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Toll Lane Delay Temporarily Spares Politicians Inevitable Resident Hostility

A subset, at least, of San Bernardino County politicians have bought for themselves a temporary reprieve by postponing, at least until June, the opening of the toll lanes on the I-10 Freeway that are to stretch from the Los Angeles County/San Bernardino County line in Montclair to the I-15 Freeway.

While what is the second substantial delay in charging motorists for utilizing the

freeway will stave off county resident outrage for another five months, a question at this point is whether SBCTA – the San Bernardino County Transportation Agency – will extend that delay once more in an effort to preserve the careers of a good cross section of the county and municipal officeholders who either participated in the 2017 vote to proceed with the toll lane project or who in the years since did

nothing to rescind that decision.

Work began on the \$1.77 billion project in 2020, at which time officials stated the lanes would be in use by Christmas Season 2023. Subsequently, the completion date was pushed to March 2024. They have now tacked on another three-to-four-month wait, with the opening now anticipated for June or July.

One reason given for

the delay was heavier-than-normal rain in early 2023, together with the need to replace what turned out to be defective beams on the Vineyard Avenue Bridge.

While some residents have long recognized that the lanes being constructed are to be ones that motorists must pay to use, many do not. The recent erection of overhead markers for the lanes has alerted some travelers. Never-

theless, commuters for more than three years have put up with delays and substantial inconvenience on the span of the freeway from Montclair all the way through Upland and Ontario to the Interstate 15, doing so graciously out of the belief that two more lanes along that span going east and two lanes going west will greatly alleviate congestion on the major highway.

Statistics show See P 3

Quixotic Runs Of Hopeless Candidates In 29th Senate District Race Baffles Pundits

The four-way match-up in the 29th Senatorial District which will take place in the March primary election involves two Republicans and two Democrats that at least some political analysts find baffling. The long-shot Republicans in the race appear to be running to further their name recognition and set up some potential future realistic race for themselves, most likely for some office other than state senator in the 29th District. The two Democrats boast somewhat greater electoral viability this time around, but are exploring turf beyond their respective political wheelhouses.

None of the four is an incumbent in the newly drawn district.

Every decade in California, during the political term that takes place following the election year ending in 2 involves two overlapping State Senate maps as a consequence of the members of the upper legislative house in Sacramento being elected to staggered four-year terms and the shift in the state's electoral map in conjunction with the census. From December 2022 until December 2024, the dual State Senate map features odd-numbered districts that were and are using boundaries adopted after the 2010 Census, while even-numbered districts use boundaries from the post-2020 census. As a result, areas within those districts may or may not be represented by two state senators and other areas may or may not See P 3

Bridge Development's Ploy Using PD Chief To Lowball Upland Community 1st Fails

By Mark Gutglueck

Upland city officials and Bridge Development Partners, LLC corporate officers are yet seeking to lowball the group of civic activists who have so far successively prevented plans to establish the first of what would ultimately become a complex of warehouses for on-line retail behemoth Amazon, nearly

four years after a differently composed city council gave the first major phase of the project go-ahead.

Unrecognized by the project's proponents is that inside information possessed by those who have derailed the undertaking has left them impervious to the monetary concessions the developer has offered.

In June 2019, Bridge Development Partners previewed to the community the Bridgepoint project, what was described as three buildings comprising a 977,000-square foot distribution center to be built on a 50-acre property being leased from the Bongiovanni Family Trust slightly east of Central Avenue, north of

Foothill Boulevard and south of Cable Airport.

In October 2019, a revamped conception of the project was presented, one that was reduced to a single structure of 276,250 square feet. When the environmental review documentation for the project was posted on December 16, 2019, it came in the form of a negative mitigated

declaration. In that documentation, the project was shown as a having been reduced once more to a 201,096-square-foot distribution center, with 1,438 parking spaces contained on the project grounds.

Bridge Development Partners, LLC's lease with the Bongiovanni Family Trust runs for an initial 50 years. See P 3

Gomez Again Denied Mayoral Ascendancy By Her Colleagues

Her council colleagues have once again thwarted Victorville City Councilwoman Blanca Gomez's ascendancy to mayor.

Last month, the council voted to elevate Councilwoman Liz Becerra to the mayoral position.

Unlike Adelanto, Barstow, Chino, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Montclair, Needles,

Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Rialto, San Bernardino and Upland, the City of Victorville does not have a directly elected mayor. Rather, like those in Chino Hills, Hesperia, Apple Valley, Loma Linda, Highland, Redlands, Big Bear, Yucaipa, Yucca Valley and Twentynine Palms, Victorville's city council appoints one of its See P 2

Ramos Sponsoring Legislative And Propositional Bill Aimed At Nixing Swarm/Smash & Grab Robberies

A bill introduced by Assemblyman James Ramos and co-authored by Assemblyman Avelino Valencia, if approved by the legislature, governor and then passed by the state's voters, will impose stiffer penalties against retail theft suspects, in particular those engaging in smash-and-grab stealing and swarm robberies.

In 2020, a perfect storm descended upon retail establishments in California as massive demonstrations in the aftermath of the George Floyd death taken together with thinned-out personnel in stores and markets because of the coronavirus pandemic inspired looting, which law enforcement agencies did not respond to

out of fear or concern encounters with those looters might result in fatalities. That lack of reaction emboldened criminals who innovated and incorporated swarm techniques into coordinated robberies.

In a typical swarm theft, a significant number of participants – a dozen or more and, in some, mul- See P 2

Cal State University Professors, Instructors & Lecturers To Stage Walk-Out Next Week

Despite having been provided with a 5 percent pay increase that is to go into effect on January 31, 29,000 professors, lecturers and other educators across the 23-campus California State University system are purposed to engage in a work walkout on Monday, January 22.

"We intend to shut the campuses down, all 23 of them," a professor told

the *Sentinel*.

The California Faculty Association represents all faculty members at California State University's 23 campuses – Cal State University Bakersfield, Cal State University Channel Islands, Cal State University Chico, Cal State University Dominguez Hills, Cal State University East Bay, Cal State University Fresno, Cal

State University Fullerton, Cal Poly Humboldt, Cal State University Long Beach, Cal State University Los Angeles, Cal Maritime Academy, Cal State University Monterey Bay, Cal State University Northridge, Cal Poly Pomona, Cal State University Sacramento, Cal State University San Bernardino, San Diego State University, San Francisco State Uni-

versity, San Jose State University, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, Cal State University San Marcos, Sonoma State University and Cal State University Stanislaus – will strike for a planned five days from January 22 until January 26. The work stoppage will disrupt the first five days of the spring semester for the 485,550 students currently enrolled in the

California State University System.

The California Faculty Association is demanding a 12 percent pay hike, smaller class sizes and more manageable workloads, additional mental health counselors for students, a more generous leave cycle to include extended parental leave of up to a full semester and what was termed See P 7

Victorville Bypasses Gomez Again *from front page*

members to the mayoral post. The city has used that system since its 1962 incorporation.

While historically, a couple of personages – Joseph Campbell being the first and Terry Caldwell being the second – came to monopolize in large measure the mayoralty while they were on the council, an informal and less than firm-and-fast tradition eventually evolved by

which the mayor's gavel was rotated among the council members, generally to one who had managed to be reelected at least once therefore had enough experience and familiarity with Roberts Rules of Order and parliamentary procedure to preside over meetings.

In the 1990s, Victorville's political leadership manifested a need to set aside any internecine rivalries, as the city was locked in a fierce competition with nearby Adelanto to obtain civilian conversion and eventual

control and ownership over George Air Force Base, which was shuttered by the Department of Defense in 1992. As a consequence, for a decade-and-a-half, there was tremendous political stability in Victorville, with relative camaraderie among the city council's members and minimal changeover on that Republican-dominated panel. When Republican Ryan McEachron displaced incumbent Bob Hunter, another Republican, in the 2008 election, the first real note of dis-

sonance in over a decade was sounded. Eventually, McEachron would find acceptance within the Republican establishment, but two years after his election, another Republican upstart, Angela Valles, was elected to the council.

Upon taking her place on the Victorville council dais, Valles garnered a reputation as a political outsider perennially cast as a dissident challenging the status quo. She found herself crossing swords with Mike Rothschild,

Continued on Page 4

Smash-And-Grab Recriminalization Measure *from front page*

tiple dozens or scores of thieves – will enter a business and spend several minutes collecting and/or pocketing merchandise and then, upon a prearranged signal, walk out en masse without paying for any of it. By their sheer numbers, they overwhelm the clerks or store personnel and their ability to prevent what is occurring.

Smash and grab robberies likewise involve multiple participants, but usually far fewer than in a swarm theft scenario. Such actions similarly involve a rush and entail, at the very least, implied violence which often extends to actual violence, with an intentional display of destruction or mayhem. A key element is the distraction or disabling of any form of security or theft preventative measures. This can involve the brandishing of weapons – usually firearms – or the employment of chemical agents such as bear spray, pepper spray or mace against any security guards, the use of hammers or heavy metal rods in smashing glass display or containment cases, all carried out rapidly and with aggression. In effectuating such thefts, perpetrators are not reluctant to make noise or conspicuously inflict damage on property to accentuate the intimidation effect. Upscale stores featuring expensive items and valuable commodities are

popular smash and grab robbery targets.

This circumstance was exacerbated by the disabling effect of Proposition 47, which was approved by voters by a 60% to 40% margin in 2014.

Proposition 47 grew out of an effort to comply with a 2011 California Supreme Court order aimed at lessening the Golden State's per capita incarceration, the second highest in the nation at that time. The California Supreme Court in that ruling held that California's overcrowded prisons violated incarcerated individuals' Eighth Amendment rights against cruel and unusual punishment. The Supreme Court's order mandated a reduction in California's prison population by 33,000 inmates.

Proposition 47 reclassified theft offenses such that the threshold for prosecuting an incidence of shoplifting or robbery as a felony rose from items or merchandise valued at \$400 to \$950. Thus, stealing anything worth less than \$950 was classified as petty theft or a misdemeanor. In many cases, depending upon the jurisdiction and the manpower of the prosecutor's office, this meant a whole series of offenses went without being prosecuted at all.

In combination with the tactics and trends of swarm robberies or smash and grab robberies, there was a perception that retail theft had risen to a point where it was completely out of control.

This prompted Ramos

to take a swing at authoring a bill, AB 1772, aimed at deliberalizing the impact of Proposition 47 and what he said was the undesirable side effect of encouraging swarm and smash and grab robberies.

According to the Legislative Counsel's Digest, "Existing law, the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, enacted by Proposition 47, as approved by the voters at the November 4, 2014, statewide general election, defines and prohibits an act of shoplifting and prohibits prosecution for an act of shoplifting under any other law. Existing law defines shoplifting as entering a commercial establishment with intent to commit larceny while the establishment is open during regular business hours. AB 1772 would revise the definition of shoplifting to require an intent to steal retail property or merchandise. Existing law provides that a person with a prior conviction for specified offenses may be charged with a felony for shoplifting or for theft of property not exceeding \$950 in value. AB 1772, would require a person convicted of petty theft or shoplifting, if the person has 2 or more prior convictions for specified theft-related offenses, to be punished by imprisonment in the county jail for up to one year, or for 16 months, or 2 or 3 years, and would make conforming changes."

According to the Legislative Counsel's Digest, because the provisions of the Safe Neighborhoods

and Schools Act were put in place by a vote of the people in approving Proposition 47, those provisions cannot be removed simply by an act of the state legislature and the signing of that legislation into law by the governor. Rather, the provisions of Proposition 47 must be rescinded by another majority vote of the citizens of the state, according to the Legislative Counsel's analysis.

"This bill, AB 1772, would provide that its provisions would become effective only upon approval of the voters, and would provide for the submission of its provisions to the voters for approval at the next statewide general election," according to the Legislative Counsel's Digest.

Assemblyman Ramos's office offered a statement that "Prosecutors will find it easier to seek sterner penalties against retail theft suspects if AB 1772 is approved by the legislature, governor and then wins voter approval. If approved, store thefts would no longer be processed as a misdemeanor with no jail time if a suspect has been convicted of two or more specified theft-related offenses, and punishment could range from imprisonment in the county jail ranging from six months to as long as three years."

Ramos said, "Shoplifting, smash-and-grab thefts, and other acts of retail theft trends are causing retailers to close their businesses and endangering customers and employees. Since the

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pandemic, these crimes have increased. That is not the direction California needs to go."

Ramos added, "The Public Policy Institute reported that the 2022 rates for commercial burglary rates had increased by almost 16 percent compared to 2019. The Public Policy Institute also reported that shoplifting in 2022 had increased by nearly 29 percent from the pandemic years."

Ramos's office noted that one of Proposition 47's provisions "increased the threshold amount for theft misdemeanors from \$450 to \$950 and did not allow prior such convictions to count toward the new \$950 threshold. AB 1772 does not state a new threshold for triggering the increased penalties for retail theft, only the existence of prior convictions on the suspect's criminal record."

In February 2023, Ramos requested the state auditor to review the effectiveness of Proposition 47 to determine whether it had escalated crime rates in San Bernardino and Riverside counties and if so, what categories had been affected. The auditor's report is expected later this year.

Ramos characterized rising retail theft as "an issue that's been plaguing the State of California. We need to start holding people accountable for their actions. AB 1772 was introduced the first day, January 3, of [this year's legislative] session in response to the different retail thefts,

smash and grabs, that are going on throughout the State of California. This bill is meant to start the dialogue moving forward, but also to start to hold people accountable and making sure we are bringing the pendulum back to the middle."

Assemblyman Valencia said, "I am proud to joint-author AB 1772, with Assembly Member James Ramos, which will make our communities safer and support our businesses, while holding theft offenders accountable. We have all witnessed the disturbing continuous increase in crimes since the pandemic. Robberies, burglaries, petty retail theft have become so common in our communities. These incidents are taking place all across our Golden State. In addition to the financial impacts, these incidents also leave emotional trauma, causing individuals to feel vulnerable. According to the Public Policy Institute of California, in 2022, California experienced a 28.7 percent increase in reported commercial shoplifting. The state's largest counties have experienced the largest increases in reported retail theft crime. Thieves are brazen, committing these crimes in broad daylight and walking away without any repercussions. These criminal actions are leaving our communities feeling unsafe and negatively affecting our quality of life. Our business partners are suffering, losing profit and being forced to increase their

Continued on Page 4

Here's Why Chino Voters Should Support Measure V On March 5

By Garth Peterson

I am all for Measure V and you should be, too.

In case you don't know, Measure V will allow the City of Chino to collect an added 1 percent in sales tax on all taxable items sold in the city. It will go toward balancing the city's budget and making sure it stays in the black and not in the red in the future. For anyone who hasn't been following things, our city is now engaged in deficit spending. In an-

other three or four years we will be completely broke. What will we do then?

A committee to ensure that Measure V passes, called Yes on V, has been formed. Just so there is no confusion about it, some of the most generous donors to Yes On V are police officers. The Chino Police Officers Association – that's the patrol officers and detectives who keep us safe – provided \$5,000 to the committee. The Chi-

no Police Management Association – the union representing the lieutenants and captains in the department – passed the

Citizen Perspective

hat around and they donated another \$3,000.

If that doesn't convince you that you should donate something, anything, to the Yes on V Committee – \$50 or \$100 or even just \$25 – so we can get this tax passed, let me give you more information to convince you.

The police officers didn't just stop with their union supporting Measure V. They went out of their way to create a political action committee, Chino Police Officers for Political Stability, and they raised another \$1,718 so they can do even more to make Measure V pass.

Chino Police Lieutenant Aaron Kelliher is one of the leaders of the Yes on V Committee. In addition, Jeff Allison, who used to be a lieutenant on the police department

and former Chino Valley Fire Captain Keith Stroup and former Chino City Councilman Walt Pocock are members of the Yes on V Committee. You know right there they are a bunch of really good people.

The city will be in a world of hurt if it doesn't pass this tax. We might not be able to give our police officers the raises they deserve without it. If that doesn't bother you, there's something wrong with you. You are either

a criminal or you plain don't like the police, and there can't be any other reason.

Think about it! In October 2022, the Chino Valley Unified School District gave teachers a permanent 8.75 percent raise and on top of that a temporary one-time raise of 2 percent. That's 10.75 percent!

You know what they say about teachers: Those who can do things, do things. Those who can't, *Continued on Page 12*

Despite Initial Planning Commission Rejection, City Council Embraced Upland Warehouse Proposal from front page

with an option to extend it for another 50 years.

The city allowed the project to proceed toward approval without being subject to a comprehensive environmental impact report, which many Upland residents believed should have been carried

out for a project of such size, intensity and complexity. Rather, the city elected to use a mitigated negative declaration to complete the environmental review process.

An environmental impact report is an involved study of the project site, the project proposal, the potential and actual impacts the project will have on the site and surrounding area in terms of all conceivable issues, including land use, water use, air quality, potential

contamination, noise, traffic, and biological and cultural resources. It specifies in detail what measures can, will and must be carried out to offset those impacts. A mitigated negative declaration is a far less exacting size-up of the impacts of a project, by which the panel entrusted with the city's ultimate land use authority, in this case the city council, issues a declaration that all adverse environmental impacts from the project will be

mitigated, or offset, by the conditions of approval of the project imposed upon the developer. On February 12, 2020, the Upland Planning Commission voted 3-to-2, with members Gary Schwary, Linden Brouse and Yvette Walker prevailing, to recommend that the city council not approve project. Two weeks later, on February 26, 2020, the commission met again, this time with Commissioner Alexander Novikov, who

was not present previously, participating. In a move unprecedented in Upland's history, the planning commission reversed itself, voting 4-to-2, this time with Schwary, Brouse and commissioners Robin Aspinall and Carolyn Anderson prevailing, to recommend that the city council approve the project. Two of the members who had voted against the project on February 12, Brouse and Schwary, changed their votes.

On April 1, 2020, the Upland City Council by a 4-to-1 vote approved the project, in doing so accepting a \$17 million development agreement offered by Bridge Development Partners. That approval included the council's mitigated negative declaration rather than an in-depth environmental impact report.

Thereafter, a contingent of Upland citizens banded together, taking on the name *Continued on Page 5*

29th Senate District Race Features Two Democrats & Two Republicans from front page

have a state senator at all during the 2023-24 legislative session. The State Senate map enacted after the 2020 census will fully take effect after the 2024 elections.

What was previously designated as State Senate District 29 covered southwestern San Bernardino County, north-eastern Orange County

and a limited swath of mostly southern Los Angeles County. Josh Newman, a Democrat, has represented the 29th since he defeated incumbent Republican Ling-Ling Chang in 2020. The new State Senate District 29 includes Upland, Rancho Cucamonga, Fontana, Rialto, Bloomington, Colton, San Bernardino, Muscoy, Devore, Verdmont, Devore, University Heights, portions of Highland and Redlands.

Gómez-Reyes was first elected to the As-



Eloise Gómez-Reyes

sembly in 2016, two years after she failed to make it into the general election in 2014 when she vied for Congress. In 2016, she defeated a sister Democrat, incum-

bent Cheryl Brown, in the California State Assembly District 47 general election, using a campaign in which she stated that Brown was not progressive enough. In that race, Gómez-Reyes showed a knack for fundraising, bringing in \$766,901 in donations.

Once in office, Gómez-Reyes sought to establish herself as the premier member of the Assembly in the Inland Empire, succeeding in doing so. She entertained an outside – re-

mote yet actual – hope of eventually acceding to the position of Assembly speaker. Previously, term limits had prevented any member of the Assembly from serving more than three 2-year terms in the lower legislative house and more than two 4-year terms in the State Senate – meaning a cap of 14 years as a state legislator. Those elected from 2012 onward, however, saw their total allowed time in the legislature reduced to 12 years, though they are allowed

to serve all of that time in either the Assembly or State Senate, if they wish and the voters cooperate. Gómez-Reyes, as a member of the dominant Democrat Party, had hoped she might become the preeminent state politician in not just San Bernardino County but Southern California and by remaining in the Assembly until December 2028, make a bid to become Assembly Speaker by 2024 or 2026.

Her ambition was *Continued on Page 6*

Toll Lanes Coming On The I-10 Freeway from front page

that far fewer than 15 percent of travelers in California are willing to pay toll fees. Thus, the reduction of gridlock on the freeway from the advent of the lanes this summer is very likely to be far less impactful than some perceive or hope.

The specter of double, triple, indeed quadruple taxation hangs over the circumstance.

The 10 Freeway was

created during the Eisenhower Administration, predating the births of more than half of those who now use it. Its right-of-way was attained and it was constructed largely with the use of National Highway Funds.

In California, motorists pay a whopping 51.1 cents per gallon in gasoline tax, the highest in the nation.

In 1989, the voters of San Bernardino County passed Measure I, a half-cent countywide sales tax override, the proceeds from which are

intended to pay for road and street improvements. The Measure I taxation regime was extended until 2040 in a countywide vote in 2004. Measure I money was administered through what was then the San Bernardino Association of Governments, a regional joint powers planning authority known by its acronym SanBAG, and later SBCTA, which were and are headed by a 29-member governing board, consisting of a council member or mayor from each of San Bernardino

County's 22 cities and two incorporated towns and all five members of the county board of supervisors.

One of the first things done by the SanBAG board after the 1989 passage of Measure I was to borrow against future Measure I money to initiate transportation projects. So, rather than spending the Measure I money as it came in and accumulated, the use of bond issuances to borrow money for the projects created debt that is being continuously serviced

by incoming Measure I money. While some officials claim that this was a defensible decision since inflation often outruns interest, others hold that the agency putting itself into the position of constantly servicing debt rather than paying for actual improvements going forward benefits lending institutions more than the customers paying the tax and the motorists using the county's roadways.

On July 12, 2017, the SANBAG/SBCTA governing board, led by

then-Chairman Alan Wapner, a city councilman representing Ontario, guided the board through a discussion and action to approve the toll lane project. Several of the citizens present spoke in opposition to the toll lane option for improving the freeway, some quite vociferously, some of whom grew argumentative, some of whom pleaded with the board. Their entreaties were in vain.

Thus, SBCTA's arrangement with a third *Continued on Page 7*

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San Bernardino County **Sentinel**

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Once Politically Stable, Victorville Descended Into Contentiousness As Its Councilmembers Lobbed Continuous Attacks At One Another *from front page*

another longstanding Republican member of the city council and one-time mayor, along with McEachron and especially Rudy Cabriales, another Republican and one-time mayor, who had been the city's first fire chief. Saying she saw City Hall as tainted by "corruption and kickbacks," Valles distinguished herself from her council colleagues, fighting them, if not at every turn, on a number of major issues. She alleged cronyism between the city's elected officials and city staff, accusing the council of giving city employees raises while failing to make bond payments. She took major issue with Cabriales voting on a contract with the chamber of commerce when his wife was the executive director there. Under Valles' withering attack and the criminal accusations she lodged against Cabriales, he chose to not run for reelection in 2012. If Valles did not introduce contentious politics to Victorville, she as much as anyone ensured that it became a mainstay at Victorville City Hall. In return, she was not elevated to mayor by her colleagues.

Two years after Valles departed from the council, Gomez was elected, displacing McEachron. Gomez was a rarity, a Democrat in a den of Republicans. In short or-

der, she was ruffling the feathers of Gloria Garcia, who had been elected to the council in 2012 and was promoted to mayor by her colleagues in 2014.

Gomez in office has proven to be a combination of positive and negative attributes. Among her shortcomings was a complete lack of familiarity with parliamentary protocol and a less than deferential attitude to political hierarchy. This led to clashes with not only her council colleagues, but senior city staff. She developed a prickly relationship with virtually everyone at City Hall in a way that made Valles, who had left the council in 2014, seem as if she had been Miss Congeniality. Gomez found herself sharply at odds with Councilman Eric Negrete and Gloria Garcia, two of the council's then-resident Republicans. On occasions, the contretemps between Garcia and Gomez had grown so acute that Gomez was removed from the council meetings. Gomez had run-ins with Councilman Jim Kennedy as well, and on occasion tested the patience of Jim Cox, the city's former city manager who had been elected to the council in 2012, at which point he had immediately been designated mayor. When Kennedy opted out of running for reelection in 2018, he was succeeded

by Councilwoman Debra Jones, with whom Gomez then had a series of dust-ups.

Along with Jones in 2018, Rita Ramirez, a Democrat, was elected to the council, displacing Negrete, a sign that the Republican grip on Victorville was slipping. Despite another member of her party joining the council, Gomez made little headway in being able to influence her colleagues, and virtually every cause she championed during her first two years and then her second two years on the council was met with stony silence. Rarely did her motions receive a second, and virtually never did her suggestions of action receive majority support.

In 2020, an astounding 19 candidates vied for election or reelection to the council in a race for which three seats were contested, including the ones occupied by Garcia and Gomez. Gomez won and Garcia did not. The other two successful candidates were Liz Becerra, a Republican, and Leslie Irving, a Democrat. It was an historic event in more ways than one. With their swearing-in in December 2020, the council was completely distaff – as all five members were women – four were so-called protected minorities – three Latinas and one African American – and for the first time in its history Victorville had a city council in which a majority of its five members – Gomez, Ramirez and Irving – were Democrats.

At that point, Gomez was the senior member of the council, i.e., its longest-serving member. As such, the council's informal policy of conferring the mayoralty upon the individual on the council with the most experience without having previously served as mayor would have seemed to dictate that she would be named mayor. At the December 8, 2020 meeting, however, the first time the newly composed council met, not as was the case traditionally in the council chamber at City Hall but by means of an electronic hook-up as a precaution in the face of the worsening coronavirus pandemic, Gomez was locked out of the meeting and could not participate. Thus, when the council took on the task of appointing council officers, including mayor and mayor pro tem, Gomez did not take part in the nomination process nor in the vote. The upshot was that Jones was selected as mayor and Ramirez was designated

as mayor pro tem. Irving was allegedly induced to vote for Jones based on a commitment to provide her with eventual appointments as mayor pro tem and mayor.

In the 2022 election, Bob Harriman, a Republican, was elected to the city council, filling the gap on the panel that had existed since the council, with Ramirez and Gomez dissenting, had removed Ramirez on the grounds of non-residence in 2021. In December 2022, the council again bypassed Gomez, perpetuating Jones as mayor and appointing Becerra as mayor pro tem. By that point, Irving had become disaffected with the Democratic Party, and the Victorville City Council was again under the sway of the GOP.

Last month, on December 5, the city council met to appoint council officers for the next year. Irving, having apparently renounced any designs on the mayoralty, nominated Becerra. Gomez nominated herself. Har-

riman nominated Jones. Thereupon, Becerra polled her own vote and that of Irving. Jones garnered her own vote and that of Harriman. Gomez voted for herself.

Coming at it once more, Irving again nominated Becerra, who accepted the nomination. Gomez regrouped, forsook her unviable chance at being appointed mayor and nominated Irving. Irving declined the nomination. Harriman once more nominated Jones, who accepted the nomination. Gomez declined to vote. Harriman voted for Jones, as did Jones. Irving and Becerra voted for Becerra. Because of the deadlock, the matter was continue to December 19.

On December 19, with both Jones and Gomez absent and Becerra presiding over the meeting, Irving for the third time nominated Becerra, who accepted the nomination for the third time. Becerra, Irving and Harriman then voted to confer the mayoral post on her.

-Mark Gutglueck

Bill & Proposition Would Refelonize Repeated Retail Thefts *from page 2*

security measures or going completely out of business. Small business retailers have been able to remain operative, but they've had to increase their prices to make up for the loss due to theft. These increased costs and unexpected financial hits can have devastating implications, not only on

the business owner but also on the employees of that business. This is unacceptable and it's time we hold these bad actors to account for their actions."

Valencia said, "AB 1772 increases the ability of law enforcement and district attorneys to prosecute repeat offenders and reverse the spikes we have seen in theft crimes. Repeat offenders will no longer receive a 'get out of jail free card,' even if the stolen goods are under \$950. AB 1772

requires jail time if the perpetrator is convicted of a third offense. This bill aims to hold offenders accountable and will bring justice and a sense of security to our communities. Voters will have the final say if AB 1772 is enacted because it will amend Prop 47. I look forward to working collaboratively with our colleagues on this policy and addressing the public safety challenges our state is facing."

-Mark Gutglueck

A Group Of Upland Residents Who Did Not Sit Still For Their City Council's Approval Of A Diesel Truck-Laden Distribution Center Paying No Sales Tax And Sued Over It Are Now Skeptical Over Efforts To Settle The Matter On The Cheap *from page 3*

land Community First. The group's members retained attorney Cory Briggs, who then filed a petition for a writ of mandate, a lawsuit against the City of Upland, naming Bridge Development Partners as a real party in interest, seeking from the court an order that the city revisit the environmental review process for the project, make a determination that the mitigated negative declaration was inadequate and require that a full-blown environmental impact report for the project be carried out before the project is allowed to proceed.

The approval of the project was something of a cultural, social and political watershed in Upland. Less than two months after the approval of the project, Councilman Ricky Felix, who had voted to approve the project but was taken aback by the vitriol his support of the project provoked, resigned from the council. Mayor Debbie Stone, who was the force on the council militating most heavily in favor of the Bridgepoint project, bounced Walker, Brouse and Novikov off the planning commission because of their votes against the project in an effort to stem the criticism headed her way. In the 2020 election, the city's residents exacted retribution, voting Stone out of office as mayor, replacing her with Bill Velto, one of the members of the council who had also supported the project, but in a less obvious manner. The 2020 election saw further revamping of the council, with Carlos Garcia elected to replace Felix during the final two years of the term he had forsaken when he resigned, and Shannon Maust being elected to replace Velto in the council seat he vacated to run for mayor.

As a consequence of the Upland Community First legal filing, any ac-

tion toward the completion of the project, including site grading, was suspended.

In July 2021, Judge David Cohn entered a ruling that the mitigated negative declaration was a flawed environmental certification for the project, primarily in the way in which it wrongfully used a greenhouse gas threshold of ten thousand metric tons of carbon dioxide equivalent in calculating emissions from the distribution facility on a yearly basis as a maximum allowable limit and the consequent inadequate mitigative provisions for the greenhouse gas emissions from the operation.

"The failure to provide substantial evidence to justify the single quantitative method used as the greenhouse gas threshold of significance constitutes a prejudicial abuse of discretion," Judge Cohn ruled. "The public and decision-makers have not been provided sufficient information necessary to understand the threshold or the data used in the analysis establishing the threshold and reason for the significant change in baseline emissions in the subsequent greenhouse gas analysis. Accordingly, the city's approval of the mitigated negative declaration is set aside."

While the cost to Bridge Development Partners, LLC of carrying out a more thorough analysis of the carbon dioxide and chlorofluorocarbons to be generated at the warehouse would not have been prohibitive, Bridge Development Partners, LLC is reluctant to carry out that analysis because it anticipates that the mitigation that would be outlined in a thorough report would quite likely entail expenditures at the facilities Bridge Development Partners, LLC eventually intends to build on the Bongiovanni property over the potential 100-year lease of the

land to run to well in excess of the \$35 million to \$40 million in 2020 dollars the company has so far given indication it is willing to put up in public benefit payments.

Of significance was that Amazon, as an online retailer, bypasses the normal collection of sales tax that normally takes place in brick-and-mortar retail establishments. Upland, therefore, would not see any real financial benefit from hosting the project, which is proposed to entail vans and trucks heavily laden with merchandise coming and going and which would result in wear and tear on the city's roads and streets, to say nothing of the hazards and congestion such traffic entails, not to mention the impacts on air quality as was highlighted in Judge Cohn's decision.

Poorly hidden from the public, or unstated at this time, is that after completing the first 201,096-square-foot phase of the project on a portion of the 50 acres is that a second, third and even a fourth phase would eventually follow, such that the complex would become a facility very close to the 977,000 square feet originally proposed. The 1,438 parking spaces to be built in the first phase is a dead giveaway of that, those who have analyzed the project observed.

The two council newcomers elected in 2020 – Maust and Garcia – at first appeared to be more empathetic to the issues raised by Upland Community First than were Stone and Felix or the other two members of the council who joined with them in approving the project, then-Councilman and now-Mayor Velto and Councilman Rudy Zuniga. But over time, they have changed and are now in support of where City Hall and the community development department – headed by Velto's close associate Robert Dahlquest – would like to go, which is a settlement of the lawsuit in which, in exchange for money put up by Bridge Development Partners, LLC, the case would be dismissed, allowing the original mitigated nega-

tive declaration to suffice as the environmental certification of the project.

Just prior to Velto's assumption of the mayoralty in December 2020, he donned the mantle of a back channel communicant between Bridge Development Partners, LLC and Upland Community First, offering, if the citizens' group would settle the matter outside the rubric of Judge Cohn's authority, to increase by first \$21 million and then ultimately \$23 million the \$17 million in mitigation fees that Bridge Development Partners, LLC offered and which the city council approved in April of that year. That \$40 million, which was to be put up by Bridge Development Partners, LLC, was intended to cover the infrastructure demands and damage wrought by delivery operations and as payments in lieu of sales tax from Amazon's operations over the 50-year lease life of the building. The offer Bridge Development Partners, LLC was making through Velto divided the grassroots Upland First coalition into two factions. One of those splinter groups deemed the offer a reasonable show of good faith by the developer. Other members of the coalition, however, looking at all of the costs of and downsides to hosting a continuously expanding set of warehouses over that half-century, calculated the cost of offsetting or mitigating that damage to be well in excess of \$40 million when it was quantified monetarily. Moreover, they held that the lawsuit they filed to prevent the Amazon warehouse from proceeding involved principles beyond the simple provision of money, even as much as \$40 million, and that the litigation should not be settled until an environmental impact report on the project is completed. They resisted the pressure being brought by Velto, and no deal with Bridge Development Partners, LLC was closed, which prompted Bridge Development Partners, LLC corporate officials, who had preserved deniability by negotiating through Velto,

to publicly disavow that any offer beyond the \$17 million specified with the project's 2020 approval had been made.

Bridge Development Partners, LLC, as the real party in interest in the lawsuit brought by Upland Community First against the City of Upland, in December 2021 appealed Judge David Cohn's ruling upholding that challenge. The matter has now been rerouted back to San Bernardino County Superior Court, where until recently it was being heard in the courtroom of Judge Gilbert Ochoa. Briggs, on behalf of Upland Community First, petitioned to remove Judge Ochoa and the case is next scheduled for a hearing before Judge Donald Alvarez on June 3, 2024.

Both the city and Bridge Development Partners, LLC have tremendous misgivings on where the litigation is headed from here and are, in the words of a city official, "determined" to bring it to a close.

The Sentinel has learned that during Thanksgiving week, Velto employed Upland Police Chief Marcelo Blanco in an effort to convince the decision-makers of Upland Community First to drop the suit. Blanco sought to inveigle the Upland Community First members to "come down to the police station" in an effort to employ strong arm interrogative tactics to induce "cooperation," meaning that one or more members of the Upland Community First Board of Directors would make a commitment under duress that would then be considered binding on the organization as a whole. Blanco, in making his pitch, emphasized the benefits that would come to the police department specifically, which would entail, he said, Bridge Development Partners, LLC underwriting the cost of the city hiring three police officers. Blanco was not focused on the substance of the suit itself, but angled more toward how the city, meaning City Hall and its various departments, in particular the police department, would be advantaged by the suit

ending and Bridge Development Partners, LLC being allowed to proceed. While the \$40 million offer from December 2020 was not mentioned specifically, it was noted that Mayor Velto was still seeking to leverage a settlement, and it was implied without anything being put in writing that Bridge Development Partners, LLC would up the original \$17 million in community benefits to \$40 million.

Upland Community First members were, one of the group's participants said, "astounded" at Blanco's lack of sensitivity to and understanding and/or appreciation of the issues at stake in the litigation.

Moreover, Upland Community First members believe that it is improper for the city or anyone at Bridge Development Partners, LLC to be in contact with members of Upland Community First with regard to the issues that are at the heart of the litigation, and that the only legitimate negotiating that can take place would be between Briggs, representing Upland Community First, and City Attorney Steve Deitsch, representing the city.

Moreover, unbeknownst, apparently, to Bridge Development Partners, LLC is that a former or disgruntled current employee has conveyed internal information to Upland Community First to the effect that Bridge Development Partners, LLC can route as much as \$160 million into a public benefit account for a combination of the City of Upland, its residents and its various community organizations and still realize a profit from the project. Accordingly, an offer of \$40 million in public benefit payments in conjunction with the Bridgepoint Project is considered by Upland Community First members to be only 25 percent sufficient. Unless Bridge Development Partners, LLC is willing, in writing in advance through some legally binding agreement, to appropriate \$160 million over the 50-year life of the lease with the Bon-

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Three Of The Four 29th Senate District Candidates Meet Party Philosophical Expectations, Whole The Fourth Is A Union-Friendly Republican *from page 3*

foiled by Anthony Rendón, the speaker from 2016 until 2023; Robert Rivas, the current speaker, and Assemblyman James Ramos. Ramos, the wealthy former chairman of the San Manuel Tribe of Mission Indians, was a member of the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors until he was elected to the Assembly in the 40th District in 2018. Shortly thereafter, an at first low-key and then an increasingly more pitched battle between Gómez-Reyes and Ramos for the dominant position as San Bernardino County's/the Inland Empire's political shot caller ensued. Ramos's wealth – he reportedly makes \$18,000 per day in personal income from the San Manuel tribe's casino operation – has allowed him to make substantial donations to other members of the Assembly, increasing his clout among his colleagues and advancing his own ambition to become Assembly Speaker, perhaps as early as 2026. In competing pieces of legislation – such as that pertaining to the regulations to be imposed on warehouses – Ramos's less restrictive proposals have displaced those of Gómez-Reyes, which called for more exacting standards to limit the environmental impacts and health implications of logistics facilities on nearby residents. Approaching the 2024 election cycle, her last opportunity to move out of the Assembly into the State Senate, Gómez-Reyes did so.

As a current officeholder, Gómez-Reyes, 66, enjoys a commanding financial edge over her opponents. In her 2022 reelection effort she collected a prodigious amount of money that totals more than nine times what her three opponents might realistically hope to raise combined this year. A glimpse of her major donors two years ago reveals she received \$19,400 each from the California Nurses As-

sociation, the California State Council of Service Employees, the California Teachers Association, Dignity California Service Employees International, the California State Council of Service Employees Political Committee Local 721; the California Teachers Association; the Service Employees International Union Local 721; \$17,600 from Pace of California School Employees Association; \$16,700 from the California Professional Firefighters Ballot Issues Committee; \$16,300 from the California State Association of Electrical Workers Political Action Committee; \$16,200 from the Faculty Our University's Future; \$16,000 from the California Faculty Association; \$11,000 each from Albert Arteaga, the California Independent Telephone Political Action Committee, the Service Employees International Union Local 2015 and M Quinn Delaney; \$10,900 each from the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees, Raise the Wage California, the Pace of California School Employees Association and the California State Pipe Trades Council Political Action Committee.

Obviously, as a member of the Assembly since 2016, Gómez-Reyes is oriented toward life in Sacramento. In the current legislative session – 2023-2024, she is assigned to the Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, the Budget Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Labor and Employment Committee, the Utilities and Energy Committee and the Rules Committee. In the 2021-2022 legislative cycle, she was a member of the Rules Committee, the Aging and Long-Term Care Committee, the Budget Committee, the Judiciary Committee, the Labor and Employment Committee and the Utilities and Energy Committee.

Prior to that, Gómez-

Reyes in 2019-2020 was a member of several of those committees and served as the chairwoman of the Human Services Committee.

How well Gómez-Reyes is perceived to have functioned in her capacity as a legislator has something to do with the philosophical, political or professional orientation of the evaluator.

She has been given a 100 percent positive rating by the American Civil Liberties Union. In her votes deemed of significance to the California Chamber of Commerce in 2022, she was shown to be in accord with that business advocacy group three times and out of step with it 14 times. Across the board she was deemed to be aligned with the California Environmental Justice Alliance in terms of legislation that group supported and opposed. She voted in synchronization with the California Labor Federation 100 percent of the time. She is lined up in 99 percent of her votes with the California Environmental Voters Alliance. Gómez-Reyes was given a grade F from the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association in terms of supporting Proposition 13, the landmark property tax limitation measure passed in 1978. According to the National Federation of Independent Business, she voted in accordance with that group's preferences 18 percent of the time.

She is a graduate of Loyola Law School and a licensed attorney.

In pursuing the State Senate District 29 position, Gómez-Reyes said, "My top priority is serving our community and putting the needs of everyday people first, not corporations or special interests. I'm proud of my 35-year record of getting things done for working people and supporting families, small businesses, veterans, youth, and seniors."

She said, "As a daughter of immigrants who worked the fields as a 12-year old and took on three jobs after high school to put myself through college, I know

all too well the struggles facing working people. That's why throughout my career as an attorney, public servant, and Assembly majority leader, I've worked to deliver results that make a difference for our community here in the Inland Empire, and it's why I'm committed to doing more in the State Senate."

Jason O'Brien is the other Democrat in the race. He is employed



Jason O'Brien

as a detective with the Los Angeles Police Department. He was formerly a member of the Fontana Unified School District Board of Education. In 2016, when he was elected to that position, O'Brien became the first African-American man in district history to serve on that panel.

O'Brien, 53, replicates a crucial element of Gómez-Reyes platform in that he has taken a firm stand against the proliferation of warehouses in Fontana, specifically when in 2014 he ran against incumbent Mayor Acquannetta Warren, who is such a strong advocate of warehouse construction in Fontana that she is known, by her supporters and opponents alike, as "Warehouse Warren."

O'Brien contends that the Inland Empire already suffers from a glut of logistics facilities, and that their numbers are out of balance and they are monopolizing space that could be put to more productive and positive economic use. He says the relatively poor pay and benefits provided to those who work in distribution facilities, the large diesel-powered semi-trucks that are part of those operations with their unhealthy exhaust emissions, together with the bane of traffic gridlock they create are reasons why governmental

policy should encourage alternative development schemes for that property.

O'Brien and his wife, Shannon, founded Children's Resources a non-profit organization that provides parent education seminars aimed at promoting academic success for students from disadvantaged homes. With his wife, he also created Echo Interpreting, LLC., which works in conjunction with Children's Resources to provide bilingual educational programs for parents and students. He is a sponsor of annual college scholarships to graduating African-American seniors in Fontana to aid in their pursuit of higher education.

A graduate of Howard University, O'Brien has a degree in political science.

One of O'Brien's stated goals as a state legislator is to implement policies and programs to create jobs and reduce unemployment and facilitate the employment of students upon graduation from high school, junior college and four-year college.

Kathleen Torres Hazelton, 73, is a native of Washington, D.C. Kathleen's father was an immigrant from Mexico. He worked as a physician for the Veterans Administration Hospital (now the Veterans Health Administration), and her family moved to different places throughout the country as her father's assignments with different hospitals fluctuated.

After earning a bachelor's degree in chemistry from Baylor University in 1974 and a degree in nursing from the Baylor University School of Nursing in 1976, she served in the United States Air Force from 1979 to 1992 as a staff nurse and certified nurse-midwife. While in the Air Force, she earned her master's degree from the University of Utah in 1988. She and her husband met in the Air Force, and they moved to California in 2006.

In 2020, Hazelton ran as the Republican nominee for California State Senate in the Senate Dis-

trict 25 against incumbent Democrat Anthony Portantino. She lost rather decisively, 166,529 votes or 36 percent to Portantino's 295,432 votes or 64 percent.

She lists "public safety, support for law enforcement, building bridges between the community and police, protection for the unborn, strong Borders, competitive, quality health care,



Kathleen Hazelton

support for our veterans, conservative water and land resources management and school choice" as the primary planks in her campaign platform.

On the latter issue, Hazelton said, "Parents should have the ability to choose moral and accurate education for our children."

Hazelton said if elected she will work toward the "repeal of Assembly Bill 5." AB5, known colloquially as the "gig worker bill," requires companies that hire independent contractors to reclassify them as employees. "People should not lose their entire livelihood and businesses over an ill-conceived and punitive law created for the labor unions," Hazelton said. "Special interests should not dictate how people choose to work! We should enable independent contractors to return to gainful and profitable employment."

She said she is in favor of "lower taxes so people can maintain their homes and businesses."

Carlos Garcia has been on the Upland City Council since he was chosen in a special election in 2020 to serve the last two years of former Councilman Ricky Felix's term. He was re-elected in 2022.

He is a graduate of Pepperdine University, with a bachelor's degree *Continued on Page 12*

With Motorists Sustaining Quadruple Taxation, That They Will Forgive Local Politicians Who Are Now About To Saddle Them With Toll Lanes On The Freeway Is An Open Question *from page 3*

party which will collect the tolls to pay for the four additional lanes over the next 45-to-60 years constitutes triple taxation, critics of SBCTA maintain, since the use of federal money to acquire the right-of-way and build the freeway which was augmented by gasoline tax and the Measure I funding means the toll lanes have already been paid for.

When county residents objected to this quadruple taxation, Wapner, as the chairman of SBCTA, claimed that “almost none” of the Measure I funding was being used for the construction of the toll lanes. “Almost none,” some noted, is alternate phraseology for some.

If the toll lanes are indeed in place by summer, voters throughout San Bernardino County will fully understand by November that the politicians who have led them for the last several years, including ones who are members of the SBCTA board and ones who are not, were in place when the quadruple taxation financing scheme used to complete the toll lanes was given ratification. Whether those politicians are made to pay the price for that arrangement remains to be seen.

Already, in 2022, one longtime councilwoman/mayor who joined with 15 others in the transportation agency vote ratifying the toll lanes, Grand Terrace’s Darcy

McNaboe, was voted out of office when her opponent, current Mayor Bill Hussey, boldly made a point of her support of the pay-to-drive scheme.

Seven others of the 16 who supported the project – Montclair Mayor Paul Eaton, Needles Mayor Edward Paget, Redlands Councilman Jon Harrison, San Bernardino Mayor Carey Davis, Upland Mayor Debbie Stone, Yucaipa Councilman David Avila and First District County Supervisor Robert Lovingood – have left office, some voluntarily, some by the will of the voters and one at the hands of the grim reaper. An eighth, Third District Supervisor James Ramos, remains in office, though not as county supervisor but in the capacity of a member of the California Assembly.

Of note, Wapner, who was the chairman of the

transportation agency in 2017 – then referred to as San Bernardino Associated Governments, i.e., SanBAG – was the prime mover in the effort to approve the toll lane project, along with SanBAG Executive Director Raymond Wolf. Offering key support to the toll lane concept as well as their votes were Fontana Mayor Acquafredda and Rancho Cucamonga Mayor Lloyd Dennis Michael. Other votes in favor of the project were Apple Valley Town Councilman Curt Emick, Colton Councilman/now Mayor Frank Navarro, Highland Councilman Larry McCallon and Yucca Valley Town Councilman Rick Denison. Both Chino Mayor Eunice Ulloa and then-Fifth District Supervisor Josie Gonzales voted against establishing the toll lanes.

Then-Adelanto Mayor

Rich Kerr, then-Barstow Mayor Julie McIntyre, then-Big Bear Lake Mayor Bill Jahn, then-Chino Hills Councilman Ed Graham, then-Hesperia Councilman Bill Holland, then-Loma Linda Mayor/now-Councilman Rhodes Rigsby, Rialto Mayor Deborah Robertson, Twentynine Palms Councilman Joel Klink, then-Victorville Councilman Jim Kennedy, San Bernardino County Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford and San Bernardino County Fourth District Supervisor Curt Hagman were not present.

Wapner, Warren, Navarro and Dennison were reelected in 2022 and Michael faced no opposition. Of those that supported the project, Robertson, McCallon and Klink are due to stand for reelection later this year.

Like virtually all of

the 16 officeholders who supported the project, McNaboe escaped for five years being held to answer for the vote. She nearly avoided accountability in the 2022 election cycle, as well, since the toll lanes were not in place in 2022 and would not be visible for another 18 months after that election. What tripped her up was that there has been some attention drawn to the pending completion of the project. As importantly, Hussey learned of the issue in the summer of 2022. In addition, Grand Terrace is the county’s smallest city geographically and third smallest in terms of population. The ease with which information is spread among the city’s 13,372 residents and 7,869 registered voters within its 3.5-square mile confines redounded to McNaboe’s detriment.

-Mark Gutglueck

Professors, Instructors & Lecturers Claim That Given Their Educational Level, They Are Underpaid *from front page*

“gender-inclusive” rest rooms.

According to the California Faculty Association, California State University representatives were unrealistic in their counteroffers all along during negotiations which first began in May 2023. In October, an impasse was reached, triggering a process by which an independent fact-finder initiated an examination of salaries and benefits in comparable institutions and examined the university systems’s books.

The California State University System is the nation’s largest four-year public university system, with a \$12.4 billion budget with roughly \$2.5 billion in reserves.

The independent fact-finder delivered findings that included a recommendation that the faculty be given an across-the-board 7 percent salary increase. The California Faculty Association

balked at that compromise figure.

In early December, professors and instructors staged a one-day walk-out at four campuses to express what they called “dissatisfaction” with the university system’s attitude and pay proposals.

Unable to come to an agreement, Cal State University Officials ceased any further efforts at contract talks and unilaterally imposed a 5 percent pay increase to go into effect on January 31, 2024. The five percent was identical to the raises given to employees in other work categories than teachers/professors who work for the California State Universities.

There is a disparity between tenured professors and what is referred to as “contingent” staff in most institutions of higher learning and the difference is no less pronounced and, according to educational professionals, even more pronounced in the California State University System than elsewhere. Contingent staff, basically, means those faculty members are untenured. The overriding majority of the professors, lectur-

ers and teachers in the California State University System are untenured. While arrangements can vary, most are teaching on a contractual or temporary basis. In some cases, contracts can specify no more than a single semester of work for a professor or lecturer. Slightly longer contracts are more common. Three-year contracts are not unheard of. In some cases, a professor can wangle a lengthier contract, with some having job security for five years. In most cases, professors have a clear idea of the courses they will teach or most of the courses they will be assigned. Some with two- or three- or four- or five-year contracts can be subject to course re-assignment.

Those under contract often but not always teach a full load of five courses per semester. Despite a faculty member teaching five courses having what is by virtually any standard that would normally be applied a full-time assignment, one requiring 40 hours or more devoted to work per week, the California State University System catalogs these untenured, contingent, contract employees

as temporary workers, which converts to a lower scale of pay and benefits than is provided to tenured professors.

Similarly, lecturers, adjunct professors, laboratory workers, librarians, counselors and coaches are considered contingent faculty.

Contingent faculty, in the California State University System, are not on a track, nor considered eligible, for tenure.

It is an irony that in many places outside academia, in both the private sector and in government, including elsewhere in the State of California, those who have attained degrees in higher education automatically qualify for higher salaries, with individuals holding certain positions or offices earning a master’s degree being given a mandatory five percent raise and those with doctorates getting a ten percent bonus. Despite there being requirements that professors, university and college teachers, lecturers, and librarians employed within the California State University System having to achieve degrees to be hired for certain assignments, there is no accompanying reward for accruing

further academic milestones.

At present, 52.6 percent of the instructional staff members in the California State University System were classified as part time. In 2010, 33.55 percent of the instructional staff members in the California State University System were classified as part time.

Typically, a lecturer with a PhD teaching a full load of five classes per semester tops out at a salary of \$64,860 per year, with no prospect of achieving tenure.

Lecturers, many of whom have PhDs, draw a maximum salary of \$54,360.

It is for that reason and others that the California Faculty Association is insistent upon the California State University System upping faculty pay by 12 percent.

The California State University System has countered that its salary schedules for those professors and other academic professionals who are hired full-time, including instructors on a track toward tenure, are not only reasonable

but competitive in comparison to what is paid in public and private universities and colleges elsewhere.

Associate professors now average \$105,226 annually, according to the university system. A senior assistant librarian is currently paid \$83,120 annually before benefits. The 5 percent increase is one logically derived when considering all of the economic factors at play, according to the state system. An associate professor would receive an annual salary of \$110,487, once the 5 percent increase is effectuated on January 31, according to the state’s negotiators. The aforementioned librarian would see a jump in pay to \$87,276.

State University officials maintain that the faculty union demands are patently unreasonable and that complying with them would be financially unsustainable and disastrous for the university system. The union insists that the 12 percent raises can be funded by tapping into the systems’s \$2.5 million reserves.

According to Leora Freedman, Cal State University Vice Chan-

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Public Notices

FBN 20230012488
 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
 VENDOR2VENDOR 950 N DUESENBERG DR, APT 8208 ONTARIO, CA 91764; BRIDGETTE A BENTLEY 950 N DUESENBERG DR, APT 8208 ONTARIO, CA 91764
 Mailing Address: P.O. BOX 1833 RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91729
 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/ BRIDGETTE A BENTLEY, Owner
 Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/19/2023
 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 J2526
 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 December 29, 2023 and January 5, 12 & 19, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: VICTOR M. GUITRON
 NO. PROVA 2400005
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of VICTOR M. GUITRON: A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by EMILY S. GUITRON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that EMILY S. GUITRON be appointed as personal representative 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 February 13, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at
 San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District
 Department F3 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
 Filed: JANUARY 3, 2024
 ANGELINE GARCIA, 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.

Public Notices

eral 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 Emily S. Guitron: Jennifer M. Daniel 220 Nordina St. Redlands, CA 92373 Telephone No: (909) 792-9244 Fax No: (909) 235-4733 Email address: team@lawofficeofjenniferdaniel.com
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 5, 12 & 19, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: JANICE JEAN LAROCQUE aka JANICE JEAN DIETL
 CASE NO. PROVA2300382
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of JANICE JEAN LAROCQUE aka JANICE JEAN DIETL: a petition for probate has been filed by ANNE COLLIGEN in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that ANNE COLLIGEN be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
 THE PETITION requests the decedent's will 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 February 14, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at
 San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District
 Department F2 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
 Filed: DECEMBER 29, 2023
 NYCOLE PATTERSON, 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.

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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 Anne Colligen:
 R. SAM PRICE
 SBN 208603
 PRICE LAW FIRM, APC
 454 Cajon Street
 REDLANDS, CA 92373
 Phone (909) 328 7000
 Fax (909) 475 9500
 sam@pricelawfirm.com
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 5, 12 & 19, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: FRANK A. VIRAMONTES
 CASE NO. PROVA2300218
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of FRANK A. VIRAMONTES: a petition for probate has been filed by PHILIP A. VIRAMONTES in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that PHILIP A. VIRAMONTES 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 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 February 29, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at
 San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District
 Department F1 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
 Filed: OCTOBER 25, 2023
 DiAnna Verdugo, 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.

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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 Philip A. Viramontes
 Tyler H. Brown
 SBN 259620
 BROWN & BROWN Attorneys at Law
 10681 Foothill Boulevard, Suite 490
 Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
 (909) 982-5086
 tylerbrown@brownandbrownllp.com
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE
 N U M B E R CIVSB2400062
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: JEANETTE H. GLOVER filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 JEANETTE H. GLOVER to JEANETTE GLOVER
 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: 02/26/2024
 Time: 08:30 AM
 Department: S28
 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 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: 1/04/2024
 Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024.

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CAMONGA, CA 91730: SOL-GREAT INC 9339 CHARLES SMITH AVE RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730
 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION registered with the State of California under the number 4650128.
 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/ PETER CHENGHIAN PAN, President
 Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/29/2023
 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 J5842
 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 January 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024.

FBN 20230012616
 The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
 LOOKING GLASS THERAPY SOLUTIONS 921 N MILLIKEN AVE #1190 ONTARIO, CA 91764; LOOKING GLASS THERAPY SOLUTIONS 921 N MILLIKEN AVE #1190 ONTARIO, CA 91764
 The business is conducted by: A CORPORATION.
 The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: NOVEMBER 6, 2023.
 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/ DR. BRANDON McQUEEN, CEO
 Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 12/21/2023
 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 J7527
 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 January 5, 12, 19 & 26, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: ELLA MITCHELL
 CASE NO. PROVA2400003
 To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of ELLA MITCHELL in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO: A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by ELLA MITCHELL in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO. THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SHASTA MITCHELL be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
 THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available
 for examination in the file kept by the court

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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 January 25, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at
 San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District
 Department F3 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
 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 Donna Arellano:
 ANTONIETTE JAUREGUI (SB 192624)
 1894 S. COMMERCENT-ER WEST, SUITE 108
 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408
 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350
 Fax No: (909) 890-0106
 ajprobate@gmail.com
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 12, 19 & 26, 2024.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE
 N U M B E R CIVSB2400010
 TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: MA-MOON JAMAL MATLAB filed with this court for a decree changing names as follows:
 ELYAS MAMOON MATLAB to ADAM MAMOON MATLAB
 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: 02/27/2024
 Time: 08:30 AM
 Department: S17
 The address of the court is Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino San Bernardino District-Civil Divi-

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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. F-2 at 9:00 a.m. on February 7, 2024
 San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District
 Department F2 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
 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 Donna Arellano:
 ANTONIETTE JAUREGUI (SB 192624)
 1894 S. COMMERCENT-ER WEST, SUITE 108
 SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92408
 Telephone No: (909) 890-2350
 Fax No: (909) 890-0106
 ajprobate@gmail.com
 Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 12, 19 and 26, 2024.

The San Bernardino County Sentinel Offers The Lowest Prices For The Publishing Of Legal Notices Among All Of The Newspapers In San Bernardino County

Are you looking to publish a Fictitious Business Name Notice? An Order To Show Cause? Notice Of A Trustee Sale? Notice Of A Petition To Administer An Estate? Publish your notice at a reasonable rate. Call (951) 567 1936 for a quote on all of your legal noticing needs.

The Sentinel is an adjudicated newspaper of general circulation for both the City of Rancho Cucamonga and San Bernardino County.



San Bernardino County Sentinel

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

Public Notices

sion 247 West Third Street, San Bernardino, CA 92415 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that a copy of this order be published in the SBCS Ontario in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.
Filed: 01/02/2024
Brianna Johnson, Deputy Clerk of the Court
Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G. Ochoa
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 2024.

FBN 20240000243
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
SUPREME CONSTRUCTION GROUP 7083 OREGON STREET FONTANA, CA 92336
ALEX FERNANDEZ
Business Mailing Address: 7083 OREGON STREET FONTANA, CA 92336
The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.

The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JANUARY 10, 2024.
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/ ALEX FERNANDEZ
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 01/10/2024

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 J7550
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 January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 2024.

AFFIDAVIT OF OWNERSHIP OF CERTIFICATE OF TITLE & REGISTERED SECURITIES
REG'D NO: 104-77-188182
In North America }
} SS
Land of California. }
"Equality if Paramount and Mandatory by Law"
[WITH TRUST] To all to whom these presents shall come, Greetings:
I, (Sur-name) Rucker, (Given name) Damion-Lewis, a living and original natural man, Affiant (hereinafter Registered Owner), being duly sworn, declare and state that I am of the age of majority and legally competent and have firsthand

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knowledge of the facts stated herein and believe these facts to be true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also depose and say that I am the Registered Owner of the record and the holder of the Certificated Security and / or Certificate No: 0190-058517 whose name also appears on the face of the instrument as DAMION LEWIS RUCKER (Estate / Trust) by reference to the Official Certificate of Live Birth (Title), recorded and filed dated July 11, 1977, in the Office of the Clerk, County of Los Angeles, Land of California, as the same name appears to be held for safekeeping by State Registrar of Titles. Said Certificate is a Valid Trust Instrument and further describes the same property that is an active Trust / Estate conveyed unto Affiant (Registered Owner) as set forth in the above-mentioned Certificate of Title and all financial assets, accounts, registered securities, entitlements, real and other personal property that are associated with said Trust / Estate (whether now owned or hereafter acquired), further described in the attached Form UCC 1 and Addendum under Notice of Claim. Affiant (Registered Owner) is the one legally entitled and duly authorized to act, appoint, assign, conveyed, and / execute said Trust / Estate no other parties are allowed without consent from Entitlement Holder / Registered Owner.
[AND IT IS SO ORDERED]

In Witness Whereof, said Affiant (Owner) has hereunto set his hand and seal.
Done this 29th day of December, 2023
BY: Damion-Lewis Rucker Entitlement Holder / Registered Owner
Affiant Sur-name Rucker: Given name: Damion-Lewis, Address: 10808 Foothill Blvd., Suite 160-406 Rancho Cucamonga, CA ZIP Exempt Non-domestic, without the UNITED STATES
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel January 12, 19, & 26 and February 2, 2024.

FBN 20240000235
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
BODHI HOME 7265 TRIVENTO PL RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91701: STEPHANIE H CHIU
Business Mailing Address: 3045 S ARCHIBALD #H134 ONTARIO, CA 91761
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/ STEPHANIE H CHIU, Owner

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Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 1/09/2024
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 J7550
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 January 12, 19 & 26 and February 2, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: RONALD P. JOHNSON CASE NO. PROVA2400011

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of RONALD P. JOHNSON : a petition for probate has been filed by DAVID ALLEN JOHNSON in the Superior Court of California, County of SAN BERNARDINO.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DAVID ALLEN JOHNSON 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 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 March 26, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at San Bernardino County Superior Court Fontana District

Department F2 - Fontana 17780 Arrow Boulevard Fontana, CA 92335
Filed: JANUARY 4, 2024
NYCOLE PATTERSON, 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 David Allen Johnson:
R. SAM PRICE
SBN 208603
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC
454 Cajon Street
REDLANDS, CA 92373
Phone (909) 328 7000
Fax (909) 475 9500
sam@pricelawfirm.com
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 19 & 26 and February 2, 2024.

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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 David Allen Johnson:
R. SAM PRICE
SBN 208603
PRICE LAW FIRM, APC
454 Cajon Street
REDLANDS, CA 92373
Phone (909) 328 7000
Fax (909) 475 9500
sam@pricelawfirm.com
Published in the San Bernardino County Sentinel on January 19 & 26 and February 2, 2024.

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: Barbara Joan Jordan, aka Barbara J. Jordan, aka Barbara Jordan Case NO. PROVA2400028

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Barbara Joan Jordan, aka Barbara J. Jordan, aka Barbara Jordan A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Bonnie Jean Settle in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Bonnie Jean Settle 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 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. F1 at 09:00 AM on 02/20/2024 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Boulevard, Fontana, CA 92335, Fontana District-Probate Division
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.
Amy M. Stover:
954 Main Street Fortuna CA 95540
Telephone No: (707) 725-4426
Published in the SBCS Ontario on:
01/19/2024, 01/26/2024, 02/02/2024

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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 in Dept. F3 at 09:00 AM on 02/21/2024 at Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino, 17780 Arrow Blvd., Fontana, CA. 92335, Fontana Superior Court
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.
Gerard Raymond Heard Case NO. PROVA2400014
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both of Gerald Raymond Heard A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by DeJuan K. Ogilvie in the Superior Court of California, County of San Bernardino.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that DeJuan K. Ogilvie be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the

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changing names as follows: Rachel Caryn Espinoza Gonzalez to Rachel Caryn Hidalgo, 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: 02/20/2024, Time: 08:30 AM, Department: S 24The 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 SBCS ? Ontario in San Bernardino County California, once a week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing of the petition.
Dated: 01/08/2024
Judge of the Superior Court: Gilbert G Ochoa
Published in the SBCS Ontario on 01/19/2024, 01/26/2024, 02/02/2024, 02/09/2024
FBN 20240000354
The following entity is doing business primarily in San Bernardino County as
FOREVER YOUR MUSE 5179 SAGEBRUSH TERRACE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407: RUBI DE SANTIAGO
Business Mailing Address: 5179 SAGEBRUSH TERRACE SAN BERNARDINO, CA 92407
The business is conducted by: AN INDIVIDUAL.
The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed above on: JANUARY 03, 2024.
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/ RUBI DE SANTIAGO
Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: 1/12/2024
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 J5842
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

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ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME CASE
N U M B E R CIVSB2328935,
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS: Petitioner: Princess Amanda Marie McCain ,Rachel Caryn Espinoza Gonzalez, filed with this court for a decree

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The business is conducted by: A GENERAL PARTNERSHIP. 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/ JOSE A. HERNANDEZ BARRAGAN, GENERAL PARTNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JANUARY 12, 2024 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

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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 01/19/2024, 01/26/2024, 02/02/2024, 02/09/2024 CNBB3202412MT
FBN 20240000227
The following person is doing business as: BIBI ENTERPRISE. 110 EUCLID AVE SECOND FLOOR SUITE #844 ONTARIO, CA 91762 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO APEX ADVANCED AGENCY AND ACADEMY, LLC. 10722 ARROW RTE RANCHO CUCAMONGA, CA 91730 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

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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/ DAVID G VARGAS, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JANUARY 09, 2024 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 01/19/2024,

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01/26/2024, 02/02/2024, 02/09/2024 CNBB3202413MT
FBN 20240000215
The following person is doing business as: SLIM'S KEY SHOP; SKS ACCESS CONTROL SOLUTIONS; SKS LOCKSMITH. 34022 SILVER LANTERN #B DANA POINT, CA 92629; [MAILING ADDRESS P.O BOX 334 DANA POINT, CA 92629]; PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS SAN BERNARDINO JACOB J HORN 34022 SILVER LANTERN #B DANA POINT, CA 92629. 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.

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s/ JACOB J HORN, OWNER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: JANUARY 09, 2024 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 01/19/2024, 01/26/2024, 02/02/2024, 02/09/2024 CNBB3202410MT

FBN 20230010474
The following person is doing business as: MISIDARA WELLS SERVICES. 7060 DAWN

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WAY FONTANA, CA 92336 COUNTY OF SAN BERNARDINO AMGG DIGITAL 7060 DAWN WAY FONTANA, CA 92336 STATE OF ORGANIZATION CA 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 statement becomes Public Record upon filing. s/ OLUWAYEMISI O. DAR-AMOLA, MANAGING MEMBER Statement filed with the County Clerk of San Bernardino on: OCTOBER 17, 2023 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

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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 11/24/2023, 12/01/2023, 12/08/2023, 12/15/2023 CNBB032414MT
CORRECTION DATES 12/29/2023, 01/05/2024, 01/12/2024 & 01/19/2024

Professors Striking Will Impact All Cal State Campuses from page 7

cellor for Human Resources, were the system to comply with the 12 percent demand, the cost of running the system would increase by \$380 million annually, such that the system's reserves would be eaten up in less than seven years. That is assuming that no emergencies will manifest in that timeframe, Freedman pointed out. What is more she said, the university system has already earmarked roughly \$1.734 billion of

those reserves for campus expansion and other programs critical to the system's educational mission.

The strike will undoubtedly have an impact on those for whom the California State University System exists: the 485,550 currently enrolled students. Campuses are to remain open during the strike and classes are still scheduled. Technically, the professors, instructors and lecturers staging the labor action next week are yet responsible for ensuring the education of their students and delivering them the

instruction and lectures and then monitoring the academic progress of their students. How they can guarantee those educational outcomes by sacrificing the time and opportunity to have their students in class the first week of the semester is an open question.

"Cal State University is communicating with students that campuses will be open to provide services to students and to check with their professors about class schedules during the strike, as not all faculty will choose to go on strike," said California State University Sys-

tem Spokeswoman Amy Bentley-Smith.

It will be up to California State University faculty to provide those students who were not provided with class time or study assignments the first week of the semester an opportunity to make up for that classroom time and homework according to whatever timetable and program they deem appropriate. Under normal circumstances, if a student misses a lecture or does not receive a homework assignment and therefore does not complete it, he or she is punished accordingly

gradewise at the end of the semester, which becomes a permanent part of his or her academic record. Similarly, students who because of missed classroom time see their performance on tests diminish, will suffer both in academic terms as well as missing out on instruction that it is the goal of the California State University System to provide them. While faculty members may not be inclined to hand out lower grades to students whose academic performance dipped because they were at the disadvantage imposed on them by the lost class-

room time brought on by those faculty members' willful action in going out on strike, providing those students with a way to overcome that classroom time deficit in terms of information or instruction that will not be imparted to them represents a larger moral and practical dilemma.

The California State University System Board of Trustees has scheduled 6 percent tuition hikes to be implemented over the next five years, beginning in September 2024.

-Mark Gutglueck

Given Voter Registration, GOP Candidates in The 29th State Senate District Are Sure To Lose from page 6

in information technology and a master's degree in educational technology.

Whereas Gómez-Reyes, O'Brien and Hazelton hew to the classic paradigm in which the first two as Democrats are aligned with unions and the latter as a Republican favors policies that side with the private sector and management over unions and labor when it comes to tussles

over control of terms and conditions within the workplace, Garcia has confused his constituents in Upland by demonstrating himself as being highly sympathetic to unions, in particular public employee unions, in his action as a council member.

Garcia, 52, does fall within conventional GOP lines, nonetheless, as a strong supporter of law enforcement.

In this year's Senate District 29 race, Garcia has emerged as what is being referred to as the "stealth candidate," as he has made no pronouncement on his positions on any issues or any pend-



Carlos Garcia

ing legislation.

Similarly, Garcia has not yet filed any reports with regard to his financial backing in this year's State Senate race.

Reports emanating from his circle and those around Upland City Hall have it that he is to be heavily supported in this year's campaign by de-

veloper Jeff Burum, who was particularly active in opposing his competition in the 2020 city council race. Burum, those affiliated with the Upland establishment said, is bankrolling an electioneering blitz that will be timed to land in mailboxes, in newspapers and in radio and television spots in late February and the first days of March, aimed at promoting Garcia into a second-place finish that will qualify him for a run-off against Gómez-Reyes in November. His apparent strategy is to hope for some untoward revelation regarding Gómez-Reyes to manifest

or for her to otherwise self-destruct.

Registration in State Senate District 29 strongly favors the Democrats, with 227,323 of the district's voters or 46.1 percent registered as Democrats, 116,170 or 23.5 percent registered

as Republicans, 106,485 or 21.6 percent affiliated with no party and 8.7 percent registered with the Libertarian, Peace & Freedom, Green, American Independent or other more obscure parties.

-Mark Gutglueck

Measure V Means Victory For Chino from page 3

teach. If we can pay our teachers who aren't any good at anything other than being glorified babysitters a 10.75 percent raise, surely we can afford to pay our police as much.

I'll say it this way:

If you are against this tax, you are a coward. If you are against this tax, would you be willing to put your name on a list of those who are against it and send that list to the police department? I didn't think so.

If you are a coward, just don't vote on March 5. Our city will be better for it.

Mayor's Role As Intermediary Raises Suspensions from page 6

giovanni Family Trust to make payments in lieu of sales tax, redress any destruction or deterioration of the road infrastructure, cover the cost of reducing the production of harmful air pollutants and redress any other untoward

impacts of the project, Upland Community First is not willing to entertain dismissing the lawsuit.

Furthermore, Velto's constant assumption of the role of intermediary/negotiator has raised the suspicions of a number of the Upland Community First members, who have conveyed a commonly held perception that he is militating not on behalf

of his constituents but rather Bridge Development Partners, LLC.

"It is obvious that the city can swing a way better deal than what Bridge is offering," one said. "That warehouse project will impact existing development in the area, and it will impact future development in the area, not to mention the city's infrastructure

for the next two generations. There needs to be a wider and deeper discussion about how creating the infrastructure for the warehouse Bridge wants to build now and the ones that will be built later should dovetail with other plans for adjoining or nearby properties. That should all be part of this discussion. The \$40 million Bridge has offered is

nowhere near enough to pay for that infrastructure and off-site improvements now and in the future and to offset the impacts and lack of sales tax revenue involved in this. The \$17 million Bridge offered was an out and out insult. That Mayor Velto is going along with Bridge every step of the way is a huge red flag. Something's amiss.

I don't think anyone in the community wants to ask why he is front-ending for Bridge. He's the mayor. He is supposed to be representing the city, not some company that wants to be based in the city without paying any taxes. No one is going to ask that question because the answer is not something anyone is prepared to deal with."