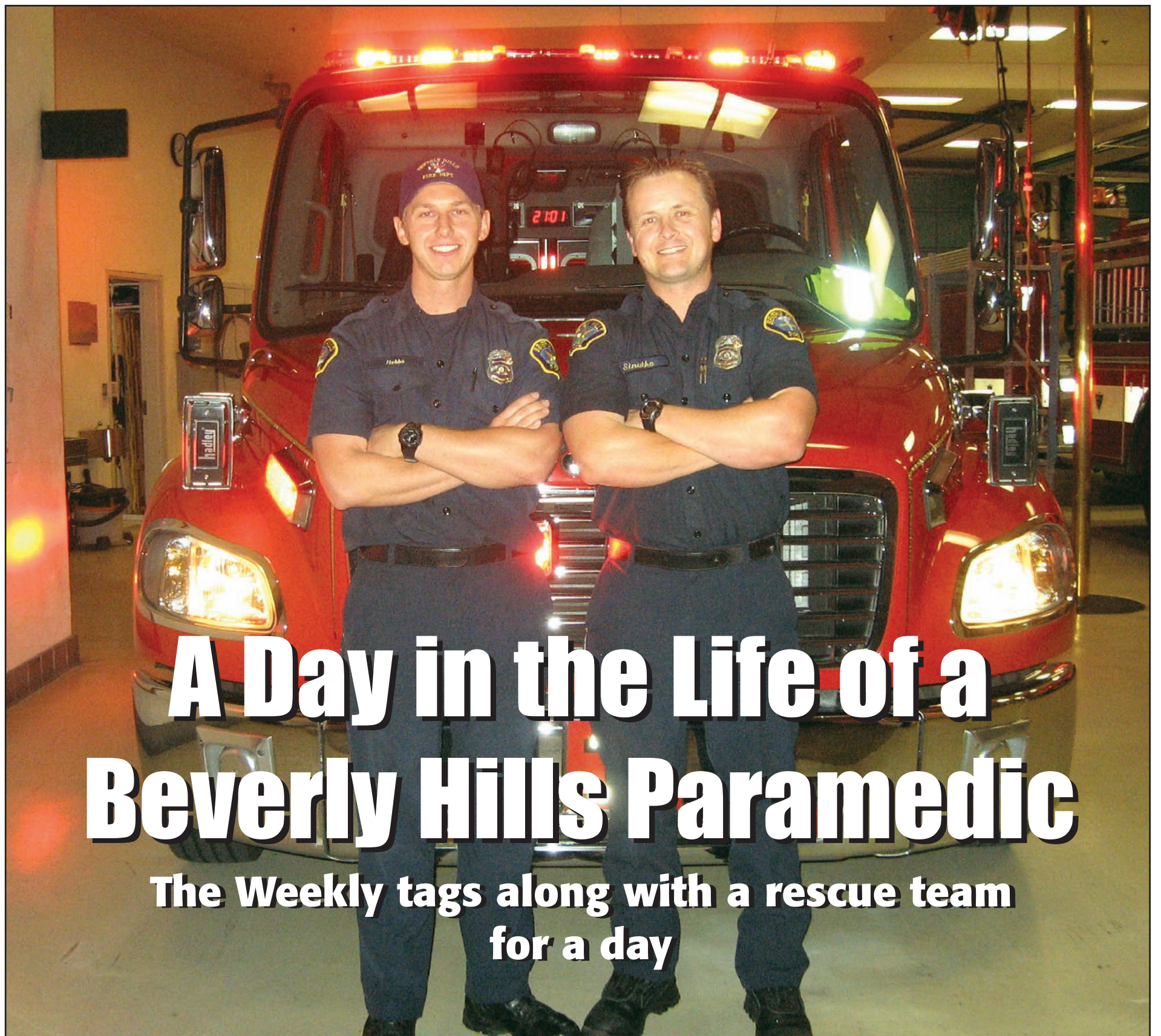


# Beverly Hills Weekly

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Issue 552 • April 29 - May 5, 2010



## A Day in the Life of a Beverly Hills Paramedic

The Weekly tags along with a rescue team  
for a day

cover story • pages 8-9



# letters & email

## “Teacher Layoffs”

I wish to inform the community that on May 11, the school district administration is planning to present to the Board of Education a resolution that would take final action on laying off 10 teachers: two Beverly Vista elementary teachers, three El Rodeo elementary teachers, one Horace Mann elementary teacher, one El Rodeo middle school physical education teacher, one high school math teacher, one high school English teacher, and one high school physical education teacher. These layoffs are involuntary, and most of the affected teachers would continue teaching our students next year if allowed to return.

Although the general economy has been poor for some time now, our school district is fortunate to have sturdy buffers in place to minimize the negative impacts facing so many other districts. Our district enjoys basic aid status, which will bring in \$8 mil-

lion of additional revenue for the two-year period 2009-2011 compared to funding we would have received from Sacramento. Our district also enjoys strong ties with the City of Beverly Hills, including a joint powers agreement that is a win-win for everyone. Residents gain access to the use of district facilities during non-school hours, and our district receives generous financial support totaling \$22 million for the two-year period 2009-2011. Finally, our district receives financial donations from BHEF and PTA, our hard-working fundraising organizations whose support we greatly appreciate.

With so much additional revenue, no public school district in the state of California, perhaps with the exception of Palo Alto, has more money to spend per pupil than Beverly Hills Unified. Our exceedingly healthy budget is the envy of the state and should rule out the need for layoffs, furloughs, and salary cuts. The administration's efforts to convince a skeptical community that over \$1,000,000 of layoffs and furloughs to classroom teachers is necessary to balance the budget have not been sufficient nor convincing. BHEA has offered multiple options over the last three months to help the district focus on other areas of the budget to address its perceived deficits. I commend the district for the positive steps it has taken so far, but we continue to await further budget analysis and further budget clarity as these 10 layoffs still loom.

I invite you to join teachers on May 11 at the school board meeting. Until we gain

more confidence in the budget, we continue to believe that the district has other financial options available that do not include layoffs. Layoffs represent a morale issue for teachers and an educational quality issue for students. It's not too late for the district to forge its own path, lead us to brighter days, and stand by its investment in our children's teachers.

*Chris Bushée*  
BHEA President  
Beverly Hills

## WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

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Beverly Hills, CA 90212

You can fax us at:  
310.887.0789

email us at:  
editor@bhweekly.com



## SNAPSHOT

### Front Cover

Pictured on the cover are (left to right) Firefighters/Paramedics Chris Hobbs and Ryan Sinutko.



## SCIENCE SCORES GREEN STREET (NO JOKE)

Beverly High sophomore Elizabeth Brajevich and freshman Hal Smith participated in the Los Angeles County Science Fair at the Pasadena Convention Center April 14-16. Brajevich was invited to participate in the Long Beach Environmental Science Fair after showcasing her project “Green Hero? The Negative Effort of Honolulu Sea Air Conditioning.”

Smith's project “Does Environmental Temperature Affect Crystal Growth in Bismuth” won first place in the “senior chemistry” category. His score, the third highest overall, qualifies him to participate in the California State Science Fair on May 17-18. Smith also received the Darrell Smedley Award. There were more than 900 entries overall.

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OUR DATA SPEAKS VOLUMES



# briefs

## Permit Families Serve BHUSD with Intent to Sue

Four permit families served BHUSD with a draft of a class-action lawsuit last week on behalf of all opportunity-permit students, alleging a violation of their civil rights and a breach of the Board of Education's fiduciary duty.

The permit families have retained two top L.A. trial attorneys Thomas Girardi and current State Bar President Howard Miller, partners in the law firm Girardi & Keese, to represent their case.



Brian Goldberg

The plaintiffs include Hawthorne sixth-grader Bailey Gossett and her mother, Nancy Wolff Gossett; Beverly Vista eighth-grader Austin Skootsky and his mother, Bernadette

Jaeger; Beverly Vista eighth-grader Karin Shaltiel, Beverly Vista sixth-grader Eve Shaltiel and their mother, Sheila Hagag.

Girardi sent a draft of the complaint to Board President Steven Fenton and Superintendent Jerry Gross. The lawsuit names Gross, Fenton, Board Vice President Lisa Korbatov and board members Brian Goldberg and Jake Manaster. Not named in the complaint is Board member Myra Lurie, the lone supporter of the opportunity-permit program.

Girardi is best known for handling the toxic tort case made famous by the film "Erin Brockovich" against Pacific Gas & Electric, in which he secured \$333 million for 650 residents of Hinkley, Calif. Girardi also has a building named after him on the Loyola Law School campus.



Howard Miller

Miller served on the LAUSD Board of Education beginning in 1977 and as board president until 1979, when he was recalled by opponents of the district's anti-busing move-

ment. The recall campaign was spearheaded by Roberta Weintraub, who was eventually elected to the seven-member board after Miller's recall.

Miller was later hired to serve as the LAUSD's chief operating officer from 1999 to 2000, during which he came under fire for prematurely attempting to halt construction of the Belmont Learning Complex after it was discovered that the ground contained potentially dangerous methane and hydrogen sulfide gases.

Gossett — whose sixth-grade daughter, according to the lawsuit, has only been

attending Hawthorne since fifth grade — claims she was assured by BHUSD Child Welfare and Attendance Specialist James Hanson that "the only reason why Bailey would not have her opportunity permit renewed would be if there were disciplinary problems or poor grades."

Several of the child plaintiffs have an entertainment background. Bailey guest starred on an episode of "Hannah Montana," according to a Google search linked to the Internet Movie Database (IMDb). She is also an active participant in the U.S. Equestrian Federation.

Skootsky also has been enrolled in BHUSD since fifth grade. His sister, Tamara, is currently a senior at Beverly High, and his brother, Justin, graduated from the high school in 2008. Skootsky's mother, Bernadette Jaeger is a dentist in Beverly Hills and an associate adjunct professor at the UCLA School of Dentistry.

Both Karin and Eve Shaltiel are signed to GGAA Records, a small, independent record label. According to the company's Web site, the Shaltiel sisters, both of whom have been in the district for about four years, have recorded one "inspirational" song, "Listen to the Voices."

The lawsuit alleges that the defendants are discriminating and depriving the plaintiffs of their equal rights by singling out specific permit students and barring them from renewing their opportunity permits. The plaintiffs claim that the board's "malicious" decision to keep legacy students is based on "arbitrary and unreasonable criteria."

The lawsuit also cites Board member Myra Lurie's repeated claims that prohibiting the renewal of opportunity permits would only lead to "marginal savings" that amount to "budget dust." Under this argument, the plaintiffs allege that the four board members and Gross have violated their fiduciary duty to all students in the district, a duty not limited to the city's taxpaying residents.

"I think the parents are really reaching, and I wish they would put their energy into something that's more positive," Board member Brian Goldberg said. "Rather than wasting district resources and their money, they should be looking into how they can move into the district."

Goldberg said the potential lawsuit is "frivolous" and the claim the board made a discriminatory decision is "beyond ridiculous."

"They're threatening to file a lawsuit to embarrass the board and to try to pressure us into settling," Goldberg said. "This isn't going to work. They're taking money out of the classroom with their actions. All this talk about doing it in the interest of education and of the kids, this potential lawsuit makes it crystal clear what their motivations are. It's all about them."

Goldberg said the "real story" is Lurie's intentional omission from the lawsuit, even though Lurie voted for the phase-out compromise in the board's unanimous decision in January.

"Myra Lurie was specifically left out so she could be a witness in the lawsuit against the district on a policy she voted for," Goldberg said. "That's what bothers me the most. She has a fiduciary responsibility to the district, and I don't believe she's filling that role at all by helping people suing the district. That is unconscionable."

In an unrelated incident, an ethics complaint was recently filed with the State Bar of California against Miller and Girardi alleging the use of "judicial resources in a fraudulent manner in order to enrich themselves" in a Nicaraguan pesticides case against Dole Food Company. An investigation into the complaint is currently under way.

"We'll take some action to see if it we can resolve these issues before they get too far down the legal trail," Superintendent Jerry Gross said. He declined to comment further.

Though unaffiliated with the BHUSD case, Senior and Managing Partner Mike Arias, an attorney who specializes in class-action lawsuits, of Arias, Ozzello & Gignac was recently approached by several parents from LAUSD when the district had proposed denying the release of its students to outside districts. His firm was preparing to file a complaint on the behalf of those families until LAUSD Superintendent Ramon Cortines recently rescinded that proposal.

Arias said he believes the opportunity permit families of BHUSD have a strong, easily-certifiable class-action case.

"It's not any more difficult [to certify a class-action lawsuit] in California than any

other state," Arias said. "They have to establish that the conduct of [BHUSD] is wrongful and that the wrongful conduct is common to all the people. [In this case], they're being very specific as to who the class of plaintiffs are. I think this is definitely a case that's appropriate for class certification. It's one policy or procedure that's affecting everyone. The application of the policy is common to all of the children and family members, and I think it'd be a case that has a very good chance of prevailing [for permit families]."

Arias said he anticipates the plaintiffs will seek an injunctive relief to halt BHUSD from denying the opportunity permits.

"They're relying very heavily on comments made by board members, apparently, damaging comments," Arias said. "They made the whole basis [of their case] discriminatory."

Arias said there is no attorney-fees provision for class-action lawsuits, and even if BHUSD prevails, the district would have to pay their own attorney fees.

"The problem here [with BHUSD] is that it's an economic decision, and that's not a good basis," Arias said. "I think the acts of

*briefs cont. on page 4*



## NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills, at its regular meeting to be held on **Tuesday, May 4, 2010, 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 AMENDING THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHEDULE OF TAXES, FEES & SERVICE CHARGES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011.

The proposed resolution will increase the taxes, fees, and service charges that are charged to the public for the various activities and services as set forth in the schedule for fiscal year 2010/2011. The majority of the fees and charges would be increased by 0.9% based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for November 2009 to reflect the increase in the City's costs. In some cases, the fees were adjusted to reflect a change in service level, more equitable distribution of costs, or to obtain full-cost recovery, rather than by the CPI. The new fees would become effective on July 1, 2010. Fees for development applications, per State law, become effective 60 days after adoption of the adjusted fee schedule, on July 5, 2010.

Copies of the proposed Resolution and the Fee Study Report are available for review or purchase in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 290, 455 N. Rexford Drive, and in the Finance Department, 9357 West Third Street, 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 Lucy Gonzalez at (310) 285-2413.

BYRON POPE, CMC  
City Clerk

briefs cont. from page 3

the school board are inappropriate, the school district's decision and especially the comments made by various board members, if they are correct, that there's no real need from a budgetary standpoint. I don't think [the board] should have done it this way. The school board will have to justify that they are basically displacing 775 kids."

#### Permit Parent Circulates E-mail Advising How to Manipulate LACOE's Appeal System

Permit parent Michelle Menna sent an e-mail to all opportunity permit families April 26 instructing parents how to approach LACOE's appeal system and what to say during the hearings.

In an apparent attempt to manipulate LACOE into granting permit appeals, Menna outlines a list of reasons parents should use during the County Board of Education's initial hearing.

"It is very important that certain things are said in your appeals to LACOE," Menna writes. "Of course you must address those items specific to your child."

The 10 items listed include no financial impact to BHUSD regardless of basic aid; continuity of education; work or business in Beverly Hills; more electives at BHUSD than at the student's home school; more honors or AP classes at Beverly High; API scores of home schools versus BHUSD schools; siblings in BHUSD schools; an alleged promise made by BHUSD Child Welfare and Attendance Specialist James Hanson that permits would be renewed every year in the absence of bad behavior (Hanson denies this), bad grades or limited space; had parents known of the possibility of a permit phase-out, they wouldn't have enrolled their children in the district; and the conversion of some opportunity permits to legacy and environmental, which, Menna claims, violates board policy.

"The questions to raise to [HR Director Alex] Cherniss at the appeal, in-person is: 'Have you converted or do you intend to convert any students who are current opportunity permits to environmental permits?'" Menna writes. "We have been advised by the county officials to submit a uniform complaint to the [BHUSD]. You want to know why [Board President] Steven Fenton has switched 'some' opportunity permits to legacy and environmental permits. You must be specific, naming the names."

Menna then provides the link to download the complaint form and advises parents to send the complaint to Superintendent Jerry Gross, as well as to Jennifer Snyder in the district attorney's office.

"What her e-mail really demonstrates is that we have people who are coordinating an effort to take advantage of LACOE and present a picture and a story that is not accurate," said Board member Brian Goldberg. "I'm very hopeful and optimistic that the Board of Education of L.A. County will see through this attempt to manipulate the system and take advantage of a program that is costing LAUSD close to \$60 million a year."

Goldberg said BHUSD staff is preparing a case-by-case response to LACOE appeals.

"I'm very confident that Dr. Cherniss is going to go down and represent the district

and beat most if not all of these appeals," Goldberg said. "I wish these families would put this much energy into making their home schools great instead of fighting BHUSD. They're only making the trauma worse for their children. They're trying to hold us hostage and inflict as much damage and pain on the district and our resident students as possible. But we are not going to renew their permits."

Cherniss said they will handle every appeal on an individual basis.

"I think it can be beneficial to know ahead of time what the other side's argument will be," Cherniss said. "However, in this case, it's pretty clear what opportunity permit families' argument is, and it's also pretty clear what the argument for the district is."

Cherniss said he will provide LACOE with BHUSD's financial information, as well as assert the board's legal right under the education code to set interdistrict permit policies for the district, a move to "vigorously defend the district's right to govern itself."

"We going to continue to follow the normal processes of dealing with appeals, treating parents and students properly and doing our very best in implementing our board's policies on permits," Superintendent Jerry Gross said.

When contacted by the Weekly, Menna said the e-mail is intended "to help people."

"And that's what we're doing," she said.

Menna refused to comment any further.

#### Board Approves New Bell Schedule for Beverly High

The Board of Education approved a new bell schedule for Beverly High in a 3-2 vote during Tuesday's meeting.

Board members Brian Goldberg and Jake Manaster dissented, expressing concern that they were unaware the schedule was going to a vote, since it was the first time the proposal was being presented to the board.

"I certainly wanted more time to absorb it," Manaster said. "In having it placed in front of me, it was confusing to me, having not been in high school in a while, and I would have liked more time to review it and make a well-informed decision."

Four major changes in the bell schedule include starting first period 15 minutes later at 7:15 a.m., moving sixth period before lunch, changing late-start days to Wednesdays and dismissing students early on Thursdays for lunch at 1:05 p.m. to allow a teacher collaboration period beginning at 1:55 p.m. Thursdays will be even-block days, and Wednesdays will be odd-block days, similar to what the bell schedule was before the 2009-10 school year.

Beverly High Social Studies teacher Stewart Horowitz, who did not serve on the committee charged with revising the bell schedule, said the Wednesday and Thursday block scheduling will be much more effective than the current Monday and Tuesday block scheduling, especially since there are many attendance issues at the high school.

For example, if a student skipped school on Friday, Horowitz said, several teachers wouldn't see the student again until Tuesday.

"That's way too long a period of not seeing the kids," Horowitz said.

Horowitz added that most teachers have felt the intervention program, which was imple-



(left to right, front row) Dominic DiMiglio, Aaron Benyamin, Isaiah Berke, Alex Klerup, Zoe Hinton, Eli Lawrence, Christopher Courion, Matthew Omrani, Mike Omrani; (middle row) Jonathan Benyamin, Dallas Hinton, Noah Isaac, Sammy Hannani, Rick Luna, Park Services-Weekend Coordinator, MaxBryan Cosmose, Arjun Batra, Justin Omrani, Joey Lewis, Mojgan Omrani, Sarah Benyamin; (back row) Nick Komlos, Benjamin Hannani, Mark Lawrence, David DiMiglio, Francis Cosmose, Rafi Isaac, Dr. Eric Klerup, Kevin Hinton, Mojgan Benyamin, Leora Lewis, Bahman Hannani, Lee Lewis

#### Beverly Hills Cub Scout Pack 100 Celebrates Earth Day at Roxbury Park

The Beverly Hills Cub Scouts Pack 100 planted seven different types of shrubs and flowering plants the Beverly Hills Roxbury Park April 19 for the group's Earth Day 2010 project.



(left to right, back row) Vivian Saatjian-Green, Sandy Zwirin, Judy Nawa, Bobbie Ryne, Timi Karpeles, Linda Straky, Donna Chandler, Shannon Ulrich, Carola Drew; (front row) Irene Purdy, Bernice Skolnick, Aki Mitsui, Lillian Wellins, Barbara Papkoff, Lynnette French, Desiree Simms, Joanna Frye, Elena Caggiano.

#### Retired BHUSD Secretaries Meet for Annual Luncheon

BHUSD's retired administrative assistants recently met at Louise's Trattoria for their annual luncheon. The event was organized by retired head counselor Vivan Saatjian-Green and Barbara Papkoff. Of the group, Bernice Skolnick worked for the district the longest at 33 years, and Linda Straky held the most job titles.

mented at the end of the 2008-09 school year, has not been effective.

"The district claimed that we were not meeting required state minutes, that all students needed to have available to them 64,800 hours of instruction during the course of the school year," Horowitz said. "The district said we needed to lengthen the school day, so block periods were lengthened to essentially two hours."

Part of that second hour is currently being used for intervention.

"Kids don't want to get that extra help in front of all their other classmates," Horowitz said.

The new bell schedule earmarks a time for intervention on Mondays and Wednesdays at the end and beginning of the school days.

"From what I've seen of the new schedule, it will be a big improvement for next year," Horowitz said. "The fact that teachers were able to come together, they put together a far better schedule."

Beverly High Assistant Principal and committee member Jennifer Tedford said the cur-

rent two-hour class period makes it "difficult for [students] to focus." Late-start days in the new schedule have been changed to Wednesdays in order to "coordinate with K-8 schools."

"Our school accreditation requires that we have teacher collaboration built into the schedule," Tedford said. "It's used for teachers to get together to look at student work so that they can improve their teaching strategies."

Tedford said sixth period was moved before lunch to accommodate high school athletes.

"What this allows is for students not to miss class time in order to participate in athletics," Tedford said. "So many kids participate in athletics, and we wanted to provide the opportunity for them to do both."

Manaster said had he been given more time to discuss and review the schedule, he would have likely supported approving the proposed changes.

"It's a hybrid schedule which involves odd and even block scheduling in addition to some

briefs cont. on page 7



## BHHS Baseball Team Shuts Out Culver City

Norman softball team routs Morningside.  
By Steven Herbert

For all but a four-batter stretch of the fifth inning, Beverly High pitchers Ben Sitman-Somers and Jonas Brock held Culver City hitless.

Sitman-Somers pitched four hitless innings before giving up a leadoff single to Daniel Byun in the fifth. One out later, Lenard Mendez and Devin Sylvester hit back-to-back singles, loading the bases, and prompting coach Vonzie Paysinger to replace Sitman-Somers with Brock.

Brock struck out the first batter he faced, Tyler Adkison and got Garrett Gemgnani, the Centaurs' cleanup hitter to fly out to end the inning, then pitched 1-2-3 innings in the sixth and seventh for his sixth save in the Normans 4-0 victory in an Ocean League baseball game April 15 at Culver City.

"Ben Sitman-Somers threw a great game," Paysinger said. "He was throwing strikes, getting ahead and throwing hard. If that guy shows up, we win."

Sitman-Somers sandwiched his lone walk around two hit batters to load the bases with two outs in the second. However, Michael Lee, Culver City's No. 9 hitter, grounded out to Sitman-Somers to end the inning.

Sitman-Somers struck out one batter, Mendez, who led off the first.

Beverly Hills (9-5, 1-1 in league play) scored the only run it would need in the first. Brock, its leadoff hitter, reached on an error by Skyler Blocker, the Centaur first baseman. Brock stole second and scored on Charlie Bennett's one-out double.

The Normans added a run in the second. Joey Livingston led off with a walk, advanced when designated hitter Justin Wagner reached base on Blocker's error with one out and scored on Brock's double with two outs.

Sitman-Somers doubled in Bennett, who singled, in the third.

Livingston's bases-loaded single with one out in the fifth drove in Ben Jones, who led off with a single.

Bennett was three-for-three and Sitman-Somers was two-for-three, as Beverly Hills out-hit Culver City, 8-3.

"We scrapped for four runs," Paysinger said. "They made a couple of errors and we capitalized."

**Beverly Hills 2, Montclair Prep 0**

Bennett scattered six

hits over 6 2/3 innings, and twice pitched out of bases loaded jams, and Brock got the final out, also with the bases loaded, as the Normans won a nonleague game at Montclair Prep April 16.

"Charlie Bennett threw a great game," Paysinger said.

Paysinger credited Bennett's success to getting ahead on the count and changing speeds on his pitches.

"He was able to have them put the ball in play early in the count," Paysinger said.

The Mounties got two runners to second — and no further — through the first four innings. They loaded the bases on three walks in fifth, but Tony Rasalis, their No. 3 hitter, flied out to end the inning.

Montclair Prep again loaded the bases in the sixth on two singles and a walk, but failed to score.

Blake Steele singled to load the bases in the seventh for the Mounties, after a one-out single by Nick Suniga and a two-out walk to Matt Fried. Brock got the only batter he faced, Ben McKendall to pop out to end the game and record his fifth save.

Bennett (3-2) walked seven and struck out two.

The Normans scored the only run they would need in the first on four walks, the last to Livingston with the bases loaded.

Beverly Hills scored its other run in the second as Yoni Ginsberg walked, stole second and third and scored on an error by Josh Brodsky, the Montclair Prep right fielder.

*sports cont. on page 9*

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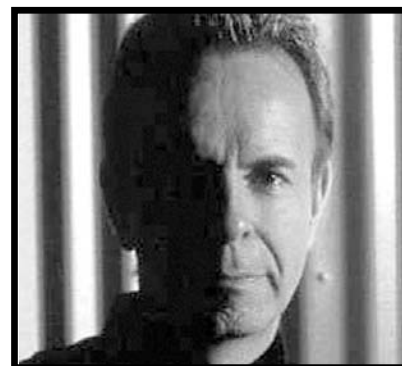
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# from the hills of beverly



## Insider Battles

And parties and notes

By Rudy Cole

Did the city just waste \$100,000 on a marketing survey because the consultant did not have a clear understanding of what the city expected?

Somewhat related: Is the fight for leadership inside the newly created Beverly Hills Visitors and Conference Bureau creating too much internal distraction?

Probably not the most earth-moving issues facing humanity, but since the city will fund over \$2 million annually on promoting tourism, mostly from bed (transient occupancy) tax revenues, the reported turmoil on both the marketing study and the fight for leadership inside the CVB merits some careful reporting and transparency.

First, some background: It was never going to be an entirely smooth transition, but last year, after considerable debate, the council recommended that the promotion of tourism would best be served by creating a new Conference and Visitors Bureau independent from the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce.

That was a serious blow to the chamber since it was the conduit for marketing and tourism and would now lose a big chunk of its revenue to the new agency. But in recent weeks, the separation became official and the CVB went its own way. Prior to that, a CVB board has been functioning, retaining some of the former Chamber staff, adding others and preparing for its independent role. The CVB also has been doing its marketing of city hotels, restaurants and retailers during the reorganization.

Enter the consultant: **Stowe Shoemaker**, Ph.D., is a nationally recognized authority on tourism and hospitality management. One of his titles is "Distinguished Professor of the Conrad Hilton School" at the University of Houston, a top hotel study group.

For the past months, Dr. Shoemaker has been meeting with hotel and other business leaders and holding several "focus group" panels on our marketing programs. I attended one of these, as did several members of the city staff.

To cut to the results, Dr. Shoemaker recent-

ly presented a council ad hoc committee his preliminary findings. According to what we have learned, the city representatives were "not pleased." They expected some guidelines on how the city money should be spent through the CVB; instead, they were told the city needs a new agency to coordinate spending and act as a watchdog committee.

This begs the question: How did the consultant go this far without direction from the city, and what will now come of his months of work?

On one side of the discussion is the obvious dilution of resources, often duplication of efforts. We have many organizations promoting business interests including the older Rodeo Drive Committee, the South Beverly Drive Committee (the only one working with and through the chamber,) and such newly former groups as the Canon Drive Association, and of course, the chamber.

What would not be fair is to place the blame for any misdirection on the city staff. The panel I attended was looking at better uses of resources, not a marketing plan. However, that is equally important and should still be done.

Simply put: Process or programs? We need clarity on both.

A comprehensive marketing plan that does not address duplication of efforts and is unable to clarify who does what and where is not in the city's interests. In recent years, too many programs and committees have only muddied the promotion waters and wasted city bed-tax dollars. We have a great "product," and marketing it more effectively is what should come out of this whole debate. Actually, the best "selling" of the city has always been accomplished by the hotels themselves.

While this confusion on consultant chores has been simmering, the new CVB faced another, more internal conflict. When the vice president of the CVB recently left his job as general manager of the L'Ermitage, a battle for the office broke out between two very active and able CVB board members: **Ali Kasicki** and **Jay Newman**. What made this

even more confusing was that both have direct ties, with very different roles, to the Montage. Ali works for the hotel arm and Jay the property development side. Jay was the point person during the development stage, including the referendum battle.

However, neither may really be able to serve. Ali may be leaving the Montage, as we reported last week, but even his current Montage chores have removed him from a direct local connection. At the same time, Newman has moved out of Beverly Hills to Santa Monica, with responsibilities for Montage interests in a Santa Monica hotel.

The term of current CVB president, **Sandy Murphy**, general manager of the Beverly Hilton, ends later this summer. This means that the question of vice president really means who will be the next president, if that's what their rules require.

There is a better alternative: If Murphy agrees, keep her on the job. She is a very steady leader, avoids the personality conflicts, and has enormous experience in hospitality marketing. Prior to her appointment as general manager of the Beverly Hilton, she had management responsibilities for several Hilton Corporation properties and is considered a rising star in the hotel industry.

Although he is not yet even a member of the CVB, but will probably join the board soon, the new general manager of L'Ermitage could fill an important gap in the CVB — hands-on experience with a functioning CVB.

**Sol Abaunza** has a very impressive resume, having managed some leading hotels including the Venata Inn and Spa in Big Sur and the Mandarin Oriental in San Francisco. In San Francisco, he was an active member and leader of that city's highly successful Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

Another officer with great credential is **Offer Nissenbaum**, now CVB Treasurer, and managing director of the Peninsula. The group could also tap the new manager of the Montage, **David Hoffman**, who knows our community, and was room manager before taking over the top job. He too has impressive hotel and marketing experience.

But Murphy remains the most viable choice. The CVB only recently became totally independent, and her calm leadership and professionalism should be utilized for this formative period.

As for the CVB board of 13 current members, many, too, have solid marketing experience, but not all. The board needs more representation from our smaller hotels, major

department stores and travel professionals.

Side issue: The CVB has adopted a "confidentiality" rule, inhibiting members from discussing actions publicly. Obviously, some decisions on salaries and hiring can be private, but this is an agency totally funded from city revenues, and acting as though it was a "private" club is not in the public interest. Not sure they could or should hold closed meetings.

Much more to come later.

\*\*\*

So far, our recently retired city manager **Rod Wood** has been honored at four going away parties. I was kidding, of course, when I asked him if this meant he is so universally respected or people just want to make sure he leaves.

Naturally, the best of these was one hosted by **Betty** and **Fred Hayman** Sunday at their fantastic Malibu weekend home. (They spend most of their time in their apartment in the middle our village.)

The Haymans provided the venue and the marvelous goodies from the Wolfgang Puck Catering group, and Rod the guest list. The present and former city officials we spotted included Mayor **Jimmy Delshad** and Councilmember **Dr. Willie Brien** plus former mayors **Mark Egerman**, **Les Bronte**, **Allan Alexander**, **MeraLee Goldman**, **Steve Webb**, **Linda Briskman** and former school board presidents **Myra Lurie**, **Nooshin Meshkaty** and **AJ Willmer**, plus many other civic dignitaries. Do we have any other kind?

\*\*\*

Speaking of food and hospitality, our historic deli, Nate 'n Al's was part of a group that hoped to be included in the LAX new approach to food service. Although the list of eateries in which they were part was obviously the most impressive, they have not yet survived the first cut.

Because of some conflicts of interest, the Airport Board will not make the choices; this will be done by the Los Angeles City Council. However, this new spreading of our world famous deli's brand would be not only a great option for diners at the airport, but give both Los Angeles and Beverly Hills a world famous food option. The early proposal is for the deli to provide take on the plane service. You can help. Call any L.A. Councilmember you know and convince them to vote for the best pastrami west of New York.

**Paul Koretz**, please read.

\*\*\*

About the retirement pension debate: One of our newspapers seems to be on a crusade against civil service retirement programs, including those impacting our own city employees.

Although it is not the only example, the

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police and fire departments are a good place to begin. What seems to trouble civil service antis is the possibility of retirement at an early age. True, if a police officer joins the force at age 25, the retirement could come when they are 50 years old.

First, it would be totally unfair to change the rules and expectations of those who have spent their professional careers serving our city. They and we knew the rules, and a lifetime of service can not be changed without seriously damaging the morale of the whole departments they serve.

But there is a more compelling reason for protecting the present system, even if that permits early retirement, and that is the public interest. Those continuing years of service actually save the city money. Consider the costs of training and recruitment of police and fire staff if they come and go by the national employment averages of five years on the same job. Those costs would be far greater than the retirement benefits.

Equally important, the incentive of employment retention equates into service by veterans who come to know our community and its

values, something a constant change could not guarantee.

We keep our best because of our commitment to excellence and because of the guaranteed benefits. It would be catastrophic to change the rules in mid-career, not only for our first responders, but all city employees.

\*\*\*

Speaking of cops, my hometown of Fostoria, Ohio finally made some national news this month.

I had no idea we even had a resident prostitute, but the Fostoria hooker is probably not

the smartest member of the oldest profession. She was recently sentenced to 15 days in jail for trying to sell her services to the Fostoria Chief of Police, and drug-related charges. I assume 14 of those days were for job training.

*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 4*

time blocks that seem to have some randomness," Manaster said. "But I will point out that I'm now informed that this is the first time that there has been consensus [in the committee comprised of administrators, teachers and students] that this is the best opportunity for our kids to get the most out of our school day. So it's likely that if I had more time just to get my bearings that I would have been more supportive of their effort and recommendations."

The committee has been working on those revisions for nearly three years.

Manaster said he was also concerned with the new schedule's 10-minute passing period.

"I firmly believe that that is too long," he said. "I'm hopeful that as part of our master plan, we will be able to work on making a more efficient traffic pattern to allow for a shorter passing period and more time spent on instruction."

Manaster said he acknowledges the schedule will never be "perfect."

"I appreciate very much the effort that was

made, and we'll see how it goes," Manaster said. "I expressed my hesitancy with my vote."

Beverly High Principal J Guidetti could not be reached for comment.

**Chamber of Commerce Announces 2010 Business Excellence Award Winners**

The Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the 2010 Business Excellence and Installation Gala on June 10 at the Beverly Hilton. The dinner and award celebration recognizes businesses in Beverly Hills that are visionaries of "true business excellence in the community."

Recipients include Lifetime Achievement award winner Richard N. Frank, chairman of Lawry's Restaurants, Beverly Hills Bar Association for Community Contribution, Chris McMillan the Salon for Innovative Practices, the Drago Family Group of Restaurants for Entrepreneurial Business, the Montage Beverly Hills for Customer Service and Two Rodeo for Community Contribution.

The chamber will also be installing the

2010-11 board of directors and Board Chair Todd Johnson, general manager of Lawry's The Prime Rib Beverly Hills, at the event, which will take place from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

For more information, contact (310) 248-1000, ext. 114.

**Playboy Jazz Festival to Hold Free Concert in Beverly Hills**

Grammy-winning pianist Bill Cunliffe and his Septet and vocalist and bandleader Johnny Crawford and His Orchestra will perform in a free concert sponsored by the Playboy Jazz Festival Sunday, May 2. The event will be held from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Beverly Hills Civic Center Plaza.

The concert is the first in the festival's acclaimed series of free community events held in conjunction with the upcoming Playboy Jazz Festival set for Saturday, June 12 and Sunday, June 13 at the Hollywood Bowl.

"Our Beverly Hills concert has become a popular kick off for the annual Playboy Jazz Festival season, and this year's roster of talent

promises a lively afternoon of upbeat jazz entertainment at the civic center's attractive outdoor performing arts venue in celebration of our 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Festival," said Playboy Jazz Festival President Richard Rosenzweig.

Food and refreshments will be available for purchase to the public. Glass containers, alcoholic beverages and audio or video recorders will not be permitted.

For more information, call (310) 450-1173 or visit [www.playboyjazz.com](http://www.playboyjazz.com).

**Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters Social Mixer to be Held May 11**

A social mixer for Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles will be held Tuesday, May 11 at 7 p.m. in The Belmont Café.

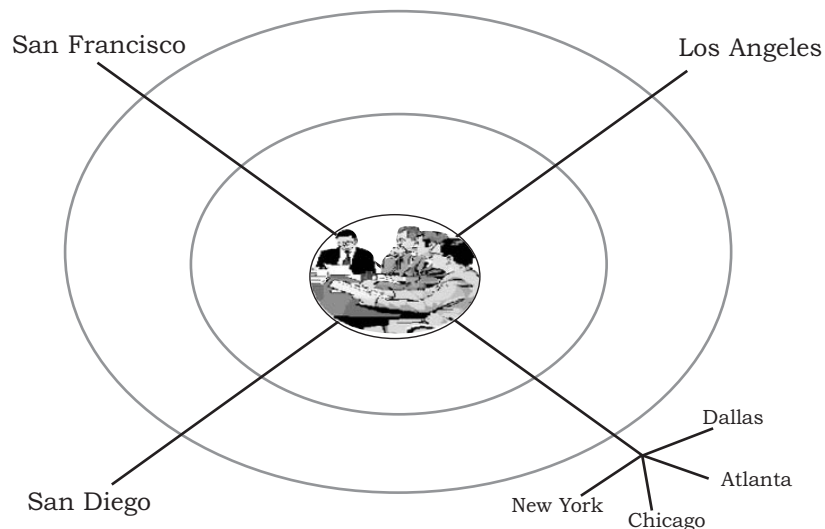
Attendees must be at least 21 years of age, and are suggested to donate \$18 to benefit JBBS, which offers various programs and mentoring services for children.

For more information or to RSVP, contact Elliot Steingart at [esteingart@jbbsla.org](mailto:esteingart@jbbsla.org), (323) 456-1160 or visit [www.jbbsla.org](http://www.jbbsla.org).

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# coverstory

## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A BEVERLY HILLS PARAMEDIC

The Weekly tags along with a rescue team for a day

By Kimberly Cheng

THURSDAY, APRIL 22, 2010

**3:30 p.m.** I ring the bell in the front office of the fire station before a man appears several minutes later. He promptly calls someone to come down and get me, and soon, firefighter Geoff Ertel appears. He smiles and introduces himself before taking a good look at my footwear. "Do you have close-toed shoes?" he asks me. I tell him I have heels in my car, and he sends me to go change.

**3:45 p.m.** I arrive back at the station wearing my six-inch heels. I tell Geoff I don't think my peep-toe pumps are much better than my sandals, and he says, "We'll see." He takes me through the back and tells the ground floor offices just finished undergoing remodeling. Then, Geoff shows me the shop in the back of the station where the trucks are repaired or serviced. We walk into the elevator, then through a dining room where several other firefighters are seated, chatting or watching Erin Andrews on ESPN.

My heels are clacking and people are staring. Geoff tells me about the light tree, how the firefighters and medics are notified when a call comes in. Blue means rescue; red means the fire engine; green means the fire truck; and amber is the fire chief, Geoff says. He shows me a theatre room and then down a hallway where the women's bathroom is. He takes me on a quick tour to show me the two exits. "Those shoes are impractical," I hear and see fingers pointing at my shoes. I am sent away again to change back into my sandals.

**4:00 p.m.** When I get back to the station, the two medics I am following for the day have returned from a call. Geoff grabs a fire jacket and introduces me to the medics, Ryan Sinutko and Chris Hobbs, before handing them the jacket for me. I ask who the driver for the day is, and Ryan tells me he is. Chris is what they call the "patient man" today.

Ryan is 31 years-old and married to his wife, Nicki. He served seven years as a firefighter and nearly four years as a medic.

Chris is 26 years-old, and worked as a firefighter for four years before becoming a medic about one year ago. He tells about the "household chores" they have to do. Today is floor

day, which means cleaning, mopping all the floors. They always have to make sure inventory and all narcotics are fully stocked, and also are required to work out in the gym, located upstairs, one hour a day.

**4:30 p.m.** Chris tells me the turnaround time between getting a call, taking a patient to the hospital, return to the station and restocking all supplies is between 45 minutes to an hour. Chris and Ryan show me the trauma kit, cardiac arrest pack, pediatric bag (including stuffed animals for children calm them down), EKG machine stored in the medic truck.

They tell me most people don't know there's a difference between a fire truck and a fire engine. "A fire truck is like a big tool box on wheels," Chris says. The engine includes the fire hose and mainly helps control fires from the outside. The truck holds tools, such as the Jaws of Life, and is responsible for search and rescue operations.

**4:40 p.m.** I am given tennis shoes two sizes too big to wear. They belong to firefighter Melissa Hillis. I meet Battalion Chief Ralph Mundell, and sit in his truck to put the shoes on. Ryan shows me the back of Ralph's truck, which has computers and other equipment stored.

**5:00 p.m.** A call comes in. I hop into the truck. Chris tells me to put the fire jacket on, as well as the headset so I can hear. We head to the city's courthouse on the 300 block of Civic Center Drive where a homeless man is on the ground. Some of the firefighters are already on the scene. I hop out of the truck with my pen and notebook and walk over to the sidewalk. BHPD is also there, along with three civilians. One of them, an African-American woman, called 911 when she saw the homeless man collapse. He had a seizure and was shaking uncontrollably. There is blood on the ground and on his face. I ask another woman what happened. "He fell on the ground. I didn't see it, but I'm pretty sure they just saved his life," she says.

An oxygen mask is placed over the man's face before he is asked a slew of questions. They take his blood pressure. The hospital is contacted to make sure it's not full. The

homeless man keeps asking for a cigarette. He's helped onto the gurney and taken into the truck. I follow and hop back inside. The homeless man asks for a cigarette again.

**5:30 p.m.** We arrive at Cedars Sinai. This is my first time at this hospital. The homeless man is taken inside, where his blood pressure is checked again. As soon as we get inside, the homeless man begins to get upset and says he wants to leave. "No, I want to leave. I do not want medical attention," he says. An Asian woman, the head nurse, looks agitated. Her tone of voice is agitated too. "Now that you're on my premise, I have to do what I have to do legally. And now that you're awake, that's lovely," she says, almost sarcastically. The homeless man is transferred onto a hospital gurney into the nurse's care to wait for a doctor before Ryan, Chris and I head out back to the truck.

**5:40 p.m.** Chris wipes down the gurney and he and Ryan put new sheets on it. As we drive back toward the station, another call comes in. The call is from the courthouse again. Chris tells me this is the third consecutive call from the courthouse. This time, the call is from an inmate in the sheriff's custody. "Sometimes the calls are legit. Other time, they're trying to get out of court," Chris says.

**5:45 p.m.** We get to the courthouse on Civic Center Drive, and the other firefighters are already on the scene. We walk through the entrance to the holding cell, and there are three police officers there, all of whom stare at me as I walk into the room, and then into the cell. A tatted, African-American inmate in a brown, L.A. County jumper is crouched on the floor, crying. There are empty Styrofoam cups everywhere, as if they just cleared out the cell. The inmate says he can't breathe. He says he's had heart attacks before and high blood pressure. One firefighter takes his blood pressure, and the medics go to work, hooking him up to the EKG machine. The inmate says he's claustrophobic, and as he was getting transported to a different jail, they "stuffed" him inside a small, dark "box." "It's torture," the inmate says as he chokes back tears.

But all his vitals are fine. The inmate is told

how to overcome claustrophobia: by closing his eyes, because claustrophobia is a visual phobia. As I wonder what the inmate's backstory is, I am struck by the firefighter's sympathetic advice.

**6:00 p.m.** We head back to the station, and when we arrive, Chris restocks all the supplies, and Ryan files the report.

Both Chris and Ryan commute to Beverly Hills from Ventura County. Chris is from Calabasas and Ryan is from Camarillo. The average commute for BHPD firefighters and medics is anywhere from 50 to 60 miles. I ask them both why they came to work for Beverly Hills.

"The city, the city council, the community: they're all very supportive of us and of public safety," Ryan says. "The way the city treats its employees. Getting hired here, it's not just a job, it's a career. The personnel here is the reason why I came here."

Chris nods in agreement.

"Yeah, the people here is pretty much why we not only come here but stay here," says Chris, who has been in the city for eight years, having served for the department as a fire cadet for four years before getting hired as a firefighter.

Ryan has been working for Beverly Hills for seven years. He tells me he has been married for almost two years, and has a 15-month-old son.

**6:15 p.m.** We walk into the elevator back to the upper floor. Ryan and Chris finish giving me the tour Geoff had started earlier. They show me two gyms, one city-owned and open to all city employees and the other funded by the Beverly Hills Firemen's Association. They show me their room, which looks like a college dorm room. Firefighters/medics spend two nights a week at the station for a 48-hour segment.

I finally get to see the fire pole. Chris tells me there are two. It's much thicker and much higher than I imagined. I'm afraid of heights, so I keep my feet back as I look down to the ground. I ask Chris if they receive lessons on how to slide down the pole. He says it's actually one of the first things they learn; some firefighters have injured their ankles before by sliding down and landing incorrectly. I ask Chris why he decided to become a firefighter and then a medic.

"It's something that's always appealed to me," Chris says. "I like the spontaneity of the job. I like being outdoors, working with my hands, helping people. I've always known what I wanted to do."

**6:25 p.m.** It's dinnertime. Firefighters take turns cooking meals. They buy the groceries, cook the food and then wash the dishes. I'm told I'm having dinner on a good night. It's fire cadet Nick Upchurch's last day, so it's tradition that he cooks the meal. "We don't normally eat like this," Ryan says, and I stand in line, still wearing clown shoes, for steak, bacon and cheese mashed potatoes and salad. I'm starving, and it's delicious.

We all sit together, and even as a newbie, I feel the bond the firefighters share like that of an extended family. Chris pours me a glass of water. I am just in time for the Lakers game.



**6:40 p.m.** I finish dinner and introduce myself to Nick before thanking him for the amazing meal. Nick's next move will be as an intern for BHPD in the special operations unit.

BHFD Engineer Reynold Hicklin sits down beside me. He says he is retiring this year after 31 years of service. "So, did you really wear six-inch heels coming in?" he asks me. I laugh and explain what happened.

**7:20 p.m.** Reynold and I chat until Nick announces the peach and apple cobbler is ready. I shouldn't, but I do, and I wait in line again for the cobbler and then top it off with vanilla ice cream.

**7:30 p.m.** Another call comes in. Chris asks if I want to take the pole down. I regretfully, shamefully chicken out and say no. He and Ryan take the stairs with me. The call is from the 100 block of North Slates, FF Manny Rosales, Capt. Tim Hayes, Capt. Dean Viana; (bottom row) Capt. Dean Guccione, Eng. Kerry Gardner, B/C Ralph Mundell, Eng. Amy Horst, FF Geoff Ertel, FF Mitch Furman, FF/PM Ryan Sinutko, Eng. Vic Gutierrez



(left to right, top row) FF/PM Dave Perusse, Eng. Reynold Hicklin, Eng. Greg Vitail, Capt. Richard Solomon, FF/PM Dale Nordberg, FF/PM Brad McHenry, FF/PM James Charron, FF Chuck Ratcliff, FF/PM Mark Hein, Eng. Dave Gonzales, FF/PM Bob Trevett, FF Chris Slates, FF Manny Rosales, Capt. Tim Hayes, Capt. Dean Viana; (bottom row) Capt. Dean Guccione, Eng. Kerry Gardner, B/C Ralph Mundell, Eng. Amy Horst, FF Geoff Ertel, FF Mitch Furman, FF/PM Ryan Sinutko, Eng. Vic Gutierrez

We walk in toward a woman sitting inside on the bench. She says she felt dizzy and wanted to sit down, but the workers kept harassing her in order to get her to leave. Her car is parked underground. "If they would have just left me in peace for 10 minutes, this wouldn't have happened," she says. Two BHPD officers are also on scene. The building employees called the cops after the manager wanted the woman off private property. The cops

called BHFD when she complained of dizziness.

The firefighters and medics on scene take her blood pressure, but she seems fine. The woman refuses to leave or go to the hospital. They tell her they will arrest her for trespassing if she doesn't leave. She thumbs through her wallet to look for her attorney's phone

number. The cops tell her she can call her lawyer anytime she wants. One building employee says the manager agrees to give her five minutes to sit in peace. "Do you all have to hover around me?" the woman asks. The police officers start timing her five minutes before we all walk out of the building.

**7:45 p.m.** We leave the scene. When Chris, Ryan and I arrive back at the station, I ask

Ryan if city employees ever visit the station. He tells me City Manager Geoff Kolin recently did a ride-along with them, as well as former Assistant City Manager Katie Lichtig before she left to San Luis Obispo.

Ryan says the reason he became a firefighter, and now a medic, was because he wanted a career that was active and didn't involve sit-

ting behind a desk.

"It's also the whole family aspect of it, especially in a smaller department like this," Ryan says. "It's an extended family. And also the satisfaction you get from helping someone and being able to change someone's life."

**8:00 p.m.** All the dishes and the kitchen have been cleaned, and the dining room, once filled with uniformed people, is now empty.

Ryan shows me the schedule for all the firefighters and medics. There are 75 firefighters and medics, not including administrative staff, 25 of which work in the city's three stations daily.

Ryan says many of the firefighters are big "Survivors" fans; this is when they get more down time to watch the show. He asks if I want to watch it, and I decline the offer. Instead, I sit and chat with Ralph, Ryan and Chris for about an hour.

**8:50 p.m.** I ask Ralph if I can take some group pictures of the shift before I hand in my fire jacket. We head downstairs to the trucks and engines, and as we wait for the group to arrive, I begin to take photos of Ryan and Chris by the rescue truck.

**9:05 p.m.** My day has come to an end. Ryan and Chris tell me they may be up all night. Calls are sporadic and follow no pattern, regardless of time of day or season.

But as the group slowly trickles in for the photo, another call comes in.

"Do you want to come with us, or take off?" Ryan asks me. I decide to join them for one, final ride-along, and I grab the fire jacket, my pen and notebook and hop back into big red. After all, this may be my last time in the rescue truck, and possibly even inside a fire station.

*sports cont. from page 5*

### Culver City 9, Beverly Hills 2

Jones pitched well, but was a victim of the Normans' poor defense in their Ocean League opener April 13 at La Cienega Park, Paysinger said.

"We didn't make the plays we should have made on defense," Paysinger said. "They weren't considered errors, but they were hits that shouldn't have been hits — not catching pop-ups, two fly balls that shouldn't have fell, a double play ball that we only got one out."

The Centaurs began the third inning by getting singles from Mendez, Sylvester and Adkison, a double by Gemgnani and singles by Ryan Mulvihill and Byun for four runs. Byun stole second and scored on Sean Cogman's one-out single.

Culver City scored twice in both the sixth and seventh.

In the sixth, Lee, its No. 9 hitter, led off with a single, advanced on Mendez's sacrifice, and scored on Adkison's single. Gemgnani followed with a single, driving in Sylvester, who walked and advanced on Adkison's single.

In the seventh, the Centaurs started the seventh inning with singles by Tyler Mark, Cogman and Lee. Sylvester singled one out later, followed by a single by Atkinson, driving

in Lee with the second run.

Beverly Hills scored its runs in the first and fifth.

Brock led off with a walk, moved to second on Jones' sacrifice and scored on Bennett's double.

A.J. Fortier led off the fifth with a triple and scored on a balk.

Jones allowed 13 hits, seven runs (all earned) in six innings, striking out four, walking five and hitting a batter.

The Normans were out-hit, 18-7. Bennett was three-for-four.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play Hawthorne today and Santa Monica Tuesday, both at La Cienega Park, in Ocean League games beginning at 3:15 p.m.

### Softball

#### Beverly Hills 12, Morningside 2

Annie Math, Jackie Pop and Tamar Rotstein all drove in two runs for the Normans in an Ocean League game April 13 at Beverly Hills shortened to five innings because of the 10-run rule.

The Normans scored seven runs in the first inning. Of their first nine batters, five walked,

Rotstein was hit by a pitch to force in Math, who had led off with a walk, and Lisa Kliman reached on an error.

Math, Beverly Hills' 10<sup>th</sup> batter, singled for their first hit, driving in Erica Hendry, who walked. Emily Rosen followed with a single, loading the bases. Kliman walked, forcing in Ida Trevino, who walked.

The Normans added three runs in the second. Lexi Silbiger singled in Rotstein, who reached base on an error. Silbiger scored on Pop's ground out. Solange Levy walked and stole home.

Beverly Hills scored its final two runs in the fifth. Math led off with a walk and scored when Rotstein, the Normans' cleanup hitter, grounded into a force out. Kliman scored when Pop reached base on an error.

The Monarchs combined singles by Barbara Rivera and Theadora Creer for a run in the fourth. Vanessa Reid homered leading off Morningside's half of the fifth.

Rosen (6-5) was Beverly Hills' starting pitcher, was credited with the victory, allowing one hit over three innings, striking out two and walking one. Pop pitched the final two innings, allowing three hits, both runs (both earned) walking two and striking out one

The Normans led in hits, 4-3.

### Santa Monica 12, Beverly Hills 0

The Normans were no-hit by Vikings senior right-hander Celisha Walker April 15 in an Ocean League game at Beverly Hills shortened to five innings because of the 10-run rule.

Walker (10-4) struck out nine and allowed only two Normans to reach base — Rosen on an error in the fourth and Rotstein on an error in the fifth.

Santa Monica scored five runs in the first, two in both the third and fourth and three in the fifth.

Rosen (6-6) pitched a complete game, allowing 16 hits and 12 runs (all earned), striking out two and not walking a batter.

### What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play at Morningside today and Santa Monica Tuesday in Ocean League games beginning at 3:15 p.m.

*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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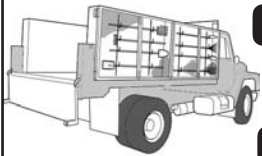
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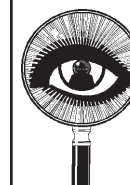
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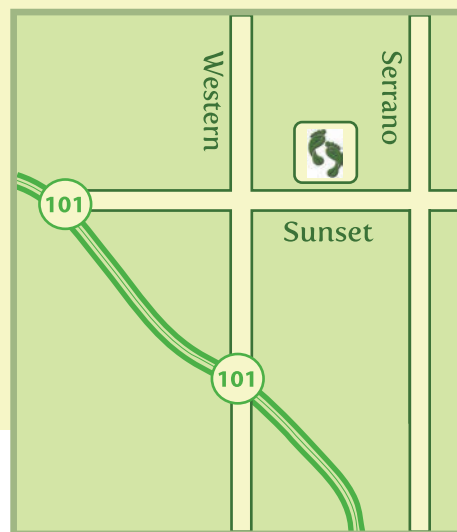


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