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CH Solons Forsake Lead Role In Challenging State Land Use Authority Grab

Chino Hills civic leaders this week took a giant step backwards from their previous intrepid position at the cutting edge of a statewide uprising in resistance to the mandates handed down from on high in Sacramento, orders which require that they and the residents they represent, like all other officials and citizens in the individual confines of the Golden State's various municipal jurisdictions, accommodate further

and more densely packed residential development in their city of 82,213.

By the end of a special meeting held on Tuesday, August 16, the council agreed, rather reluctantly, to send a signal to the California Department of Housing and Community Development that the city will go along with allowing the development industry to construct 3,720 residential units within the 44.7-square mile city over the next eight years.

Nevertheless, what was put on display for both the local population and that of the entirety of the State of California is the inadvisability, indeed what some have come to perceive as the absurdity, of allowing Sacramento to dictate land use policy throughout the 163,696-square mile state. Traditionally in California, as virtually everywhere else in the United States, control over construction and development

has been vested with local government. The state has building and safety standards which are enforced by both local and state authorities, while planning processes take place generally in California at the municipal and county levels, with the federal and state governments having qualified autonomy on development issues on state-owned and federal-owned land. Land use authority falls within the purview of county government in the

unincorporated county areas outside the jurisdictions of towns and cities. Within city/incorporated town limits, that control is exercised by the cities and towns themselves. At the county level, the ultimate land use authority is the board of supervisors and in cities and towns the city or town councils, although at their discretion those panels can delegate to their respective planning commissions the authority to grant **See P 2**

Supervisors' Political Backers Have Close To A Billion Dollars Riding On The Appointment Of Dutton's Replacement As Assessor

By Mark Gutglueck

Intrigues known and unknown and the planned and unplanned events relating to the seamy underbelly of governance in San Bernardino County involving deals that are cut to benefit insiders and members of the region's political establishment loomed into public focus this week as the board of supervisors prepared to take calculated and belated action in the aftermath of Assessor Bob Dutton's death last month.

At stake in what the board of supervisors is to do are tens of millions of dollars' worth of their political supporters' capital and assets in the short term, hundreds of millions of their political donors' dollars in the midterm and more than a billion dollars' worth of land, buildings, equipment, investments and holdings controlled by their political benefactors in the long term.

On display for those quick-eyed and discerning enough to see it is the degree to which supervisors Curt Hagman, Paul Cook, Dawn Rowe and Janice Rutherford – the controlling majority of the board – have used in the past and are looking forward toward continuing to utilize their political ties to the assessor to fatten their electioneering accounts along with how feckless and over-matched Supervisor Joe Baca Jr. is in preventing that from occurring.

A degree of mystery surrounds who knew what and when they came to know it in relation to Dutton's appointment with death, a fate that was fore-ordained when **See P 3**

Eviction of 67-Year-Old Man From His Condominium In Upland Ends In His Death

A 67-year-old man who was roughed up during a confrontation he had with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's deputies who were evicting him from his rented residence in Upland on Tuesday died while in custody following the incident.

Kenneth Harold Wolfe had lived for some time at 279 W 11th Street, which is described as a 20-unit apartment/condominium

complex not too distant from Upland High School. He had fallen behind on his payments, and foreclosure proceedings against him were initiated.

On Tuesday, August 23, 2022, a deputy with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Court Services Division served an eviction order to Wolfe. According to the sheriff's department, "Wolfe refused to leave the residence and

was arrested for disobeying a court order. Wolfe was transported to West Valley Detention Center where he was booked. Prior to being released with a citation and date to appear in court, Wolfe suffered an unknown medical emergency. Deputies and jail medical staff responded and began CPR. Fire and AMR personnel responded and ultimately pronounced Wolfe de-

ceased."

According to available information, Wolfe died at 11:45 p.m. on Tuesday night.

Sheriff's deputies sought to assure the public that the ass-whuppin' Wolfe had to be administered to persuade him to leave the 11th Street premises, which occurred several hours previously, had nothing at all to do with his death. **See P 4**

Detectives with the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Specialized Investigations Division responded and are conducting the investigation. While investigators had hoped they would be able to turn up derogatories on Wolfe, he had no criminal charges or convictions against him in San Bernardino County.

The cause and manner of death are **See P 4**

Former Ontario Fire Chief Clark Seeking Two-Year Slot Replacing Spagnolo On RC City Council

Floyd Clark is one of six candidates seeking to fill the vacancy created on the Rancho Cucamonga City Council that came about with the death of District 1 Councilman Sam Spagnola in May.

Clark, Mary Hannah, Erick Jimenez, Lawrence Henderson, Ashley Stickler and Rose Stephens Olmsted are running to hold the District 1 position for



Floyd Clark

the two years at the end of Spagnolo's term from

December 2022 until December 2024.

"With 38 years of service in federal and local government, I have gained the necessary acumen to make decisions that would help this community," Clark said. "Difficult and challenging times require leaders that are poised, reliable and trustworthy. I have a proven **See P 5**

Harriman Campaigning For District 4 Position On Victorville Council

Bob Harriman is one of two District 4 residents vying to serve on the Victorville City Council in November, the first by-district election in the city's 60-year history. That change to the means by which Victorville chooses its municipal leadership came about when an attorney from Northern California, Scott Rafferty, threatened



Bob Harriman

to sue the city earlier this year if it did not **See P 6**

Worldly Soldier Scholar Cohen Looks To Oust Davis In Redlands District 1 Electoral Bid

Saying he "supports fiscally conservative views with socially pragmatic policies," Rodgir Cohen explained that "I am running for city council because I feel that public policy can be done better in Redlands."

Cohen, along with Andrew Hoder and Tom Berg, is vying in the November 8 election against Redlands First District Councilwoman Denise

Davis, who is nearing the end of her first term in office after she was initially elected to the city council in 2018.

"As a combat veteran, I am a seasoned leader with the vision needed to stimulate the economic growth of Redlands," he said. "Redlands needs bold leaders that envision economic prosperity for our city. I believe in freedom and liberty, and

abhor government over-reach."

Cohen said he believes he is qualified to hold the position of city councilman because "I am a data-driven person. I don't want to make decisions based on party agendas or personal whims. As an author of political science books in California, I believe in the importance of data. How one interprets that data is essential. As a



Rodgir Cohen

seasoned combat veteran and academic, public service is important to me." A university lecturer, Dr.

Cohen believes in restoring governmental power to the grassroots level. He said he holds the values of justice and equality for all people as guiding principles when teaching.

Cohen said a number of recent events in the 73,168-population, 36.43-square mile city are "relevant for this campaign."

One of those is the City of Red- **See P 6**

Chino Hills Questioned State's Demand That It Allow 3,720 Homes To Be Built in Eight Years from front page

a project applicant an entitlement to build.

Under this arrangement, theoretically and for the most part practically, through their elected leadership local residents had some level of control with regard to the tenor of development, its intensity, its quality, its mix, its character and nature, and its density.

In recent years, the cost of housing in California has escalated dramatically beyond what was already a significant inflationary scale. At the same time, the incidence of homelessness has increased. This has prompted state elected and staff officials to seek to induce more intensified home building.

In California over the past seven to eight years, policies pushed by both immediate past Governor Jerry Brown and his administration as well as that of current Governor Gavin Newsom, abetted by the super-majority Democratic legislature, have been exceptionally accommodating of the development industry as part of intensified efforts at solving what has been declared to be a housing crisis.

The California Department of Housing and Community Development has pushed for local jurisdictions to adhere to the developmental mandates derived through an assessment of a survey of housing needs carried out throughout the state. Collated into a document given the title *Regional Housing Needs Allocation*, those figures provide the basis of the mandates that state officials impose on all jurisdictions, including cities and unincorporated county areas in California, demands that those entities include in their general plans and zoning codes an accommodation of the number of dwelling units specified in the assessment, meaning each city must allow the construction of at least the number of homes the state says is its share of the

burden to meet housing demand statewide.

In this way, in what is widely seen, both positively and negatively, as a daring social experiment, the State of California has, through Government Code §65580, required each municipality in the state to assist in alleviating the homelessness crisis by complying with what the California Department of Housing and Community Development deems to be each city's housing responsibility.

Under this so-called Regional Housing Needs Allocation process, a determination is made of what number of dwelling units according to affordability type each community is to accommodate over an eight-year period. The expectation is that those cities will comply by granting developers clearance to build the specified number of houses within that span.

Based upon the numbers formulated for the state by the Southern California Association of Governments – a joint powers authority consisting of Imperial, Riverside, San Bernardino County, Orange, Los Angeles and Ventura counties – as part of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation effort, San Bernardino County must accommodate the construction of 138,110 new homes between the end of 2021 and the end of 2028, including 35,667 intended for very-low-income homebuyers; 21,903 for low-income homebuyers; 24,140 for moderate-income homebuyers and 56,400 for above moderate-income homebuyers.

In the case of Chino Hills, the state's expectation was that the city welcome 3,720 more dwelling units from October 2021 to October 2029. Last year, Chino Hills stood up to Sacramento, counterproposing that instead of the 3,720 homes, it allow 1,797 units, a 52 percent reduction.

Though the vast majority of municipal officials in California accept the state's asserted authority in this area, up and down the state there has been protest of, and in some cases resistance to, these mandates. Land use poli-

cies – from zoning to development standards to architectural guidelines to height restrictions and limitations on density – have evolved gradually over a period of more than a century at the local political levels in response to immediate and regional concerns and conditions. These policies have come to reflect the character of the varied communities and the values, attitudes and expectations of residents/citizens who inhabit those areas. To force not only the individual local governments of the state but the citizens that live in those communities to dispense with standards and policies that have been carefully and methodically developed over decades and generations in favor of meeting what are relatively short-term goals to address the housing crisis and the burgeoning numbers of homeless constitutes a myopic fix to a problem that exists in a much larger context, some social scientists, governmental analysts, politicians and California residents have observed. The imposition of that fix, entailing the construction of residential projects of a vastly higher density than what has been the previous norm, is very likely to result in undesirable consequences that will remain in place and mar the communities in question for decades or even centuries to come, those opposed to the mandates assert.

There has been an upswing in the number of people living in California, from 1,490,000 in 1900 to 10,677,000 by 1950 to 15,870,000 by 1960 to 19,971,069 in 1970 to 23,800,800 in 1980 to 29,950,111 in 1990 to 33,987,977 in 2000 to 37,253,956 in 2010 to 39,538,000 in 2020.

There remains a difference of opinion among the population as to whether intensifying residential development is a sensible response to the general situation. Some have argued that more homes are needed to accommodate the greater influx of people. Others, citing what they consider to be a diminution in the quality of life as the population in-

creases, argue that efforts to limit or end population growth in California is the more reasonable approach to the issue.

California's government is clearly in the former camp. Nevertheless, within just the last three years, provoked in no small part by the California Department of Housing and Community Development's insistence that the Imperial County, Riverside County, San Bernardino County, Orange County, Los Angeles County and Ventura County area of Southern California including the 191 cities or towns within those jurisdictions allow without question the construction of 1,341,827 housing units over the next eight-year planning cycle, a group of Southern California civic leaders, in some cases involving majorities of certain city councils, initiated meaningful and concerted steps toward contesting the State of California's usurpation of what has traditionally been local land use authority.

Among the jurisdictions at the forefront of that movement was the City of Chino Hills.

Most cities in Southern California, reasoning it would do no good to try to fight the state, merely knuckled under to the Department of Housing & Community Development's regional 1,341,827 housing unit construction mandate. Forty-five cities in the region, however, engaged in an appeal in 2021, in which they were collectively represented by Southern California Association of Governments staff.

In San Bernardino County, the city councils of Fontana, Chino Hills, Chino and Barstow were brave enough to challenge the state. Barstow asked the state to cut its 1,516 house-building mandate by 58 percent to 635; Chino Hills requested 1,797 units in lieu of 3,720, a 52 percent reduction; Chino wanted a 49 percent cut from 6,961 to 3,564; and Fontana insisted that the 17,477 units it was being asked to accommodate was 30 percent too optimistic, requesting that its mandate be reduced to

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The California Department of Housing and Community Development did not budge in its demands, conveying that the government does not negotiate with scoundrels, renegades, terrorists or any entity or anybody that does not respect the rule of law. Lest anyone forget, California Government Code §65580 is the law, those city officials were warned.

In January, a still-determined Chino Hills City Council, bolstered by an outpouring of resident sentiment, ventured even further down the path of resisting having to surrender land use authority within that city's confines by scratching Caballero Ranch from the list of properties within the city where it would allow high-density – characterized by some as super-high-density – development to take place. City officials had earlier contemplated allowing the construction of up to 220 units on the 10-acre Caballero Ranch property, located at Peyton Drive and Eucalyptus Avenue. The city had tentatively opened the parcel to intensified development after another proposal for high density apartments/condominiums within Crossroads Marketplace fell through. Officials had included Caballero Ranch on a list of properties that is to be forwarded to the state as potential locations for high density development.

In response, Ed McCoy of Fairfield Residential LLC, the prospective developer of Caballero Ranch, began preparing plans to construct hous-

ing that would consist of an average of 22 units per acre on the property. The city council's action in January removed the Caballero Ranch parcel from the list, dashing McCoy's hopes and sending a signal to the California Department of Housing and Community Development that Chino Hills was not going to simply fall in line like most other cities and accept the state's dictates without, if not a fight, then some serious negotiation and compromise.

Over the last seven months, staff with the California Department of Housing and Community Development have been in contact with city officials. Dispensing with discussions of the overall number of homes the city is under the gun to see developed, which yet stands, according to the state, at 3,720 units, the California Department of Housing and Community Development has pressed the city with regard to specific properties within its bailiwick and how they are to be built upon.

On August 16, the Chino Hills City Council held a special meeting, the agenda for which specified the council's consideration of a "resolution adopting an addendum to a previously adopted mitigated negative declaration and mitigation monitoring reporting program pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act and approve an amendment to the general plan for the revised 2021-2029 Sixth Cycle housing element," i.e., the mandate to allow the 3,720 units to be built in the city.

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For Over A Decade, Saifie Has Been In An Ever-Persistent Quest To Take Helm In Redlands

Mike Saifie has shown an uncommon degree of determination to become a political player in Redlands.

He ran for the city council at-large in 2010, 2012, 2016 and when the city changed to by-district elections for city council in 2018, for the District 3 council post.

In 2020 he ran for election to the Redlands Unified School District Board of Education representing that entity's Area 5.

Once again he has entered the political fray, again running for the District 3 berth on the Redlands City Council.

In his last effort to get on the city council four years ago, Saifie competed against incumbent Councilman Paul Barich, Planning Commissioner Joe Richardson and Enrique Estrada. Barich essentially ignored Saifie and Estrada during his campaign, reserving all of his firepower for Richard-



Mike Saifie

son in what many considered to be an underhanded electioneering effort. Barich prevailed. With the redistricting of Redlands that occurred after the 2020 Census, the section of the city Barich lives in now falls within District 5.

According to Saifie, he remains on good terms with Barich, who is currently serving as the council's appointed mayor. Saifie said Barich encouraged him to run again in District 3 this year.

"I was asked by the Mayor of Redlands to run for this position, to

serve the Redlands community," Saifie told the *Sentinel*. "My academic and work experience with public safety and public policy is a valuable asset that the current council needs."

Saifie said he is qualified to hold the position of city councilman.

"I have a master's in public administration and public policy," he said. "I have over 20 years of public policy-making experience and 21 years of running and owning small businesses throughout California. Now, as a veteran from a county job and semi-retired, I am giving back to my community where I have lived for long time."

Saifie said he is distinguished from his opponent in District 3, Mario Saucedo, "in every aspect. Academically, I have a master's in public administration and public policy. I have worked with the county board of

supervisors in making public policies and have been an executive administrator, handling multi-million dollars budgets for cities and the county. As a successful business owner, I have created over 70 jobs in the Inland Empire alone and over 200 jobs throughout multiple states. I am duly recognized by the California State Senate and the US Congress for my community and public service."

In sizing up the major issues facing the city, Saifie said, "The Public Safety Department is not fully funded and is working as a reactive agency rather than a proactive one. Public safety and homelessness issues are the two biggest challenges the city is facing that need immediate attention."

Saifie said, "Police and fire contracts need to be fully funded. We need to fill and budget all police vacancies. They only have 3 or 4 officers to cover the

entire city at any given time. They need to have adequate staffing to address the city's growing drugs, homicide and house invasion issues. Equally, we need to work closer with county public social service agencies to handle the growing homeless population in Redlands."

To pay for the solutions he is suggesting, Saifie said, "We have funds from Measure T. That fund was allocated to address shortfalls in public safety budgets. In addition, as a business owner and help local businesses to grow to generate more revenues for the city."

Saifie, who was a business systems analyst for the County of San Bernardino, said he has previous experience relating to government.

"I have worked for the County of San Bernardino and the County of Riverside, managing multimillion dollar funds for

the county and cities. As a county executive, I managed contracts and made public policies for the department. I worked with state and federal agencies to get funding for specific programs for cities and the county. I am currently serving the LA County Sheriff on the business advisory council. Where I help the LA County Sheriff is to make policies that help small and local business to grow in our communities."

Saifie said he has lived in Redlands, "a very long time; 20 plus years."

Born in Karachi, Pakistan, Saifie lived in Malta until he was 7, then moved with his family to England. He came to America when he was 12. He attended high school in Los Angeles, and obtained a bachelor's degree in management from California State University Los Angeles, and a master's degree from California

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Intrigue Surrounding Dutton's Death & Its Aftermath

from front page

he developed prostate cancer more than four years ago and then either ignored the symptoms or did not recognize them until the cancer had spread. Last year, the cancer had metastasized his bones, a virtual death sentence. There is no question that Dutton knew he was doomed; According to a reliable source, on three separate occasions in December, paramedics had to be summoned to his residence because his physical condition had deteriorated to the point that he collapsed.

Dutton was due to stand for reelection this year. Despite his recognition that he stood virtually no chance of serving out the term to which the successful candidate for assessor would be elected to this year, Dutton chose to seek to remain in office. His string of successful candidacies for public office going back more than two decades, the name recognition and power of incumbency that came with being the sitting assessor, his personal and family wealth and his not insubstantial political war chest warded off any chal-

lengers, so that when he filed for reelection in February, no opponents surfaced to run against him. He was the only candidate for the office of assessor, which in San Bernardino County combines with it the offices of county recorder and county clerk, on the June 7 ballot. He was elected with 200,752 voter endorsements, 100 percent of the vote.

Dutton, who was elected to the Rancho Cucamonga City Council in 2000, successfully vied for the California Assembly in 2002 and then moved up to the California State Senate in 2004. In 2012, he was termed out of that office after two years of serving as the Republican Senate Leader. He was elected county assessor in 2014 and reelected without opposition in 2018.

The son of Ted Dutton, one of the most successful and wealthiest businessman, land speculators and investors in San Bernardino County, Bob Dutton as a relatively young man in the 1980s had established himself and made his fortune by virtue of his business partnership with his father in speculating in and developing real estate in Rancho Cucamonga, where before he was elected to the city

council in 2000, he had been president of the Rancho Cucamonga Chamber of Commerce.

In San Bernardino County, as in virtually all other 57 counties in California, the assessor is the leading taxing authority. As such, given that San Bernardino County, at 20,105 square miles, is the largest county in the lower 48 states with a land area larger than New Jersey, Connecticut, Delaware and Rhode Island combined, assessor is one of the most powerful governmental positions in the jurisdiction. Not only does the assessor determine the property tax assessments that landowners must pay annually on their real estate holdings, his office also makes a determination on the value and thus the taxes to be paid on a host of assets including buildings, equipment, machinery, boats and the like. The taxes assessed against a business and its assets such as those involved in manufacturing or processing or packaging or distributing can have a direct influence on whether that business is profitable or not, and if it is profitable, just how profitable. The assessor and his minions have discretion and wide latitude in assessing such

assets. If for example, the building, equipment and inventory of a foundry or factory is determined to be worth \$7 million, the taxes to be paid in that regard are half what that manufacturing concern would pay if the building, equipment and inventory of that foundry or factory is ascertained to be worth \$14 million. In San Bernardino County, large business owners, ones in good standing with the region's politicians and its governmental structure, are expected to, and routinely do, make a show of appreciation toward the politicians who oversee that governmental structure. And if a business owner just had his holdings assessed in such a way that he saw a savings of, say, \$500,000 on the amount of taxes he would have had to pay if his holdings had been determined to have a much higher value, he can often be counted upon to peel off \$1,000 here and there as donations to a couple of different politicians' campaign funds and maybe \$2,000 once or twice or three times for a few other politicians' electioneering accounts and maybe \$5,000 or \$10,000 to another elected official or two so that they might remain in office and keep

up the good work they are engaged in by making sure government is run smoothly and well.

Similarly, real estate speculators, those engaged in the development of real estate or those simply investing in property have an interest in ensuring that their nonproductive holdings are assessed at the lowest possible value. They, too, can be counted upon to make donations to the assessor and his political allies, so to stay on their good sides and keep those with good ideas and the right attitude in office, to make sure that the good ol' boys that make up the establishment can keep on in the way they always have. Bob Dutton fit right in with that establishment. Indeed, throughout the time he was investing in real estate and engaged in speculation and developing property in Rancho Cucamonga in the 1980s and 1990s and while he was a member of the Assembly and then a member of the California State Senate and while he was San Bernardino County assessor, he not only was a part of that establishment but embodied it.

Just as Dutton could be counted upon to protect the financial interests of those who had gained entrée into

San Bernardino County's political and business establishment, it was equally true that he was willing to use his tax assessing authority as a cudgel against those who were in the opposite or dissident political camp. An examination of both the tax assessments and the personages involved in protests of assessments levied by his office in the form of those appealed to the county's assessment appeals board and the general trend of the outcomes of those cases suggests that those who fall within the category of the political establishment in San Bernardino County were given far more favorable treatment by the assessor's office under Dutton than those who were not members of the political establishment.

The *Sentinel* was not aware that Dutton was afflicted with cancer until after his death. There were, nevertheless, reports and indications that something was amiss with him beginning in the late summer/early fall of 2021. As an elected official, one who is directly answerable through the democratic process to his constituents, the assessor has tradition-

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After Making A Challenge & A Statement To Sacramento About Its Mandate Forcing Cities To Build, Build More & Build Even More Houses, Chino Hills Officials See How The State Can Bully Cities By Witholding Tax & Revenue & Grants And Deny Them What Little Land Use Authority They Have Left *from page 2*

“Before you is the revised housing element for the sixth period planning cycle for 2021 to 2029,” said Planning Manager Michael Hofflinger.

According to Hofflinger, the city adopted the Chino Hills Sixth Cycle Housing Element on February 8, 2022 and sent it to the California Department of Housing and Community Development. In that plan, the city essentially accepted, at least conceptually, the call for the construction of the 3,720 units within the city by 2029. Statutorily, the California Department of Housing and Community Development had 60 days to review the document and memorialize any changes that had to be made. On the 60th day, April 11, 2022, according to Hofflinger, the California Department of Housing and Community Development responded by letter, letting the city know that while the housing element addressed most of the state’s housing requirement, it was deficient in certain respects, those being that it fell down with regard to “affirmatively furthering fair housing,” specifically lacking detail on segregation/integration, concentrated areas of affluence, access to opportunity, disproportionate housing needs, and displacement risk; demonstrating how the Regional Housing Needs Allocation supports fair housing; and identifying and prioritizing factors that significantly contribute to segregation, racially or ethnically concentrated areas of poverty, disparities in access to opportunity, and disproportionate housing needs. According to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, revisions were needed to respond to the requested fair housing analyses. Not only is the state dictating to the city how many homes to build, it wants to control

the character and placement of those homes, as well.

According to Hofflinger, city staff members worked to address the California Department of Housing and Community Development’s concerns expressed in the April 11 letter. After some back and forth, on July 20 the California Department of Housing informed the city that the housing element document was in an acceptable form that would allow it to ratify the housing element document as being sufficient.

Newly adopted legislation, Senate Bill 197, gives the city three years to amend its zoning codes to allow the intensified development envisioned under the Regional Housing Needs Allocation to take place.

Essentially, what the city did was to drop its opposition to the Regional Housing Needs Allocation mandate, signaling it is going along, and avoiding the prospect of administrative, legal or financial retribution by the California Department of Housing and Community Development and the rest of the state government in the immediate or near term.

Among the issues the California Department of Housing and Community Development had taken up was the fate, or intended fate, of the 8-acre parcel at the corner of Boys Republic Drive and Shoppes Drive, also referred to as Shoppes II.

Like the nearby property now developed as the major commercial center Shoppes at Chino Hills, the property is zoned for commercial development. Nevertheless, it appears clear that unless the city changes the zoning to accommodate residential development, the state will seize it and use its authority to transition it into homes, condominiums and apartment buildings.

Since 2020, as city of-

officials were contemplating whether or not to comply with what was then the state’s tentative mandate that it clear the decks for the construction of 3,720 units within the city by 2029 or whether to fight to change that number to 1,797, it made contingency plans to meet the 3,720-unit mandate. One element of achieving that goal was to allow the second major phase of the Shoppes at Chino Hills – Shoppes II – to be developed for mixed use, that is commercial units on the ground floor and apartments atop those, 744 such units to be precise.

According to the California Department of Housing and Community Development, 1,396, or roughly 37.5 percent, of the units to be built in Chino Hills had to be reserved for very low income residents; 820 or roughly 22.04 percent of the units are to be reserved for low income residents; 783 or roughly 21.04 percent of the units are to be reserved for moderate-income residents; and 721 or roughly 19.39 percent of the units are to be reserved for above moderate income residents.

Consequently, even assuming other developments in the city will be accommodating a large number of low and very low-income residents, the California Department of Housing and Community Development insists that at least 112, or roughly 15.06 percent of the 744 units contemplated for construction on the Shoppes II land must be reserved for low- and very low-income housing.

According to Hofflinger, both the city and the eventual developer of the Shoppes II property need to hustle and get a proposal to develop the property, including the reservation of 15 percent of those units for low- and very low-income residents, on the drawing boards by December 2024.

Hofflinger lumped both low- and very-low income units together into a single category he referred to as “lower income.” When pressed to define what lower income or low-income or very-low-income meant in actual monetary terms, he said he did not

have precise figures.

“Lower income classifies in two different [ranges], either extremely-low or low,” he said. “I don’t have those exact numbers. It would be considered affordable to those lower income categories, what San Bernardino County considers lower income households.”

Councilman Brian Johsz said it appeared that the state was forcing the city, which owns the Shoppes II property, to sell it to a developer pronto.

“We have a target date for an RFP [request for proposal] of December 2024,” said Johsz. “So that means HCD [the California Department of Housing and Community Development] is essentially forcing our hand on that site?”

“Yes,” Hofflinger responded.

According to Hofflinger and Assistant City Attorney Elizabeth Calciano, the Surplus Land Act adopted in 2015 would allow the city to sell the property at less than its optimal price and at a discount to allow the purchaser/developer to move ahead with the project that would make 15 percent of the units affordable to those in the lower income classes. Calciano said the developer, to get that discount, would need to commit to keep the rentals at the affordable rate for 55 years.

Councilman Art Bennett took issue with the calculation of the affordable rental rates, which he suggested were pushed downward because of the income levels factored in from the less affluent areas of the county. What qualifies as low income elsewhere is lower than what low income is in Chino Hills, he suggested. Chino Hills residents, on average, earn more money than residents in the county’s other 23 incorporated municipalities or anywhere else in the county.

“Basically, the county’s dictated, as far as this income range, mostly by the City of San Bernardino and Highland, that general area,” Bennett said. “Isn’t that true? That’s why in the past it’s never... we’ve never been able to meet

those numbers because we’re the highest income in the county. We’ve tried to build them [low-income residential units], but who’s going to build them? We’ve never been able to meet those numbers because we have the highest median income in the entire county.”

Calciano said that the city, as the owner of the property, would itself be involved in the effort to make the units affordable.

“In this case, we actually have the property,” Calciano said. “So, we make it a condition of purchase. We, in effect, are funding that, because we’re selling it for a lower price because they have to make 15 percent of them affordable. So, this is how it will get funded. It is arguably a state mandate.”

“Since it is reducing our sales price, isn’t that some sort of a public taking?” Bennett asked, hinting that the city might be able to recover something from the California Department of Housing and Community Development for being forced into a sale of the property below its actual market value. “Isn’t there some issues there? Obviously, it’s kind of a reverse of an eminent domain situation. Is there anything we can do? It is like a reverse condemnation.”

“What we have is the constitutional amendment that allows us to go to a commission on state mandates,” Calciano said. “Public entities, unfortunately, don’t have the right – we aren’t an entity that is protected under the condemnation laws. The state can take things away from us. Fortunately, 20 or 30 years ago they passed the law that says the state, if they take something away from us, then there’s the commission on state mandates that we can go to that we can seek compensation for. We’d have to prove it up. And of course, it’s their administrative law judges, so it’s not exactly... it doesn’t always seem like it’s the fairest court when you are public entity, but ultimately if we can prove they’ve taken value away from our property, we might be able to make a claim for that.”

Slyly, Mayor Ray Mar-

quez suggested that the city can calculatedly make a show of cooperating with the state on the housing issue at this point and see if other challenges to the state’s commandeering of land use authority succeed before the 3,720 units are actually built.

“There is RHNA [Regional Housing Needs Allocation] reform that’s moving through right now,” said Marquez. “We’re aware of that, correct? This could change?”

“We are aware of that, yes,” said Hofflinger. “We’re not sure how much it’s progressed, but yes.”

The city council – four men and a woman who do not fit the bill of wild-eyed, Molotov cocktail-throwing radicals ready to storm the state capitol to prevent the state government from usurping the city’s traditional land use authority – in the end determined that discretion was the better part of valor.

Marquez said that the state has already given landowners the right to subdivide their property without the city interfering. He said trying to challenge the state could result in the state piling on and letting developers have their every which way with the city.

“If somebody wants to subdivide one piece of residential property into two parcels, two duplexes or four units, they can do it,” he said. “We have nothing really to say about it. So, yes, I am concerned that if we don’t comply this can happen to us even further.”

Calciano said that the state has created a set of “progressive” penalties that can be imposed on cities which were designed to force them into compliance with giving up their land use authority. Those penalties include a process to seize any available city property that wasn’t cleared for being developed to the more intensive standards the state wants applied and putting it into the hands of a receiver so the land would be developed. She said other punishments the state has up its sleeve include withholding tax revenue and grants from cities that do not meet the housing

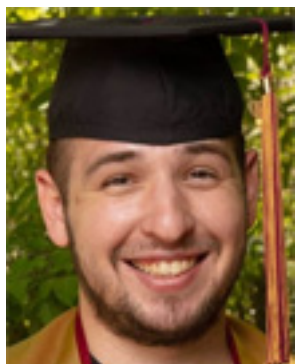
Continued on Page 6

Rutledge Offers Youth & Break From The Status Quo In Apple Valley Council Run

Matthew Rutledge said he would make a good civic leader in Apple Valley because his approach to governance goes beyond the staid confines of the existing political establishment.

Rutledge is running against incumbent Councilman Curt Emick in District 4.

"I am running for town council because I would like to make a difference in my community," said Rutledge. "I want to make things in my community more accessible for those in wheelchairs, senior citizens, and people who ride bikes. I also want my constituents to know that their concerns and voices are truly heard, that their concerns won't be 'swept



Matthew Rutledge

under the rug."

Rutledge said, "I believe I am qualified to hold the position of town councilman because I have the ability to put myself on the front lines. I would fight for the rights of my constituents but also ensure that issues in town are handled correctly and properly the first time when the issue is brought to our attention. I also believe I'm quali-

fied because I'm always up for a challenge, and I'm not one to back down. I'm willing to go above and beyond when situations require it, and when I tell you I'm going to do something, I'm going to follow through on my word."

Rutledge said, "I believe what distinguishes me from my opponent is that I am younger. I am 28 years old. I have many new ideas for improvement in the town. I'm willing to meet one-on-one with my constituents, and I'm willing to follow up on concerns that are shared with me. I also will not shut out someone's opinions about town issues, even if they conflict with my own. I'm always willing and ready to hear from my constitu-

ents."

In sizing up the challenges Apple Valley must come to terms with, Rutledge said, "The major issues that I believe that the town faces are road repair, crime, accessibility and traffic safety. I believe these issues should be redressed by looking into their main causes, starting appropriate studies to find ways to address problems brought to my attention, and ensuring that my constituents are satisfied with the final results."

He said the town can defray the cost of the solutions he proposes using existing revenues and available money for specific purposes, which can be obtained by making successful grant and fund-

ing applications with the State of California and the federal government.

"I propose that the solutions will be covered out of community improvement grants, state funding, and if necessary out of the town budget but not until other resources have been exhausted," he said.

Rutledge acknowledged, "I don't currently possess government experience, but I have personally witnessed and experienced individuals fighting for civil rights and have attended many town council meetings."

His lack of hands-on experience should not be seen as a detriment, he said, but an opportunity to embrace innovation and new ideas.

A resident of Apple Val-

ley for seven years, Rutledge attended high school at Grace Academy PSP, a private study program. He studied at Victor Valley College and Cerritos College before attending UMass Global, formerly known as Brandman University, from which he obtained a BA in liberal arts. He was formerly employed as a special needs paraeducator, and is now seeking employment

"I am not currently married, nor do I have any children or grandchildren," he said.

Rutledge said, "I am a person of high morals and values, and my constituents can feel free to reach out to me, regarding their concerns."

-M.G.

Floyd Clark Campaigning In RC from front page

track record of coordinating with local, state, and federal partners and would help this city to be a reliable source for intergovernmental participation." Clark, who was Ontario Fire Chief from 2011 until 2016 and oversaw more than 150 safety and civilian personnel in that capacity, said he is qualified to hold the position of city councilman.

"I am qualified to serve in this office because of my leadership and experience," he said. "I have managed large budgets in a taxpayer-funded environment where one is held accountable for outcomes. I have created staff reports that were used by council members to make decisions. I have worked with several government agencies where coordination was required to accomplish set goals. I was the president of the West End Fire and Emergency Response Commission, president of the San Bernardino County Fire Chiefs Association, the Area 4 director of the California Fire Chiefs Association and an appointee to the Cucamonga Valley Water District Board of Directors. As fire marshal with the City of Ontario, I worked on significant projects impacting community development involving

planning, development, and construction. I am an eight-year veteran of the United States Air Force."

Clark said he is positively distinguished from the other five candidates seeking election in District 1.

"My real-world leadership and experience working in government has set me apart from the other candidates," he said. "Working with council members to understand the needs of the community, doing the research, planning and presentation with government officials has enabled me to know how to get things done. Additionally, my ability to judge well, with a keen sense of discernment sets me apart from other candidates. I will use my insight into local government for the benefit of my fellow taxpayers. Being fiscally responsible for every taxpayer dollar will be my goal. In the City of Rancho Cucamonga, the council also serves as the fire board for the Rancho Cucamonga Fire Protection District. My 38 years of service in the realm of fire protection will only enhance my ability to serve."

Clark said he considers public safety, transportation and housing to be the major issues in Rancho Cucamonga.

"The key to dealing with public safety, transportation and housing in a growing community requires the local gov-

ernment to be visionary and understanding that services must keep pace with the environment," he said. "Based in part on what I have been able to learn about this community, I'm comfortable in saying that this current government understands this concept and is headed in the right direction. I want to be a part of a servant-leader type of team that will continue to meet the needs of this community."

Clark said the city's current sales tax and property tax revenue streams leave it well fixed to pay for the solutions to the problems he believes the city is faced with.

"Rancho Cucamonga has a good mixture of business and residential funding that generates the necessary revenue stream to support services," Clark said. "The challenge lies in good governance, as we continue to elect poised, reliable and trustworthy candidates that can do the work."

Clark said, "All my leadership and experience is related to government."

Clark has lived in Rancho Cucamonga 36 years.

He attended Narbonne High School in the Harbor City District of Los Angeles County, which is south of Torrance and east of north Long Beach.

He has a Bachelor of Science Degree in business administration from the University of La Verne and possesses mul-

iple training certificates relating to his career as a firefighter.

He is currently retired.

Married for 36 years, Floyd said, "We have with three adult children all of whom graduated from Los Osos High School: A daughter who is a graduate of Pepperdine University with a JD and master's in public policy and is an attorney. She is married with no children; A son who is a graduate of West Point Military Academy and has a master's in engineering management from the Univer-

Knowing He Was Dying, Dutton Ran For Reelection Anyway from page 3

ally at least to a degree been the face of the office he heads and was accessible up to a point to at least potentially respond to concerns about the way in which the assessor's office functions and is run, to address concerns and redress what some residents might see as shortcomings. Beginning at some point in 2021, Dutton was not seen around his usual haunts in the assessor's office at 222 West Hospitality Lane or any of the satellite assessor's offices around the county. Indeed, the *Sentinel's* repeated efforts to contact him during that time were unsuccessful. Many observed that something of a Praetorian guard had been erected around him which no outsiders could breach. Not only

will be fiscal responsibility, public safety, and helping our small businesses prosper. I want voters to know that they should not be fooled by the glitzy ads but look for a candidate who has real proven leadership and experience necessary to keep this great community headed in the right direction."

-M.G.

Eviction Ends In Death from front page

pending the autopsy to be performed on Wolfe.

The coroner's office, which performs autopsies in San Bernardino County, is a division of the sheriff's office.

-Mark Gutglueck

was Dutton unavailable at his office, he could not be reached by phone either. One account, perhaps apocryphal, was that last year an FBI agent had tried to contact him and was unable to locate him at any county office or where he resided and could not get him on the phone.

A report began to circulate that he was in the initial or perhaps middle stage of dementia, and had accordingly been decommissioned by those closest to him, who were seeking to protect him. All external signs were that he was virtually 100 percent disengaged from the assessor's function, from the recorder's function and from the county clerk's function.

In the same timeframe, a county property owner who was in a dispute with the assessor's office over the assessment of what was a recently-purchased property made numerous at-

tempts to resolve the issue by seeking to deal directly with Dutton, but at the time recounted that he could not reach him directly or even indirectly. Ultimately, the property owner's dispute was resolved in his favor by the appeals assessment board.

Despite the *Sentinel* not having known that Dutton last year and earlier this year was engaged in what would ultimately prove to be a losing battle with cancer, it is now known that there were those around him who were aware of his condition.

According to one of his acquaintances, a one-time local and state officeholder who had irregular but relatively frequent interaction with Dutton, he learned in a conversation with Dutton last year that he was waging a battle against prostate cancer and that it had progressed to the point that it

Continued on Page 6

Harriman Looking To Parlay Civic Involvement Into Council Position In Victorville from front page

alter its at-large voting process. The city hastily complied with that demand by switching to a by-district voting system, drawing districts that put each of the members of the council in separate districts and sequenced the elections such that each incumbent will see her current at-large term end just as the election for the district she has now been placed into is held.

Harriman and his opponent, Liz Argulo, are vying, essentially, to fill

the vacancy on the council created in March 2021, when Mayor Debra Jones, Councilwoman Leslie Irving and Councilwoman Elizabeth Becerra voted to remove Rita Ramirez Dean from her position as councilwoman, on the basis of their contention that she was no longer residing in the city. According to Harriman, "I want to graduate to the next level of leadership for our growing city. I want to be a part of the future growth in Victorville. I have a vision, unlike my opponent, since I have already served as a decision-maker for Victorville, and politics is not my motivation."

"I have been civi-

cally active since the day we bought our home in 1989," Harriman said. "I have been a resident of Victorville for 42 years and in this time my wife and I have raised our four boys here. I participated in all their recreational activities, coaching baseball, basketball and football, eventually serving as president of Victorville Little League. I was then appointed by Councilman Bob Hunter to the Community Advisory Committee where I was able to participate in the planning, location and development of our new parks. In 2018 I was nominated and appointed to the planning commission where I now serve as vice-chair."

A major challenge facing the city is the rate of development that is taking place, Harriman said.

According to Harriman, "I've lived and experienced the growth firsthand, the good times as well as the bad. My opponent has been a resident for a very short time. Victorville is experiencing some major growing pains, crime, traffic, homelessness, long commutes to work and our streets to name a few."

Harriman said he has concerns about how the revenue the city is obtaining through Measure P, a general sales tax measure approved by Victorville's voters in the November 2020 election, is being spent. The one-cent sales

tax took effect on April 1, 2021, increasing Victorville's sales tax rate from 7.75 percent to 8.75 percent.

"Our Measure P funding must be used/spent responsibly," said Harriman. "This will help fund our police, firefighters, code enforcement, animal control and wellness center above what is budgeted. Locating and ascertaining highway improvement grants will help fund our public works projects and ongoing maintenance of our streets. By spending revenues responsibly and within our set limits, our budget will go a long way."

A graduate of San Dimas High School, Harri-

man has attended Victor Valley Community College, but has no degree.

"I am a small business owner as a concrete contractor," Harriman said. "My wife and I have been married for 33 years. We have four boys, ages 38, 31, 27 and 23, and two grandchildren, ages 17 and 2 months."

Harriman said, "I have given to my community, donating my time and services while my children grew up. I have stayed civically active through the good, bad and the ugly. I have participated in the planned development of our parks as well as the planning, zoning and future construction of our city."

-M.G.

Cohen from front page

lands' successful application for a \$24,142,000 federal American Rescue Plan grant and another \$5,858,000 obtained through the California Department of Housing & Community Development, which will fund the conversion of the Good Nite Inn, located at 1675 Industrial Park Avenue, into a full-dimensional shelter for the community's chronically homeless. Upon conversion, the hotel will have 98 permanent supportive housing units, each with a kitchenette, intended to provide shelter on either a temporary or extended basis for those currently living on the streets.

"As to the homeless

motel conversion," Cohen said, "the approach to help homelessness in Redlands currently undertaken lacks the vision for good public policy. Centralizing the unhoused in environmentally dangerous conditions in commercially zoned areas perpetuates systemic racism and diminishes diversity. People living in socially segregated communities should be allowed to reside in communities with better environmental circumstances. I hope the best for this program; however, it further divides those at risk within our community and fails to help women with children."

Cohen said, "The homeless problems need to be thought of differently. In order to create diversity in Redlands, one does

not centralize all people who are unhoused in the most environmentally dangerous areas to live. To create socially equitable communities, people need to be treated as humans and housed within communities in order to become [reintegrated] and transition into the community and not be seen as a burden by placing them outside of the community in commercially zoned areas."

With regard to crime, Cohen said, "The crime blotter reports in Redlands are rising with more severe crimes. The police department not only needs more funding than Measure T, but we also need focused regulations to help improve the ability of the police to protect the city."

Cohen's reference was to the initiative put on the 2020 ballot and approved by 57.35 percent of the city's voters, which allows for the collection of a one-cent sales tax that will generate an estimated \$10.7 million in funding to preserve public safety, city services and local infrastructure.

"I am worried that general funds will be reallocated from Measure T," he said.

Cohen said city officials should route a significant portion of the Measure T money to dealing with the proliferation of lawlessness in Redlands.

"A major issue facing the city is crime, as evidenced by [media] reporting," he said. "The incumbent's platform and performance have been

silent on this issue. Under the incumbent's term, we have uncontrolled crime coming into the city. Higher crime rates are being reported, and people are being impacted because of public policy supported by the incumbent that diminished the power of the police to act. The funding is there. The vision to serve the community is wrong with the incumbent."

He said, "An example is I was recently sitting at the Starbucks in front of Target, and a woman suffering from mental illness came and sat in front of me on the patio of the coffee shop. She told me she was 'running from Putin' and then promptly defecated on the ground. The business owner felt powerless to act, feeling

that the police could do nothing. Our city needs to be addressing laws around vagrancy and equip private property areas to provide security for safekeeping of all citizens."

Cohen hastened to add that "I do not believe it is a crime to be homeless. The unhoused are citizens. I do feel the incumbent's leadership in homelessness creates less diversity and systemic racism."

Redlands as a city can be more aggressive in combating crime and be more cooperative and better coordinated with other governmental agencies in doing so, Cohen said.

"The city council can be leaning into the county and state to redefine thresholds for theft," he said. "State law holds

Continued on Page 12

After Perching Themselves On The Cutting Edge Of Local Governments' Challenge Of The State's Usurpation Of Land Use Authority, Chino Hills Council Members Decide Discretion Makes For The Better Part Of Valor from front page

mandates.

"They've tried to sew up every possible way to make us kneel," Calciano said.

"The sad thing is the state is usurping our planning power," said Bennett. "When we really have no right to plan properly for development within the city and it's now being forced upon us, that's just inherently wrong. I don't know how you stop this speeding train, because it's going, it's gathering

steam, and its just running over everybody. This is an unreasonable mandate. We know there's a housing problem. It's statewide. The problem goes beyond that, because when they do finally build the housing, who is going to be able to afford it? The very people that we're supposed to be protecting or trying to help out, the low-to-moderate-income housing people, will they even be able to afford something at that

point in time? It's almost unresolvable at this point, given the constraints we have."

Councilman Peter Rogers said, "We're voting for the wrong people

to represent us in the State of California to take away all of or many of our abilities to make our own decisions as a city."

In the end, the council receded from the position

it once held at the forefront of cities testing the authority of the state.

"We don't want to do this," said Marquez.

The council voted unanimously to submit

the housing element document that met all of the California Department of Housing and Community Development's standards.

-Mark Gutglueck

Gonzales & Rutherford Coveted Dutton's Assessor's Post from page 3

had moved into his skeletal system.

This gives rise to questions as whether Dutton had informed anyone else, in particular members of the board of supervisors, about his condition.

It is worth noting that in 2019, a report circulated to the effect that a deal had been reached between

Rutherford, the supervisor in the Second District, and Dutton by which Rutherford was to run for assessor this year while Dutton was to simultaneously run for Second District supervisor. Rutherford was first elected to the board of supervisors in 2010, reelected in 2014 and 2018 and was and is due to be termed out of office under San Bernardino County's three-term limit for supervisors in December of this year. According

to the 2019 report, Dutton would seek the Second District supervisor's post with Rutherford's endorsement and she would run for assessor with Dutton's support.

It is also noteworthy that on September 12, 2018, Josie Gonzales, who was then on the board of supervisors representing the Fifth District and was herself to be termed out of that office in December 2020, filed a statement of organi-

zation of a recipient committee titled "Josie Gonzales for Supervisor 2022." By December 31, 2021, roughly a month-and-a-half before the filing period for county offices up for election in 2022 opened, Gonzales had \$495,147.83 in that campaign account.

Neither Gonzales nor Rutherford filed to run for assessor/recorder/county clerk during the February 14 to March 11, 2022 filing

Continued on Page 10

Hesperia To Bypass Municipal Election With Two Unopposed Incumbents & One Appointment

For the first time in its 34-year history, the City of Hesperia will not conduct a city council race this election cycle.

No one emerged to challenge incumbent District 3 Councilman Cameron Gregg and incumbent District 4 Councilwoman Brigit Benington, who were due to stand for reelection this year.

This year as well, the four-year term of District 2 Councilman Bill Holland is set to expire in December. Because of redistricting that took place last year based on the 2020 Census, the borders for District 1

were moved to include Holland's residence. In Hesperia, elections are sequenced so that districts 1 and 5 hold their races in years corresponding with presidential elections and voters in districts 2, 3 and 4 select their council representative in conjunction with the gubernatorial general election.

In this way, Holland is to be redistricted out of office. His only options at present are to bring his political career in Hesperia to a pause or a close and/or wait until 2024 to run in District 1, where currently Rebekah Swanson holds

the council position. Holland, who was first elected to the council in 2010, could not have opposed her in 2020, as the configuration of the city electoral map at that time yet had him living in District 2.

Perhaps out of apathy or perhaps because a significant number of the city's residents who might have contemplated running for the District 2 council post incorrectly but understandably believed that the position was held by an entrenched incumbent, no one surfaced to run for the District 2 slot on the council this year.

Faced with these circumstances, the city council in a specially-called meeting on Wednesday, August 24 canceled the November 8 municipal election with a 5-to-0 vote, thereby setting up the default elections of Gregg and Benington, who in July had filed for reelection and qualified their candidacies at that time, and then devoted itself to ascertaining who would succeed Holland when his term ends in December.

To this end, the council had previously solicited applications from residents of District 2 interested in a four-year

appointment to the council. The prospect of being elevated to elective office without having to actually stand for election apparently had appeal, as seven applied.

Those seeking the District 2 appointment were Seth Levi Caveyo, David Bashir Ellis, Selina Gomez, David Heredia, Allison Lee, Andres Rodriguez and Chris Sevy.

Ultimately the council selected Lee, a 22-year resident of Hesperia and mother of two who with her husband runs an automotive service business in the city, to

serve the four-year term representing District 2 commencing in December and running through until December 2026.

By canceling the municipal election for November 8, the city will net a savings of roughly \$130,000, based upon not having to pay for a place on both the actual ballot and the sample ballot and the city's share of the cost of mailing the sample ballots, mail-in ballots and voter pamphlets to Hesperia's 51,232 registered voters as well as sharing in the cost of operating the voting precincts in the city.

-Mark Gutglueck

Public Notices

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2213752 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: DEBORAH STROTZ OBETSANOV and CHARLES STROTZ, JR. filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

CHARLES KURT STROTZ, III to KIRKY CHUCK STROTZ THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing Date: September 6, 2022 Time: 10:00 AM Department: S36

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 08/03/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: MICHELLE H. GILLEECE

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/05/2022, 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022 & 08/26/2022

FBN 20220006980 The following person is doing business as: LAW OFFICE OF JON F. HAMILTON 700 E. REDLANDS BLVD., SUIT U #165 REDLANDS, CA 92373

JON F. HAMILTON 1320 GARDEN STREET REDLANDS, CA 92373

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JULY 1, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ JON F. HAMILTON, Individual Owner

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 07/26/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a

Public Notices

correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy G8420

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 8/5, 8/12, 8/19 & 8/26, 2022.

FBN 20220006199 The following person is doing business as: BIMA SERVICES 3837 N SILVER TREE CT RIALTO, CA 92377: URSULA MACIAS 3837 N SILVER TREE CT RIALTO, CA 92377

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: MAY 1, 2022

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ URSULA MACIAS, Owner Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 06/27/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy J1677

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/1, 7/8, 7/15 & 7/22, 2022. Corrected on 8/5, 8/12, 8/19 & 8/26

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DEBORA JENNINGS aka DE'BORA JENNINGS Case NO. PROSB2200398

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of DEBORA JENNINGS aka DE'BORA JENNINGS

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Polly Mallett in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Polly Mallett be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This

Public Notices

authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A hearing on the petition will be held in Dept. S37 at 09:00 AM on 10/13/2022 Room: at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, San Bernardino District-Probate Division at 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

George M. Halimi 1999 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 1100, Los Angeles, CA 90067 Telephone No: 310.553.5562 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, & 08/26/2022.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: DAVID MICHAEL MOLINO CASE NO. PROSB2201106

Public Notices

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, and contingent creditors of DAVID MICHAEL MOLINO, and persons who may be otherwise interested in the will or estate, or both: A petition has been filed by STEVE MOLINO in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO, requesting that STEVE MOLINO be appointed special administrator to administer the estate with general powers.

The petition requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action. The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

The petition is set for hearing in Dept. No. S36 at SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA, COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO

SAN BERNARDINO DISTRICT - PROBATE DIVISION 247 W. 3rd STREET SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92415-0212 on SEPTEMBER 6, 2022 at 09:00 AM

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 58 of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery of the notice to you under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are interested in the estate, you may request special notice of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Section 1250 of the California Probate Code.

Attorney for the Petitioner: MARY M. BADER 9227 HAVEN AVENUE, SUITE 368

Public Notices

RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 Telephone: (909) 945-2775 Fax: (909) 945-2778

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 12, 19 & 26, 2022.

FBN 20220007079 The following entity is doing business as CUNNING DENTAL GROUP 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763 RONALD CUNNING, DDS, INC. 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

Mailing Address: 9595 CENTRAL AVE. MONTCLAIR, CA 91763

The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the state of California as C0605742

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: AUGUST 24, 1970

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ KEITH CUNNING, Secretary Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 07/29/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy D5511

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 12, 19, 26 & September 2, 2022

FBN 20220007224 The following entity is doing business as MOOMUCCA 12714 HILLTOP DR REDLANDS 92373 SOPHIA R FRYE 12714 HILLTOP DR REDLANDS 92373 SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Principal Place Of Business

The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/ SOPHIA R FRYE Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 08/03/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy G8420

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that

Public Notices

time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 12, 19, 26 & September 2, 2022

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB2206514 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: DYCIE RANSOM filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ZI'AHN KHARI SKIPPER to ZI'AHN KHARI MCCALL THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing: Date: 09/12/2022 Time: 08:30 AM Department: S16

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino San Bernardino District-Civil Division 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 07/27/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino Sentinel on 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: LAWRENCE CARL TURNER CASE NO. PROSB2201119 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of LAWRENCE CARL TURNER has been filed by LEIGHTON MYHENGAN TURNER in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that LEIGHTON MYHENGAN TURNER be

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appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that the decedent's wills and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held SEPTEMBER 21, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: JULY 29, 2022

BRITTNEY SPEARS, Deputy Court Clerk IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code. Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk. Filed: July 29, 2022 Attorney for Leighton My-

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hengam Turner: R. SAM PRICE SBN 208603 PRICE LAW FIRM, APC 300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620 REDLANDS, CA 92373 Phone (909) 328 7000 Fax (909) 475 8800 sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 19, 26 and September 2, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2212918 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: RANIA BISHAY filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ANDREAS USAMA GIRGES BOLEUS GIRGES to ANDY USAMA GIRGES BOLEUS GIRGES

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing Date: September 19, 2022 Time: 8:30 AM Department: S17

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 06/21/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 & 09/02/2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2215473 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner RICHARD GARCIA CERA filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

RICHARD GARCIA CERA to RICHARD CERA GARCIA

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing Date: September 20, 2022 Time: 8:30 AM Department: S16

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

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Filed: July 18, 2022 Order Dated: 08/09/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/12/2022, 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022 & 09/02/2022.

SUMMONS – (CITACION JUDICIAL)

CASE NUMBER (NUMERO DEL CASO): CIV SB 2128482

NOTICE TO DEFENDANT:

(AVISO DEMANDADO): DAVID ALAN BOUCHER, MERCEDES MARTINEZ, AND DOES 1 to 10, inclusive

YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF:

(LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): MTC FINANCIAL INC. dba TRUSTLEE CORPS

NOTICE! You have been sued. The court may decide against you without your being heard unless you respond within 30 days. Read the information below.

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a nonprofit legal services program. You can locate these nonprofit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association. NOTE: The court has a statutory lien for waived fees and costs on any settlement or arbitration award of \$10,000 or more in a civil case. The court's lien must be paid before the court will dismiss the case.

¡AVISO! Lo han demandado. Si no responde dentro de 30 días, la corte puede decidir en su contra sin escuchar su versión. Lea la información a continuación.

Tiene 30 DÍAS DE CALENDARIO después de que le entregue esta citación y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefónica no le protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted puede usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas información en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.sucorte.ca.gov), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentación, pida si secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exención de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podrá quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia.

Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un

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abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remisión a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services, (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California, (www.sucorte.ca.gov), o poniéndose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales. AVISO: Por ley, la corte tiene derecho a reclamar las cuotas y los costos exentos gravamen sobre cualquier recuperación de \$10,000 o mas de valor recibida mediante un acuerdo o una concesión de arbitraje en un caso de derecho civil. Tiene que pagar el gravamen de la corte antes de que la corte pueda desear el caso.

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y la dirección de la corte es):

San Bernardino Justice Center

247 West Third Street San Bernardino, CA 92415-0210

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la dirección y el número de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es):

John C. Steele, Steele LLP, 17272 Red Hill Avenue, Irvine, CA 92614

Phone: (949) 222-1161

DATE (Fecha): November 12, 2021

Clerk (Secretario), by Karina Venegas, Deputy (Adjunto)

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on: 08/19/2022, 8/26/2022, 9/02/2022 & 9/09/2022.

FBN 20220007622

The following person is doing business as: E's POWER OAT BARS 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELAINE M CRAWFORD 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ELAINE M. CRAWFORD

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 17, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy 15199 Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022, 09/02/22 & 09/09/22.

FBN 20220007622

The following person is doing business as: E'S POWER OAT BARS 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ELAINE M CRAWFORD 263 SULTANA AVE UPLAND, CA 91786 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ELAINE M. CRAWFORD

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 17, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy 15199 Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/19/2022, 08/26/2022, 09/02/22 & 09/09/22.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: TAMARA LYN MADDEN CASE NO. PROSB2201147

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of TAMARA LYN MADDEN has been filed by KIMBERLY RENEE LOGAN in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that KIMBERLY RENEE LOGAN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining

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court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A hearing on the petition will be held SEPTEMBER 14, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. in Dept. No. S37 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415, San Bernardino District.

Filed: August 10, 2022

VALERIE URU-ENA, Deputy Court Clerk IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney. IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the decedent, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within the later of either (1) four months from the date of first issuance of letters to a general personal representative, as defined in section 58(b) of the California Probate Code, or (2) 60 days from the date of mailing or personal delivery to you of a notice under Section 9052 of the California Probate Code.

Other California statutes and legal authority may affect your rights as a creditor. You may want to consult with an attorney knowledgeable in California law. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Kimberly Renee Logan:

R. SAMPRICE SBN 208603 PRICE LAW FIRM, APC 300 E STATE STREET SUITE 620 REDLANDS, CA 92373

Phone (909) 328 7000 Fax (909) 475 8800 sam@pricelawfirm.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on August 25, September 2 & September 9, 2022.

FBN 20220006519

The following person is doing business as: UPLAND INDUSTRIAL HEALTH SERVICES INC 921 W FOOTHILL BLVD #2 UPLAND, CA 91786 UPLAND INDUSTRIAL HEALTH SERVICES INC 921 W FOOTHILL BLVD Suite 2 UPLAND, CA 91786

Mailing Address: 1085 N. LINDEN AVE. RIALTO, CA 92376

County of Principal Place of

FBN 20220006319

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LUNA CINEMATICS 4195 CHINO HILLS PKWAY #405 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

MICHAEL C LUNA 4195 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL

BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/MICHAEL C. LUNA This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 06/30/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: June 14, 2022

County Clerk J2530

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/22/2022, 7/29/22, 8/5/22 & 8/12/22 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

FBN20220006714

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LOTUS GARDEN 1639 N MOUNTAIN AVE UPLAND, CA 91784 THE 168 TRADING, INC 5547 LAS BRISAS CT RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739

Business is Conducted By: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California as 4697804

BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/JUN XU, President This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 07/18/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: N/A

County Clerk G8420

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/22/2022, 7/29/22, 8/5/22 & 8/12/22 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FBN20220006844

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: NORTON DEL-

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1236 E 9th ST UPLAND, CA 91786 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO BOBA GIRL GANG, LLC 1236 E 9th ST UPLAND, CA 91786 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY registered with the State of California as 202250613492 The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: May 1, 2022 By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ NEYSA SIMANGUNSONG, Manager

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 12, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy G8420

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 & 7/29, 2022 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE

NUMBER CIVSB 2215266 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: SUSANA CORONA & MARCELINO DABALOS CORONA JR. filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:

ISAAC MANUEL WOLFORD to ISAAC MANUEL CORONA

THE COURT ORDERS that all persons interested in this matter appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted. Any person objecting to the name changes described above must file a written objection that includes the reasons for the objection at least two court days before the matter is scheduled to be heard and must appear at the hearing to show cause why the petition should not be granted. If no written objection is timely filed, the court may grant the petition without a hearing.

Notice of Hearing Date: September 21, 2022 Time: 8:30 AM Department: S16

The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.

Dated: 07/20/2022 Judge of the Superior Court: JOHN M. PACHECO

Attorney for Susana Corona & Marcelino Dabalos Corona Jr.: Sandy S. Garcia, Esquire Garcia & Miller, APLC 49459 Palo Verde Street, Suite 207C

Montclair, California 91763 (909) 321-9241 s.garcia@garciamiller.com

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022 & 09/16/2022.

FBN 20220006519

The following person is doing business as: UPLAND INDUSTRIAL HEALTH SERVICES INC 921 W FOOTHILL BLVD #2 UPLAND, CA 91786 UPLAND INDUSTRIAL HEALTH SERVICES INC 921 W FOOTHILL BLVD Suite 2 UPLAND, CA 91786

Mailing Address: 1085 N. LINDEN AVE. RIALTO, CA 92376

County of Principal Place of

FBN 20220006319

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LUNA CINEMATICS 4195 CHINO HILLS PKWAY #405 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

MICHAEL C LUNA 4195 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL

BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/MICHAEL C. LUNA This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 06/30/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: June 14, 2022

County Clerk J2530

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/22/2022, 7/29/22, 8/5/22 & 8/12/22 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

FBN20220006714

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LOTUS GARDEN 1639 N MOUNTAIN AVE UPLAND, CA 91784 THE 168 TRADING, INC 5547 LAS BRISAS CT RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91739

Business is Conducted By: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California as 4697804

BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

Public Notices

Business: SAN BERNARDINO The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California as 4028897

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JUNE 1, 2017

By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ MARTHA GALVEZ, CEO

Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 07/08/2022

I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy 15199

Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/8, 7/15, 7/22 & 7/29, 2022 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

FBN20220006319

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LUNA CINEMATICS 4195 CHINO HILLS PKWAY #405 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

MICHAEL C LUNA 4195 CHINO HILLS, CA 91709

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY Business is Conducted By: AN INDIVIDUAL

BY SIGNING BELOW, I DECLARE THAT ALL INFORMATION IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE AND CORRECT. A registrant who declares as true information, which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of a crime. (B&P Code 17913) I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing.

s/MICHAEL C. LUNA This statement was filed with the County Clerk of SAN BERNARDINO on: 06/30/2022

I hereby certify that this is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office.

Began Transacting Business: June 14, 2022

County Clerk J2530

NOTICE- This fictitious business name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see section 14400 et. Seq. Business & Professions Code).

Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on 7/22/2022, 7/29/22, 8/5/22 & 8/12/22 and corrected on 8/26, 9/02, 9/09 & 9/16, 2022.

FBN20220006714

The following person(s) is(are) doing business as: LOTUS GARDEN 1639

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must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CNB-BB34202201CV

FBN 20220007889
The following person is doing business as: JALISCO SEA FOOD AND GRILL 303 E FOOTHILL BLVD RIALTO, CALIFO 92376[MAILING ADDRESS 2712 LOS ROBLES AVE 909 RIALTO, CALIFO 92376]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO GABRIEL MONTIEL 2712 LOS ROBLES AVE RIALTO, CA 92376 The business is conducted by: A LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this state-

Public Notices

ment becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ GABRIEL MONTIEL Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 24, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CN-BB34202202MT

FBN 2022007854
The following person is doing business as: E & M TRANSPORT 8015 JUNIPER AVE FONTANA, CA 92336 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ERIK VALENCIA-MENDOZA 8015 JUNIPER AVE FONTANA, CA 92336 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL

Public Notices

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ERIK VALENCIA-MENDOZA, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 23, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CN-BB34202203MT

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FBN 20220007855
The following person is doing business as: ML LANDSCAPING CONSTRUCTION 1065 W EVANS ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92411 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO PEDROMORALESREYES 1065 WEVANS ST SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92411 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/PEDROMORALESREYES, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 23, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The fil-

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ing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CN-BB34202204MT

FBN 20220007829
The following person is doing business as: QUALITY WELDING I60 N CACTUS AVE RIALTO, CA 92376 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO ROSA GARCIA DE RANGEL I60 N CACTUS AVE RIALTO, CA 92376 The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ROSA GARCIA DE RANGEL, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of

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San Bernardino on: AUGUST 22, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CNB-B342022051R

FBN 20220007504
The following person is doing business as: JUNIORS DMV SERVICES 1500 CRAFTON AVE MENTON, CA 92359[MAILING ADDRESS 311 W CIVIC CENTER DR STE B SANTA ANA, CA 92359]; COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO JUNIORS TUNING TECHNOLOGIES, LLC 1500 CRAFTON AVE UNIT 132 MENTON, CA 92359 The business is conducted by: A LIM-

Public Notices

ITED LIABILITY COMPANY The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: N/A By signing, I declare that all information in this statement is true and correct. A registrant who declares as true information which he or she knows to be false is guilty of a crime (B&P Code 179130. I am also aware that all information on this statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ ALBERTO JAFET LLANOS, CEO Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: AUGUST 12, 2022 I hereby certify that this copy is a correct copy of the original statement on file in my office San Bernardino County Clerk By:/Deputy Notice-This fictitious name statement expires five years from the date it was filed in the office of the county clerk. A new fictitious business name statement must be filed before that time. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14400 et seq., Business and Professions Code). Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel 08/26/2022, 09/02/2022, 09/09/2022, 09/16/2022 CNB-B34202206CV

Dutton’s Widow, Walker, Gonzales, Wilhite & Snowball Want The \$400,000-Per-Year Assessor’s Post from page 6

period, leaving the field to Dutton.

While it is not absolutely probative, there is evidence to suggest that members of the board of supervisors – in particular those that share a significant portion of the same donor base that backed Dutton in his various campaigns for elected office, namely Hagman, Cook, Rowe and to a lesser extent Rutherford – knew that Dutton was dying and was not likely to serve out the term to which he was elected in June. It appears that there may have been an understanding that Dutton would run for reelection without interference in June, obtain reelection, whereupon the board majority as it is to be composed and including Hagman, Cook and Rowe, would be able to select his replacement. Based upon the logic of that troika’s own political interest, the ideal replacement would be someone who, like Dutton, would respect the financial interests of the field of political donors they are reliant upon.

What no one anticipated was the rapidity of Dutton’s final decline. Whereas it was assumed that Dutton would serve out the entirety of the term to which he was elected without opposition 2018 ending in January and that he would then be sworn in to begin serving the term to which he was elected on June 7 2022, a mere month and 16 days after he was reelected

and more than five months before his current term elapsed and before he was to begin serving the term to which he had been elected, on July 23, 2022, he succumbed.

At that point, the board of supervisors, had it acted with alacrity, could have solicited candidates for assessor, subjected them to an application process and put those meeting the qualifications for candidacy on the November 8 general election ballot by a deadline set for some time this month to meet the county registrar of voters’ deadline to field those candidates for inclusion on this year’s general election ballot and voter pamphlet, giving the county’s voters an opportunity to elect their assessor for the term running from January 2023 to January 2025. Instead, the board of supervisors tarried, and did not get around to recruiting those interested in serving in the position until last week and then meeting to discuss its options this week. That temporizing prevented the county from including the election for assessor/recorder/county clerk on the November 8 ballot. Holding an election for assessor, which must be conducted countywide, in conjunction with an existing election would save the county an estimated \$3 million over the cost of a specially-called election.

The board solicited applications that were due by August 18 from individuals willing to serve in the position through the expiration of the term that Dutton was elected to in November 2018, running through January 3, 2023. That fetched responses from five people willing to replace him and claim the job of asses-

sor/recorder/county clerk, which pays a monthly salary of \$23,135.26 along with monthly perquisites, pay add-ons and benefits of \$10,385.88, translating into an annual salary of \$277,623.12 plus perquisites, add-ons and benefits of \$124,630.53 for a total yearly compensation of \$402,253.65.

The applicants included Dutton’s widow; two former members of the board of supervisors, including one who served an even longer stint as the county’s auditor and controller; and two of Dutton’s staff members who have been closely involved in the assessment process.

At its meeting on Tuesday, August 23, the board of supervisors was officially presented with the list of those five and their applications.

One of those is Andrea Dutton, who was married to Dutton for more than 30 years. She was a nurse with expertise in the field of radiology. She has taken courses in real estate but does not possess an appraiser certificate issued by the California State Board of Equalization, a requisite that must be fulfilled within one year of an assessor taking office. She committed to obtaining that license within one month of her appointment. She indicated she would not seek to remain in the assessor/recorder/county clerk post beyond January 3, 2023.

Josie Gonzales, who was a member of the Fontana City Council and served as Fifth District San Bernardino County supervisor from 2004 until 2020, contemplated and prepared for a run for assessor earlier this year by opening up and registering a campaign account for the

post but did not run against Dutton, has also applied for appointment as assessor. Gonzales does not have an appraiser certificate issued by the California State Board of Equalization but stated in her application, “I will acquire a temporary appraiser’s certificate from the State Board of Equalization no later than 30 days after taking office and become permanently certified in one year.” Gonzales indicated she is interested not only in serving as assessor/recorder/county clerk between now and January but during the duration of the follow-on term to which Dutton was elected in June, including running in the special election for the post to be held in November 2024.

Larry Walker, an attorney who had been a Chino City Council member and mayor, was elected to the board of supervisors representing the Fourth District in 1986 and reelected to that post in 1990 and 1994. In 1998 he was elected to the position of county auditor-controller/recorder/county clerk. In 2010, a reorganization merged the auditor-controller’s function with that of the county treasurer/tax collector and moved the recorder and county clerk functions to the assessor’s office. Walker assumed the role of and was elected auditor-controller/treasurer/tax collector that year and was reelected to that position in 2014. Walker resigned as auditor-controller/treasurer/tax collector in 2016. He does not hold an appraiser’s certificate from the State Board of Equalization, but stated in his application, “I attended the Board of Equalization class in 2007, and was told by the instructor I passed the final exam with a high

score. Unfortunately, the BOE’s policy was to issue certificates only to county assessors and their staff, and I was auditor-controller/recorder [and county clerk] at the time. However, that previous success is substantial evidence of my ability to obtain the necessary certificate at the earliest possible date.”

In his application, Walker indicated he is interested in serving out the rest of Dutton’s second term, then remaining in position as assessor/recorder/county clerk into what was to be the first two years of Dutton’s third term and running to retain the position for the last two years of the term to which Dutton was recently elected when that special election is held in 2024.

Chris Wilhite, who operated the Wilhite Appraisal Service from February 1986 until May of 1990 and the Chris Wilhite Appraisal Service from May of 1990 until July of 2000, was hired in July of 2000 to work in the assessor’s office, where he initially did basic appraisals in the Ontario office. He then handled second and third level and complex appraisals out of the San Bernardino office, later served as the supervising district appraiser overseeing assessor’s office operation in Barstow, Needles and Hesperia and most recently has worked in the capacity of the principal appraiser in charge of training and standards.

“Serving the assessor/recorder/county clerk’s office from Trona to Yucaipa and Needles to Chino Hills, I have appraised in those areas and most cities and communities in-between,” said Wilhite, the assistant assessor for the county who has been described as Dut-

ton’s second-in-command.

“As the current assistant assessor and as Senator Dutton’s longest serving assistant, I am grateful of the trust and confidence that he had placed in me,” he wrote. “It would be an honor to complete his term and continue his work of service to the public, to build upon our functional modernization plan, and further the support of our staff and the community. Having over 36 years of appraisal and real estate-related experience in the private sector as a business owner and the most recent 22 years of public service with the assessor/recorder in lead appraiser, supervisor and management roles, I am well qualified to lead.”

Wilhite said his elevation to the assessor’s post would ensure a “retention of institutional knowledge.”

Wilhite provided a copy of his advanced certified property tax appraiser certificate, No. 8784, awarded to him by the California State Board of Equalization.

Wilhite said he was seeking appointment to complete Dutton’s current term as well as the first half of the term to which Dutton was elected in June. Wilhite said he did not anticipate running to remain as assessor past January 2025 in the special election to be held for that purpose in November 2024.

Bradley Snowball began with the county in 1995 as a fiscal clerk with the county GAIN Program, a welfare-to-work initiative that is part of the State of California’s welfare reform program. In 1997 he transitioned into an auditor-appraiser position with the assessor’s

Continued on Page 11

The Republicans Have Outmaneuvered The More Numerous Democrats In San Bernardino County Through The Use Of The Governmental Machinery Under Their Control *from page 10*

office, remaining in that capacity until 2012. Since 2012, he has been a supervising auditor-appraiser, in which capacity, he stated, he “supervise[s] a staff of five auditor-appraisers, one appraisal technician and one office assistant, assign[s] and review[s] compliance audit workloads, write[s] and administers work performance evaluations, handle[s] disciplinary and work performance issues, interview[s] and hire[s] assessor business property staff [and] provide[s] assessment training, develop[s] procedures and provide[s] guidelines for appraisal and support staff.”

Snowbell provided the number, 8495, of his Advanced Certified Property Tax Appraiser certificate awarded to him by the California State Board of Equalization.

Snowbell was applying for appointment to finish the term as assessor to which Dutton was elected in 2018 and to serve out the first two years of the term to which he was elected in June. He did not indicate any intention to run for assessor in the special election the county has scheduled for 2024 to select someone to serve in that capacity from January 2025 until January 2027, the last two years of the term Dutton was elected to in June.

Having neglected to act quickly enough to place a special election for assessor on the November 8 ballot, county officials led by the board of supervisors made clear to the public this week that the intent moving forward is to interview Andrea Dutton, Walker, Gonzales, Wilhite and Snowbell during the board’s upcoming September 13 meeting and make an appointment of one of those five to serve as assessor up until midnight on January 3, 2023. Later this year, most likely in November, the supervisors will consider Walker, Gonzales, Wilhite, Snowbell and anyone else deemed qualified who shows an interest in applying and select that person to replace Dutton for the first two years of what would have been his

next term, which is to start on January 4. The board further intends to schedule a special election that will correspond with the balloting to be conducted in conjunction with the November 2024 Presidential election to select someone to serve the last two years of the term to which Dutton was elected in June.

The rationale for both county staff and the county board of supervisors doing it this way is that, having missed the deadline[s] for putting a special election for assessor on the November 8 ballot, to conduct a special and therefore necessarily stand-alone county-wide election to select an assessor would prove very costly, by most calculations approaching or exceeding \$3 million. To avoid this cost, the county will make the dual appointments.

A real question exists as to whether the board of supervisors has the authority to do all that it has declared an intention to do.

The board is within its discretionary power to appoint a replacement/successor for someone in a constitutional position who has vacated that position during an ongoing term, either by removal, resignation or, as in this case, death. The board’s authority to replace an absent duly-elected official does not translate into the power to bypass the citizenry it represents and use that power of replacement to substitute an appointment for an election. An important consideration is that Dutton was sworn in, in January 2019, to serve as assessor from January 2019 to January 2023, the term he was elected to, by default when no ran against him, in 2018. Even though in June of this year he was elected to serve the term running from January 2023 to January 2027, he had not been sworn in to serve in that capacity. Thus, the board, by selecting someone to serve as assessor from January 2023 to January 2025, will be electing that individual to the office rather than appointing Dutton’s replacement, since he or she will not have been in place to be replaced.

For an individual to serve in the office of assessor in the term that will begin on January 4, 2023 requires a fulfillment of the election that took place in June, which cannot take place since Dutton will not be available to serve, or another election. The board of supervisors, fully understanding that the entire matter involves an arcane area of the law and an extremely rare circumstance, is calculating that no one will come forward to contest that the solution it is applying – an appointment for the first two years of the assessor’s 2023-to-2027 term and an election for the last two years of the assessor’s 2023-to-2027 term – will cure its error of not having acted rapidly in the aftermath of Dutton’s death to call for a special election to be held in conjunction with the county-wide balloting on November 8. What the board is in the midst of doing is posing issues that are subject to challenge. The forum for making such a challenge would be a quo warranto proceeding in which the California Attorney General would be called upon to determine under what authority the appointee the board of supervisors comes up with can assume or hold the office of assessor/recorder/county clerk. The county in the face of such a challenge would no doubt assert that given the timing of Dutton’s death and the expense of conducting a stand-alone countywide election the county is acting in a fiscally responsible manner by making the two-year appointment and, further, that preventing the squandering of some \$3 million in taxpayer dollars that would be involved in staging such an election trumps whatever constitutional and election code principles involved in ensuring that San Bernardino County’s residents’ rights to elect the individual entrusted with ascertaining the proper and appropriate tax rates to be applied to their properties individually and collectively. Reputable legal authorities contacted by the *Sentinel* indicated that the county would not be likely to prevail in the face of such a challenge, particularly since the board of supervisors had an opportunity in the two weeks after Dutton’s death to arrange to

put a special election for assessor on the November 8 ballot at what would have been minimal cost.

One question now is: *Will someone come forward to mount that challenge and seek a quo warranto proceeding?*

Other questions are: *Whom – among Andrea Dutton, Walker, Gonzales, Wilhite and Snowbell – will the board appoint? and Will that appointee be one and the same as the person selected to serve from January 2023 to January 2025?*

Over the last half century, San Bernardino County history is replete with examples of efforts, some of them successful, to install in the assessor’s office individuals willing to use that office’s authority to selectively provide tax breaks to the wealthy and more powerful residents of the county and elements of the business and investment community willing to support and advance the county’s political class.

Robert Herbin, who began as a field appraiser in the assessor’s Victorville office in 1951, steadily advanced in the office, becoming assistant chief appraiser in 1959 and chief appraiser in 1968. In 1974, he ran successfully for the top spot in the office when John Bevis, who had been assessor since 1959, retired. Herbin’s virtually encyclopedic knowledge of the office and dedication to a formalistic and standardized set of procedures showing no bias or favoritism resulted in what is generally considered to be the apex of the office’s function throughout the county’s 169-year history. In 1978, after a single term as assessor, Herbin was challenged by Robert Gordon “Gordie” Young, a transplanted Canadian and liquor store owner from Fontana who had been bitten by the political bug while he was working as an accountant/auditor at Kaiser Steel and Kaiser Hospital. Young served three-and-a-half years on the Fontana School Board and two terms on the Fontana City Council from 1968 to 1976. The far more politically savvy Young prevailed in the 1978 race and remained in office for four terms, from 1979 until 1995, during which time the assessor’s office burnished its reputation for showing

favoritism to county politicians and those aligned with them, applying one set of assessment standards for the political elite and members of the establishment which resulted in lower tax rates for them and applying a different taxing yardstick in essence to more than 98 percent of the county’s property owners, residents and businesses.

Bill Postmus, another politician who had first been elected to the county board of supervisors representing the First District in 2000 and was reelected to that post in 2004, the same year he was elevated to the position of chairman of the San Bernardino County Republican Central Committee, ran for county assessor against incumbent Don Williamson in 2006. Expending more than \$3 million in that electioneering effort in what to this day remains the most expensive political campaign in San Bernardino County history, Postmus prevailed in that race. Once in the assessor’s position, he immediately moved to exploit the power and influence of the office, creating a second assistant assessor’s position where previously there had been only one and hiring 11 of his associates, none of whom had any expertise or previous experience in real estate, appraising or levying taxes, into the office’s 13 highest-paying positions. From those 11 positions, those Postmus hired engaged themselves not in work relating to the assessor’s office’s function but in political and electioneering activity on behalf of the Republican Party, political issues and candidates for local and statewide office favored by Postmus. Moreover, Postmus used his discretionary power to set taxing rates on the county’s residents and business operations to lower the assessments of those demonstrating a willingness to pony up money to support Postmus in his future political endeavors by endowing his campaign fund and/or the political action committees he controlled with donations or otherwise supporting candidates and political issues he favored. Those who contributed to his electioneering fund or that of his allies Brad Mitzelfelt, Paul Biane, Tad Honeycutt and Anthony Adams were given a break on the taxes they paid. Those who did

not paid the going rate.

In 2009, after the degree to which Postmus and those he had put into place in the assessor’s office were utilizing public facilities, assets and the assessor’s office’s authority for partisan political purposes became widespread public knowledge, Postmus was forced to resign as assessor and charged with six felony counts of misuse of his elected office. He was convicted on all six of those counts, along with eight other felony political corruption charges, in 2011. Four of the political operatives inexperienced in assessor’s office operations Postmus had hired into lucrative posts within the assessor’s office were indicted or criminally charged; ultimately three of those were convicted.

Against all odds, San Bernardino County remains an island of Republicanism in a sea of Democrats.

Virtually every statewide office from governor to insurance commissioner is held by a Democrat and the Democrats have supermajorities in both the Assembly and State Senate. Both U.S. Senators from California are Democrats. In the California Congressional Delegation, Democrats outnumber Republicans 42 to 11. Conversely, in San Bernardino County, Republican officeholders have a decided edge over their Democratic counterparts. In 15 of the county’s 22 city councils and on both of the county’s incorporated town councils, Republicans outnumber Democrats. On the county board of supervisors, four of five members are Republicans.

Of the county’s seven members of the Assembly, three are Republicans, three are Democrats and one is a former Republican who now identifies as an independent. In the California Senate, the four seats in the state’s upper legislative house representing San Bernardino County are evenly divided between two Republicans and two Democrats.

Of the county’s five congressional representatives, two are Republicans and three are Democrats. Nevertheless, the county’s congressional districts extend to areas outside of the county and in one of those

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Board Looks To Be Gravitating Toward Wilhite As Selection To Replace Dutton from page 11

districts in which a Democrat holds the seat, in that portion of the district lying within San Bernardino County, she was outpolled by her Republican opponent.

This circumstance in which the Republicans maintain the upper hand politically defies mathematical calculation. While it is true that from the mid-1960s until 2009, San Bernardino County was a solidly Republican division of California with more registered Republicans than registered Democrats, in 2009, the number of the county's residents identifying as members of the Democratic Party eclipsed the number of Republicans. That numerical advantage in favor of the Democrats has continued to widen over the last 13 years. As of this week, of the 1,140,132 voters in San Bernardino County, 471,023 or 41.3 percent are registered as Democrats, while 332,953 or 29.2 percent are registered Republicans. Another 243,378 voters or 21.3 percent have no party affiliation whatsoever or steadfastly decline to state any political associative preference. The remaining 8.2 percent of the county's voters identify as members of the more obscure Libertarian, Peace and Freedom, American Independent or Green parties. San Bernardino County has remained as one of the last bastions of the GOP in the State of California in large

measure not just because the Republicans turn out to vote in far higher percentages of their numbers than do the Democrats, but because they have outhustled the Democrats in appealing to the county's swing voters – the unaligned voters who decline to state a political affiliation, as well as the Green, American Independent, Peace and Freedom and Libertarian party members. They are able to do this, quite simply, because they are better funded. The Republicans have out-fundraised by a factor of between five-to-one and six-to-one the Democrats. And a major tool in the San Bernardino County Republicans' arsenal in this regard has been its control of the assessor's office. Under Postmus and Dutton, tax breaks provided to the county's wealthier landowners and business owners have encouraged them, indeed freed up money in the hands of those landowners and business entities so they are able, to make donations, in many cases very substantial ones, to Republican candidates and Republican causes.

In this way, the board of supervisors' decision on who is to be selected to succeed Bob Dutton as assessor is likely to come down to which one of the five – Andrea Dutton, Larry Walker, Josie Gonzales, Chris Wilhite or Bradley Snowball – is willing to perpetuate the policy of showing favoritism to the political donors that have bankrolled the political careers of the current controlling majority on the board.

For myriad reasons,

each of the five candidates represents a problematic choice for the board.

Andrea Dutton has no experience with the province of tax assessments and only indirect experience – through her late husband – with government and its functions. Moreover, given that Bob Dutton was her husband and that she is a medical professional, the presumption is that she was acutely aware of her husband's condition over the last few years and understood the implication of that and was complicit in his decision to run for reelection knowing that he was at best unlikely to live long enough to serve out the term of office and the assignment he was vying to take on, resulting in what is for the county now a difficult challenge.

Larry Walker is a Democrat and not likely to be on board for using the assessor's office to provide favorable treatment to donors to the Republican Party and Republican candidates. In addition, Walker in 2014 sought reelection as the county auditor-controller/treasurer/tax collector, won that election and then two years later resigned, rather inexplicably. He has yet to publicly disclose why, after having been with the county for more than 29 years at that point, it was necessary for him to depart, leaving the county, as it were, in the lurch.

Josie Gonzales, like Walker, is a Democrat, and, as such, not inclined to perpetuate the practice that existed under Postmus and Dutton of using the assessor's office to advantage Republicans.

and vagrancy. Current policies limit action."

Asked to contrast himself with the incumbent Davis, Cohen said, "A major distinction between Ms. Davis and myself is in vision. The incumbent's public policy views are narrow in scope and limit their applicability from being relevant to all of her constituents. As a combat veteran and academic, I am fully committed to ensuring that public policy creates diversity and equity for all people."

The city does not necessarily need to spend more money to actuate the solutions to the existential,

social and political problems and difficulties the city and its residents face, Cohen said.

"As a grassroots advocate, I believe the government is not here to be the problem solver but to partner with community groups," he said. "If we continue on the status quo, the incumbent will miss the vision needed to create a diverse and equitable Redlands."

Asked what previous experience relating to government he possesses, Cohen referenced three academic books he has authored, *Choosing Liberty in California Policy Re-*

Chris Wilhite, in his own words in his application celebrated himself as the current member of the assessor's office closest to, identified with and most trusted by Dutton, and as such his heir apparent. That should carry with it some weight. Nevertheless, given the circumstances, which include Dutton leaving the county in a predicament brought on by his decision to seek reelection while he was on his deathbed, questions have been raised about not only Dutton's judgment and wisdom but his overarching regard for the county and its residents and whether he had their best interests in mind while he was serving as assessor. In this way, his endorsement of Wilhite might not be as valuable as it might have otherwise been. Furthermore, Wilhite's assertion that he had Dutton's trust and confidence raises the question of whether he too was privy that Dutton was running for office with the recognition that he could not live up to the commitment an elected official must make to his constituents, which is to faithfully serve and execute the assignment being entrusted to him. Publicly unknown at this time is whether Wilhite did know what Dutton's

health and life outlook was, whether he recognized that his boss was putting the residents and the taxpayers of the county at risk by running for reelection and what counsel Wilhite gave Dutton if he did know. To the extent that the public has come to realize the liability Dutton subjected the county to by his decision to run for reelection this year, the board of supervisors may not want to replace him with someone so closely identified with him in his operation of the office of assessor.

Bradley Snowball, while qualified to assume the position as assessor, does not have the depth of experience or degree of responsibility within the office as that of Wilhite. As such, selecting him over Wilhite might present the board of supervisors with questions. Such questions, however, might not be sufficiently bothersome to prevent the board from elevating him to the assessor's spot if, on balance and considering the drawbacks of their other options, they consider his appointment to be called for.

Hagman, Cook, Rowe and Rutherford hold Fifth District Supervisor Joe Baca Jr, the lone Democrat on the board, in low regard, recognizing him as hav-

ing insufficient political muscle and believing him to lack the candlepower to outmaneuver them in any other way. All four were cognizant of the fashion in which Dutton used his authority as assessor to reward literally scores of donors who liberally contributed to Republican Jesse Armendarez's political war chest when he ran against Baca for Fifth District supervisor in 2020. Also assisting Armendarez was Postmus, who has established a political money laundering operation in the form of a corporation he set up in Wyoming, Mountain States Consulting Group, to filter money to candidates for public office without the source of that money being disclosed.

Baca overcame Armendarez in the 2020 election, but he does not have the means to resist the will of his Republican colleagues on the board of supervisors, who have such thinly-veiled contempt and disrespect for him, and he therefore cannot intercede to get either of the Democrats who applied – Walker or Gonzales – the appointment as assessor.

Given the totality of considerations, it appears most likely that Wilhite will be given the nod to replace Dutton.

Saifie In Fifth Spirited Effort To Win A Spot On The Redlands City Council from page 3

Baptist University in public administration and public policy. He also attended UCLA, where he studied management and auditing.

He was an administrator of MB Food Inc., a system administrator for McCargo Transportation and a Del Taco restaurant franchisee.

"I am business owner and have over 200 employees in multiple states," he said.

Saifie said, "I am married for 20 years, and I

have 3 children and am looking forward to being a grandfather in the near future."

He is a long-time member of the Redlands Family YMCA, Friends of Smiley Library and he served as board member and elected division governor for Toastmasters.

-M.G.

Professor Giving It The Old College Try In Run For Redlands City Council from page 6

that stealing merchandise worth \$950 or less is just a misdemeanor, which means that law enforcement probably won't bother to investigate, and if they do, prosecutors will let it go. Our city needs to be leaning into the state to change this. The city council needs to become more encompassing. It needs to be specific in working with police to create policies that allow the police to protect the communities from crime

form: Examining Affordable Housing, Euthanasia, Occupational Licensing, and School Choice in California and Foundations of Political Science 2021, as well as well as California Government and Politics.

According to a review of one of the books, Cohen's writing is done from "a free-market capitalist perspective."

"I research heavily into government public policy," Cohen told the *Sentinel*.

Cohen attended high school in Plano, Texas. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in government and politics from the Univer-

sity of Texas at Dallas; a Master of Arts degree in religious studies from Southern Adventist University; a Master of Arts degree in Jewish studies from Gratz College and received his doctorate in philosophy from Avondale University College in New South Wales in Australia.

According to Cohen, he returned to Redlands two years ago after living there previously.

"This is my second year since returning to Redlands after being in the armed forces and returning from living in New Zealand," Cohen

said.

He is an instructor and lecturer at Chaffey Community College in the Department of Political Science, at Mt. San Jacinto Community College in the Department of Political Science and Loma Linda University within the School of Religion. In addition he carries out academic research related to public policy in the state of California and approaches to solving existing social issues.

He is married to Rabbi Dr. Heftsibah Cohen. They have three children, ages 20, 17, and 12.

-M.G.