

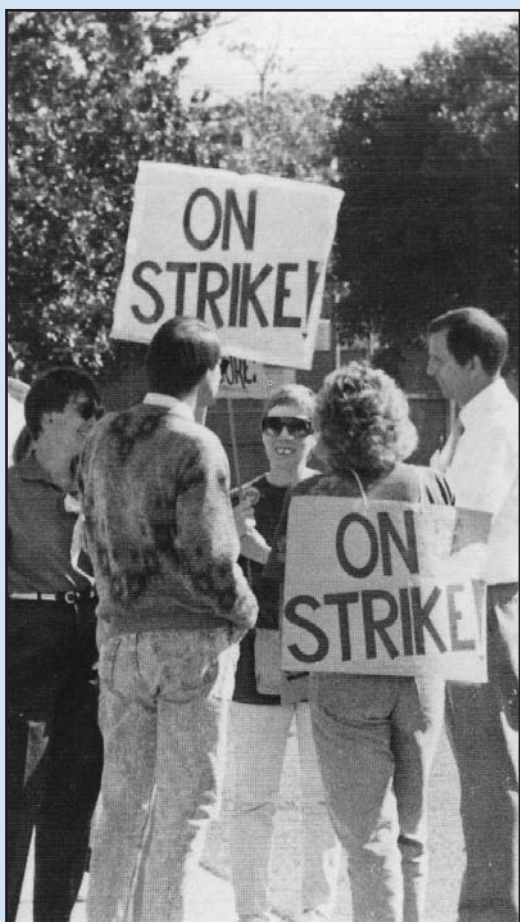
Beverly Hills Weekly

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Issue 524 • October 15 - October 21, 2009

20 YEARS AFTER THE TEACHERS' STRIKE



Has anything really changed?



letters & email

“Meshkaty Eviction Raises Residency Questions” [Issue 521]

Your direct and indirect attacks on Neshin Meshkaty (sic) certainly seem personally driven, petty and close to sleazy at this point. It almost seems like she doesn't fit with your image of a Beverly Hills public servant from the good old days when I went to Beverly High. Come on, it's still worth a try to live up to the decency and generosity of the community you depend on.

*Daniel Kupper
Bel Air*

(Publisher's Note: Kupper was asked by the Weekly if he is a permit parent. His response follows.)

Whoever you are, you are a pretty touchy guy. Thanks for the quick reply, but were you trying to be intimidating? Anyway, what an interesting, rather impulsive question you responded with. You must be tired after a long week.

What does your response have to do with my letter to the editor, now be honest? I will have to save it to see what others, non residents and residents think. You do get income

from non-residents, I would imagine. I mean maybe you are just an after-hours security guard, if so nevermind.

In any case, you act like a non-resident or permit parent is tantamount to being a member of a special group that is immediately suspect, like say a Republican or Liberal or Jew or Iranian. Needless to say, I guess publishing my email is out of the question. Unless, that is, you are a never-resident, retired administrator, and say bad things about Ms. Meshkaty.

I have spoken to and seen Ms. Meshkaty in action at board meetings, she could not be more fair and conscientious, maybe too middle of the road. She's certainly competent, and she doesn't embarrass the board with major fraud convictions like Brian Goldberg. That story is just getting around, the media loves stories about Beverly Hills. Wait until the blogs start chattering about a man convicted of egregious fraud and deceit being on the Beverly Hills Board of Education, that is real bad stuff for the city. Ms. Meshkaty just has a different stance on certain issues than you do and shouldn't be ganged up on for that. That's how I was raised, yes, for many years in Beverly Hills at 600 N. Linden Drive and Carmelita, before that on Spaulding.

Alas, you outed me. I think from now on I should wear some kind of badge saying NON-RESIDENT/ Permit Parent and announce that when I send letters to the editor. But you are too clever, you went right to work tracking down my dark provenance. Here goes: I am not a resident of Beverly Hills, and I am a permit parent. How did I sink so low, well, I thought that Beverly Hills schools still offered a pretty good education,

and I can't afford private school, nor can I afford to sell my house and move to Beverly Hills. So, I took advantage, I guess you would say like a thief in the night, of opportunity permits, like hundreds of others, to enroll my son in Beverly Hills public schools. I assumed, rightly so, that these permits, which have existed for so long, must

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



READING RAINBOW
NORTH REXFORD DRIVE

Mayor Nancy Krasne (top left) and Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad (top right) congratulated 28 students from pre-school to eighth grade last week who achieved the Library's Summer Reading Club goal of reading at least eight books and discussing them with a librarian. The Beverly Hills City Council honored a total of 683 children who reached the two-month reading club goal.

A Proposition 65 Public Notice

The California Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act requires California businesses to advise employees and neighbors of any potential exposure to chemicals considered by the state to cause cancer, birth defects, or other reproductive harm.

Trigen-LA Energy Corporation wants you to know that detectable amounts of some of these substances may be found in and around its facility located at 2052 Century Park East, Los Angeles, CA. Potential sources of these substances can include common products such as gasoline, oil, natural gas, paint.

Beverly Hills Weekly

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briefs



Elinor Ostrom

Beverly High Graduate Wins Nobel Prize in Economics

Elinor Ostrom became the first Beverly High graduate and, according to the Associated Press, the first woman to win a Nobel Prize in economics earlier this week.

Ostrom, a Class of 1951 graduate, was awarded for her groundbreaking work in the management of common resources, which could shape efforts to prevent another global financial crisis.

A record five women won Nobel Prizes this year.

The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences said it chose Ostrom for work that "advanced economic governance research from the fringe to the forefront of scientific attention." Ostrom will share the \$1.4 million prize with fellow Nobel winner in economics Oliver Williamson, 77.

Ostrom demonstrated how common resources — such as forests, fisheries, oilfields, grazing lands and irrigation systems — can be managed successfully by the people who use them, rather than by governments or private companies.

"What we have ignored is what citizens can do and the importance of real involvement of the people involved, as opposed to just having somebody in Washington...make a rule," Ostrom said during a press conference.

Ostrom received a Ph.D. in political sci-

ence from UCLA in 1965, and is currently a political scientist at Indiana University.

Ostrom did not return phone messages left by the Weekly as of press time.

Mead, Finley Named New Assistant Principals



Beverly Vista Principal Erik Warren and Diane Mead



Dana Berk Findley and Horace Mann Principal Dawnalynn Murakawa-Leopard

During its meeting last week, the Board of Education welcomed new assistant principals Diane Mead and Dana Findley to Beverly Vista and Horace Mann, respectively, effective Oct. 19.

Mead has been a BHUSD employee since 1975, and returns to Beverly Vista after serving five years as the district's coordinator of special projects and professional development.

"I have known Diane Mead for as long as I have known anyone in this district," Beverly Vista Principal Erik Warren said. "She was someone who welcomed me to Beverly Vista as an English language development teacher at the school, and we worked very closely together. It is a thrill to have [her] on our team, back home where she belongs at Beverly Vista."

Prior to the district position, Mead was a Beverly Vista teacher for various grade lev-

els, and has served as the assistant principal of summer programs.

"I'm just thrilled to be able to return to Beverly Vista in this capacity," Mead said. "I've taught there for so many years, and I am so just excited to be able to work with parents, teachers and students."

Dana Berk Findley came into BHUSD in 1996 as a Beverly High dance teacher before serving as the physical education department chair.

"I'm so extremely excited to be working with the Horace Mann staff, students and parents, and I just know it's going to be a fabulous year," Findley said. "I'm excited to be back in classrooms and supporting teachers and getting to know the students at that school."

In 2003, Findley replaced current Horace Mann Principal Dawnalynn Murakawa-Leopard as an assistant principal at Beverly High. She was also the summer program principal.

"[Findley is] going to a fabulous job, and I'm really excited to welcome her into the Horace Mann community," Murakawa-Leopard said.



J Guidetti

Beverly High Principal J Guidetti Appears on Dr. Phil

Beverly High Principal J Guidetti made an appearance on Dr. Phil last week to talk about teen sex, and shared the high school's plan to educate parents and students about the subject.

"The disturbing trend that sexual intimacy is no longer tied to a loving relationship — we have to teach that," Guidetti said on the show. "We have to teach that to the kids,

but more importantly, to the parents."

Guidetti said Beverly High offers programs such as counseling services and parenting workshops.

"That's the only way we're going to eradicate the issue and the problem," Guidetti said. "Students feel very comfortable talking to me as a high school principal. They actually sometimes feel more comfortable talking to me than their own parents, and that can't happen."

Guidetti did not return messages left by the Weekly as of press time.

Commissioners Marc O'Krent, Ken Goldman to Bid Farewell

Chairperson of the Recreation and Parks Commission Marc O'Krent and Vice Chairperson of the Traffic and Parking Commission Ken Goldman will be resigning from their positions in the upcoming months. O'Krent's resignation will be effective Nov. 5, while Goldman will leave his post at the end of this year.

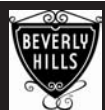
"I'm really torn and heartbroken that I had to resign, but I'm moving out of the city, and I can't satisfy the residency requirements to serve," Goldman said.

Goldman was appointed to the commission in March 2006, and has been a Beverly Hills resident for 12 years. He will be moving to Sherman Oaks following his resignation.

Goldman offered advice to incoming Traffic and Parking commissioners to always maintain balance between the immediate and future need, as well as residents' needs and the needs for businesses.

"Have no mercy for anyone who abuses the handicap parking placard," Goldman said. "But have mercy for residents without other options."

briefs cont. on page 6



NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCY

RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking qualified residents to fill one vacancy on the Recreation & Parks Commission. The initial term of office is for two years. At the discretion of the City Council, the Commissioner may be reappointed to a second term of four years. Each appointee will be required to file an initial and an annual "Statement of Economic Interests" financial disclosure.

In order that we may preserve the integrity of the application and interview process, please direct all inquiries to the City Clerk, City Manager or the Director of Community Services. Please DO NOT contact the City Councilmembers or the members of the Recreation and Parks Commission regarding the Recreation and Parks Commission vacancy.

Application forms for the Recreation and Parks Commission, along with a description of the duties of a Commissioner, and filing details are available for pickup in the City Clerk's Office, Room 290, 455 N. Rexford Drive, or call 310.285.2400 to receive an application and information by mail or by e-mail.

The deadline for filing applications for this Commission is Friday, November 20, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk



NOTICE OF COMMISSION VACANCY

TRAFFIC & PARKING COMMISSION

The Beverly Hills City Council is seeking qualified residents to fill one upcoming vacancy on the Traffic and Parking Commission. The initial term of office is for two years. At the discretion of the City Council, the Commissioner may be reappointed to a second term of four years. The appointee will be required to file an initial and an annual "Statement of Economic Interests" financial disclosure.

In order that we may preserve the integrity of the application and interview process, please direct all inquiries to the City Clerk, City Manager or the Director of Public Works, Engineering and Transportation. Please DO NOT contact the City Councilmembers or the members of the Traffic and Parking Commission regarding the Traffic and Parking Commission vacancy.

Application forms for the Traffic and Parking Commission, along with a description of the duties of a Commissioner, and filing details are available for pickup in the City Clerk's Office, Room 290, 455 N. Rexford Drive, or call 310.285.2400 to receive an application and information by mail or by e-mail.

The deadline for filing applications for this Commission is Friday, November 20, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk

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benefit the city and its schools in some way. And, as is typical of permit kids, he is an excellent, high test scoring pupil, raising the mean score with many other permit children. He feels good about his school and his friends at school, and you would think he's a great addition to his school. Now, don't go tracking him down and harassing him.

I think his parents and other permit parents are thinking of what is best for their children and that includes massive support for their children's schools and high motivation when it comes to protecting their children's well-being. Are permit parents really the parasites you make them out to be? You can't have learned to think like that at home.

Daniel Kupper
ex-Beverly Hills resident

"Behind the News" [Issue 523]

We were taken aback during our weekly reading of Rudy Cole's always insightful but apparently sometimes less than accurate Beverly Hills Weekly column. We suddenly applied the brakes and screeched to a halt midway through our perusal.

"...unlike many other districts, there have been almost no cuts in education services and teachers' salaries and benefits remain the highest in the state.

We're surprised at Mr. Cole's lack of perspective regarding the frustrating realities facing Beverly Hills teachers today; and we resent his relaying inaccurate facts to the community, which we have each served for over 30 years. First, losing our reading specialists and our librarians certainly represent

major cuts in educational services. And as for salaries and benefits, neither ranks anywhere near those of the top districts in

California. Last spring a number of teachers shared a long list of local school districts whose salaries made ours look weak by comparison.

Sorrowfully, Mr. Cole is lost in a time warp circa 1970. We welcome him to come to any of our BHEA Representative Council meetings to update his data.

Stephanie Lehrer
Bob Bailey
Hawthorne School

"Letters and E-mail" [Issue 523]

The problem with Mr. Lewis' analysis is not that he doesn't have facts but that he is misinterpreting them. Simply dividing total revenues by the number of students, as both of the sources he cites do, doesn't really provide an accurate picture because many expenditures don't fluctuate much based on enrollment and thus aren't really per pupil expenditures. Nor are they affected by the presence of permit students. For example, we would have a superintendent and building principals even if our enrollment were half what it is now. There are certain job functions, from generating purchase orders to attendance accounting to EL testing to making seating arrangements for graduation to emptying the trash that someone has to do, either for legal or for practical reasons. Yes, the jobs can be consolidated a bit, but the bottom line is that there still have to be a certain number of people involved regardless of enrollment size. In fact, the only expendi-

tures whose fluctuations are directly tied to enrollment are teacher costs, instructional aid costs (but these only apply in certain situations), and instructional materials costs. So how much does it really cost to educate an additional permit student? Not \$12,000 by a long shot. And how much have permit students benefited us financially in the past? Plenty, as you will see.

Taking Mr. Lewis' figure of 518 permits and the \$6512 per student ADA figure from one of his sources, Dr. Goldberg's March 2009 budget memo, permit students would generate \$3,373,216 in revenue under an ADA model. If we had eliminated all permit students at the end of last year, we could conceivably have laid off about 18 teachers (at the 29 to 1 ratio, though the exact number would vary depending on the grade levels at which the students are located). At an average teacher salary of \$69,296 (source: 2007-2008 school accountability report card) and fringe benefit cost of \$6,000 (source: appendix G of current teacher contract), we would have saved \$1,355,328 plus some savings for instructional materials. No other savings could probably have been realized. Actually, since teachers being laid-off would have been closer to the bottom salary than the average salary, actual savings realized would have been less. Yet, even at that inflated figure, permit students brought in \$2,017,888 more than was spent on them during a single year. The Oak Park study reached exactly the same conclusion for their district in 2007. Simply put, permit students bring in far more money than is spent on them. In the scenario above, in order to break even, the district would have to have laid off approximately 27 more

teachers, increasing class sizes and decreasing program options for resident students. Does that really sound like a better way to run the school district?

Yes, I know — under a basic aid model permit students no longer contribute additional revenue, and I am not in favor of issuing permits to students not currently attending BHUSD schools unless it is to the district's financial advantage to do so, but the current permit students are a different situation entirely, and so I return to my original point from my earlier letter: over the years the district has realized a substantial "profit" from the presence of permit students and should at the very least be willing to spend the surplus revenues so generated to matriculate as many permit students as possible. Mr. Lewis argues that "net losses and net gains come from the perspective of residents," which sounds a little bit as if the sky would turn green if the residents of Beverly Hills were convinced it was green. The issue is not how the residents perceive reality, but what reality actually is.

Nor is the raw financial gain the only advantage that permit students have brought to this district. Obviously it isn't possible, outside the realm of science fiction, to provide Mr. Lewis with cuts that did not occur because of the presence of permit students. There is no way to know precisely which programs would have gotten the axe. What I can do is talk about cuts from the 1980's to 2001 that occurred in part because the district foolishly decided not to reduce declining enrollment by expanding the permit population—

letters cont. on page 7

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Simply
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Beverly Hills: Be Healthy! Be Safe!



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Karen Halligan, DVM

"Keeping Your Pets
Healthy and Safe"

Wed., Oct. 28, 2009

City Council Chambers — 7 pm



Office of Emergency Management

310.285.1025

www.beverlyhills.org/safetyweek

editorial

Why the Meshkaty Scandal Won't Go Away

Last week's Beverly Hills Courier ran an unsigned, front-page story questioning some of our recent reporting. When the right-wing, bombastic publisher of the Courier attacks our publication, we normally wear it as a badge of honor. But when he questions our journalistic integrity, it's not something we can allow to go unanswered.

The Weekly stands by its story "Meshkaty Eviction Raises Residency Questions" [Issue 521]. Not only is it accurate, it represents the kind of independent, aggressive reporting our publication has stood for over the last 10 years.

In response to their no-byline story last week, we point out the following:

COURIER REPORTS:

- The Courier wrote that Meshkaty enrolled her daughter in a BHUSD school in 1994.

- The Courier used El Rodeo office manager Susie Wallach to verify Meshkaty's residency, and said the Weekly never contacted Wallach.

- The Courier implies that only Meshkaty's husband, Yar, was named as a defendant.

- The Courier said our article "attempted to smear Meshkaty by stating that 'illegal activity and non-payment of rent' are reasons for evictions, implying that those were reasons for that particular case."

- The Courier claimed Ali Habibi, then-apartment owner, wrote in a letter that the eviction was filed for non-removal of furniture in the apartment, and no one was living in the unit at the time.

- Meshkaty claims she didn't live in the unit.

FACTS SAY:

- Untrue. Meshkaty enrolled her daughter at El Rodeo in September, 1991. This is three full school years of potential illegal registration.

- As a BHUSD employee, Wallach is not allowed to comment on residency issues. Wallach serves on Meshkaty's campaign committee, and her husband is a volunteer in putting up Meshkaty's lawn signs. This was not disclosed in the story.

- Untrue. The eviction judgment clearly names both Yar and Nooshin Meshkaty as defendants. (see court docket on right)

- Untrue. As part of our investigation, the Weekly asked a well-known eviction attorney to discuss the grounds for an eviction. We simply published his response and offered it as background information.

- According to eviction attorney Dennis Block, unless there is "reasonable suspicion" that the tenant is still occupying the residence, the landlord should file a "notice of belief of abandonment" and not proceed with a more complicated eviction.

An eviction is a "costly and lengthy move" only sought "because [the landlord] still thought the tenant was there and had not vacated," said Block. Meshkaty's eviction case lasted for over nine months. A "notice of belief of abandonment" would have resulted in the landlord's repossession of the residence in less than a month.

Block said even if the tenant's furniture remained in the residence, the landlord would not file an eviction if the tenant had given the landlord a written notice or the apartment keys to notify the landlord of their intent to vacate.

According to the Meshkaty case summary, the complaint was filed on Feb. 22, 1994 and a "proof of service to complaint" was filed on March 3, 1994. Block said a "proof of service" is signed by a processor confirming that the defendant had been served. "No doubt they served [the defendant] on the property," Block said.

Later, Meshkaty's wages at JPL were garnished to satisfy the judgment.

- Former City of Beverly Hills spokesperson Fred Cunningham is a longtime resident of 220 North Crescent Drive, where Meshkaty claims to have lived with her mother and children. Cunningham said the 10-unit building houses only two-bedroom, two-bathroom apartments, which equals approximately 1,300 square feet.

Cunningham said he only remembers seeing Meshkaty's husband in the building during that time — but not their children.


- Meshkaty said she lived in a Beverly Hills residence with her mother and three children during the time of her daughter's enrollment at El Rodeo.

The Weekly merely highlights the discrepancies between what Meshkaty alleges and what we have uncovered in our investigation.

Two weeks ago, the Weekly reported that Meshkaty ordered copies of the Weekly discarded at various school sites. This week, we learned that for the first time in 16 years, the BHUSD will not make available the KBEV for our annual election night program. Clearly, Meshkaty is actively interfering with the freedom of the press. What kind of message does this send to our students?

Of course, Meshkaty could put all these questions to rest with an on-the-record interview, which she has so far refused to do. Instead, Meshkaty insists on speaking through surrogates and paid consultants. Don't the voters of Beverly Hills deserve an answer?

Source Los Angeles County Superior Court:




Live Election Night

BANNED BY MESHKATY

with Rudy Cole

Tuesday November 3rd

KBEV CHANNEL 6 7:30 p.m.



briefs cont. from page 3

O'Krent, who has served as chairperson since April 2008, is temporarily relocating to Beverlywood due to an ongoing divorce. He has been a Beverly Hills resident on and off for most of his life, but has lived in the city continuously since 1997.

"It's regrettable," O'Krent said. "The city council was very gracious in giving me a six-month extension to move back in, and my [divorce] case is not settled so the right thing to do is resign, and hopefully I'll be able to move back [to Beverly Hills] in the future."

O'Krent said many people think the recreation and parks commission is easy, but during his term, the commission has dealt with the master plan for parks and water shortages, which affect the recreational facilities.

"I would say to people that want to be on the commission that there's actually a lot of work on the [recreation and parks] commission," O'Krent said. "They should be willing not only to go to the monthly meetings but to the numerous subcommittee meetings."

BHUSD Seeks Applicants for Citizens' Oversight Committee

BHUSD is searching for three to four new applicants for the Citizens' Oversight Committee to oversee the bond proceeds, expenditures and audits associated with Measure E.

The committee is charged with ensuring that the proceeds of the bonds are expended only for the specific projects identified on the measure approved by the voters, as well as increasing communication between the district and the community.

The term of the position is two years and no more than three consecutive terms, without compensation.

The committee will include one member who is active in a senior citizens' organization; one who is a parent of guardian of a child enrolled in the district; one who is active in a business organization representing the business community within the district; one who is active in a bona fide taxpayers' organization; one who is both a parent or guardian of a child enrolled in the district and active in parent-teacher organiza-

tion; one or more members who are members at large; and one or more members with construction and/or finance background.

Committee members will be board-appointed after completing an application process established by the Board of Education.

For more information and application forms, contact BHUSD at (310) 551-5100, ext. 2210.

BHPD Nabs Auto Burglary Suspect

Beverly Hills police officers arrested Michael Drew, 41, on Oct. 8 at around 2:50 am after observing the suspect loitering in a residential area recently plagued with car burglaries.

When officers — who were not dressed in uniform — attempted to approach Drew, he fled into the residencies of the 500 block of Roxbury Drive. After the area was contained and a search was conducted for more than two hours by a team of officers, a K-9 unit and a helicopter, officers arrested the suspect in a residential backyard in the 500 block of Linden Drive.

Officers recovered property from Drew linking him to a previous car burglary on 600 Trenton Drive. Drew has been charged with suspicion of burglary.

"Our detectives were diligent relaying information about recent auto crimes and patrol officers deployed a strategy to nab the perpetrator[s]," said BHPD spokesperson Lieutenant Tony Lee.



Princess Grace Kelly of Monaco wearing Cartier
Photo by Jack Rosen

Grace Kelly and Cartier to Receive Rodeo Drive Walk of Style Award

The City of Beverly Hills and the Rodeo Drive Committee will honor Princess Grace Kelly of Monaco and renowned French jeweler Cartier with

the Rodeo Drive Walk of Style Award in Beverly Hills Oct. 22.

Prince Albert II of Monaco will accept the award on behalf of his mother who, along



Beverly Hills Transitions CPR Program

After 32 years and 87,000 trained community members, the City of Beverly Hills has transferred the operations of its CPR program to its longtime partner Beverly Hills CPR. The city provided a \$50,000 community services grant and a \$1 annual lease for the transition to maintain the program's current training facilities.

(left to right: Human Services Administrator Jim Latta, Battalion Chief/Fire Marshal Greg Barton, Fire Chief Tim Scranton, Mayor Nancy Krasne, BH CPR President Marty Geimer, BH CPR Boardmember Brian Rosenstein, Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad and Councilmembers Barry Brucker, Dr. Willie Brien and John Mirisch.)

with Cartier, will be honored for contributions to the worlds of fashion and entertainment.

The event, which will take place on the 200 block of North Rodeo Drive, will fea-

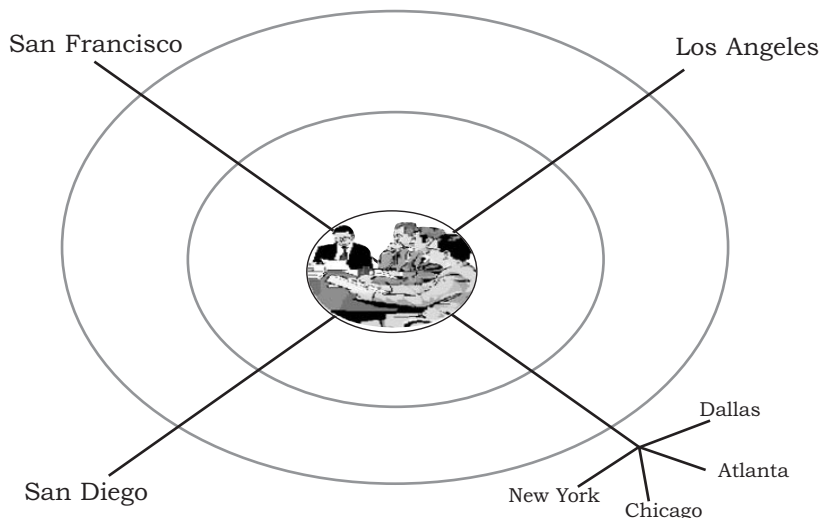
ture an award ceremony followed by a cocktail reception. Attendees will include Mayor Nancy Krasne, city councilmembers, and members from fashion and enter-

briefs cont. on page 7

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(and televised thereafter BHTV & on
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The BHUSD elections will chart the course for Leadership in our school district for the next decade. You are invited as our guests to listen to the candidates discuss important issues which pertain to our schools and our community

Co-Sponsored by the Beverly Hills PTA Council,
South West and South East
Homeowners' Associations

briefs cont. from page 6

tainment industry such as Angie Harmon, Debra Messing, Anaylne McCord, Common, and Rachel Zoe.

For ticket information, contact Levy Pazanti Associates at (310) 201-5033.

Volunteers Needed for Meals on Wheels

Beverly Hills Meals on Wheels is currently seeking volunteers to deliver meals to the homebound in the Beverly Hills area. Volunteers can work either two hours per week or two hours per month, Monday through Friday between the hours of 10 am and noon.

For information, call Meals on Wheels at (310) 423-3517.

Beverly Hills Announces This Year's Health and Safety Week

"Beverly Hills: Be Healthy! Be Safe!" is the theme for this year's Health and Safety week scheduled for Oct. 26 - Nov. 1. Events and programs will be held throughout the week ending with the Health and Safety Expo on Sunday, Nov. 1 in conjunction with the Farmers' Market.

Events include discussions with Laurie Paletz, RN-BC from Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, and Dr. Karen Halligam, Animal Planet's virtual veterinarian. The expo will feature representatives from agencies such as the American Red Cross, National Weather Service, Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Vector Control and Maple Counseling Center.

letters cont. from page 4

and most of those cuts, in contrast to some of the 2002 ones, did not come back. Off the top of my head, I can mention forensics (competitive speaking), a program which produced state and national champions and provided excellent training for future lawyers and leaders, gymnastics, Latin team, summer drama productions (additional training for aspiring actors), weekly editions of Highlights (additional training for aspiring journalists), individual writing tutorials for struggling students (partially replaced by volunteers, but not as successfully), individual literacy help, individual tutorials for students aspiring to move from regular classes to honors classes, many aspects of ELL (which now has larger class sizes and multiple levels jammed together), support services for team teaching environments, reasonable class sizes for English writing remediation (which consequently died out over time), a workable high school department chair system (which the loss of support time and clerical assistance transformed from a driving force in curricular innovation to an exercise in just struggling to keep up with the paperwork). Also, we should not forget the dozens of fine teachers who were laid off as a result of declining enrollment, as well as the uncertain number who never came to BHUSD as a result of our salary schedule's tumble from #1 in the state to mediocre. Increasing the number of permits would not have solved all of these problems, but the extra revenues would certainly have reduced their magnitude.

As a classroom teacher, I don't see resident

students or permit students; I see students. It is time to stop regarding permit students (or their parents, for that matter) as some species of parasite and start realizing that the relationship between them and the district is a symbiotic one: both sides benefit. In many ways, permit students have saved the district in recent years. Now that the situation is reversed, isn't the best course both morally and educationally to return the favor?

Bill Hiatt
Beverly High English Teacher

(Editor's note: Mr. Adler sent a letter to the Courier last week, but the Courier published an edited version of the letter. The unedited letter originally sent by Mr. Adler appears below.)

Call out the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marines! And while you are at it, the FBI and CIA too! The intrepid reporters of the Beverly Hills Courier have doggedly investigated and discovered a sinister plot by the foreign-born, death-panel creating, so-called President of the United States and his fellow-traveling lackey Secretary Janet Napolitano to fatally undermine the security of these United States.

By quietly and surreptitiously planting these two "Muslim activists" into high offices in the very Department having the responsibility to protect us all, it is quite obvious that our "President" has graduated from "palling around with terrorists" (thank you, Sarah) to becoming one himself, thereby placing all of us real Americans at grave risk.

I'll bet if you dig deep enough, you will find that one of these Fifth-Columnists is probably related to Mohammed Atta or one of the other 9/11 hijackers.

It is refreshing to see that your paper is also graduating to the big leagues. I applaud the Courier for sharply honing the reportorial techniques **first used in the journalistic assassination of Councilmember Linda Briskman in February of this year** to a scalpel aimed with laser-like intensity at the malfeasance and misfeasance and yes, treason, at the highest levels of our government. Forget a lowly Pulitzer; the Courier deserves a Nobel Prize!

What I cannot understand, though, is why the story was buried on Page 5. Surely an expose of this magnitude - more significant than Teapot Dome, Watergate, Iran-Contra and WMD's - and missed by Rush, Sean, Bill-O, Ollie and Glenn, deserves a banner headline on Page 1 with 200-point type. Where are Dick Cheney and his waterboarding, "enhanced interrogation technique" minions when we need them? Where are Professor Yoo and Judge Bybee because we require their compelling Constitutional insights to protect us in our time of need?

New York Times, Washington Post and Los Angeles Times be damned! I will sleep better tonight knowing that the Beverly Hills Courier has my back and will spare no effort to protect my loved ones and I from the insidious Islamo-fascist hordes and their jihadist philosophy.

Thank God for the Beverly Hills Courier.

Franklin S. Adler
Beverly Hills

FACT: On November 4, 2008, Measure E, a \$334 million School Construction Bond was approved by the voters of Beverly Hills. Measure E is now mired in conflicts of interest and the misappropriation of public funds.

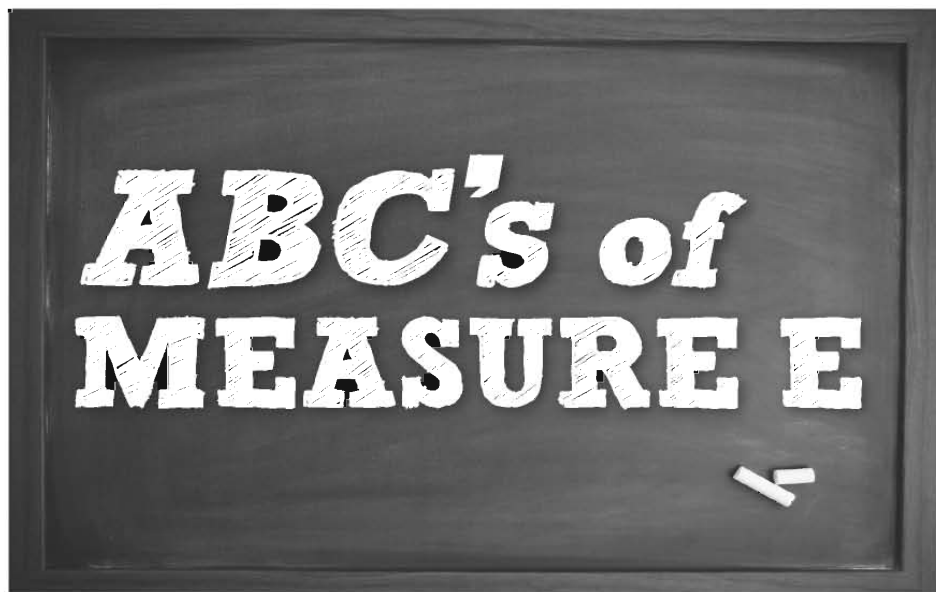
A. Strategic Concepts, a program and project management firm **founded by a former BHUSD employee** received from School Board members Meshkaty, Lurie and Demeter, a **no bid contract worth up to \$21 million dollars.**

B. Master Architects received from School Board members Meshkaty, Lurie and Demeter, a **no bid contract after they made contributions to the Measure E campaign.**

C. George K. Baum & Co., a municipal bond underwriter, received from School Board members, Meshkaty, Lurie and Demeter a **non competitive assignment to sell \$72 million dollars of municipal bonds** for the School District.

Today the **School District is involved in a lawsuit** brought by Strategic Concepts against the district. The BHUSD has filed its own lawsuit.

We put our trust in our elected officials and our School Board **should have done their due diligence** and not spent our **tax dollars** in this manner. The school board majority **mismanaged Measure E funds.** We must **end illegal non competitive bidding** on all contracts.



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from the hills of beverly



Goofs, Fights And Fun

Inside the big battles

By Rudy Cole

It is never enjoyable to admit to a mistake, but this column has done a terrible disservice to an honorable and decent man. I try hard to be a responsible journalist, to check data carefully and to report news and give opinions based on the most factual information possible.

I goofed, seems the appropriate, literate word with mea culpa and an apology for any damage done. But truth will out, and school board candidate **Jake Manaster** is NOT a Republican, as reported here last week; he is a registered Democrat.

In penance, I will read all of **George Bush** the Seconds' speeches on the economy.

Although another publication last week described The Weekly as "thinly" distributed, and more on this later, the number of readers who called and seemed to derive pleasure from pointing out my error was more than I needed. Maybe we need to cut back on circulation.

Strangely, I did not hear from that dynamic duo of former school board

members who are my most frequent and negative correspondents and who, similar to that strange fish in the Sahara that comes back to life after generations of drought, have surfaced after years of political hibernation.

Possibly, the person who reads the column to them was not available.

The reader who took it most calmly was Jake himself. In any case, and although their endorsements have not had as much impact in recent years as in the past, he did receive the blessing of the Democrat Club and that will probably lead to winning support from the Democratic County Committee.

Of the three major candidates in this board race, two are Republicans: **Nooshin Meshkaty and Lisa Korbatov**. (I am fairly certain I have that right.) It remains a political phenomena. In a community with a 61 percent Democratic registration, and where most of our elected officials have been registered Democrats, this does make some history. Of course, we need to

remember that by law, school board and city council races are non-partisan.

Also, for the record, the voters added a Republican to the city council in the last election when **John Mirisch** won.

What are my thoughts on the qualifications of the candidates? Although if I decide to endorse it will not be until next week, some very personal opinions, and obviously not those of my publisher, are given here. If I have somewhat altered my views, it is because of two factors: the way each board member and candidate responded to the student permit issue and how they dealt with the Strategic Concepts lawsuits.

First, we are very fortunate to have three highly dedicated candidates running for two seats. In no particular order of preference, some thoughts:

Lisa Korbatov. Her strong business experience would be an important addition to the board. If she approaches her responsibilities as a board member with the same vigor and determination she has demonstrated in this election, she will be interesting to watch. She says her backers were welcomed into "a large tent" but some few are among the more negative voices in the community. However, Lisa is both qualified and dedicated and could be an exciting addition to the board.

Jake Manaster: When he entered the race, Jake appeared to be the consensus

contender. Avoiding extremes, walking a moderate path on school issues and hardly new to education community involvement, he is knowledgeable and bright and also has good business and finance experience. But in recent weeks, Jake has seemed to take his election as too certain and has lacked the vigor in campaigning he will need to demonstrate as a board member.

Nooshin Meshkaty. No question, I have had many reservations about her candidacy, but she has faced up to the very critical challenges facing our district with both ability and insightfulness. She became stronger and more effective even as her board became more divided and the problems escalated.

Under her leadership, the board unanimously moved to end the contract with Strategic Concepts and to take legal action to protect the district's interests. She has been a conciliatory voice on the permit issue and maintained her cool even when provoked. Do I completely agree with her, or for that member any of the candidates, on all issues? Not at all, but this would be her second term and that is not something we have denied board members very often.

What I also liked about Nooshin was what happened on her recent tour of Israel. She made it her priority to see the schools, first.

The Strategic Concepts lawsuits: they are suing the district and are being sued, the issues do not rise anywhere close to what some of the doom and gloom predictions of the naysayers. The district moved to end a contract, but even if the losses are

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proved, they are minimal and will have no serious impact on our ability to move forward with the modernization and repair of all our schools. In fact, that process is moving forward expeditiously. What is taking time is in retaining a replacement for Strategic Concepts.

We are, or try to be, a fair community. Strategic Concepts and the district both have a right to their day in court and we need to reserve our judgments until then. What made the district comfortable about Strategic Concepts at first was their highly successful work in obtaining major grants for our district.

However, throughout their service to the district, the company and its leader had horrendous press relations, angering both papers by their unwillingness to respond to press questions. What was even more unacceptable, and should have raised a big red flag in the district, was the hiring, by Strategic Concepts, of school official's child. Putting two on their payroll was totally stupid, even if no improprieties resulted.

Another reader questioned our contention the district teachers were among the "highest paid" in the state. **Chris Busee**, president of the Beverly Hills Education Association, the teacher's union, emailed me information from the County of Los Angeles which supports his argument that Beverly Hills does not have the highest paid in the county or the state. He does admit that "we are very competitive with our beginning salary, (but) our competitiveness drops off as one works through the salary schedule and

gains experience."

Bushee added that "we are near the bottom of the list when it comes to district contributions to benefits."

My information came from another reliable source, but I am willing to accept Bushee's comments. This merits more space later too.

You have to give the newly formed Beverly Hills Conference and Visitor's Bureau credit for having an enormous sense of humor. At a recent meeting they elected both **Clif Smith**, publisher of the Courier, and former Mayor **Linda Briskman** to their board of directors.

To those few who actually read the Courier (take that for saying The Weekly is "thinly" distributed) it was Smith who had a front page hit piece attacking Briskman for her ties to former mayors **Mark Egerman** and **Allan Alexander** in the last council race.

It was Smith who led the charge to separate the CVB from the Chamber, changing the latter organization forever. What had angered Smith, and also prompted his attacks on Briskman and other city officials as well as the Chamber board, was not appointing him to their board of directors.

In fairness to Smith, he did call me and explained that he had not applied for membership but had been urged to "accept" appointment by the then president of the Chamber. Smith is not easy, and his reaction to the board refusal was

vindictive and retaliatory, but it was a blunder not to elect him to the board. Too much agony resulted, and it was very predictable. In every city, newspaper publishers, no matter their standing in the community, serve on Chamber of Commerce boards of directors. On our own, former publishers **March Schwartz** (Courier) and **Walter Harris** (Beverly Hills Post) once served. As for our publisher, **Josh Gross**, he would probably stick to his policy of not serving on city boards unless they are school-related.

Briskman and Smith were not the only new members. Also selected were **Craig Hitchcock**, the Paley Center; **Richard Weitz**, William Morris/Endeavor and **Charles Nelson**, Sprinklers Cupcakes.

They will join **Tom Blumental**, **Craig Donahue**, **Peter Garland**, **Ali Kasikci**, **Shaw McPherson**, **Sandy Murphy**, **Jack Naderkhani**, **Jay Newman**, **Offer Nissenbaum** and **Bill Wiley** — a good mix of hotel, restaurant, retailer and business leaders.

They are indeed fortunate to have the very talented and stabilizing services of **Kathryn Smith** as their executive director.

As we enter into the last phases of adopting a new General Plan for Beverly Hills, one that will have dramatic impacts on future development, a calling together of business and residential leaders for a serious dialogue on future growth might just possibly avoid overly heated battles

on the plan.

Suggestion: Ask **Fred Hayman** and **Richard Rosenzweig**, two of our most respected and trusted community leaders, to call the meeting. Those invited should include former mayors, major land owners, presidents of every homeowner association including the Municipal League and former leaders of the League of Women Voters, Chamber of Commerce, Conference and Visitors Bureau, renters and property owner representatives and any other group with a legitimate interest in the future of our community.


Final thoughts: With all the heat being generated by the school board election, it is still unlikely if more than 20 percent of our eligible voters actually cast a ballot. Second votes could make the difference, but it is very doubtful that any candidate will win by a large margin. As for the response of the Courier to a story about the election in The Weekly, a story I felt was not relevant to the election, it is really unprecedented. In all the years Schwartz was the Courier owner he never once mentioned a rival publication, and he had a major competitor in the Beverly Hills Post.

As to who reads The Weekly, good morning Clif.

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

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BHHS Football Team Shuts Out Desert Hot Springs

Normans to open Ocean League play Friday night at Hawthorne.

By Steven Herbert

An injury to quarterback Josh Newman that has sidelined him for four games and part of a fifth has been a factor in the Beverly High football team's three losses.

On Friday night, the Normans benefited from injuries to opposing quarterbacks in a 17-0 non-league victory over Desert Hot Springs at Nickoll Field.

On their second play, Golden Eagle quarterback Josh Cecena tore a ligament in his right (throwing) arm when he was hit from behind as he was about to plant his arm, coach L.D. Matthews said.

"On film, it doesn't look like he hurt it that bad," Matthews said.

The injury means Cecena, a senior, will not be able to play quarterback for the remainder of the season. Matthews said he hopes to have Cecena wear a brace so he can play another position.

On the sixth play, Jeremy Ogden sprained a ligament in his right thumb (also on his throwing arm) when he landed after being hit after

throwing a pass. Ogden is questionable for Friday night's De Anza League opener at Twentynine Palms, Matthews said.

To Beverly Hills coach Donald Paysinger, the quarterback injuries for Desert Hot Springs (2-4) meant "we didn't have to worry about them throwing the ball at all."

The injuries forced Matthews to abandon what he called "having an excellent game plan for Beverly Hills" and being reduced to three or four plays.

The Golden Eagles' limited offensive options helped the Norman defense record its first shutout since Oct. 1, 2004 when it defeated Studio City Harvard-Westlake 48-0.

Sophomore quarterback Cameron Countryman accounted for both touchdowns for the Normans (2-3), throwing a 40-yard touchdown pass to Greg Townsend and running one yard on a bootleg for a score, both in the second quarter.

Willy Wood kicked a 22-yard field goal in the fourth quarter for Beverly Hills' other points.

The Norman offense "played well in spurts, but there are still a lot of things that we have to work on," Paysinger said.

"We're playing a lot of sophomores" who need to "get used to the speed of the game on the varsity level," Paysinger said.

Paysinger praised the play of the Beverly Hills offensive line of Nick Enayat, Torrey Lubkin, Camyar Meshkaty, Arash Soofiani and Reese Wynton.

On defense, Wood and fellow cornerback Donovan Dicken and safety Willie Green drew praise from Paysinger.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to begin Ocean League play Friday with a game at Hawthorne. The opening kickoff is scheduled for 7 p.m.

The 0-5 Cougars have been outscored 284-48, including 61-7 by Lawndale Leuzinger Friday night. Hawthorne has a 37-game on-field winless streak, dating back to 2005.

Beverly Hills has defeated the Cougars by at least 40 points in each of the last four games between the two teams. The Normans defeated Hawthorne, 57-8, last season.

Countryman will again start at quarterback. Newman had been projected to return, but will need another week to recover from his injury, Paysinger said.

Girls' Tennis

Palos Verdes Peninsula 14, Beverly Hills 4

Brianna Morgan, was a 6-0, 6-1, 6-0 winner for the Normans in a nonleague match at Peninsula Oct. 7.

Substitutes Allison Lee and Megan McMurray got Beverly Hills' other point with a

7-5 victory in the third round.

The Panthers were ranked sixth in the Southern Section Division I poll release Monday, while Beverly Hills was ranked fourth in Division II.

Beverly Hills 17, Inglewood 1

The Andrea Katz-Celine Rouben and Georgia Buzzini-Chloe Lahijani doubles teams both won all three of their sets for the Normans (2-5, 1-1 in league play) in an Ocean League match at Beverly Hills last Thursday.

Playing No. 1 doubles, the Katz-Rouben team won 6-0, 6-0, 6-1, while the Buzzini-Lahijani team won 6-0, 6-0, 6-2 at No. 3 singles.

Beverly Hills' No. 2 doubles team of Arianna Geiderman and Alex DeCastro won 6-4, 6-0, before being replaced by Camille Geiderman and Liz Friedman, who won their only set.

Allison Isaacman was a 6-0 winner in her only singles set. She was replaced by Samantha Elbaz, who won 6-2, in the No. 1 singles position in the second round. Kristen Huang was a 6-0 winner at No. 1 singles in the third round.

McMurray was a 6-0 winner at No. 2 singles in her only set. Her replacement, Erica Lee, won her set 6-4, 6-0.

Allison Lee was a 6-1 winner at No. 3 singles in the first round. Sydney Segal was a winner in her lone set.

Steven Herbert has covered Beverly Hills high sports for the Beverly Hills Weekly since 1999. 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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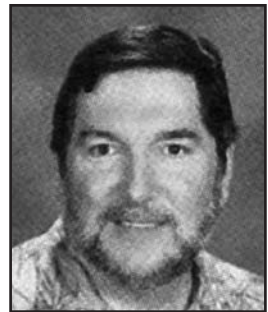
Has anything really changed?

By Kimberly Cheng

In Oct. 1989, almost all of BHUSD's 300 teachers, counselors, nurses and librarians walked out of the district's schools for 13 days. They fought hard against low wages and the seeming unresponsiveness from then-BHUSD administrators.

Twenty years later, some teachers are saying communication between teachers and district administrators is making progress but has yet to reach its peak due to constant turnover in administration over the past decade.

Others are saying the current state of affairs in areas such as salaries and benefits has worsened since the time of the strike,



Stewart Horowitz

though student programming and building maintenance has vastly improved.

Longtime Beverly High social studies teacher Stewart Horowitz said there needs to be a commitment from BHUSD administrators to Beverly Hills, the children of the community and district staff.

"We've had people come and go, and they seem more interested in their careers," Horowitz said. "[Before], you had assistant principals and principals who had been in the district for 20, 30 years or even more. You had district administrators who were here for a long time. And even if you didn't always agree with these people, you knew they were committed to the well-being of public education in Beverly Hills."

Beverly High science teacher and Beverly Hills Education Association President Chris Bushee agrees that the long-standing relationships that existed 20 years ago created a more effective and productive atmosphere between teachers and district administrators.

"Once you were hired in Beverly Hills, you rarely left," said Bushee, who was hired in 1997 and was not here during the strike. "What changed in this decade, and has certainly accelerated in the past five to six years, is the high rate of turnover of administrators, and that has led to a high rate of turnover in teaching staff as well."

Bushee said the continuous turnover in administration has made it difficult to find common ground, since many are less willing to compromise.

[Administrators and teachers] know each other less, [and] the feeling of hierarchy wasn't as pervasive as it is now," said Bushee. "When I was first hired into the district, the many administrators across the street knew me by my first name, and we had several opportunities to work together."

Bushee said district administrators today feel they must accomplish more in satisfying state and federal requirements, which in turn produces a mentality that they must comply with state and federal directives instead of relying on the professional expertise of teachers.

"It sets up more of a superior-insubordinate relationship [because] teachers are being asked to carry out [state and federal] requirements and mandates," Bushee said. "There's less of an attempt to solicit and incorporate ideas from the bottom up."

According to Horowitz, communication between district administrators and teachers has always been a problem, and was the key issue that sparked the teachers' strike.

"Both the district and the union leadership were talking at each other and not with one another," he said. "Both sides were not really willing to sit down seriously enough and hear the other sides' concerns."

Horowitz added that at that time, certain issues — such as cuts in the wake of Proposition 13 — had affected funding in the district, and caused several cutbacks in schools. For example, the secretary position within every academic department was eliminated, and more responsibilities were given to teachers.

"We disagreed with some of the decisions with priorities as to how things were being spent," Horowitz said. "The strike ended with teachers feeling disappointed. That was a pretty strong sentiment among most teachers."

Horowitz said since the strike, improvements in communication have varied. About three to four years ago, communication was very poor.

"The board seemed to disrespect our professionalism," Horowitz said. "I think more positive change has recently happened, and I think most teachers hope that continues."

Current Board of Education member Steven Fenton, whose father Frank was a board member during the strike, agrees that the relationship between teachers and district administrators today has improved, and will only continue to progress.

"I think teachers feel that help is on the way, and I think they have a lot of faith in the direction that we're now headed...of having a board that is very pro-employee," Fenton said. "[Communication between teachers and the district] is only going to get better."

Fenton was a sophomore at Pitzer College at the time of the strike, but remembers teachers picketing his family's Wetherly Drive home.

"I learned a lot from my dad during that time," Fenton said. "You can't know where you're going unless you know where you've been. And I believe the future looks really bright for the employees of our school district."

Although Frank Fenton had a contentious relationship with the teacher's union, BHEA endorsed Steven Fenton when he ran for the board in 2007.

Former Board of Education member AJ Willmer said there was a significant educational benefit from the teachers' strike, which helped the community understand the financial problems facing BHUSD and its effects on teachers and programs.

"Later on, school bonds passed, which is very important because we were beginning to take money from the general funds [which supported salaries and programs]," Willmer said. "The bonds wouldn't have passed without the community understanding the financial situation the district was in."

Willmer, whose daughter was a kindergarten student at Horace Mann during the strike, became



AJ Willmer

actively involved in Children First — a parent organization that banded together at the time of the strike — and later ran for the school board as a result of the strike. Children First fought hard to resolve the strike by showing support for teachers and fundraising for the district.

"I needed to find out how to get involved after the strike had resolved itself," Willmer said. "I showed up to PTA meetings not very happily. I did not know why Beverly Hills wasn't funding its schools."

Willmer spoke with Judie Fenton, Laura Adler, Frank Fenton, Mark Agerman and Fred Stern regarding his concerns.

"All five of them indicated to me that I had a great deal of ignorance about the district, and if I learned and ran for school board, they'd support me instead of tackling [problems] at the level of PTA," Willmer said.

Willmer was appointed to the board in 1991, and served until 1997.

"We started to negotiate very seriously with JPA, and saw dramatic increases in JPA agreements," Willmer said. "I don't think any of that would have happened without the strike happening and bringing everyone's attention to how dire the situation was."

With the current economic downturn causing another wave of cutbacks, however, teachers still feel improper prioritization with district funds — a contentious topic during the teachers' strike — needs to be addressed.

"I think that we are possibly in another era where there's a disconnect," said Beverly

High librarian Karen Boyarsky, who has been a BHUSD employee for 29 years, and was part of the negotiating team during the strike. "I won't say that it's as radical [as during the time of the strike], but I think it is [as disconcerting]."

Boyarsky said some school board members get their information from intermediaries who may not have a clear picture of what goes on in the classrooms, though some district personnel have made a great effort to connect with the schools.

"I hate to fault the school board [because] it's so easy to attack, and I definitely don't want to do that," Boyarsky said. "[But] I think this city, this community and certainly this school district is capable of building and continuing the greatest education the children deserve, and I'm sure that it's not happening."

Faulty prioritization has taken its toll on library resources for students, said Boyarsky, who is the only librarian in BHUSD at this time.

Nevertheless, a shortage of funds has leaked into and affected all areas of the school district — and all districts statewide.

Horowitz said Beverly Hills teachers were among the highest paid teachers statewide 20 years ago. Today, many teachers in other districts rake in more money than Beverly Hills teachers.

"[Things] were better 20 years ago than they are today," said longtime Beverly High social studies teacher Stewart Horowitz. "There's absolutely no question about that."

According to Horowitz, the highest salary for a veteran teacher in Beverly Hills falls under \$86,000, while veteran teachers in other districts around the state make over \$100,000.

John Borsum, who has been teaching math at Beverly High for 33 years, agrees that the top of teachers' salary schedule is no longer competitive, although he said the bottom of schedule remains competitive. He added that one of the reasons the district lacks the funds to improve the overall salary schedule is the increase in student programming.

"That is one of the things that has happened over the last 20 years that has changed a lot," Borsum said. "Over the years, when

money was tight, they would cut programs. However, when money became available, they were always quick to spend it on more programs, leaving no money to improve the salary schedule."

Borsum said a major upgrade since the strike is the condition of classrooms and school buildings in the district.

"There were times in the old days when you didn't have heating or air conditioning, and you'd be freezing or too hot," Borsum said. "Now, I'm teaching in a building where its climate controlled, and there's technology that makes the presentation of the [class] material much easier."

When Fenton was asked if salaries and benefits would improve for teachers in the future, he said, "If I have anything to do with it, yes."

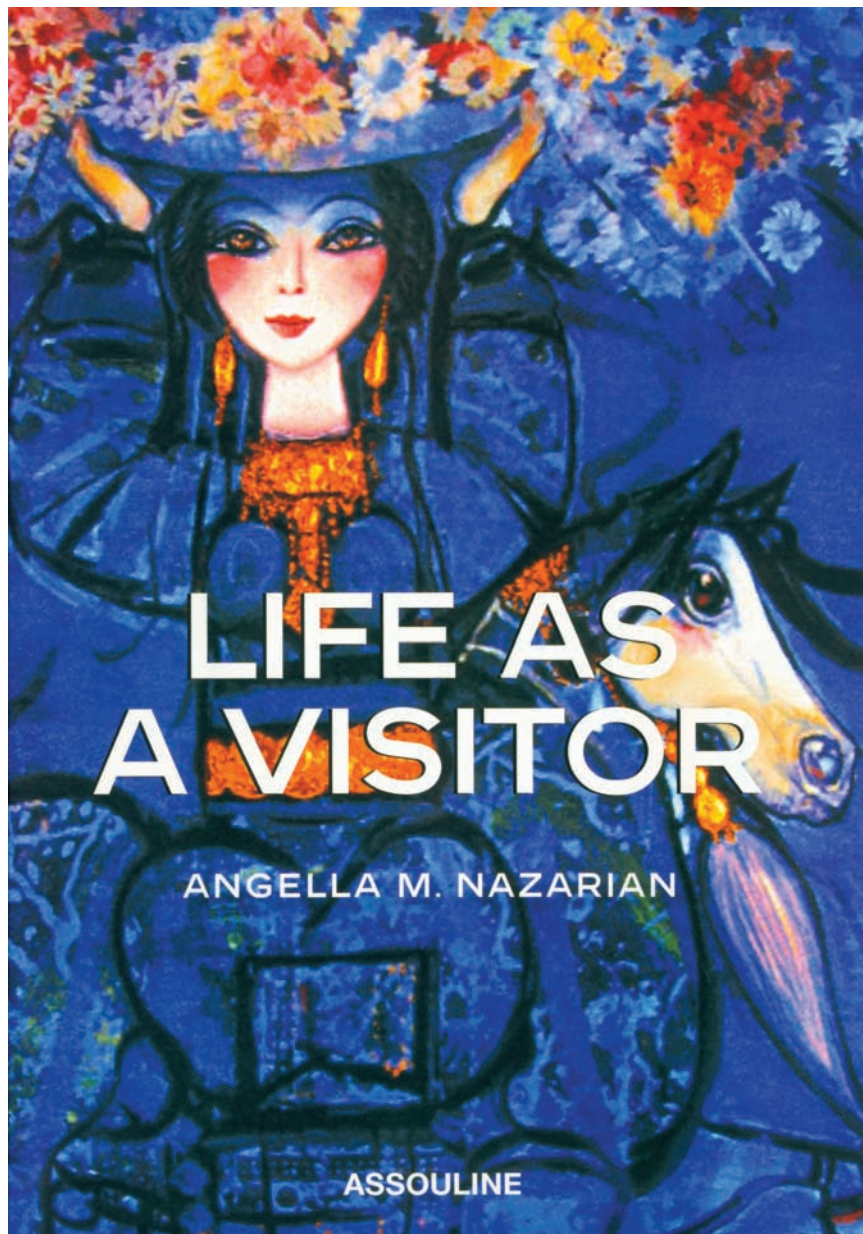


John Borsum



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By Bianca Mills

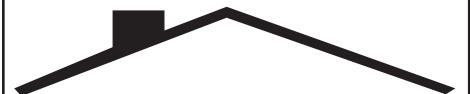
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by Ira Kirshbaum in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Ira Kirshbaum be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's lost will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. Copies of the lost will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Nov. 20, 2009 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner: ANGELA F PROFFITT ESQ SBN 210689 11755 WILSHIRE BLVD 15TH FLR LOS ANGELES CA 90025-1506 Beverly Hills Weekly CN825157 STONE Oct 15,22,29, 2009

ORDINANCE NO. 09-O-2569 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE TO PROHIBIT THE PARKING OF OVERSIZED VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL ZONES THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. A new section 7-3-123 (Parking of Oversized Vehicles Prohibited in Residential Zones) is hereby added to Article 1 of Chapter 3 of Title 7 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code to read as follows:

"Parking of Oversized Vehicles Prohibited in Residential Zones:

A. No person shall stop, park or leave standing upon any street that is designated by the Director of Public Works and Transportation within a residential zone a vehicle having any of the following:

- 1. A manufacturer's rated load capacity greater than three-quarters (3/4) of a ton; or
2. A length in excess of twenty-one feet.

Any vehicle stopped, parked or left standing shall be subject to removal.

B. The following vehicles are hereby exempt from the provisions of this section:

- 1. Any authorized emergency vehicle, any authorized highway work vehicle or any vehicle used in the construction, installation, or repair of a utility or a public utility in accordance with Sections 22512 and 35704 of the California Vehicle Code;
2. Any vehicle engaged in loading or unloading adjacent to the residence;
3. Any vehicle making pickups or deliveries of goods, wares and merchandise adjacent to the residence;
4. Any vehicle picking up or delivering materials used in the actual and bona fide repair, alteration, remodeling or construction of any building or structure for which an encroachment permit or construction permit has been obtained

adjacent to the residence;

5. Any vehicle operated by the city, or any employee thereof, in the course of regular or official city business.

C. The Director of Public Works and Transportation or his designee is authorized to designate the streets subject to the restrictions set forth in paragraph A. Upon such designation, the Director of Public Works and Transportation shall place or cause to be placed signs on said streets giving notice of the restriction."

Section 2. If any section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this ordinance or the application thereof to any person or place, is for any reason held to be invalid or unconstitutional by the decision of any court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remainder of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have adopted this ordinance, and each and every section, subsection, subdivision, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more sections, subsections, subdivisions, sentences, clauses, phrases, or portions thereof be declared invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 3. Effective Date. This Ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 6th day of October, 2009.

NANCY KRASNE Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST: BYRON POPE (SEAL) City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: LAURENCE S. WIENER City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT RODERICK J. WOOD, ICMA-CM City Manager

DAVID D. GUSTAVSON Director of Public Works & Transportation

AARON KUNZ Deputy Director of Transportation

VOTE: AYES: Councilmembers Mirisch, Brien, Brucker, Delshad and Mayor Krasne NOES: None ABSENT: None CARRIED

ORDINANCE NO. 09-O-2570

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS ALLOWING COMMISSIONERS TO CONTINUE THEIR TERM OF OFFICE WHILE TEMPORARILY RESIDING OUTSIDE OF THE CITY AND AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS HEREBY ORDAINS AS FOLLOWS:

Section 2-2-106 of Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 2 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

"2-2-106: TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:

Membership on a commission or committee shall terminate under the following conditions, unless otherwise specifically provided in this code:

A. Membership shall terminate automatically upon resignation or death of a member.

B. If a commission or committee regularly meets once per month, membership shall terminate automatically if a member is absent from four (4) regular meetings within a twelve (12) month period unless the city council determines, in its sole discretion, that the absences were due to health reasons or for other unusual hardship that justifies the absence. Additionally, the city council may consider removing any member who is absent from three (3) meetings within a twelve (12)

month period.

C. If a commission or committee regularly meets at least twice per month, membership shall terminate automatically if a member is absent from eight (8) regular meetings within a twelve (12) month period unless the city council determines, in its sole discretion, that the absences were due to health reasons or for other unusual hardship that justifies the absence. Additionally, the city council may consider removing any member who is absent from six (6) meetings within a twelve (12) month period.

D. Membership shall terminate automatically if a member ceases to reside in the city, unless residence is not required for membership or unless a member has temporarily ceased to reside in the city because of unusual circumstance or hardship, has not purchased a home outside the City in which the member is residing, intends to move back into the City, and has not previously ceased to reside in the City at any time while serving on the Commission. For the purposes of this subsection "temporarily" means a period not exceeding six months starting from the date a member ceased residence in the City.

E. Membership shall terminate automatically if a member's office would be vacated under the provisions for disqualification from office set forth in section 1770 of the California Government Code. Provided, however, that the provisions of this section governing absences shall supersede the provisions of section 1770 regarding absences.

In addition, the city council may remove any member from a commission or committee for any reason. Such removal may be accomplished by resolution or minute order of the city council."

Section 2. The City Clerk shall cause this ordinance to be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation published and circulated in the City within fifteen (15) days after its passage, in accordance with Section 36933 of the Government Code, shall certify to the adoption of this ordinance, and shall cause this ordinance and his certification, together with proof of publication, to be entered in the Book of Ordinances of the Council of this City.

Section 3. This ordinance shall go into effect and be in full force and effect at 12:01 a.m. on the thirty-first (31st) day after its passage. Adopted: October 6, 2009 Effective: November 6, 2009

NANCY KRASNE Mayor of the City of Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST: BYRON POPE (SEAL) City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM LAURENCE S. WIENER City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT: RODERICK J. WOOD, ICMA-CM City Manager

VOTE: AYES: Councilmembers Mirisch, Brien, Brucker, and Vice Mayor Delshad NOES: Mayor Krasne

Section 2-2-106 of Article 1 of Chapter 2 of Title 2 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code is amended to read as follows:

Membership on a commission or committee shall terminate under the following conditions, unless otherwise specifically provided in this code:

A. Membership shall terminate automatically upon resignation or death of a member.

B. If a commission or committee regularly meets once per month, membership shall terminate automatically if a member is absent from four (4) regular meetings within a twelve (12) month period unless the city council determines, in its sole discretion, that the absences were due to health reasons or for other unusual hardship that justifies the absence. Additionally, the city council may consider removing any member who is absent from three (3) meetings within a twelve (12)

ABSENT: None CARRIED

Form 106: ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS, CITATION OR NOTICE OF HEARING. Includes case details for Plaintiff: ESTATE OF JOSE MANUEL LOPEZ and Defendant: JOSE MANUEL LOPEZ, JR.

Form 106: STATEMENT OF DAMAGES. Lists various categories of damages such as Pain, suffering, and inconvenience, Emotional distress, Loss of consortium, etc., with corresponding amounts.

Form 106: SUP. IONS (CITACION JUDICIAL). Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: NOTICE TO DEFENDANT (AVISO AL DEMANDADO). Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: SUMMONS. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: SUMMONS. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: SUMMONS. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS, CITATION OR NOTICE OF HEARING. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS, CITATION OR NOTICE OF HEARING. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

Form 106: ORDER FOR PUBLICATION OF SUMMONS, CITATION OR NOTICE OF HEARING. Includes case details and a signature for the attorney.

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Some people own policies that are no longer the best product to accomplish their goals. One of our clients paid \$40,000 annually for \$5 million of coverage. His goal was to pay the least amount to guarantee his death benefit. We exchanged his policy for a new one that guaranteed the same amount of

coverage beyond age 100, with no further premium payments. He accumulates much less cash surrender value in the new policy, but that was never his goal.

New insurance products offer guarantees that were not previously available. Alan Kaye recently designed a policy to pay the death benefit and all of the accumulated annual premium payments, plus 3% annually. The longer you live, the more your family will inherit!

Why let the market determine the future of your estate? Use life insurance death benefits to help offset your investment losses. You may also increase the amount your family receives from your retirement plan assets, provide for your grandchildren's education and create large gifts for your favorite charities. Call Alan Kaye at 800.662.5433. He can help you decide whether to buy insurance, sell, surrender, keep or replace your old policy.

How liquid is your estate? And what will your heirs inherit?

Be sure to ask for a complimentary consultation to review your life insurance needs and products.

**Alan Kaye
Insurance Agency, Inc.**

Associate of Barry Kaye Associates

AN **NFP** COMPANY



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