

For **Rose Parade** Details And Pictures, See Page 8

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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NOVEMBER 19, 2010

THIS ISSUE



Students give 'thanks' through giving. 4



L.A. Auto Show opens at Convention Center, today. 12

Snow To Hit Rodeo Drive

Courier TV meteorologists have confirmed that snow will blanket Rodeo Drive, Dec. 9.

Merchants are set to welcome guests in from the blizzard and have snow-capable horse-drawn sleighs waiting.

Holiday cheer will fill Christian Dior, Gucci, Fendi, Gearys, Harry Winston, Prada and more.

This unprecedented bout of weather will be brought on by the global warming activities of the Rodeo Drive Committee. For updates, visit www.bhcourier.com.

CLASSIFIEDS 31

- Announcements
- Auctions
- Business & Financial
- Real Estate
- Rentals
- Sales
- Transportation
- and More



George Christy, Page 6
Jealous Ballerinas;
The Way Back;
All About Lenny.

The Courier welcomes Trump Hotels, see Page 9.

AND MORE

Parking Under Microscope

By Adam Popescu

Tuesday's City Council meeting saw City's leaders revisit the issue of two hour free parking and its consequences.

With the initiative to bring two-hour free parking to Beverly Hills looming on the upcoming March ballot, City staff have been working to plug the estimated \$1.3 million revenue shortfall that will result if the initiative is passed.

Council rejected staff rec-

ommendations to implement a "two-hour free parking excise tax" on commercial square footage, and a "commercial parking tax" to curb the deficit.

Financial projections for the Parking Enterprise Fund show an annual fund balance shortfall of approximately \$3.4 million over the next 10 years, without the passage of the proposed parking initiative. If the initiative passes, the projected deficit increases to

(see 'PARKING,' page 18)

Lili Bosse Officially Files For City Council Seat

By Adam Popescu

On Monday, Planning Commission Chair Lili Bosse made history, becoming the first City Council candidate ever to turn in her filing papers on the first day of the filing period.

Bosse was joined by City leaders and community mem-

bers who showed their support at City Hall.

In the excitement, the group celebrated by singing the "Star Spangled Banner," led by City Clerk Byron Pope.

Joining Bosse and her husband Jon, were: Kathy and Joel

(see 'BOSSE,' page 18)

Chasen Murder: Still More Questions Than Answers

By Adam Popescu and Brenton Garen

The Beverly Hills Police Department are still searching for motives and suspects in the grisly murder of veteran Hollywood publicist Ronni Chasen.

In an appeal for public help, a reward of \$125,000 is now being offered for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person responsible for her death.

A detective hotline has been established, and anyone with information is urged to call

310-288-2658.

Chasen's funeral has been scheduled for Sunday at 11 a.m. at Hillside Memorial Park and Mortuary.

Many unresolved questions remain. Chasen was fatally shot in her Mercedes-Benz on Whittier Drive in the early morning hours Tuesday. The most glaring question is: why?

Chasen, 64, was shot five times in the chest, BHPD said. Officers responding to the scene found Chasen's black, late-mod-

(see 'MURDER,' page 19)



HIJINX WITH LOTUS—Alec Baldwin partied with Demi Moore at the Lotus Cars Launch Event previewing the new models (Esprit, Elan, Elise and Elite) at a private estate before the L.A. Auto Show.

Photo by John Shearer/WireImage



Beverly Hills' Tournament Of Roses Float Takes Shape

By Adam Popescu

The City of Beverly Hills unveiled designs of the upcoming Tournament of Roses Parade float at a community meeting at The Beverly Hilton on Monday.

The float, themed "Beverly

Hills—City of Dreams Come True," will showcase the City before an estimated television audience of more than 1 billion people.

(see 'FLOAT,' page 8)

Nazarian Wins Courier's Best Realtor Essay Contest

Sharona R. Nazarian's letter nominating real estate agents Brooke Knapp and Drew Mandile of Sotheby's International Realty as "Best Real Estate Agent in Beverly Hills 2010" has been selected as this year's winning submission in *The Courier's* second annual contest.

Nazarian wrote: "Brooke and Drew as not only knowledgeable and hardworking, but are also the most respectful, kind and compassionate team I have ever seen. They give back

to the community and are mindful of their client's financial and private needs."

Upon winning the contest, Nazarian said: "Brooke and Drew are a great team and a

(see 'CONTEST,' page 14)



Sharona Nazarian

City Says 'No' To Preschool Partnership With BHUSD

By Amanda Peabody

"If it isn't broken, why fix it?" is the modus operandi when it comes to reconfiguring the City's preschool program, a liaison committee determined last

week.

The City, which runs a comparatively affordable preschool through its Community Services department, has declined to part-

(see 'PRESCHOOL,' page 16)

No Term Limits For Council

By Adam Popescu

Mayor Delshad's request that the City Council discuss the possibility of adopting term limits for elected officials was shot down by councilmembers at Tuesday's

meeting.

Delshad, who will not run in the upcoming March elections, due to his own personal two-term limit, urged other council-

(see 'TERM,' page 18)

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SUPPORTERS CELEBRATE—A group of Lili Bosse supporters celebrated her candidacy by singing *The Star Spangled Banner*.

BOSSE

(Continued from page 1)

Reims, Judy Henning and Dick Rosenzweig, Joanna and Sidney Poitier, Gaby and Ben Alexander, Tom Blumenthal, Linda and Ed Brown, Craig Corman, Annette and Marc

Saleh, Marilyn Gallup, Hamid Gabbay, Myra Gabbay, Lori and Ken Goldman, Andrea Grossman, Lisa Korbatov, Russ Levi, Sharona Nazarian, Alma Ordaz, Franny Rennie, Janet Salter and Thomas White.

The filing period runs from Nov. 15 to Dec 10.

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PARKING

(Continued from page 1)

\$4.6 million.

Beverly Hills based G & L Realty is the lead proponent of the two hour free parking initiative. G & L owns medical office properties on North Bedford Drive. The initiative will not apply to parking facilities constructed before June 30, 2010.

Flat-rate parking has been an issue of contention for the council, with special parking rates holding a degree of ambiguity.

After much debate and staff reports, City Council has directed the matter to return to a subcommittee of Vice Mayor Barry Brucker and Councilmember Willie Brien, who will explore ways to adjust the parking budget deficit if the measure were to pass. A special subcommittee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Dec. 7.

Questions Or Comments?

Do you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding The Courier's stories or would like to see a story in print?

E-mail *Beverly Hills Courier* Assistant Editor
Amanda Peabody at
apeabody@bhcourier.com.

TERM

(Continued from page 1)

members to follow suit. "I believe local term control is different than state term control," Delshad told *The Courier*. Two four-year terms for councilmembers are "long enough for any candidate to accomplish what they came to do," he said. During City Council discussion, Delshad read letters from City officials and residents, some in favor, some not in favor of the proposal that would have been placed on the upcoming March ballot. Among those that supported the idea was Beverly Hills Board of Education President Steven Fenton. A.J. Wilmer, the former president of the Beverly Hills School Board, spoke out against term limits during the public comment period, calling it an answer to a problem we don't have.

Members of the council said they believe residents of the City are smart enough to speak with their votes, and that term limits are not necessary to impose. Most councilmembers serve two terms; it is very rare to serve three terms.

Incoming mayor and current Vice-Mayor Barry Brucker said he has not made up his mind, and has made no commitment to run again in 2013. "My only focus is being the very best councilmember I can, then being the best mayor I can in March."