

The Courier remembers Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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THIS ISSUE



Koala is a 2-year-old miniature poodle looking for her new family. 4



Don't miss the BHHS Dance Company's annual concert this weekend! 4



BHHS students triumphed at last weekend's DECA conference. 5

BREAKING NEWS

Changes made by the Planning Commission to the Cultural Heritage Ordinance "will not be on our council agenda" said Mayor Lili Bosse late Thursday as the City Council reinforces commitment to the cultural heritage of Beverly Hills.

SPECIAL EDITORIALS

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- Page 31: The *Wall Street Journal's* Peggy Noonan on the terrorist attack on *Charlie Hebdo* in Paris.
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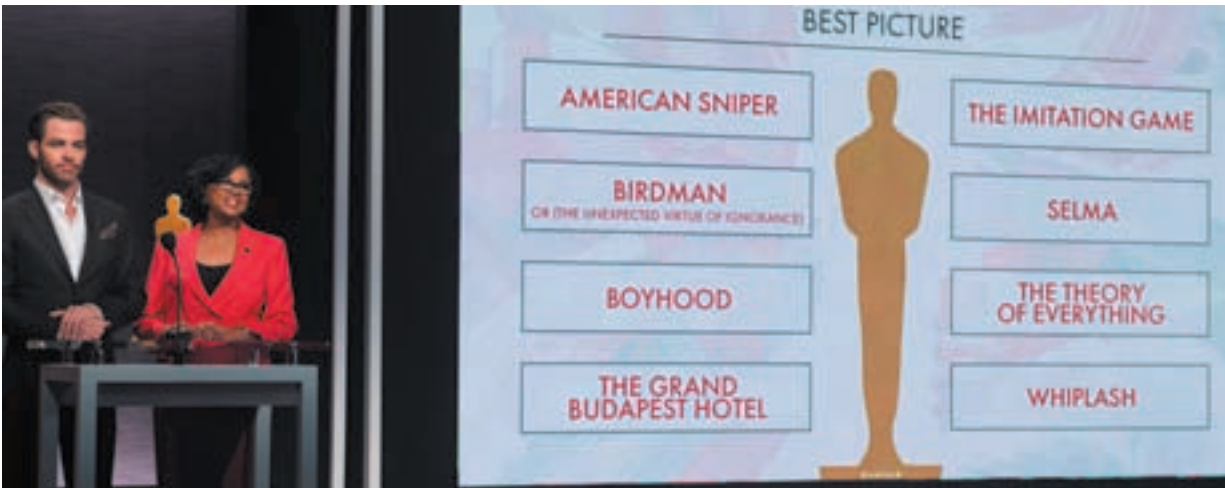
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The Cleavage City Crowd During The 72nd Golden Globe Awards At The Beverly Hilton Tattled About The Decollete Designer Gowns And Wondered Who Had Breast Enhancements

Editorial from Rabbi Pressman AND MORE

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AND THE WINNER IS... — Actor Chris Pine (left) and Academy President Cheryl Boone Isaacs announce the nominees for Best Picture at the 87th Annual Academy Awards in the Academy's Samuel Goldwyn Theater Thursday morning. Photo by Richard Harbaugh / ©A.M.P.A.S.

Oscar Nominations Announced In Beverly Hills — *Birdman, The Grand Budapest Hotel* Lead Pack

Birdman and *The Grand Budapest Hotel* led the pack of Oscar contenders today with nine nominations each for the 87th Academy Awards, with *The Imitation Game* following close behind with eight nods. The other five best picture nominees include Clint Eastwood's *American Sniper*, *Boyhood*, *Selma*, *The Theory Of Everything* directed by James Marsh and *Whiplash*, directed by Damien Chazelle. The Academy's process allows for up to 10 best picture nominees. (see 'OSCARS' page 15)

Wells Fargo & Co. Delivers In A Big Way Throughout The History Of Beverly Hills

In July, the Beverly Hills Courier will celebrate 50 years in the community. Throughout the new year, The Courier will honor the legacy of excellence in Beverly Hills businesses that have called the City their home since 1965 or earlier. These are our Heritage Businesses.

By Victoria Talbot

Today it is difficult to imagine the dusty little bean field that was once Beverly Hills. When Wells Fargo opened for business, the City was not even a concept. La Cienega was a swamp where water from the canyons pooled.

In 1852, Henry Wells and William Fargo founded Wells, Fargo & Co. to provide the merchants, bankers, gold miners and farmers the fastest means possible of sending money back east to the centers of business and commerce.

The firm employed the famous Pony Express, stagecoach, railroad and steamship to satisfy their clients, building an office in the gold rush City of San Francisco.

They expanded into Los Angeles in 1855.

In the meantime, Maria Rita Valdez de Villa sold what was then Rancho El Rodeo de Las Aguas to Benjamin Davis Wilson and Henry Hancock in 1854. The two hoped to discover oil, but came up empty-handed. They subdivided and sold to a flood of settlers seeking a piece of what California had to offer.

One of those early settlers was J. P. Bruso, who moved in and operated the first Wells Fargo express office in Beverly Hills in 1909 from his grocery store and butcher shop. Wells Fargo was there to offer their legendary and reliable express

(see 'WELLS FARGO' page 14)



STREETCAR EXPRESS—In the 1910s, Wells Fargo express street cars delivered customers' business throughout Los Angeles with stops in Beverly Hills and Santa Monica. Wells Fargo Corporate Archives

Beverly Elder: The Rabbi Who Marched With Martin Luther King

Part 19 in a series on Beverly Hills residents who have grown with the Centennial City.

By Laura Coleman

Dr. Sanford Shapero, 85, was born on March 4, 1929 in Cincinnati, Ohio, the eldest son of a coal man who, as it turned out, was bequeathing a legacy where every first born paternal son had been a rabbi, since the 12th century.

"It's an old tradition," said Shapero, who served as senior rabbi at Temple Emanuel from 1964-68 and later CEO/president of the City of Hope.

(see 'SANDY SHAPERO' page 17)



Sandy Shapero



Celebrity Photo Agency/Scott Downie

City Council Wants Joint Task Force For School Safety With BHUSD

By Laura Coleman & Victoria Talbot

It's time for the City of Beverly Hills, its school district and police force to work together to ensure that its youngest residents are safe, according to Councilman Willie Brien. In a study session Tuesday, Brien led his colleagues in a diatribe against the Board of Education, excoriating the school district leaders for poor business practices that prompted the Council to backtrack on its former commitment to pay the BHUSD half of the amount expended for private security in a 3-2 vote.

(see 'SCHOOL SAFETY' page 19)

11 Percent Pay Bump For Beverly Hills Executives

By Victoria Talbot

Without much fanfare or opposition, the City of Beverly Hills extended basically the same agreement to the Executive Employees group that was extended to Miscellaneous Employees last fall, giving them an 11-percent increase followed by a 2-percent COLA increase in Feb. 2015 and a one percent increase in Feb. 2016.

The new agreement shifts PERS retirement benefit costs

(see 'CITY SALARIES' page 15)

HAPPY TOGETHER — Moët & Chandon champagne was poured non-stop during the 72nd annual Golden Globes Awards at The Beverly Hilton, where Amy Adams (in Versace) Jared Leto and Julianne Moore (in Givenchy) toasted honorees and friends. George Clooney was honored, and his beautiful wife Amal enjoyed her first outing at an awards extravaganza.

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

Longtime Beverly Hills Resident Dr. Esther Rose Lowy Memorial Set For Sunday

Dr. Esther Rose Lowy, longtime resident of Beverly Hills, died Dec. 19 and was laid to rest in the Eretz Hachaim Cemetery in Israel. A memorial will be held this Sunday from 4 to 5:30 p.m. at 1317 N. Crescent Heights Blvd. in West Hollywood.

Born in New York, she quickly learned the value of a well rounded Torah-based education, placing first in U.S. Tanach competition, landing her a spot in the International Chidon of Tanach in Jerusalem where she placed third—the first woman and non-Israeli to ever

place in the competition. She spoke English, Hebrew, Yiddish, French and Spanish, and also a working knowledge of Russian, Polish and Italian.

Dr. Lowy spent one year studying at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem before graduating Phi Beta Kappa from Brooklyn College in 1969, and earned a PhD. in mathematics from NYU's Courant Institute of NYU. Thereafter, she began her academic career by joining the faculty at City University of New York. After marrying Rudolph Lowy in 1974, she moved to Los Angeles and

taught at both Cal State Pomona and UCLA, where she earned an MBA.

She worked tirelessly to promote higher education in the Jewish community, she served on the educational boards of many of the local yeshivas and schools before founding L.A.'s Touro College.

Besides her educational exploits, Dr. Lowy's other legacy was being a mother to eight children: Ellie, Ephraim, Mindi, Tova, Devorah, Naphtali, Shuli, and Chaim.

Dana Hollinger Appointed To CalPERS Board Of Administration By Gov. Jerry Brown

By John L. Seitz

Dana Hollinger of Beverly Hills has been appointed to the California Public Employees' Retirement System Board of Administration by Gov. Jerry Brown.

The Los Angeles native has been principal for the past four years at the Century City-based Dana Hollinger Group, which specializes in the advanced uses of life insurance in estate and financial planning, where she works with tax, trust, and estate and family law attorneys, business managers and CPAs. Before that, she was a life insurance agent at both



AXA Equitable Life and Nationwide Provident, a producer at Succession Capital, and VP at KB Co.

Hollinger earned a BA degree from American University School of Government and a JD from Southwestern University's School of Law.

She was named as the representative from the insurance industry to the CalPERS board which has more than

\$300 billion in assets and manages retirement benefits for some 1.6 million California public service employees.

Hollinger served on the Women's Leadership Board at Harvard's JFK School of Government and has authored articles on tax and estate planning for *The Los Angeles Daily Journal* and *Physician's Money Digest* and was personally selected by the late John Anderson to join Club 1800, a group of 30 leading businesswomen and female philanthropists. She is founding boardmember of the Women's Leadership Council in Los Angeles.

OSCARS

(Continued from page 1)

The 12-years-in-the-making drama *Boyhood*, the big winner at Sunday's Golden Globe Awards, picked up six nominations, including a directing nod for Richard Linklater. Best picture hopeful *Selma*, which some had predicted would earn a shot at the Oscar for director Ava DuVernay, received just one other nomination -- for its original song, *Glory*.

Birdman, shot and edited to look as if it were captured in a single take, also garnered nominations in three acting categories, cinematography, original screenplay, sound editing and sound mixing.

The Grand Budapest Hotel was nominated for original screenplay, cinematography,

costume design, production design, original score, film editing and makeup/hair-styling.

As widely expected, Michael Keaton picked up a nomination for his role as a one-time blockbuster superhero actor trying to revive his career on Broadway in *Birdman*. He was joined in the best actor category by Eddie Redmayne for his role as physicist Stephen Hawking in *The Theory Of Everything*; Benedict Cumberbatch for his portrayal of British World War II codebreaker Alan Turing in *The Imitation Game*; box-office favorite and now three-time nominee Bradley Cooper for *American Sniper*; and Steve Carell for his transformation into millionaire murderer John du Pont in *Foxcatcher*.

Best actress nominees include Julianne Moore for her role as a linguistics professor diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in *Still Alice*; 2008 Oscar-winner Marion Cotillard for her portrayal of a young mother fighting to keep her job in the Belgian film *Two Days, One Night*; Felicity Jones for her work opposite Redmayne in *The Theory Of Everything*; Rosamund Pike as the murderous wife in *Gone Girl*; and Reese Witherspoon for her soul-searching role in the adaptation of Cheryl Strayed's *Wild*.

The Oscars will be presented Feb. 22 at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, with Neil Patrick Harris hosting.

For a full list of nominees, visit www.bhcourier.com

HAWTHORNE

(Continued from page 4)

emphasized that the recognition is one of the most significant accolades the district has received in the past several years.

The team of visitors interviewed Hawthorne teachers and staff, site administrators, district office personnel, as

well as students, and parents in order to validate that the school exemplified the practices to required to become a "School to Watch."

In February, Superintendent Woods, Principal Schaefer, Board of Education President Brian Goldberg, and Hawthorne teachers Marcy Scholer, Marissa Long and Jeff Harris will accept the award in

Sacramento at the annual meeting of the California League of Middle Schools. In June, Hawthorne will be recognized at the National Schools to Watch conference in Washington, D.C.

On Wednesday, Feb. 4 at 2:45 p.m., Hawthorne will hold a brief ceremony at the school.

ceive a monthly report from each of the five schools, the foundation, PTA Council and the finance committee.

"We need regular updates so that these don't fall by the wayside," he said. "If we don't write it down, we're not having accountability."

BHUSD MONEY

(Continued from page 5)

Measure E consultants and staff within a matrix of diminishing cash flow and projects. The Measure E cash balance is currently \$72.2 million.

Tuesday's COC report was

WALLIS CHINESE NEW YEAR

(Continued from page 2)

Eva Hsieh. The event is produced by Ben Bourgeois, producer of The Wallis' October 2013 inaugural gala.

The concert will begin with a musical selection by Madame Sun, followed by a solo performance by Chen that will feature, among other pieces, an excerpt from the Yellow River Concerto, the most well-known classical Chinese piece and a specialty of Chen. He will then

join L'Ensemble du Ciel for a performance of traditional and folk music from various Chinese ethnic regions, featuring the world premiere of several new musical arrangements.

On Friday, January 30, the program will be performed for 500 greater Los Angeles students as part of The Wallis' community and educational outreach initiative.

Tickets are available at TheWallis.org or by calling The Wallis Development Office at 310-746-4000.

CITY SALARIES

(Continued from page 1)

from the City, that paid the full cost voluntarily, to the employee, covering the 8-percent amount with the raise.

The PERScare benefit has been modified to a total monthly benefit of \$2,100, effective January 1, 2016, to cap the City's exposure to increases in medical insurance premiums.

Only Councilmember John Mirisch opposed the agreement. The Executive Management Group, including city manager, director of public works, city engineer, director of emergency management, director/project administrator, chief information officer, budget and revenue officer, director of community development, chief of police, fire chief, city clerk, utilities manager, division commander, and their assistants and deputies.

Mirisch, in an editorial exclusive to *The Courier*, did not propose that employees be asked to pay their entire contribution.

"As a compromise, my suggestion was to have the executive group split the 8-percent 'employee share' pension costs with the City. Factoring in the 3-percent base salary increase, this would have meant an effective reduction in take home pay of 1-2 percent for employees who are already earning an average of more than \$275,000 in total compensation."

Total compensation for these positions currently ranges from \$192,911 - \$432,032.

The median household income in Beverly Hills, by comparison, according to the United States Census Bureau, is \$86,141 in 2013. The annual compensation for Executive Employees will triple that amount.

Salary Comparison

Beverly Hills Executive Employees (pre-salary increase) vs.

State of California Employees

Beverly Hills City Manager Jeff Kolin - \$227,757
State Lt. Governor Gavin Newsom - \$124,000

Beverly Hills Assistant Director of Admin. Services, Finance Noel Marquis - \$162,000
State Dept. of Finance Director Michael Cohen - \$159,000

Beverly Hills Director of Community Development, Susan Healy Keene - \$193,000
State Director of Community Services/Development, Linne Stout - \$120,000

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