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Issue 450 • May 15 - May 21, 2008



**OUR
450th
ISSUE**

Rochelle Reflects

**After 34 years as a teacher and administrator,
Rochelle Ginsburg is laying down her apple**

cover story • pages 8-9



WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

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140 South Beverly Drive #201
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

You can fax us at:
310.887.0789

email us at:
editor@bhweekly.com



SNAPSHOT

letters & email

Corrections, Issues 446 and 449

- A typographical error in issue 449 cut off the caption in the brief titled "Former Beverly High wrestling coach honored." The caption should have read:

Former Beverly High coach Jack Gifford was joined by two of his former wrestlers, Dr. Larry Stock '80 and Dr. Phillip Rogaway '80 as he was inducted into the California Wrestling Hall of Fame Saturday in a ceremony in Laguna Hills. Gifford was named as the Southern California High School Coach of the Year in 1969 and 1970, and the National High School District 8 Wrestling Coach of the Year in 1980. Gifford taught at Beverly from 1970 to 1997.

- The missing name in the caption of the brief titled "Davis visits Beverly Hills" in issue 449 is Janis Rabin.

- Hawthorne teacher Jesse Meyen's name was spelled incorrectly in Issue 446.

"No agreement on Legacy permits" [Issue 449]

The controlling majority of the current BHUSD Board of Education continues to vote 3-2 against Mr. Steven Fenton and Dr. Brian Goldberg on every agenda matter endorsed by these two Board members elected on Nov. 6, 2007, by Beverly Hills voters. This "legislative gridlock" has successfully obstructed Fenton and Goldberg from changing the status quo policies of this Board, despite requests from residents speaking at Board meetings and writing letters endorsing ideas suggested by these two men who were clearly elected by voters to change BHUSD policies.

I find it pathetic that the current majority essentially ignored Beverly Hills voters at the last Board meeting and concurred with the positions stated by two former Board of Education members who probably had been invited by the

majority to speak on the issue of Legacy permits. The majority wants to achieve an "ethical" solution. Where were the ethics when the same majority ignored the requests of voters and flushed [former Beverly Vista principal] Irene Stern's career down the toilet? Fenton and Goldberg may continue to see their ideas defeated by a 3-2 vote; however, voters will be able to express frustration with the "gridlock" at the next election.

Tom Hayostek
Beverly Hills

In reference to last week's informative articles in Beverly Hills Weekly and the Beverly Hills Courier, and a letter by Lili Bosse, we would like to make the following comments.

Our Board of Education and district administration continue to endorse a permit program.

letters cont. on page 7



APRIL 24TH AND MAY 15TH
"RIVETING"...LA TIMES
ALL THE HELP YOU NEED
THE ADVENTURES OF A HOLLYWOOD HANDYMAN
WRITTEN BY & STARRING
TIM RYAN MEINELSCHMIDT

IN REPERTORY WITH
PULITZER PRIZE 'RUEFUL COMEDY'
DINNER WITH FRIENDS
BY DONALD MARGULIES
DIRECTED BY LAURA JAMES

MON-SAT 8 PM; SAT,SUN 2 PM

CALL FOR SCHEDULE AND RESERVATIONS

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BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212-3639

RES: 310-364-0535

WWW.THEATRE40.ORG



Theatre 40



OLDER BUT GOLDER NORTH REXFORD DRIVE

Mike Roberts was selected as the Older American of the Year for 2008 by the City of Beverly Hills in recognition of his long-standing active involvement in the community, including serving as a member and chairperson of the Recreation and Parks Commission and other volunteer work.

Roberts (center) was presented with a proclamation at a recent City Council meeting by Vice Mayor Frank Fenton (left) and Mayor Barry Brucker (right).

Beverly Hills Weekly

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briefs



Amy Golden

Golden to leave Beverly

Assistant Principal Amy Golden will be leaving her post at Beverly High June 30 to become director at Quarry Lane School, a private, college-preparatory school in

Dublin, Calif.

While Golden said in an e-mail she was not actively looking for a new position, she learned about this position through a friend who works as a consultant at the school, and she felt it was a "good fit."

"It's exciting. I think it's going to strengthen me as an administrator," Golden said. "It's always scary. The staff here is amazing, and I think I've made some amazing friends, but I think that it's definitely the right career move for me."

Golden has held her position in House A since 2005.

Quarry Lane is a college-preparatory school that offers students the opportunity to follow different career-oriented tracks as early as middle school.

briefs cont. on page 4

Beverly grads team up to create "New" school



Matt Albert



Carolyn Yashari-Becher

Matt Albert, Carolyn Yashari-Becher and Danny Corwin, all Beverly High Class of 1990, have been friends since they spent their first year together at Beverly. Since then, they have gone their separate ways, getting married and taking jobs as a teacher and administrator, an attorney and a Los Angeles education reformer.

When Corwin took a job with the California Charter Schools Association, however, a plan started to take shape. Albert, Yashari-Becher and Corwin's wife Zoë, who shares the group's passion for education, having been a teacher and reformer in her own right, had always talked about what it would be like to start their own school, and perhaps charter was the way to go.

"We were all pretty lucky to have a great public education at Beverly, and unfortunately the general public school experience is not the same for most L.A. students," said Albert, who worked as assistant principal at Milken Community High School.

Fast forward a couple of years, and the dream is about to become a reality with the New Los Angeles Charter Middle School,



Zoe Corwin



Danny Corwin

which will have four teachers serving 75 sixth graders when it opens its doors in September, according to Zoë Corwin, who recently earned her Ph.D. in sociology with an emphasis on urban education. Coincidentally, one of the teacher candidates, Scherrie Britt James, also went to Beverly, graduating in 1994.

The group of friends used grants and private donations totaling to about \$400,000 to open their charter school.

During the school's first year and until it is able to expand, Albert, who is now executive director of New L.A., will also take on some of the responsibilities of principal.

New L.A. students, who will have had to submit an application and have been picked by a lottery process to attend, will be faced with a curriculum of "rigorous academics" meant to prepare them for a college-preparatory high school.

"Our educational philosophy in the classroom is going to be student-centered pedagogy," Albert said, "where students aren't passive learners and they're really engaged in the learning process through projects and group work and questioning."

As such, students will be able to learn about social justice, a strong focus area at

New L.A., first-hand on their weekly community service trips into nearby low-income communities, in which many of them live.

Since the 1970s – when Louis Pasteur Middle School closed and was replaced by the Los Angeles Center for Enrichment Studies (LACES), a city-wide magnet – there has been no middle school in the area, and students have had to bus to LAUSD middle schools like Emerson on the city's Westside.

"We thought this would be the perfect place to reach out to the community," Albert said. "We started this middle school because people need it."

The current location for the school is the Oasis Christian Church on Wilshire Blvd. and Mansfield Ave. While the group was "very excited" to lease the property in that many who receive charters in Los Angeles are unable to find a site for their school, this site is only temporary, until they can find a more permanent location in the area.

The thing that makes this charter school particularly unique, according to Yashari-Becher, is the fact that the school is not being started by parents unsatisfied with the local schools.

"We weren't doing this for ourselves," Yashari-Becher said. "We were doing this because we felt there was a community that was entitled to a good school, and we were positioned in a way that we could give it to them, due to our own experiences and professional backgrounds."

"We're a volunteer Board. I have two young kids. I work. I guess this is my third job, but it's really been a fulfilling process."



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS NOTIFYING THE BEVERLY HILLS COMMUNITY REGARDING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY WATER CONSERVATION PLAN AS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE 3 OF CHAPTER 4 OF TITLE 9 OF THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE

The City may implement one of the five emergency water conservation stages set forth in Section 9-4-303 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code. A hearing will be held to notify the public regarding the procedures for implementation and the emergency water conservation rates that may become effective in the next three years.

Copies of the resolution are available for review or purchase in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 190, and the Finance Department, Room 250, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California. Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard. Written comments may also be submitted and should be addressed to the City Clerk, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210. The comments should be received prior to the hearing date.

Please remember, if you challenge the Council's action in regard to this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk



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NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHEDULE OF TAXES, FEES & CHARGES TO ADJUST UTILITY RATES BEGINNING IN FISCAL YEAR 2008-2009

The ordinance will amend the Comprehensive Schedule of Taxes, Fees & Charges to adjust the utility rates as detailed in Resolution No. 07-R-12443. At the public hearing, the City Council will hear and consider all objections or protests to the rate adjustments. If the City Council adopts the ordinance, adjustments to Utility Rates will become effective immediately.

Copies of the ordinance are available for review or purchase in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 190, and the Finance Department, Room 250, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California. Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard. Written comments may also be submitted and should be addressed to the City Clerk, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90210. The comments should be received prior to the hearing date.

Please remember, if you challenge the Council's action in regard to this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk



Sal Gumina

Board finalizes layoffs of 10 teachers, hardly any cuts in admin

In response to the threat of statewide budget cuts in education, the Board of Education unanimously agreed to fully or partially lay off 10 teachers and only one part-time administrator who happens to be departing for maternity leave, out of the 35 employees originally noticed, at a closed-session meeting on May 9.

"If you look at the amount of teaching staff that's being cut [both voluntarily via

retirement and involuntarily via layoffs] versus the percentage of administrative staff that's being cut – It's like 2 percent of all administrators versus 10 percent of all teachers," Bushee said. "We believe there's an imbalance there and we don't believe that's best for students."

Human Resources Coordinator/Credential Analyst Nora Roque's position was also in jeopardy of being downgraded to a non-management position, at a savings to the District of about \$30,000 per year. However, the change was rescinded at the May 6 Board meeting in a unanimous vote pursuant to a motion made by Board member Myra Lurie.

Pink slips were rescinded due to both the results of the April 15 administrative hear-

ing, which was held to determine the legality of the layoffs and the process by which they were distributed, and the District's Supplemental Employee Retirement Program (SERP).

Of the 35 people given layoff notices, the 8 most senior were placed on a "precautionary list," to be moved to the "primary list" only in case the judge in the administrative hearing ruled one or more of the other notices illegal. The judge ultimately ruled the primary list of layoffs to have been legally executed and as such the District cannot lay people off from the precautionary list.

Also, with 18 veteran faculty members opting for SERP, the District's early retirement benefits program, additional layoff notices were rescinded, provided that the teachers were appropriately credentialed to teach in the positions left open.

Gumina could not be reached for comment.



Vince Bertoni

Bertoni accepts position with L.A. planning department

Community Development Director Vince Bertoni has accepted a new position as Deputy Director in the City of Los Angeles' Department

of City Planning.

Bertoni has worked with Beverly Hills for three years, guiding several high-profile commissions, providing leadership for some of Beverly Hills' most challenging development projects and leading the reorganization of the Community Development department. In his new role, Bertoni will guide key land use decisions for a large part of Los Angeles.

"I am excited about these new challenges; however, it is with mixed emotions that I leave the wonderful community of Beverly Hills," Bertoni said. "I have been fortunate



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2008

MEETING TIME: At or after 1:30 pm

LOCATION: Commission Meeting Room A
Beverly Hills City Hall
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its SPECIAL MEETING on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to consider:

A request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow a private training center of 3,624 square feet on the second floor of an office structure at **9975 South Santa Monica Boulevard**. A CUP is required for private training centers more than two thousand (2,000) square feet of floor area. As part of the CUP and as allowed by Beverly Hills Municipal Code, the applicant is requesting that parking be reduced from 1 space per 200 square feet to 1 space per 350 square feet.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City and no significant environmental impacts are anticipated. A Categorical Exemption has been prepared pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15301(a).

Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the Commission.

Copies of the applications, plans, Negative Declaration, and all documents referenced in the Negative Declaration are on file in the Planning Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford Drive, Room G-40, Beverly Hills, CA. 90210. If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Planning Department at 310.285.1123.

If you challenge the Commission's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact Melinda Hue at the Planning Department at mhue@beverlyhills.org or 310.285.1195. Copies of the application and plans are on file in the Planning Department and can be reviewed by any interested person at 9537 West Third Street, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Dated: May 9, 2008
Jonathan Lait
City Planner



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

DATE: MAY 21, 2008

TIME: 1:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard

LOCATION: Commission Meeting Room A
Beverly Hills City Hall
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its SPECIAL meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to consider:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A request for a Development Plan Review, R-4 Permit and Tentative Tract Map for the construction of an 11,768 square foot four-story residential condominium building with one-level of subterranean parking for a property located at **457 N. Oakhurst Drive**.

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City, and it has been determined that the project is exempt from CEQA regulations pursuant to Section 15303 (b) New Construction, of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the Commission. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Planning Department prior to the meeting date and written or oral comments will be accepted at the Planning Commission meeting at the date and time noted above.

If you challenge the Commission's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Planning Department at 310.285.1123. Copies of the application and plans are on file in the Planning Department (which is currently located in a temporary building at 9357 West 3rd Street), Beverly Hills, CA. 90210.

Dated: May 9, 2008
Jonathan Lait, AICP, City Planner

to work with a terrific group of staff, commissioners and City Council members, whose professionalism and commitment to the City have been first-rate.”

BHEF kicks off Apple Ball with reception



(L to R) Vice Mayor Frank Fenton, Judie Fenton, Hawthorne Principal Alex Cherniss, Pam Kraushaar, Caitlin Carter, Richard Waters, Shelley Lucky, Corinne Carlson, Mike Lambert and Sarah Utley.

The Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF) kicked off the 2008 Apple Ball, to take place May 29, at a cocktail reception hosted by the Beverly Hilton.

The Bosse Spirit of Philanthropy Award will be given to Vice Mayor Frank Fenton and Judie Fenton. The school principals and Superintendent Kari McVeigh presented the 2008 Apple Awards to Hawthorne Principal Alex Cherniss in the administrative category, Pam Kraushaar in the Classified Employee category, Caitlin Carter from Horace Mann, Richard Waters from El Rodeo, Shelley Lucky from Beverly Vista, Corinne Carlson and Sarah Utley from Beverly High and Mike Lambert from Hawthorne.

For information about the Apple Ball call 310-557-0651.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

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The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, May 20, 2008, at 7:30 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of:

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHEDULE OF USER FEES & SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2008/2009.

The proposed resolution would increase the majority of the City's user fees and service charges for Fiscal Year 2008/2009 by 4.2%, based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 2007, thereby updating the fee and service charges adjustments analysis and recommendations that was completed by the Revenue and Cost Specialists, LLC consulting group (the Fee Study Report) in 2007. The new fees would become effective on July 21, 2008.

Copies of the proposed Resolution and the Fee Study Report are available for review or purchase in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 190, and the Finance Department, Room 250, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California. Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard. Written comments may also be submitted and should be addressed to the City Council, c/o City Clerk, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California, 90210. The comments should be received prior to the hearing date. If you need more information, please contact Gabriella Yap at (310) 285-2459.

Please note that if you challenge the Council's action in regard to this matter in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk

Youth in Government Day winners named



(Back row, L to R) Halley Crane, Stav Geffner, Rebecca Ghermezi, Arezu Hashemi, Director of Curriculum and Instruction Brian Tash, Beverly Vista Principal Erik Warren, Mayor Barry Brucker, Jordan Akouka, Sara Newman, Auhbon Amiri, Lauren Kiesel, Nathan Ong, Sarit Kashanian, (middle row, L to R) Max Schwartz, Jared Slesinger, Max Rubins, James Schneider, Carly Stone, (front row, L to R) Evan Suber, Anna Khananashvili, Nina Vir and Tenzin Moenkyi

Twenty BHUSD eighth grade students, five from each middle school, were presented with a proclamation by the City Council declaring May 28 "Youth in Government Day" in Beverly Hills.

Each student will assume the role of a department head or elected official, learn about their responsibilities and participate in a mock city council meeting. Students were selected to participate in the annual event at City Hall based on the merits of their essay responding to the question of how Roxbury Park should be improved.



NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

- DATE:** MAY 21, 2008
- TIME:** 1:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard
- LOCATION:** Commission Meeting Room A
Beverly Hills City Hall
455 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

The Planning Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, at its SPECIAL meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 2008, will hold a public hearing beginning at 1:30 pm, or as soon thereafter as the matter may be heard, to consider:

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: A request for a Development Plan Review and Tentative Parcel Map for the conversion of an existing 24,450 square foot three-story office building to a commercial condominium building located at **8536 Wilshire Boulevard.**

This project has been assessed in accordance with the authority and criteria contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the State CEQA Guidelines, and the environmental regulations of the City, and it has been determined that the project is exempt from CEQA regulations pursuant to Section 15301 (k) of the State CEQA Guidelines.

Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the Commission. Comments may be submitted in writing to the Planning Department prior to the meeting date and written or oral comments will be accepted at the Planning Commission meeting at the date and time noted above.

If you challenge the Commission's action in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing described in this notice, or in written correspondence delivered to the City, either at or prior to the public hearing.

If there are any questions regarding this notice, please contact the Planning Department at 310.285.1123. Copies of the application and plans are on file in the Planning Department (which is currently located in a temporary building at 9357 West 3rd Street), Beverly Hills, CA. 90210.

Dated: May 9, 2008
Jonathan Lait, AICP, City Planner

from the hills of beverly



Why Did BH Lose A Top Official?

Also, three who make a difference

By Rudy Cole

Beverly Hills has lost one of its most able and creative staff members, **Vince Bertoni**, director of Community Development, to Los Angeles. [See brief on p. 4]

Bertoni succeeded **Mahdi Aluzri**. Who could take Bertoni's job. Aluzri!

However, city officials in Rancho Cucamonga, where Mahdi now works, have strongly denied these rumors and Aluzri was not available for comment.

Reports of the surprise resignation came as a shock to city hall. Bertoni has accepted a job as second in command of the Los Angeles Department of Planning, but it was a position he had turned down before city manager Rod Wood promoted him from planning director to head of Community Development, and "sweetened" his benefit package to keep him in Beverly Hills only last year.

Aluzri had resigned that job to become assistant city manager of the City of

Rancho Cucamonga. Before Planning and Building and Safety were combined, by Wood, Aluzri became the first director of the newly created agency. He had been both director of planning and director of Building and Safety.

Why did Bertoni take a job he could have had earlier? The most likely reason is that he may have been given assurances that he would be on a short list to become head of the Los Angeles Department of Planning when that position becomes available. Also, the challenges of being involved in some very high profile development projects now being considered in Los Angeles are important to the highly regarded professional planner.

Bertoni has just completed guiding his agency through some of the most difficult and contentious development projects in our city's history. His staff, as well as the planning commission and city council, have been on overload for months

wrestling with three enormous and complicated building applications: Robinsons-May (9900 Wilshire), William Morris and Hilton Revitalization.

The last, Hilton, received final approval Monday. Bertoni's resignation was announced the next day. During the months of processing all three, the city council held more meetings than ever in its history – often as many as three a week. This placed tremendous pressure on staff to complete the ever changing plans and concepts the council was debating on all three.

Having survived those projects, Bertoni would now have led the final stages of the adoption of a new general plan for the city. That process has been in discussion and consideration for over five years.

Bertoni also had to carefully contend with a rare division at city hall. The Planning Commission, one of the three with whom Bertoni worked, had taken a very vocal and active role in a disagreement with the council on several development projects they had considered. However, **Noah Furie**, chair of the Planning Commission, said he and his colleagues all had the highest regard for Bertoni and "wished him well" in his now job in Los Angeles.

Clearly, Bertoni's people skills and political savvy worked well in Beverly Hills where he managed good relations with his commissions, city council, his own staff, the city manager and an often contentious community, split on the developments under consideration.

As for Aluzri, his possible return to Beverly Hills would mean the department could have a familiar and experienced director helping lead the general plan adoption process. There has been no official word on this from anyone at city hall, just rumors this column had heard yesterday.

What was apparently not true was that Bertoni left because his agency had come under attack by one councilmember, **Nancy Krasne**, for "papering" her with too much data just prior to council votes. There were constant and never ending changes in both 9900 and Hilton applications but these were mostly the result of negotiations with the developers and a split in the council on some aspects of the projects.

At the same time, the offices of the departments Bertoni led, Planning and Building and Safety, were being remodeled with both being temporarily housed on Third Street.

Bertoni also brought to his department a highly regarded planner, **John Lait**, who left a similar position in Santa Monica. Lait became director of planning when Bertoni replaced Aluzri as head of Community Development.

Before Bertoni, the heads of the department, **Ruth Nadel** and **Irwin Kaplan**, had more than 20 years each in city service.

Bertoni was here for three years.

A recent editorial in another newspaper about the role and responsibilities of the city commissions, although it probably had absolutely nothing to do with Bertoni's resignation, has prompted some anger by members of the planning commission.

The editorial, although obliquely praising the commission, seemed to attack them for taking a contrary view on some recent projects, insisting that commissions are "part of the team" and if you don't "want to play as part of the team, don't join the team."

However, that misses the whole point of commission independence and responsibilities. Unlike most other commissions, Planning has both state and city mandated rules it follows making them both independent and responsible to the elected officials. They have "legislative" and "quasi-judicial" roles, described by state law.

The Planning Commission can not consider financial or "political" impacts of projects and there the process becomes difficult. When the Planning Commission does act, the council can, on its own motion, on appeal or by law review or consider every and all actions by the commission. Their perspective is broader and more loaded with community impacts.

What may well be true is that the Commission should not become activists in presenting its findings, but let the record speak for itself. No, they do not have to be "team players," that defeats the whole purpose of commissions, but they should also accept the very different perspectives considered by elected officials.

There has probably never been a more able planning commission, although there have been some stars such as **Jerry Magnin**, **Don DeWitt** and others who have served with great distinction. **Furie**, **Debra Judelson**, **Nan Cole**, **Kathy Reims** and **Lili Bosse** merit high praise for the incredible amount of time and energy they gave to the recent flood of decision making.

What about the referendum now being circulated that could possibly overturn the council approval of the Hilton Revitalization project? No question, referenda are part of the democratic process and an important right of citizens to challenge city government decision making.

However, there are very serious issues the referendum will not address. The final council action came after months of study and public hearings. What was approved gave the city enormous economic benefits NOT included in the original plan, and some the Hilton strongly opposed. The Council and the Commission, also made drastic changes in parking requirements, traffic mitigation and heights and density, all that could be lost if the referendum should succeed.

Also, some circulators may be tempted to tell those they solicit that their signing "will only help put this on the ballot." Actually, those who do sign the petition are giving their names as opposing the action of the city council.

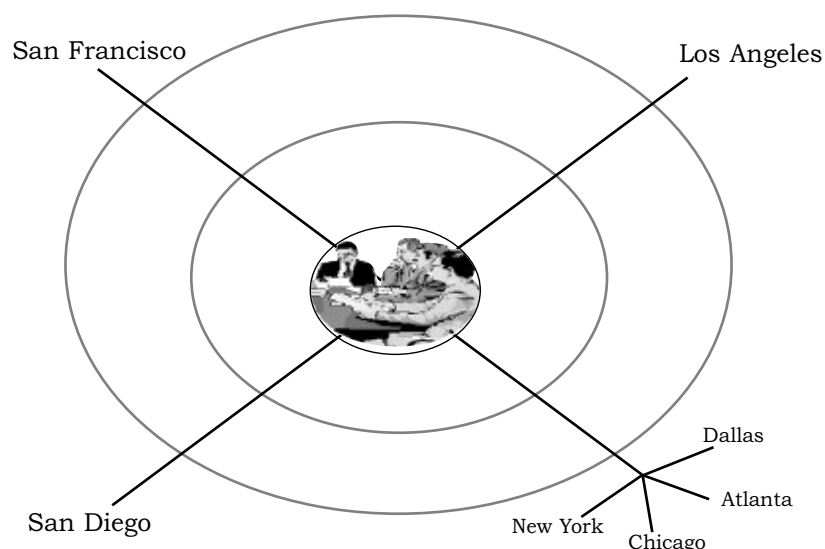
A careful reading of the petition should

Conference Calling

- Local Numbers Throughout California
- Reservation-based or Reservationless
- Recording Capability

5 ¢/minute Local Access

10 ¢/minute Toll Free Access



The Telephone Connection
310-789-7900

be important.

Former School Board president **Dana Tomarken** may have been the first to coin the phrase “the positive people of Beverly Hills,” but it is an apt term to describe those who live and work here and give back to our community.

Three that exemplify this tradition, among many, are **Bram Goldsmith** and two relatively new arrivals, **James Jahani** and **Offer Nissenbaum**.

Goldsmith, chair of the largest bank with a home office in Beverly Hills, City National, has had a long and distinguished career as a community leader and major donor to charities. However, it is his more recent efforts on behalf of the Annenberg Cultural Center that could be his greatest legacy to his community. Originally the cultural center concept was promoted by former mayor **Vicki Reynolds** who has been the driving force in obtaining major funding and city approval. Goldsmith has now taken the leadership role in making the idea a reality and this project could give our city, not only a great cultural asset, but an enormous sense of place.

Imagine first run theatre and concerts in our own city? It will happen and when it does, this city and future generations will be indebted to both Goldsmith and Reynolds.

Jahani exemplifies what is remarkable about Beverly Hills. You can arrive in our city on Friday and become a major player by Monday. Although it didn't happen

quite that quickly, Jahani, the general manager of Brooks Brothers, has emerged as a great example of what our corporate entities should become: Involved and active. A leader in the Chamber, Jim has also taken on the responsibility as chair of the board of our outstanding Theatre Forty.

Nissenbaum has some very large mocasins to fill as the new managing director of the Peninsula Hotel. He was recently named to replace the highly regarded **Ali Kasicki** who left that hotel to head the soon to open Montage Beverly Hills.

A veteran hotel leader, who has had a distinguished and much honored career before coming to Beverly Hills, Offer also understands the Beverly Hills tradition of giving back and becoming involved. He told this column that he looks forward to taking an active role in civic affairs. Offer has a very different style than Ali, but he is very impressive and has very rapidly learned what it will take to be a civic leader as well as managing one of the world's great hotels. Offer is a very good fit for our community. There are also major improvements being made at the hotel that he is leading.

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.

letters cont. from page 2

Create a Legacy program to complement the current “opportunity” permit program.

Financial benefits: The permit program brings in more (state) funding (ADA) than the cost to educate the permitted students. “Legacy” students will, likewise, increase much needed funding for the district.

Curricular benefits: More students per school, whether resident, legacy or opportunity, would allow for a more diverse elective offering, such as art, music and band, to mention just a few, and much needed librarians.

By adding a legacy program, the community would not be placing a priority on legacy students, nor “one that seeks to choose a select group of students to populate our schools, replacing an open process of opportunity,” Demeter said” (BH Weekly).

Even with 900+ permit students, district enrollment is declining. Offer vacant seats to “legacy” families?

“District administration argues the program might increase expenses because more staffing would be needed to find proof of residency for grandparents. And, currently they don't have a computer system in place to verify attendance of alumni” (Courier). OK, let's accept that premise for the moment. Since permit students bring in more state funding than they cost, a Legacy program would easily pay for itself.

Regarding concerns about alumni data, [Pupil Services Director Amy] Lambert says, “...especially with regards to older, non-computerized records.”

Three points in response to Lambert's concerns:

1. The BHHS Alumni Association could be of great assistance in locating alumni.
2. As I am a soon to be a retired (BHUSD) technology teacher, I will gladly volunteer to help with the implementation of gathering the necessary data required to allow the legacy program to move forward.
3. Where do we send our Beverly High diplomas as proof of our alumni status?!

“If you build it (Legacy), they (grandparents/alumni) will come (find the BHUSD)”
Lisa and Craig Davis
Beverly Hills

“Hilton Referendum”

The May 6 City Council meeting was a staged play with some transparent City Hall bad actors. City Hall tried to explain why there were over 2,100 pages, weighing 15.5 pounds, in the Hilton Hotel General Plan Amendment Resolution. The Montage referendum book was only 196 pages and weighed a few ounces, which was easy to transport.

Unfortunately, the City Attorney took the heat for the City's decision to try to sabotage the signature gathering for the Hilton Referendum petition. [In addition,] I suspect that the Hilton lobbyists and attorneys also had a hand in this unfair strategy. The City Attorney said numerous exhibits that are referenced in the Hilton General Plan Amendment Resolution, including the Final Environmental Impact Report (EIR) and the Draft EIR are important documents that voters need to review before deciding whether to sign the Hilton Referendum Petition.

I made a plea to the Council to reduce the [number of] pages in the Hilton General Plan Amendment Resolution. To attempt to create an appearance of fairness, the Council then deleted the bulk of pages in a different ordinance, the Hilton Zone Change Ordinance, which is

not being attacked by the Hilton opposition.

When asked by Mayor [Barry] Brucker if the Council would consider also reducing the size of the Hilton General Plan Amendment Resolution, [Councilmember] Jimmy Delshad yelled out “no,” which was then echoed by [Vice Mayor] Frank Fenton and [Councilmember] Linda Briskman. Councilmembers Delshad, Fenton and Briskman are the majority who approved the Hilton expansion with three high-rise towers. Seven other public officials, including all five Planning Commissioners, Mayor Brucker, and Councilmember [Nancy] Krasne said “no” to having three new high-rise towers at the Hilton.

While our City Council refused to provide any relief to the Hilton legislation being put on the voter ballot, City Hall claimed to the media that they had reduced the size of the Hilton petition. After losing 10 days waiting for the printing of over 100,000 pages of petition documents, Referendum signature gatherers are now carrying 15.5 pounds of paper, house to house. We now have only 14 days to complete our task.

Few voters in the City have ever read cover-to-cover an EIR, let alone a draft EIR. I doubt that any City Council members have ever read a complete EIR, which would take days to read. It is also unclear whether a court would find it legal for City Hall to force citizens to circulate a referendum petition weighing 15.5 pounds. It has never been done in Beverly Hills, or in any other California city.

It's our city, our voice and our choice. Call 323-944-0910 to sign the Hilton Referendum petition so you can decide in November.

Larry Larson
Treasurer
Citizens Right to Decide Committee
Beverly Hills

Your two-page centerfold ad by “Supporters of the Beverly Hilton Revitalization Project...with major funding provided by the Beverly Hilton Hotel” was a wonderful boost to my spirits. It confirmed for me that the developers of the Hilton project are really afraid of an unfunded group of residents, most of whom have nothing in common but the desire to stop overdevelopment. They are actually spending millions of dollars on full-page ads and almost daily glossy mailings throughout the city – using an A-bomb to fight a bumble bee.

The ads claim that a “dangerous petition” is being circulated around Beverly Hills, and offer advice on what to do if you've “already signed the petition” and want to get your signature removed – this despite the fact that when the ad was published the petitions had not yet been printed. Nobody had seen them, let alone signed them! The claim that “the petition threatens our quality of life” seems just a bit overstated to those who think it's a perfect example of democracy in action.

If you do see a petition, have no fear. It contains nothing but a City Council resolution, and the 2,100 pages of documents the City attached to it in an effort to make it difficult to circulate. The only thing the petition can do is to let you, the citizens of Beverly Hills, decide whether or not you want the Hilton expansion to go forward. That's it. Yes or no. Obviously, the Hilton fears that if you have a chance to decide, you will reject the project. How satisfying!

Nancy Barth
Beverly Hills



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ROCHELLE REFLECTS

After 34 years as a teacher and administrator, Rochelle Ginsburg is laying down her apple

By Lauren Gabbai

How did you first get into teaching?

I got into teaching when I went to UCLA. I was getting a teaching credential, as almost every girl I knew was doing. One day, some people came from Beverly Hills – Superintendent [Ken Peters] and [the late Board of Education members Bernice Hutter and Elinor Nathan] – and they called me out of class and asked if I'd like to interview for a job there. And I said no, because I hadn't applied. And they said, it doesn't matter, they'd like to meet me. I graduated from UCLA on a Friday in January of 1961, and I started to work in Beverly Hills on Monday the following week. And I've been working ever since.

What spurred the change to go from a teacher to an administrator?

That was sort of an accident too. I actually got my administrative degree while just accumulating salary points. And I really was very committed to the classroom, so I wasn't thinking of [becoming] an administrator.

But one day I was in the [Beverly Vista] teachers' lounge, and a lot of teachers who were my age were talking about how things used to be. When I left the teachers' lounge, I thought, when you start talking about how things used to be more than talking about how things are or could be, then it's time to make a change. That conversation, that day in the Teachers' Lounge, made me think about it. There was nothing to do about it at the time, but when the opportunity came to apply for a position as an assistant principal [at Hawthorne], I did.

What prompted the move from Beverly Hills to Stephen Wise day school?

It was another accident. It was! I was very happy and I wasn't looking for a job, but I got a telephone call from a professor at UCLA who I know, who asked if I was interested in being a principal at a private school, and I said no.

He phoned me back about two weeks later and said I ought to think about this. And I said, well, let me know the information. At the time, there was a search committee in Princeton, New Jersey – they were running the search. I had never been to Stephen S. Wise. So I contacted them and then they started putting me through the hoops. I'd heard of head hunters and search committees, but I'd never been in anything like that. So I thought, this will be an interesting experience.

When I was offered the job, I didn't know what to do! I didn't plan to get there. But

then I really thought about working in a Jewish Day School, giving a personal contribution, a leadership contribution. Maybe leadership isn't the right word, but I could contribute in a different way. And so I accepted the job. And I said I would stay for three to five years, and they said that was OK. And it will have been nine at the end of the year.



(Standing, L to R) Michael Sugerman, Carolyn Carlson, Rob Carlson, Ellen Sugerman, Steve Sugerman, (sitting, L to R) Robert Carlson, Rochelle Ginsburg, Rebecca Sugerman, Rachel Carlson and Eli Ginsburg

Tell us about Stephen S. Wise.

We have approximately 480 children in grades K through 6. [But] it's almost like a school district. There's the preschool, the elementary school K-6, a seventh and eighth grade [Milken] middle school, and then there's Milken Community High School. In addition to that there's a one-day-a-week religious school. There's one Director of Education [Metuka Benjamin] for all five of the schools, and each of the schools has its own principal.

[At Stephen S. Wise.] there are 26 general studies teachers, about 14 Hebrew or Judaic studies teachers and about 16 or 18 special-

ists. And there are about 20 assistants. It's a big number.

How is Stephen S. Wise different from Beverly Hills schools?

[Although] it's a religious school, we try to have the same high academic standards for the whole school as we would if we were any school, public or private. We adhere to state standards, we do standardized testing, we group children for instruction, we provide services for gifted children, as well as for children who need extra help. One of the ways we can do all of those things is that we sort of have the independence to determine our own needs based on our population. It's not part of the bigger bureaucracy. As an independent school, you get to say, "This is what we need to do," and then it's up to you to figure out how to do it. It inspires creativity, it inspires innovation, and it inspires self-evaluation so that it's a very dynamic process.

We take a lot of what are standard procedures in public schools but customize them to make them fit our population and do it in a way that is appropriate. It's not bound up in

had that every single day, and they took either French or Spanish. We were very proud of that. And then they had to cut it out for a variety of reasons, one of them being funding. Here, the second language is Hebrew. Everybody takes Hebrew in the elementary school, and they do it just like we used to do in Beverly Hills, years ago. So at the end of sixth grade they are pretty fluent readers, writers and speakers of Hebrew.

[Also,] we don't have a union and it does make a difference.

This is not my statement, but the statement of another head of school, not a Jewish school: "We all work on a one-year contract."

That means that you have to carry your own weight. You don't get to lean back on saying, "Pfft! I have tenure and I can slack off." The idea of union does not drive our policies in the school. That doesn't mean you don't have to be fair and care about people. We have a human resources department here as well, and we do adhere to certain terms of employment that are hopefully fair and humane, but it's not union-driven. Hopefully because we're a temple organization, our working environment is a reflection of the fact that we are a temple organization, and demonstrate respect for people.

What is Stephen S. Wise's equivalent to public schools' Boards of Education?

My director of education reports to the Board of Trustees of the temple, and the Board of Trustees of the temple is our governing board. When a family registers their child in this school, they also have to join the temple. So we're connected to the temple.

To a certain degree, when you're working in a district like Beverly Hills, the Board of Education gives direction, the superintendent gives direction, so you are more likely to be operating in a system where the district determines what you do.

In an independent school, it's more of a give and take, I think. I certainly take direction from my Director of Education, but I am equally free to suggest direction and act on it without too much encumbrance. The other thing is, though, there's also a certain responsibility in taking initiative. You can't just expect things to come to you and happen. You have to take the initiative to see what it is that's important and then make it happen.

While other schools around the state are dealing with budget cuts, Stephen S. Wise is able to hire teachers. That must be nice.

It is. We have some wonderful candidates, probably, because of that.

But hiring teachers is one of the most important things a principal does. Everything rests with the teacher and what goes on in the classroom. The principal has to run a good school, supervise teachers, hire good teachers, create and provide the environment, so people can do good work, and where they want to do good work, and that's the job of the principal – to create an environment where all of these good things can happen. But the most important work of the school goes on in the classroom, and that's with the teachers, and the principal has to respect that and create the environment where the teachers are happy and where the teachers feel supported and where the teachers feel honored and respected as professionals. If the teachers feel that way, they're going to give you

their best. So that's what I really hope that I've accomplished here. If I've done that, I've done a good job.

Do you feel like you're really involved with the teachers?

Very much so. The teachers know that. We imagine projects together, we problem-solve together. Hopefully I do some meaningful coaching, formally and informally. When you work with people every day, you get to know them personally, but in a different way, because you see them at their best and at their worst. As a Principal you really get to know the teachers and be friends with them in their lives when they need it.

It sounds like you really love your job.

You know for a while, [people] used to tease me, because sometimes I'd forget to cash my paycheck, because I would always be so surprised – this was way back when I was first teaching – and I thought, because I had never really gotten paid for anything and then I was doing something I loved, and I was so surprised when I got paid. I just never put the two together.

I'm glad I got paid. People should get paid – it's a lot of work. Teachers should get paid more than they get paid. But I never really connected my work with my pay. My pay was my pay and my work was my work. But my work really has defined my adult life. I'm really the luckiest person in the entire world. There's a saying – You can't have it all. But I think I do have it all. I couldn't ask for more.

Why retire now?

Because I really want to be more present, to be more available, more accessible. For a good many years, people have been waiting for me, and I feel like the people closest to me have had the longest wait, so I feel like this is the time to just be a little bit more accessible.

Of course, they have a bet that I won't be, that I'm just going to switch and be equally as engaged. But I think I won't be working 70 hours a week.

What do you plan to do after retirement?

Right now, my real goal is not to fill in all the blanks, because my blanks have been completely filled in for the last 34 years without a break. So I'd kind of like to just experience life a little bit and be very selective about what I commit myself to. I do think I'd like to do something involved with teaching teachers, or coaching teachers, because I think now I get it. But I'm really not sure.

Other things, it was really to be more present to my kids. The whole decision about this was made to be more present in the life of my family. As a principal, I've kind of [worked] every day and many many many nights. Long days that start early in the morning and end late at night. And when you're not working, you think you should be. So that means you tuck everything else into tight corners – Family, friends. As I said, I'm very lucky, I've been able to do everything. I still want to do it all. I just want to do it all in a slightly more graceful manner.

Tell us a little about your family.

They're great. They're just the greatest family. I have two married daughters, two great sons-in-law.

My oldest daughter is Ellen Sugerman '81. She's a speech pathologist by profession. She's in cantorial school, and she works with her husband, Steve, in his communications business. She has two children: Michael, who is going to be 13, and Rebecca, who is 7.

And then I have a second daughter, Carolyn Carlson '84. Carolyn was in the entertainment industry. She is currently a graduate student in psychology, and she is the mother of 7-year-old twins, almost 8, and their names are Robert and Rachel. And her husband Rob, is an agent at William Morris.

I better not leave out my husband. My husband is Eli, he's a physician who's been practicing in Beverly Hills for over 40 years, and continues to do so. So part of this plan is to spend a little bit of time together in a more relaxed way. He doesn't know that yet, though. Don't tell him.

Is it strange to be principal at Stephen S. Wise but to have such a strong connection to Wilshire Blvd. Temple?

No. It isn't. I'm actually very good friends with [former Beverly Vista Principal and current Wilshire Blvd. Temple Day School Principal] Nadine Breuer – We were administrators together, we both taught English in the Beverly Hills schools, we both were administrators in the Beverly Hills schools, we both left at the same time, we each became principals of Jewish day schools the same year. No, it's not weird at all. As I said, I'm just lucky because I have these communities where I know people well, and I can participate in each one of them very comfortably. It's just been very nice. I didn't abandon one for the other. I went to work at Stephen S. Wise, I have a job to do. It wasn't a question of that. It was a question of taking my skills and applying them where they were needed.

Do you miss Beverly Hills?

Well first of all, I don't miss it because [I live here]. But in terms of working in the district, when I worked in the [BHUSD], we had a great camaraderie. We really did. We liked each other, we had fun together, we worked hard, we played hard, it was a wonderful group of people in those years that I was in the District. You miss that because in working in a single school, you don't get that broad five-school community.

On the other hand, I guess I'm just one of those bloom where you are planted people. When I went to Stephen S. Wise, I said, This is just going to be a job, these are not going to be my friends. But it just doesn't work that way. It's become another community. I guess my biggest pleasure is that in this nine-year period, I haven't discarded one community for another, I've just added a whole new dimension to my life, a whole new community of people I didn't know before.

Do you still keep in touch with the people from Beverly Hills you worked with?

We have a little dinner group. Living in the community I do connect with people and, so, yes I do. And then there's a small dinner

group of people, very few of whom are still in the district, but, we get together. And actually I'm working with a few of the people at Stephen S. Wise. Tanis Harris – her office is right next door to mine. I think she's just finishing three years as the Director of Student Services.

We just get together once every six weeks, and different people are doing different things – Rita Creagh, Angie Templer, Eloise Metcalfe, Lynn Rappaport (Steve Rappaport's wife, she was Lynn Richards when she was a math teacher at Beverly), Dick Douglas, and then other people come in and out.

Who has been your inspiration?

The current person that I work with, [Stephen S. Wise Director of Education] Metuka Benjamin, I've been working with for nine years. The level of her vision, her energy and commitment, match my own. Working in that kind of environment is very energizing and motivating. You just want to do that work.

Prior to working with Metuka Benjamin, Dick Douglas – He was the principal with me for nine years at Hawthorne [in the 1990s]. I couldn't have done the work I do today without those nine years behind me. He was very ethical and clear-thinking and generous. Those are the words that come to my mind when I think of him. I think he's a great role model, and working with him really cleared the path for the work that [I've done] for Stephen Wise for the past nine years.

Prior to that, my first real mentor was a woman by the name of Lucille Wilson. She taught fourth grade at Beverly Vista. And every morning at recess time, she would put two pieces of cinnamon bread in the toaster, and from her I learned the beginnings of how to teach. I thought she was much older. She probably wasn't as much older as I thought.

And then when I started teaching middle school, I had a mentor by the name of Ben Shaver. And Ben was one of those legendary teachers in Beverly Hills, who all the kids loved. Now he's over 80 years old and his students still find him, even though he's no longer working.

I've had at every step along the way – Lucille Wilson, Ben Shaver, Dick Douglas, Metuka Benjamin – I feel very very lucky. Those are just four out of probably four hundred.

What do you consider a legendary teacher?

A legendary teacher is like an artist. Artists perform or produce their art because they have to. They just have to. There's nothing else that they could do but be that writer, painter, dancer, singer, or composer. An artist does what he does because he's compelled to do it, and I think a legendary teacher has a lot of the same qualities of a real artist. An artist sees possibilities in ways that are different from other people, and I think a teacher can see possibilities in ways that are different from other people. So a legendary teacher is someone who not only has the ability to see the possibilities that might not be apparent to everybody else, but also to do something about it. And a real teacher is someone who is also a real learner. A real teacher never stops learning, never stops studying, never stops learning, never stops

trying new things.

Do you consider yourself a legendary teacher?

I consider that I would aspire to be a legendary teacher, even as a principal, even though you're not a teacher in the conventional sense of the word. You have the opportunity to be teaching every day and every minute. Whether as children, other teachers, parents. Some people think the principal doesn't teach. I see the job of the principal as just having a bigger classroom.

What would you title a book about your life?

When I first really thought about it, that I was going to retire— And I use the word "retire"—I'm trying to invent a different word, because I always think of this as making a change, and this time I don't know what the change is going to be. When I gave this up, I thought, I'm so used to operating with this adrenaline rush. You wake up in the morning with an adrenaline rush. And the first thing you do, you open your eyes and you think, "Oh my gosh! There's all this stuff today! [Maybe three events] and a crisis and a petition to be made and somebody you need and somebody sitting in a coffee shop waiting for you. So you wake up with this adrenaline rush, and I thought, I don't know what it's like to not to wake up with an adrenaline rush. So one day I thought, what do you do after the adrenaline rush? I thought, that's got to be the title of the book – "After the Adrenaline Rush." I don't know. I don't think that's as exciting as what comes during the adrenaline rush, so I'm just going to have to get a brand new adrenaline rush.

What do you think is your legacy, both at Stephen Wise and in Beverly Hills?

This is a tough one. I don't want to give some silly little answer because that's such a big question. I hope that you ask other people that. They can tell you!

I hope that my legacy has been to help create a vision and direction for the schools, to emphasize the value of each person, whether it's a child, parent or staff person. To be personally present and somehow model those values—

Now here's two little faces that I recognize. *[Two former students approach Ginsburg in the Beverly Hills coffee shop where we're conducting the interview. They hug and catch up a little bit before they go to order their drinks.]*

That's the legacy, you just saw it. How do you put that into words? Creating a community.

You know, it's funny – these kids have graduated.

I was at a grandparents' day at Harvard Westlake the other day, and my husband was sort of taken aback because one of the boys that was a student there kind of flew across campus and gave me a hug, and my husband goes, What middle school boy is going to run off and give his ex-principal a hug, in public, in front of his friends?

You talk about a legacy, it's very personal. It's really... I hope that the families and children and staff feel that they can have, should have, they're entitled to have a personal connection with their leadership.



BHHS Boys' Tennis Team Advances To Semifinals

Norman boys' golf team ties for ninth in finals.

By Steven Herbert

Beverly High won eight of nine doubles sets in a 15-3 victory over host Riverside J.W. North in a Southern Section Division III boys' tennis second-round match Saturday.

The Normans' No. 1 team of James Ephrati-Donovan Suh was a 6-4, 7-6 (5), 6-1 winner, while their No. 3 team of Ethan Bond-Uday Singh was a 6-0, 6-0 winner. Singh teamed with Saman Shooshani for a 6-3 victory in the final

round.

The Andre Herd-Jonathon Jason doubles team won two of its three sets, winning 6-2 in the first round and 6-0 in the third after a 6-4 loss in the second.

Substitute Sam Farzani was a 6-0, 6-0 winner at No. 1 singles for second-seeded Beverly Hills (18-4), after replacing Daniel Ho, a 6-3 winner in his only set. Teammate Gary Parizher was a 6-0 winner in his only set. Norman substitute Ben

Haber won his only set 6-3.

David Vayzner had 6-0 victories in the first and third sets for Beverly Hills.

Beverly Hills 18, Garden Grove 0

The Ephrati-Suh doubles team won its sets, 6-0, 6-0, 6-0, while Vayzner was a 6-0, 6-0, 6-1 winner in singles for the Normans in a Division III first-round match last Thursday at Beverly Hills.

The Herd-Jason doubles team was a 6-1, 6-2, 6-1 winner, while the Bond-Singh team was a 6-1, 6-0 winner, before being replaced by Farzani and Adam Utasi, who won their only set, 6-0.

Haber was a 6-0, 6-3 winner after replacing Ho, a 6-3 winner in his only set. Parizher was a 6-1, 6-3 winner at No. 2 singles. His replacement, Shooshani, was a 6-4 winner in his only set.

Beverly Hills 18, El Segundo 0

Farzani, Singh and Vayzner all won all three of their singles sets 6-0 as the Normans completed regular-season play with the shutout victory in a Pioneer League match at El Segundo April 28.

The Herd-Jason doubles team was a 6-0, 6-1, 6-0 winner, the Ho-Haber team a 6-

2, 6-0, 6-0 winner and the Ephrati-Suh team a 6-3, 6-1, 6-4 winner as Beverly Hills completed league play 12-0.

Beverly Hills 18, South Torrance 0

The Bond-Singh and Herd-Jason doubles teams both won all three of their sets as did Haber in singles in a Pioneer League match at Beverly Hills April 22.

The Bond-Singh team won 6-0, 6-1, 6-1; Herd and Jason 6-0, 6-0, 6-3; and Haber 6-0, 6-3, 6-1.

Vayzner won his sets, 6-0, 6-1, before being replaced by Shooshani, who won his only set, 6-3. Utasi won his sets, 6-1, 6-1, after replacing Ho, a 6-3 winner in the first round.

Ephrati teamed with Suh for a 6-3 victory in the first round and Farzani for 6-0, 6-2 victories in the final two rounds.

Steven Herbert has covered Beverly 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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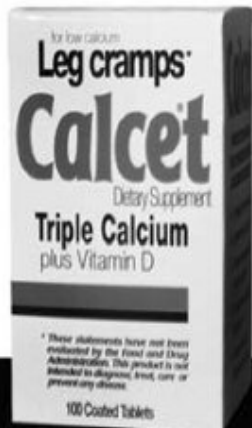
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**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
JOSEPH K. LIPSON
CASE NO. SP007494**

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of JOSEPH K. LIPSON.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JANE L. STIGLITZ & DIANE KAHN-EPSTEIN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JANE L. STIGLITZ & DIANE KAHN-EPSTEIN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The 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 06/20/08 at 9:15AM in Dept. R, 1725 Main Street, Santa Monica CA 90401

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
ZIMMERMAN, L GARY
9107 WILSHIRE BLVD., #300
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90210
5/8, 5/15, 5/22/08
CNS-1336056#

SECTION 00010

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS CALLING FOR BIDS

DISTRICT: Beverly Hills Unified School District

PROJECT IDENTIFICATION: Building B Tile Roof Project

PROJECT NO: 07-08/009

BIDS DUE BY: 10:00 AM Monday,
June 2, 2008

SUBMIT BIDS TO: Dianne Richard
BHUSD, Purchasing Office
255 S. Lasky Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
310-551-5100 x2249 phone,
310-556-4319 fax

BID AND CONTRACT DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE:
Rene Castillo
BHUSD, Planning and Facilities Department
255 S. Lasky Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
818-281-7031 cell, 310-551-0827 fax

MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING LOCATION:
Building B Flag Pole
Beverly Hills High School
241 Moreno Dr.
Beverly Hills, CA 90212

PRE-BID MEETING DATE and TIME:
Thursday, May 29, 2008 at 10:00 AM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Beverly Hills Unified School District, acting by and through its Board of Education, hereinafter the "District" will receive up to, but not later than the above-stated date and time, sealed Bid Proposals for the Contract for the Work generally described as: Building B Tile Roof Project.

1.01 Submittal of Bid Proposals. All Bid Proposals shall be submitted on forms furnished by the District. Bid Proposals must conform with, and be responsive to, the Bid and Contract Documents, copies of which may be obtained from the District as set forth above. Only Bid Proposals submitted to the District prior to the date and time set forth above for the public opening and reading of Bid Proposals shall be considered.

1.02 Bid and Contract Documents. One (1) set of the Bid and Contract Documents are available at BHUSD, Planning and Facilities Office at no cost to any licensed Prime Contractor or Subcontractor.

- 1.03 Bid Proposal. Each Bid Proposal shall consist of:
A. Bid Form
B. Bid Security
C. List of Subcontractors
D. Non-Collusion Affidavit
E. Statement of Bidder's Qualifications

All information or responses of a Bidder in its Bid Proposal and other documents accompanying the Bid Proposal shall be complete, accurate and true; incomplete, inaccurate or untrue responses or information provided therein by a Bidder may be grounds for the District to reject such Bidder's Bid Proposal for non-responsiveness.

1.04 Pre-Bid Meeting. The District will conduct a ONE TIME ONLY MANDATORY PRE-BID MEETING and JOB WALK for the Work to be held at the location, date and time stated above. Failure to attend will render the Bid Proposal of such bidder to be non-responsive.

1.05 Prevailing Wage Rates; Employment of Apprentices and Labor Compliance Program. The Project is subject to the provisions of Labor Code §§1720 et seq. and regulations set forth in Title 8 §§16000 et seq. of the California Code of Regulations which govern the payment of prevailing wages on public works projects. All bidders shall be governed by and required to comply with these statutes and regulations in connection with the Project. Pursuant to Labor Code §1771, the Contractor receiving award of the Contract and Subcontractors of any tier shall pay not less than the prevailing wage rates to all workers employed in the execution of the Contract.

Pursuant to Labor Code §1773, the Director of the DIR has determined the generally prevailing rates of wages in the locality in which the Work is to be performed. Pursuant to Labor Code §1773.2, copies of these determinations, entitled "PREVAILING WAGE SCALE", are maintained at the District's offices located at 255 South Lasky Drive, Beverly Hills, California 90212-3697, and are available to any interested party upon request. Copies of rate schedules are also available on the Internet at http://www.dir.ca.gov/DIR/S&R/statistics_research.html. The Contractor awarded the Contract for the Work shall post a copy of all applicable prevailing wage rates for the Work at conspicuous locations at the Site of the Work.

Contractors License Classification. In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §3300, the District requires that Bidders possess the following classification(s) of California Contractors License at the time that the Contract for the Work is awarded: "C39" (Roofing Contractor) and/or "B" (General Building Contractor).

Contractors/Subcontractors Additional Requirements. General Contractor or the installing Subcontractor to be manufacturer approved applicator as indicated in Bid Documents.

1.07 Contract Time. Final Completion of the Work shall be achieved within ONE HUNDRED TWENTY CALENDAR DAYS after the date for commencement of the Work as set forth in the Notice to Proceed issued by the District. Failure to achieve Final Completion within the Contract Time will result in the assessment of Liquidated Damages.

1.08 Bid Security. Each Bid Proposal shall be accompanied by Bid Security in an amount not less than TEN PERCENT (10%) of the maximum amount of the Bid Proposal, inclusive of any additive Alternate Bid Item(s). Failure of any Bid Proposal to be accompanied by Bid Security in the form and in the amount required shall render such Bid Proposal to be non-responsive and rejected by the District.

1.09 Fingerprinting. The successful Bidder will be required to assure that its employees, subcontractors of any tier, material suppliers, and consultants do not have direct contact with the District's students during the performance of the Contract in compliance with Educational Code §§45125.1 and 45125.2. To ensure these provisions, Bidder's supervisor shall be fingerprinted, and proof of same shall be provided to the District prior to start of on-site Work. The supervisor will monitor the workers' conduct while on school grounds. In addition, Bidder shall barricade the Work area to separate its workers from the students. If any Work is to be performed outside of a barricaded area where any employee of the Bidder or a Bidder's subcontractor may come into contacts with the students, Contractor shall comply with the fingerprinting requirements pursuant to California law, or will be ordered to stop work for cause. All costs associated with this process are the responsibility of the Bidder.

1.10 No Withdrawal of Bid Proposals. No Bidder shall withdraw its Bid Proposal for a period of ninety (90) days after the award of the Contract by the District's Board of Education. During this time, all Bidders shall guarantee prices quoted in their respective Bid Proposals.

1.11 Substitute Security. In accordance with the provisions of California Public Contract Code §22300, substitution of eligible and equivalent securities for any monies withheld by the District to ensure the Contractor's performance under the Contract will be permitted at the request and expense of the Contractor. The foregoing notwithstanding, the Bidder to whom the Contract is awarded shall have thirty (30) days following action by the District's Board of Education to award the Contract to such Bidder to submit its written request to the District to permit the substitution of securities for retention. The failure of the Bidder to make such written request to the District within said thirty (30) day period shall be deemed a waiver of the Bidder's rights under

California Public Contract Code §22300.

1.12 Waiver of Irregularities. The District reserves the right to reject any or all Bid Proposals or to waive any irregularities or informalities in any Bid Proposal or in the bidding.

1.13 Award of Contract. The Contract for the Work, if awarded, will be by action of the District's Board of Education to the responsible Bidder submitting the lowest responsive Bid Proposal. If the Bid Proposal requires Bidders to propose prices for Alternate Bid Items, the District's selection of Alternate Bid Items, if any, for determination of the lowest priced Bid Proposal and for inclusion in the scope of the Contract to be awarded shall be in accordance with this Notice and the Instructions for Bidders.

Inquiries and Clarifications. This document is for informational purposes and shall not relieve the Bidder of the requirements to fully familiarize itself with all the factors affecting the Project and his Bid. The bidder is advised that all inquiries and clarifications about the Bid Documents, Drawings, Specifications, etc., shall be submitted to the District in writing at least two (2) days before the bid opening date. The District will respond at its earliest possible opportunity. Verbal communication by either party with regard to this matter is invalid. Inquiries shall be sent to: Rene Castillo, BHUSD, Planning and Facilities Department.

END OF SECTION



**NOTICE OF DIVIDED PUBLICATION
Made pursuant to Section 3381,
Revenue and Taxation Code**

Pursuant to Sections 3381 through 3385, Revenue and Taxation Code, the Notice of Power to Sell Tax-Defaulted Property in and for Los Angeles County, State of California, has been divided and distributed to various newspapers of general circulation published in the County. A portion of the list appears in each of such newspapers.

**NOTICE OF IMPENDING POWER TO SELL TAX-
DEFAULTED PROPERTY
Made pursuant to Section 3361, Revenue and Taxation
Code**

Notice is hereby given that real property taxes and assessments on the parcels described below will have been defaulted five or more years, or, in the case of nonresidential commercial property, property on which a nuisance abatement lien has been recorded or that can serve the public benefit by providing housing or services directly related to low-income persons when three or more years have elapsed and a request has been made by a city, county, city and county, or nonprofit organization that property will become subject to the Tax Collector's power to sell.

The parcels listed will become subject to the Tax Collector's power to sell on July 1, 2008, at 12:01 a.m., by operation of law. The Tax Collector's power to sell will arise unless the property is either redeemed or made subject to an installment plan of redemption initiated as provided by law prior to 5 p.m., on June 30, 2008. The right to an installment plan terminates on June 30, 2008, and after that date the entire balance due must be paid in full to prevent sale of the property at public auction.

The right of redemption survives the property becoming subject to the power to sell, but it terminates at 5 p.m. on the last business day before actual sale of the property by the Tax Collector.

All information concerning redemption or the initiation of an installment plan of redemption will be furnished, upon request, by Mark J. Saladino, Los Angeles County Treasurer and Tax Collector, 225 North Hill Street, First Floor, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The amount to redeem, in dollars and cents, is set forth opposite its parcel number. This amount includes all defaulted taxes, penalties, and fees that have accrued from the date of tax-default to the date of June 30, 2008.

I certify, under penalty of perjury, that the foregoing is true and correct. Dated this 14th day of April, 2008.

MARK J. SALADINO
TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

PARCEL NUMBERING SYSTEM EXPLANATION

The Assessor's Identification Number (AIN), when used to describe property in this list, refers to the Assessor's map book, the map page, the block on the map, if applicable, and the individual parcel on the map page or in the block. The Assessor's maps and further explanation of the parcel numbering system are available in the Assessor's Office, 500 West Temple Street, Room 225, Los Angeles, California 90012.

The real property that is the subject of this notice is situated in the County of Los Angeles, State of California, and is described as follows:

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED IN YEAR 2005 FOR TAXES, ASSESSMENT, AND OTHER CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2004-2005
1578 \$29,988.87
TABIBIAN,SEAN SITUS:8400 WILSHIRE BLVD BEVERLY

HILLS CA 90211-3201 AIN: 4333-029-015
1588 \$11,789.11
E S G HOLDING INC AIN: 4357-015-052
1614 \$872.95
GANJIAN,FARAMARZ TR SUN FAMILY TRUST AND GANJIAN,SOUZAN TR SHOSHANA TRUST AIN: 4377-050-008
1615 \$133.65
KAHLER,R M AIN: 4379-003-010
1616 \$2,410.43
SOHELY,MORTEZA AIN: 4379-021-022
1617 \$7,071.65
MANES,JOSEPH AIN: 4379-021-027
1618 \$462.63
THOTTAM,JAMESON AND THOTTAM,ELIZABETH AIN: 4379-022-009
1623 \$219.70
FIZDALE,STEPHEN TR FIZDALE TRUST AIN: 4379-032-005
1647 \$317.69
VII SERIES INC AND WILSON,LAVERE AIN: 4388-011-035
1648 \$1,315.64
TUSHNER,IRVING TR AIN: 4388-019-015
1649 \$11,581.72
BEVERLY BENGALS LLC AIN: 4388-019-016

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED IN YEAR 2003 FOR TAXES, ASSESSMENT, AND OTHER CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2002-2003
1580 \$124,367.08

SIPA HOLDING CO INC SITUS:109 N DOHENY DR BEVERLY HILLS CA 90211-1810 AIN: 4335-028-079
1589 \$35,372.47

REO GROUP INC ET AL PIONEER MANAGEMENT GROUP INC AIN: 4369-035-015
1619 \$711.00

EBRIANI,LALEZAR E AIN: 4379-022-010
1620 \$1,184.51
SHERMAN,LAWRENCE F TR SHERMAN FAMILY TRUST AIN: 4379-022-020

1621 \$1,175.58
SHERMAN,LAWRENCE F TR SHERMAN FAMILY TRUST AIN: 4379-022-021
1622 \$666.38

LOPEZ, AIMEE M AIN: 4379-024-041
1646 \$29,773.32

TAXE, RONALD AND NADINA TRS TAXE FAMILY TRUST SITUS:2342 COLDWATER CANYON DR LOS ANGELES CA 90210-1750 AIN: 4388-004-006

PROPERTY TAX DEFAULTED IN YEAR 2001 FOR TAXES, ASSESSMENT, AND OTHER CHARGES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2000-2001
1577 \$111,027.50

SCARF,EVA B SITUS:344 S REXFORD DR BEVERLY HILLS CA 90212-4639 AIN: 4331-015-022

Beverly Hills Weekly
CN795969 512 May 15,22, 2008

**NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF
EILEEN R. SALTER**

Case No. BP110456

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of EILEEN R. SALTER

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Karen L. Copeland in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Karen L. Copeland be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The 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 June 4, 2008 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:
LYNARD C HINOJOSA ESQ
SBN 41397
HINOJOSA & WALLET
2215 COLBY AVE
LOS ANGELES CA 90064-1504**

Beverly Hills Weekly
CN795551 SALTER May 8,15,22, 2008

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