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JULY FOURTH FUN — The Holmby Hills/Westwood Property Owners Association held its annual Fourth of July parade last Monday morning. L.A. City Councilman Paul Koretz (blue shirt inside the car) served as the parade's grand marshal. Koretz rode in a vintage 1926 Ford Model T, owned by Ralphs Fresh Fare Westwood. There were about 1,000 locals in attendance for the parade. *Photo by Allyson Bunting*

Beverly Hills Planning Commission Approves Hillside Ordinance

By Victoria Talbot

In a special meeting last Thursday evening, the Planning Commission voted to adopt a recommendation for approval of a Hillside Ordinance in Beverly Hills, regulating landform alterations, expansion of level pad areas of lots and development off the level pad of lots in the hillside area.

The proposed ordinance will now be placed on a future City Council agenda. If it is approved, there will be a second reading of the ordinance at another meeting, and 31 days later, the ordinance will go into effect.

The Planning Commission approved the following:

1. The new ordinance modifies the threshold for an

R1 Review to 2,000 cubic yards of soil excavation on streets that are 24 feet or less in width. There are at least 14 streets that fit in that category. The ordinance reduces the by-right limit of export/import from any site on such a street.

The reduction in grading is recommended because residents on the narrower, winding streets are far more impacted by the movement of heavy haul vehicles than those on wider streets.

A developer can seek an R1 review, which would allow the neighbors' input on mitigation efforts to reduce the impacts on the peaceful enjoyment of their homes.

Residents who spoke to the commission reported that (see 'HILLSIDE ORDINANCE' page 14)

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Cardiologist Dr. Stephen Corday And Mary Jo Deutschman Returned From Their Bi-Annual Paris Holiday, And Praised The \$450 Million Restoration of The Ritz Hotel At The Place Vendome

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City, School District Await Ruling On Metro Subway Tunneling

By Matt Lopez

A ruling was expected this week on whether the Metropolitan Transportation Authority must vacate plans to tunnel under Beverly Hills High School as part of the Westside Subway Extension.

U.S. District Court Judge George H. Wu appeared poised to make his ruling last Friday, but that day's late afternoon court date instead turned into a chance for final closing arguments from each side.

As of Thursday's print deadline, Board of Education President Howard Goldstein confirmed that a ruling had not yet been handed down.

Wu did indicate last Friday

that at the very least, he would require Metro to include a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS), which Metro estimated would take about 10-12 months.

"I can tell you right now, that no matter what, I'm remanding for an SEIS to be completed," Wu said.

Attorneys for the City of Beverly Hills and the Beverly Hills Unified School District, however, argued that ordering an SEIS without forcing Metro to find a new route for the subway would essentially be pointless.

Wu said if an SEIS was completed incorrectly or incomplete, he would order Metro to re-do it (see 'METRO' page 13)

Israel Consul General David Siegel Prepares To Leave L.A.

By Laura Coleman

After five years serving as the Israeli Consul General in L.A., David Siegel is poised to bid Shalom to the California coast and return to Israel at the end of this month.

Among a multitude of high notes, from getting to know the community and local leaders, to helping facilitate business relationships between Israelis and Americans, to engaging the next generation in Israel's future, Siegel said that the signing of the California-Israel Memorandum of Understanding stands out at the forefront.

"I think we've brought an approach to partner locally and to bring home the reality that Israel's a country that is multi-dimensional, that it has many strengths that are important to America. This whole concept of having a partnership with California is something



David Siegel

that we worked on very hard," Siegel said.

"Because of where Israel is in the world...it has to defend itself from terror, from security issues, and also from the climate...it's just become very very good at becoming a world leader on many of these issues. And early on."

Today, he said, there's no doubt that Israel is the global leader in water management.

(see 'DAVID SIEGEL' page 18)

Los Angeles Times Gets It Wrong About Beverly Hills Again – On Ambassadors

By Victoria Talbot

In today's world it is not uncommon for people on different sides of an issue to dig in, eschewing empirical evidence to select the evidence that supports their cherished beliefs. Homelessness is a wrenching social problem that ignites such passions.

Such is the case with the *Los Angeles Times* and some irate locals who feel a protective angst about panhandler George Saville, whom they claim has been kicked out of Beverly Hills by the City's Ambassadors because he is homeless.

Reporter Gale Holland, who covers the homeless for the *Times*, trekked to Beverly Hills for the story.

Mayor John Mirisch responds to the *L.A. Times'* hit piece on Beverly Hills' Ambassador program – page 31.

Holland refers incorrectly to the Human Relations Commission as the "Human Rights Commission."

"After a run-in with city-funded private patrol, known to the locals as 'greenshirts,' Saville was charged with two misdemeanors and ordered to stay away from the restaurant."

City officials tell the *Courier* 'Greenshirts' is an insensitive slur: in some people's minds, potentially evoking the sinister 'brownshirts' of Hitler's Germany. Many Beverly Hills residents survived (see 'AMBASSADORS' page 18)



Celebrity Photo Agency/Scott Downie

A FANTASTIC EVENING — Kathryn Hahn and Viggo Mortensen partied during the premiere of Bleecker Street Media's *Captain Fantastic* at Harmony Gold.

For more photos, see George Christy's column on page 6.



KEY TO THE CITY— The Beverly Hills City Council honored former three-time mayor Tom Levyn with a Key to the City Tuesday. Levyn was mayor in 1996, 1999 and 2003. Pictured left to right are Mayor John Mirisch, Vice Mayor Nancy Krasne, Councilmember Kathy Reims, Councilmember Julian Gold, former mayor Tom Levyn, Larkin Levyn [granddaughter], Allison Levyn (wife), Zach Okyle, KK Okyle, Ricky Rozen [on crutches], Stacy Rozen, Eli Okyle, Joanna Katz, Adam Levyn and Heidi Levyn.

iPalpiti Music Festival Returns To Greystone Mansion And The Wallis

By Victoria Talbot

Beverly Hills internationally acclaimed music festival, iPalpiti, begins its 19th season July 13 at the Greystone Mansion, offering the perfect backdrop for a live summer concert.

The festival, under the direction of Maestro Eduard Schmieder, will bring together celebrated musicians who have performed to sold-out audiences from around the globe.

The festival begins July 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Greystone with iPalpiti Soloists and DUO Gurfinkel a chamber music ensemble performing Johannes Brahms.

Musicians include Jacopo Giacomuzzi (piano), Alex and Daniel Gurfinkel (clarinets), Davide de Ascaniis and Haoyue Liao (violins), Julia Clancy (viola) and Carl-Oscar Österlind (cello).

A second CROSSOVER performance will be July 20 at 7 p.m., also at Greystone, features iPalpiti Meets Sasha's Bloc. Musicians from both ensembles will blend arrangements of selections from Joplin, Gershwin, Fade-



Grappelli and original pieces. Jazz Collective Sasha's Bloc brings guest vocalists Jane Monheit and Alvin Chea with a Big Band Jazz sound of the 1930-1940s.

Then on Friday, July 18, the iPalpiti Orchestra & Soloists will perform at the Wallis Annenberg Performing Arts Center. Solo violinists Peter Rainer, Davide De Ascaniis, Kreetta-Julia Heikkila and Annelie Gregory and junior soloist Samuel Nebyu will join the orchestra to perform selections from Felix Mendelssohn, Antonio Vivaldi, Franz Waxman and Peter Tchaikovsky.

For information and tickets for iPalpiti Festival, call 310-205-0511 or visit www.iPalpiti.org.

METRO

(Continued from page 1)

before work on the subway routes could progress, but City and BHUSD attorneys argued it would be too late at that point.

Philip Karmel, a lawyer for the City, called it "judicial fiction" that an SEIS would be taken seriously by Metro after the Federal Transit Administration has already awarded a grant of more than \$1 billion dollars, with Metro closing in on

a design-build contract for more than \$2 billion.

"We believe it will be rendered an empty exercise," Karmel said. "The analysis should be done first, then considered, then the decision should be made about whether to throw a billion dollars at this project. That's why [vacating the Record of Decision] is so important."

Judge Wu said a ruling would be sent to both parties sometime this week.

VISTA DEL MAR

(Continued from page 5)

community is critical," she said.

About 94-percent of Vista's \$42 million annual budget derives from federal and county funds, with the remainder coming from private donors.

Another key, Tallerino said, is recognizing that mental health still carries a stigma and advocating to eliminate that stigma.

"I think we have to give permission to people to feel feelings and emotions," she said.

A California native who grew up in Arcadia, Tallerino said she has always been committed to making a positive change in the world.

"I kind of fell in love with child welfare and mental health services too," she said.

After graduating from USC with a degree in social work, she was soon drawn into more administrative roles which she perceived as having the ability to create change.

Tallerino served as executive director at Family Service of Santa Monica for a decade before it merged with Vista, and a role was created specifically for her.

Over the years, she has witnessed firsthand the importance of fostering the ability in children to control their impulses in addition to helping them feel safe and secure in their environment.

Providing kids with skills to cope is key, she said. Learning to practice mindfulness and be present, for example, is a skill that children can take with them into adulthood.



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