

# The San Bernardino County Sentinel

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

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## Two Marine Pilots Killed In Helicopter Crash at MCAGCC 29 Palms



Elizabeth Kealey

Two Marine Corps helicopter pilots lost

their lives last week when the UH-1Y Huey they were in crashed during a training drill near Twentynine Palms.

Captain Elizabeth Kealey, 32, and 1st Lt. Adam Satterfield, 25 were the sole crew members aboard the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing helicopter when it crashed at 4:40 p.m. on Friday, January 23, according to



Adam Satterfield

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar officials.

Kealey and Satterfield were assigned to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 stationed at Marine Corps Air Station Camp Pendleton, Calif. The aircraft was conducting routine flight operations at the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC).

Kealey, a native of Indiana, Pa., commissioned in the Marine

Corps May 27, 2005. She served within Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 169 as a UH-1Y Huey helicopter pilot and weapons training instructor. Kealey deployed twice with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit and once in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. Her personal awards See P 7

## Deadline For Needles Med Center Ground Sale Nearing

NEEDLES—The city and National Healthcare Partners, Incorporated are facing a February 22 deadline for the final closing of escrow on the purchase of the Colorado River Medical Center.

The agreed-upon sale has been beset with complications, which included the Bureau of Land Management's approval of the appraisal and purchase of the property. The Bureau of Land Management is involved because a portion of the property upon which the hospital was originally built was federal land and covenants on the use of the property contained restrictions if the hospital is to function in any other role than a community non-profit medical center.

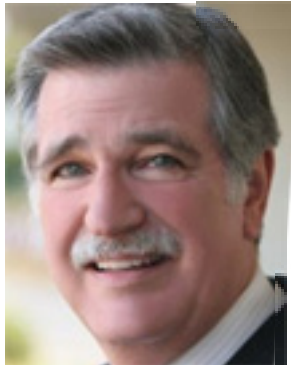
The Bureau of Land Management signing off on the deal in a timely fashion is of critical importance because the sale agreement stipulated that if the closing deadline of February 22, 2015 is not met, the sale of the property will not be effectuated and what will exist in its place is a long term lease.

While it now appears that the local office of the Bureau of Land Management has accepted an appraisal of the property and is amenable to National Healthcare Partners, Incorporated's purchase, the local office's recommendation must be passed along to the state Bureau of Land Management office, which must confirm the local recommendation before forwarding its recommendation to the national office, which must ultimately okay the sale. Already more than 22 months have passed as the local office See P 4

## Attorneys For Upland And Marijuana Coalition Spar Over Election Timing

As was perhaps inevitable, differences between Upland city officials and the proponents of a ballot initiative to establish a protocol allowing medical marijuana dispensaries to be established in that city of 73,073 have emerged.

Specifically, the initiative proponents are seeking to have the city



Richard Adams

council simply adopt

the language of the initiative with no further ado or otherwise call a special election at the earliest opportunity to have a city voter referendum on the initiative. Most city officials would prefer to hold off on the vote until the next regular municipal election is held in November 2016. They had already



Roger Diamond

raised and abandoned

one theory with regard to the initiative proponents' filing that would have put the election off to next year. But city attorney Richard Adams this week cited a second theory relating to a specific element contained in the initiative itself and a provision in state law relating to the imposition of taxes to posit See P 6

## CVUSD Will Trust In God In Fighting Anti-Prayer Lawsuit

The Chino Valley Unified School District having been drawn into a lawsuit by what the plaintiffs consider to be overly aggressive religious references during school board meetings that verge on blatant proselytizing, a majority of the school board has voted to trust in God and hope a lawyer the district in the legal challenge it is facing.

The Chino Valley

Unified School District was sued by the Wisconsin-based Freedom From Religion Foundation, two identified local plaintiffs and more than 20 unnamed local plaintiffs over the district's practice of engaging in Christian prayer and Bible readings at school board meetings.

The suit seeks the discontinuation of prayer and religious references during the See P 2

## Geo Group Throws In Towel On Proposal For Its Third For-Profit Prison In Adelanto

ADELANTO—Florida-based Geo Group Inc. has withdrawn its plans to construct that company's third for-profit prison facility in Adelanto, a 1,050-bed facility in the city that was to be constructed at the northeast corner of Holly and Koala roads.

Geo Group, Inc. is already the largest employer in the city of Adelanto, where it operates for the U.S. Immigration

and Customs Enforcement Agency a detention facility that is currently undergoing expansion to a 1,940 inmate capacity. Geo Group, which started as a corporate offshoot of the private prison facility Wackenhut Corporation, also operates the 700-inmate Desert View Modified Community Correctional Facility on behalf of the California Department of Corrections and



George Zoley

Rehabilitation.

On January 15, Donovan Collier, an attorney representing See P 7

## SB, Forsaking Luring County Into Carousel Mall, Seeks Private Developers

The city of San Bernardino has apparently given up on attempting to interest the county of San Bernardino in becoming a major tenant at the 43-acre Carousel Mall.

Construction on the downtown landmark began in 1971. at a location that had been the site of the old Harris Store since 1927. In 1972, it opened as the Central City Mall,

anchored by Harris, J.C. Penney, and Montgomery Wards, and including 49 other stores. Today it is located within walking distance of both San Bernardino City Hall and the San Bernardino County Administration Building.

It was for a time a grand shopping location, temporarily besting its major rival in town, the Inland Center, which

opened in 1966. At its peak in the mid 1980s it boasted more than 100 tenants. In the late 1980s it was renovated, and a carousel was installed in the bottom floor, at which point it was rechristened the Carousel Mall. But its fortunes waned with those of the rest of San Bernardino over the years, and by the late 1990s, it began to decline. The first

major blow came when Gottschalks, which had bought out Harris, elected to close at that location in 1998 and relocated in the Inland Center. Three years later, in 2001, Montgomery Ward went out of business. At that point, J.C. Penney was the sole anchor. In 2003, J.C. Penney closed. The mall was sold in 2006. Two years later, in 2008, Lynwood-based devel-

oper Placo San Bernardino LLC, purchased a major portion of the mall in 2008 for \$23.5 million, with serious designs on reinvigorating it and obtaining short term financing to undertake improvements, signaling it was on a crash schedule to do just that. But that same year, CinemaStar shuttered its theater on the mall's grounds.

Placo re- See P 4







## Hinkley Mojave Solar Project Now In Operation

The Mojave Solar Generating Station in Hinkley reached commercial operation in early December and was given its public inauguration last week.

Designed to have a 280-megawatt generating capacity, the facility is composed of 2,200 mirrored parabolic trough collectors spread across two square miles of desert in this community located 14 miles northwest of Barstow.

The computer controlled parabolic troughs represent an improvement on earlier thermal solar generating systems, which concentrate the sun's rays on a wa-

ter-filled edifice, which creates steam to drive a turbine.

At present, the facility is putting out less than half of its full megawatt capacity. Abengoa, a global technology company based in Seville, Spain with U.S. headquarters in St. Louis, Missouri, says the Mojave Solar Plant will eventually deliver enough electricity to serve 91,000 California households, while preventing the emission of 223,500 tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere every year.

"We are proud to contribute to the effort to make this world a

better place," Abengoa CEO Armando Zuluaga Zilbermann said during the inauguration. "Climate change is clearly one of the most important challenges that humankind has ever had to face. Almost every day seems to bring news of more threats to life on Earth due to the growing climate-change related impacts. There is an urgency to take more serious steps to reduce CO2 emissions."

California's Mojave Desert provides an ideal showcase for renewable energy efforts, Zilbermann said. "I've been to many places in the world," he said. "There's

no place like California for the number of renewable resources that we have. We have great wind sites. We have some of the best solar power. We have earthquakes giving us a lot of geothermal power and we have a vast amount of biomass. There's no place in the world with that combination of resources."

The project was heavily subsidized by the federal government, which in 2011 provided Abengoa with a \$1.2 billion federal loan guarantee for the Mojave project through the Department of Energy's Federal Loan Guarantee Program.

## Forum... Or Against 'em

### Observations from a Decidedly Continental Perspective

By Count Friedrich von Olsen



I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth. I had so many advantages, I can't remember them all. By the time I was four years old, which is as far back as I can remember, I was a spoiled brat. I might have been a spoiled brat before that, but, as I just said, I can't remember that far back...

Along about the time I was eight, I have a clear recollection of being taken aside by my father for a rather stern lecture. This occurred during Easter week, somewhere near the midway point of the Spring Hiatus, the two week break we were given from boarding school. It seems that upon arriving back at the manor, I had taken to ordering the domestic staff about. I have blotted many of the particulars from my memory, although I have a somewhat dim recollection of dressing down the butler, who had had engaged in the unforgivable act of having presented me, during a mid-afternoon refreshment session in the midst of a round of croquet, with a plate of sweet pickles. I let him know, in no uncertain terms, that I expected him to remember that I preferred my gherkins sour and spicy, and the consideration that I had been away at school all those many months was hardly an excuse for his forgetfulness. I remember my father impressing on me that it was somewhat unseemly for someone of my tender years to be speaking to the domestic staff in such harsh tones and with such an air of superiority, especially given that those at whom I was hurling my invective were at least two, and probably more like three or four or even five, decades my senior. My father upbraided me for my imperious bearing, attitude of ascendancy and sense of entitlement, telling me that I had embarrassed him and disgraced our family...

It is interesting what made me summon that to mind. It seems in our High Desert, two of our younger set recently were even more disrespectful to one of their elders than I had been to my own in my youth. Late in the morning on Sunday January 25, three teenagers boarded a bus on the Victor Valley

*Continued on Page 11*

*The Count's views do not necessarily reflect those of the Sentinel, its ownership, its publisher or editors.*

## Reps Aguilar & Torres Get Committee Assignments

The newest members of the Inland House of Representatives delegation now have commit-



Pete Aguilar

tee assignments.

Congressman Pete

Aguilar, D-Redlands, who has replaced Gary Miller as congressman in the 31st District, was appointed to the House Armed Services and Agriculture committees.

"I look forward to serving the tens of thousands military personnel and veterans who call the Inland Empire home as a member of the Armed Services Committee," said Aguilar. "These proud men and women need a voice in

Congress who will fight for our military and work to create defense jobs and grow renewable energy and manufacturing in San Bernardino County."

Aguilar said, "Agriculture has been a key part of our region's economy for generations, and I will work to strengthen this industry and the jobs it supports on the Agriculture Committee."

Congresswoman Norma Torres, D-Pomona, who replaced Gloria Negrete-McLeod as the representative in the 35th Congressional District earlier this month, was given an assignment on the Homeland Security committee.

"The issues that come before the Homeland Security Committee are of

critical importance to my state and my district. The 35th district is home to Ontario International



Norma Torres

Airport and serves as an inland port through which goods from the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach are transported to the rest of the country. Protecting our nation's infrastructure and ensuring the effective implementation of security regulations are vital to the region's economy."

## Hesperia Approves I-15/Main Pylon Electric Sign

HESPERIA — The Hesperia City Council has given go-ahead to the erection of an 85-foot-high pylon sign on the southeast corner of Interstate 15 and Main Street.

TNT Electric Sign Company was given approval for the sign, which is to include 750 square feet of signage area and 364 square feet of digital display, by the Hesperia Planning Commission in October. The commission provided that approval over the objections of Faud Radi,

the property owner of the adjacent parcels to the east and to the south. Radi expressed his concerns about the access to the site, the sign location, as well as safety issues. On October 20, 2014, Radi submitted an appeal stating that the proposed use will have substantial adverse impacts on the abutting properties.

An ordinance allowing freeway pylon signs was approved by the city council on October 15, 2013.

City staff, which rec-

ommended approval of the site plan for TNT Electric Sign's project when it came before the planning commission in October 2014, reiterated that support before the council last week.

The sign, which will have extensive freeway visibility, will advertise local businesses and provide free publicity with regard to city-sponsored events. Staff said a potential byproduct of the sign's installation is attracting national and retail tenants to Hesperia.

Radi reiterated for the

council concern about access to the signage site, sign location and safety issues. He suggested moving the sign further southward to provide northbound commuters time to read the sign and change lanes, if need be, to pull off the freeway and onto Main Street.

Councilmen Bill Holland and Russ Blewett dismissed Radi's objections, expressing the belief that the sign will be a boon to the city and result in the generation of additional tax revenue to Hesperia.

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## SB Seeking Potential Investor/Developer For Carousel Mall from front page

mained committed, however, refinancing its early short-term financing, with a \$16.5 million loan from Center Bank.

In May 2010, with its plan stalled, Placo was failing to make its payments to Center Bank. The city of San Bernardino's economic development agency swooped in and bought the property's note and deed trust from Center Bank for slightly over \$13.1 million. At that point, the city, based on backroom discussions with county officials, had visions of filling large portions of the mall with county offices.

Relations between Placo and the city had entirely broken down by that point. Placo, which claimed it was still intent on making a go of revitalizing the mall, said it was being undercut by the city which was militating to tenantize it with county government offices. The city pressed Placo to pay it the \$5 million difference between the amount it had paid for the mall and the amount of money loaned it by Center Bank with interest.

In 2011, there were 33 shops in the mall. At present, there are only 17 businesses there, including four restaurants. Whatever prospect the city once felt it had of luring the county into locating its offices there have long since faded. In fact, last April, the only county office there, county of San Bernardino's Children and Family Services Division, which had entered into a ten year lease for 28,892 square feet of office space at 128 Carousel Mall, Building G, pulled up its stakes and departed.

Bowing to the obvious, San Bernardino has given up on the prospect of becoming the county's landlord at the mall. San Bernardino Mayor Mayor Carey Davis and San Bernardino City Manager Allen Parker

in November sent a letter to what has been described as "numerous development concerns" soliciting return letters of interest to the city relating to the mall. Davis and Parker, perhaps somewhat unrealistically, imposed a deadline of December 19 for replies. More recently the city has had communication with some of those development concerns which indicated they would like more time to put together responses and proposals.

According to the city, the city is only seeking "informal" letters of response, and more detailed proposals can be provided further down the line.

Clearly, the city's intent is to stir up interest and create the perception that there is a depth of competition for locating in the mall.

The city is seeking qualified entities with the means and expertise to transform the mall, which is among the largest and most involved of the nearly 300 properties owned by the city/now defunct economic development agency. Davis and Parker said they want a profile of each company, its financing capability and experience, together with an explanation of the potential the company sees in the mall site.

The city is prepared to provide the company that offers the most alluring proposal an inducement in the form of a developer dispensation agreement, conditional upon a demonstration that the company in fact has the financial horsepower to achieve its stated goals.

The letter touts the advantages the mall property possesses, including its placement in the downtown area and proximity to San Bernardino International Airport, the availability of water and other infrastructure, the presence of nearby national companies such as Amazon, Hewlett-Packard, Michelin, Kohl's, Pep Boys, Mattel and Stater Bros. Markets, and its easy accessibility from the 10 Freeway and the recently

## Needles Hospital Ground Sale Deadline Approaching from front page

has carried out its due diligence with regard to the matter. It was originally anticipated that the Bureau of Land Management would grant its approval of the pro forma for National Healthcare Partners' takeover of the hospital by March 26 2013 and in no case later than June 30, 2013. The interminable delay and the fast approaching deadline has many observers believing that it is unlikely National Healthcare Partners will be able to take on ownership of the hospital without some amendment to the sales agreement.

After a competitive process, the city in 2012 agreed to Community Healthcare Partners, Incorporated buying the hospital for a total of \$2.577 million. Under that agreement, Com-

improved 215 Freeway.

The letter hinted that the city could facilitate the sale of that portion of the mall not owned by its economic development agency's successor, those being the Harris/Gottschalks building, owned by El Corte Ingles, a Spanish depart-

munity Healthcare Partners, Incorporated was to pay \$2.2 million at a so-called first closing to cover the value of the hospital itself and \$377,000 at a second closing to cover the cost of the real property.

The initial \$2.2 million payment was made in June 2012 and there was progress toward making the second payment to the city, which owns the totality of the property the hospital is situated on. Nevertheless, the Bureau of Land Management held reversionary rights, which created the need for the two-step closing process, as it was anticipated there would be a slight delay in the clearance for the sale being gotten.

The two-part closing was undertaken because the city was running up considerable expense as a consequence of its ownership and continuing management respon-

sibility at the medical center and there was a priority on stanching the hemorrhaging of red ink as soon as was practical.

The city took on ownership of the Colorado River Medical Center in April 2008 after Brentwood, Tennessee-based Lifepoint Hospitals, a for-profit corporation, embarked on an effort to move the institution's equipment and personnel to another hospital it owned in Arizona, roughly 12 miles from Needles.

Because of long-running inadequate billing practices, including failures to invoice Medicare and Medi-Cal as well as insurance companies and patients in a timely fashion, the hospital under the city's guidance had lost money, representing a financial liability to the city. The city created a board of trustees to oversee the hospital, and that panel, together with the city council, came to a consensus that spinning the facility off to an independent operator was the best solution for ensuring that the community has adequate medical care without soaking the taxpayers.

In June 2010, Needles voters passed Measure Q, which called for keeping the hospital open and absolving the city of the

financial burden of subsidizing the facility by having a non-profit entity selected to run the hospital.

In 2011, a nonprofit group, Needles Hospital, Inc., led by former Needles councilwoman Rebecca Valentine formed. Needles Hospital, Inc. offered to purchase the Colorado River Medical Center and the 5.71 acres it sits upon for \$3,587,002. For that amount, Needles Hospital Inc. was to take possession of most assets and liabilities of the hospital, including accounts receivable, operating inventory in place, outstanding bills and unemployment obligations. Unassumed debts were to be deducted from the purchase price, but the city was to keep any cash in the hospital's coffers at the time of sale.

Needles Hospital, Inc. lost its opportunity after it failed to meet an April 26, 2012 deadline to prove it had the funding to make the purchase. AM Pharmacy, headed by Bing Lum, had put together a competing proposal to purchase the hospital and run it as a for-profit entity. The city council turned down that proposal in January 2012 in favor of Needles

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## Glimpse Of SBC's Past

# SBC'S PREHISTORIC ROCK ART DRAWS CONTINENTAL ATTENTION AND CONVOCATION

By Ruth Musser-Lopez

A first in the history of San Bernardino County, a major intra-continental anthropological organization will be meeting just across the county/state line over Memorial Day weekend to inspect prehistoric rock art in eastern San Bernardino County. During the con-



The ARARA logo.

clave, studies and papers will be presented, all of which will pertain in some way to the subject of prehistoric rock art in the east Mojave Desert of San Bernardino County and adjacent Mojave Desert areas in Nevada and Arizona.

The American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) was established in 1974 by a small group of archaeological professionals, artists, Native Americans and others rock art experts and advocates from a variety of professions, backgrounds and countries, all committed to research, conservation, and education surrounding rock art.

The association has established committees devoted to the conservation and preservation of rock art sites and to educating the public to the importance of protecting rock art and the integrity of its surrounding landscape. The organization has grown since its inception and typically draws 250 to its annual convocation that includes two days of presentations and two days of guided visits to rock

art sites.

This year the rock art of the Mojave Desert and the Lower Colorado River is put on the map of regions important to American rock art. The convocation will be held in Laughlin, Nevada, with a variety of Power-Point research presented in the meeting room at the Colorado Belle resort on Saturday and Sunday.

In the past, the ARARA annual conference has been held in Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Wisconsin, Wyoming, and in Casas Grandes, Mexico and Winnipeg, and Manitoba. In 2013 ARARA joined with a partnering organization, the International Federation of Rock Art Organizations (IFRAO) with a joint conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico drawing over 300 attendees. Last year, the international association met in China to observe rock art there.

Among ARARA's publications are American Indian Rock Art, containing papers from the annual conferences, the quarterly newsletter La Pintura, and occasional papers or monographs.

On the Friday and Monday preceding and following this year's conference, numerous field trips have been scheduled for loops to be made through the east Mojave, southern Nevada and Arizona side of the Colorado River. Several field trips are offered that provide riverboat excursions through the Topock Gorge and the shores of Lake Havasu. Some of the guided tours will follow and branch off of the route of the prehistoric Mojave trail that Padre Francisco Garces was first shown in 1776 as reported in last week's *Sentinel*. Participants will be able to view the rock art that Garces probably saw

250 years ago as well as historic inscriptions left behind by the U. S. military troops situated at outposts along this route in the 1860s.

Various forms of rock art can be observed on the field trips. Petroglyphs are the most common type of rock art in the Mojave desert and were made by pecking, etching, carving or sculpting images into



2015 ARARA Conference logo, "Fire Runner" from one of the prehistoric rock art sites in San Bernardino County.

stone. Often the outer surface of the stone is covered with patina, a "rind" of darker color that is caused by the accumulation of airborne bacterial and chemical deposits such as manganese on its surface. Exposing the underlying surface of the stone results in a light mark surrounded by the contrasting dark color. When an image is sketched into stone creating a petroglyph, the resulting contrast in color is often striking.

Patina develops over a long period of time, but once it is removed from the stone to form a petroglyph image, the exposed area is immediately subject to "repatination." Attempts have been made to calculate the rate of this repatination process, to compare the relative thickness of

repatinated images and to suggest a relative age for various images based upon more or less patina. It is often assumed when comparing adjacent images on the same rock art panel, that the thicker and darker the repatination, the older the petroglyph. This same relative dating scheme cannot be relied upon when comparing sites in different location due to the fact

techniques are limited, applied only when essential under the authority of special permits and with extreme caution to minimize the sample.

Earthen art or intaglios is another form of rock art that is rarely found but can be encountered in abundance on ancient relic river terraces sitting above the current Colorado River bottom. These art forms consist of giant human and animal figures along with curvilinear designs. The motif is made by removing the dark individual gravel stones from the shape leaving behind a lighter surface consisting of lighter gravel. This light surface is in contrast with the surrounding darkly patinated gravelly landscape.

Famous examples of intaglios can be found fenced in along Highway 95 north of Blythe just south of the San Bernardino County border, but these have been damaged and attempts to recreate them have compromised their integrity even further. The examples found farther north on the 95 in San Bernardino County near Needles have been largely preserved and evidence of the method used to produce the original art can still be observed. The art work is distinguished from reliefs which involved the scraping up of gravels to form mounds and row mounds. This method was used at the nearby "Mystic (or Topock) Maze" site and is evidence that the so-called maze is actually rows of gravel made in a historic gravel mining operation.

Rock art often includes stylistic "signatures," conventional symbols or icons that can often be linked with living or past cultures known to have "owned" or used that same imagery. Objects depicted in the rock art, rock art style and the "delivery technique" are used as clues

as well. Archaeologist, like forensic investigators, analyze other material remains physically associated with the rock art, the global position and known tribal territory and the landscape within which the rock art is located in making the connection to a particular cultural group that the art work might be credited to even when there are no known direct descendants living today.

An atypical link of living people to prehistoric rock art includes the example of an Indian scout working in the US Army in the 1800's who signed his name using a symbol in a ledger. It can be assumed that his tribe used the symbol and that rock art containing that symbol was likely made by the tribe or cultural group the scout belonged to. Upon a rare but fortunate occasion evidence exists of a particular person or persons who made the prehistoric rock art.

"What does it mean?" is a question that many ask. ARARA provides this explanation:

"So-called 'biographic' rock art of the Northern Plains is probably the rock art where we can be most certain of parts of its meaning, because of the very close relation between the ledger art just referred to and rock art using the same symbols. Both ledger books and the related rock art often recorded biographies of individuals, their accomplishments, victories in battle, and other events. Or they may record partial histories of entire villages or peoples. Such records are partly like the buffalo skins known as "Winter Counts" which could continue for 80 years, one important event each year. So there can be something close to history here. Quite a large vocabulary of signs can now be interpreted in this style of rock art, not because of any single

*Continued on Page 9*



Timing of Upland Cannabis Referendum

from front page

the grounds by which the election would need to take place during a regularly scheduled election rather than an impromptu one.

In October, a group of Upland residents, nominally headed by Nicole DeLaRosa and James Velez sponsored by the California Cannabis Coalition, Craig Beresh and Randy Welty, undertook a petition drive to qualify for the ballot in Upland an initiative aimed at overturning the Upland’s ban on marijuana dispensaries. Beresh is the California Cannabis Coalition’s president. Welty, a coalition board member, has an ownership interest in 53 medical marijuana clinics throughout the state and owns Upland’s Tropical Lei nightclub, Upland’s Toybox adult bookstore, other adult bookstores located elsewhere, and at least four other strip clubs.

On January 14, Beresh and Welty on behalf of the California Cannabis Coalition and those involved in the signature-gathering effort came to Upland City Hall and handed over to Upland administrative services director/city clerk Steph-

anie Mendenahll the initiative petition endorsed with 6,865 signatures gathered in Upland. Welty, Beresh and another member of the California Cannabis Coalition, Michael Cindrich, who is also an attorney, said were sufficient to require the city to hold a special election to overturn Upland’s ban on medical marijuana dispensaries.

Welty, Beresh and Cindrich were met with Mendenhall’s assertion, based on information provided to her by city attorney Adams, that the coalition did not file the proper notice that a special election was being sought at the time the petition drive was initiated in October. She informed them that the ballot measure would come before the city’s voters at the next general election in 2016.

In speaking for the city, Mendenhall maintained that the initiative advocates had not requested a special election when they filed the ballot and summary in October and that such notification and request had to be clearly enunciated at the outset of the petition drive and be officially disclosed in the required advertising for the drive that was published at the time. Moreover, according to the city, each page of the petition endorsed

by those signing the petition did not state that a special election was being called for.

This rebuff was taken seriously by the initiative advocates, who consulted with their attorney, Roger Diamond, a top constitution issue lawyer whose reputation as a tenacious legal representative of advocates for controversial but constitutionally protect-



Craig Beresh (left foreground), Roger Diamond (center) and Randy Welty coordinate their presentations just prior to the Upland City Council meeting January 26.

ed activities and enterprises, such as adult entertainment and medical marijuana dispensaries, proceeds him.

The Upland City Council this week, at its January 26 meeting, adjourned into a closed session to engage in, according to the meeting agenda a “conference with legal counsel” relating to the “initiation of litigation.” It was widely believed that litigation

was going to be directed at the initiative proponents.

Upon emerging from that closed session meeting, however, the council sat in rapt silence as Adams informed the near capacity crowd assembled in the city council meeting chambers that “no reportable action was taken,” meaning no direction to initiate a lawsuit against the initia-

ed by Upland residents registered to vote within the city. Adams said the number of registered voters in Upland totaled 36,949. If ten percent of those endorsed the petition, Adams said, the city council would have to present the initiative to the voters at least by the next regularly scheduled municipal election or otherwise utilize its own authority to adopt the language of the initiative. Under normal circumstances, Adams said, If 15 percent of the city’s voters endorsed the initiative, the city council would have to accede to carrying out a special election. Though he indicated the registrar of voters had yet to ascertain how many of the 6,865 signatures were indeed valid, the tenor of Adams’ remarks was such that he seemed to believe the initiative advocates had met the burden required to trigger the special election. In this regard, he backed off of Mendenhall’s earlier suggestion that the documentation submitted in October was insufficient to require the city to hold the special election. “As it happened, neither the title page nor the summary nor the notice of publication mentioned they wanted a special election. When we received the petitions’ main page, it does say

they were asking for a special election,” Adams said. Based on that and the likelihood that the petitions were signed by 15 percent of the city’s registered voters, Adams said it would probably be his recommendation that the city go ahead and schedule the special election.

But there is one other criterion that could save the city the expense of holding the election, Adams suggested.

The initiative imposes a set of limitations on the dispensaries and a protocol for their application and licensing. Under the terms of the initiative, the number of dispensaries in the city would be limited to three and they would have to be located within the relatively confined area north of Foothill Boulevard, south of Cable Airport, and between Airport Drive to the east and Monte Vista to the west. Each of the applicants for the three dispensaries would have to pay a \$75,000 nonrefundable licensing fee to cover the city’s costs in carrying out background checks and making other inquiries and efforts to process the applications.

It was with regard to this point that Adams said the city might yet have what he called a “profound” basis for holding off until a regular election to let the city’s voters consider the initiative.

“This particular measure calls for only three medical marijuana dispensaries to be established in the city,” Adams said. “A special \$75,000 licensing fees is to be paid annually for each dispensary. The State Constitution indicates that if the fee exceeds the cost of providing the services, licensing and inspection, it is not a fee. It is a tax.”

Adams said the city is now looking into how much it will cost the city to carry out the inspections and licensing procedure to determine if the city’s costs in that regard will be less than \$75,000. “If this is not a fee but a tax, then it

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Continued on Page 8







## City, Initiative Advocates Differ On Election Timing

from page 6

cannot be approved at a special election," Adams said.

In his comments to the council, Diamond said "We do not agree with the city attorney that one of your options is a general election." Intimating that the Cannabis Coalition will file litigation to force the city to abide by the law relating to the initiative process, Diamond advised the city to "Adopt the measure. It is a well written measure. It is very responsible. Imposing the \$75,000 is one of the reasons it is responsible."

After his public comments, Diamond spoke with the *Sentinel*. He said, "What determines whether this goes to a general election or a special election is the number of valid signatures on the petition, ten percent or 15 percent. The

city attorney was already proven wrong on his first major reason for stating that this did not require a special election. The reason the petition and the printed notice did not specify a special election was we could not predict how many signatures we would get ahead of time. We did not know for sure we would get the full fifteen percent. But we did get them. Now he is saying this is a tax proposal and it must be held during a general election." Diamond opened a volume of the California Election Code and pointed to it. "Tell me where that is in the code. I don't see anything that says that. He was wrong on the first reason he gave. You just heard him admit that. And he is wrong on this."

Beresh told the council in his public comments, "This community wants to work with the city council. We don't want to see the wasting of funds and money."

He suggested the city

could reap a financial benefit by embracing cannabis dispensaries instead of banning them. "Utilize the revenue available. Your people want it."

Welty told the council, "This is a citizens' initiative." He said "a plethora" of illicit "brick and mortar and mobile delivery systems" are "moving into our residential zones. You have been a witness to this. Set aside this black market. What this initiative does is alleviate a tremendous liability."

Former Upland City Manager Steve Dunn said "Upland has had marijuana dispensaries since 1996 operating illegally," and he bemoaned the fact that the city had spent hundreds of thousands of dollars on a failed legal effort to keep such operations out of the city. "We should have done a better job of taxing and regulating medical marijuana," he said. "We may have closed a dispensary, but

it is really a shame the city council as of this moment doesn't have a policy." He said the city's futile and less-than-fully-thought-through, knee jerk reaction against marijuana clinics in general had kept it from formulating an even better set of restrictions than is contained in the initiative, which he said could have been framed better.

"We could have done something a lot more favorable to the city than what is being proposed," Dunn said.

He said the prohibition mindset with regard to marijuana is hopelessly out of date.

"We spend a lot more money on alcohol related crimes," Dunn said. "We need to look at why marijuana has been decriminalized in 27 states and legalized in four. Stop wasting time and money and adopt the ordinance as it is or let the people of the city decide once and for all."

Antidrug activist Paul Chabot, however,

encouraged the city to draw the line against the initiative and resist the effort to make marijuana easily available at city-sanctioned clinics. Cabot said the city was being "bullied" by the likes of Diamond, Welty and Beresh. "Sixty-three percent of your citizens don't want these marijuana dispensaries in your city," he said. "Over 200 cities have banned them. Less than ten percent have allowed them. In the four cases where initiatives to allow clinics to set up within a particular city's city limits have gone to a vote, Chabot said, "all four were defeated." He said "It's all about money. It was big tobacco in the 1990s. Big marijuana is a multi-million dollar business and it is soon to be a multibillion dollar business." Paradoxically echoing Welty, he said that marijuana dispensaries "bring in a black market."

Three members of the council – Mayor

Ray Musser, councilwoman Carol Timm and councilman Glenn Bazar – appear resistant to the concept of allowing medical marijuana clinics to operate in town. They believe a majority of the city's residents are of a like mind. Among dispensary opponents, there is a belief that the initiative will fail if it is voted upon during a regular election. At the same time, they believe chances for the passage of the initiative will be enhanced if it is voted upon during a special election when many voters will not participate and its supporters have the opportunity to network with members of the drug subculture to convince them to make a strong showing at the polls.

The cost of holding a special election in Upland will run to at least \$80,000 and could cost as much as \$110,000, city officials said.

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**Glimpse from page 5**

“Rosetta Stone”, but because of the combination of details preserved in many places.

“For other kinds of rock art, we may not be so lucky. We may have to use a very wide range of techniques of analysis, to gain partial clues from each, until many clues point in the same direction. Which symbols occur together often, which rarely, which never do? Which occur in particular kinds of locations (residential vs. ceremonial)? What is the geographic distribution of particular rock art traditions, and did it change through time? Do the symbols used in one tradition of rock art resemble those used in another tradition?”

“Designs on shields, both real shields and rock-art images of shields, are very likely to be symbolic, whether of powers which a warrior relied on for help in battle, or of other cultural ideas. Particular types of design may have been favored by particular cultures. Rock art,

whether shields, large human-like figures, or even mere handprints, may have been used to mark territory, homes, food storage, or other things. Small shields in

art include these: Girls’ puberty ceremonies; Vision quests; Prayers for rain; Hunting magic (hoping to ensure a good hunt); Pictorial representations of hunts showing



**This year’s ARARA convention will include a field trips to Grapevine Canyon (shown above), Picture Canyon, Fort Paiute and down the Colorado River gorge to Lake Havasu. More information about this year’s event can be found at [http://arara.org/2015\\_conference\\_introduction.html](http://arara.org/2015_conference_introduction.html)**

less public places might have merely meant that the bearer(s) of that shield design were there, perhaps as part of a larger alliance. Clan symbols might be used in similar ways.

“Other explanations which may be valid for some rock

where nets were placed, how game was driven into nets; astronomical indicators of the seasons; elements of rituals and ceremonies; echoes (voices from within the rocks); patterns often “seen” after consuming psychoactive plants; patterned phenomena of the

natural world. The list goes on and on.

“But the understanding or ‘interpretation’ of rock art symbols, alone or in combination, remains very difficult. Simply because a symbol looks like something to us, it may not have looked at all like that for the people who created the rock art using it. Two symbols which we judge the “same” may have been very different symbols for some culture. Evidence will often be indirect, fragmentary, and even seemingly contradictory. To be on a sure footing in interpretation, we have to use every clue available from every branch of science which studies ancient and modern cultures. And even then, there are many things we will just never know. We need to be very modest when we think we do know, and keep gathering new kinds of information we had not earlier realized could be relevant. Even Plains Sign Language for example may hold some clues.”

As a member Archaeologist with rock art expertise in the region

of this year’s ARARA convocation, I have been asked to act as local chair and field trip coordinator. This year’s field trip scheduling involves a complexity of coordinating issues that will pull me away from writing the Glimpse column. I am currently communicating and attempting to collaborate with the ten federal agencies involved, including the National Park Service at both the East Mojave National Preserve and the Lake Mead Recreation Area; the Bureau of Land Management’s field offices at Barstow, Needles, Kingman, Lake Havasu, Yuma and Las Vegas; the Bureau of Reclamation in Boulder City; and the Fish and Wildlife Service in Needles. Further, there are also State, County and City officials and private individuals whose permission is sought to visit rock art on land they manage or own. As Field Trip Coordinator, my responsibility is to obtain permits and coordinate the guides for the various field trips ARARA has designed.

This year a variety of

papers will be presented including one I am preparing on how the style and delivery technique used by the Mojave in decorated pottery and other artwork we know can be associated with historic Mojave individuals can be used to attribute rock art in the region as having originated from them. I will also use this presentation to show my evidence of the famous San Bernardino County “Mystic Maze” being historic and not of traditional Mojave origin. The following is an abstract of the paper I will be presenting called “Mojave Style.”

“Our conference this year takes place in the hearthland of the “Pipa Aha Macay,” “People of the River,” (Lower Colorado), abbreviated to “The Mojave.” Mojave language, culture and traditional religious beliefs are deeply rooted in the region’s landscape and so is their rock art. The artistic style and delivery rendered in the artwork adorning pottery, crafts and earthen art made by local his-

*Continued on Page 10*

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San Bernardino County Coroner Reports

Coroner case #701500835 On Monday, 01/26/ 2015, at approximately 9:33 P.M., officers from the San Bernardino Police Department responded to the area of N. Orange St. and E. Rainbow Lane regarding shots fired calls. Upon arrival, an 18 year-old male was located with trauma and transported to St Bernardine Medical Center. The male was pronounced dead at 10:29 P.M. The San Bernardino Police Department, Homicide Detail, is asking any and all information from witnesses who saw or heard anything at the time of the incident. An autopsy will be conducted later this week to determine the exact cause of death. [012715 1020 SY]

Coroner case #701500837 On 01/26/15, at approximately 11:37 pm, a blue 1993 Honda Civic was traveling northbound on National Trails Highway in Victorville. Just south of Wilderness Ct, the Honda collided head-on with a white Ford F150 pickup truck. The adult male driver of the Honda was pronounced dead at the scene by paramedics. The name of the decedent will be released following confirmation of identity and notification to the next-of-kin. The Victorville California Highway Patrol is investigating the incident. [012715 0756 SY] Name released: 27 year-old Helendale resident Ronald Dean Henyard [012715 1314 SY]

Coroner case #701500803 On Monday, 01/26/2015, at approximately 3:02 am, the driver of a 2007 Volvo semi truck with a trailer was traveling west bound on Interstate 10 east of Citrus Ave in the city of Fontana. The semi truck struck the north guardrail, light pole, and the overhead Citrus Ave. traffic sign pole bursting into flames. The driver was pronounced dead at the scene. Once identification has been confirmed and next of kin has been notified, the driver's name will be release to the public. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the collision. [01262015 1320 SC]

Coroner case #70150757 Joseph Rodriguez, a 46 year old resident of Hesperia, was driving southbound on I Ave., when he was unable to negotiate a curve and rolled his 2001Chevrolet pickup coming to rest in the front yards of 8411 and 8477 I Ave. in Hesperia. The accident was reported at 12:38 PM on 01/24/2015. Rodri-guez was transported by ambulance to Desert Valley Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries. The collision is being investigated by the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT).[01262015 1325 SC]

Coroner case #701500746 On Saturday, 01/24/2015, at approximately 2:05 am, a 2005 Ford Focus was traveling at a high rate of speed eastbound Highland Avenue at Golden Avenue in San Bernardino. The driver of the Ford lost control of the vehicle causing the vehicle to overturn and come to rest on the northwest corner of Highland Avenue and Golden Avenue. 38 Year-old San Bernardino resident Anthony Sevilla was pronounced dead at the scene due to injuries sustained in the collision. The San Bernardino Police Department is investigating the collision. [01242015 1330 SC]

Coroner case 701500718 On 01/23/2015 at approximately 08:38 A.M., 55 year-old Corona resident Melvin Ronzelle Johnson was the driver of a 2007 Chevy Corvette ZO6 northbound on Central Avenue in Chino. The Corvette collided with a 2012 Ford Edge traveling southbound on Central Avenue. Johnson was transported to a nearby hospital where he was pronounced dead at 10:06 A.M. The Chino Police Department is investigating this incident. [012315 1657 SY]

Coroner case #701500698 and 701500702 On Thursday, 01/22/2015, at approximately 6:42 pm, a 2000 Jeep Cherokee had become disabled in the number one lane of westbound State Route 60 west of Haven Avenue in Ontario. Another vehicle also traveling westbound was unable to avoid a collision and struck the rear of the Jeep causing it to overturn. There were two occupants of the Jeep that were pronounced dead at the scene. Once positive identification and next of kin notification has been made the names of the decedents will be released. The California Highway Patrol is investigating the collision. [012315 0731 SY]

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

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Glimpse from page 5

toric tribal artists can be linked to the stylistic patterns viewed in rock art of the greater region, distinguishing Mojave art from modern constructions and that of foreign, prehistoric pilgrim-sojourners using trails within Mojave territory crossing the river in strategic locations.”

Arizona State University, Tempe. houses ARARA's archives and research library. A variety of awards have been established by ARARA to recognize individuals, groups, and organizations for distinguished service in the field of rock art research, conservation, and education.



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## The Count... from page 3

Transit Authorities route in Victorville. When the driver had the temerity to question the bus pass presented by one of the youths, the juvenile responded by punching the bus driver in the face and, with the assistance of one of his companions, taking the bus driver's backpack...

When the bus driver, who was at the rather distinct disadvantage of having to maintain control of the bus, pulled over to the side of the road near the intersection of El Evado and Palmdale roads to confront his attacker, the young man and his two cohorts fled...

Authorities were called and sheriff's deputies were able to round up the trio within a short time. The onboard bus video was reviewed, other passengers on the bus were interviewed, and based on that the deputies concluded one of the three teenagers had not been involved in the mayhem and he was let go. The two others, a seventeen year old and a fifteen year old, however, were arrested and booked into Apple Valley Juvenile Hall, charged with assault and robbery...

I am now left to compare and contrast these indiscretions of youth, the recent ones of these three young men I thankfully do not personally know and my own from some eighty years ago. Mine was a trespass of attitude and hurtful words. Theirs was one of attitude and hurtful action. In the comparison, I am tempted toward the very element of my transgression, a feeling of superiority, a belief that what I did, the insults to my father's estate's hired help, was not as bad as the assaults two of these three youths visited upon the public servant in the form of the bus driver...

I fear for our community and the state of our shared humanity. If I, after this long while and the mortification of having disgraced my family, have not been rehabilitated from my bearing of haughty self assertion and feelings of smug superiority, what prospect is there that these young fellows, after embarrassing themselves and disgracing their families and suffering whatever punishment the juvenile judicial procedure has in store for them, will mend their ways and cease beating bus drivers whenever the compulsion to do so grips them?

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## County Wildlife Corner

# Freckled Milkvetch - *Astragalus Lentiginosus*

These plants of the Fabaceae family grow anywhere from six to eighteen inches high and

Clusters of anywhere from three to 50 flowers sprout on the plant's



are capable of living in or near sagebrush scrub, shadscale scrub, alkali sinks, subalpine forest, foothill woodlands, yellow pine forests, val-



ley grasslands, creosote bush scrub, Joshua tree woodlands, on dunes or in any generally dry, open places.

In addition to thriving in the Mojave Desert, these plants are present in the High Sierra Nevada, Sierra Nevada, Tehachapi Mountain Area, San Joaquin Valley, San Francisco Bay Area, Inner South Coast Ranges, and the Great Basin Floristic Province. They have been found at elevations from one hundred feet below sea level to 11,700 feet.

arched and reddish stem that is composed of a main branch or a complicated arrangement of branches that ascend or spread, with purplish, pink, cream, whitish or mixed purplish and whitish petals. Leaflets are a half inch to six inches in size, are ovate and most often silver-green in color.

The plant features a mottled, papery pod/fruit that is bladder-like. The common name freckled milkvetch is a reference



to these somewhat hairy seed pods, which have a

mottled, red/cream coloration, a groove down one side, and a sharply pointed tip. The seeds contained in the dried pod will make a rattling noise, which is the basis for one of its common names, rattleweed.

Stems and leaves may be hairy or hairless, though the species is generally less hairy than most other members of its genus. The leaf edges are also often reddish.

These plants are also referred to as loco weed, but should not be con-

nosus is referred to as loco weed because cattle and horses display un-



balanced behavior after eating this plant, a phenomenon first noted by the Spanish inhabitants



fused with several other plants also referred to as loco weed, or one in particular, jimson plant or jimson weed, Datura

of the southwest who



witnessed their animals acting crazily or "loco" in Spanish.

Most varieties of *Astragalus lentiginosus* flower from March through June with a few varieties also flowering during September and October.

## Needles Hospital Ground Lease from page 4

Hospital, Inc.'s offer. After the Needles Hospital, Inc. bid fell through, however, the city council agreed to accept a revamped proposal by Lum which entailed AM

Pharmacy creating a non-profit wing, National Healthcare Partners, Incorporated, to run the hospital.

Multiple efforts by the Sentinel to reach Lum this week were unsuccessful.

While AM Pharmacy/National Healthcare Partners, Incorporated were fully amenable to

paying the \$377,000 for the real property, an element of the second closing entailed an appraisal of the land. The city and National Healthcare Partners, Incorporated split the cost of doing that appraisal. The appraisal stated the fair market value of the property is \$155,000.

Other costs related to

the property have been bundled into the sum Community Healthcare Partners, Incorporated will put to complete the second closing. That figure is now calculated at \$287,000.





# California Style Leading The Way

By Grace Bernal



Fashion is moving forward in the runt of January where everything feels warm, cold, and rainy here in Southern California. The focus this week is on men's wear and all the differ-



ent stylish get-ups they have been popping up. Right now in fashion the hot trend is on the head. The post-world war hats in particular like fedoras are being worn, by mostly young fellows

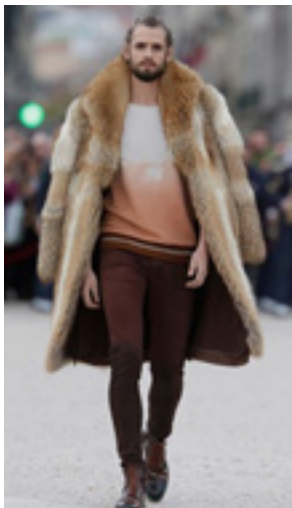


of course. Yes, young men have rediscovered the silly attitude of the hat and look wonderful wearing them. I'm



sure their selfie shots look wonderful. Fashion does something special to everyone because it's all about feeling good and that's just fashion in

a nut shell. There's another piece on the head, which is the hair and its being styled kind of like a Mohawk style cut but its shaved on the sides and long on top and then its combed over to one side. One other item that is moving forward with men are fur collars. They are popping up in a very



interesting way. Jackets with hints of furs are making men's wear look way ahead of women and the new generation of



men are the leaders. It's wonderful to see them and they're daring looks. Men are moving forward as January comes to an end. Enjoy the fashion!

*"The man who, as is*



*often said, can get away with wearing a trench coat over his dinner jacket, or an old school tie for a belt, is the one who in fact understands best the rules of proper dress and can bend them to suit his own personality and requirements."*  
- G. Bruce Boyer

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

## Geo Group Abandons Third Prison Project In Adelanto from page 7

ruptcy and city officials had represented to Geo Group's corporate officers that the city would expedite the approval of the project. Zoley took it as a grave personal insult that he was heckled by members of the audience as he gave his presentation to the city council that evening. He was further taken aback

by the council voting by a bare 3 to 2 margin to approve the project. Two weeks previously, the Adelanto Planning Commission on November 4 had voted 4-0 to deny a renewal of the company's conditional use permit and development agreement, expressing concerns with prisoners being released directly outside the facility. At the November 19 meeting, Zoley had come face-to-face with banner carrying protestors who

derided detention facilities as little more than "cages" for human beings and said that the city has grown to be part of a "Prison Industrial Complex" as the proliferation of prisons in Adelanto is harming the city's image and harming public safety. Rather than receiving him as an agent of improvement in the community, the protestors derided Zoley as a predator who was trying to profit from it.

In the face of this, Foley gamely attempted to make his appeal to the council while a cadre of current Geo employees dressed in khaki prison guard uniforms and company executives were present to support him. The presence of uniformed prison guards surrounding him in that context, however, created a spectacle that made it appear as if Zoley and the city council were under siege. "We are trying to bring economic benefits to this city," Zoley said, amid catcalls. "We bought your former empty facility for \$28 million, and I think those proceeds have been used over the last several years to this community's benefit." Zoley called the proposal for a second facility to be owned and operated by his company "a continuation" of the previously established relationship between Geo and Adelanto.

While facility oppo-

nents released a statement of appreciation that Geo Group had retracted its application, the development appeared to have caught Adelanto City Manager Jim Hart flatfooted. Word of Collier's letter did not reach the public until January 27, some twelve days after it was written and eleven days after the city had received it. Hart has been seeking ways

of shoring up the cash-strapped city, which in 2013, declared it was in a state of fiscal emergency. The city's residents have refused to consent to impose on themselves a tax that city officials say is needed to stave off bankruptcy and Hart's only other alternatives have been to seek out development projects that offer the prospect of fee or tax generation.

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