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Issue 513 • July 30 - August 5, 2009



Lost and Found

**Jocelyn Karlan discusses
what it was like to be lost in
an Ecuadorian rainforest for
more than 24 hours.**

cover story • pages 6-7



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SNAPSHOT

letters & email

“Making Beverly Hills Beautiful” [Issue 512]

I am appalled that you would review commission chair Hamid Gabbay so favorably.

Beverly Hills has become a hideous architectural nightmare with no zoning in place. There is no concern given to existing architecture in a mature neighborhood.

The former gracefulness and harmony in design has been pushed aside for the overbuilt, tasteless mega mansion.

Visiting tourists laugh out loud when they view with disdain what is now being considered architecture in Beverly Hills.

I suggest that Mr. Gabbay and his brother go back to school to determine what is in good taste in building homes. However, maybe that cannot be taught.

*Ruth Mirvis
Beverly Hills*

“Board of Education filings” [Issue 512]

An editing mistake incorrectly identified the number of challengers versus incumbents in past Board of Education elections. The correct numbers are:

1997- Four challengers, two incumbents (both incumbents were defeated).

briefs

Doctors still welcome in Beverly Hills, for now



John Mirisch

The 45 day urgency ordinance that would have capped all new and existing medical expansion in Beverly Hills fell one vote short of passing at the City Council's July 21 meeting.

Because it was an interim urgency ordinance and would have taken effect immediately, it required a 4/5 vote of the Council.

Councilmembers



Jimmy Delshad

John Mirisch, Barry Brucker and Willie

Brien voted yes, Mayor Nancy Krasne and Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad both voted no.

“With this economy, exempting people from coming in [to Beverly Hills] doesn't seem like a good idea,” Delshad said. “I don't want to do any harm to our economy with this urgency ordinance.”

Mirisch said if the ordinance was passed the city could develop a solid, more permanent plan.

“Forty five days gives us enough time to figure out how many doctors we have, which can then allow us to draft something that allows all sorts of solutions,” Mirisch said. “My fear is that if we wait, we're going to be so flooded by medical applications that it will not be possible.”

According to a staff report the city's concern “is that medical office uses may not add favorably to the community's character, that it could hinder opportunities to bring vitality and nightlife to the community's business areas, and that its high traffic and parking demand can impact nearby areas.”

Susan Healy Keene, director of community development, said the 45 days would have been used to study other cities and their use of land to develop a long term policy.

Instead, Mirisch made a past-midnight motion to have the use of medical space researched, since the urgency ordinance did not pass.

“We may not have four votes for the urgency ordinance, but if that's the case I would suggest a regular majority ordi-



DANCING QUEENS! NORTH REXFORD DRIVE

Anna Magnin (left) and Rachel Gilbert (right) practice their dance moves outside of Hawthorne School last week. Their dance routine is for the Arts Academy class at Hawthorne.

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Publisher & CEO
Josh E. Gross

Reporter
Amanda Renner

Sports Editor
Steven Herbert

Contributing Editor
Rudy Cole

Advertising Representatives
Batel Ouda
Lena Zormagen
Maxine Neman

Legal Advertising
Mike Saghian
Eiman Matian

140 South Beverly Drive #201
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
310.887.0788 phone
310.887.0789 fax
CNPA Member

editor@bhweekly.com
All staff can be reached at:
first name @bhweekly.com
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nance,” Mirisch said. “That we give direction to the planning commission to study this as expeditiously as possible so that we can meet and make a regular ordinance out of it.”

The motion was passed by Brien, Brucker, Delshad and Mirisch, with Krasne abstaining.

“I don’t vote on things this late,” Krasne said.

A time table on how long the Planning Commission would have to research the issue of medical land use was not decided.



Jim Latta

Ticket forgiveness program for the homeless waiting last minute details

After receiving direction from the City Council at its July 21 study session meeting, City Attorney Larry Wiener is reviewing

the proposed ticket forgiveness program to see if an ordinance is needed for implementation, or if existing ordinances need to be altered for the program to move forward.

“All I’m looking at is what we need to do to document that this is going to be a program that we’re adopting,” Wiener said. “I have someone looking at that, but we haven’t finished looking at the code to determine whether there is anything we need to revise to allow us to implement the program.”

Jim Latta, human services administrator, proposed the program to the Council.

“The parking ticket dismissal program forgives parking tickets for individuals that demonstrate a commitment to improving their circumstances, and are moving towards self sufficiency,” Latta said.

A very select group of homeless people would be eligible for ticket forgiveness, he said; in a six month period, nine out of 1,000 citations qualified.

To qualify, individuals must be actively involved in a program for treatment of addictions or mental health issues, he said.

“You’d need a letter from your case manager to the public counsel; and the public counsel already works with a lot of the agency, they approve who they’ve referred to the city and then we would dismiss the ticket,” Latta said.

He said by forgiving these tickets, the city would not be losing money, because these tickets often go unpaid.

“Once your car is impounded, our folks who are homeless are not able to pay,” Latta said. “They are literally in the streets, they’ve lost all their belongings and they’ve lost their car.”

When the program is implemented, Beverly Hills will be the first city in the County of Los Angeles to have such a program.



Willie Brien

Select towing services to be provided by the City

The city plans on generating new revenue through its existing vehicle impound program, by keeping about 40 percent of all towed vehicles

impounded in the city, as opposed to outsourcing them to the City of Los Angeles.

During the course of four years this would bring in an estimated net revenue of \$1,027,735, according to a staff report.

“We believe the city has the opportunity to both bring in new revenues and provide higher levels of customer service to the community,” Erick Lee, management analyst for the Beverly Hills Police Department, said.

Lee and Mark Brower, senior management analyst for finance administration, worked together on the proposal as part of the city’s efforts to balance the budget with new revenue generating ideas.

During the past four years the city has impounded on average per year 2, 252 cars. Broken down into two categories, 41 percent of these cars were towed for traffic related reasons, such as expired registration, more than five unpaid parking citations, or suspended or revoked driver’s license. This is the category of towed cars that would be impounded in the city. The second category, which handles all other violations such as parking in no stopping zones, accounts for 59 percent of impounded vehicles.

While the proposed category makes up a lesser percent, those impounded cars stay impounded for an average of 6.2 days longer or a total average of 8.6 days, as opposed to the miscellaneous tows, which

stay impounded for an average of 2.4 days.

Because of the cars’ lengthy stay, they account for 72 percent of revenue generation because of storage fees, according to a staff report.

According to a staff report, if the city adopted a \$36.30 per day storage fee for impounded vehicles, then over the course of four years the city would bring in more than a million dollars in net revenue.

However, Lee said he believed the city could get as much as \$43.35 per day for storage fees.

Vice Mayor Jimmy Delshad said he didn’t want the city to get a bad reputation by charging more than surrounding cities for impounding.

“If we have to charge more, while other people are charging less, we would be considered a less friendly city,” Delshad said.

To solve the problem, Mayor Nancy Krasne asked that surrounding cities, such as West Hollywood, Culver City and Santa Monica are studied to see what the average rate of impound is per day.

An additional, full-time staff member will be hired to run the impound lot. The estimated expenses for the project already reflect that position’s salary and benefits.

Councilmember John Mirisch, while in support of the proposal, said he would like look at alternatives to hiring a full-time employee.

“I would like to go back and see if there is a way to administer the program with out additional employees, maybe only [hire] a part time employee or something,”

Mirisch said.

It was proposed in the staff report that the impound lot be housed in the city-owned, secured parking garage at 336 Foothill Road, which can accommodate 60 vehicles.

The Council gave direction to the Traffic and Parking Bureau to look into impounding all towed cars in Beverly Hills in the future.

“I am ready to move forward with the current program and then move forward [with looking at impounding the remaining 60 percent of towed vehicles],” Councilmember Willie Brien said. “It is revenue generating and is good for the city. Enact this, and then study it for the second component.”

Lee said it will take about four months to get the operation up and running.

“Our goal is the end of October, however we do feel it could potentially be up and running by the end of the September,” Lee said.

Beverly Hills get hits by state budget crisis

The 2009-10 budget plan that Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed Tuesday will cost Beverly Hills \$3.5 million.

To help resolve the state’s \$25 billion budget deficit the state will go through the provisions of Prop 1A, to borrow \$1.9 billion in property taxes from local governments. This equates to about eight percent in property taxes that is to be paid back in full, with interest, in three years. If the

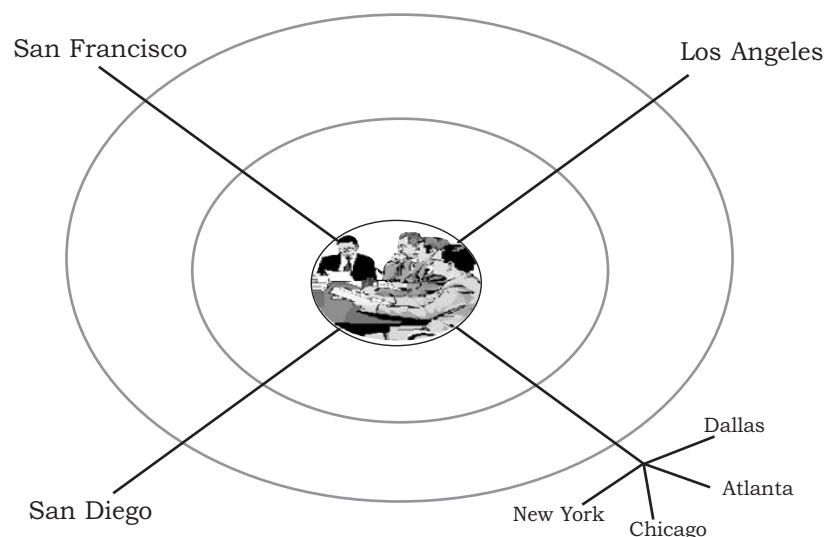
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BHHS Selects New Football Coach – But Principal Won't Say Who

Norman girls' soccer team pleases coach with summer play.

By Steven Herbert

Beverly High's new football coach has been selected, but his name cannot be announced until the appointment is approved by the Beverly Hills Unified School District's Human Resources Department, Superintendent Jerry Gross and Board of Education, Principal J. Guidetti said Wednesday.

The new coach will succeed Carter Paysinger, the team's coach since 1990, who became an assistant principal July 1. Paysinger has said he will continue to help call plays during games and develop game plans on weekends.

Girls' Soccer

Beverly Hills had what coach Ryan Franks described as "a very productive summer season," highlighted by a 2-1 victory over Mission Hills Alemany Friday at Nickoll Field.

Sydney Segal scored the winning goal after fellow freshman Ashley Aviram collided with the Indians' goalkeeper. Solange Levy scored the tying goal for the Normans on a free kick just outside the penalty area.

Beverly Hills posted a 2-0-1 record in the Taft Summer League Tournament that concluded last Thursday, defeating North Hollywood, 2-0, and Granada Hills Kennedy, 3-1, and tying Woodland Hills Taft, 0-0.

The Normans were 2-2 in a six-aside tournament at Cal State Dominguez Hills Sunday, defeating La Mirada and West Torrance. La Mirada ended Beverly Hills' 2008-2009 season with a 3-0 victo-

ry in a Southern Section Division III first-round playoff game.

"The players that stood out the most this summer were Solange Levy, Tiffany Moore, Ida Trevino, Melody Termechi, Emily Rosen and freshman Kaela Reisfelt and Ashley Aviram," Franks said.

Girls' Basketball

Beverly Hills is scheduled to face Palisades Friday at 2 p.m. in a first-round game of the Beverly Hills End of the Summer Tournament.

If the Normans win, they would face the winner of the Santa Monica St. Monica-Inglewood Morningside winner later Friday, while a loss would have them play the St. Monica-Morningside loser. The tournament will be played at Beverly High's upper gyms and concludes Saturday.

The magnetic resonance imagery examination scheduled July 22 for Morgan Mason, Beverly Hills' first-team All-Southern Section Division II-A forward, has been rescheduled for Aug. 3 after the machine broke, assistant coach Charles Solomon said.

Mason sustained a knee injury in a July 18 San Diego Classic game against Chino Hills Ayala.

Boys' Basketball

Redondo Union Tuesday Varsity Summer League

Long Beach Cabrillo 37, Beverly Hills 35

Turnovers ended up costing the Normans their final game of the summer, according to coach Derek Boldon.

Beverly Hills trailed by one point in the final seconds July 21 at Redondo Union High School, but missed a potentially tying free throw. The Jaguars made a free throw with four seconds left to increase their lead to two points.

The Normans missed what Boldon described as a "semi-desperation" three-point shot as time expired.

"We got off a decent look at a three, but it came up short," Boldon said.

Sophomore guard Frank Brown and guard Arash Jamasbi drew praise for their play from Boldon.

"We're making some improvements on defense," Boldon said. "Guys are starting to play a little better help-side defense and better pressure-on-the-ball defense. Guys are starting to finally realize the concepts of boxing out and rebounding."

During a summer when rarely more than six varsity players were able to play with the team, "some guys showed some improvement," Boldon said, singling out forwards Mike Pedram and Alon Kashanian and Jamasbi.

Boys' Lacrosse

Beverly High would have faced penalties from the Southern Section had a planned boys' lacrosse alumni game been played as scheduled following the May 15 deadline for any lacrosse games to be played, Principal J. Guidetti said.

Gary Greenbaum, who handled various administrative functions for the team, said he "was fired two days" after encouraging "parents to contact the principal to complain about the fact that the lacrosse alumni game, which had been going on for eight years, [couldn't be played] because they removed the lines from the field for a one-day middle school feel good tournament."

Guidetti took exception with Greenbaum's use of the word fired because it implied he was a school employee, which he was not. Furthermore, Guidetti said he has not heard from any parents upset by the cancellation of the alumni game.

A new coach has been selected, but his name cannot be announced until the appointment is approved by the Beverly Hills Unified School District's Human Resources Department, Superintendent Jerry Gross and Board of Education, Guidetti said Wednesday.

The new coach will replace Tim Ray, whose contract was not renewed following the 2009 season.

Junior Golf

Canon Cup

June Beverly High graduate Mario Clemens halved his Tuesday match and lost his Wednesday morning match on the Canyon Course at Forest Highlands Golf Club in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Clemens and partner Landon Tujague of Dallas, playing for the West team, halved a four-ball match against Billy

Kennerly of Alpharetta, Ga. and Yaroslav Merkulov of Penfield, N.Y. of the East team. The Clemens-Tujague team halved the match with a birdie on the par-5 18th hole, while the Kennerly-Merkulov team had a par.

Clemens and Jeffrey Kang of Fullerton lost to Kennerly and Gavin Hall of Pittsford, N.Y. 3 and 2, in a foursome match.

Clemens played in a mixed four-ball match Wednesday afternoon that was completed after the Beverly Hills Weekly's deadline. The Canon Cup is scheduled to conclude today.

The American Junior Golf Association competition consists of 20 of the nation's best male junior golfers and 20 of the best female junior golfers, selected on the Polo Golf Rankings, playing in a team match play tournament.

Past participants include Tiger Woods, now the world's top-ranked male golfer, and Stewart Cink, the winner of this month's British Open.

Junior Tennis

Jack Kramer Jr. Tournament

Jackson Leipzig of Beverly Hills won the boys' 12 and under division, defeating second-seeded Derek Vincent of Pacific Palisades, 6-1, 6-1, in the final.

Leipzig, who was seeded first, defeated unseeded Tristan Tolley of Valencia, 6-0, 6-0, in a semifinal.

The tournament was played July 13-17 in Northridge.

Professional Tennis

Riza Zalameda, a 2004 Beverly High graduate, won her third tournament in three months with three different partners, teaming with Lindsay Lee-Waters for a 7-6 (5), 6-3, victory over Kimberly Coutts and Valerie Tetreault July 12 in the doubles final of the U.S. Tennis Association's \$50,000 Grapevine Women's Tennis Classic at Grapevine, Texas.

The Zalameda-Lee-Waters team didn't lose a set in its four matches, defeating Tadeja Majeric and Alexandra Riley, 6-1, 6-0, in the first round; Mallory Cecil and Megan Moulton-Levy, 6-4, 6-2, in the quarterfinals; and Maria Fernanda Alves and Ahsha Rolle, 6-2, 6-3, in the semifinals.

The Zalameda-Lee-Waters team was seeded second. None of its opponents were among the four seeded teams in the 16-team tournament.

Zalameda teamed with Lilia Osterloh to win the doubles title of the \$50,000 RBC Bank Challenger in May at Raleigh, N.C. and Laura Granville to win the doubles title of the \$50,000 Home Depot Center Women's USTA Challenger in Carson in June.

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.



Woman To Start Professional Tug-Of-War League

BEXAR COUNTY - Mary Ann W. applied Thera-Gesic® pain creme to her sore shoulder and hands and felt so great she decided to start a professional tug-of-war league. When asked who would be the target audience for the new TOW league, she painlessly replied, "None of your dang business!"

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Demeter Will Not Run

Ans selected short subjects

By Rudy Cole

Dr. **Myra Demeter**, a two term member of the Board of Education, told this column yesterday that she would not seek reelection ending weeks of speculation in the education community.

Filing for the November, 2009 election should officially close on August 7 but will be extended for five more days. When one or more incumbents for office decide not to seek reelection, the law permits later entries.

As of this writing, one term member, and current president of the board, **Nooshin Meshkaty**, along with former Hawthorne School teacher **Craig L. Davis**, businesswoman and community leader **Lisa Fisch Korbato** and attorney/CEO **Jacob (Jake) Manaster** are the only contenders for the two open seats.

Geographically, the candidates are evenly split. Two, Meshkaty and Korbato. live north of Wilshire, Manaster and Davis, in the south.

Dr. Demeter said: "I am very proud of having served the community for two consecutive terms as board trustee. During that time I have seen my four sons progress through the Beverly Hills schools, graduate and continue on to universities where they were equipped with the skills to successfully pursue their varied interests. After careful and deliberate reflection, I have decided that I am not going to seek reelection. I remain committed to seeing our school district succeed. To that end, I will encourage my supporters to back a candidate who will put student achievement and success above politics."

Historical side note: Why are filing periods extended when an incumbent decides not to seek reelection? Aside from the obvious reason, the legislature changed the rules because of some very innovative abuses, often by incumbent judges.

An incumbent, judge or other office holder, with a good friend in mind, would first announce they intended to seek reelection, often freezing out would be challengers.

However, within minutes of the close of filing the incumbent would either not file or withdraw earlier nominating papers and watch as a friend filed leaving no time for others to seek the same office. Thus the law extending filing when any incumbent for any office decides not to run again.

Speaking of judges, the consolidation of Municipal and Superior Courts has meant the loss of community control of district judges. Before the one court system, Beverly Hills was in a Municipal Court District that included the City of West Hollywood. To win election, candidates needed only a majority of voters in both

cities. Now, all Superior Court Judges must run in all of Los Angeles County. Actually, this helps incumbents since it is very difficult to mount a county-wide campaign against a sitting judge.

Our courts have had some outstanding jurists, including the late Andrew Weisz. Considered the country club of judicial districts, we continue to have some excellent legal minds on our courts, even though they now serve by assignment of the presiding judge and not the electorate. Of course, they first have to be elected or appointed by the governor.

The last judge to win election to our court was **Richard Stone, Jr.**, in 2000 even thought consolidation took place during the election and he had to be assigned to Beverly Hills. Stone has won high marks both for his legal scholarship and his fair minded approach to decision making. Yes, it was father Richard who served on both the city council and school board.

Historical note: Only one person in our history ever held all three offices:

City council, school board and judge, **Robert M. Dulin** who retired from the bench in the late 1960s.

One of more recent additions is a long time resident of Beverly Hills, Judge **Marsha Revel**, who had previously been assigned to courts in Los Angeles. Her family owned a very popular local travel agency and were very much a part of the community. Revel too has earned high praise from those appearing in her court.

Another less obvious impact of this recession is the impact on tipping; customers are simply not leaving as much as they have.

First, a request to my readers: Help us do a column on the subject.

Email me your thoughts and practices on the following:

Percentage of tipping to food servers? Does this depend, not just on service and the amount of the bill, but on the restaurant itself. In other words, great service in a fair restaurant as compared to indifferent service in the prestigious diner. Or is it always the standard 18 to 20 percent?

Whom do you tip and how much? Barbers, hair stylists, shoe shine persons, manicurists and how about full service gas station attendants?

How much do you tip parking lot attendants? If fact, this is an interesting separate category. Most tips to food servers are pooled, with shares going to hosts, cleaning people, cooking staff etc. Parking lot people also share, but they most often work for independent companies and not for the

restaurant or hotel they serve. According to one parking attendant, tips used to be \$5 and now they are more often two or three.

I tip the people who load my cars at markets, but not the person who carves a sandwich. Is this fair? Cab drivers expect tips, not bus drivers, but try to leave without giving a gratuity to a tourist bus driver anywhere in the world.

How do you decide which server to tip, is part of this unscientific survey, send me as complete a report as you can. The most interesting email will win a free dinner for two at a restaurant to be announced later. (Tip not included) See email address at end of column.

Making a quick transition to parking issues is not that difficult. I sometimes tip restaurants on the time it takes to retrieve my car. The longest wait time is at eateries that have no adjoining or nearby parking, including Crustacean. Before Spago replaced the Bistro Garden, many if not most customers, parked in the alley that had an adjoining parking lot. It was swift and easy. Now, Spago, which recently changed parking operators, has to find alternative spaces since the lot is long gone. However, the retrieval time is minimal. And who cares, just gives you more time with the ever charming front desk manager, Ellen.

Other great parking services are at our best hotels. The crews at the Beverly

Wilshire, Beverly Hilton, Peninsula and now the Montage are not only customer friendly they are really prompt. The Beverly Hills has some built in design issues, not the fault of the parking staff, but not nearly as smooth as the others.

One major change in our parking services is the availability of loading zones throughout the city, and this is relatively new. It has only been about 15 years since loading zones were limited to night time only and about 20 years before permit overnight parking was permitted in apartment areas!

Although I try to limit shopping outside the city, and that includes food supplies, the Westfield (Century City) Mall has installed a great parking locating system. Green lights pop up in front of any open space (blue for handicapped) and red for used. Aisles list the number of green (open) spaces avoiding constant wandering and looking.

Did I even mention that we have the worst public parking lots in the civilized world? Probably not fair, I have never been to Chile. But in design and convenience, these monstrosities must have been put together by a committee. Better than most? The new lot adjacent to the Montage Beverly Hills.

As for private lot costs, a cursory comparison with fees in neighboring cities and Los Angeles seems to indicate our lots are about 20 to 30 percent less expensive. Maybe, because we offer so many two hour free competitors.

On the other hand, and there is usually

rudy cont. on page 8

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coverstory

LOST AND FOUND

Jocelyn Karlan discusses what it was like to be lost in an Ecuadorian rainforest for more than 24 hours.

By Amanda Renner

After returning to Beverly Hills Saturday, Jocelyn Karlan, a 2008 Beverly High graduate, discussed what it was like being lost, thousands of miles from home, in a dense rainforest on the side of a more than 15,000 foot inactive volcano for two days and night.

Your story made international news, tell us about what happened.

We had left early Sunday morning as a group and were planning to hike up to the top of the volcano, Imbambura. We reached the top around 10 a.m.; about six of us actually made it up to the top. We had lunch and made sandwiches. It's around 15,000 feet at the summit, so the altitude made it really cold. It was snowing and raining. At about 10:45 [a.m.] we all started to head down. The group of us, [that included] about six volunteers, which weren't hired guides, but were people who lived in the hostel with us and who knew the mountain very well.

Because it was so cold everyone was trying to go as quickly as they possibly could on the way down, so although there was someone in front and someone in back, our group thinned out as we went. Me, Gabe and Angela, the two others I was lost with, were in the middle of that group and made a wrong turn.

About 25 to 30 minutes later we realized we'd taken the wrong path, but figured our best bet would be to get to the bottom of the mountain and then get a cab or someone from there to take us back to the other base camp. Since it was extremely steep, snowing, raining and foggy we thought it would just be easier to keep going down.

The path we'd taken ultimately ended up dying out and wasn't an actual path. So we ended up in open land on the side of the mountain and we just kept trying to go downward and hoping that we would get off [the mountain].

The biggest complication was that we'd get caught entirely in the rainforest and going through it got really diffi-

cult.

We saw a dried out riverbed that was cutting between two mountain ridges and was in a sort of ravine. We figured the river is going to run downward and there will probably be some sort of village or something near the river. So, we basically followed the dried riverbed for the rest of the time we were lost.

It was very, very thick rainforest and we were going in and out of trees but trying to keep the riverbed in sight at all times.

We ended up sleeping on the riverbed Sunday night. Then around 1 or 2 p.m. on Monday we got stuck because the riverbed turned into a 100 foot waterfall that we obviously couldn't get down.

What did you do then?

We were just kind of stuck at the top of this waterfall. Luckily though within probably 20 minutes of us getting stuck there we heard the first helicopters.

We were there probably until about 6 or 7 p.m. since it was extremely foggy the helicopters couldn't see us, so they came and went.

How were you rescued?

There were tons of people on the mountain looking for us. We would hear calls to us or people asking "Where are you?" Every few minutes we would stop and scream for help to see if we would get any response.

And we kept getting responses, but the sound didn't travel out of the rainforest where we were, so it was really hard for people to follow our voices, so voices kept coming and going. Around 6 p.m. these two guys, who weren't part of any search party, they were just two local guys on a hike, had heard us screaming and came hopping down into the ravine like it was nothing.

They showed up and were like "Okay, come with us." They were so nonchalant, taking pictures of the area

and saying things like "Oh we've never been here before, this is so interesting."

At that point we thought they had been sent by someone so we kept asking them "How is everyone?" They thought we were crazy, they didn't understand we hadn't eaten and were exhausted.

They helped us climb out of the ravine which was extremely challenging at the time, but it was such an adrenaline rush because we were so excited to get out.

What happened when you got out of the ravine?

They took us on a path down the mountain. At this point they [still] had no concept that we had been lost.

When we got down the mountain, and entirely by coincidence, two of my friends from home who were on the trip with me and one other girl from the trip had been going house to house in these indigenous villages around Imbambura asking "Have you seen these kids?" A lot of people thought that maybe we'd gotten down and were just stuck without a phone or anything and couldn't find our way back.

They were at this house that happened to be on the path we were taking down. One of the girls recognized us and started screaming. It was a huge emotional outburst. They came running over and found us and drove us back.

That happening was totally by luck; those two guys finding us was totally by luck; there were a lot of things that luckily worked out in the end.

You said you slept in a dried riverbed. Did manage to get any sleep the night you were lost?

Well, we kept hitting waterfalls ranging anywhere from about three feet to 40 feet. When we hit them we'd crawl into the rain forest and it would be vertical walls of tree roots. We used it like a ladder, lowering ourselves down

using the roots, but it started to get dark and we got really uncomfortable continuing.

We stopped at the top of this waterfall on the riverbed at sun down, about 7:30 p.m. But we weren't by any means lying down. We sort of curled up in little balls and sat close together trying to stay warm and rest as much as possible.

It definitely wasn't the most relaxing night of sleep I've ever had.

When sun came up at about 5:30 or 6 [a.m.] we kept going again.

And you didn't have any food, water or radios on you?

Well, when we'd gone to the top of the mountain as a whole group [the day before] we'd made sandwiches. The boy we were with had been carrying some of the food for them and he had three bread rolls left on him.

So we had three bread rolls and two water bottles between the three of us. We didn't eat anything the first day. Then the first thing in the morning before we continued the three of us split a bread roll. Then I and the other girl split one bread roll once we had stopped at the top of the water fall and the boy had the other.

Were you scared?

It went in and out. I keep saying this to everyone: "If there are two people to be lost on a mountain with, I definitely picked the two best people ever." We are all fairly athletic kids and we remained fairly optimistic the entire time. No one cried, no one yelled at each other. It felt as if we were taking care of each other. Someone would look over the water fall first and take a look where we needed to go and we'd discuss every decision we made as a group. That was really comforting. There were certain momentary lapses though where it was like "Oh my goodness, I'm stuck on a mountain." But we remained confident that we would be able to get down eventually. We kept feeling like "Okay, one more day we can do it, two more days we can do it." We were essentially marching through this riverbed and singing or cracking jokes about what was going on. We had about 10 to 15 discussions of "I hope they haven't called my mom yet."

We tried to stay pretty optimistic and keep ourselves distracted and the adrenaline rush helped. We just kept moving and being sore or being tired didn't become much of an issue.

You said you wondered if your parents had been contacted. Did you want them to be contacted?

The first day we were like "At what point are they going to call our parents?" The second day when we got caught at the top of the waterfall I was

like “Okay, I hope they’ve called my parents by now.” But before that I was like, “I really don’t want to worry them.” We were very confident we would be okay and we didn’t want anyone to be unnecessarily worried. I can’t necessarily say we were okay, but we were in good spirits and making progress. We had hoped everyone had some confidence in them that we were okay. I think people were still pretty worried though.

Are you looking at this now as a frightening experience or an adventure?

Looking back on it, I would say it was definitely something I wouldn’t want to do again. But it’s not a negative experience. It all worked out, everyone was fine, healthy and there were no bad injuries. It was definitely an adventure and it is definitely something I will never, ever forget.

What did you gain from this experience?

The three of us who were lost all left with really, really positive feelings about the community in Ecuador; the amount of people they were able to get on that mountain to search for us, and it wasn’t a matter of the Red Cross or the Army, it was locals and indigenous families who decided to help out. One of the men who was helping our program leader to search was the mayor of an indigenous village who knew the mountain really well and took him [the program leader] up the mountain with him and helped him look and organized a search party.

At the end of the evening he turned to our leader and was like “All I want to do is be able to meet these kids.”

The family at the hostel we were living at, all of the sons of the family was on the mountain and had called all of their friends. It was this huge community feeling.

How did you celebrate being found?

The night after we were found, Tuesday night, all the volunteers threw a party for everyone who had been looking. We took the entire day and went out and bought all of the supplies and cooked all day. We invited over all the Red Cross people, all of these Army generals and all of these local people. It was good to hear their take on it and our take on it. They just kept saying how all they cared about is that we were found, that it didn’t matter they had never met us and it didn’t matter that we were American or anything like that.

They just wanted to make sure we were okay. It was a very heartwarm-

ing experience in the end. I look back on it and am just so impressed with the community we were living in.

It was one of the best nights of the entire trip.

Tell us about the program you were teaching with.

It’s called the Village Education Project. It was started five years ago and they send out volunteers every year to run a summer school program for kids who are about to enter into high school. The kids in these indigenous villages’ families are unable to pay for high school. The program is able to give about 30 to 35 scholarships a year to whoever does best in the program. The scholarships sponsor these kids to be able to go to high school because without them, these kids won’t be able to continue any more education. They would go in to working with their families, whether its farmers or textiles or something like that. So we try to give as many scholarships as we can. Those who do best on the final exams in the end will be sponsored.

Did you jump right back into teaching?

Yes. Two of my students brought in the newspaper clipping from the Otavalo newspaper, which was kind of funny.

The boy I was lost with, all of his students came in and said they had seen him on TV.

So the kids knew what had happened. But we essentially went back and had tests on Friday to prepare for.

Did the experience make you anxious to return home to your parents and family?

I think it was more from the other end if anything. I think my parents and my family were definitely excited to get me home. I was very excited to see them as well, but it was really sad to leave.

Aside from this, the whole summer had been unbelievable. The trips we got to go on, the teaching, the program was amazing. We had to say goodbye to all the kids who we know we’ll stay in touch with and see. It was just really sad to leave for all of us.

Do you have any advice for anyone if they ever get lost or separated from a group?

Avoid the rainforest. Try to stay somewhere where a helicopter would be able to spot you. And hike with a cell phone.



Danielle Jonas, Rebecca Rosen, Raquel Rosenberg, and Jocelyn Karlan, all 2008 Beverly High graduates, sightseeing in Quito, Ecuador the first day of their trip.



Jocelyn Karlan teaching for the Village Education Project in Ecuador, before she got lost.



A flyer distributed to help find Jocelyn Karlan (right) and two other hikers who were missing with her.

arrest summary

DONALD TAYLOR, 38, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/17/2009 for DUI

BARRY JAY SUMMERS, 45, of Bel Air, arrested on 7/17/2009 for driving while license suspended.

BERANNA DOMINQUE MOODY, 24, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/17/2009 for burglary.

GORDON FREDERICK LEE, 58, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/17/2009 for battery on a peace officer.

BARBARA ELLEN WILSON, 41, of Santa Barbara, arrested on 7/17/2009 for disorderly conduct.

KAREN ELEANE JOHNSON, 19, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/17/2009 for burglary.

HERBERTH VLADIMIR VALLE, 30, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/16/2009 for

driving without a license.

WILLIE LEE WORTHAM, 58, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/16/2009 for contempt of court.

SARA ANN THOMAS, 28, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/15/2009 for DUI.

CARLOS E. BUSTILLO BLANCO, 21, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/15/2009 for attempted robbery.

SANDER MISAEL AYALA, 47, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/15/2009 for bench warrant.

RUBEN CHAIDEZ, 28, of Downey, arrested on 7/15/2009 for outside warrant/misdemeanor.

OLIVER WYNNE JARRETT, 19, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/14/2009 for grand theft: money/labor/property.

BAUDILIO RODOLFO DIAZ, 19, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/14/2009 for driving without a license.

MICHAEL OBLOWITZ, 57, of Venice, arrested on 7/14/2009 for outside warrant.

ZAR AUSTIN, 53, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/14/2009 for burglary.

CHRISTIAN TAN CATAHAN, 24, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/13/2009 for possession of marijuana 1 oz or less while driving.

GABRIEL DEVORRIS, 18, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/26/2009 for forging an official seal.

FRANCOIS MANSHOORY, 21, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/26/2009 for DUI.

JEFFREY DAVID PRICE, 27, of Santa Monica, arrested on 7/26/2009 for DUI.

DEANNA JEAN ADNEY, 65, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/26/2009 for driving without a license.

CAMERON JAMES HUSTON, 23, of

Los Angeles, arrested on 7/26/2009 for bench warrant/misdemeanor.

PETER BYKHOVSKY, 23, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/26/2009 for bench warrant/misdemeanor.

STEPHEN ANTHONY CIBULSKIS, 31, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/26/2009 for driving while license suspended.

ALEXANDER KHAZAI, 19, of Beverly Hills, arrested on 7/26/2009 for hit and run property damage.

JUSTIN MIKEL RIFE, 24, of West Lake, arrested on 7/26/2009 for bench warrant/misdemeanor.

KAREN LOURDES GRACIAS, 25, of Compton, arrested on 7/26/2009 for bench warrant misdemeanor.

DAVID MAURICE HILL, 30, of Lancaster, arrested on 7/26/2009 for driving without a license.

GARRY BERNARD PETTIS, 23, of Los Angeles, arrested on 7/26/2009 for bench warrant/misdemeanor.

rudy cont. from page 5

one more to consider, we have some of the best traffic management systems in the Los Angeles area, thanks to some advance and creative leadership by past councils and city staff. Most of our most difficult intersections have smoother movement because of systems that control turning. Also, diversion programs in the southwest have made that area's streets safer and more livable.

Who has control of the clicker in your house? Democracy and all its wonders have not yet made it to our home: she who rules has custody of the remote. It could be worse, the last incumbent has guardianship of the house and most of the bank accounts.

But just when you hope to have the tube prepare you for slumber, the ultimate leader decides that life can not be complete without another installment, or injection, of "The Bachelorette."

Ah, the irony of it all. The same network that brought us **Peter Jennings** and **Nightline's Ted Koppel** and even **Dick**

Cavett, now devotes two hours on Monday for this drivel followed by sequels on how the loving couples, well not always loving, are progressing. I suppose it could be worse, she could force Fox news on my delicate vision. Oh, I forgot, she sneaks that nonsense into our environment when I'm distracted, not being able to learn enough about how bad universal health care would be for those without any coverage.

What excitement the "show" gave us this season. Imagine, our bachelorette came unglued when she was told, by one of the finks whom she had dumped, that a remaining "suitor" had a hidden girlfriend back home.

Am I missing something here? This same twit is making out with 20 or more guys all sharing the same habitat and she's distraught because one of the more fortunate actually has a fall back possibility?

The winners were those who escaped. And who are these guys that actually enter the competition: What a surprise to learn

that some actually have their own reasons and not the pure motive of wanting to find a mate for enduring love.

Never mind that you can hardly ever really tell the contestants apart and while I never would question or care about their sexual preferences, didn't they hold a reunion at a West Hollywood bar? How do I know about the show, don't tell the remote control dictator, I must have watched.

As for the reigning member, she must have some enormous tolerance level, we are entering our 21st year of marriage and Saturday is her birthday. Thanks Josette. If there have been any improvements in me during that time, you are the reason. You had a tough job. Yes, keep the clicker as long as you don't hide the pipes or the cats and laugh at my horrendous jokes. Happy birthday to the only other French female saint, bestowed for enormous tolerance. But would you have given me a rose?

Final thoughts: In two weeks many civic and government leaders will pay tribute to our retiring city manager, **Rod Wood**, probably one of the most able in our history who managed to bring us through one of the most difficult times we ever faced.

Although Rod will be around while the city goes through the very difficult task of finding a successor, you too can join in showing your appreciation and at the same time mix with city leaders.

Basics: Saturday, August 15. Cocktails at 6:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Beverly Hilton, business attire, donation \$100. Advance reservations at (310) 288-1755.

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 3

loan is not paid back within three years, the state is not allowed to borrow money from the city again.

According to a press release the city will dip into its \$50 million reserves to cover the loan so it does not further affect cuts that have already been made to select programs and services the city offers, such as the slimming down of the library's business hours.

No new Board of Education election filings

As of Wednesday four candidates have filed for the two seats open in the Board of Education election Nov. 3., Craig Davis, Lisa Fisch Korbatov, Jake Manaster and Nooshin Meshkaty.

Board member Myra Demeter, who was

first elected in 2001, has announced she will not run.

The filing period, which opened July 13, closes Aug. 7.

For information on running or voting call (562) 462-2748.

Roxbury Reels prepares for school in Aug.

The series continues with movies focused around education environments as the school year draws nearer.

All movies are free and shown at 1 p.m. in the Roxbury Auditorium at 471 South Roxbury Drive.

Movies for August include:
Aug. 6: Dead Poets Society
Aug. 13: A Beautiful Mind
Aug. 20: Good Will Hunting
Aug. 27: Horse Feathers.

For more information call (310) 285-6840.

Movie Academy Concludes 1939 Screening Series Monday with "The Wizard of Oz"

A newly restored digital print of "The Wizard of Oz" will be shown Monday at the Samuel Goldwyn Theater as the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts concludes its screening series, "Hollywood's Greatest Year: The Best Picture Nominees of 1939" at its headquarters at 8949 Wilshire Boulevard.

The screening is sold out, but a standby line will form on the day of the event and standby numbers will be assigned at approximately 5:30 p.m. Any available tickets will be distributed at approximately 7:15 p.m.

Ticket holders should plan to arrive at least 15 minutes before the start of the event to ensure a seat in the theater, according to an Academy official.

Margaret Hamilton, who portrayed the Wicked Witch of the West, was a member of the BHUSD Board of Education from 1948-51, serving under her married surname, Meserve.

Hamilton's son, Hamilton Meserve, told the Los Angeles Times in a 2003 interview she was recruited to run because of a belief that someone from the movie industry should serve on the board at a time people from the industry were "a major component of the Beverly Hills population."

More information on the screening is available by calling (310) 247-3600 or online at <http://www.oscars.org>.

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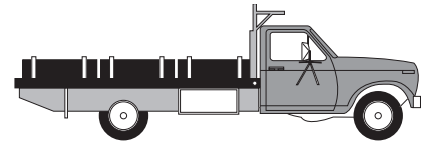
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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT: 20090929283
 The following person(s) is/are doing business as: BEST QUALITY CERAMIC TILE CO., 627 E. EL SEGUNDO BL., LOS ANGELES, CA 90059. CURTIS C. YOUNG, 13712 S. WILKIE AVE. LOS ANGELES CA 90249. The business is conducted by: an Individual. Registrant has begun to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed here in on 4/1/2009. Signed CURTIS C. YOUNG. The registrant(s) declared that all information in the statement is true and correct. This statement is filed with the County Clerk of Los Angeles County on: 6/19/2009. NOTICE: This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed on, in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed prior to that date. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal state, or common law (see Section 14411, et. seq., B&P

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