

The San Bernardino County Sentinel

News of Note
from Around the
Largest County
in the Lower
48 States

Friday, March 28, 2014 A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with Countywide News Service 10808 Foothill Blvd. Suite 160-446 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730 (909) 628-8436

Legal Community's Opposition To Court Realignment Mounting

Nine former presidents of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association and two former San Bernardino County Superior Court judges have joined the growing chorus of legal professionals who have taken a public stand in opposition to current San Bernardino County Superior Court Presiding Judge Marsha Slough's



Marsha Slough

announced realignment of the county court sys-

tem.

The realignment will entail transferring all civil cases countywide to the new San Bernardino Justice Center, an eleven story edifice with 35 courtrooms now in the final stages of completion. In addition, San Bernardino district criminal cases, now being heard in the San Bernardino Central Court-

house built in 1927, will be tried in the new San Bernardino Justice Center.

West Valley Superior Courthouse in Rancho Cucamonga, which currently is the venue for both civil and criminal cases originating on the west end of the county, will be devoted primarily to criminal cases, including those arising

on the county's west end and other felony and misdemeanor cases from the county's central district which are currently routed to the Fontana Courthouse. A small portion of the criminal cases now heard in Fontana will be adjudicated in San Bernardino. At least temporarily, hearings on both civil and domestic vio-

See P 2

State Audit Finds Venal Purchases By RUSD Staff

RIALTO—The Rialto Unified School District spent over \$28,000 on employee perks, incentives and awards in a dubious effort to boost staff and faculty morale, according to a state auditor.

Last July, Mohammad Z. Islam, who was then the district's associate superintendent of business services, requested that the state of California's Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team look into Rialto Unified's procurement practices.

Islam's request came well before there was any public disclosure of the embezzlement scandal that rocked the district two months later, following the arrest of former district accountant Judith Oakes, who stands accused of stealing \$1.8 million in lunch money proceeds from the district's Nutrition Services Department between 2005 and 2013. The Oakes matter ultimately led to Rialto Unified School District Superintendent Harold Cebrun and his second-in-command, deputy superintendent James Wallace, being placed on paid administrative leave.

Though Oakes' depredations predated his-run's 2009 arrival at the district and he steadfastly maintained he had no knowledge of Oakes' actions, Cebrun resigned as superintendent earlier this month.

It is unclear whether Islam's approach to the Fiscal Crisis and Management Assistance Team, known by its acronym FCMAT, was made as a consequence of suspicions with regard to Oakes See P 8

Construction On Adelanto Detention Facility Ends \$29 Million Over Budget

With the project nearing completion, the construction cost on the Adelanto Detention Center this week increased for the twenty-eighth and twenty-ninth times, escalating to \$120,419,790.

The construction bill on the project was originally slated at \$90,951,937.

Moreover, the total

price tag on the project, including engineering, architectural, licensing and inspection costs, has reached \$145,451,910, which is \$25.45 million more than the \$120 million projected to be the project's overall price including a ten percent cost overrun contingency when it was approved in 2010.

The expansion will add 1,392 new beds to the existing 706-inmate capacity of the facility, which was formerly privately owned and run while known as Maranatha Prison. The owner of that facility, Maranatha Private Corrections, a part of the Moreland Family Trust, in April 2005 sold the

prison, located on 9438 Commerce Way in Adelanto, to the county of San Bernardino for \$31.2 million.

The county initially envisioned shouldering the lion's share of the cost of the project, but in March 2008 the board of supervisors approved the submittal of a proposal to the State

Correction Standards Authority requesting available funding of up to \$100,000,000 to cover 75 percent of the cost to construct 1,368 additional jail beds at what was dubbed the Adelanto Detention Center. In May 2008, the county was conditionally awarded the requested \$100 million for the expansion, See P 3

County Hires Eggebraten To Help Rewrite General Plan



Siri Eggebraten

The county has entered into a contract with the city of Big Bear Lake's former associate planner to have her serve

as a contract employee to do consultant work to the county's land use services division with regard to the formulation of portions of its general plan update.

Siri Eggebraten has been provided with an 18-month contract that will pay her \$165,000 in total salary and \$9,000 in expenses over the year-and-a-half term of her contract, according to county land See P 10

His Council Colleagues Reject Bozar's Early Effort To Block Upland Water Division Sale

Upland City Councilman Glen Bozar's effort to remove the sale of his city's water division as a revenue-generating option for cash-strapped Upland was rejected by his council colleagues this week.

At the Monday, March 24 Upland City Council Meeting, the council was presented with an agenda item to schedule its deliberation with regard to 47 op-



Glenn Bozar

tions recommended to it by a fiscal response task force the council created in October. Those potential moves to assist the

city in turning around anticipated general fund deficits of between \$7 million and \$8 million in the 2014-15, 2015-16 and 2016-17 fiscal years include ideas for cutting costs or generating new revenue. Among the cost cutting suggestions are seeking concessions from city employees on salary and benefits, combining fire and police dispatch services, outsourcing enSee P 11

National Park Service Tenders Objection To Soda Dry Lake Solar Project

The National Park Service has emerged as the earliest strong opponent of the Bechtel Corporation's revamped plan for a solar power project south of Baker.

In this way, one branch of the federal government is pitted against another branch of the federal government over whether the project should be given go-ahead.

The federal Bureau of Land Management owns the property where the project is to be constructed and has signed off on leasing the property to Bechtel for the stated purpose and appears to be inclined to grant Bechtel the right-of-way required to proceed with and complete the project.

Previously, Bechtel wanted to cover much of 14.9 square miles



roughly six miles south of Baker and near the northwest corner of the Mojave National Preserve with solar panels. Bechtel redrafted that

plan after concerns were aired about the impact the project would have on wildlife and it was pointed out that the panels would blanket the

landscape and be placed into natural washes and arroyos.

The corporation has since relented and is now intent on proceeding with a project with a 6.5-square mile footprint within which 3.3 square miles will be covered with solar panels. Those panels will generate, Bechtel says, 358 megawatts, or enough electricity for See P 5

Legal Luminaries Opposed To Presiding Judge's Realignment Plan from front page

lence restraining order matters will be heard at the Rancho Cucamonga Courthouse.

The historic San Bernardino Courthouse will remain as the forum for the family law cases it currently hosts and will soon serve as the venue for the family law cases presently heard in Rancho Cucamonga.

The Fontana Courthouse will become the stage for all small claims, landlord tenant disputes and traffic/non-traffic infractions from the San Bernardino, Fontana and Rancho Cucamonga districts. The lion's share of criminal cases now being heard in Fontana will transfer to Rancho Cucamonga. A lesser number of the Fontana criminal cases will go to San Bernardino.

The Victorville Courthouse will remain a venue for High Desert family law cases.

Slough, who formulated the realignment plan in conjunction with former assistant presiding judge Larry Allen, former county courts executive officer Stephen Nash and current county courts executive officer Christina Volkers, said the realignment, which is to go into effect in May, is necessitated by the state's severe and ongoing cuts to the court system, which included a nearly \$11 million reduction in fiscal 2009-10, a \$5 million reduction in 2011-12, and a whopping \$19 million reduction in 2012-13. In the current year and next year, the court system in San Bernardino County is to function on identical \$98 million annual budgets, which Slough said is greater than the allotment in 2012-13, but still \$12 million less than what it had to run its affairs in 2008-09.

While sympathetic to the fiscal constraints Slough must function within, a number of attorneys expressed alarm

when Slough tentatively announced the intended realignment late last year. They pointed out that over the last two years the closures of the Needles courthouse at the county's northeast end, the closure of the Chino courthouse at the county's southwest end, the closure of courthouses in the San Bernardino Mountain communities and the removal of civil cases from the Victorville and Joshua Tree courthouses had already greatly inconvenienced large numbers of the county's residents and compromised their access to justice. The realignment, they assert, will virtually prevent a major segment of the county's population from going to court altogether.

Far flung San Bernardino County, which spans more than 20,000 square miles, is the largest county in the lower 48 states, with a land mass greater than the states of Delaware, New Jersey, Rhode Island and Connecticut combined.

Even before the civil courts were closed in Victorville, it was a forbidding sojourn for some county residents seeking justice. Driving distance from Needles to Barstow is 144 miles one way, with an average traveling time of two hours and eleven minutes. The trip from Needles to San Bernardino, which in less than two months will host the only courtrooms in the county where civil cases will be heard, is 212 miles, with an average traveling time of three hours and nine minutes.

Residents of Chino Hills and Chino, who two years ago had the courthouse in Chino at their disposal but since December 2012 have needed to travel anywhere from 18 to 30 miles to reach the Rancho Cucamonga Courthouse, will need to travel 40 to 52 miles to access the civil courts in San Bernardino.

Large numbers of attorneys, including Dennis Stout, who was for-

The San Bernardino County

Sentinel

Published in San Bernardino County.

The Sentinel's main office is located at 10788 Civic Center Drive in Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

A Fortunado Publication in conjunction with Countywide News Service

Mark Gutglueck, Publisher

Call (909) 628-8436

to learn of locations where the Sentinel is available or to provide news tips

10808 Foothill Blvd., Suite 160-446

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

Editor@SBCoSentinel.com

909-276 5796

merly the county district attorney and mayor of Rancho Cucamonga; Gus Skropos, a former judge and former mayor of Ontario; Richard Anderson, who has been practicing law since 1968 and was formerly Upland mayor; as well as James Banks and David Ricks, a past president and the current president-elect of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association, respectively, assailed the realignment as an ill-conceived move that would produce only

marginal cost savings for the court system itself while transferring the financial burden to the county's residents and other public agencies, while simultaneously legally disenfranchising hundreds of thousands of the county's residents.

Numerous problems with the realignment were cited, including:

- The sheer distance large numbers of county residents will need to travel to have their cases heard;

- The disadvantage that poorer defendants and litigants will suffer vis-a-vis contesting charges against them or responding to or pressing forward with lawsuits filed by or against well-heeled adversaries;

- The concentration of criminal defendants into Rancho Cucamonga's downtown district;

- The lack of adequate parking in downtown San Bernardino to accommodate the influx of litigants, lawyers, witnesses and jurors;

- The perception that transferring all of the county's civil cases to San Bernardino was being done not to conserve finances or improve the provision of justice but to assist with the urban renewal of San Bernardino, which as the county seat and the largest of the county's 24 cities, suffered the ignominy of having filed for bankruptcy in 2012.

This week, the *Sentinel* was provided with the responses obtained so far from a survey of past presidents of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association,

Continued on Page 4

Inland Empire Bankruptcy Center

Have quick questions?

Have complicated questions?

Need advice on how to prepare before filing?

Want to stop harassing phone calls from creditors?

Need to stop foreclosure?



Call today to get pre-bankruptcy counseling...



909.204.5768

Work with an experienced professional law firm to wipe all your debt !

The longer you wait... the worse it gets!

**INLAND EMPIRE LAW GROUP...
ESTABLISHED SINCE 1967**



Glimpse Of SBC's Past

RT66: A Large Injection Of Unique In Needles

By Ruth Musser-Lopez

"Maybe we should build a statue of Spike on the highway," Needles Mayor Edward Paget jested in response to Jim Klein's admonition that "You've got to have something special—a

resources that keep visitors in town for a while. How many Route 66 towns are there?"

The BLM is the lead agency on the Route 66 Corridor Management Plan since 98% of the



Back dropped by the historic El Garces Harvey House, the once blank walls along alleys of razed structures in Needles now sport new murals with images reminiscent of the way things once were—or important historic places, people, things and dogs.

must see...you're competing with every other town that wants to get a share of the kicks on Route 66."

Jim Klein of Lardner/Klein Landscape Architects prompted the packed room of stakeholders attending one of the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM's) three Route 66 scoping meetings, this one held Thursday, February 27th, 2014 in the Needles High School cafeteria. "A town along Route 66 must have something unique—a set of unique-

land under consideration is on BLM land—the 153-mile segment of the famous, historic route crossing over a long stretch of east Mojave Desert between Barstow and the Colorado River. Lardner/Klein, a Virginia based firm, has been contracted to prepare the plan. See the 3/7/2014, Glimpse article for more details on this effort

Needles, California, is the actual short-lived childhood home of artist Charles M. Schulz the creator of the cartoon series "Peanuts"

in which the main character "Snoopy," the dog who sleeps on top of his dog house, has a desert dwelling brother "Spike," who sleeps under a cactus in Needles. Spike was reported to be the name of Schulz's own childhood dog who allegedly ate pins, tacks and razor blades and appeared in Ripley's "Believe It or Not!" It is unknown whether or not he also ate cholla, prickly pear or pincushion cacti.

Schulz was born on November 26, 1922 and only lived in Needles a few years, when the Schulz family, Carl, Dena and Charles, packed up their 1928 Ford in 1929 to join other family members who had relocated from Minnesota to tend to an ill cousin (Johnson, Rheta Grimsley [1989]. Good Grief: The Story of Charles M. Schulz. Andrews McMeel Publishing. pp. 30–36). "Carl took a job working alongside his brother-in-law, Monroe "Monte" Halverson, at his barbershop across from the Santa Fe Park.

Charles attended the D Street School" just a few block from their home (reference: Maggie McShan at www.cityofneedles.com).

The "Glimpse" column for the last several weeks has been devoted to an overview of historic resources on the segment of Route 66 under consideration from west to east as part of a vol-



Charles M. Schulz lived at 503 Palmway in Needles, a few years when he was around seven.

unteer public scoping effort, prelude to the preparation of a "Route 66 Corridor Management Plan." This is the second part of our glimpse into Needles, the easternmost California town on the route, at the east gate to southern California.

The deadline for public comments is this coming Monday, March

31, 2014. The plan is a step toward a possible "National Scenic Byway" designation by the Federal Highway Administration. To be so designated, the route must have regionally or nationally significant intrinsic qualities, traveler support facilities and an approved plan that demonstrates how the corridor will be managed over time.

When the river ran wildly, in 1775-1776, Catholic missionary priest (Father/Padre) Francisco Garces, while on his most important mission christened the Mojave Indian rancheria settlement in the vicinity of Needles, "Santa Isabel," over a hundred years before the railroad hung its "Needles" shingle at the depot in 1883, naming it after the spiky geologic structure seen to the south.

Native Americans have lived in the Mojave Desert for at least 10,000 years. The Fort Mojave Indian tribal "village" in Needles is a historic and prehistoric river front

property and there were other prehistoric rancheria type settlements in the immediate area. The village now includes nicely paved and sidewalk lined streets, modern homes, offices, and community meeting and sports facilities.

An ancient trail network, prehistoric rock art and an andesite procurement area for obtaining and manufacturing local stone into milling tools, metates and mortars are also important assets of the Needles community that attest to the long prehistory of human life on the river when earth began to heat up after the Pleistocene.

An alignment of the Mojave prehistoric trail network formed the framework of a nearby but more northerly transcontinental route, the old government military road with its outposts and forts, which was built to protect immigrants through the Mojave Desert, eventually morphing into National Old Trails Highway, then

Continued on Page 5

Integrity Computer Solutions

EFFECTIVE - EFFICIENT - ETHICAL

We specialize in:

- Hardware and software upgrades
- Operating system upgrades or downgrades
- Virus and spyware removal
- Repairs of laptops and desktops of all models (including Apple!)
- Wireless network set-up
- Ethernet cable runs
- Computer and network support for your home or office at the Inland Empire's most affordable rate!

***WE DO
CUSTOM-BUILT
DESKTOP
COMPUTERS!***

**\$59 IN-SHOP
COMPUTER
REPAIRS!**

5315 Della Ave.

Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701

(909) 202-4330 <http://www.icrshop.com>

Detention Center \$29M Over Budget from front page

and was ranked first on the list of public entities to be conditionally awarded funds available under a state detention facility financing law, AB900. In July 2010, the board gave conceptual approval to the project and established the various obligations of the county, California Public Works Board, and the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as to the project's general terms and termination, cost, cost sharing, scope, schedule, bidding and construction, post project completion and records retention for the project.

The county held a bidding competition that fall and in December 2010 awarded a \$90,951,937 contract to Bellevue-Washington-based Lydig Construction as the

low bidder, after making a finding that the bids received from S.J. Amorosa Construction Co., Inc. of Costa Mesa, California and Flintco of Folsom, California to be non-responsive.

The overall project cost at that time was put at \$120,419,790, which included a ten percent contingency.

Since that time, the cost of the project, which is to consist of three four-story housing buildings plus a support building that includes booking and holding cells and a medical clinic, has consumed the state money and eaten up the ten percent contingency as well and risen significantly beyond that, led by contract increases with Lydig.

Eight months after Lydig was granted the original \$90,951,937 contract, the county amended the contract to pay Lydig another

\$448,516 to install approximately 3,000 linear feet of 5" conduit, pull boxes and electrical vaults as required by Southern California Edison.

On December 13, 2011, a second amendment to the contract was made for demolition and installation of concrete and asphalt associated with the rerouting of utilities and electrical duct banks as well as the modification to 124 handicap combo units at a cost of \$303,773.

On April 24, 2012, a third amendment to the contract relating to modifications to lengthen holding cell benches and state fire marshal-mandated design modifications elevated the contract by \$834,076. On September 11, 2012 a fourth amendment calling for the addition of handicap desks to the jails dayrooms, stainless steel well casing for the well and state

fire marshal-mandated seismic upgrades to the fire protection lines set taxpayers back another \$557,668. On February 23, 2013, the county amended the contract for the fifth time, in order to provide state fire marshal-mandated changes to the smoke control evacuation and automatic fire sprinkler systems, increase in number and size the heating ventilation and air conditioning structural roof supports as well as make further modifications mandated by the state fire marshal and various other agencies, providing Lydig with another \$2,472,388 enhancement to the contract. On May 21, 2013 the county made a sixth amendment to Lydig's contract, this time relating to labor and materials for the revision of the smoke control systems and fire protection systems, to, in the words

Continued on Page 4

Legal Community At Odds With Presiding Judge Over Realignment from page 2

querying them on their perspective on Slough's realignment proposal.

The West End San Bernardino County Bar Association was formed in 1958. It took as its first major undertaking an ultimately successful lobbying effort to have a full-service courthouse handling all manner of civil and criminal cases constructed in the western portion of the county. Ultimately, because of that effort, a court

house was established at Sixth Street and Mountain Avenue in Ontario. That facility was later replaced by the West Valley Courthouse in Rancho Cucamonga.

William Pitt Hyde, who was the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association president in 1960-61 and was later a Superior Court judge, said of the realignment, "It is so stupid I can hardly believe they're doing it."

Don Maroney, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1964-65 and Upland's city attorney for more than two

decades, said, "I think it's a bad idea."

Kenneth Ziebarth, who was the mayor of Montclair, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1968-69 and later a Superior Court judge, said, "This is contrary to all of our efforts to increase public access."

Bruce Lance, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1971-72, said, "This is retrograde. They are dumping a system that served the public well."

Sidney Jones, the president of the Western

San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1972-73, said, "The plan forgets service to the public. The managers are thinking of themselves only and not the purpose of the courts to serve the needs of the public."

Bob Dougherty, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1974-75 and later the city attorney in Rancho Cucamonga, opined, "Those people are nuts. Who and what are they thinking about? Not the public. This is a dumb and unnecessary decision, which will adversely impact our lives."

Moving civil cases from a closing court branch to the county seat might make sense, but what good will come from moving civil cases out of a branch court which remains open?"

Barry Brandt, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1977-78, said, "I am strongly opposed."

Ken Glube, the president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1978-79, said, "It is a foolish idea, unnecessary, uneconomical and inconvenient to all involved."

Tracy L. Tibbals, the

president of the Western San Bernardino County Bar Association in 1985-86, said, "It sounds nuts. I can't see any savings to the court and lots of expense to the public they're supposed to serve."

In addition, two retired Superior Court judges weighed in against the realignment.

Joseph E. Johnston called the pending change "a disaster."

Ben Kayashima, who was presiding judge in 1990 and 1991, called the realignment "disgusting."



Detention Facility \$29 Million Over Budget from page 3

of county director of architecture and engineering Carl Alban, "convert the specified fire smoke dampers to smoke dampers as part of the revisions to the smoke control system" in the amount of \$5,063,392.

Also on May 21, 2013 the county approved amendment No. 7 to the contract to cover labor and materials for the added treatment systems associated with the water well, not including the potential costs of schedule impacts along with labor and materials for the purchase of the switch gear and installation of conduit from the service yard to the existing pull boxes, as required for the installation of a third electrical service at an added cost of \$1,818,807.

On June 25, 2013, the board of supervisors approved an eighth amendment to the contract in the amount of \$6,004,736 to cover labor, materials, labor impacts and acceleration costs related to the revision of the smoke control systems and fire protection systems, a portion of the cost of which was covered with Amendment No. 6.

Also on June 25, 2013, the board also signed off on a ninth contract amendment, one for \$537,336, to cover labor and materials for the added treatment systems

associated with the water well, not including the potential costs of schedule impacts. The total cost of the treatment systems was \$2,037,336, which includes the \$1.5 million allowance approved as part of the seventh amendment to the contract.

On July 23, 2013, the board approved a tenth amendment in the amount of \$778,340 to complete the procurement of a fire booster pump to increase flow and pressure of the fire protection systems and the relocation of mechanical piping and electrical lines to allow for the installation of additional fire risers and a 2-hour rated ceiling assembly in the stairwells between the detention center's housing units.

On August 6 2013 the board approved an eleventh amendment, providing Lydig with \$709,533 for the installation of a third electrical service necessary to increase the available power for providing capacity for future upgrades of the facility; the installation of a fire booster pump to ensure the proper flow and functioning of the fire protection systems; the expedited procurement and delivery of smoke control panels and supervisory panels necessary to achieve the scheduled project completion date; and the relocation of smoke detectors in the dormitory sleeping areas as required by the Board

of State and Community Corrections.

On November 11, 2013 the board approve a twelfth amendment to the contract for \$415,952 to add twenty-seven dampers to the smoke evacuation ductwork, modify the glazing stops at master control, install fire wrap to ducts and dampers at specified locations and separate the dry zones at the housing units.

On December 17, the board of supervisors approved a thirteenth amendment in the amount of \$304,450 for modifications to the electrical service yard, fire sprinkler system

isolation in the support building and constructing foundation and adding position indication valve and monitoring devices for the fire booster pump, relocating fire/smoke dampers, revising exhaust duct risers in the center core of the housing units and adding a control module to the master control fire shutter.

On January 14, 2014, the board approved a fourteenth amendment for \$161,795 for the addition of elevator screen counter weight protection as required by the state elevator inspector, fire alarm revisions related to the elevator

shut trip and recall as required by the state elevator inspector and state fire marshal and fire alarm revisions related to the duct detectors as required by National Fire Protection Association codes.

In addition to those previous contract amendments, the county also made several expensive change orders, including one for \$2,101,536 on August 23, 2011 that called for upgrading the security electronics in the existing facility and to provide touch screens, digital intercoms, a camera system and increased video storage capabilities, install frosted secu-

rity glazing in lieu of the standard clear glazing specified in the sleeping rooms and install an anti-MRSA and prime coat finish on the floors and walls at the support building. It then made a second change order on December 13, 2011 involving an added cost of \$2,392,443 to install a card reader system in the housing units to be utilized by sheriff personnel, purchase scheduling licenses for video visitation kiosks; and upgrade the roofing system to a single ply system.

On April 24, 2012 the architecture and engi-

Continued on Page 6

LOOK FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE
www.americanpizzacompany.com



1 LARGE 2 TOPPING PIZZA

WITH A FREE ORDER OF BREADSTICKS

\$12.99



WE DELIVER

DELIVERY HOURS
 Sunday - Thursday:
 11:00AM - 11:00PM
MOST CARDS ACCEPTED

REDLANDS
862-3912

HIGHLAND
425-8912

SAN BERNARDINO
864-9912

Glimpse from page 3

Route 66, then I-40. The Needles Museum houses an important collection of prehistoric Mojave artifacts, a major asset of the community.

The people of the Mojave Indian Tribe whose traditional name is "Pipa Aha Macav" or "People by the River" include dancers, singers and a marching band that performs in the Fort Mojave Days parade down Route 66 in the Needles historic district each year in October.

Dams were built and the Bureau of Reclamation channeled the river using dredges in the early 1950s, ending the long history of seasonal flooding over the entire valley each spring.



An annual Ft. Mojave Pow Wow each February brings Native Americans from all over the country to a celebration of tribal culture that includes dance and music competitions (courtesy mojaveindiantribe.com).

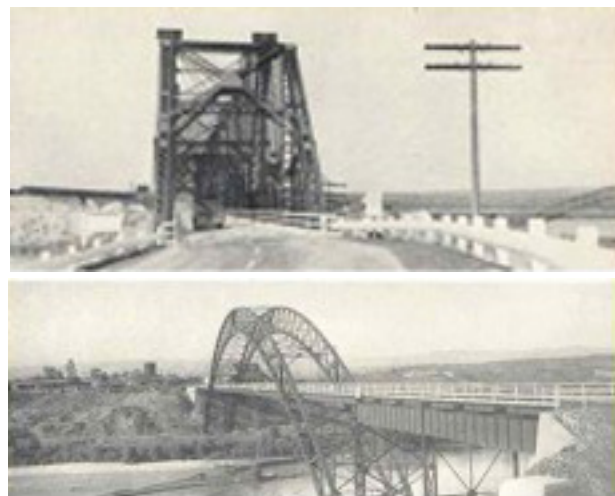
Dredging created a deep channel of clear water suitable for recreation

and channeling the water opened up new land for agriculture.

During the pioneering days, wagons were ferried across the river at Needles but after the wooden railroad bridge was constructed in 1883 it was also used as a pedestrian, horse and wagon crossing. The original wooden bridge was subject to regular flooding and wash-outs so the railroad was realigned to cross the river just above the Needles gorge at Topock and the "Red Rock Cantilever Bridge" was completed in 1890. The railroad bridge was also used for wagons and later automobiles until the Old Trails Arch bridge was constructed in 1919, taking motor cars and horses off the train

tracks. The arch bridge was used until flooding weakened the lower hinges.

On March 8, 1945,



Red Rock Cantilever Railroad Bridge completed 1890 adapted for automobile use in 1947 (top); Old Trail Arch Automobile Bridge 1919-1947 (bottom).

the last train crossed the cantilever bridge because the railroad had realigned the tracks and

bridge to where they are today. The Red Rock Bridge was then adapted for use as the Route 66 highway bridge in 1947;

day by Pacific Gas and Electric. After the Interstate 40 bridge was built, the cantilever bridge was removed.

After the Arch Bridge was constructed, business and vehicular traffic increased in Needles. Old and new alignments of Route 66 in Needles claim roughly 12 miles of the Mother Road. Coming into Needles from the south, travelers pass by the site of the old Needles Dairy (demolished this year), Carty's Camp, the 66 Motel (see Glimpse 3/21/14) and the site of Mansker's swim plunge and the old two story tie cabin (dismantled this year), a Goo-gie style gas station and more.

"During the 20s and
Continued on Page 7

Park Service Opposes Soda Lake Solar Project from front page

The property in question would be utilized on a long term lease from the Bureau of Land Management. It lies atop a dry lake, known as Soda Lake, which lies outside the preserve. Visually, the bright white dry lake can be distinguished from the surrounding desert. It is ringed by springs, seeps and

ponds, which support a variety of area wildlife.

The Bureau of Land Management is conducting research and gathering input to assist with the drafting of an environmental impact analysis for the project. In response, Mojave National Preserve Superintendent Stephanie Dubois on March 3 submitted an eight-page missive to the BLM, saying, "We urge the BLM to reconsider the potential for this project to be sited on

other BLM lands, private lands, or other degraded lands where renewable energy projects would present fewer adverse impacts to natural and cultural resources."

Dubois maintains the project conflicts with the California Desert Protection Act of 1994, which established the Mojave National Preserve.

Environmental groups are opposed to the project, arguing it will impact the area adversely, interrupt migra-

tion paths for desert species and damage species habitat, most notably that of the desert tortoise. Moreover, the project's draw on desert water is an issue for environmentalists. Bechtel predicts it will have a need for roughly 192 acre-feet of water yearly for the three years construction of the project will be ongoing and that it subsequently will require 46acre-feet of water per year for operations.

At issue in this regard is the impact on Bighorn

sheep and other roaming and nocturnal animals that depend upon the area's springs, as well as the potential harm that would inflict on the Mohave tui chub, a fish living in the desert now categorized as endangered.

The federal government, through BLM environmental reviews, has given clearance for six commercial solar projects in the Mojave Desert, despite the opposition of environmental groups, which cited habitat destruction and other ecological issues. Environmentalists see this project as a test case because it is planned in an area that is well beyond the solar energy project zone established by the Department of Interior established further south along Interstate 10 in 2012.

The BLM has previously rejected expressed concerns that the well pumping Bechtel proposes to engage in at the project site will adversely impact the springs that run along Zzyzx Road in the Mojave National Preserve or MC Spring, which feeds a pond where most of the remaining Mohave tui chub are known to exist.

Bechtel has sought to minimize or allay concerns that the project, which would involve solar panels on both sides of Interstate 15, will

impact the scenic vista from the Mojave National Preserve.

Bechtel maintains the Soda Mountains site is suitable for the project and that the company will incorporate protection for wildlife, fencing off the rows where the panels will be placed into the ground but allowing sufficient space between the fenced rows so that wild life can transit the area.

Dubois' wrote that the BLM's consideration of the project proposal should prioritize issues so that its ultimate decision "will put natural resources first and solar development second." She said alternatives and options to the design for the project Bechtel is proposing is "lacking in the current document."

WFC

Design Development Construction

CA LICENSE # 572359

DESIGN
NEW CONSTRUCTION
REMODELS

620 ARROW HWY. LA VERNE, CA

909-599-4262
www.wfconstruction.com

**FREE
DESIGN**

RESTRICTIONS APPLY. CALL FOR DETAILS
www.wfconstruction.com • 1-888-214-7252



imagine
the possibilities...

YOUR LOCAL RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS



Prudential
California Realty

Richard S. Morda

Realtor/DRE License
01734177

California Realty
1063 W. Sixth Street
Suite 101 Ontario CA
91762 Business 909 983
9933 Fax 909 984 5664
Cell 213 713 8849

E-mail: richardmorda@pruCArealty.com

**Detention Facility
\$29M Over Budget**
from page 4

neering division sought from the board of supervisors approval for a third change order that called for installing an anti-MRSA coating to interior handrails in the dayrooms of the housing units and the installation of various security electronics, electrical and plumbing modifications and enhancements at a cost of \$824,237.

On September 11, 2012, the board acceded to a fourth change order, at a cost of \$902,801, for the addition of detention ceilings at the 32-bed dorms; modifications to center core casework, guardrails and exhaust systems, modification of the roof system and various utility modifications and enhancements.

On February 26, the fifth change order, one for \$367,734, provided electrical power and venting for dryers and various structural, utility and mechanical modifications to the new expansion and existing facility.

On May 21, the sixth change order, at a cost of \$47,651, called for the planting of Yucca Rostrata Trees in lieu of the specified owner-furnished Yucca Trees which were no longer

available; modifications to the seismic joints between the housing units; providing a remote maintenance bypass switch for the security electronics system; deleting the painting of the interior of the mezzanine level mechanical chases; and providing security metal panels to conceal electrical conduits in two of the buildings.

On June 25, 2013, the board approved an eighth amendment to the contract at a cost of \$6,068,128 to cover labor, materials, labor impacts and acceleration costs related to the revision of the smoke control systems and fire protection systems. This brought the total cost of repairing the smoke control systems to \$11,068,128, which includes the \$5,000,000 allowance approved as part of the sixth amendment to the contract.

The board on June 25, 2013 also approved a seventh change order, entailing an added cost of \$551,910, to make security improvements requested by the sheriff's department; modifications to the phone and data cabling requested by the county's information services department to improve facility communication systems; and miscellaneous revisions related to construction.

The board on July

23, 2013 also approved an eighth change order, increasing the contract amount by \$252,198 to compensate Lydig for the labor and materials related to constructability issues and include modifications to doors, frames, hardware, stair supports, a fire shutter, the installation of a drip pan above electrical panels, and modifications to the electrical power supply for the security systems, as well as removing and replacing the existing asphalt pavement in the parking lot south of the existing facility.

On August 6 2013, the board approved a ninth change order costing \$325,568 to make modifications of the detention ceilings and drywall in various areas of the housing units, light fixture modifications at the center core of the housing units. make miscellaneous modifications of the fire alarm and smoke detector relocations, light fixture revisions for the dormitory ceilings, add fire alarm devices in the elevator machine, hard wire the dryers in the compressor room, perform programming and engineering for added functions in the fire/smoke control system, add thirty-nine site bollards, add countertop support brackets in the center core of

the housing units, add decomposed granite at specified site locations, and add sidewalks and a ramp between the new housing units and the existing facility.

On September 24, 2013, the board approved a tenth change order with Lyding in the amount of \$307,630 to add a touch screen building automation system and UPS backup, add flooring at the passenger and freight elevators, add an eye wash station at the water facility, provide a set of spare breakers for the main electrical switchgear, and handle miscellaneous constructability issues.

On November 5, 2013, the board approved an eleventh change order in the amount of \$129,151 for relocating the duct detectors to an exterior application, installing four additional phone lines in the support building, adding ten privacy screens in the recreation yards, modifying the handrails in the mechanical chases, and modifications to the power and sprinkler heads in the master control room.

On December 17, 2013 the board approved a twelfth change order for \$52,413 to replace 2 doors in housing unit No. 4's group room, add and relocate security cameras, replace exist-

ing gates in the electrical service yard, and make modifications of the programmed water technology system.

On January 14, 2014, the board approved a thirteenth change order for \$217,856 which provided for modifying the grading of the swale on the north side of the facility, implementing the radio system re-design requested by the county's information services division and the sheriff, modifications of the water facility and the modification of the existing planter on the south side of the facility.

This week the board approved a fifteenth amendment to the original contract, costing \$336,682 to provide an additional concrete pad at the third electrical service, make modifications at the fire booster pump, relocate the fire/smoke dampers and make additions to the fire alarm system, make modifications to the elevators, extend flood insurance and mechanical warranties, make modifications to the safety, sobering and holding cells and provide credit for unused overtime allowances.

This week the board of supervisors also approved the fourteenth change order on the project, one for \$336,682 to cover the cost of correcting overcurrent is-

sues, improvements to water facility operations, balancing of the smoke control system, perform load bank testing of the generators and carry out various corrective work.

There has thus been a total of \$20,657,043 worth of amendments to the project contract and \$8,810,810 worth of change orders, totaling \$29,467,853 in cost overruns on the construction portion of the project.

In addition to the amendments to and change orders made on the construction contract, there have been amendments and change orders to other service providers on the project.

The firm of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, Incorporated, based in Culver City, was originally given a \$4,466,000 contract to provide architectural service on the project. Nine amendments later, Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum's contract has reached \$10,438,396, an increase of \$5,972,396.

C.H.J. Incorporated of Colton was hired under a \$413,857 contract to perform testing and inspection. After five contract amendments, C.H.J. has taken on another \$1,920,546 of work so that the total amount that company has received under the revised contract is \$2,334,403.

The adjusted project budget of \$144,000,000 is comprised of design and construction administration costs of \$12,865,750; Lydig's construction cost of \$120,419,790; additional construction costs of \$350,000; testing, inspection, labor compliance and commissioning costs of \$3,545,005; utilities and permitting costs of \$1,457,028; furnishings, fixtures and equipment costs of \$3,300,000; telephone and data costs of \$250,000; miscellaneous project costs of \$260,000; and a contingency allowance of \$1,552,427. In addition, the sheriff is anticipating transition planning costs of \$1,451,910, bringing the total estimated project cost to \$145,451,910.

There has been criticism and questioning of

Continued on Page 7

Advertise in the Sentinel

Reach 34,000 Readers Throughout San Bernardino County Weekly.
Our Reasonable Rates Make Advertising Affordable.

Quarter Page	Three Columns	by	Half Page	\$300
Half Page	Three Columns	by	Full Page	\$400
Half Page	Six Columns	by	Half Page	\$400
Full Page	Six Columns	by	Entire Page	\$500

All rates weekly Black and White in our print edition Color in our on-line version

County & Registrar Of Voters Turn Down 29 Palms H₂O District Election Change Request

The county and the registrar of voters have turned down a request by the Twentynine Palms Water District to consolidate that entity's elections with the statewide general elections in November of each even-

numbered year. Currently, the Twentynine Palms Water District holds its board elections in odd-numbered years. In years past, multiple governmental agencies throughout San Bernardino County held

their elections in years that did not correspond with the even-numbered years in which presidential and gubernatorial elections are held along with those for state and federal legislative offices

as well as those for county government. Over the last several decades, a majority of those agencies, school districts and cities have changed their elections to even-numbered years.

On January 22, 2014, the board of directors of the Twentynine Palms Water District passed a resolution to move its governing board election to the statewide general election in November

of each even-numbered year. California Elections Code section 10404 authorizes a special district, by resolution of its governing board, to seek

Continued on Page 8

Glimpse from page 5

30s Needles was a lot larger and busier than it is today," I am told. "Needles was like the hub of the desert," my father in law, Jess Lopez, explained to me before he passed away in 1990. "It was at the center of transportation by rail, by road in all directions and by boat. People would come from Las Vegas to shop because Needles was larger than Vegas at the time."

In the downtown historic district, alignments of the road fork at a 1930s cabin court formerly known as the Palms Inn, now called the "Old Trails Inn." The more northerly route

will take you along the railroad tracks through the historic downtown

kind historic architectural time built in 1906 (see Glimpse 10-11-13),



The Old Trails Inn and ghostly gas station, the Needles historic wagon in the background.

district past the historic Needles Transfer, the Fire Department, the site of the old Piggly Wiggly's Market and many other historic buildings surrounding the Santa Fe Park, including the elegant "El Garces" Harvey House, a one-of-a-

a dream-like mirage in the desert surrounded by some of the tallest palm trees on earth. On the other side of the road alignment is the old Chapman Furniture store, next to the old dime store and what was formerly the Penney's

clothing store which is now the home of the Needles Museum. The word "Penney's" can still be seen on the exterior wall.

Tales of the prohibition era 1920s abound in Needles. Elusive 1880s "opium" tunnels, built by Chinese workers on the railroad, are reported to have lead from the downtown historic commercial district in the vicinity of the now demolished Chinese Restaurant that was next door to the old Penny's across the lawn in front of the Harvey House. Reportedly, the tunnels were reused by bootleggers in the 20s to make a quick escape from the law, and railroad em-

ployees used them to access the house of ill repute without being noticed.

There is considerable

nels went directly under the tracks towards old Penny Avenue on the north side next to the river, reported to be the lo-



The original Penney's Department Store building now houses the Needles Museum—made of rock solid and fire resistant block.

debate over where the fille de joi conducted their service. It isn't often that anyone truly admits to knowing and then, its only because they worked for law enforcement. Some speculation exists that the tun-

cation of one scene in the classic movie "Grapes of Wrath," which shanty-lined avenue is now replaced by the Needles golf course. Other unverified rumor has it that it was the green,

Continued on Page 8

Detention Facility \$29M Over Budget from page 6

the cost overruns among selected pockets of county residents. Neither county executive officer Greg Devereux nor the board of supervisors has made an issue of the cost overruns and the board of supervisors has unanimously approved all 15 contract amendments and all fourteen change orders.

Carl Alban the director of the county's architecture and engineering

division this week told the *Sentinel*, "The original budget on the project was \$120 million. With contract overruns we are looking at \$145 million and change. There have been a number of change orders that are a combination of owner-directed changes, minor corrective issues that have to take place where parts and pieces do not line up and we had to modify things to make that work. The major cost upgrades have come about as a result of unforeseen conditions or mandates by outside

parties over which we have no control. When the state fire marshal directs that changes are to be made, we do not have any option on whether to do those changes. We must do them. We have the same with the board of corrections. When they do a walk-through of the job site and direct changes, we do not have a choice. In other cases, third parties we are working with may mandate changes, as in the case of utility companies. Southern California Edison required us to install boxes, vaults

and line."

Alban said some of the changes were self-imposed.

"One change we elected to do is the fire pump," Alban said. "We did that because the water flow and pressures we were getting from the city of Adelanto were not consistent. We elected not to gamble with the certification of the facility and the safety of staff and inmates. If we had a fire occur we did not want to have to rely on flow and pressure that would not be adequate for the [fire suppression] sprinklers. We also had issue with wells and found problems with the water supply. We added additional treatment facilities to deal with that."

Asked if the number of amendments and change orders to the Adelanto Detention Center were typical of county projects, Alban said, "First off, we don't do a lot of projects of this magnitude. In my tenure we have had the Arrowhead Regional Medical Center and the West Valley Detention Center.


There were a fair number of change orders and amendments on both projects," he said, but indicated they were fewer than with the Adelanto Detention Facility. He said part of the change came about because of the substantial number of state mandates that came about as a consequence of the state funding used to construct the project. "The circumstances here were unique," he said. "The design started a little different than it ended up. The \$100 million changed the dynamics of the construction. There was almost a two year period between time we were advised of the availability of the funds from AB900 and the time we got the funding. That delay was problematic for us as well as the design team. Members of the project team come and go and the design team members change. Over that two years, code requirements changed. There were a number of things that occurred during the period that were unique to this project and resulted in amend-

ments and change orders and the cost overruns."

Alban said that despite the complications, "It was worth it to the taxpayers. We ended with a \$100 million cost offset, but you do have issues associated with that."

His division has, Alban said, "issued a notice of substantial completion" on the project, "so it can be used for its originally designed intention. It already is functioning. Somewhere in the range of 800 to 900 inmates are currently housed in the new expansion. For all intents and purposes, the project is completed, but from a technical standpoint, there are still dibs and dabs that need to be completed and we will not issue a notice of completion until those are fully taken care of to our satisfaction. There are things the contractor is finishing up."

That notice of completion will be delivered, Alban said, "in late April or early May."



1038 W 4th St (4th and Mountain) Ontario, CA 91762 (909) 984-9067

For 103 years the Bumsteads have been selling and servicing bicycles in the Pomona Valley under the shadow of Mt. Baldy. Now serving the communities of Ontario, Upland, Chino, Rancho Cucamonga, Claremont, Montclair, and Pomona with Trek Bicycles.

Our product line includes:

Trek Bicycles	Nirve Cruisers	Fit Freestyle	Volume	Mirraco	Pake	Hold Fast
3G Cruisers	American Flyer	Burro	Phil Wood	Velocity	All City	Leader Bikes
Soma	Eastern BMX	Sun Cruisers	Cinelli			

Mention this ad for a free gift.

Morrell Polls Better Than 60 Percent To Avoid Runoff To Succeed Emmerson

As anticipated, Assemblyman Mike Morrell, has won Tuesday's special election to replace Bill Emmerson as California State Senator in the 23rd District.

Emmerson resigned in December, prompting five candidates – Morrell and another Republican, Crystal Ruiz, Democrats Ameenah Fuller and Ronald O'Donnell and Libertarian Jeff Hewitt – to seek to replace him in the district that stretches from the eastern tip of Los Angeles County into San Bernardino County through all or parts of Rancho Cucamonga, the foothills of the San Bernardino Mountains, Big Bear Lake, San Bernardino, Highland, Loma Linda, Redlands, Yucaipa and down into Riverside County and the cities of Banning, Beaumont, Calimesa, Hemet, Menifee and San Jacinto.

Morrell captured a safe majority of the votes, such that there will not be a run-off between the two top vote-getters in the district. As an incumbent state legislator, Morrell was able to bring his superior fundraising capability to bear to vanquish his op-

position. He was alone among the field in being able to afford to send electioneering material to the district's voters.

In San Bernardino County, Hewitt captured 2,358 votes or 6.16 percent. O'Donnell polled 5,554 votes or 14.51 percent. Fuller captured 3,802 votes or 9.93 percent. Morrell was favored by 24,683 voters or 64.46 percent. Ruiz came in last with 1,823 votes or 4.94 percent.

In Riverside County, Hewitt received 1,902 votes or 6.98 percent. O'Donnell captured

Continued on Page 11

Glimpse from page 7

two-story structure on the corner of "K" and River Road, now proudly owned by the current mayor, Ed Paget, and his wife.



Injecting new life into Needles, the mayor, Ed Paget, and his good wife Jan, are the new proud owners of the historic three-story "Green House" on the busy four way intersection of River Road (Needles Highway) and K Street near the bridge to Arizona.

Perhaps the best surgeon Needles has ever had, the retired doctor,

now on his second wind as Mayor, along with Jan, is injecting new life into Needles. The Pagets are not new to historic preservation—over 30 years ago they stopped in at the Bureau

National Register properties. Paget has even restored to Needles the



The old Methodist church is gone but the historic Assembly of God church (above) on Route 66 and Catholic church on Third Street are in good repair and still in use.

historic Robert's Rules of Order when conducting city council meetings. Citizens are finally again allowed to redress their government, comment and ask questions after a motion is made, before the vote, as should

be procedurally required everywhere under the Constitution. You've gotta love Needles Mayor Doctor Paget.

The Chinese Restaurant is no more but there are still a lot of wonderful historic buildings downtown. Taking the newer more southerly

Needles Women's Club house, the Needles borax wagon and petroglyph park, the Assembly of God church, an old machine shop, Googie style Cub's Liquor, the 1960s Burger Hut, Imperial 400 Motel, Overland Motel and the site of an old Sambos restaurant

campus of Blythe's Palo Verde College and the neon lights of the 1929 Needles Theatre/Masonic Lodge (see Glimpse 1-17-14). Other motels, historic store fronts and Victorian style homes still hug the first couple blocks of the Route 66 corridor.

The historic California Hotel is gone but the Robinson Motor Inn appears much as it did in



Robinson Motor Inn "then" as pictured in a 1941 Burton Frasher postcard (left), and "now" as photographed this week (right). It is for sale.



four lane-wide alignment through town at the split of the Old Trails Inn/Palms Motel, then passes the historic

no longer there. Across the street is the 1930s art deco style Claypool's Department Store now the extension

Burton Frasher's 1941 postcard. Today, one can stand in the same place as Burton Frasher

Continued on Page 9

Election Change Request Rejected from page 7

such a change, which needs to be ratified by the county board of supervisors.

Elections Code Section 10404 requires the registrar of voters conduct an impact analysis addressing issues of cost and capacity of the current system to accommo-

date the increased usage. The board of supervisors may deny the request for consolidation if it finds that the ballot style, voting equipment, or computer capacity is such that additional elections or materials cannot be accommodated.

According to Laura Welch, San Bernardino County's clerk of the board of supervisors, "on April 17, 2007 the

board of supervisors approved a policy to deny future requests indefinitely that are made by school, community college, and special district jurisdictions to change election cycles, from that of odd-numbered year cycles to even-numbered year cycles, until such time that the registrar of voters is able to accommodate such requests based on, but not limited

to, one or more of the following: (a) the likelihood that additional district election cycle changes would not cause the absentee ballot to expand beyond the current two-card standard; (b) future technological or program enhancements become available to accommodate voting measure/contest volume growth; or (c) subject to further applicable provisions of

the California Elections Code. The impact analysis from the registrar of voters reflects that this request would likely expand the ballot in the affected precincts beyond the two-card standard ballot and no changes have occurred that would accommodate the volume growth."

In her report to the board of supervisors for the March 25 meeting, Welch wrote, "It is

therefore recommended that the board of supervisors adopt a resolution denying the Twentynine Palms Water District's resolution requesting consolidation of the district elections with the statewide general elections in November of each even-numbered year."

The board followed Welch's recommendation.

Audit Of RUSD Spending from front page

or other district employees. It is known that the irregularities with regard to the nutrition program proceeds, which appear to have been ongoing since 1999, had come to the district's attention in May.

Islam, who was made the acting superintendent following Cebrun's

suspension in September, after Cebrun's resignation was appointed as the district's interim superintendent.

FCMAT is an arm of the state government that assists school districts with financial and management research. On January 6 FCMAT completed its audit of the Rialto Unified School District. It has been suggested that elements of the report destroyed

any chance that Cebrun might be reestablished as superintendent. FCMAT's audit extended to 2009, which corresponds with Cebrun's tenure as superintendent.

In particular, according to FCMAT, under Cebrun the district routinely allowed vendors to write their contracts with the district.

The audit turned up that district credit cards had been used to make what were character-

ized as "questionable" purchases, among them \$7,201 in payments made to Nike by the superintendent's office over a two-year period. In addition, there were unspecified payments made to Paypal, a Las Vegas casino, a florist, as well as to cover meals at restaurants on weekends.

A series of questionable expenditures had been made, according to the audit, on "employee incentives" that included

\$7,429 for picture frames apparently to serve as a backdrop for photos of employees to be selectively honored; \$7,614 spent on an employee appreciation dinner at ESPN Zone; and over \$14,000 spent for engraved trophies intended as awards to deserving employees. According to the auditors, the actual value of the trophies was under \$2,000.

The district's previous accounting firm, Vavr-

inek, Trine, Day, had not made any notation with regard to the expenditures deemed questionable by FCMAT. Consequently, Vavrinek, Trine, Day was terminated as the district's auditing firm in February.

FCMAT's findings were provided to the San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools and the Bernardino County District Attorney's Office.

Glimpse from page 8

and take a similar photograph. (Historic photo courtesy Frasher Foto Postcard Collection, Pomona Public Library and the Mohave Desert Heritage and Cultural Center at <http://mdhcaexhibits.blogspot.com>).

Route 66 on the west side of Needles is twice intersected by the I-40 cutting it off from what is considered the downtown portion of the historic district. Crossing over to the other side of the I-40 are more historic motels and restaurants, some open, some shuttered, some gone. The U. S. 95 bridge to Arizona is on this side of town and so is Bureau Bay, the location of the former U.S.95 bridge that was blown up in 1978 during the filming of the movie "Convoy" starring Kris Kristofferson, Ali McGraw, Ernest Borgnine and Burt Young. Another isolated segment of Route 66 is north of the second overpass of the I-40 between KTOX radio station and the McShan Rock Shop (see Glimpse 3-21-14).

Needles served as a recreational host and supply center during military preparation for two wars. During World War II, while General Patton commanded his



The old "Bureau Bay Bridge" on the former alignment of U. S. 95 in Needles is no more. It was blown up to shoot the movie Convoy starring Kris Kristofferson, Ali McGraw, Ernest Borgnine and Burt Young (photo courtesy <http://stlouisdumptrucks.com/Convoy-MackTruck/Filming-Locations.html>).

army's practice maneuver in the surrounding desert, it was not unusual for him to show up for meet and greets at the Needles USO. In preparation for the war in Vietnam "Desert Strike" maneuvers were conducted south of town in the mid- 1960s. What remains of an abandoned

landing strip is just off of Route 66 south of the eastern overpass of I-40. Undoubtedly Charles Schulz was aware of Needles' military history and probably heard the infamous stories about Patton and his strict regime and harsh disciplinary practices. Snoopy wearing his World War I flying ace outfit and looking down at Spike as an infantryman in the trenches, thinking "when do we go home?" was the last panel of his Peanuts comic strip on May 11, 1987.

A lot of historic structures are gone, but there are still a lot left. Historic "Googie" "Atomic" or "Space-Age" style structures—from post WWII to the Desert Strike era of the 1960s, are still intact or could be handily repaired. The liquor store on Broadway is an excellent example but there is also the Overland, the Imperial 400, the original Denny's on the west end of town, now a restaurant with Chinese cuisine.

The mayor was not the first person in town to suggest the use of

Spike to attract business in town. In the 1980s, one entrepreneur named his real estate business after Spike, bulldozed a large prehistoric Native American stone tool production site on Spike's Road on the south side of town to level land for housing and office building lots. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the biggest real estate mogul in the county, had moved its field office to rented space in Needles in 1980 but by 1985 one of Spike's large lots was intended for the construction of BLM's new field office, though the BLM had more land at its disposal in Needles than any other entity in the country. It didn't hurt that the Spike Real Estate man was in Kiwanis with and had made friends with the BLM field office manager at the time, Everell Hayes. Coincidentally, Hayes sat on the city's planning commission when the land was approved for development by the city just before the new office building could be considered a "federal project" after the BLM's "build-to-suit" lease was

signed.

It is unknown if Hayes was ever disci-



Cub's Liquor Store represents Route 66 Atomic Age architecture in Needles.

plined over the perceived conflict of his having participated in the vote on the Needles planning commission when he had full knowledge that one of the lots under consideration was intended for the BLM office the contract for which he negotiated. It is, however, widely reported that his friend, the entrepreneur, Jim Lambert, desisted in his Needles' parade promenades in a "Spike" costume after being alerted or cited for copyright law violations.

I recently heard on public radio that there is finally a national review of the entire government office building lease program as being a frivolous waste of government funds where lease dollars greatly outweigh the price of out-

right purchases. Meanwhile, the now shuttered formerly leased BLM office building can be seen at the corner of Route 66 and Spike's Road in Needles and has become an integral part of the Route 66 history in which plans for a national nuclear waste dump near Needles was considered a "done deal." Fortunately, those "unlined nuclear dump above our critical desert water supply" plans got intercepted and eventually stopped through a concerted national lobbying effort of activists including all of the native American tribes along the river.

I moved to Needles as the Bureau of Land Management Archaeologist in 1980 and served until 1986, but continue to live there. As I ponder historic places in Needles, I think about the little wood-sided house next door to where I sit and write here in my home on the hill above the downtown historic district. I am informed that the structure was moved here from Oatman, Arizona, an old gold mining *Continued on Page 12*

Scott Markovich For Assembly

**Vote for freedom of choice,
reasonable regulations, sovereignty
and gun rights!**

www.scottmarkovichhasaplan.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Scott Markovich for Assembly 2014

Campaign ID #1359127

San Bernardino County Coroner Reports

Coroner Case # 701402391 – On 03/24/2014, at 9:12 PM, Barstow Police Department officers responded to a 911 call of a vehicle versus a pedestrian at Main Street and Muriel Drive in Barstow. Officers arrived on scene and found a 56 year old White male with trauma to the chest and upper body. He was transported to an area hospital for treatment and later died of his injuries at 10:56 PM. The name of the decedent will be released pending the notification of his next of kin. An autopsy will be conducted to determine the cause of death. The Barstow Police Department is investigating the incident. [03252014 0245 EM] Identification is complete and next-of-kin were notified that Joe Sanchez died as a result of his injuries.

Coroner Case #701402349 – On 03/23/2014 at approximately 1:20 AM, police officers responded to the 5,000 block of Osborne Court in San Bernardino where there was a report of shots fired. When they, along with medics arrived, Deandre Williams a 27 year old, resident of Rialto, was confirmed dead. San Bernardino Police Department Homicide unit is also investigating. [03232014 1345 JK]

Coroner case #701402341 – On 03/22/2013 at 11:03 PM, San Bernardino County Sheriff Department deputies responded to the 15200 block of Seneca Ave. for a man who fell from a second story balcony. Trevor Muskavich, a 20 year old residence of Victorville, was transported to an area hospital where he died of his injuries at 11:55 PM. An autopsy will be conducted to determine the cause of death. San Bernardino County Sheriff Department is investigating. [03232014 0553 CN]

Coroner Case #701402335 – On 03/22/2014 at 1:45 PM, a 911 call was received reporting an all terrain vehicle (ATV) accident on the western face of Competition Hill at Dumont Dunes. Emergency medical personnel responded arriving at 2:00 PM. They found an occupant of a 2014 Can Am Commander, a 44 year old Chinese male resident of Los Angeles, dead at the scene. The other occupant was airlifted to a Las Vegas Hospital. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the incident. The name will be released when the next of kin is notified. [03222014 2201 CM] The family was notified that Hongwei Lu died as a result of his injuries.

Coroner case 701402297 – At 10:13 PM on 03/20/2014, a 911 call reporting an auto versus motorcycle on westbound Twentynine Palms Highway, at the intersection with Wamego Trail, in Yucca Valley. Paramedics pronounced the operator of the motorcycle, a 59 year old resident of Yucca Valley, dead at the scene at 10:24 PM. The collision is under investigation by the San Bernardino County Sheriff Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT). The name will be released upon notification of the next of kin. [03212014 0546 CN] Name released: David Michael Hayes. [032114 1100 SY]

Coroner case #701402295 – On 03/20/2014 at 8:41 pm, a 911 call reporting a traffic accident on Valle Vista Road and Sherman Hoyt Road in Wonder Valley. Officers from the California Highway Patrol and paramedics from the Twentynine Palms Fire Department responded to the scene. Preliminary investigation revealed that a 31 year old White male resident of Lucerne Valley, was riding his bicycle eastbound on Valley Vista Road on the westbound lane of traffic when he was struck by a vehicle and pronounced dead on scene at 9:03 pm. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the incident. The name will be released upon notification of the next of kin. [03212014 0537 CN] Name released: Micky James Mroz. [032114 1429 SY]

The Coroner Reports are reproduced in their original format as authored by department personnel.

Eggebraten from front page

use services department director Tom Hudson . He said Eggebraten is being brought in “to provide consulting services

to the Land Use Services Department as a general plan update project manager, for the period of April 9, 2014 through October 9, 2015. Ms. Eggebraten will work full-time (not-to-exceed 80-hours per two-week

pay period) on supporting the preparation of the general plan update for eighteen months for the period of April 9, 2014 through October 9, 2015, at an hourly rate of \$50.00, plus local travel-related expenses. At the end of the eighteen-

month period, her work on the first phase of the general plan update is expected to be completed and her contract will expire.”

According to Hudson, “The county is moving into a new era of

community-based planning. Fourteen community plans and the county general plan will be updated starting this fiscal year. Due to the dramatic changes in the economy, technologies, environment, regulatory stan-

dards and society, the land use services department anticipates a substantially new approach to both the general plan and community plans updates. Ms. Eggebraten is highly skilled in community development, advanced planning and community outreach. She has worked as a public planner in the San Bernardino County region for many years and knows the region well. Her abilities in community development research, public presentations, outreach, and advanced planning are well suited to the approach the department proposes for the general plan and community plans updates. She has a long history of success in community development projects, public communications and planning tools. Her breadth of rural experience combined with her knowledge of San Bernardino County and organizational skills in supporting consultant collaborations make her ideally suited for this senior project support role.”

As a contract employee, Eggebraten will not

ONTARIO DENTAL
CENTER

1-888-650-3034

www.OntarioDentalCenter.com

COME AND EXPERIENCE THE FUTURE OF DENTISTRY

DIGITAL X-RAY
(LOW RADIATION)

INTRA-ORAL CAMERA

ANXIETY FREE DENTISTRY

ONTARIO DENTAL
CENTER

FREE
TEETH WHITENING KIT

FOR NEW INSURANCE PATIENTS ONLY AFTER
COMPLETION OF RECOMMENDED TREATMENT.
SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY. LIMITED TIME ONLY

CHILDREN'S
DENTISTRY
AVAILABLE

WE OFFER

• ROOT CANALS

• VENEER

• CLEAR BRACES

• BONDING

• SEDATION
(ORAL, LAUGHING GAS)

• FILLINGS

• EXTRACTION

• DENTURES

• WISDOM TEETH
EXTRACTION

• ZOOM (1 Hr. Whitening)

ONTARIO DENTAL
CENTER

\$20
EXAM, X-RAY

RESTRICTIONS APPLY. LIMITED TIME ONLY

WE ACCEPT ALL PPO Plans: Delta, Cigna, Aetna, Guardian, MetLife, United Concordia and Many More Medical (21 years & Under), Healthy Families By Delta Dental, and Union Plan.

10

W 6th St

W 4th St

N Benson Ave

N Mountain Ave

N San Antonio Ave

N Euclid Ave

Central Ave

We Are Located In Ontario Plaza
(Albertson's Shopping Center)
974 N. Mountain Ave.
Ontario, CA 91762
OFFICE HOURS
Mon - Fri : 10AM - 7PM
Saturday : 9AM - 2PM

Continued on Page 11

Subscribe to the Sentinel

Never miss an issue. Read it weekly from the comfort of your own home.

Ordering your one year email subscription is quick and easy.

Send a check or money order for \$30.00 payable to the Sentinel, to: 10808 Foothill Blvd., Suite 160-446, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730. Include your name, city of residence, phone number and email address.

Council Colleagues Reject Bozar's Bid To Head Off Upland Water Asset Sale from front page

gineering services, outsourcing street maintenance, outsourcing fleet maintenance and curtailing the level of service at the city animal shelter.

Revenue producing options include imposing a citywide sales tax or either selling off the city's water assets or entering into a management arrangement with a private company that allows that company to lease the city's water utility to operate and manage it and capture a profit from doing so.

Bozar, referencing es-

calations in the price of water paid by consumers that occurred after the cities of Claremont and Rialto either sold or leased their water assets, requested that the council remove the sale of its water division from the list of money generating options to be discussed in the future.

None of Bozar's colleagues – Mayor Ray Musser, councilmen Brendan Brandt and Gino Filippi and councilwoman Debby Stone – seconded his motion, making clear that they intend to consider the sale or lease of the water division when the task force's suggestions are considered over the next two months.

Morrell Wins In The 23rd from page 8

4,506 votes or 16.54 percent. Fuller pulled 2,404 votes or 8.82 percent. Morrell claimed 16,322 votes or 59.91 percent. Ruiz, who is a councilwoman in San Jacinto, placed fourth with 2,111 votes or 7.75 percent.

In Los Angeles County, only 33 voters are registered within the 23rd Senatorial District. Two of those casted votes on Tuesday, one for Hewitt and one for Morrell.

Morrell's victory now

creates a vacancy in the California Assembly, where he had been serving in the 40th Assembly District in the current term and where he served in the 63rd Assembly District from 2010 to 2012 prior to the redistricting following the 2010 Census.

The 40th Assembly District seat will likely remain unfilled until after this year's elections. Marc Steinorth, Art Bustamante, Kathleen Marie Henry, and Melissa O'Donnell are running in the 40th Assembly District.

Eggebraten from page 10

be eligible for benefits, including pension set-asides or medical coverage provided to county employees. Hudson said the county was getting a good deal through the contractual arrangement.

"If the county was to

hire Ms. Eggebraten (or someone else with her years of expertise) as a third-party consultant to perform this work, the approximate cost would be \$130 per hour, plus expenses. The financial savings in hiring her as a contract employee exceeds \$249,000 per the period of the contract."

County Wildlife Corner Grizzly Bears - Gone But Not Forgotten

by Diane Dragotto Williams, Wildhaven Ranch

This North American mammal has been called Grandfather by the Northeast Native Americans, Moccasin Joe by



early frontiersmen, Yosemite by Miwok Indians, the Unmentionable One by Blackfoot Indians, and Monarch of The Country by many. Coined "unpredictable" by some, this subspecies has been the most celebrated of all bears due to its size, temperament and conflicts with humans. Yet this animal still graces our State flag, a striking memory of what once was a majestic symbol of the wild. As an "umbrella species," Grizzlies play an important role in helping the ecosystems by distributing seeds and nutrients through their scat, and occasionally regulating hoofed mammal populations. Unfortunately, the Grizzly was hunted into

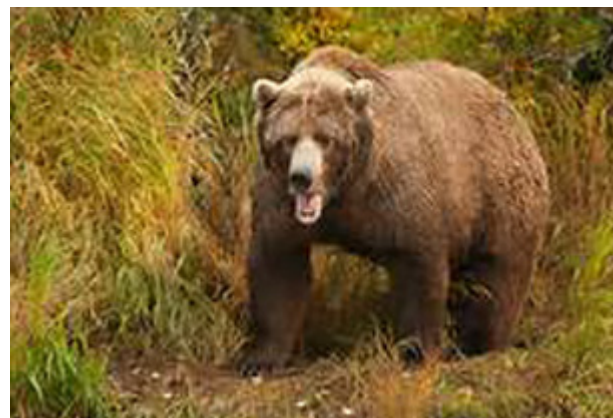
their exceptional digging abilities. Grizzlies are often dark brown, but can vary from blonde to black, along with white blazes on their chest. The long guard hairs on their backs and shoulders fre-

quently have shimmering, silvery tips that give the bears a "grizzled" appearance, hence the name "grizzly." Though actually the scientific name for the species is "brown bear," we refer to them in the lower 48 states as grizzly bears.

Being omnivores, their diet can vary widely from seeds, berries, roots, grasses, and fungi to deer, elk, fish, dead animals and insects. Using teeth and claws to capture their prey, they can catch 60 to 100 fish a day, and eat 35 pounds of them in a day! As "horrible" as they are described, "a six hundred pound grizzly can be seen leaping about in a meadow pouncing on grasshoppers, mice and

can range from 350 to 1,496 pounds outsizeing our Black Bears that range from 250 to 803 pounds. Grizzly tracks measure over 5 inches wide in the forepaw and over 10 inches long in the hindpaw! A formidable creature to be sure, and probably why government agencies decided to import

one-pound cubs in January or February and then nurse them to about 20 pounds before emerging from the den in April or May. Though grizzlies mate between May and July, the female's body delays implantation of their eggs in the uterus until October or November. If the female has not gained enough fat over



the Black Bear. Though historically, there were around 50,000 grizzly bears in North America, today, there are an estimated 1,800 grizzly bears remaining in five populations in the lower 48 states. Found in habitats from dense forests to

the summer to survive and raise cubs, implantation may not occur. A grizzly's ability to garner enough quality calories through the summer is not just crucial for her survival, but also for her reproductive ability. Females will rear their cubs



sub-alpine meadows and open plains in Wyoming, Montana and Idaho, they also live in arctic tundra in western Canada, and Alaska.

Normally solitary animals, they're not very territorial and they may be seen feeding together where food is abundant, even at salmon streams and white bark pine sites. Grizzly bears eat a great deal in the summer and fall in order to build up sufficient fat reserves to survive the winter denning period. Reproducing at 4 or 5 years old, pregnant females, must have sufficient fat reserves to give birth to approximately

for 2-3 years, and males are regarded as predators, and chased off after courtship. The plight of the Grizzly Bear has been evidenced by our State, and others that have feared the co-habitation of man and beast. There is too much more to be said about this one of matchless might. As my friend, Stephen Stringham, writes about them, in Beauty in The Beast ... "They introduce you to terror, awe, amazement, and ecstasy... This is their gift. The power to take your life, or to renew it; to re-create who you are, if only for a moment, and perhaps for a lifetime."



extinction in California when Jesse B. Agnew shot the last one in Tulare County in 1922. And now has been replaced, by the American Black Bear in our forests and mountains. Grizzly bears (Ursus arctos horribilis) have concave faces, a distinctive hump on their shoulders, and long claws about two to six inches long, used for

ground squirrels.." as described by Laycock in The Wild Bears. In the late summer and early fall, grizzlies enter hyperphagia, a period of 2-4 months when they intensify their calorie intake to put on weight for winter denning. During this time period they can gain more than three pounds a day! The weights of mature males

Well, the fashion parade in Paris has come



to an end. Paris Fashion Week is always the de-



finitive voice of the season. The best of the best happens in Paris fashion week. One major collec-



tion was Dior. Yes, the house of Dior was dazzling and everyone from everywhere was digging

California Style

It's A Wrap

By Grace Bernal



it. Dior was all about woman and her silhouette.

Dior offered sudden pops of color, too.

The iconic Bar jacket as a fitted blazer paired with slim-fit pants was vibrant. The daytime dresses featured reveal-

ing pastel slops underneath. There is varying lengths that show off the leg. It was pretty darn spectacular to watch the Paris runways on TV as always.



Someday Anna Wintour will give up her seat for me . Until then happy fashion!

"To be in 'Vogue' has to mean something. It's an endorsement. It's a validation."
~Anna Wintour

As always, if there's anything you need, I'd love to hear from you: Greygris@aol.com or visit my page I Love Your Style on Facebook Copyright Grace Bernal all rights reserved

Glimpse from page 9

ghost town named after Olive Oatman whose life was saved by the Pipa Aha Macav after she was taken captive, reportedly by Apaches or possibly Tolkepayas in 1851. I can look out my front window and see across "E" Street the Sears Catalog house, ordered, shipped by rail in parts and pieced together by my bygone neighbor, railroad engineer Charlie Bly, long ago. I can see a small hill on the next street over where the elementary school is located and which was

until recently called the "D Street School" where Charles Schulz learned to draw. From my memory of historic photographs, originally it was a stately two or three story red brick structure; that building was torn down and replaced--the old bricks were incorporated into fireplaces, walls and patios in the surrounding neighborhood. I look west and see the brick walls and outdoor fireplace of the home next to the old Pioneer Cemetery. "Doc" Penberthy, the town dentist, and his wife "Doodie"

lived in that house on cemetery hill before they passed on. Doc claimed to have worked on the teeth of Wyatt Earp. Earp frequented Needles and there's at least one story about how he came to town and got into a bar room brawl. In the end, there is no place like home to start stabilization and preservation efforts. Robert and I moved our "Cape Cod Cottage" style home onto "our" vacant hill on "E" Street in Needles after acquiring it in 1986 for the price of the move...\$15,000. Numerous other of these

"Davis Camp" cottages were also moved into Needles when the Bureau of Reclamation decided to replace them with a mobile home park in that Bullhead City location. These are each about the same size and style and were originally constructed



The last panel of his Peanuts comic strip on May 11, 1987 (from www.CityofNeedles.com).

in the 1940s below Davis Dam as government housing for workers and their families to stay in while building the dam. A cluster of the cookie cutter cottages are now located in the vicinity of "E" Street and Valley Street. We have pictures of our cottage almost falling off the trailer as it was being moved up Grandview Road on the backside of the prop-

erty. Rehabilitation efforts continue on as time and resources provide. Klein informed the scoping session participants that incentives for rehabilitation of listed historic properties are described at the website of the California State Historic Preservation Office. The city of Needles is currently considering the establishment of a historic commission that would entertain the idea of a local historic register that might qualify local properties for state or federal tax credit incentives. Perhaps, there is a silver lining in owning

"this old house"-- perhaps there is a share of the kicks on Route 66 for homeowners with unique historic properties like ours...tax credits. *S y n d i c a t e d 2014©Ruth Musser-Lopez—Small quotes citing author, the Sentinel and publication date are permissible under copyright law. Permission to reprint may be obtained by contacting Ruth at 760/885-9374 or via email at Ruth@RiverAHA.org.*

BIG ISLAND

Climber on the Mainland Inc

Treeworks

St. Forestry Lic. B 3064

CA State Contractors Lic. 954467

Fully Insured

(909) 337-6485

Read the

Sentinel

On The World Wide Web!

To visit our blog, simply type <http://sbsentinel.com/> into your URL box and hit enter. You can view the *Sentinel*, read individual articles, offer comments and search our archives from the convenience of your pc, laptop, Blackberry or iPhone.