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Issue 485 • January 15 - January 21, 2009



Permit Parent Standoff

**This week's meetings
reflect split between
Board members,
resident and permit
parents**

cover story • pages 10-11



letters & email

“National Treasures” [Issue 484]

It was great to see the photo last week of the esteemed Robert B. Sherman and Richard M. Sherman (Issue 484). I am inspired by the Shermans each year at Hawthorne’s graduation ceremony, which concludes with the eighth graders joining in song to present the “Hawthorne Alma Mater,” a Sherman and Sherman composition, written decades ago to celebrate a scion’s matriculation. The chord progression gets me every time.

Bob Bailey
Graduation Coordinator
Hawthorne School

“What Makes Nili Run?” [Issue 484]

In a very strange and telling comment in his latest article Rudy Cole cites “Those ugly billboards take dollars away from newspaper advertising” as “why there has been so much recent coverage of a court test on the legality of banning boards”.

I would strongly disagree. I don’t think there has been near enough cover-

age of this menace to our cities considering the huge uproar from the general populace and the unbelievable damage it is causing on the built environment and have wondered aloud as to why there has been in fact so little coverage of such a major problem.

He also so delicately calls the new signs popping up in Beverly Hills “babies” as if he is implying they are cuddly, cute & innocent and that if properly fed and well cared for they will “grow up” into “adult” billboards.

Blatantly missing from his column, however, is any clear statement as to whether he is for or against these billboards or “babies”.

At the moment, from reading his recent columns and responses, he sounds more like a paid shill for the billboard industry. Is he?

Tom Roberts
Beverly Hills

COLE RESPONDS, LAST TIME

1. I am against billboards, and for apple pies, motherhood and the Arizona Cardinals.
2. I have not been paid by the billboard companies, but if you can send them my address, it would be appreciated.
3. The internet has some very helpful hints on remedial reading. Pick one, please.

WHAT’S ON YOUR MIND?

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

You can fax us at:
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email us at:
editor@bhweekly.com



SNAPSHOT



GROWING GREEN NORTH REXFORD DRIVE

Horace Mann teachers Cheryl Zinman and Christina Fuhrer, and Horace Mann principal Dawnalyn Murakawa-Leopard joined Mayor Barry Brucker and the City Council in recognizing Horace Mann first graders who participated in the Green Schools Summit in Anaheim to promote healthy, sustainable California schools.



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briefs

First City Council candidate forum tonight

The 11 City Council candidates will meet tonight at City Council to hold their first of three forums currently scheduled before the March 3 election.

The Southwest Homeowners' Association (SHA) will direct the forum this evening. The candidates will answer questions from SHA members and audience members before engaging in a debate, according to SHA president Ken Goldman.

The SHA will pose questions to the candidates that will frame the debate, which encourages all candidates to dialogue with each other. All questions and topics will remain confidential until the debate, according to Goldman.

The SHA, which has held candidate forums for over 25 years, represents 400 homes in the Southwest part of the city. Over half of those homeowners are members of the Association, according to Goldman.

The second forum, thrown by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Jan. 28. The third forum will be on Jan. 29, hosted by the Beverly Hills Municipal League and North Homeowners' Association.

All forums will be held at City Hall in the Council Chambers at 7 p.m.



Nathalie Kunin

Ambassadors program will help market BHUSD

Volunteers in the Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF) have teamed up to make navigating the BHUSD just a little bit easier.

The group has developed a program composed of parent volunteers as 'ambassadors' to new families considering enrolling their children in the BHUSD.

"When Beverly Hills residents are interested in looking at schools, they'll have a family they are assigned to act as a host family and help them navigate the system, like getting a tour, learning to register. They can answer questions about programs," said Nathalie Kunin, who is the lead parent volunteer for BHEF's ambassador program.

Kunin knows personally how intimidating the school search process can be. Her own child, Ethan, recently began seventh grade El Rodeo. Ethan had been attending The Center for Early Education in West Hollywood, where Kunin was a fourth-grade teacher, since preschool.

The Center only offers classes up to grade sixth, so the Kunins began searching for schools years ago.

"I was a private school teacher, and I run a tutoring company, so I really know what's being offered out there. We didn't have to choose [the BHUSD]. But when I looked at the math program, I knew it

would be a seamless transition. I saw the pre-algebra they were teaching at El Rodeo and thought it would have been what they would have taught in seventh-grade at The Center," said Kunin, a Beverly Vista and Beverly High graduate.

"Academically and socially, we are really pleased [with our decision to attend El Rodeo]."

So Kunin says, when she explains to

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

City Clerk's Office

The City Council of Beverly Hills, at its adjourned regular meeting to be held on **Thursday, January 22, 2009, at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Council Chambers of the City Hall, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, CA 90210; will hold a public hearing to consider:

A request for an Amendment to the Beverly Hills Hotel Specific Plan to allow construction of two (2) new one-story hotel bungalows with three hotel rooms each (a total of six hotel rooms) for the **Beverly Hills Hotel** located at **9641 Sunset Boulevard**. With the additional six rooms, the total number of rooms would be 210, consistent with the Beverly Hills Hotel Specific Plan, which allows a maximum of 210 hotel rooms. As proposed the bungalows would replace the two (2) existing tennis courts and the project would include replacement of the existing fence and tennis court screening on Glen Way with an 8' foot wall and landscaped planters.

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. Staff has determined that the proposed project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (Sec. 15303 (c)), Class 3 "new construction or conversion of small structure" because the project is less than 10,000 square feet in size on a site zoned for this use and which is served by all necessary public services. Further, the areas surrounding the site are not environmentally sensitive, and the use will not use significant amounts of hazardous substances. Therefore, under the authority provided by the CEQA Guidelines, no significant environmental impacts are anticipated.

Any interested person may attend the meeting and be heard or present written comments to the City Council. If you challenge the City'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 Georgana Millican in the Community Development Department at 310.285.1121. Copies of the application and plans are on file in the Community Development Department, and can be reviewed by any interested person at 455 North Rexford, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210.

BYRON POPE, CMC
City Clerk

Project location map



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potential new BHUSD parents that this district is the best choice for their child, she means it with complete sincerity.

The ambassador program should be up and running in about six to eight weeks, according to Kunin. The BHEF plans to create a dedicated phone line for the ambassador program and hopes to create an introductory DVD available to inquiring parents, according to Kunin.

Science and Tech Center receives Award of Excellence



The Coalition for Adequate School Housing (CASH) and the American Institute of Architects California Coalition has recently awarded Beverly High's Science and Technology Center with an Award of Excellence for its innovative design.

Larson vows to continue to fight Measure H

Over a month after the election has been certified, unofficial No on H campaign organizer Larry Larson, treasurer of the Citizens Right to Decide Committee (CRDC), continues to conduct an investigation that he says will help put aside the Nov. 4 vote that allowed the Beverly Hilton Revitalization Plan, Measure H, to move forward.

"There's a whole section in the 18000 election code that provides us with six months from the certification date to file a suit," said Larson, in response to an article in a local paper that reported the date to file a suit had passed.

As an example of a claim that receives a six-month grace period, Larson cited "an action for any person who signed a voter affidavit form knowing they weren't entitled to vote," ie: non-Beverly Hills residents.

A majority of Larson's case assumes that a substantial number of voters were not qualified to vote in Beverly Hills on Nov. 4. He has explained that he and other members of the CRDC are going name by name down the official list of voters and verifying each person's address and eligibility to vote.

Larson declined to give any other details on the "on-going investigation," explaining, "if I give you the information, I give it to the Hilton."

The CRDC plans to file a suit to set aside the election by the end of May,

according to Larson.

"We stand by the County's process and the certification of the vote. We look forward to breaking ground on the Waldorf=Astoria Beverly Hills this year," said Beverly Hilton spokesperson Marie Garvey.

Calls to election law expert Fred Woocher were not returned by press time.



Ilene Straus

District hires 'coach' for school principals

Rita Flynn, a retired professor at UCLA's Principal Leadership Institute, has been hired to coach the five principals at BHUSD

Flynn, EdD, graduate of USC, is as a retired LAUSD administrator. She coaches principals in various school districts in Southern California.

"Principals have structured this professional development, which includes monthly meetings with all five principals, from 7:30 to 10 in the morning once a month. The principals set the topics for the meetings. So far they have reported the topics discussed have been Instructional Supervision, School Leadership and Professional development," assistant superintendent of education services Ilene Straus said in an e-mail.

Principals have the option of receiving one-on-one coaching on their site for two hours. So far, Flynn has met with each principal on site for one meeting.

"This year, there was a balance in the contract paid last year to Springboard Schools, which we had contracted with, for coaching," wrote Straus.

The balance of the contact was \$10,000, which came from the district's Professional Development Block Grant funds, which is state categorical funding specifically for professional development.

"In addition to this professional development, principals receive professional training as a group and as part of the District management team. Topics have included mathematics, leadership, differentiation of instruction, instructional supervision," said Straus.

These strategies are part of the goals outlined for the district by the Board of Education.

Calls to El Rodeo principal Pat Escalante and Beverly High principal J Guidetti were not returned by press time.

20 Normans travel to DC for presidential inauguration

Twenty Beverly High students, accompanied by social studies teacher Roel Hinojosa and director of student activities Loren Newman, will travel to Washington, D.C., on Friday to attend the inauguration of president-elect Barack Obama on Jan. 20.

Over 40 students wrote essays to apply

Please Join Us City Council Candidates Forum & Debate

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Southwest Beverly Hills Homeowners Association

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The election is March 3rd

for the opportunity to attend the inauguration through the high school, according to Hinojosa.

"It's so great to see so many students excited about politics," said Hinojosa, who said that he has been playing the trip since early 2008.

The group plans to take part in several events that will expose them to the history of the country and government as well as inauguration ball. Due to the incredible number of people who are anticipated to be in Washington, D.C. next week, the plans will not be finalized until the group arrives.



Toni Staser

Staser promoted to Child Welfare Coordinator

The BHUSD's new 'coordinator of child welfare and attendance' position will be filled by current Beverly High assistant principal Toni Staser.

Coming on the heels of this year's permit debacle in the BHUSD, the number one duty listed on the Ed-Join job advertisement was to "coordinate enrollment and permit data." These duties were included in the job description of the BHUSD's Director of Student Support Services and Special Education, formerly held by Dr. Amy Lambert who left for the Glendale Unified School District.

Staser, who has been with the district since 1978, could assume the role by the end of the month. Prior to moving to Beverly High, Staser was a longtime teacher and assistant principal at El Rodeo.

The child welfare coordinator position is a recognized occupation with its own national organization. At the BHUSD, the position earns \$103,897 to \$123,162 for 220 days.

In conjunction with the job advertisement for the child welfare coordinator position last year was also an advertisement for a director of student support services. No one has yet been named for this position.

The first duty listed on that job description is "consult with and assist administrators, program specialists, teachers and specialists in the selection and utilization of appropriate assessment instruments and

innovative instructional strategies." The position earns \$105,567 to \$125,085, plus stipend for doctorate degree, for 225 days a year.

COC gives final audit of Measure K

The final cost for all Measure K projects was over \$19,000 over the original bond request, according to the Citizens Oversight Committee (COC), required under Prop 39 for all general obligation school bonds, presentation of the final audit of the \$90 million Measure K, approved in 2002.

COC chair Bruce Horowitz presented the final audit results to the Board of Education on Tuesday evening. The audit, performed by CPA group Vavrinek, Trine, Day & Co., LLP, revealed that the \$19,000 was raised by using interest on the bond, state school modernization funds, state facility hardship funds, developer fees, city of Beverly Hills funds and \$107,000 out of the district general fund.

Approximately, \$13 million of the Measure K bond monies went toward finishing projects started with 1993's Measure S.

There were 28 projects completed under Measure K, including Beverly High's Science and Technology Center and Beverly Vista's Building B.

The Board will soon put together another COC to oversee the \$334 million Measure E bond that was approved by voters in November.

Sex, Politics and The American Revolution comes to Beverly Hills

"Franklin & Jefferson: Sex, Politics And The American Revolution," a new play that premiere in New York City ear-



City Councilmember Linda Briskman (left) joins Abbe Land (right), Mayor Pro Tem of the City of West Hollywood, and Wendy Greuel, Los Angeles City Councilmember, in support of the kick-off of the 2009 Sister to Sister Women's Healthy Heart Campaign. The event focused on three cities (Beverly Hills, Los Angeles and West Hollywood) to engage influential women to help increase awareness that heart disease is the number one killer of women and the need to make healthy lifestyle changes to reduce their risk.

lier this year, is coming to Beverly Hills for one night this weekend. The play will bring to life the memorable events of the 12 years from the appointment of George

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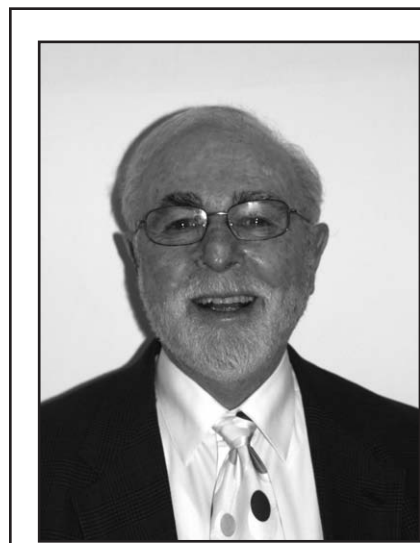
Wedding Bells

Susan and William Graysen are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter, Elizabeth TenHouten, to Christopher James Dobson, son of Patricia and the late, Gerald Dobson.

Elizabeth, 31, is a writer, and the author of upcoming book, *Cooking Well: Beautiful Skin*. She is also the Editor-in-Chief of *Celeb Staff Magazine*. Elizabeth resides in L.A.

Chris, 35, is the Director of the Debt Origination and Distribution Group at the prestigious firm, Pali Capital, in New York, where he resides.

An evening wedding is planned for spring of 2009. The couple will exchange personally written vows at the Hotel Bel Air.



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from the hills of beverly



They Are Off And Running

But will you care enough to vote?

By Rudy Cole

This may be a bit shocking to read, so prepare yourself: Of the 11 candidates for city council, not one single contender has come out for more development, and each of them is against, this is the real surprise, more traffic.

Many of the candidates held their official kick-off events last Sunday. I attended as many as I could, but the excitement was just too much for me and I missed a few. I also did not actually stay long enough to hear all their speeches. But I heard fairly accurate reports on what they said and how many people attended.

First, compared to the last election, the turn out was very good, some better than others.

Margaret (Peggy) Harris, who was publisher of the Beverly Hills Post, used to do a very clever run down of the candidates using the Racing Form format. This is not quite up to the tip sheet format, but some brief notes and observations:

Largest turnout: Mayor **Barry Brucker**, followed closely by Dr. **Willie Brien**, Councilmember **Linda Briskman** and **Michael Hakim**. All were well over 100, but the first three certainly had the best showing of likely voters.

Next was **John Mirisch**, and although his event had problems with street closures for the Golden Globes, my reliable sources report he too came close to 100 attendees.

Best food: This could be a tie, since many were catered by Shaun of Beverly Hills Market, but Brien also had an omelet station.

Best introductions: Brucker had School Board member **Myra Lurie** and Brien had **Bernie Nebenzahl**. Both very good, but Lurie more likely to connect with younger, school active voters.

Most interesting campaign leaders: Mirisch with **Susan Mishler** and **Linda**

Brown. Mishler once ran against Linda's husband, **Ed**, for city council in a very rough contest – Mishler going after Brown for being too pro-growth. However, Brown opposed the Hilton, as did the Mishler's and Mirisch.

Sweetest party: **Nili Nathan** who hosted a very small gathering at Leonidas, my personal favorite for chocolates, assorted cold and hot beverages and great candy. (She said this was a quicky and would hold a more formal kick off later.)

Earliest kick-off: **Virginia Maas** held an event last November, but we have no reports on turnout or speeches.

In any case, there were more Sunday than in recent memory and the candidates had great weather. Can't report on **Richard Stone**, **Fran Cohen** and others- dropped by Stone's but not long enough to hear him speak or count the crowd. (Three of the events were held on North Linden and North Roxbury.)

Some other observations about the campaigns:

Brucker: Is clearly the hardest campaigner. He will walk more streets than all the other candidates combined. He has assembled a large crew of campaign workers, including both paid and volunteer, and will outline his accomplishments as mayor and councilmember. He had a precedent setting successful write-in campaign for school board in his first election and has a very savvy election expert, his wife **Sue**.

Brien: Great pedigree, good record as a board member, deep roots in community, attractive and articulate and very much the candidate of what may be called the "establishment." Good and bad: He has not been closely identified with some of our more contentious issues such as the Hilton and Montage referenda. Also served on Recreation and Parks Commission, is chief of staff at Cedars-Sinai and is the grand son of Earl Warren, arguably one of the best chief justices in our history. But we need more positions on issues.

Stone: Probably one of the best known names in city politics. He has won big in previous runs for city council and school board, should do well in the forums. Although he has yet to announce his campaign organization, he had both good and bad exposure as one of the more visible opponents of the Hilton, although he lost that effort, and a previous bid to block the Montage.

Briskman: Clearly the most experienced candidate having served for eight years on the council, and as mayor, and as chair of the Planning Commission. Very upfront on issues, strong cross section of voter support and deep roots in community activism. Her strong support for both the Hilton and

Montage will help with some voters, hurt with others. About a draw on issues.

Maas: Doing her homework, walking and reaching back to her base of support from leadership in Jewish community and her prior service as president of the school board. Lost a bid for reelection which she says was because of the third term issue, but also because she, and many other members of the then board, were seen as too contentious and divisive. Historical note: Her primary ally during those board battles was Stone.

Hakim and Cohen: Both have ties to Persian voters, but Fran has more experience as a member of a city commission. Iranian community leaders have not yet flocked to either and many are backing other candidates. **Nooshin Meshkaty**, the first member of the Persian community to serve on the school board, is supporting Brucker.

Mirisch: Hard to judge his strengths, yet. He had an over-the-top blog, but his campaign is more traditional. Young, attractive with good family name recognition, he only recently moved back to the city after many years of work out of the country. However, he could galvanize the anti-council voters – he was very active, sometimes too far out, in his opposition to the Hilton and 9900. Interestingly, despite his out of the loop positions, he was the only candidate to face a hostile critic for being "too establishment" because he supports the Annenberg (Cultural) Center, as do most of the others.

We have nothing yet to report on the rest of the field: **Brent C. Lilley**, and **Abraham C. Ross**.

All the candidates have agreed to a spending limit, this year raised to \$75,000, but only the major candidates above are expected to come close to reaching that limit. It only takes 20 names on a petition to qualify for a ballot place, but just maybe that could be increased to say 100. Unless a candidate can actually find 100 people to lend their names, the forums should not be cluttered with people who have no real chance of winning.

How many votes does it take to win? We have 21,340 registered voters, but less than 30 percent will actually vote this March. The historic leader in votes was the late **Jake Stuchen** with 6,112 in 1968 when the registration was only 19,904. Four years later, when he ran for reelection, his total dropped to 4,250. The winner and leader in that campaign was **Richard Stone** with 5,055. In his next election, Stone too dropped votes, but winning with 3,959, finishing second to Dr. **Charles Aronberg** with 4,693. Since 1984, not one candidate received more than 5,000 votes, although **Allan Alexander** came close in 4,954 in 1988. **Steve Webb**, **Jimmy Delshad** and **Thomas Levyn** all came in with under 3,000!

In 1950, two winners recorded our lowest votes: **Floyd Fisher** with 855 and **F. Britton Mc Connell** with 836. Brucker led the field four years ago, barely edging **Frank Fenton**, with 4,606, but that turnout

rudy cont. on next page

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rudy cont. from previous page

can also be attributed to the Montage referendum.

Do positions on contentious issues matter? Sometimes, but not always. Only months following a crushing defeat of a referendum on a plan to build condos in the Industrial Area, the leading supporter of the losing cause, **Ben Stansbury Jr.**, easily won reelection, as did another condo backer, **Donna Ellman**. Voter confusions: **Charlotte Spadaro** who filed one of the law suits against the development project also won in the same election.

There have been other voter contradictions. Despite polar opposite views on development proposals, both **Robert K. Tanenbaum** and **Maxwell H. Salter** both won in two different elections.

Depending on whether they vote, a majority of voters did support both the Montage and the Hilton and with numbers far exceeding most candidate totals, but so was the NO vote on both matters.

Are voters going to respond to the candidates by actually voting? How important are the forums, the first of which is tonight? There are so many critical issues facing our nation, our residents may simply be sated by the recent campaigns for president, which seemed to run for ever, and even more distracted by expectations of what **Barack Obama** can or will do to improve the economy. Our local problems may appear to be too petty to motivate too many voters.

The forums, and walking, are important as is how the candidates address issues, and equally important, how effective are they in conveying credibility and insights into city challenges. This could make or break a very strong field.

The conventional wisdom, if that does really exist, holds that the three "B's" Brucker, Briskman and Brien should win. But we can't rule out anyone including Stone, Maas and Mirisch, but their work lies ahead.

On the other hand, don't be too overwhelmed by the questions or reactions of those attending the forums. Backers of candidates and many of our most vocal city critics will be there too. It is the stay at home viewers who watch on television that matter most.

Warning to candidates: Despite what some "pros" could suggest, smear tactics and personal attacks usually bounce against candidates. Some recent winners benefited from being targeted. Stick to the issues, qualifications and visions of future needs.

The absentee ballots should arrive the first week in February.

Measure P, a revenue producing ballot measure placed on the ballot by the city council, seems to be the orphan in this election. Although opponents did not get their act together soon enough to even have an opposition argument in the ballot statement, they are now coming alive.

We'll write more about this later, but in simple terms, it would increase city money by changing the way we tax oil revenues, private parking lots and professionals such as doctors and lawyers.

The oil tax, which would be based on the price of oil, would have been far more relevant when oil was above one hundred dollars per barrel. If it reaches that figure again, the city would be a big winner.

The parking lot tax is even more complicated. Private owners of parking lots feel they are in very unfair competition with the city which offers both two hour free and lower costs for monthly permits. Placing a tax on private parking lots adds to that problem

As for docs and lawyers, their new tax would be based not on number of employees, as is now the rule, but annual revenue. The plastic surgeons are willing to cut a check to fight this tax.

Measure P is supported by City Treasurer **Elliot Finkel**, who wrote the pro ballot argument, and who has no opposition in his bid for reelection.

Our emails are flooded with pr releases on everything from fashion – clearly not my area of expertise, to hints on how to stop smoking, and even Rose Norton couldn't succeed in making me give up my pipe.

But the one that made me wonder if the publicist ever actually read my work was for a doll made to look like a banker and which could help you relieve stress by squeezing the thing. Just too exciting to examine.

Next week, an interesting first hand look at Israel from a city staffer who visited just as the campaign against Hamas was launched.

But I was not pleased to see a long-time resident, whose family has been active in the so called Jews for Middle East peace movement for years, among the anti-Israel

demonstrators around the federal building.

Not that the right to demonstrate should be inhibited and not that peace in the Middle East isn't worth fighting for, but this time the realities are so clear that supporting the Hamas position is, really, outrageous. Israel is under attack and had no choice but to defend its borders. What should Israel wait for: A time when Iran give Hamas an air force, more sophisticated weapons and the ability to actually destroy a people and a nation they will not even recognize as having the right to exist?

As for democracy in action, can our native Hamas supporter point to even one Arab nation that ever held a "Defend Israel" rally or protest?

On the other hand, those of us who support Israel need to understand that while the Bush administration generally gave vocal support to Israel, it has terribly neglected using diplomatic strength to end the conflict. A new president Obama has to try better and with more involvement, even if that means talking to the enemy. Peace has to come to the area to save lives of both Arabs and Jews and to end conflicts that are threatening the security of the civilized world. But having said that, it has to be done by supporting Israel's right to defend itself and its right to survive and exist.

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.

briefs cont. from page 5

Washington as commander-in-chief to Franklin's return from France along with Jefferson's and Franklin's embarrassments, disappointments, intrigues and women.

Through the words of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Jefferson this exciting performance will take you back in time and tell the story of how the "improbable" dream was achieved.


Sponsored by the Beverly Hills Community Services Department and the Friends of Greystone, the play will run one day only on Jan. 17 at 1:30 p.m. in the Living Room of Historic Greystone Estate. The play was authored by Victor Bardack and James Gabler, produced by Victor Bardack and David Hunt Stafford, and directed by Jamie Virostko. Advanced ticket purchases are recommended. Attendees can enjoy a wine and cheese reception with the cast along with a first floor tour of the mansion following the performance. For ticket information, call (310) 285-6830. All proceeds go to Greystone Restoration.

Cedars holds blood drive at Farmer's Market

Blood donations typically slack off during the holidays, but the need for donors doesn't – all the more reason to take part in a community blood drive on Sunday, Jan. 18 at the Beverly Hills Farmer's Market.

The drive will feature Cedars-Sinai

briefs cont. on page 8



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briefs cont. from page 7

Medical Center's new state-of-the-art bloodmobile, which will be located at the 9300 block of Civic Center drive from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Complimentary refreshments and "Pint for a Pint" ice cream coupons will be provided to those who donate.

"We currently use about 50,000 units of blood and blood products each year, so the importance of collecting enough blood to meet our needs cannot be overemphasized," said Ellen Klapper, MD, co-director of Transfusion Medicine at Cedars-Sinai.

Cedars-Sinai, one of the largest non-profit hospitals on the West Coast, is one of the few remaining Level-1 Trauma Centers in Los Angeles, and as such, often has immediate needs for blood for emergency cases.

"We are happy to sponsor this blood drive for Cedars-Sinai," said Greta Dunlap, manager for the Farmer's Market. "When you think about it, it really is an easy way to provide much-needed support to those right here in our community."

Donors must be at least 17 years old and have a photo ID to be eligible to donate. Walk-ins are accepted, but reservations are highly recommended. To schedule an appointment, call (310) 614-4845. For more information on hosting your own community blood drive, call Joyce Valdez at (310) 614-4845.

Next time you run a red light, say cheese!

The City of Beverly Hills will begin using cameras to take snap shots of people who run red lights at intersections throughout the city this year.

The city began a 30-day warning period for photo red-light enforcement at the intersections of Sunset Blvd at Hillcrest Drive (both directions), westbound Olympic Blvd at Roxbury Drive, and eastbound Olympic Blvd., at Spalding Drive on Dec. 30, 2008. For this 30-day period, notices of warning will be sent to the registered owners of vehicles captured on camera running a red light. At the end of this warning period, actual notices of violation will be issued by the Police Department.

Redflex Traffic Systems, of Scottsdale, Ariz., have been contracted to provide services related to this program. The camera system provided by Redflex has been in use in Beverly Hills at other intersections for over one year. The new equipment provides digital video and still images, allowing for greater coverage of turning violations and quicker transfer of the information.

In addition to receiving the photos by mail, alleged violators will be able to view a password protected video clip on the company's website.

"All of the violation notices are reviewed, approved and issued by a police officer with the Beverly Hills Traffic Bureau," said Beverly Hills Police Department spokesperson Lt. Tony Lee.

Paley Center is gearing up for Television Festival

The Paley Center for Media, formerly the Museum of Television and Radio, on Beverly Drive is getting ready for the 26th annual William S. Paley Television Festival, or PaleyFest09, which will honor new TV series "Fringe" and "True Blood."

PaleyFest09, named for William S. Paley, founder of both the Paley Center and CBS, celebrates television's rich and diverse programming and the creative process behind the medium. During each evening, the audience views episodes or highlights of the featured work and has the opportunity to ask questions of the cast and creative team or the individual involved in its production.

PaleyFest09 will be held April 10 to 23 at the Cinerama Dome at the ArcLight Cinemas in Hollywood. Additional details and the complete schedule for PaleyFest09 will be announced on Wednesday, February 18, 2009.

Chamber's 2009 Economic Summit focuses on current recession

"Knowing where the economy is going and making sure you're ready when it gets there" is the focus of Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce's Economic Summit 2009. Recognizing trends, understanding projections, and knowing what the numbers mean to local businesses will be explored by an esteemed panel of experts at The Beverly Hilton on Tuesday, Feb. 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The summit will explore how to plan, strategize and grow enterprises in the face of daunting news and in an environment that's constantly changing. Panelists will utilize their national and global expertise to discuss effects of the local economic climate in today's market.

Topics will include the micro and macro view of the investment market, consumer spending trends and forecasts, strategies to maintain company profitability in a recession, future business implications for the local business community and impacts of the housing market in 2009.

Panelists will include housing expert and former chief economist at Fannie Mae David W. Berson; consumer trends expert William J. Curtis; political and business expert Dagen McDowell; data analyst and economist Jeffrey Saut; industry expert and economist Gary Schlossberg; and international and China economic expert and moderator Donald Straszheim.

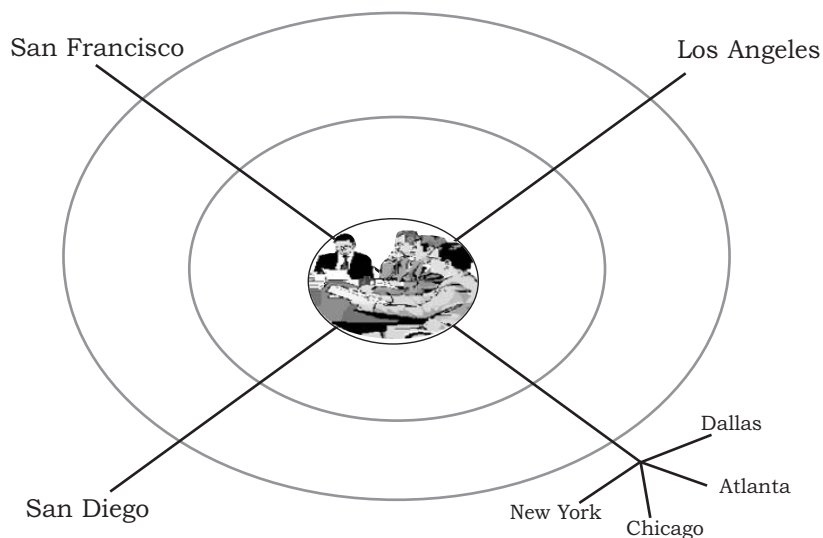
Economic Summit 2009 sponsors include: GEARYS Beverly Hills, Wells Fargo, Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills, The Beverly Hilton, AVT Event Technologies, Zeeman Communications, Union Bank of California, Xi'an Restaurant, Lloyd S. Berkett Insurance Agency and Rothstein Kass.

Investors, bankers, brokers, real estate professionals, retailers, travel and hospitality providers, and anyone effected by the current economic climate are encouraged to reserve their tickets by visiting www.BeverlyHillsChamber.com/Summit Feb. 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

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BHHS Girls' Soccer Team Routs St. Bernard

Norman boys' soccer team edges Lawndale.

By Steven Herbert

The Beverly High girls' soccer team continued its unusual pattern of recording all its victories in routs by defeating Playa Del Rey St. Bernard 9-0 in a nonleague game Jan. 6 at Nickoll Field.

"The score could have been a lot worse," said Normans coach Ryan Franks, who described the game as "a complete mismatch." "At a certain point you tell the kids to work on specific things before looking to shoot on goal. We have plenty of areas for improvement."

Emily Litvak scored four goals, increasing her team-leading total to 15, and assisted on another score in Beverly Hills' fourth victory by six goals or more in its four victories.

Morgan Harding scored twice, while Tanya Djafar and Solange Levy both had a goal and assist. Alexa Block scored a goal in her first appearance since undergoing knee surgery.

Goalkeeper Rebecca Gold made two saves to record her fourth shutout of the season.

The Normans were playing their first game since Dec. 13 when they lost 1-0 to Granada Hills in a South Torrance Tournament game.

Palos Verdes Peninsula 1, Beverly Hills 0

The Normans allowed a goal in the 75th minute of an 80-minute nonleague game on a scramble in the penalty area after a corner kick Jan. 7 at Nickoll Field, their third 1-0 loss of the season.

Beverly Hills was out-shot 8-3. Gold made seven saves.

"We had plenty of opportunities," Franks said. "We just need our attacking players to play with the same aggression in the opponents' 18-yard box that we play in our defensive area."

Beverly Hills 0, Santa Barbara San Marcos 0

Gold made seven saves in her fifth shutout of the season in a nonleague game at San Marcos Saturday in what Franks described as "a really productive trip for our team."

Beverly Hills was out-shot 7-5. Mashar Zargar had its best scoring opportunity in the 60th minute on a "point-blank shot" in the 60th minute.

"We had a ton of pressure in the first half, they had most of the pressure in the second half," Franks said. "Their keeper made a few big saves for them."

The Norman defense has allowed 10 goals in their 11 games this season, includ-

ing six in their last 10.

"This is one of the strongest defenses I have had since I began coaching the girls," said Franks, whose team is 4-5-2. "We rely on Rebecca Gold, Annie Math, Tanya Djafar and Nicole Star to shut down opponents."

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play at Hawthorne Friday at 6 p.m. and Santa Monica Wednesday at 3:30 p.m. at John Adams Middle School in Santa Monica in Ocean League games.

Beverly Hills was a 2-1 winner over Hawthorne the only time the two teams met on the field last season. The Normans were also credited with a forfeit victory when the Cougars failed to show up for a game at Nickoll Field.

Beverly Hills lost twice to Santa Monica last season, 4-0 at Nickoll Field and 2-0 at Santa Monica as the Vikings went 10-0 in league play.

Boys' Soccer

Beverly Hills 2, Lawndale 1

Josh Newman scored the Normans' first goal and assisted on the second as Beverly Hills ended a 10-game winless streak with the victory in a nonleague game at Nickoll Field Friday.

Newman scored off a cross from Romeo Patroni in the 19th minute. Erik Munzer headed in a throw-in from Newman in the 52nd minute. The Cardinals scored their goal in the 72nd minute of the 80-minute game.

The Normans led in shots, 13-6. Beverly Hills goalkeeper Jonas Brock made five saves.

"We totally controlled that game from beginning to end," Norman coach Steve Rappaport said.

Daniel Kohen "played very well in the midfield," Munzer "played very well at sweeper," and Newman "had a solid game," said Rappaport, who also praised Patroni's play.

The Normans (4-9-2) were 0-8-2 during the winless streak, where they were outscored 25-7.

South Torrance 2, Beverly Hills 1

The Normans were credited with an own goal in the 11th minute of a loss in a nonleague game at Nickoll Field Jan. 7.

The Spartans scored in the 44th and 47th minutes.

Beverly Hills led in shots 9-6.

"Other than our typical five minutes of struggle, we played really well," Rappaport

said. "The game was pretty even game. It was just a question of we made the mistakes. We played better than we've been playing."

The Normans had "some good looks at the goal and just didn't do it," Rappaport said.

Beverly Hills starting goalkeeper Nate Forrest made two saves. Forrest sustained injuries to a knee and shin when he was cleated on the first South Torrance goal, but remained in the game, until giving up the second goal.

"Had I taken Nate out when he suffered the injury initially, they would never have scored the second goal, but he wanted to stay," Rappaport said. "We tried to let him work through it, but he couldn't continue."

Brock made two saves after replacing Forrest.

Kohen and Munzer played "really well," Marino Gonzalez played "very well," and Spencer Weissberg was "really strong in the first half," for the Normans, Rappaport said.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Hawthorne Friday and Santa Monica Wednesday at Nickoll Field in Ocean League games beginning at 6 p.m.

Beverly Hills was 2-0 against Hawthorne last season, winning 2-1 at Hawthorne and 3-2 at Nickoll Field.

The Normans lost to Santa Monica 3-0 in their only meeting last season. A second game was initially postponed by rain, then canceled after it was determined it would not effect the league standings. The Vikings were 29-0-1 last season, winning the Southern Section Division IV and Southern California Regional Division I championships.

Girls' Basketball

Best of the West Tournament

Fontana Summit 63, Beverly Hills 50

Morgan Mason and Javonna Young both scored 16 points for the Normans and Miranda Abdul-Monsour 13 in a championship semifinal game Dec. 30 at Ayala High School in Chino Hills.

Beverly Hills trailed 27-23 at halftime and was outscored 21-16 in the third quarter, despite seven points from Young and five from Abdul-Monsour, including a 3-point basket.

The Normans were outscored 15-11 in the fourth quarter, with Young scoring seven points.

Beverly Hills was outscored 11-9 in the first quarter and 16-14 in the second.

Jayna Abdul-Monsour, Miranda Abdul-Monsour's twin sister, added two points for the Normans (10-5) and Kiarra Brown, Natalie Moy and Jie Ren one each.

Young had 12 rebounds and Miranda Abdul-Monsour 11.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Hawthorne Friday at the Swim-Gym and at Santa Monica Wednesday in Ocean League games beginning at 6 p.m.

Beverly Hills will also play Redondo Saturday at 6 p.m. at Santa Monica High School in a Westside Challenge game.

The Normans defeated Hawthorne, 69-27

and 53-25, last season.

Beverly Hills lost to Santa Monica, 45-30 in the championship game of the BHHS Winter Classic, Dec. 20, being held to its season low, as Mason was held to one point, missing all nine of her shots, and Payson was scoreless, missing all six shots. The Normans made 10 of their 54 shots for an 18.5 shooting percentage.

The Vikings defeated Beverly Hills, 52-44 and 64-50, last season.

Boys' Basketball

San Fernando Valley Tournament

Beverly Hills 67, Grant 49

Sophomore Greg Townsend scored 18 points, freshman Austin Mills 17 and Kion Alam 15 for the Normans in the 21st-place game at Kennedy High School in Granada Hills Dec. 23.

The Normans outscored the Lancers, 20-11, in the end of the first quarter, as Alam and Mills both scored seven points and made 3-point baskets.

Beverly Hills led 28-24 at halftime after being outscored 13-8 in the second quarter, despite Mills' two 3-point baskets.

The Normans outscored Grant, 22-10, in the third quarter, increasing their lead to 50-34, with Townsend scoring 10 points and Mills making his fourth 3-point basket.

Alon Kashanian added six, Chris Lee four, Ariel Rofeim three and Farzan Azinkhan and Michael Pedram two each for Beverly Hills (4-6).

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Hawthorne Friday at the Swim-Gym and at Santa Monica Wednesday in Ocean League games beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Beverly Hills is also scheduled to face Long Beach Jordan Monday at 4 p.m. in the Martin Luther King Classic at Jordan High School.

Wrestling

South Torrance 58, Beverly Hills 9

Kayvan Pedram won by a 7-5 decision in the 119-pound division for the Normans' only on-mat victory in a Pioneer League match at South Torrance last Thursday.

Chaminade Duals

Thousand Oaks 54, Beverly Hills 19

Daniel Berman (160) won by a pin, Tal Dahan (152) by a 12-2 superior decision and Matt Flagel (171) by a 5-2 decision for the Normans.

Beverly Hills 36,

Lake Balboa Birmingham 24

Chris Bunn (215), Dahan, Flagel and Murtaza Abbas (189) won by pins for the Normans.

Beverly Hills 48, Lompoc 33

Abbas, Bunn and Alex Gabbai (145) recorded pins, while Nadav Laemmle won by a technical fall and Flagel by a decision for the Normans.

Beverly Hills 39, Fillmore 24

Bunn, Dahan and Flagel won by decisions for the Normans.

coverstory

PERMIT PARENT STANDOFF

This week's meetings reflect split between Board members, resident and permit parents

By Jacquelyn Ryan

The BHUSD Board of Education meetings Monday and Tuesday to debate the elimination of opportunity permits in the BHUSD revealed a deep split between resident and opportunity permit parents, one of whom likened Board members Brian Goldberg and Steven Fenton to Adolf Hitler. The meetings underscored the Board's continuing philosophical split on the permit issue as the district faces Basic Aid.

"It was very angry and very divisive," said Goldberg, who took the brunt of the anger, of the atmosphere at the Tuesday night meeting, where almost 100 parents of students on opportunity permits, which are given at random to out-of-district students on a year-to-year basis, showed up to protest the potential cuts.

Opportunity permit parents say their children have made a home at the BHUSD and denying them next year's permit would constitute discrimination. Board president Nooshin Meshkaty, vice president Myra Lurie and member Myra Demeter all supported grandfathering the current opportunity permits to matriculate through 12th grade at Monday night's meeting. All cited the BHUSD's current practice of allowing permit students to complete their educational career.

Currently almost 1,000 of the BHUSD's approximately 5,200 students are on permit, with about 595 of those permit students being recipients of opportunity permits.

Parents of resident students say that the fiscally responsible decision would be to phase out all opportunity permit students as the district moves toward becoming Basic Aid, which would eliminate the state funding that is currently supporting the permit students and force residents to bear the financial burden of those students education. Board members Goldberg and Steven Fenton support phasing out opportunity permit students at the appropriate educational breaks, such as after graduating fifth or eighth grade, but not grandfathering them entirely.

With the Board and two factions of the parent body possessing competing interests, the stage was set for a wave of emotional and erratic diatribes Tuesday evening.

In a dramatic speech to the Board on Tuesday, opportunity permit parent Steven Wasserman likened Board members Brian Goldberg, Steven Fenton and possibly interim superintendent Dr. Jerry Gross, to Adolf Hitler, saying they were like a "crazy man



Board of Education member Steven Fenton, president Nooshin Meshkaty, member Myra Demeter, vice president Myra Lurie and member Brian Goldberg

60 years ago who thought his people were [the most deserving]."

"Comparing reducing the number of permits in the BHUSD to genocide against the Jews is so offensive because it really diminishes what Nazism stood for," said Goldberg in an interview Wednesday. "Twenty million people died in World War II and it belittles the memory."

But Wasserman's words were a zenith of sentiments expressed by the more than a dozen of opportunity permit parents who addressed the Board to protest any decision that would remove their children from the BHUSD.

While their numbers were fewer, several resident parents were also present at the Board meetings to express their belief it is the Board's "fiscal responsibility" to eliminate opportunity permits as the Board approaches becoming Basic Aid, a financially advantageous status that would provide the district with substantial and consistent funding derived solely from local property taxes. It's not a Board decision; the state of California declares Basic Aid status upon a district when the amount of local property taxes exceeds the amount of funding the district currently receives from the state on a per-student basis.

"If [Lurie and Demeter] want to connect their bank accounts to the school to financially offset the district, then fine," said South Palm Drive resident Lee Lewis, who has two children attending Beverly Vista. "It's unfair for people who are paying property tax to pick up the difference if Basic Aid comes through, which it looks like it will. When it's costing us \$33 million at the

onset, that's a difference of a lot of money."

The \$33 million Lewis, who says he specifically moved his family to Beverly Hills for the school district, refers to is information he received from Goldberg, who calculated the cost of grandfathering all current opportunity permit students to matriculate through 12th grade in the district [see adjoining chart].

Goldberg and Fenton, elected in 2007, ran on platforms that included dramatically reducing the number of permits in the BHUSD. All five Board members, however, fully support keeping permits for the children of employees of the BHUSD and city of Beverly Hills. Employee permits, diversity permits and legacy permits were not affected by the Board's recent discussions.

"Goldberg and Fenton are trying to scare people [by talking about Basic Aid] so they can expedite their process to do away with permits. They want to rush this through with no debate," said opportunity permit parent Carole Kahn, who emphasized "following operations of the law" when she addressed the Board at Monday and Tuesday's meeting.

Board members' opinions are torn about the likelihood of BHUSD entering Basic Aid in the near future. Demeter is not convinced it's a strong possibility; Goldberg and Fenton believe the transition will come as soon as this year.

Since funding for a Basic Aid district comes from property taxes, it is completely independent from the number of students the district enrolls; a district receives the same amount of funding for 10 students as it would for 20 students.

According to the Board's attorney Howard Fullfrost present at the study session, a district can lower its student capacity and then revoke permits based on the reduced student population.

"That's a non-discriminatory reason," said Fullfrost, who emphasized the importance of not creating a policy that could have discriminatory repercussions. "Whether revoking [a permit] based on Basic Aid is [legally] legitimate, I think it is a legitimate reason. It's a fiscal reason and is within your fiduciary responsibilities as Board members."

Permit parents have taken two roads to ensure their children stay in the district. Some parents have pleaded with the Board and cited their financial and volunteer contributions to the district. Some, like Jolie Jashani, have cited the several thousands of dollars they have helped to fundraise for the schools over the years. Some, like Kahn, noted their children's academic and athletic contributions to the student community.

Others, the more vocal of the factions, have threatened law suits and called names.

"[Eliminating opportunity permits] is nothing more than an ethnic raping of Jewish kids and Christian kids," said Michael Sands, who claimed he worked for the government's Counter Intelligence Agency and was a member of Alcoholics Anonymous, as he addressed the Board on Tuesday night regarding cutting permits. Sands, who said he owns a business in Beverly Hills, said he moved his child into the BHUSD from the LAUSD, where "girls were being stabbed."

Despite the threats and pleas, many residents still don't feel they should have to foot the bill for out-of-district students.

"Parents make choices. Opportunity Parents made a choice not to live in Beverly Hills and accept an annual permit to attend the schools. That is their choice; I made the choice to live in Beverly Hills so my children could have the best possible public school education," wrote Beverly Hills resident and parent Denise Geller in a letter that was read at Tuesday night's meeting. "Once we become a basic aid district, keeping Opportunity Permits will take limited resources away from resident children and give those limited resources to non resident students. That is not fair and that is not right!"

The Board will hold another study session to continue the discussion on permits on Jan. 26.

Permit Parents Threaten To Sue

Beverly Hills Unified School District
Board of Education
255 S. Lasky Drive, Beverly Hills CA 90212

Dear Madames and Messrs. of the Board of Education,

I am writing today with regard to the discussion surrounding issues pertaining to Interdistrict permits in the Beverly Hills Unified School District. We have 2 children that have been on Opportunity permits since 2004. My older daughter is in 8th grade and my younger daughter is currently in 5th grade. Both are at El Rodeo and both are exemplary students.

I have been a member of BHEF for approximately 3 years and have been serving as Vice President of Events on the BHEF Executive board for the past two years. I have Co Chaired the auction for the 2008 Apple Ball as well as the past 2007 and 2008 Apple Faires which have all been significant fundraisers for BHEF. As a family we are fully integrated into our children's school lives and into the life of this community.

It is with great concern that brings me to the discussion at hand. There is a decision pending regarding current Interdistrict permits and their status in the District. The parameters of the discussion have run the gamut from allowing the current Interdistrict permits to matriculate through 12th grade and granting no new permits to denial of all Opportunity permits and Legacy permits. I believe that the resolution that is appropriate is to allow the current Interdistrict permits of all types to matriculate through 12th. There are significant reasons to support this resolution, morally, educationally, and legally.

This District gave out the opportunity permits that currently exist at a time when they had a policy which supported the permits, required the permits and issued them to allow for the funding that was deemed necessary at that time. The permits served a purpose for the District and were used to encourage the programming and critical mass that was needed at the time of their being granted. In the granting of these permits each of those children became engaged in their school and became an essential member of that community. There was a mutual need that occurred and offered benefits to all. Now that philosophy may have changed, one cannot treat these children as transient with no respect for their tenure, for their integration in to that community, for their need and right for continuity and for the goals that they helped the District to achieve. The duty of a public school is to serve all the children that are legally enrolled, not just some. Each one has a right to be treated with dignity and respect to the conditions and policies that were in effect at the time of the granting of the permit.

In addition it has been the long term custom and practice of this District to allow a granted Interdistrict permit to matriculate through 12th grade, barring any academic or behavioral problems. This policy has been practiced over many years and is well known within the community. This has even been specifically pointed out by one of your board members in his newsletter. As such, this is the District policy that remains in effect with regards to Interdistrict permits up to this date. It is reasonable to expect that the parents who have been here over time would expect that this is part of their equation too. If the board wants to shift its custom and practice, that can be done to new and incoming permits, but not visited upon these children who already are invested in the system as it is and its current policies which would allow for current permits to finish through 12th grade.

With regard to the other possibilities that have been discussed as to permits, I would like to comment upon them generally. I believe that a decision that would allow the current permits to finish to the end of either Elementary or Middle school and then be denied further enrollment would also have some significant issues. Many of the issues that I have touched upon above will also be relevant and in addition, there will continue to be issues regarding whether tenure exists and as to what policy would be in effect upon the long term permit.

As to the possibility of denying all Opportunity permits and only allowing new and continuing Legacy Permits, this too will be rife with significant issues of another sort. One issue is that this policy would be in violation of your most recent BP 5117 in which "Section B" clearly states that "returning permits have priority over new permits". As such a denial of Opportunity permits and granting of new and continuing Legacy permits will be in contravention to a material aspect of the District Interdistrict Attendance Policy.

In addition, as to the Legacy Permit, there exists no State or Federal precedent which would support what you are attempting to do with the Legacy Permit. The relevant State and Federal cases which speak to preferential treatment or specifically to when legacy may be allowed as a factor in admission to a Public University or for a State or Federal Contract, only allow it to be used as "one of many factors" considered. There is no precedent which allows it as the sole consideration for admission or preferential treatment by a public entity as you have done here. Moreover your 2 prong test creates a discriminatory policy which effectively limits the applicant by race and socioeconomic class. The courts have traditionally only allowed preferential treatment to a single group to occur where that group had been the victim of historic disadvantage. That situation does not exist here. As such, once this matter would be in controversy, it is likely that the Legacy Permit program would be deemed seriously flawed at best and a violation of State and Federal Civil Rights laws at worst, leaving the District exposed to damages which would include claims for attorneys fees.

It is well understood that this District, and indeed our State, are facing many serious issues financial and otherwise. However, I want to assert that there are options for you to consider to resolve your issues, maintain your obligations to your own District policies, provisions of the Education Code and all other applicable law, as well for planning for the possibility of Basic Aid, without the denial of all current Interdistrict permits. In this regard, there has yet to be a serious attempt to address the problem which should be a major part of this debate, regarding the role students enrolled by false documents play in the District's financial picture. Students gaining admission by fraudulent means have significant ramifications to the fiscal health of this entity and it would be in the District's best interest to investigate and create policy which would be better adept at identifying and disenrolling those who are here by virtue of fraud.

Each of you are vested with the responsibility to serve all properly enrolled students in your District to the best of your ability, irrespective of their address. I know that there are many different ways to look at these situations and I hope that you will seriously consider the issues which I have raised. I would hope and am confident that you will treat this discussion and subsequent policy decision with the gravity and consideration that it deserves as your decision affects many and has significant repercussions for each one of these children and the District.

I appreciate this opportunity to express my thoughts to you. Should any of you wish to discuss this with me any further, I would welcome your calls or correspondence.

Sincerely,
Jana Gordon Garrotto
The Law Offices of
GARROTTO & GARROTTO
Los Angeles

Cost of Opportunity Permit Students in BHUSD Overtime

The total cost to Beverly Hills taxpayers to matriculate kindergarten through eighth-grade opportunity permit students through 12th grade will be \$33,266,323 if the BHUSD enters Basic Aid this year. Basic Aid would revoke the state-provided funding for all permit students. The cost to the district per student for the 2008-2009 school year is \$12,289. The cost per school is itemized below.

Formula: Total # of Opportunity Permits X Total # of Years in the District X \$12,289 cost per student = Total Dollars

Beverly Vista

Grade	#Opp. Permits	#of Years in District	Total Dollars
K	0	0	\$0
1	12	12	\$1,769,616
2	4	11	\$540,716
3	5	10	\$614,450
4	3	9	\$331,803
5	5	8	\$491,560
6	13	7	\$1,118,299
7	20	6	\$1,474,680
8	15	5	\$921,675

\$7,262,799
Total Cost at Beverly Vista

El Rodeo

Grade	#Opp. Permits	#of Years in District	Total Dollars
K	0	0	0
1	8	12	\$1,179,744
2	18	11	\$2,433,222
3	12	10	\$1,474,680
4	11	9	\$1,216,611
5	22	8	\$2,162,864
6	11	7	\$946,253
7	25	6	\$1,843,350
8	29	5	\$1,781,905

\$13,038,629
Total Cost at El Rodeo

Hawthorne

Grade	#Opp. Permits	#of Years in District	Total Dollars
K	2	13	\$319,514
1	9	12	\$1,327,212
2	3	11	\$405,537
3	1	10	\$122,890
4	7	9	\$774,207
5	14	8	\$1,376,368
6	7	7	\$602,161
7	6	6	\$442,404
8	12	5	\$737,340

\$6,107,633
Total Cost at Hawthorne

Horace Mann

Grade	#Opp. Permits	#of Years in District	Total Dollars
K	2	13	\$319,514
1	5	12	\$737,340
2	6	11	\$811,074
3	3	10	\$368,670
4	4	9	\$442,404
5	11	8	\$1,081,432
6	10	7	\$860,230
7	12	6	\$884,808
8	22	5	\$1,351,790

\$6,857,262
Total Cost at Horace Mann

Source: Board of Education member Brian Goldberg's memorandum dated Jan. 12, 2009

* These numbers were provided by the BHUSD staff as of Nov. 24, 2008.

Note: these figures do not take into account any increase costs over the 13 year period.

police blotter & arrest summary

Buchanan, Stephen Arthur, 23, of Los Angeles, arrested on 01/04/2009 for driving without a license.

Enrique Pascual, 25, of Los Angeles, arrested on 01/04/2009 for driving without a license.

Tania Cobb, 28, of Los Angeles, arrested on 01/03/2009 for burglary.

Adam Arthur, 51, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 01/03/2009 for an outside warrant/misdemeanor.

Ean Lockwood Weisman, 29, of Marina, arrested on 01/02/2009 for disorderly conduct: intoxication.

Zachary Kenneth Welsheimer, 32, of West Hollywood, arrested on 01/01/2009 for possession of a controlled substance.

John Richard OBrien, 52, of Newberry Park, arrested on 01/01/2009 for battery of a spouse/ex-spouse/date/etc.

Gina Marie Doherty, 28, of Santa Monica, arrested on 01/01/2009 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Eric Anthony Orue, 38, of Los Angeles, arrested on 01/01/2009 for obstruct/resist/etc public/peace off.

Allen Gerarde Hughes, 23, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 01/01/2009 for disorderly conduct:intoxication.

Benjamin Joseph Stafford, 46, of Carson, arrested on 01/01/2009 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Natasha Noel Burton, 24, of Pasadena, arrested on 01/01/2009 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Jason Joshua Tavakoli, 18, of Encino, arrested on 12/30/2008 for obstructing/resisting/etc a public/peace officer.

Adrienne Gonzales, 25, of Santa Ana, arrested on 12/31/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Leallon Irvin, 57, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/31/2008 for violation of parole:felony.

Brooks Alan Bentz, 58, of Stonington, arrested on 12/31/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Roberto Sanchez, 31, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/31/2008 for drive without a license.

Myron Lamar Terrell, 24, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/30/2008 for ooutside warrant/misdemeanor.

Sergio Figueroa, 52, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/30/2008 for driving without a license.

Cesar Adalberto Abarca, 39, of Redondo Beach, arrested on 12/30/2008 for Beverly Hills bench warrant for a misdemeanor.

Matthew Je Booth, 46, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/30/2008 for battery of spouse/ex spouse/date/etc.

Michael Gerard Schott, 48, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/29/2008 for remove shopping/laundry cart.

Erin Patricia Albertson, 30, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/29/2008 for theft:personal property.

Adam Joel Greenberg, 23, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/28/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Joseph Feldman, 35, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/28/2008 for Beverly Hills bench warrant for a misdemeanor.

Ryan Najafinian, 32, of Lake Forest, arrested on 12/28/2008 for battery of a spouse/ex spouse/date/etc.

Kyle Andrew Crawford, 34, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/27/2008 for possession of hypodermic needle/syringe.

Reza Abbassi Safavi, 37, of Culver City, arrested on 12/27/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Bill Ewing Stamps, 60, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/27/2008 for battery.

Marcos Mejia Luis, 26, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/27/2008 for driving without license.

Bobby Canton, 47, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/27/2008 for grand theft of money/labor/property.

Daniel Robert Salazar, 21, of Sherman Oaks, arrested on 12/27/2008 for dui alcohol/drugs.

Mir Nizamul Haque, 33, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/27/2008 for force or assault with deadly weapon, not firearm: grave bodily injury likely.

Odell Jackson, 54, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/26/2008 for disorderly conduct: intoxication.

Ming Zhou, 39, of Saratoga, arrested on 12/26/2008 for theft: personal property.

William Anibal Vasquez-delgado, 24, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/26/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Shera Lynn Danese, 59, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 12/25/2008 for disorderly conduct: intoxication.

Saeyoung Kim, 32, of Los Angeles, arrested on 12/24/2008 for driving under the influence of alcohol/drugs.

Antonio Raynard Bell, 23, of Tarzana, arrested on 12/24/2008 for driving while license suspended.

sports cont. from page 9

Newbury Park 27, Beverly Hills 19

Abbas, Flagel and Romeo Soofiani won by pins while Dahan won by a decision for the Normans (6-6).

Dahan and Flagel both went 5-0 for the tournament to finish first in their divisions, while Bunn was second with a 4-1 record.

The tournament was held Saturday at Chaminade High School in West Hills.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Torrance today in a Pioneer League meet beginning at 3 p.m. in the Wrestling Room.

Girls' Water Polo

Valley Girls' Varsity Water Polo Tournament

Garden Grove 13, Beverly Hills 12

The Normans tied the score with 45 seconds remaining in regulation on Mallory Smith's fifth goal of the game, but Carly Beer scored her ninth goal of the game for the Argonauts 42 seconds into sudden death overtime in the 17th-place game Dec. 6 at Santa Ana High School.

The score was tied 8-8 entering the fourth quarter. Smith's goal 20 seconds into the quarter gave Beverly Hills the lead, but Beer's three goals in a 2:35 span put Garden Grove ahead, 11-9 with 2:47 remaining.

Smith scored 2:35 to play, but the Argonauts regained a two-goal lead 10 seconds later on Judy Parrish's goal.

Michelle Margolin scored with 1:34 left to pull the Normans back within a goal.

The Normans led 6-4 at halftime and increased their lead to 7-4 on Margolin's goal 13 seconds into the third quarter. Two goals by Beer sandwiched around one by teammate Kaitlyn Frain lifted Garden Grove to a 7-7 tie. Smith scored with three seconds left in the quarter, but Beer scored two seconds later.

The first quarter ended in a 1-1 tie with Beer and Smith scoring. Alli Friedman scored twice and Margolin and Smith once as Beverly Hills to a 5-2 lead with 2:21 left in the second quarter. There were three goals in the final 17 seconds of the first half, two for the Argonauts, while Smith scored for the Normans.

Beverly Hills goaltender Agnes Rapala made three saves.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Los Angeles Milken today at the Swim-Gym and Torrance Tuesday in Ocean League games beginning at 3 p.m.

Football

Beverly High offensive lineman Caylin Hauptmann said he expects to decide on

which scholarship offer he will accept in early March, about a month after the Feb. 4 National Signing Day, the earliest when letters of intent accepting scholarships can be signed.

Hauptmann said he would wait because "after that signing date, I'll probably get more offers."

"If I were to commit on signing day, I would commit to Syracuse," said Hauptmann, who is listed at 6 foot 4, 315 pounds.

When asked what impressed him about Syracuse, Hauptmann responded "the program and the way the new coach, [Doug] Marrone is going to turn it around."

Hauptmann said UCLA, Utah, Washington and California are the other schools among his top five. He said he is scheduled to make official visits to San Jose State Jan. 30 and Syracuse a week earlier.

"Hopefully I'll set up an official visit with the other schools and go from there and we'll see what happens," Hauptmann said.

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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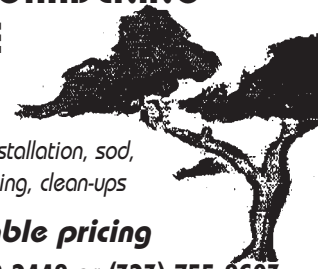
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