker to the stars," she led the way for a whole generation of entrepreneurial women to become part of that profession. You can find her name in many novels about our city, see TV reports on her struggle to repair her face from a botched long-ago procedure and remember her as an always upbeat and glam-

orous person who enlivened our city. We will miss her at her center table at Caffe Roma.

\*\*\*

You don't need to struggle with traffic to the Music Center to enjoy an evening of fine theatre, we have a splendid and highly professional option right here in our village. Of course, I mean "Theatre Forty" which once again has scored high with its three separate but linked comedies, *The Norman Conquests*, now playing in the Reuben Cordova Theatre, a venue carved into the high school adjacent to the parking lot and very easy to find.

We saw the first of the three works, "Table Manners," last Friday and it was a charming, well directed and acted performance.

The audience was quite eclectic and included **Bonnie** and Mayor **Steve Webb**, former mayor **Richard** and **Lona Stone** and former Mayor and Mrs. **Joe Tilem**. **Lya Cordova** and **Harrison Latta** generously provide the goodies for the patron's night after theater party.

As always Managing Director **David Hunt Stafford** keeps the program alive and moving. For information on the final production of the season, call 310.364.0535.

*Rudy Cole served for eight years as a member and chair of the city's Recreation and Parks Commission. He also was President of the Greystone Foundation and served on three other city committees. Rudy can be reached at: Rudy@bhweekly.com.*

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# briefs

## Cherniss, Warren Selected As New Principals

BHUSD announced its top candidates for the principal positions for Hawthorne and Beverly Vista Elementary schools at its regular meeting Tuesday.

Alex Cherniss was named as successor for Hawthorne principal Nancy Lynch when she moves to her new post at the district and Erik Warren will be taking over when Beverly Vista principal Irene Stern retires.

Cherniss, who is currently assistant principal at Hawthorne, is in his third year at the school. Before being promoted to assistant principal, Cherniss was a teacher at Beverly Vista and was a teacher in Ojai in Northern California. He graduated from UC Santa Barbara.

Warren, who is also currently principal at Beverly Vista, has been at the school for seven years. Before coming to BV, Warren was an assistant principal in Redondo Beach and was a teacher in Culver City.

## Court Affirms Montage Ruling

After much debate, the California Court of Appeals affirmed the decision of the lower courts, favoring the city of Beverly Hills and The Athens Group and affirming the Environmental Impact Report, Wednesday.

"We are very pleased that the three judge panel of the California Court of Appeals unanimously and decisively upheld Judge Yaffe's trial court decision affirming the validity and legality of the Montage Hotel Beverly Hills, Public Gardens and Public Garage project including its environmental review and the City of Beverly Hills approval process," said Jay Newman, Athens Group CEO. "At this point, you got a trial court and a three-judge appellate court affirming the case-- it's a waste of time for the Supreme Court [to take it]. There are no issues to mitigate. The Supreme Court needs to hear important matters."

## El Rodeo and Hawthorne Named Distinguished Elementary Schools

Hawthorne and El Rodeo were both included in the 2006 list of California Distinguished Schools, released Monday by the Department of Education.

The California Distinguished School Awards, part of the the California School Recognition Program, identifies the state's most exemplary public schools.

Approximately 5 percent of California's public schools are selected each year, representing no fewer than 40 counties.

This year, of the more than 5,000 elementary schools in the state, 2,043 were eligible to apply for the Distinguished School honor this year based on their Academic Performance Index (API) and Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) results, according to the Department of Education website.

The honored schools were chosen from a pool of 997 applicants by the California Department of Education, the California County Superintendents Educational Services Association and local educators from across the state.

The 377 awardees for 2006 represent the largest number of elementary schools ever selected, topping the 302 elementary school awardees in 2004, the last elementary school cycle.

## Apple Ball Honorees to Receive Awards

The annual Apple Ball, to honor the year's Apple Award winners, will be held on Tuesday, May 16 at the Beverly Hilton.

The award recipients, chosen by the Beverly Hills Education Foundation Board of Directors last month, are teachers, administrators and classified staff who have made significant contributions to improving their schools over the past year.

This year's winners are teachers Ira Moscow (BHHS), Marion Harvey (Hawthorne), Kevin Painter (Beverly Vista), Elizabeth Call (Horace Mann), Joanie Garrett (El Rodeo), Hawthorne Principal Nancy Lynch, and classified staff member Dave Taylor.

Anyone interested in receiving an invitation to the event may contact the BHEF at 310-557-0651.

## Upcoming Meetings for Proposed Community Recreation Center

Beverly Hills residents are invited to attend "charettes"—visual brainstorming sessions to develop design options for the

proposed Community Recreation Center. The interactive sessions will give community members the opportunity to share their thoughts about the elements they would like included in the center if it moves forward.

Small meetings of 25-30 people will be held Sunday, May 7 at 1 p.m., Monday, May 8 at 7 p.m. and Wednesday, May 10 at 10 a.m. at the Beverly Hills Public Library, 444 N. Rexford Dr. Space is limited, so reservations are required.

The meetings are intended to provide information to assist in addressing the four issues the city council has identified as their main focus: the recreational needs of the community, short and long-term costs of a recreational facility, impacts to the surrounding community and feasibility of paying for the project through a private development component.

For reservations or more information, call (310) 285-2537.



## Real Estate Agent Elaine Young Passes Away

Elaine Young, Beverly Hills-based "real estate agent to the stars," died last Thursday at the age of 71.

Young's clients included Elvis Presley, Elizabeth Taylor, Warren

Elaine Young

briefs cont. on page 10



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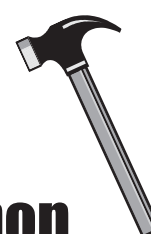
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briefs cont. from page 9

Beatty, Bill Cosby, Sylvester Stallone, John F. Kennedy, Burt Reynolds, Frank Sinatra, Barbara Streisand and Stevie Wonder, among others.

Author of memoir "A Million Dollars Down," Young was featured on many television shows and in print publications throughout her more than 40 years in the real estate business. She appeared on CNN, Oprah Winfrey, Good Morning America, and in *Forbes Magazine*, the *Wall Street Journal*, *Vogue* and several other magazines.

Young battled cancer for several months prior to her death.

She is survived by her daughter, Jennifer Young— whose father was the late actor Gig Young— and her brother, Tony Garber

### Hilton Owner Buys Los Cabos Property

Benny Alagem, Beverly Hills Hilton hotel owner, and Oasis, the hospitality division of Alagem Capital Group, announced last Thursday of the 375-room Hilton Los Cabos Beach & Golf Resort property.

The property is located on the Sea of Cortés along the Los Cabos Corridor, between the historic city of San Jose Del Cabo and Cabo San Lucas in Mexico. The hotel will continue to be managed by Hilton Hotels Corporation.

Oasis is currently developing a strategic plan to upgrade the four-year old, 11,300 sq. ft. Los Cabos property to increase its luxury offerings. The cosmetic improvements will focus on upgrading the interior

design and amenities in the guest rooms, suites and key public areas. Oasis has hired the firm Paul Duesing Partners for this work. The architectural interior design firm is known for its work on such hotels as Los Cabos' Las Ventanas al Paraiso and One&Only Palmilla. Plans also include increased service offerings, additional restaurants and a comprehensive landscape plan to transform the resort grounds.

### Law Enforcement Endorsements for Feuer

Mike Feuer added the endorsements of California's Highway Patrol Officers and the Los Angeles County Young Democrats in 42nd Assembly District race.

The Highway Patrol Officers join the Los Angeles Police Protective League, Los Angeles Police Command Officers and the Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs as Feuer backers.

The Young Democrats add their support to the endorsements Feuer earlier won from the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, Action Democrats of the San Fernando Valley, Democratic Women of the San Fernando Valley, Democrats For Change, Sherman Oaks Democratic Club and SoCal Grassroots - Hollywood Region.

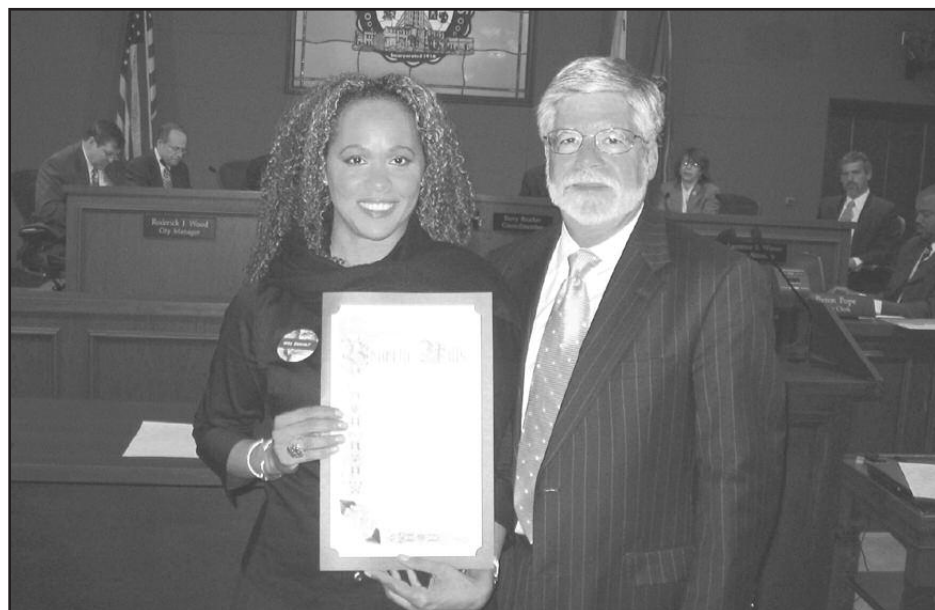
### BHUSD Language Census Report

The Language Census, an annual school-level data collection, released its report providing the numbers for the English-learners at each school in Beverly Hills.

The information is critical to local educational agencies and government organizations for funding, research, program planning and policy decisions regarding

### Covenant With Youth Awards Gala

Covenant House California will hold its seventh annual Covenant With Youth Awards Gala on Friday, May 12 at the



Beverly Hills Human Relations Commission Chairperson Julie Auerbach accepted a proclamation from Mayor Steve Webb to mark Sexual Assault Awareness Month at last week's City Council meeting. Mayor Webb joined with community leaders across the nation to proclaim April 2006 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month and April 27, 2006 as Denim Day in the City of Beverly Hills.

English-learners and their instruction in California schools.

The numbers were reported as follows: Beverly High had 119 English-learners out of 929 students; Beverly Vista had 63 out of 234; El Rodeo had 31 out of 218; Hawthorne had 44 out of 291; and Horace Mann had 60 out of 286.

Beverly Hilton Hotel.

This year's honorees include Columbia TriStar Motion Picture Group's President of Marketing Valerie Van Galder and real estate developer Lawrence Bond. Chaired by Elizabeth Callender, the gala will feature a live and silent auction.

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Mayor Steve Webb officially appointed Marc O'Krent to the Recreation and Parks Commission at the April 18 City Council meeting. O'Krent (second from right) is pictured with his family: daughter Rebecca (left), wife Cathy, son Michael and Mayor Webb.

a long-standing commitment as a role model for civic involvement," said George Lozano, Covenant House California's Executive Director, "and we are truly honored to have their unparalleled support."

Previous "Covenant With Youth Awards Gala" honorees and participants include Charlize Theron, Ray Charles, William Shatner, Smokey Robinson, Keyshawn Johnson, Brittany Murphy and Sharon Osbourne.

Tickets are priced from \$350. For information, call (310) 201-5033 or visit [www.covdove.org](http://www.covdove.org).

### Beverly High Graduate Receives Fulbright Scholarship

Beverly Hills High School graduate Mitchell Laufer has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship.

Laufer, the son of Beverly Vista PTA Council co-chair Aviva Laufer, is a recent graduate of Pomona College and will spend the next year in Madrid, Spain on a Fulbright Teaching Assistantship Grant to further his research on "Spanish Inquisition's Construction of Crypto-Judaism."

### Click It Or Ticket Campaign

On April 4, the Beverly Hills City Council approved Police Department participation in the California "Click It or Ticket" campaign, which highlights safety belt use during a three week period from May 15 through June 4.

The goal of this safety campaign is to increase seat belt usage statewide to 93% by the end of 2006.

For further information on this program, residents can call the Beverly Hills Traffic Bureau at (310) 285-2196.

Awareness Month, Olay and the American Society for Dermatologic Surgery will host the second annual "Bring a Buddy" skin cancer screenings.

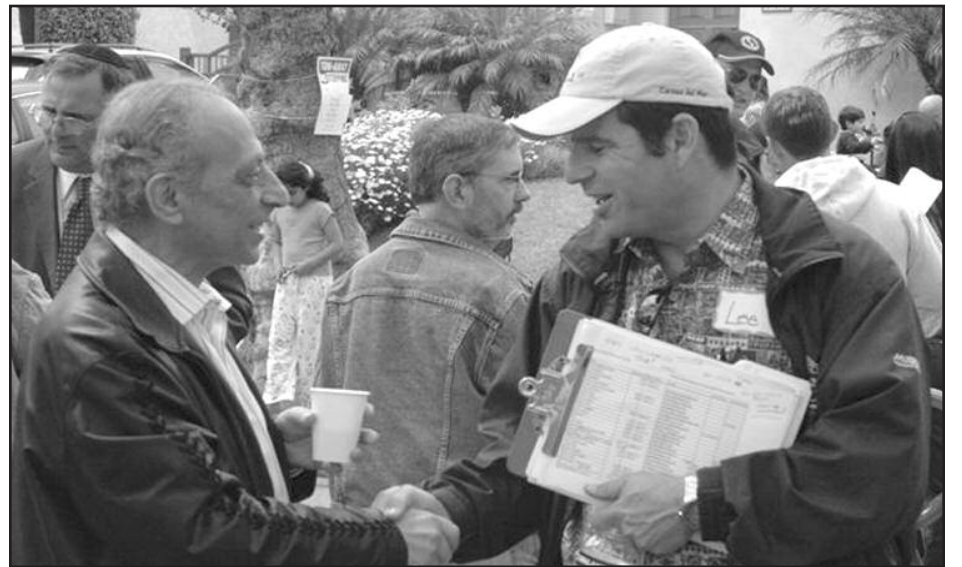
More than 100 dermatologic surgeons nationwide will provide free skin cancer screenings during May and June.

Participating Beverly Hills dermatologists are Dr. Reza Bababpour, M.D., located at 436 N. Bedford Dr., Suite 212, (310) 274-6137, and Dr. Haleh Bakshandeh, M.D., located at 9730 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 115, (310) 274-6139.

### Free Skin Cancer Screenings

In recognition of May as Skin Cancer

-Compiled by Anna Scott and Michelle Zenarosa

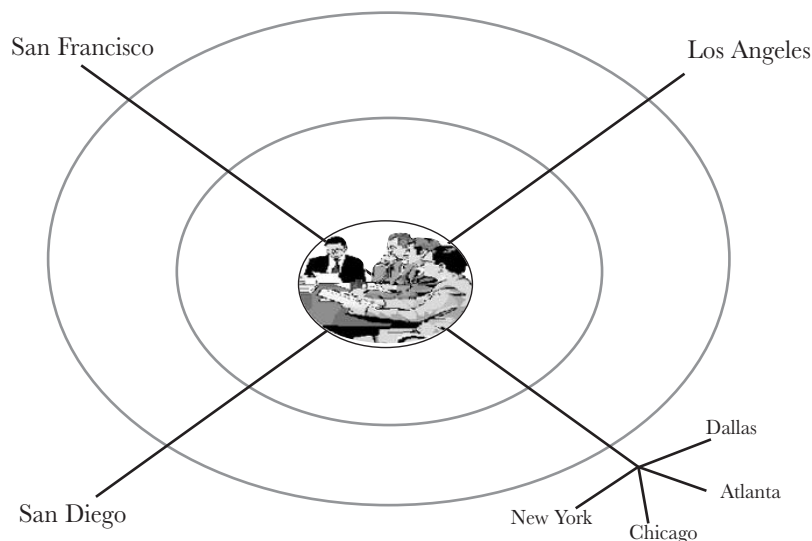


The Beverly Hills Neighborhood Association (BVNA) held its first Neighborhood Block Party this past Saturday, April 22. Pictured are Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad with BVNA President Lee Lewis.

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# sports & scores



## BHHS Boys' Tennis Team Edges Palos Verdes, Routs Culver City

Norman boys' golf team defeats North Torrance  
By Steven Herbert

The Beverly Hills High School boys' tennis team was able to defeat Palos Verdes on games, 81-72, after each team won nine sets, thanks in large measure to the Chris Hur-Jeff Lin doubles team, which won all three of its sets, 6-0, in an Ocean League match April 17 at Beverly Hills.

The Igor Fedonenko-Peter Yoon doubles team won its first two sets for Normans.

Ethan Bond, Gary Parizher and David Vayzner each won one singles set for Beverly Hills.

The Normans' No. 2 doubles team of Coleman Kelly and Daniel Levy won its third-round set, 6-3, after a 6-1 loss in the first round and a 7-6 (6) loss in the second.

### Palos Verdes Peninsula 16, Beverly Hills 2

Bond and Vayzner each won one singles set in a nonleague match at Peninsula April 19. The Panthers were ranked second in the Southern Section Division I poll released April 18, the Normans second in Division IV.

### Beverly Hills 16, Culver City 2

Bond, Parizher and Vayzner each won all three of their singles sets in an Ocean League match last Thursday at Culver City.

The Fedonenko-Yoon and Kelly-Levy doubles teams both won all three of their sets. Alex Kantor and Clifford Frazier, the No. 3 doubles team for the Normans (8-5), was a 7-6 winner over Andrew Garcia and

Justin Nguyen, the Centaurs No. 2 team.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to compete in the Ojai Tournament beginning today, play host to Culver City Monday at 2:30 p.m. in an Ocean League match to conclude regular-season play and compete in the singles portion of the Ocean League Finals Wednesday.

### Boys' Golf

#### Beverly Hills 191, North Torrance 206

Josh Fishman shot a team-low two-over-par-37 for the Normans (10-3, 5-3 in league play) in an Ocean League match April 18 at Rancho Park Golf Course.

#### North Torrance 181, Beverly Hills 188

Norman sophomore Alex Choi shot a match-low equaling 34 in an Ocean League match last Thursday at Victoria Golf Course in Carson.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to compete in the La Quinta Invitational Friday and Saturday at The Golf Club at Terra Lago in Indio.

### Boys' Volleyball

#### Beverly Hills def. Culver City, 25-17, 25-21, 25-23

Ben Smyth had 15 kills and Eric Lee 11 for the Normans (4-11, 3-4) in an Ocean League match at the Swim-Gym April 4.

#### Palos Verdes def. Beverly Hills, 25-17, 25-22, 25-11

Smyth had five kills and 13 digs, Lee three kills and 25 digs and Paul Kim 17 digs in an Ocean League match April 17 at the Swim-Gym.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play at Hawthorne Thursday and play host to North Torrance Tuesday at the Swim-Gym in Ocean League matches beginning at 3:15 p.m.

### Girls' Track and Field

#### Culver City Invitational

Ebonee Wall won the 100 meters and ran legs on Beverly Hills High School's victorious 400 and 800 relay teams March 25 at Culver City High School.

Rikka Springfield and Ashley Austin also ran legs on both the 400 and 800 relay teams.

Ashley Menzies ran the other leg on the 400 relay and Sasha Rudes the remaining leg on the 800 relay.

The Norman 1,600 relay team of Springfield, Rudes, Emily Ives and Menzies was also victorious.

### Boys' Track and Field

#### Culver City Invitational

Max Goldman and Jon Simmons and Aaron Wilensky ran legs on Beverly Hills High School's victorious 6,400 and distance medley relays March 25 at Culver City High School.

Ben Stutts ran the other leg on the 6,400 relay and Lucas Lerman the remaining leg on the distance medley relay.

sports cont. on page 16

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# coverstory

## A QUESTION OF ETHICS

**Tensions between the North Homeowners Association and former Mayor Mark Egerman were reignited last week at a meeting to discuss a draft code of ethics for city officials.**

**By Anna Scott**

Last Tuesday the city council convened to discuss a draft code of conduct which, if adopted, would provide ethical guidelines for city officials. When the floor was opened for public comment, what was intended to be a general study session became a pointed critique of former Mayor Mark Egerman's legal representation in local development projects.

Tuesday's meeting began with an opportunity for councilmembers to give feedback on the proposed code.

Councilmember Barry Brucker suggested that the code be applicable not only to councilmembers but to all city officials, including commissioners and staff. He also suggested adding at least one paragraph to cover the more abstract territory of philosophical values in addition to rules of conduct.

It was Brucker who originally proposed the idea of an ethical code for Beverly Hills officials earlier this year.

Mayor Steve Webb called for an ordinance to restrict councilmembers, employees or commissioners from accepting employment in relation to any project they previously voted on.

The draft code did include a proposed "revolving door" ordinance banning representation before the city by former city officials for two years, one year longer than the ban created by state law.

When last Tuesday's study session was turned over to public comment, the revolving door issue was the focal point of comments from members of local the North

Homeowners' Association and the Municipal League.

"We urged that there would be a code of ethics that would preclude a sitting councilperson or any office holder from using his office for profit," said Lou Lipofsky, Vice President of the North Homeowners' Association, this week.

"The code of ethics is not an abstraction; the need for it is real. It has names: Tom Levyn and Mark Egerman. The proposed ordinance exempts Mark Egerman and is only prospective, not retroactive. We need action now, not some distant time in the future. The city is being deluged with development projects and we need to preclude it. The best way to do it would be to have an automatic rejection of the project if the developer hires a former office holder," Lipofsky said.

Egerman, who was present at the meeting, was out of town at press time and unavailable for comment.

Webb believes that the North Homeowners' Association is "missing the point."

"The only issue [the North Homeowners' Association] raised is 'stop Mark Egerman.' The real conflict, it seems to me, is the potential payoff in the future for a vote that a councilmember currently makes," Webb said. "[A code of ethics] should make certain that when a councilmember or planning commissioner votes on a project he's not voting with the idea that he's going to get remun-

erated a year or two down the road."

Following the public comments, Webb assigned work on another draft of the code to a liaison committee, to which he appointed councilmembers Linda Briskman and Frank Fenton.

Lipofsky said this week that he believes the creation of the liaison committee—which puts public discussion of the code temporarily on hold—may have been a spontaneous move by Webb, an attorney, to draw focus away from Egerman.

Webb denies that it was a spur-of-the-moment decision. "When I read all 25 codes of ethics from different cities it became apparent that time was needed to digest the many different provisions and select those that make the most sense for this city," Webb said. "Rather than the council as a whole spend hours during the study session going over these various provisions it made sense to have a subcommittee spend the time and then report back to the council with their recommendations. I picked Linda and Frank because, based on their public expressions at the last study session [in March] it appeared to me [they] didn't agree on all issues; I thought, this is a balanced sub-committee, they're going to look at this objectively."

Briskman, at the March meeting where the ethics code was first discussed, expressed doubt that an ethics code would be a deterrent to corruption.

"[The council] can approach this as a group to see if there's anything worthwhile,"

Briskman said at the time. "But I think that with this council it would be preaching to the choir."

When asked about last Tuesday's meeting, Briskman said, "The North Homeowners Association was very critical of a former councilmember they enthusiastically supported for re-election in 2001. Voters have many opportunities to get to know the integrity of the candidates they support. It is their civic duty to do so."

Between now and July, Briskman and Fenton will take the 25 sample codes of ethics from other cities, together with the comments last Tuesday and work with the city attorney and on another draft recommendation of a code of ethics.

At that point, according to Webb, there will be more public hearings before council meets to vote on adoption.

In an email to the *Weekly* last week, Briskman said, "at the end of the day, I am sure that Councilmember Fenton and I can work with the staff to find a balanced code that the entire Council can support."

The question that remains is what the community at large wants from a code of ethics to which their representatives will be held accountable.

As Brucker wrote in a Feb. 7 letter to council, "Beverly Hills is a community of energized, involved, passionate and caring citizens. Who better to take the lead [on ethics]?"

## LOT NEXT TO HIGH SCHOOL UP FOR GRABS

**A high-stakes auction is pending for the property that once housed Fox Sports West.**

**By Anna Scott**

Since the demolition of the Fox Sports building—named for its one-time tenant—on Santa Monica Boulevard at Moreno Drive last year, the 2.5 acre piece of property directly adjacent to Beverly Hills High School has stood vacant.

The parcel located at 10000 Santa Monica Blvd. was bought by its current owner, 10000 Millennium Plaza, LLC, in April 2000. Millennium, a Malibu-based investment group, is headed by Larry Taylor, who also owns several apartment buildings, shopping centers and office buildings throughout the city.

Larry Taylor and his representative, attor-

ney Robert Moore of Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP, did not return the *Weekly's* phone calls in time for its deadline.

According to Kenneth R. Blumer, an attorney at Troy & Gould PC representing restaurateur and former 10000 Santa Monica Blvd. tenant Jimmy Murphy of "Jimmy's Restaurant," when Fox decided to leave the building in 2001, lease exit negotiations resulted in the first of several lawsuits that Millennium would face.

"Fox exercised their right to get out of the lease," Blumer said. "There was a termination payment they were to make to Taylor, which they tendered. But then Taylor said,

'That's not enough. There's a provision in your lease that says not only do you have to pay me this termination payment, but you have to put the building back the way you got it, and it's going to take me \$5 million to put it back.'"

Fox reportedly filed suit and eventually settled for approximately \$5 million.

Taylor, according to Blumer, then hired a demolition contractor and an architect to tear down the 1960s-era office building and design a new 34-story condominium project.

But California National Bank, which had loaned Millennium the money to buy the property, claimed its mortgage terms forbid

demolishing the building and filed a lawsuit against the investment group hoping to force the sale of the building and recover the \$23 million remaining on the loan.

Joshua Wayser, an attorney at Lord Bisseell & Brook LLP who represented California National at the time, did not return the *Weekly's* phone calls.

According to Blumer, Millennium also negotiated with Murphy to buy out his lease. Murphy vacated, but then sued when he did not receive the \$3.8 million buyout.

"They came to Jimmy and said, 'we'd like to buy you out of your lease.' They arrived at

*cover cont. on page 16*

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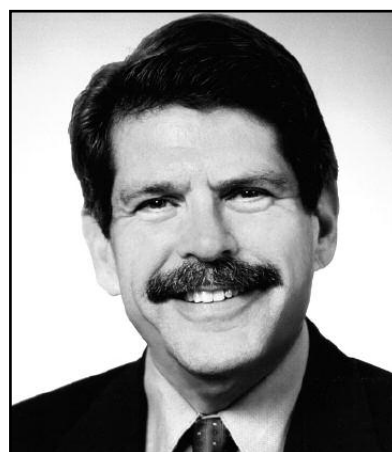
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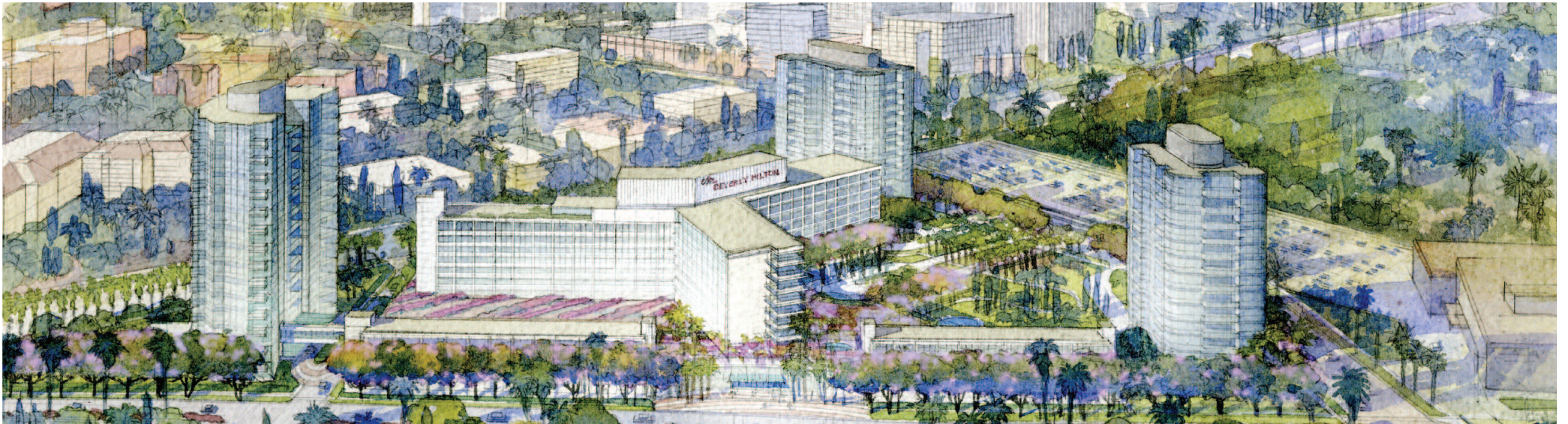
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*the*  
**BEVERLY HILTON**

cover cont. from page 13

a price, they closed purchase of the building, Jimmy moved out. [But] when the bank came after [Taylor] he stopped paying Jimmy," Blumer said.

Meanwhile, Developer Donald Sterling, the largest residential property owner in Beverly Hills, also reportedly filed a lawsuit against Millennium alleging that Taylor went back on a handwritten contract to sell him several apartment buildings and a 50 percent stake in 10000 Santa Monica Blvd.

"During the course of the pending foreclosure," Blumer explained, "[New York developer] Related Companies was trying to purchase the bank's loan and Mr. Murphy's loan to make a deal with Taylor. Then Sterling threatened to sue everybody and to hold them liable if they messed up his 50 percent interest in the property."

At that point, Related Cos. pulled out and refused to move forward until the Sterling dispute was resolved.

Taylor appealed the case on the grounds that the note did not qualify as a binding contract and the case is pending before the California Supreme Court.

California National eventually won its lawsuit and succeeded in temporarily stopping demolition. Subsequently, the courts put the building under the control of a third party receiver, George R. Monte.

Last October, according to a report the Los Angeles Business Journal, Monte asked the court to force 10000 Millennium, its managing partner William Broder, and Taylor's company, Christina Development Corp, to provide financial records.

The court sided with Monte, but one day later Millennium filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy protection, which stopped the foreclosure of 10000 Santa Monica Blvd. pending the bankruptcy outcome.

The bankruptcy filing also put Murphy's lawsuit on hold.

According to Blumer, Millennium has not

yet filed for reorganization but has entered into a potential joint venture agreement with Racebrook Capital, LLC, a portfolio company of the New York investment firm Warburg Pincus

Racebrook has agreed to put up \$42 million to pay off the creditors and cover development funds to get Millennium's proposed residential condominium towers off the ground.

As per the court's order, Racebrook's bid must hold up to an auction, currently scheduled for May 11 at Robert Moore's downtown office.

The Trump Organization, Blumer said, is one of the potential bidders, as well as Related Cos., the developers of Grand Avenue LA, two proposed towers of luxury residential condominiums and rental residences downtown, designed by Frank Gehry,

The auction results will be brought before the court for confirmation and following the sale, the debtor will file a chapter 11 plan of

reorganization.

Hypothetically, if Beverly Hills were to consider bidding on the property to purchase for school use, City Manager Rod Wood doubts that the price would be within the city or the school district's budget. "The city has a large budget, but we spend it every year," said Wood.

"Because the city has historically had a lot of money and has a very large budget there's an assumption that if the city really wants to do something, it has the money to do it. That may have been true at one time, but if you see this year's budget you'll see that's not true anymore. The city is not in the financial position it was in 20 years ago," Wood said.

According to Superintendent Jeff Hubbard, the school district has "been watching what's going on with the building but we have not had any discussion associated with purchasing it."

sports cont. from page 12

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to conclude the dual meet portion of their schedule today by competing at Culver City in an Ocean League meet beginning at 2:45 p.m.

### Softball

#### Santa Monica St. Monica 9, Beverly Hills 0

The Normans were no-hit by senior Amber Angel in a nonleague game at Beverly Hills March 21.

Beverly Hills (3-5) had only one baserunner, Alex Pop, who walked on a 3-1 count leading off the first and went to second on a passed ball by Mariner catcher Hilary Beringhele.

Angel (4-1) had 10 strikeouts.

The Mariners (6-1) scored three times in the first, once each in the second and third, three times in the fourth and once in the fifth.

Norman sophomore starter Rebecca Rosen (1-3) took the loss, allowing eight runs (seven earned), six hits, walking six and striking out two in four innings.

#### St. Monica High School Softball Classic Beverly Hills 4, Santa Monica Crossroads 3

Emily Housman scored the winning run on Brianna Golding's wild pitch with no outs in the bottom of the eighth inning in the ninth-place game at Beverly Hills March 18.

The Roadrunners scored in the top of the eighth as Channer Miller, who began the inning at second under the international tiebreaker rule, went to third and then scored on two passed balls by Norman freshman catcher Rebecca Gold.

Beverly Hills tied the score Allison Galer singled in Alex Pop, who began the inning at second under the tiebreaker and moved to third when Housman was credited with a sacrifice and reached base safely.

Pop also scored Beverly Hills' first run, walking on a full-count pitch, stealing second and advancing to third and scoring on passed balls by Crossroads catcher Alex Sonnenblick.

The Normans added an unearned run in the fourth when Gold reached first on an error by Zoe Soloman, and courtesy runner Sami Pop scored after stealing second and advancing to third on Sonnenblick's passed ball.

Rosen (1-2) pitched a complete game, allowing three runs, (all earned), five hits, walking three and striking out three.

The Roadrunners scored twice in their half of the fourth, taking a 2-1 lead.

Nikki Sharaf had the first of the Normans'

two hits, a single leading off the third. Sharaf stole second and third, but was thrown out at the plate when Housman's grounder to Golding.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Inglewood today and Inglewood Morningside Tuesday in Ocean League games beginning at 3:15 p.m. and play their alumni game Saturday beginning at 10 a.m.

*Steven Herbert also covers sports for the Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press. He welcomes feedback and suggestions. He can be reached by e-mail at StvHerbert@aol.com, by telephone at (310) 275-7943 or by fax at (310) 273-4519.*

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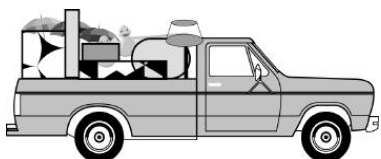
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The following person(s) is/are doing business as: CHARISMA CARE SERVICES; RAINBOW CARE CONNECTIONS; EXCELLENT CARE 4 U, 130 W. Route 66, #322, Glendora, CA 91740. CELIA C. JAMES, 1060 Country Side Dr. Walnut, CA 91789. ELIZABETH Z. DINGLASAN, 761 Highland Place, San Dimas, CA 91773. The business is conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Celia C. James, Elizabeth Z. Dinglasan. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/21/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1267

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0587129  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: MINNA JANITORIAL SERVICE, 832 W. 232<sup>ND</sup> St. Torrance, CA 90502. MINNA KIM, 832 W. 232<sup>ND</sup> St. Torrance, CA 90502. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Minna Kim. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/20/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1270

B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1268

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0587135  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: TAX ASSESSMENT CHALLENGERS, 2121 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> Street, Suite #203, Long Beach, CA 90803. AMIR ZOLGHADR, 2121 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> Street, #203, Long Beach, CA 90803. KOHSEN SHAHBANI, 2121 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> St. #303, Long Beach, CA 90803. The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Amir Zolghadr. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/20/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1269

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0587151  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BLACKBIZ, 750 Neldome St. Altadena, CA 91001. VERNON PAGGETT, 750 Neldome St. Altadena, CA 91001. KEITH BOONE, 750 Neldome St. Altadena, CA 91001. The business is conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Vernon Paggett, Keith Boone. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/20/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1270

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0587158  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: REAZON; RIME N REASON, 35720 47<sup>TH</sup> St. East Palmdale, CA 93552. BRANDON WELSH, 35770 47<sup>TH</sup> St. East Palmdale, CA 93552. ANTHONY DAVIS, 35720 47<sup>TH</sup> St. East Palmdale, CA 93552. The business is conducted by: CO-PARTNERS. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fic-

titious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Brandon Welsh, Anthony Davis. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/20/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1271

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0577824  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: LUCKY CRICKET PARTY RENTALS, 3582 Carlin Ave. Lynwood, CA 90262. OSMIN GARCIA, 3582 Carlin Ave. Lynwood, CA 90262. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Osmin Garcia. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/17/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1272

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 06-0577949  
The following person(s) is/are doing business as: WEST COAST APPLIANCE REPAIR, 7140 De Longpre Ave. #6, Los Angeles, CA 90046. YURIL KEEKHTIN, 7140 De Longpre Ave. #6, Los Angeles, CA 90046. The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL. Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in. Signed: Yuril Keekhtin. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 3/17/06. NOTICE - This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411, et seq., B&P Code.) Published: 4/6/06, 4/13/06, 4/20/06, 4/27/06 LCBHW-1273

















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