

THE BEVERLY HILLS COURIER

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Madrigal Finer Wins 2010-11 Discus Award

By Amanda Peabody

Beverly Hills High School senior and Madrigal singer Benjamin Finer has been named a 2010-11 Discus Award, which recognizes "uncommon students whose character and passions are anything but average."

The award highlights ten categories: academics, arts, athletics, community service, faith, government, green, technology, work or other achievements.

Finer received the commendation for his role within the community as a volunteer with the City-run "A Taste of Broadway" program, his efforts as a BHHS Madrigal and for emotional and physical complications from a loss in his family and challenging fine motor skills.

Finer is now eligible for the Discus Award scholarship, worth \$2,000, to help pursue further talents and meet educational goals.

For more information on the awards, visit www.discusawards.com.
-apeabody@bhccourier.com



ELECTION NIGHT 2010—400 people attended the election night reception for Attorney General candidate Steve Cooley Tuesday at The Beverly Hilton. The cocktail reception allowed residents and constituents to mingle with the candidate and watch the polls live from plasma screen televisions. As of press time Thursday, Cooley trailed Kamala Harris (D) by .1 percent with 100 percent of precincts reporting, according to the Secretary of State's website. It is likely the post will not be decided for several weeks, reports say. Pictured: Cooley addresses the crowd as L.A. County Sheriff Lee D. Baca looks on.

Photo by Travis Jourdain

LA Auto Show To Reveal 50 Vehicle Debuts

By Brenton Garen

The 2010 L.A. Auto Show is only two weeks away and it will debut more than 50 vehicles during the event from Nov. 19-28.

The show will feature 20 world vehicle debuts and more than 30 North American debuts.

Of the world 20 debuts, several have been announced including three from Nissan, the completely redesigned Quest minivan, the Murano Cross Cabriolet crossover convertible concept and a sedan concept called the Ellure.

Land Rover will unveil its all-new four-door Range Rover Evoque and SAAB will showcase its only crossover—the 9-4X.

For the 30 North American debuts, it will include the redesigned Hyundai Elantra, Audi will unveil its all-new A7 Sportback and BMW will feature its redesigned X3 crossover.

The L.A. Auto Show will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Downtown. More information at LAAutoShow.com.

Professional Pursuits: Big Task Weekend, Part I

The November edition of Professional Pursuits is a three-part exclusive on Big Task Weekend—an event that brings together a diverse group of visionary leaders in business, government, and NGOs to facilitate partnerships to solve the world's biggest challenges.

By Alex Banayan
Special To The Courier

For Stefan Weitz, everyday is a new opportunity to envision something, get it built and have it delivered to 100 million people.

As the director in Bing Search (bing.com) at Microsoft, Weitz believes in the limitless potential of technology to solve any problem.



Stefan Weitz

The spark that gets Weitz out of bed every morning is the invigorating thought that there has never been a time like this in history to positively contribute to the advancement of humanity.

"We've never had a coalescing of pieces necessary to achieve this kind of beneficial augmentation in our daily

(see 'CAREER,' page 20)

PTA Council Hosts Workshop To Fight Cyberbullying At Home

By Amanda Peabody

In an ongoing effort to combat bullying and its effects on children at home and in school, the PTA Council organized a cyberbullying workshop for parents Wednesday.

Certified Licensed Clinical Social Worker Tony Madril (LCSW, BCD) lead parents in a 30-minute crash course on



Tony Madril

methods to recognize and combat cyberbullying.

Based on four "paths," Madril armed parents with specific tools parents can use to address and prevent bullying problems. They are:

- Build a trustful parent-

(see 'CYBERBULLY,' page 20)

Planning Commission Approves Amendments To Medical Zoning

By Adam Popescu

On Oct. 28, the City of Beverly Hills Planning Commission approved a draft ordinance that would amend medical zoning.

Existing legal medical uses may continue with no additional regulation; however, existing medical uses would now be classified as legal nonconforming uses.

Pursuant to the City's existing code regarding nonconforming use, medical uses would be permitted to continue in their current locations so

long as they were legally permitted at the time they occupied that space and there has been no intervening conforming use.

Under the new ordinance, new medical uses or addition of floor area to existing medical uses may be permitted pursuant to the following proposed new code sections. A maximum of up to 2,500 square feet of total additional medical floor area may be permitted in an existing building

(see 'MEDICAL,' page 21)

Stop Sign Cameras Issue 1,485 Citations Over Three Months

By Brenton Garen

Three stop sign cameras located in Franklin Canyon Park above Beverly Hills are photographing an average of 17 motorists a day for not stopping, but the operators say it is all in the name of community safety.

For the months of June, July and August, there were a total of 1485 citations issued from the cameras on Franklin Canyon Drive.

This averages to be about

17 incidents per day, which costs each motorist \$175.

The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority installed the cameras where they say excessive safety hazards exist.

Authority spokeswoman Dash Stolarz said the cameras were located where vehicles crossed with pedestrians at trail crossings.

"We know the use of the

(see 'CAMERAS,' page 20)



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE—More than 400 people are expected to join Walk4Friendship taking place Nov. 14 at Rancho Park, from 12:30-4 p.m. Join for a 3K walk and festival with carnival games, a rock wall, face painting, a puppy party, BBQ and more. The event is sponsored by the Friendship Circle of Los Angeles, a non-profit that provides programming for Jewish children with special needs. The walk follows last month's successful kick off held at Prudential Realty here in Beverly Hills, which raised \$7,500 for the organization. For more information, visit walk4friendshipLA.com. Registration ends Nov. 10.