

HERE!

Former BHUSD Superintendent Hubbard's Criminal Conviction Reinstated By California Court

By Laura Coleman

The California Supreme Court yesterday ruled that former Beverly Hills Unified School District Jeffrey Hubbard was still on the hook for misappropriating public funds when it overturned a three-year-old appellate court ruling that previously reversed his conviction of a criminal act.

Hubbard had originally been convicted by a jury in Los Angeles Superior Court for payments to former BHUSD facilities chief Karen Christiansen for automobile expenses and a stipend.

"I am confident that this

ruling is the first in several appeals before the State Supreme Court that will vindicate my decision to hold staff accountable for their actions," said former Board of Education Brian Goldberg. "While I was heavily criticized for my decision to spend district money cleaning previous boards messes up I knew that it was the right thing to do and was confident the system would eventually work and hold those who broke the public trust accountable for their actions."

The district is still appealing its case with Christiansen.



YUM-ALICIOUS— Annie Milner (judge), owner of Clementine Café & Bakery; Ginger Gath of Beverly Hills – 2nd place winner; Stella Kalish of Los Angeles – 3rd place winner Emma Nica (judge), last year's 1st place winner Bouquet Veprin of Los Angeles – most Pieutiful winner Melani Shaum of Beverly Hills – 1st place winner; Vice-Mayor Nancy Krasne (judge); Chief of Police Sandra Spagnoli (judge), Chair Frances Bilak, Recreation and Parks Commission (judge).

Beverly Hills Piesta Winners Devour Competition

By Victoria Talbot

Beverly Hills' annual pie-baking contest held a few surprises this year. First place winner resident Melani Shaum would not compromise on her ingredients. Her husband drove nearly 700 miles to retrieve the Lagier Ranch sour cherries essential to achieving the right flavor. It paid off as Shaum is no stranger to Piesta!

Second place went to another resident, Ginger Garth, whose yum-alicious summer

apple pie was her first entry.

Third place went to 9-year old Stella Kalish. The youngest contestant ever baked pies with her grandmother for five weeks in preparation for the contest. She bakes twice a week, says her mother, and has made macaroons, cakes and cookies, sometimes without even using a recipe.

Most Pieutiful was awarded to Bouquet Veprin for her French apple tart, with the apple slices placed to create a

beautiful flower.

The contest featured sixteen contestants, and judges included BHPD Chief Sandra Spagnoli, Vice Mayor Nancy Krasne, Recreation and Parks Commission Chair Frances Bilak, Clementine's Bakery and Cafe owner Annie Milner and last year's Piesta first place winner Emma Nica.

Gift certificates were made possible by supporting sponsor Clementine Café.



PAULA'S PETS— Dogs are at the heart of People Animal Connection, a UCLA Health program that creates a therapeutic connection with service animals to aid healing, reduce stress and provide positive interactions that mends lives. Beverly Hills Philanthropist Paula Kent Meehan believed in the healing power of pets, and provided generous support to the PAC program, including Paula's PetPal Place, a special outdoor spot where patients can visit with their own animals to speed healing. Volunteers and their dogs were recognized Wednesday at a UCLA Faculty Center tea, where Marilee Bradford (left), who has served with her dog Tovah for 15 years, received the Paula Kent Meehan Outstanding PAC Team Award 2016, presented by Chief Patient Experience Officer Tony Padilla (right).



MEET MAGGIE—Maggie is a tiny 1-1/2 year old, Pom-Chi mix found as a stray in Compton. This sweet girl in now safe thanks the volunteers at ShelterHopePetshop.org. To adopt Maggie call Shelter Hope at 805-379-3538.



Gracie is a yr old Chihuahua/basenji Daisy is a yr-old terrier-sweet girl! Samson is a 2-yr old boxer mix, 58 pounds pit who loves peeps Peanut is a 2yr old

These dogs are available through Wags and Walks Rescue. info@wagsandwalks.org or Adoption Application: http://www.wagsandwalks.org/adoption-application/



School Board Poised To Issue Fourth, Final Set Of Measure E School-Building Bonds

By Laura Coleman

Broken promises notwithstanding, the Board of Education is poised to draw down the final \$141 million remaining of the \$334 million Measure E school-building bond approved by voters in 2008. On Tuesday, the board voted 4-1 to request the county to establish a tax rate in anticipation of selling its fourth issuance of General Obligation (GO) Measure E bonds at some point during the coming academic year.

Freshman boardmember Isabel Hacker was the lone "no" vote.

Following a series of Town Halls put on by the school dis-

trict back in 2013 in anticipation of issuing its second round of Measure E GO bonds, where as a resident Hacker advocated against the board selling more bonds without returning to the voters, that board authorized the sale of \$45 million in bonds with the promise that the money would only be used if voters subsequently approved a replacement ballot measure.

When the district sold its third series of Measure E bonds last August via Citigroup—where buyers purchased all of the \$76 million GO bonds within three hours after the sale began—it did so once again with the pledge that

the voters would soon be asked to vote on a replacement bond.

And while the board did give direction to staff last December to look seriously into putting a new school bond measure on the June ballot, nothing happened, making it fairly obvious now that a Measure E replacement bond is never going to happen.

In the process of passing the \$334 Measure E bond eight years ago, voters were illogically told that school-related property taxes would not rise beyond the rate of \$49.71 per \$100,000 of assessed property value. Taxpayers now pay around \$70 per \$100,000 of (see 'MEASURE E' page 8)

Chamber Of Commerce To Install New Board Helmed By Chairman Haimovitz Wednesday

By Laura Coleman

For incoming Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce Board Chairman David Haimovitz, who will be installed Wednesday evening at Beverly Canon Gardens along with a new board, the Beverly Hills organization is an incredible tool.

Haimovitz first joined the Chamber 20 years ago while managing Bank of America's Beverly Wilshire office after a former manager advised him: "It's a good thing to be involved in the community."

Over the years, Haimovitz has deepened his ties with the 900-member strong chamber and for the past three years has served on its board.

Transitively, he has spent the past two decades involved in the community through chamber-related endeavors.

"[Becoming Chair] is a chance to get one step more active; a little more hands-on in helping in the community and being a more integral member of this community," he said.

Haimovitz, who for the past six years has worked as the OneWest Bank Branch Manager, said his customer service-oriented skill set is geared toward enhancing relationships in his new role at the helm of the board.

"The potential of businesses that can benefit are huge," he said. "There's so many peo-



David Haimovitz

ple who work [in Beverly Hills] and they're really not connected to what's going on in the City."

Outgoing Board Chairman Kelly O. Scott is slated to appear at the event, which the public is open to attend for \$50.