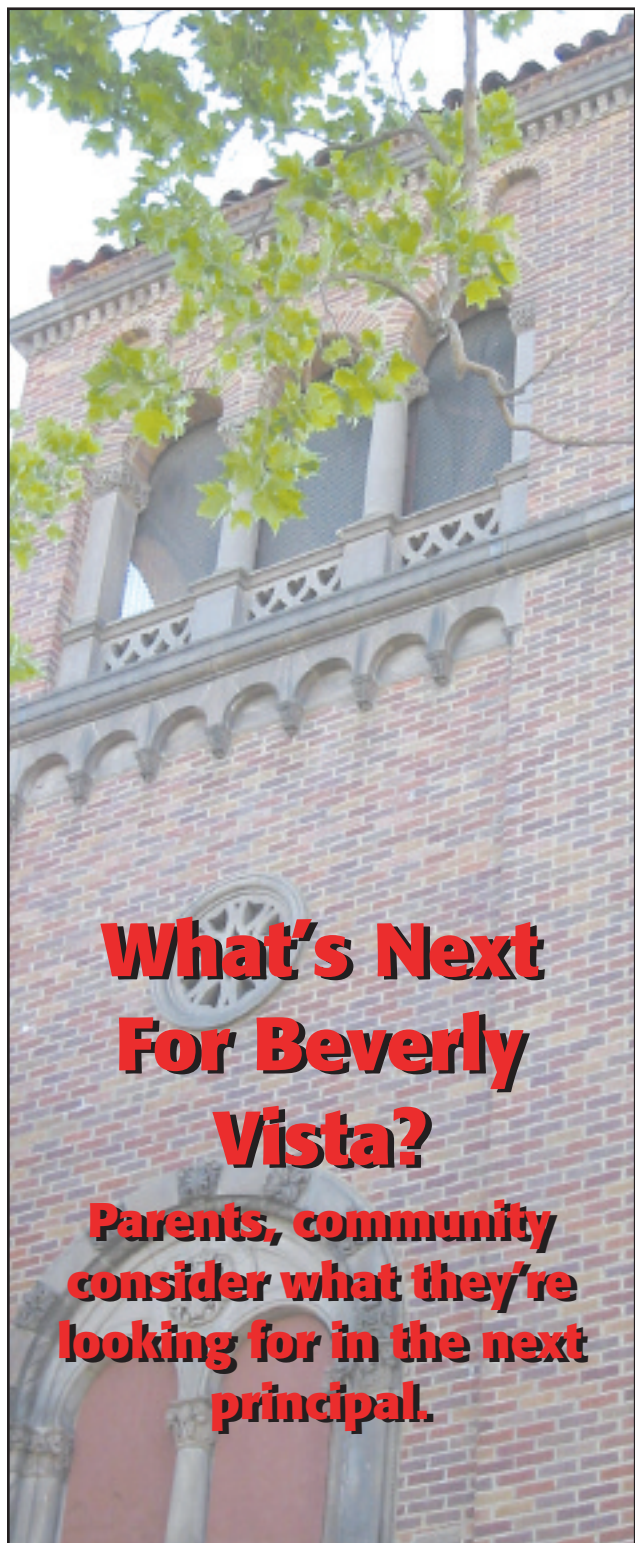


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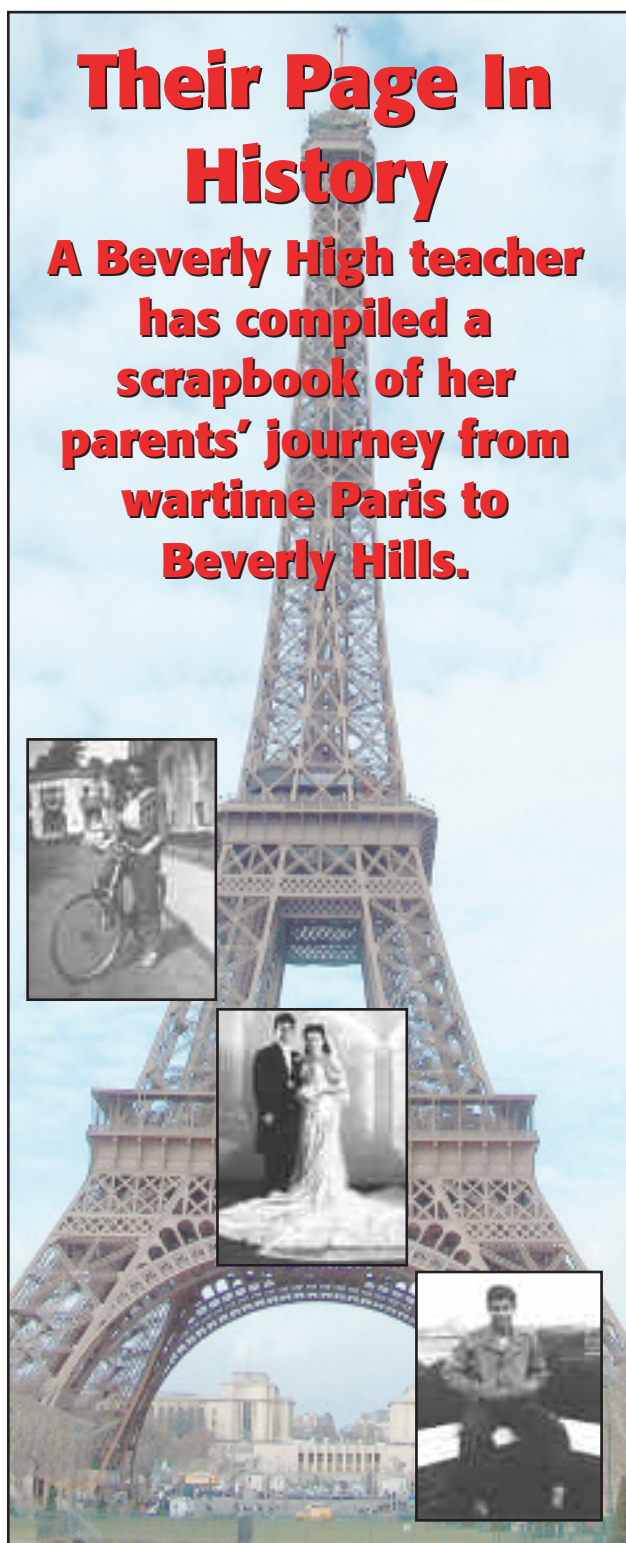
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What's Next For Beverly Vista?

Parents, community
consider what they're
looking for in the next
principal.

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Their Page In History

A Beverly High teacher
has compiled a
scrapbook of her
parents' journey from
wartime Paris to
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The Governor's A-Team

Two Beverly High
graduates who work
behind the scenes in
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Schwarzenegger's
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letters & email

Editor's Note:

Dear *Beverly Hills Weekly* readers:

This is my last issue as the Managing Editor of the *Beverly Hills Weekly* and I want to personally thank you for your support and encouragement over the years. It's been a pleasure serving this wonderful city and working with people who truly care about the community they live in.

Please stay in touch, and I look forward to continuing to cover the many exciting events in Beverly Hills' future in my new venture with the *Westside Chronicle*.

Thank you again for all of your support.
Andrea Simpson
Managing Editor

"Council Kids: 50 Years Later"

I saw a copy of your newspaper [issue #335] and enjoyed reading your article "Council Kids: 50 Years Later." The article brought back many memories. My father, Jack Freeman, was elected to the Beverly Hills City Council in 1958 and became mayor in 1960. He passed away in 1987, at the age of 77. My mother, Sara Freeman,

passed away in 2002, at the age of 90. My father's life was filled with caring about others and caring about the City of Beverly Hills.

Gail Freeman Feigenbaum
Los Angeles

"Stern To Leave Beverly Vista"

I received the following e-mail this morning: "Beverly Hills USD has begun the process of selecting a new principal for Beverly Vista School for the 2006/2007 school year. We invite you to participate in an opportunity to give your thoughts as to what qualities/qualifications you would like in the person selected as the new instructional leader of Beverly Vista School. Please join us on Thursday, March 23, at 9 a.m., in the district office board room."

This surely must be an email hoax. I believe a very large number of Beverly Vista students, teachers and parents already packed the Salter Family Theater on Feb. 21 and "gave our thoughts." We were ignored and dismissed. This e-mail implies BHUSD is interested in our opinions in their search for a new BV principal. If this is not a hoax, it is very insulting.

Michelle Upchurch
Beverly Vista parent
Beverly Hills

I recently witnessed a Beverly Hills school board meeting where the auditorium was unusually filled by parents, teachers and students. The atmosphere was highly charged, because the issue at hand demand-

ed accountability. A highly qualified, dedicated, outstanding, and loved principal of Beverly Vista School had been removed from her post. She had been scheduled to retire, after 30 years of service to this district, at the end of 2007 when the construction of her beloved school was predicted to finally be completed. The public opinion in the room that evening was that the harsh decision of the superintendent, as well as the school board, was unfair, unjust and totally politically incorrect. The public was demanding accountability from the superintendent and the school board.

What they got was a quote from the Brown Act that stated because the issue at hand was not on the agenda for this meeting, they would be unable to reply to the audience or answer any question on the subject of Irene Stern and why she will no longer be the principal of Beverly Vista School.

This board and superintendent, as do many other government officials, covered themselves with the "Brown Act" and ran for the cover of executive privilege and closed session. Public opinion gets us nowhere. The structure protects them from having face to face accountability.

Our sensitivities and value systems have been stepped upon. Please join me and remember that the ballot box is the only tool that sends the clear message of public opinion!

Gloria Seiff
Beverly Hills

WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

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SNAPSHOT



Photo: Barry Weiss

"END OF AN ERA"
CHARLEVILLE BOULEVARD

Beverly Hills Weekly

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city & schools

What's Next For Beverly Vista?

Parents, community consider what they're looking for in the next principal.

By Andrea Simpson

As the campaign continues by parents and teachers in the community to find answers to why they believe Beverly Vista Principal Irene Stern was recently "forced to retire" at the end of this year, district leaders are beginning their

you want to see in a principal?" Gumina said.

Superintendent Jeff Hubbard said he wants the public to know "we're very interested in [meeting with parents and teachers] and want to share their interest with all the teams involved."

"It can't be on the shoulders of one person. It's going to take the parents, teachers and administrators to make it great. The parents have to be open to say, 'I'm here for you.'"

-- Former PTA President Isabel Bronte

search for her replacement.

In the coming weeks, Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources Sal Gumina will be coordinating two groups "to get a feel for what we want to see in a new principal for Beverly Vista," he said, one of which has already been scheduled for BV parents next Thursday, March 23 at 9 a.m. in the district office board room.

"We have a series of things we're going to ask them. Basically, just put it out there: what do

Former early 1980s Beverly Vista PTA President and BV grandparent Isabel Bronte said the next principal will have to unify the school once again.

"Basically, it takes someone who can unite the teachers and parents and have a good knowledge of administration, and the good feeling seems to be going down the drain at the school," Bronte said. "It's going to be a tough year with the new construction [on Building B] and they are going to have to find someone

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SUMMARY OF ORDINANCE NO. 06-O-2497

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS AMENDING REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO COMMON INTEREST DEVELOPMENTS, CODIFYING LIMITATIONS ON THE NUMBER OF APARTMENT UNITS THAT MAY BE DEMOLISHED ANNUALLY, AND AMENDING THE BEVERLY HILLS MUNICIPAL CODE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that at its REGULAR MEETING held on Tuesday, March 7, 2006, the City Council of Beverly Hills adopted the above entitled ordinance. This is a summary of Ordinance No. 06-O-2497 prepared and published in accordance with the requirements of California Government Code Section 36933. Ordinance No. 06-O-2497 (the "Ordinance") supercedes and replaces the provisions of Article 7 of Chapter 2 of Title 9 of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code with a new comprehensive set of regulations governing common interest developments (condominiums, housing stock cooperatives, planned unit developments, and community apartments). The Ordinance: (i) revises regulations governing all common interest developments; (ii) establishes provisions governing the conversion of apartment buildings to common interest developments or the conversion of a common interest development created prior to January 1, 2006, to another form of common interest development; (iii) establishes minimum physical standards for residential conversions; (iv) imposes various notice and other requirements (including relocation benefits) on subdividers converting existing residential rental buildings to common interest developments to protect tenants in buildings being converted; (v) establishes review requirements for certain conversions; and (vi) imposes an annual limitation on the conversion of existing residential rental units to common interest developments. The Ordinance also makes corresponding amendments to Chapter 3 of Title 10 and codifies a previously adopted limitation on the number of apartment units that may be demolished annually.

Ordinance No. 06-O-2497 was adopted by the following vote:

AYES: Councilmembers Fenton, Brucker, Delshad, Webb and Mayor Briskman
NOES: None
ABSENT: None
RECUSED: None

Ordinance No. 06-O-2497 will take effect at 12:01 a.m. on April 7, 2006. A certified copy of Ordinance No. 06-O-2497 is available for public review at the City Clerk's Office, 455 N. Rexford Drive, Room 190, 455 North Rexford Drive, Beverly Hills, California.

BYRON POPE, CMC
Acting City Clerk



Beverly Vista: will get a new principal by May

good with the qualities to get through that and to help the kids get through it with a new school [building] being built.”

Bronte remembers the district hiring three new BV principals during her 20 years with the school, but there was always one commonality between them.

“I think there was always a very caring person in place, with qualities to deal with situa-

outcries but instead are past practices. Similar meetings were scheduled with district staff and parents when searching for new Beverly High and Hawthorne principals, Gumina said.

“This is not something new or different,” Gumina said.

The BV principal position, along with a posting for the Director of Adult Education, is currently posted on the district’s website. The deadline is April 3.

The job description states “under the direction of the superintendent, [the principal] serves as the educational leader and chief executive of an elementary school (K-8) and is responsible for the planning, coordination, and directing of activities and programs related to the administration of the school according to state and district mandates.”

Application requirements include a fully completed application form, a personal letter of application, a resume, a placement file, and/or three current letters of professional references describing the applicant’s performance in previously held positions.

The posting is also advertised in the Association of California School Administrators newsletter, EdCal.

Hubbard said the district loses quality candidates the longer it waits.

“With a position like this we want to get a jump on things because right about now EdCal starts to get thick with positions and in order to get the best qualified person that’s why we’re

“We will be meeting with parents and teachers regarding their interest in terms of the qualities of the new principal, and we’re very interested in that and want to share their with interest with all the teams involved.”

-- Superintendent Jeff Hubbard

tions that came up. They always had teaching backgrounds and a blend of qualities. BV was always a wonderful melting pot of students and teachers,” Bronte said. “I just think the kids who went there had a great feeling. My son still keeps in touch with his BV friends and he’s in his thirties. They had such a good rapport and there was an active group of parents that cared.”

But Bronte said collaboration between parents and teachers will be the one and only tactic to a successful search.

“It can’t be on the shoulders of one person,” Bronte said. “It’s going to take the parents, teachers and administrators to make it great. The parents have to be open to say, ‘I’m here for you.’ That’s what it’s going to take.”

There will also be an opportunity for staff to voice their opinion at an open meeting, which has not yet been scheduled.

“With teaching staff it’s easier because they have a set work day, whereas, classified staff work at all hours. I really want to make it available to them to be able meet and share their thoughts about what they’d like to see in the person that ends up being selected for the BV principalship,” Gumina said.

Since Stern’s announcement a few weeks ago, parents and teachers have come out in droves against the superintendent’s and school board’s decision in her alleged forced retirement. But Gumina said the community meetings are not necessarily in response to the community’s

putting it out right now,” Gumina agreed. “The later you wait, the less candidates are available because districts start picking up people and selecting people.”

When all the resumes are compiled, a paper screening process will begin, and the district will move quickly but appropriately to find good, solid candidates to select for an interview, Gumina said.

Hubbard’s involvement in the process doesn’t usually happen until the very end. Once about three top candidates are selected, he will meet with them for a final interview. If any of the final candidates apply from outside the district, the superintendent and other district officials will usually visit that district to validate what they know about the applicant.

Another former BV PTA president, Aviva Laufer, said Stern will be a tough act to follow.

“Irene inherited a very strong school from Nadine Breuer, and I just thought Nadine was incredible and Irene is incredible. It could be a tough act to follow. The parents are so involved and the staff has always been incredible to work with. It’s a strong school and it has great tradition and they need to bring someone in who appreciates that tradition and carries it forward.”

Stern’s replacement will be chosen by the end of May.

aroundtown

Their Page In History

A Beverly High teacher has compiled a scrapbook of her parents’ journey from wartime Paris to Beverly Hills.

By Anna Scott



VE Day in Paris on May 8, 1945.

Corinne Carlson was pleasantly surprised when she peeked inside a set of boxes stacked in her parents’ closet.

Inside, Corinne, a French teacher and Foreign Language Department Chair at Beverly High, found stacks of photographs chronicling her father’s time as a soldier during World War II, all tied together with rubber bands and neglected for more than a decade.

The most striking pictures, taken in France in 1944 and 1945, document the liberation of

Paris and the end of the war in Europe. The images include General Charles de Gaulle leading the Free French parade down the Champs-Elysees, allied troops marching through the streets of Paris and French citizens celebrating in the streets on VE Day.

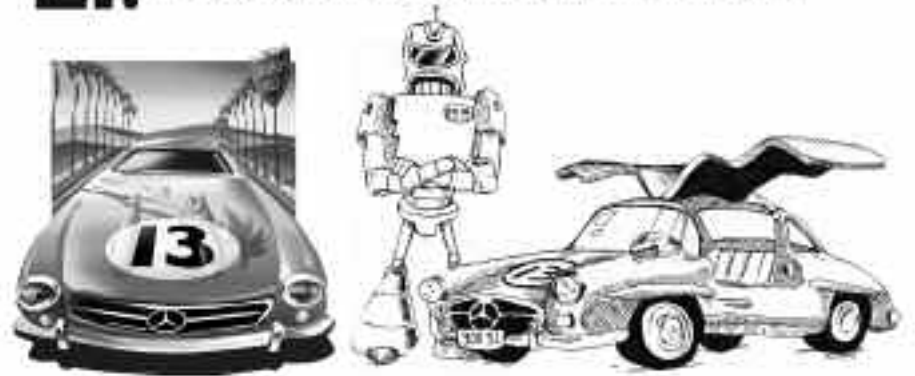
Corinne’s father, Paul Silverbrook, was a 20-year-old corporal when he arrived in Paris just a few days after the 1944 liberation. The liberation day photographs that ended up in the scrapbook were given to him by another soldier, whose name Paul has forgotten. He does, however, remember the tense atmosphere of the city when he arrived.

“Let me put it this way,” Paul said. “Today, if you go to the Champs-Elysees, it’s cluttered. There’s heavy traffic, hundreds of cars every day. When I got there, there was not a single vehicle on the entire length of the Champs-Elysees. [The French] really suffered in many ways [during the war.]”

Paul was in Paris, however, for VE day the following May, which he described as a very

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American infantry marching into Paris in 1944.

different experience.

"I had never experienced anything like it in my life," Paul said. "The people were joyous, they were celebrating in the streets, and I was right there with them. The Americans were well-received." He added, with a laugh, that he "got kissed a lot."

Paul was stationed at Utah Beach in Normandy, though he was not part of the D-Day invasion force. One of the photographs in the scrapbook shows Paul and a fellow soldier standing in front of the army tents set up at the historic site.

There seems to be more one recurring theme in the photographs from Paul's time spent in France: a young French woman, smiling from the seat of a bicycle. This is Corinne's mother, Janine Lusy, who Paul met in Paris shortly after his arrival.

"We were able, in our free time, to borrow bicycles. I was on my bicycle, near the Trocadero, and here's Janine," Paul said. "She was on a bicycle too, and she was very attractive. I asked her for directions. I knew the directions, but we struck up a conversation, and she did something she swears she's

never done. She gave me her phone number. That was the beginning of it."

Janine was 19 at the time and had migrated to Paris with her family after German forces invaded their hometown in the north. After their first encounter, Paul was invited to Janine's 20th birthday party, and the two began dating.

"While I was still there [in France], before I went to Germany, I got to meet Janine's family. I went to their house for dinner many times, and they took me under their wing. It happened gradually, but it was a great love affair."

By the time Paul left for Germany, the couple was "madly in love."

After Paul was transferred to Germany in 1945, he and Janine kept in touch through letters. He was honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1946, at which point he returned to Philadelphia and "waited for Janine."

Although Paul doesn't recall the exact circumstances of his marriage proposal, it was around the time of his discharge that he asked Janine's family for permission to marry their daughter.

Janine accepted and moved to Philadelphia to be with Paul. They were married in January, 1947.

"Her parents [also] came to the United States and they lived with us, first in Philly, and, as our careers moved on, in New York," Paul said.

"I loved them very much. They always made me feel so welcome [in France]. When my father-in-law developed Parkinson's, I

was at his bedside until the day he died."

Corinne, their only child, was born in Philadelphia in 1954. The family relocated to Huntington, New York in 1958. There, Paul taught history at several Long Island high schools and later became a guidance counselor, while Janine taught high school and college French.

After Corinne married Jim Carlson, a Los Angeles native who's now a business consultant, and moved with him to Beverly Hills, the Silverbrooks decided to follow.

"We had a big house in Huntington, and we didn't need it anymore because it was just the two of us. We had visited [California] and we loved the climate, but most of all we wanted to see our grandchildren [Jesse, now 16, and Alexandra, 10] grow up."

Earlier this month, Corinne's son Jesse, a junior at Beverly High, brought the World War II scrapbook to his American History class to share with his classmates.

Corinne created the book after discovering the military photographs in early 2005. She took them home, where she and Jim scanned



General Charles de Gaulle leads French troops during the liberation of Paris in 1944.

around town cont. on page 16



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Pamper Your Pooch and Laugh Out Loud Comedy

By Irv Rudman

Style Your Pooch

If you've ever had a pet, you know how quickly they can come to feel like part of the family. Just like a child, you want the very best for your pet. Unlike a child, however, you don't have to worry about spoiling your furry friend if you shower him or her with gifts-- animals, after all, can't whine. So, I say, why not?

When you just can't resist that adorable mug (or pug, as the case may be), "Doggie Styles" is the place to go. The store's slogan says it all: "premium products for the pampered pooch." Their inventory includes the largest selection of collars and leashes in Los Angeles, toys, apparel, grooming supplies, designer accessories, and even doggie treats baked fresh on the premises.

Doggie Styles is the only store of its kind in Beverly Hills, a city known for its fashion sense. Don't be the last one to catch on... it would be a shame to dress your pooch in anything but the latest styles! The owner is Mike Campbell. Tell him I sent you.

Trust me, if your dog could talk, he would say, "But all the other dogs are wearing them!"

Lucky for you, that's not the case. But it's only fair that I tell you instead-- don't let your dog look unfashionable for one more minute. The good news is it's a lot cheaper to dress your dog in designer ware than it is to dress yourself.

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E-mail: doggiestylesllc@comcast.net

"My Big, Fat Italian Kosher Family"

Get ready to meet the family! Steve Solomon's family, that is. Comedian Solomon's one-man show, "My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish & I'm In Therapy," is opening for a limited engagement starting this week at the Brentwood Theatre.

In this play, the audience meets Solomon's entire extended family: mom, dad, grandma, grandpa, brothers, sisters, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and everyone in between. Solomon portrays the entire, hilarious cast of characters and then some. He takes on the roles of a Teutonic cruise director, a cat with emphysema, a squeaky new pair of shoes,

and a noisy pants zipper, all in the service of one question: "How does one keep kosher in an Italian kitchen?"

Solomon, a Brooklyn native, went from being the class clown to a college M.C., and then to a high school teacher. He eventually left education to pursue a business career, and finally found himself in showbiz. "I was sick and tired of the regular paychecks, the prestige and the educational glamour of a school district administrator's life," he said. "So I decided to get on the road and make \$30 a show."

I don't know about you, but I'm laughing already!

South Florida *Sun-Sentinel* writer Bill Hirschman said the show is "a master class and a time capsule of classic 20th century comedy technique. Solomon has his crowd chuckling, chortling and often roaring for well more than 90 minutes."

Solomon has headlined all over the United States and Europe for over 20 years in venues large and small, from the Tropicana Hotel in Vegas to major comedy clubs. He has performed with George Carlin, Pat Cooper, Kenny Rogers, Dionne Warwick, Connie Stevens and Marvin Hamlisch.

Tickets for "My Mother's Italian, My Father's Jewish, & I'm In Therapy" are available at the Brentwood Theatre Box Office, 11301 Wilshire Blvd. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Sundays to 4 p.m.

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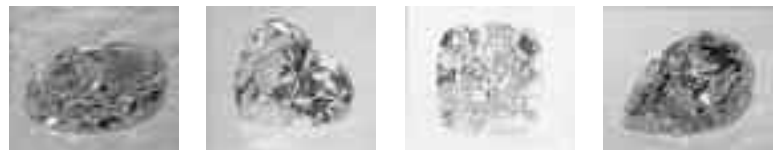
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from the hills of beverly



Brown Act In Action

Do we need an ethics ordinance?

By Rudy Cole

At every City Council meeting in recent months, a disabled person in a wheelchair demands the council create a commission on disabilities and adjourn in memory of **Rosa Parks** and **Simon Weisenthal**.

At most meetings this is his only speech, but there are times when he also insists on being heard on some agenda item, often finding some very esoteric link to his dual appeals, which sound reasonable.

For some procedural reasons, the council either can not or will not bend to his requests, frequently delivered at highly emotional levels. Nor can they stop him from repeating himself over and over again.

This somewhat sad scene is repeated in different forms and for different reasons at City Council, boards of supervisors and school board meetings all over the state. Every city has at least one person who takes advantage of a state law that requires local government bodies to permit public comment either before or after discussing and voting on agenda matters. The speakers may say whatever they want, expressing opinions on every imaginable issue. In

many cities, this has led to attacks on councils, city staff or the United Nations-- whatever the pet cause of the speaker. At school board meetings in some rural communities it could mean demands that evolution be removed from school textbooks.

The law that forces councils to give citizens access to the podium is the so-called Brown Act, named for a long-gone legislator, **Ralph Brown**, who represented a small county in the state legislature. The law also bans closed meetings except for those involving litigation or personnel. Some other provisions require public notices before actions are taken and inhibit local election officials from attending private events if a majority of members is present.

Generally, although cumbersome and often annoying, the Brown Act has been very good for the democratic process. No sudden ordinances can be passed and no action taken without public notice and full public debate. Before the Brown Act, government was quite different, even in our community.

City councils used to have "study sessions" behind closed doors, in a small back room

behind the council chambers. The press and public could and were often banned from these informal meetings where major decisions on issues ranging from variances of zoning laws to appointments of commissioners were made.

The late, great former Mayor and Councilmember **George Slaff**, before winning election, once appeared at a council meeting to protest a pending action by the council approving a building project. The then mayor, **George Davis**, cut him off with "we know what you think and we have no interest in hearing your opinion," and with that proceeded to approve the project without any public input. This was also when a few council members used to meet outside City Hall for lunch with some city power brokers where the real business of the city was conducted. The election of reform candidates in the 1960s, and later, such as **Leonard Horwin**, **Frank Clapp**, **Slaff**, **Phyllis Seaton**, **Richard Stone**, **Ben Stansbury, Jr.**, and **Dr. Charles Aronberg**, among others, changed all that, as did the Brown Act.

It was Stansbury who opened both formal and afternoon study sessions to cable television coverage, and later it was **Thomas Levyn** who made it possible for citizens to "call in" their opinions at the beginning of council meetings.

There are, however, problems the legislature needs to study. As an example, there is considerable confusion on the rights of elected officials to respond to comments made during these

public input sessions. The most extreme occurs when a speaker makes attacks on council or some staff member, or even when a citizen brings a critical important issue to the council. While the law clearly prohibits decision-making without notice, does it bar council comments? The Beverly Hills Board of Education cited the Brown Act as a reason for not explaining a recent action involving a school administrator, although it probably could have also remained silent because it was a personnel issue.

Our very able city attorney, **Larry Wiener**, should probably give the council and the community an update on the Brown Act, including court tests that have modified the law. Council members recently sparred on whether three or more could attend a semi-private resident meeting and whether they might be prosecuted by the Los Angeles district attorney for a Brown Act violation.

Although not exactly under the Brown Act, the council is also considering adoption of some rules on ethics that could impact future council members. The apparent target is legislators who become lobbyists for clients shortly after leaving the council. The reforms seem well intentioned, but are they necessary or in the public interest?

On the one hand, we expect elected officials and commissioners to give up hours and hours of their time serving the city. For lawyers, this often means considerable loss of income. Under one provision of the laws being proposed they and some city commissioners would be barred from representing clients for some period of time once leaving city service.

rudy cont. on page 8

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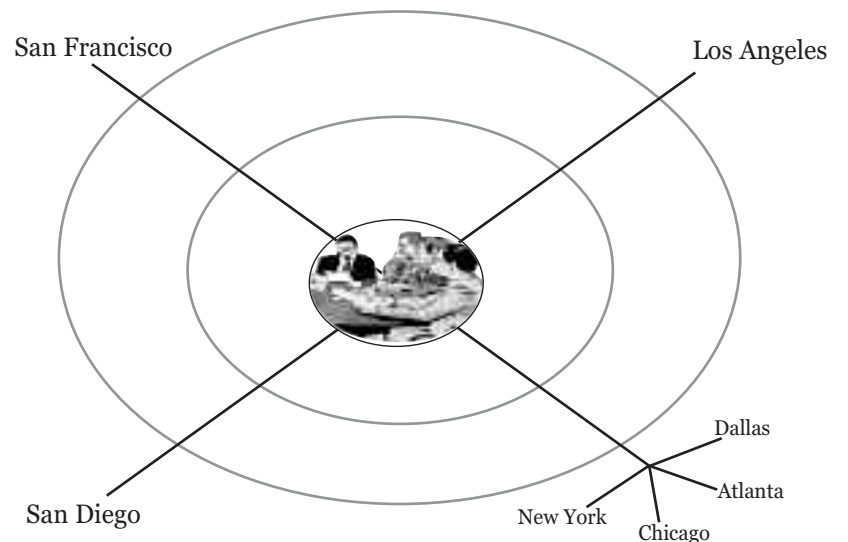
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rudy cont. from page 7

Having a former mayor or council member as your lawyer could be a mixed blessing. On the one hand, they could bring considerable expertise to a project and, with their knowledge of city rules and practices, help avoid actions that have little or no chance of winning city approval. Yes, they do have entrée to staff and former colleagues, but they also bring with that the glare of public attention that a less visible representative would not have. It's also likely to make staff very cautious and not give any appearance that any special favors might be granted.

As for undue influence, there are many kinds of pressures that come into play. A representative of any community group comes to council with the real or implied threat of political retaliation if council does not heed demands made. There are also social relationships, shared community or charitable interests or campaign contributions that could play some role in individual council reaction on matters before them. Frankly, there are sufficient former mayors and commissioners available as legislative advocates to make for an even playing field.

But mostly, we elected or appointed these people because we were convinced they had integrity. Certainly, that didn't immediately disappear because they now were on the other side of the lectern. In a community where power is very evenly scattered, changes in rules need very considerable thought. The system may not be broke.

Next Tuesday there will be a passing of the mayor's gavel, a yearly ritual. **Linda Briskman** will end her one-year term, but continue as a council member, and **Steve Webb** will go to center stage. There will be a moving of offices on the third floor, but very little in goals and objectives will have changed-- Linda and Steve, both former planning commissioners, have had few substantive differences this past year.

Briskman had a good year and really seems to have grown as a leader. Gone were most of the contentious confrontations of past years as she wielded the gavel with restraint and maturity. Her speaking style would also receive high marks for clarity and organization, and she came prepared for council sessions.

Webb will face one of the most challenging years in our history. The to-do list is overwhelming, and he is expected to detail some of

the many issues the city will face during his year at his inauguration next Tuesday. From major development issues to the recreation center, and much more, he will have a very demanding time. Even if you can't attend Tuesday's ceremonial changing of the guard, or council seating, try to catch their act on Channel 10. It will be a good lesson in local civics.

The city, or rather the city manager, has appointed a new "acting" fire chief after considerable delay and much agonizing over the selection process and the retirement of the very popular acting head, veteran department leader **Robert Cavaglieri**. Under our system, the council does not "officially" appoint department heads, it is the responsibility of the city manager. The only personnel choices the council has is the city manager, city attorney and city clerk. Those positions report directly to the council, all others to the city manager.

City Manager **Rod Wood** seems to have picked an able leader, although this column has long argued for appointment from within. It does appear likely that many of our veteran firefighter top administrators may not have wanted the job. For some reason it may be possible that becoming chief could mean the loss of many benefits and security they now have in their present posts. This is something the council can and should examine.

Having said that, the new acting chief has some very impressive credentials as a firefighter leader and professional. **Dale Geldert** brings to the city over 40 years experience as an administrator and fire department leader, most recently as director of the California Department of Forestry. He has also been an instructor on fire sciences, tactics and strategies and he has considerable training in governmental management with a master's degree in public administration.

As to picking a leader with expertise in forests, I think with a name like Wood, that is understandable. Pun intended.

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

briefs

Peter Tomarken, Former "Press Your Luck" Host, Passes Away in Santa Monica Plane Crash

Peter Tomarken, 63, and his wife Kathleen, 41, passed away in a plane crash off Santa Monica Monday

The small plane, piloted by Tomarken, reportedly had engine trouble shortly after takeoff and was headed back to Santa Monica Airport when it went down about a half-mile southwest of the Santa Monica pier.

Tomarken was a volunteer pilot for Angel Flight West, a nonprofit that provides free air transportation for patients in need. The plane was on its way to San Diego to carry a medical patient back to the UCLA Medical Center, according to Doug Griffith, a spokesman for Angel Flight West.

Tomarken, a 1960 Beverly High graduate, hosted the popular "Press Your Luck" television game show in the 1980s. He was also active in the schools and BHEF during this time, as his former wife Dana Tomarken served on the Beverly Hills Board of Education from 1985-1993.

Former Board of Education member and current Councilmember Frank Fenton called the accident "very devastating."

"He was very community-minded. During the time that I served with Dana on the Board of Education he was very supportive of the school district, very supportive of his family,

very supportive of everything that went on in the community. He was a wonderful, wonderful guy," Fenton said.

In recent years, Tomarken worked in real estate and was interviewed in 2002 in the *Weekly's* "Where Are They Now?" column [issue #157]. His children were profiled in "Board Kids", issue #284.

Tomarken is survived by former wife Dana, children Jason ('87), Alexis ('93) and Candace ('93).

Vivian Saatjian-Green To Retire After 25 Years



Retiring counselor: Vivian Saatjian-Green

After 25 years of working in the Beverly Hills Unified School District, Beverly High head counselor Vivian Saatjian-Green announced this week she will retire at the end of the school year.

"I've had a great run," Saatjian-Green said. "I've worked with an amazing administrative team. I was the young kid on the block as I started with Tanis Harris, Sol Levine, Ben Bushman, Rick Munitz, and so many more. I've enjoyed working with the new team, including Dan Stepenosky, and I've hired the entire counseling team today, all seven counselors."

Saatjian-Green began her career at Beverly High as a special education teacher from 1981-1984, in 1985 she became a counselor, and in 1990 director of counseling. Saatjian-Green succeeded Patsy Carter as director of guidance.

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"My husband and I agreed it's a great time to go on to the next journey in our lives," said Saatjian-Green, who added that she not yet sure what her next journey may be.

"Most people think I'm going on to college counseling," she said, laughing, "but I'm taking some time off. Anything is possible."

Saatjian-Green said she would like to hear from former students and parents and can be reached at: vgreen@bhud.k12.ca.us.

Her replacement has not yet been selected.

Wedding Bells



Newlyweds Dahlia Lainer and Elan Carr

Beverly High Class of 1991 graduate Dahlia Lainer and Elan Carr married on Jan. 14 at Sinai Temple. Dahlia is the daughter of Esther & Sorel Lainer of Beverly Hills. Elan grew up in Manhattan Beach and is the son of Carmella & Nissan Pardo and Lloyd Carr. The two met as students at UC Berkeley.

BHHS Robotics Team Competes Next Week; Supporters Asked To Attend Competitions

Beverly High's Robotics team will be competing in the first-ever Los Angeles Regional Robotics competition at the Great Western Forum next week from March 23-25. The team will also be competing at the Las Vegas Regional competition from March 30-April 1.

Also known as Team MorTorq, the Robotics team began work in January on this year's robot and in only six weeks was required to build a five-foot, 120 pound robot to participate in an international competition. The game that all the robots will play, named Aim High, has the teams building robots that can launch seven-inch balls more than 20 feet in distance and eight feet in height. At their first pre-competition, held Feb. 19 at Birmingham High School, Team MorTorq took first place.

The team has also tried to raise awareness of its program by exhibiting the robot at the open house at the Jet Propulsion Lab, the Horace Mann open house and teaching robotics education at Techno-Tainment camp.

On May 28., Team MorTorq will be hosting Engineering Day, in which middle school students from each school who have been mentored by members of Team MorTorq will compete in a game for school pride and prizes. By the day of the competition, each middle school will have spent 10 weeks building their own robot.

The team is hoping to get as many people as possible to attend the event at Beverly



Team MorTorq proudly displays its robot

High, and is still seeking donations of goods for a silent auction, money to help fund-raise and displays to help attract spectators.

For more information on the Robotics team, visit the website at www.bhrobotics.com.

Mayor Briskman Advocates Thinking Beyond City Limits in Speech to EDC

At a luncheon hosted by the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce last Wednesday, Mayor Linda Briskman delivered her annual address to members of the Economic Development Council. In a speech entitled "A Year Well-Spent," Briskman spoke on her past year as mayor and made recommendations on the future direction of the city.

"A journey that began with one-on-one

visits with people in our community took me to Sacramento, San Francisco, Chicago, New York and as far as the nation's capital," Briskman said in her speech.

Throughout the speech, Briskman stressed the importance of cooperation in City Hall, both with the community and on the government level.

In a section titled, "Regional Solutions to Diverse Challenges," Briskman outlined how Beverly Hills has and should continue to search in and outside its borders to tackle problems such as homelessness, public safety, and transportation.

On the latter issue, Briskman recommended the city's continued participation in developing the Red Line subway extension. Last month, Briskman was part of a group of officials from several cities that met with L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa to go over preliminary details of the potential extension.

Briskman also discussed the necessity of fostering relationships on the federal level, continuing the process that began this year with the city's hiring of lobbying firm Rose & Kindel and the mayor's two legislative work trips to Sacramento. Such measures, according to Briskman, are necessary to secure funding for public works, help address the issues of homeland security and transportation, to end the practice of taking local revenues, and otherwise ensure the future vitality of Beverly Hills.

"Over the course of my term as mayor, I have sought opportunities to bring City Hall to the community and to bring the communi-

briefs cont. on page 10

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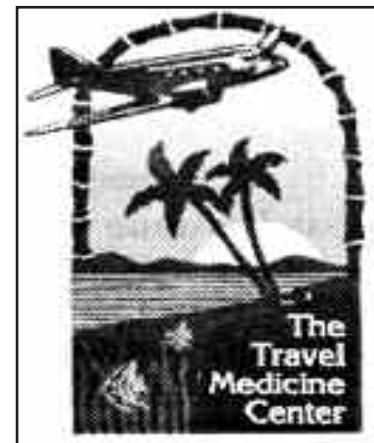
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briefs cont. from page 9
ty to City Hall," Briskman said.

Briskman's term ends next Tuesday, at which point Vice Mayor Steve Webb will take over.

Beverly Hills Dentist Embarks on Mission to Vietnam



Dr. Simon Gamer and one of his patient's in Novosibirsk.

Dr. Simon Gamer, D.D.S., M.D., left Tuesday for Vietnam to participate in a mission with the nonprofit organization Operation Smile. Operation Smile volunteers include medical professionals such as dentists, plastic surgeons and pediatricians, who provide free reconstructive surgery and related health care to children and adults in developing countries and the United States.

The 12-day mission will be Dr. Gamer's second with the organization. In 2004, he traveled to Novosibirsk, Siberia, where he performed pre- and post-surgical corrections of cleft, lip, and cleft palate birth defects.

This time, Dr. Gamer will be performing treatments in Hanoi and Hue, as well as teaching students at the Hanoi Dental School.

"The approbation that we feel in doing it; we enjoy doing it. We enjoy giving, and the people enjoy receiving our efforts, and because this is true appreciation and true giving of services, there's no money involved, so the only motive is a peaceful and loving one," Gamer said of the mission.

To Dr. Gamer, every patient is his favorite.

"The patient who I'm treating at the time is my favorite," Gamer said.

Dr. Gamer is currently a clinical professor at the USC School of Dentistry, in addition to maintaining a private practice in Beverly Hills.

Operation Smile was created by Dr. William Magee, D.D.S., M.D., a leading plastic and craniofacial surgeon, and his wife, Kathleen, in 1982.

Friends of Sheba Medical Center Gala Dinner At Beverly Hilton Next Tuesday

Friends of Sheba Medical Center will host its annual gala dinner next Tuesday, March 21 at the Beverly Hilton.

This year Sheba honors community leaders Anna & Max Webb with the Rabin Philanthropy Award; actor Jason Alexander with the Humanitarian Award; and Dr. Michael Vermesh, noted infertility specialist, with the Medical Visionary Award.

Featured on the program will be international performer Mike Burstyn, and Prof. Mordechai Shani, Director Emeritus of Sheba Medical Center, the largest and most comprehensive hospital in Israel and the entire Middle East, will be on hand to give an update from the hospital. Skye Michaels and his orchestra will provide music for the evening.

According to co-chairs Lynn Ziman and Lou Milkowski, proceeds of the event will be directed to the creation of the Center for Newborn Screening, which will test every baby born in Israel for 20 treatable genetic diseases. The Center will be located at Sheba Medical Center and every hospital in the country will participate. For more information, call Pam Blattner at (310) 843-0100, ext. 1.

Gala Campaign Kickoff and Headquarters Opening For Mike Feuer Next Sunday

The campaign kick-off and headquarters opening for Mike Feuer for the 42nd Assembly race will take place next Sunday, March 26 from 1:30-3:30 p.m., located at 825 N. Fairfax Avenue in Los Angeles.

City Hires Former California Department of Forestry Leader As Interim Fire Chief

The City of Beverly Hills has hired former California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF) Director Dale Geldert to serve as interim fire chief.

Geldert brings to the city more than 40 years of firefighting and administrative experience from a variety of agencies throughout California and nationally.

"The city is fortunate to be getting a leader with the experience, intelligence and integrity of Dale Geldert," City Manager Rod Wood said. "I believe he will keep the department moving on a positive track."

Geldert started as a crash rescue firefighter for the U.S. Navy in 1960 then moved to the Inglewood Fire Department where he rose from firefighter to battalion chief.

Other positions along the course of his varied career include county fire chief for Merced County, and fire chief and deputy city manager for the City of Oceanside. He also served as international fire marshal for the U.S. Department of State. In that capacity, Geldert traveled all over the world inspecting diplomatic facilities and meeting with local fire agencies. He was appointed by Gov. Pete Wilson to the Board of Forestry in 1996.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2004 appointed Geldert to head the CDF, which includes the functions of state fire chief, state forester and director of the state fire marshal's office. He retired from the CDF in December 2005.

"I wanted to come to Beverly Hills because it is an outstanding fire department, and if I can help them, I want to give them the benefit of my experience. It's a real honor to be working with such a top notch department," Geldert said. "Beverly Hills is a well led and managed city and I'm very pleased to have been given the opportunity to give what assistance I can."

In addition to practical experience, Geldert has spent much of his career as an instructor teaching fire science, tactics and strategy,

and codes and ordinances at the community college level; and teaching organizational management in a master's program.

Geldert earned an AA degree in fire administration from Los Angeles Harbor College, a BA in public administration from the University of Redlands and a master's of public administration from the University of San Francisco. He is married to Vista City Manager Rita Geldert.

Geldert replaces interim Fire Chief Robert Cavaglieri, who retired from the city last December.

According to Wood, the city is still collecting names of interest, and with Geldert on board he will be able to help in the recruitment process.

"One of the advantages of Dale having been in his statewide positions is that he knows a number of folks to help in recruiting," Wood said.

A permanent replacement should have internal department experience, Wood said, such as a deputy chief.

"One of the great problems is stepping out of the battalion chief position," Wood said.



El Rodeo's Science Olympiad Team comprising sixth through ninth grades for placing sixth out of 24 schools in the Los Angeles Regional Science Olympiad held on March 4 at Cal Poly Pomona. The team has been invited to compete in the State Finals April 1. The Science Olympiad is a National Competition during which a maximum of 15 students compete in 23 events ranging from designing mystery architecture on the spot, to demonstrating groundwater remediation techniques, to mastering astronomy.

Second place winners are Alex Dubin and Jon Jason for the Solar System; third place to Emmanuelle Hodara, Thomas Blauvelt and alternate Aaron Kohanim for the project, Awesome Aquifer; Ethan Gabbay, Matt Forman and alternate Chloe Revery for the project, Storm the Castle; fourth place to Josh Dubin, Jon Jason and alternate Carly Stone for the project, Wheeled Vehicle, and to Alex Dubin, assisted by Jon Jason, for the project, Road Scholar; fifth place to Josh Dubin and Nick Hebert for the project, Mystery Architecture; and sixth place to Layla Farrahi, Tyler Carl and Erica Hendry with alternate Chloe Revery for their project in Experimental Design; and to Thomas Blauvelt, Layla Farrahi and alternate Aaron Kohanim for Bridge Building.

Science Olympiad members include Thomas Blauvelt, Charlotte Banayan, Tyler Carl, Alex Dubin, Josh Dubin, Layla Farrahi, Armand Farrokh, Matt Forman, Ethan Gabbay, Nick Hebert, Erica Hendry, Emmanuelle Hodara, Jon Jason, Anna Bella Korbatov, and Dakota Maysonet. Alternates are Aaron Kohanim, Anne Liu, Chloe Revery, Carly Stone, and Saba Zahir. Brian Avchen is the manager.

"You're asking them to work more days per week, in the evenings, to give up overtime, and you'll be subject to all the politics [too]."

The most recent interim chief was Stan Speth, who returned to his post as deputy chief.

Wood said his goal is to fill BHFD's top

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Beverly High Principal Dan Stepenosky took the school's Science, Math and Tech Arts departments to UCLA for an off-site vision planning session for the new \$30 million Science & Tech building last Friday.

"It was a terrific day which started the team building process between the two future tenants of the building, the Science and Math departments," Stepenosky said. "Future courses, technology, instructional strategies and partnerships were discussed and analyzed."

Pictured (L-R) are (first row) Dr. Dan Stepenosky, Charles Lee, Dr. Susan Lliberati, Susan Cambig-Tracy, (second row) Dr. Ariella Herman, Jane Wortman, Lisa Harris, Michael Paul, Debbie Malouf, Zina Goldman, Sean Griffin, Deb Joseph, (third row) Victoria Waters, Nikki Crammer, Sarah Utley, Chris Bushee, Kurt Schmaltzbach, (fourth row) Richard Sampera, Steve Madaris, Kyle Kobe, Chris King, Dave Knowlton, Christie Schaffer, Susie Sprouse, Michelle Stern and Marla Weiss.

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Singles Night At Whole Foods March 30

Whole Foods Market Beverly Hills will host "Cheesy Singles Night" Thursday, March 30.

From 5-7 p.m., located at 239 N. Crescent Drive, participants can enjoy artisan cheeses and chocolates from around the world.

To sign-up, call (310) 274-3360 and ask

Upcoming Beverly High Reunions Announced

The following Beverly High classes will hold reunions later this year:

Class of '56: Sept. 16 at Paramount Studios. The contact is Joan Kline Yeoman at jyeoman11@aol.com. Class of '66: date TBA. The contact is Kathy Brenner Deane at (310) 278-1930.

Class of '76: Oct. 7 at Le Meridian hotel. The contact is Elyse Rothstein. The

Reunion Company can be reached at (661) 259-5999.

Class of '86: Sept. 9 at the Fairmont Miramar in Santa Monica. The contact is Adam Porter at (310) 277-0534.

Class of '96: Nov. 11 at Le Meridian hotel. The contact is Tanya Hakim at tshakim11@aol.com.

Apple Award Honorees Announced

The Beverly Hills Education Foundation (BHEF) announced the honorees for the annual Apple Awards at Tuesday night's Board of Education meeting. The award recipients include teachers, administrators and classified staff who have made significant contributions to improving their schools over the past year. This year's honorees are teachers Ira Moscow (Beverly High), Marion Harvey (Hawthorne), Kevin Painter (Beverly Vista), Elizabeth Call (Horace Mann), Joanie Garrett (El Rodeo), Hawthorne Principal Nancy Lynch, and classified staff member Dave Taylor.

The Apple Ball will be held May 6 at the Beverly Hilton. For more information, call the BHEF at (310) 557-0651.



Mayor Linda Briskman welcomed two new members of the Traffic and Parking Commission at the March 7 City Council meeting. New commissioners are appointed by the City Council for two-year terms. The seven-member commission meets the first Thursday of the month at 9 a.m. Pictured (L-R) are Vice Chair Richard Seff, Kenneth Goldman, Mayor Briskman, Ira Friedman, and Commission Chair Gail Silver.

er ideas to rebuild your muscle car or find the perfect accessories to customize your car. See the latest from "Monster Garage" and what's new with the Beverly High Robotics Team.

In store will also be the 1956 Mercedes-Benz Gullwing, and a one-of-a-kind 1925 round door Rolls-Royce Phantom 1, valued at more than \$5 million, courtesy of the Peterson Automotive Museum. At the event will also be a \$3 million Ferrari, "Monster Garage's" 1967 Ferrari V-12 Spaghetti Pipe 312, Nicolas Cage's Hemi Cuda, and Sharon Stone's Aston Martin.



Joining BHEF and Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills on the Car Show Committee are members of the Beverly High Robotics Team including Nick Sarnoff; Aaron Berger; Zach Kahn; Maxine Moshay, BHEF Executive Director; Mindy Richmond; Vinnie Mandzak, Car Show Director; Sloane Trugman; Eli Chait; Jean Rosenblatt, BHEF President; Steven Berlin, Eileen Kahn; and Kurt Rothner.

BHEF Classics for Charity XIII Car Show April 9

Beverly Hills Education Foundation presents one of Southern California's greatest Classic Car and Motorcycle Show featuring more than 300 classic, antique, exotic vehicles and motorcycles Sunday, April 9, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills, located at 9250 Beverly Boulevard.

Classics for Charity XIII is a family event benefiting Beverly Hills schools and community. The car show includes a silent auction, music, food, and trophy presentation.

You can check out dad's dream car, gath-

Everyone with a special car is invited to enter. All entries are due on or before April 3. Entry forms can be picked up at Mercedes-Benz of Beverly Hills or you can request a form by calling the Car Show Hotline at (310) 860-4403. Admission is \$15 for adults and children under 12 are free.

-- Compiled by Anna Scott and Andrea Simpson



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sports & scores



BHHS Boys' Golf Team Wins Tournament

Norman boys' tennis team remains undefeated by routing Redondo.

By Steven Herbert

The Beverly High boys' golf team won its second tournament in as many tries this season, triumphing in the Azusa Tournament Monday at Spring Valley Lake Country Club in Victorville.

The three-player Norman team of Brendan Doyle, Alex Choi and Jackson Trugman combined to shoot a five-over-par 231, six shots ahead of second-place Glendora.

Doyle's two-under-par 70 was the tournament's low score, while Trugman was third as a one-over-par 73.

Justin Choi, who competed on a second Beverly Hills team in tournament, was sixth among individuals with a five-over-par 77.

Beverly Hills 205, West Torrance 219

Doyle shot a team-low four-over-par 39 for the Normans in a nonleague match March 7 at Rancho Park Golf Course.

Beverly Hills 189, La Canada 191

Doyle and Josh Fishman each shot three-

over-par 37s to lead the Normans in a nonleague match at La Canada Country Club last Thursday. Alex Choi and Trugman each shot four-over-par 38s and William Byun a four-over-par 39 for Beverly Hills (5-0).

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to face Torrance today at 2 p.m. in a nonleague match and Culver City Tuesday at 2 p.m. in an Ocean League match, both at Rancho Park Golf Course, and play at Oak Park Wednesday at 1 p.m. in a nonleague match at Sterling Hills Country Club.

Boys' Tennis

Beverly Hills 17, Redondo 1

Jeff Lin and Gary Parizher both won all three of their singles sets and the Coleman Kelly-Daniel Levy doubles team won all three of its sets for the Normans in a nonleague boys' tennis match March 7 at Beverly Hills.

Ethan Bond teamed with Chris Hur for a 6-4 victory in the first round and Alex Kantor for 6-1 and 6-3 victories in the final two rounds.

The Igor Fedonenko-Peter Yoon doubles team was a 6-4, 6-1 winner in its two sets. The Clifford Frazier-Saman Shooshani team was a 6-0 winner in its only set.

David Vayzner won two of three sets in singles play for the Normans (3-0).

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Brentwood today and Manhattan Beach Mira Costa Wednesday in nonleague matches at Culver City Tuesday in an Ocean League match. All three matches are set to start at 2:30 p.m.

Boys' Swimming

South Bay Relays

The Beverly Hills medley relay team of Raz Ezer, Andrew Hopp, Jason Lewis and Yusuke Murakami won in the season-opening meet March 3 at the Swim-Gym in a time qualifying it for the Southern Section prelims.

Hopp's time for his leadoff 50-yard freestyle leg also qualified him for the Southern Section prelims.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to compete in the finals of the John Marrow Invitational Friday at the Swim-Gym beginning at 5 p.m.

Boys' Soccer

Atascadero 1, Beverly Hills 0

The Greyhounds scored on a header in the 60th-minute in a Southern Section Division III first-round playoff game at Atascadero Feb. 17.

"One of my players made a mistake," Norman coach Steve Rappaport said. "He didn't get back and mark. One player forgot his role forgot his role and that's all it took."

Beverly Hills led 9-7 in shots in its first playoff appearance since 2003.

"The game could have gone either way, but it was kind of the summation of our season" Rappaport said. "We've been doing that all year. We get a chance to score, and we don't hit a quality shot and the other team catches us on one breakdown and puts it away."

All four Norman starting defenders-- Daniel Pourbaba, Alex Lichtenberg, Dean Prince and Jake Weissberg-- drew praise for their play from Rappaport.

Beverly Hills senior midfielder Holden Smetana "had a very, very strong game," Rappaport said.

Norman goalkeeper David Roston made six saves in what Rappaport called "another consistent game."

"There was no way he could have saved that shot," that Atascadero scored on, Rappaport said.

Beverly Hills qualified for the playoffs after Inglewood had to forfeit three victories in Ocean League play, including a pair of 4-0 triumphs over the Normans, because it played a player in his fifth year of high school.

Beverly Hills completed the season 6-13-6, including three forfeit victories. The Normans were 4-5-1 in league play, including the two forfeit victories.

Atascadero lost to Compton Dominguez, 1-0, in its second-round playoff game.

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Boys' Track and Field

Palos Verdes Peninsula 86, Beverly Hills 48

Max Goldman won the 800 and 1,600 meters for the Normans in a nonleague meet at Nickoll Field March 2.

Damone Franklin won the discus throw and finished second in the shot put for Beverly Hills. Norman teammate Tyler Grady won the shot put and finished second in the discus throw.

Michael Harding won the 110 high hurdles and was second in the 300 intermediate hurdles and high jump for Beverly Hills.

Jon Simmons was the other individual event winner for the Normans, winning the 3,200 after finishing third in the 1,600.

Girls' Track and Field

Palos Verdes Peninsula 90, Beverly Hills 46

Ashley Menzies won the 400 and anchored the Normans' victorious 400 and 1,600 relay teams in a nonleague meet at Nickoll Field March 2.

Ebony Wall, Ricci Springfield, and Ashley Austin ran the other legs on the 400 relay for Beverly Hills, while Deborah Bradbury, Jocelyn Karlin and Emily Ives ran the other legs on its 1,600 relay team.

The boys' and girls' meets marked the debut of Heather Smith as the Norman coach, succeeding Mark Schwartz, who resigned this summer to become a Beverly Hills Police Department officer.

Smith, the first woman to hold the position in the school's 79-year history, spent five years as an assistant cross country and track

coach, coaching high jumpers, long jumpers and triple jumpers, at Park University in Kansas City, Mo., before becoming a Beverly Hills assistant cross-country coach in 2005.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to compete at Santa Monica today in an Ocean League meet beginning at 2:45 p.m.

Softball

St. Monica High School Softball Classic Cerritos Whitney 3, Beverly Hills 0

The Normans had three runners reach third base, but were unable to drive any of them in as they opened the season by being shut out in a pool play game shortened to six innings because of the time limit March 4 at Beverly Hills.

The Normans struck out 12 times, including four times with a runner on third base.

Beverly Hills out-hit the Wildcats, 5-2. Rebecca Rosen doubled leading off the second, Rosie McClaren and Allison Galer singled to start fourth, Sami Pop singled leading off the fifth and Galer singled with one out in the sixth for the Normans.

Junior Brianna Nemiroff (0-1) pitched a complete game for Beverly Hills, allowing three runs (two earned) two hits, walking three, hitting a batter and striking out four.

Whitney scored the only run it would prove to need in the first.

Nemiroff opened the game by walking Monica Rios and Ariana Chavez. The Wildcats loaded the bases one out later when Vanessa Goncalves was hit by a pitch. Melanie Goncalves ground out drove in

Rios.

Joyelle Ball homered leading off the fifth. The Wildcats added an unearned run later in the inning.

The Normans committed four errors.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Santa Monica St. Monica Tuesday in a nonleague game beginning at 3:15 p.m.

Boys' Lacrosse

Manhattan Beach Mira Costa 14, Beverly Hills 7

Sam Forrest scored four goals and assisted on two others for the Normans in a Bay League game at Mira Costa last Thursday.

Jon Gallagher scored twice for Beverly Hills and Josh Deitch once.

The Normans (0-2, 0-1 in league play) trailed 4-1 at the end of the first quarter and 6-2 at halftime. The Mustangs scored four goals in the first four minutes of the third quarter and led 12-3 entering the fourth quarter.

Beverly Hills goaltender John Gornik made 19 saves.

"Mira Costa played a great game and moved the ball well versus our young and inexperienced defense," Norman coach Tim Ray said.

What's Next?

The Normans are scheduled to play host to Brentwood today at 5:30 p.m. in a nonleague game, Palos Verdes Chadwick Saturday at 10 a.m. and Palos Verdes Peninsula Tuesday at 6 p.m. in Bay League games at Nickoll Field.

Boys' Volleyball

Redondo Tournament

Beverly High opened its season by winning one of six matches March 3-4 at Redondo Union High School.

The Normans lost two of three matches in pool play March 3, falling to Crescenta Valley, 18-25, 26-24, 15-11, and Redondo, 25-17, 25-14, and defeating San Gabriel, 21-25, 25-16, 16-14.

Beverly Hills was relegated to the Silver Division, where it lost to South Pasadena, 25-22, 18-25, 15-10, in the quarterfinals, then lost a three-game match to Long Beach Poly and a two-game match to San Gabriel in consolation play.

"The first day, Friday, the team performed very well," said Norman coach Chris Gagan. "For some reason, the next day, it wasn't as good."

Senior outside hitter Ben Smyth, senior middle hitter Eric Lee, senior setter James Jun and senior right-side hitter Paul Kim drew praise from Gagan, a 2000 Beverly High graduate who was making his debut as the team's coach, succeeding David Dinoble, who resigned after guiding the Normans to a 23-6 record, an Ocean League championship and berth in the Southern Section Division III quarterfinals in his only season as coach.

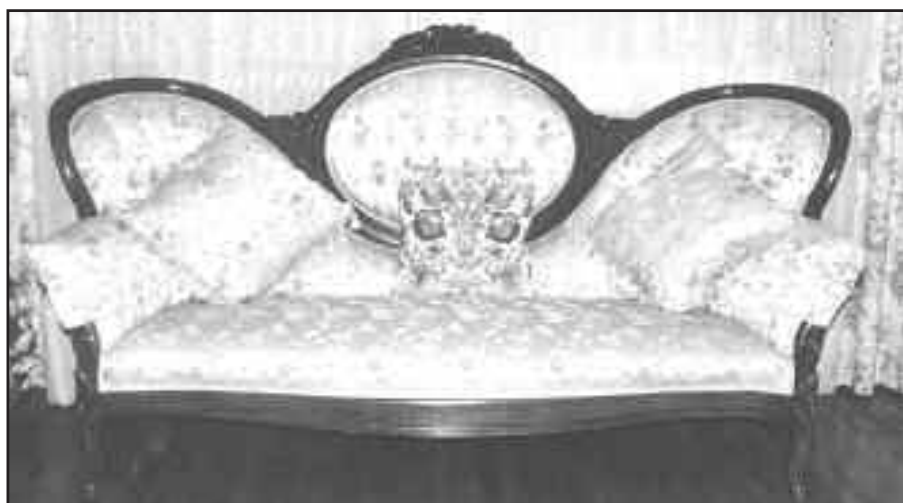
Steven Herbert also covers sports for the Los Angeles Times and The Associated Press. He welcomes feedback and suggestions. He can be reached by e-mail at StvHerbert@aol.com, by telephone at (310) 275-7943 or by fax at (310) 273-4519.

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coverstory

THE GOVERNOR'S A-TEAM

Two Beverly High graduates who work behind the scenes in Governor Schwarzenegger's administration.

By Andrea Simpson

Beverly Hills continues to have an effect at high levels of government. The *Weekly* gets an inside look at what goes on behind the scenes in the lives of two Beverly High graduates who are now helping to run the governor's office.

On more of an unofficial basis, Eric George calls his work with the governor "modest"-- as an advisor to Schwarzenegger on judicial selections issues as they involve the Los Angeles area.



Eric George

George, a 1986 Beverly High graduate and son of California Supreme Court Chief Justice Ronald George, is a Republican and a partner at Browne Woods & George in Beverly Hills, and doesn't minimize the influence of his father on his career.

"The many conversations over the dinner table from the time I was first able to speak till the time I headed off to college, no doubt had a profound influence on the direction I was headed in life," George said.

George added that he's thought about moving on from private practice to become a judge, but is quick to point out that that's as far as it goes in his mind.

"I think my best task as a lawyer has been serving in the manner I do now in private practice," George said. "It's not something I see in my own future. I am most fulfilled serving as a lawyer in private practice with an interesting and diverse group of cases and the opportunities to be involved on a periodic basis in public service as an advisor."

At Browne Woods & George, he focuses on complex, frequently high-profile business litigation matters. He represents both plaintiffs and defendants in all aspects of state and federal civil proceedings, and in providing legal advice, in such areas as real estate, contracts, securities, intellectual property, real estate, federal Indian law, malpractice, civil rights and constitutional issues.

Besides his familial connection, George is well known in California politics, mostly for his behind-the-scenes work on behalf of Republicans, and this is not the first time he has held a position in public service.

His first job out of Georgetown law school was as a law clerk for a federal judge in San Francisco for a year. He then worked in private practice for a big San Francisco law firm, Skadden Arps, and later left to become a legal advisor to former Gov. Pete Wilson as deputy legal affairs secretary from 1997-1999. When the governor's administration

was wrapping up he then went to Washington, D.C., where for a year and a half served as counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee from 1999-2000. Just two years ago he helped vet federal judicial appointees for Gerald Parsky, one of President George Bush's main advisers in California. Bipartisan selection committees have been established in each of California's four federal judicial districts.

"So, I don't want it to sound like, 'Been there, done that', but I am very happy to have put my time into public service and that's why I'm happy to be in private practice now," George said.

He maintains though that politics is not necessarily an intersection between the law and the judiciary.

"Elected politics really is, and always should be, a very separate and independent branch of government," George said.

George's two younger brothers have steered away from a life in government related politics to that more associated with the entertainment industry, and neither are attorneys. Andrew ('87) is a commercial director on the more creative side of the "biz", while Chris ('90) works in the business sector for Michael Ovitz.

Not only would a judgeship probably not be in his future, but George assures that extending his reach into the politics of the entertainment industry would also not be his forte.

"I'm sure I'd be an abysmal failure. I don't have either of my brothers' talents at that," George said.



Michelle Kleinert

Another member of the governor's team is 1983 Beverly High grad Michelle Kleinert, who George calls the "real deal."

As deputy director of community affairs, a large part of Kleinert's constituency is the Jewish community for the state of California. She describes herself as the eyes and ears of the Schwarzenegger administration to the Jewish community and from the Jewish community to the governor. Outside the realm of the Jewish community, she also oversees discussion of other local issues as they arise including women's and environmental issues.

Her job also involves attending events on behalf of the governor and the other half is dealing with issues both internally and externally.

Just last May in her first month on the job she went with the governor on his first foreign mission outside the state of California to Israel, where they met with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and former Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"We were there for only two days and it turned into such an important mission, due in part because it was the same day that Sharon was taking the vote to his party on whether or not they should disengage from Gaza," Kleinert remembered. "Sharon sat down and talked with us candidly for 45 minutes and I was sitting there, and I kid you not, it was one of those moments where you say, 'Is this happening to me in my life?' We walked into Sharon's office and there's the desk that you see so many times on TV and the tent cards, and there's one with my name on it, the governor's, our chief of staff, and Sharon's top people and the press was all over."

They also met with Ahud Omert and the top business people in Israel about California's business opportunities abroad to strengthen California/Israel relations.

According to Kleinert, at their meeting Schwarzenegger and Netanyahu seemed to have a bond that has since turned into more of a friendship.

When the governor asked him how he should balance California's budget, Netanyahu recalled a personal story.

"He told this story about his time in the Army when his sergeant said to the team, 'Okay everyone, look at the guy next to you, put him on your shoulder and go 100 yards.' So Netanyahu looked at the guy next to him who was a big guy with a little guy on his shoulders and then the third pair was a little guy with a big guy on his shoulders. So Netanyahu starts while the next guy zooms past him. Then the little guy falls because the big guy he carried outweighed him. Netanyahu looks at the governor and says to him, 'You're probably wondering why I'm telling you this story.' He added, 'because I look at the guy at the bottom as being the private sector and guy at the top is the public sector, and if the public sector is too heavy, it's not going to work.'"

"Their politics meshed and the governor told that story over and over again when he got back and showed that the repercussions of it was not just about his little time spent in Israel, but about the bonds and lessons he learned," Kleinert said.

Kleinert helped to organize the trip and upon her return to the States talked about the mission with the Jewish community as one of the governor's advisors.

But that wasn't Kleinert's first trip to

Israel herself. In fact, she has always somehow been connected to the Jewish community through a variety of career choices.

After graduating from UC Berkeley she worked on Wall Street at the American Stock Exchange, and her intro into the world of entertainment was upon her return to L.A. to work at the talent agency CAA for Richard Lovett, who's now the head of the agency. From there, she worked as a production assistant for Bob Costas on the primetime show at the Olympics in Barcelona. After months spent in Europe, she moved back to New York to work at Miramax where she ran the company's Academy Awards campaign when Miramax's "The Piano" and Universal's "Schindler's List" were up for Academy Awards.

"I was like, 'Wow, 'Schindler's List' is my heart and 'The Piano' is my job. Bob and Harvey Weinstein said, 'What do you want to do now?' And that was the year Steven Spielberg won for 'Schindler's List' [in 1993] and after he won everyone wanted him to tell their stories and at the awards show I remember [Spielberg] said that they were going to start a foundation so they could tell the stories of the survivors and that it was important that we remember them. I pursued it and I ended up getting a job with the Shoah Foundation," Kleinert said.

With Shoah, Kleinert started in L.A. and ended up living in Israel for two years to expand its operations. After more than four years, she then worked for NetAid, a live internet concert producing mini-documentaries on poverty in Louisiana and Bolivia. She also worked for www.shoptogive.com which premise was if you shop online, a portion goes back to a non-profit, but it didn't last. The day that it went under was the day the Democratic National Convention was in town and Al Gore announced Joe Lieberman as his running mate, and the next day she was on a plane to Oregon doing press advance for Lieberman.

She also spent time working at the *Jewish Journal* when she got the phone call that the governor was looking for someone to be a liaison to the Jewish community.

This week is Kleinert's two-year anniversary with the Schwarzenegger administration.

"Everything in life just works out," Kleinert said. "I really am a firm believer in luck and being in the right place at the right time-- just being open to opportunities in front of you."

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Around Town cont. from page 5

them into their computer. From the scanned images, they created enlarged prints, which they put into a scrapbook.

At the time, Carlson had already created two scrapbooks complete with photos of her father's life before and years after the war, which she gave to him on his 80th birthday last February. The photos from those books were also taken from boxes that had been stored in her parents' apartment for years.

"I had so many boxes, and I had never put [the photos] in albums. [I was] too lazy," Paul said. "Corinne was smart. I had the kids over for dinner one night, and she said, 'Dad, Jimmy's going to take these boxes.' Then, after a couple of days, she said, 'I can't do much with these.' She got me."

Paul said he was shocked and delighted to receive the first two scrapbooks three months later. Upon receiving the third, Paul said, "I cried. I literally cried, because it brought back all kinds of memories."

The military scrapbook is particularly meaningful to the Silverbrooks as a record

not only of Paul's military service, but also of the early days of his relationship with Janine, who Paul calls "the greatest love of my life."

When Janine turned 80 last year, Paul wrote her a letter that reads, in part, "I met you when you were only 19. I loved you then, I love you now, and I will love you forever. We've had much happiness over these long years of marriage, but we've weathered difficult times as well, yet nothing interfered with our love for each other."

Paul has been a major source of not only emotional but also physical support for Janine since a stroke in 1987 left her weakened on her right side.

"I slept at the hospital," Paul says of that time. "If I lost her, I wouldn't last long."

This week, Paul contacted Corinne to tell her he found more photographs of the Paris liberation. Though she has not had a chance to look at the new pictures yet, Corinne said that another scrapbook may be in the near future. But if not, they will always have Paris.

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