

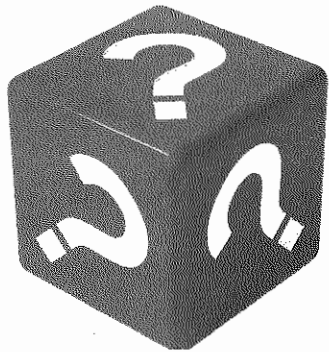
SAN JUAN SCOOP

BY THE RESIDENTS FOR THE RESIDENTS

SPECIAL ELECTION EDITION!

It's Election Time in SJC
providing all residents the
perfect opportunity to speak
out and be heard!

WHAT
DISTRICT
AM I IN???



TURN THE PAGE TO
FIND OUT!

Page 2

BREAKING ELECTION NEWS

1985



THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WHO IS RIGHT FOR SJC?

SCOOP Research Data & Recommendations!

*In what many have
called the most historic
election in San Juan Cap-
istrano history, city res-
idents for the first time
will have a city council
fully elected by districts.*

After extensive research
examining the public re-

and experience, as well as
campaign materials, flyers
and mailers, both positive
and negative, the San Juan
SCOOP has whittled down
to the three candidates that
we believe will honestly and
ethically serve the residents
of San Juan Capistrano, pro-
tect our City's heritage and
enhance public safety, while

to conduct the business of
repairing roads, maintaining
our public parks and trails,
and bringing creative solu-
tions to current challenges
such as additional parking in
the downtown. The council
candidates will be rated on a
three-tier scale: 1) Great for
San Juan's Future 2) Up and
Comer 3) Dangerous to San

1985 Calling



...for
clarity in
District 4 Race

Page 8

Campaign Fact Check

**F I A C T
K E**

With a whirlwind of Candidate campaign materials flying through the districts making numerous claims, find out which candidates are telling the truth and which candidates may possibly be a touch truth challenged.

Page 10

✓OTE

After extensive research examining the public record, individual candidate platforms, track records

of San Juan Capistrano, protect our City's heritage and enhance public safety, while spearheading new revenue streams to allow the City

San Juan's Future 2) Up and Comer 3) Dangerous to San Juan.

Continued on Page 6

THE VERY **LOUD** MESSAGE OF **SILENCE**

The Psychology of Candidates that Avoid Open Resident Forums

By Orrie Brown



"Truth is the ultimate power. When the truth comes around, all the lies have to run and hide."

By the end of election season, a mere 3 weeks away, San Juan Capistrano City Council Candidates will have had at least six public forums to share their ideas in the presence of other candidates: the 2018 SJC Debate at El Adobe, SJC Chamber of Commerce Candidate Forum at the Community Center; Friday a.m. Coffee Chats at Hennessey's, and three mobile home park forums.

In an unprecedented move...

Continued on Page 3

FEATURE STORY | *THE PUBLIC'S RIGHT TO COUNCIL TRANSPARENCY*

THE VERY LOUD MESSAGE OF SILENCE (CON'T)

three of the candidates have declined all SJC resident forums: **Kim McCarthy** in District 2, **Pam Patterson** in District 3, and **Jeff Vasquez** in District 4, at the time of this printing. Candidate McCarthy did accept one engagement at El Nido Mobile Home Estates but only with the condition that her opponent Troy Bourne speak before her, then leave the premises, then she speak for 45 minutes alone.

Let's take a look at the psychology of freely joining public forums vs. purposely avoiding candidate forums as a platform to share one's message:

1. A CANDIDATE THAT SEEKS ANY AND EVERY FORUM AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD BY THE PUBLIC:

- A Candidate that is confident in their message.
- A Candidate that believes in their message and its positive effect.
- A Candidate whose message is truthful.
- A Candidate whose message is factual with them knowing it will stand up to scrutiny even in a large



knowing it will stand up to scrutiny even in a large group, and they can back it up.

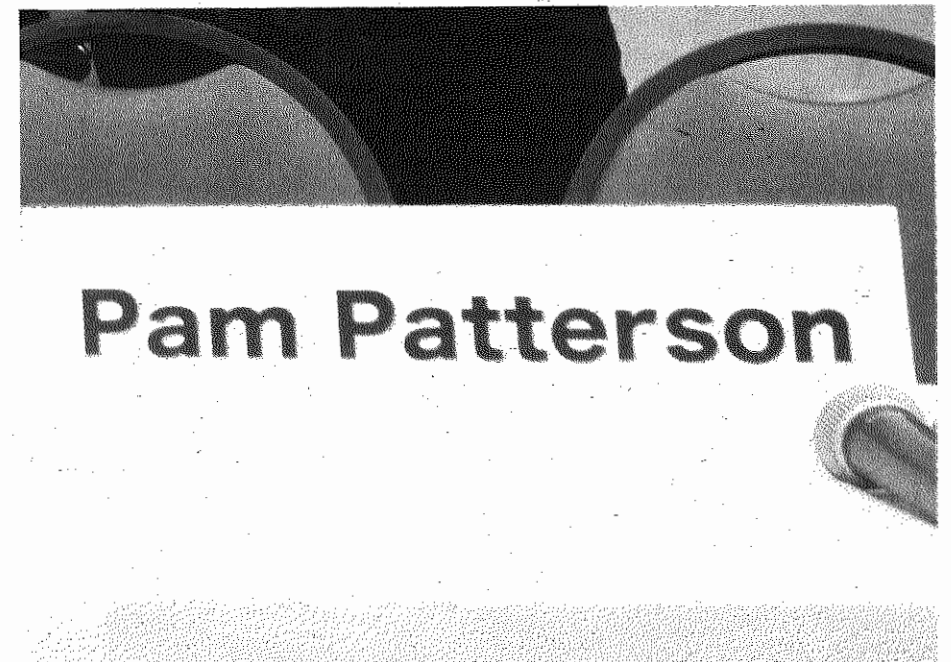
- A Candidate that respects the residents.
2. **A CANDIDATE THAT AVOIDS ANY AND EVERY FORUM AND BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF OTHER CANDIDATES:**
- A Candidate that lacks confidence in their message.
 - A Candidate that is more focused on attacking their opponent in private than their interest in sharing their message in public.
 - A Candidate who can utilize false facts without the fear of being called out.
 - No possibility of hearing a counterpoint.
 - A Candidate that lacks respect for the residents.

It's truly hard to imagine a reason a person would want to serve as City Council Member, have an authentic platform with an authentic, truthful message, but then have no desire to share it with the residents of the City they intend to represent.

With the shift to District elections, running for City Council is even more of a dialogue directly with neighbors. To not show the respect to the residents to even show up and appear before them carries a very telling message. Avoiding public gatherings and ensuring that your message is one-on-one only or small private gatherings with no possibility of counterpoints, offers the ability to share false information, attacking the opposing candidates that are not present, without the chance of being called out.

This is a very important election and time for San Juan Capistrano. Every resident should vote with their head and their heart, but it is likely a very good idea to choose between the very qualified candidates that actually show the respect to the residents, their neighbors and constituents by appearing before them in settings that allow a free and open exchange of message and platform.

There are numerous forums for the public to meet the City Council Candidates and hear their views and passion for San Juan Capistrano. Interestingly, it is the empty chair that may just be sending the loudest message of all.



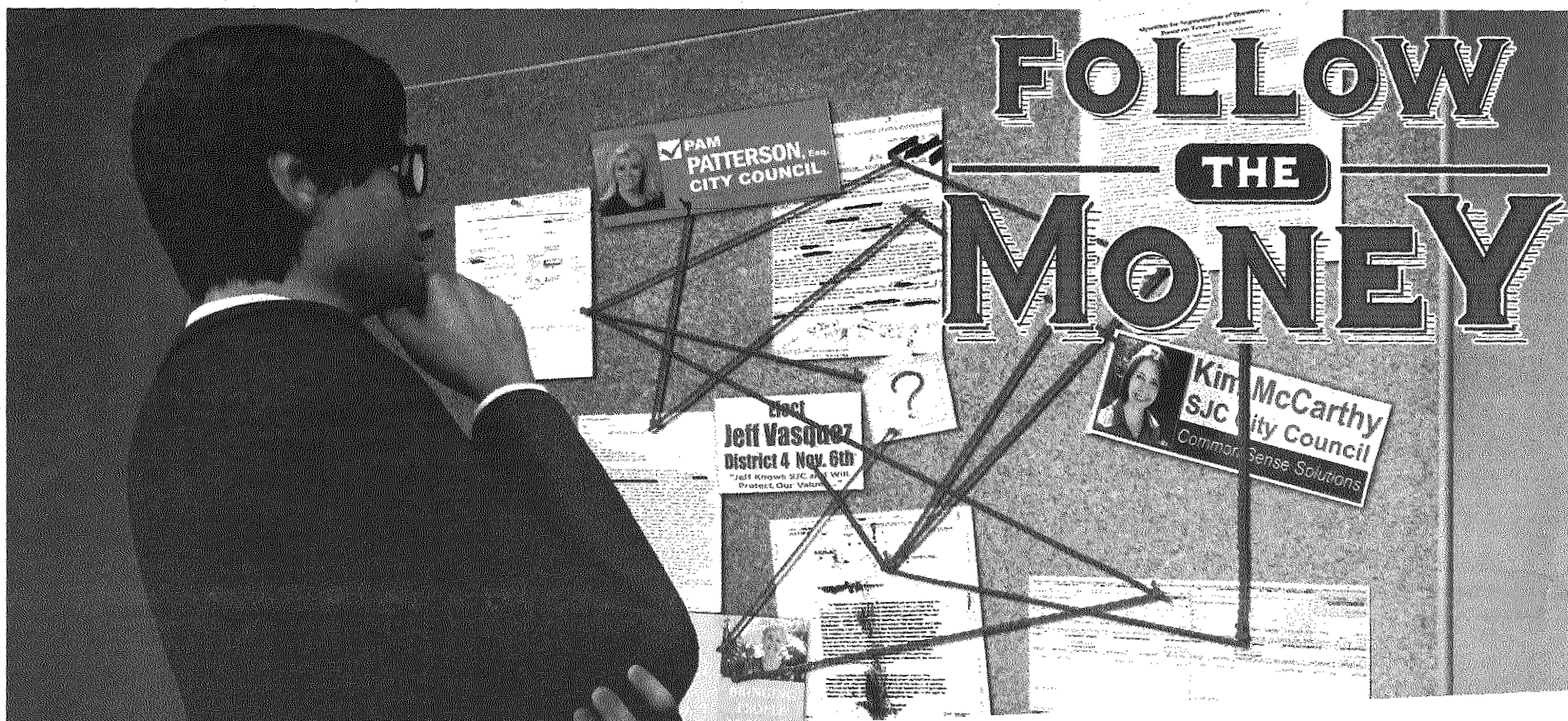
■ PRESERVATION FOR PROFIT | *CANDIDATES WITH SPECIAL FRIENDS*

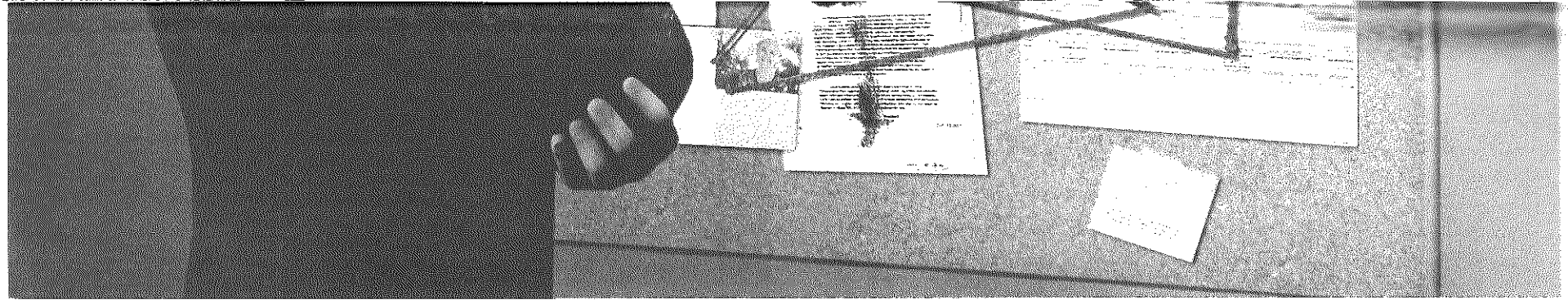
PRESERVATION THE CAMPAIGN *TACTIC*



WARNING! FALSE CLAIMS OF SUPPORTING
THE CITY'S GENERAL PLAN AHEAD

By Ann Ronan



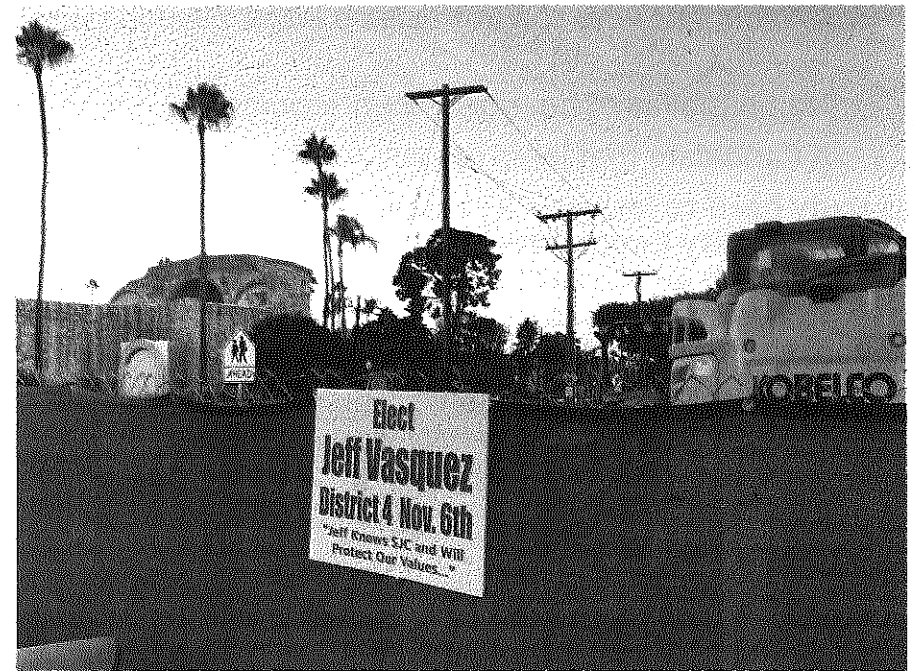


As difficult as it can be for a voter to become educated on the individual candidates running for City Council, that difficulty grows exponentially when certain candidates intentionally misrepresent the truth and their true positions as a "get elected at any cost" campaign strategy.

The utilization of faux preservation in our truly historic town, that the residents actually do care about, is about as low as one can stoop. Of course, a candidate will garner some votes by simply screaming "My

opponents are going to ruin San Juan!!!" Their hope being the average San Juan resident will not have the time or ability to investigate beyond their false tale.

In reality, what you have is a deplorable tactic being used by candidates that are openly cohabitating with a developer who is continually expanding his footprint of ownership in San Juan and the downtown. Unauthentic claims of fighting massive development abound, when interestingly, the projects these candidates are calling

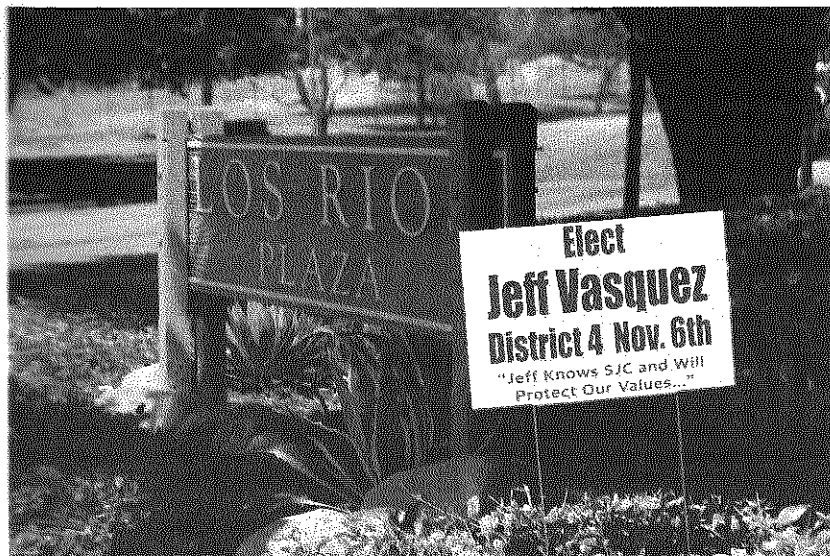


massive are actually much smaller in scope, height, and massing than their developer allies' project.

This ruse is present and active in the current race for City Council voting on November 6th. Being educated as to who really is who among the candidates is critical in order to have the next four years in San Juan Capistrano be run by an honest and ethical City Council.

DISTRICT 4 (1 COUNCIL VOTE)

District 4 candidate Jeff Vasquez is running on a single platform: to fight any development in his own back yard (literally) by advocating no changes to the General Plan and the Los Rios Specific Plan. He says our city's charm is threatened by big developers with deep pockets. **Jeff Vasquez often cites projects as in "violation of the General Plan" and openly criticizing "Developer's Specific Plans" describing**



PRESERVATION FOR PROFIT | CANDIDATES WITH SPECIAL FRIENDS



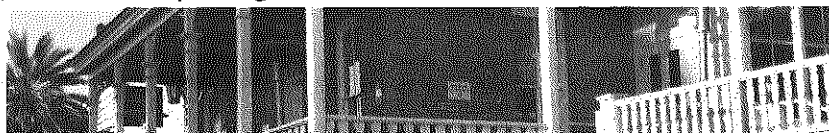
them as “in violation” and the developers themselves rewriting the city’s codes and policies. Beyond the fact that these statements are not true, as General Plan amendments are actually quite common, and a project that requests one is not in “violation” whether the project is ultimately approved or not, there is a much larger incongruity in the Vasquez messaging.

Jeff Vasquez’s campaign

have refused to sell to him. One of the properties that he has a past track record of coveting is the Ito Nursery site behind Vasquez’s home. Interestingly, the projects that Vasquez and Griffith respectively oppose happen to both be properties that Bill Griffith has relentlessly pursued acquiring over the

Plan and is also a Developer Specific Plan. Their voting track records are 100% yes to anything that Bill Griffith submits, with Patterson also a 100% no to all SJC resident project submissions that sit on land Griffith has shown interest in acquiring.

DISTRICT 2 (3 COUNCIL VOTES)



regarding his three-story project that is significantly **MORE MASSIVE** than the projects that McCarthy so vehemently opposes.

So with all three districts being covered with Griffith Candidates, San Juan is possibly on the verge of an exclusive single developer controlled City Council.

And what of Jeff Vasquez and the Agrarian Marketplace development he is so aggressively fighting? Does he not realize that if he is successful, the property owners WILL sell that property, and if Griffith or other developers were to obtain that site they would develop something? Or is that the plan? Just as happened when Griffith opposed the Shops at the Mission project, then when the Developer was defeated, Griffith bought the property from him. The one thing you can be sure of is it won’t fit the current zoning as an agricultural project with buildings on only 10% of the land. Nor will it likely build on only ¼ of the available land with the other designed around a grassy common with seating options, communal tables, bocce ball, horseshoe courts, a vegetable garden for farm-to-table dining, a

Jeff Vasquez's campaign signs share exclusive positions on the properties of developer Bill Griffith who is presently building a massive three-story development in the downtown that is both a General Plan Amendment and a Developer's Specific Plan, and directly within the most sensitive historic spot we have in our City.

One of Vasquez's signs (pictured) is perched on Griffith's constructions fence directly adjacent to the Mission Ruins, which will be obliterated from view once the structures are complete.

Griffith is one of the biggest developers and property owners in town who is fighting mightily to gain control over the City's development decisions even to the point of legal attacks on property owners who

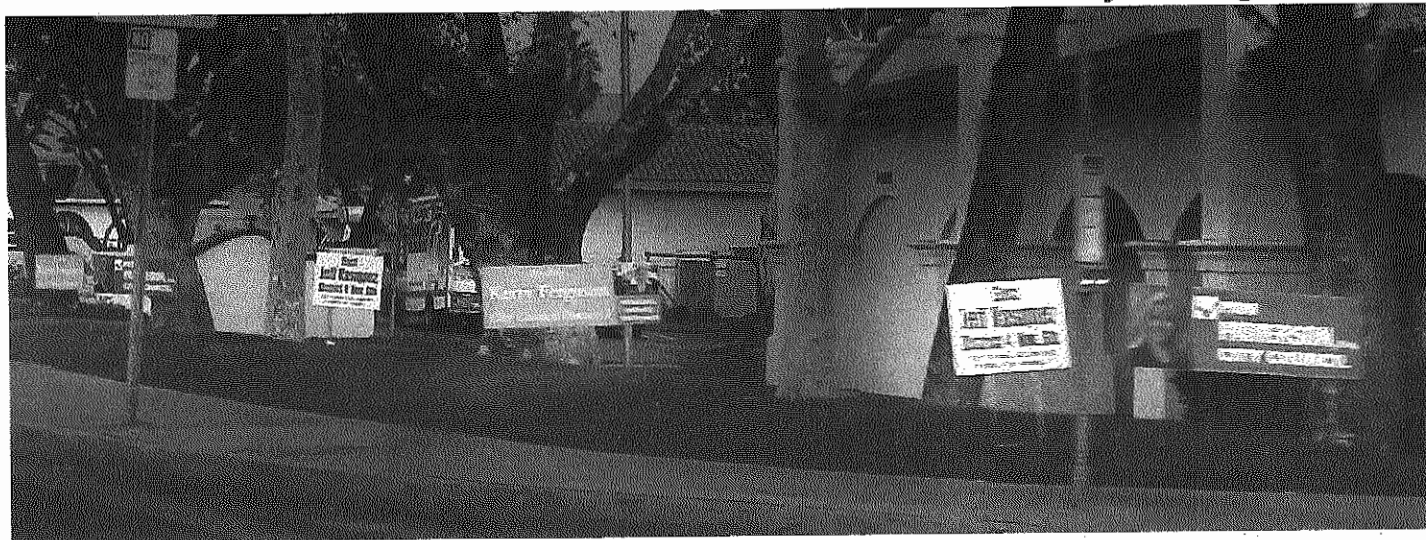


last 15+ years.

DISTRICT 3 (2 COUNCIL VOTES)

Sharing Vasquez's exclusive positions on Griffith's properties, are the signs of **District 3 candidates Pam Patterson and Kerry Ferguson**. Both are Griffith friends and advocates, with Patterson being the vocal front heralding all others to keep projects within the General Plan and against Developer Specific Plans, while raving about Bill Griffith's project that lands far outside the General

Although not previously a City Council Candidate, **District 2 candidate Kim McCarthy**, with the use of her CCS anger-management newsletter, **blasts projects that in her paper's frequent statements "violate" the General Plan, and equally rails against developers that introduce Developer Specific plans**. The exception? You guessed it, Bill Griffith. A past advertiser in her CCS newsletter with paid ads disguised as articles promoting his buildings, Griffith is 100% exempt from any coverage



courts, a vegetable garden for farm-to-table dining, a California native landscape palette, and sorely needed downtown parking.

When tenants at Bill Griffith's Los Rios Plaza reportedly put up John Taylor signs inside their office space, they were immediately asked to take them down.

When Derek Reeve's signs were placed in the grass along the sidewalk in front of the Bank of America, amongst Patterson, Ferguson, Vasquez signs, they were missing the next morning. Note these important, basic points that equal big business:

IT TAKES A 3 COUNCIL MEMBER MAJORITY TO APPROVE A DEVELOPMENT PROJECT, AS WELL AS DENY APPROVAL TO OTHERS.

THESE FOUR CANDIDATES WITH A TRACK RECORD OF FIGHTING PROJECTS ARE FULLY SUPPORTED BY THE SAME DEVELOPER WHO COVETS THE PROPERTY OF THE PROJECTS THEY FIGHT.

THE SAME FOUR CANDIDATES MYSTERIOUSLY MAKE AN EXCEPTION WHEN BILL GRIFFITH, USING THEIR WORDS: "VIOLATES" THE GENERAL PLAN AND "REWRITES THE CITY'S CODES." AND THIS IS EVEN WHEN HIS PROJECT IS LARGER THAN THE ONES THEY ARE FIGHTING.

When the logic doesn't add up, Follow the Money.

■ TAKE NOTE IN YOUR VOTE | *CANDIDATES VETTED*

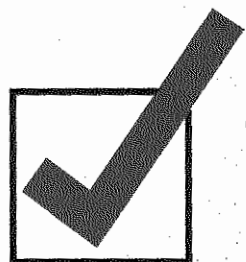
(Continued from Page 1)

THE NEXT FOUR YEARS WHO IS RIGHT FOR SJC?



This is a pivotal time in San Juan Capistrano. It is critical that our elected officials are honest, ethical and fully vested in serving the residents of San Juan, rather than ruling over SJC to service themselves.

DISTRICT 2 - SELECTION



**TROY BOURNE - GREAT
FOR SAN JUAN'S FUTURE**

KIM MCCARTHY

DANGEROUS TO SAN JUAN

Kim McCarthy has developed a track record of regularly threatening residents with anger and malice. She is a self-proclaimed co-owner of Community Common Sense, a community publication known for twisted facts and bitter attacks. Founding members

instead to rely on her negative messaging directed at Troy Bourne which is wrought with proven mistruths. Perhaps most telling is McCarthy's involvement in helping to bring a multi-million dollar legal suit and loss to the City and Tax-payers and all while she was a seated commissioner. As a city commissioner she proved



Bourne brings integrity and solid experience as a business leader and team builder. Anyone who has heard him speak realizes he has the strong analytical, interpersonal and negotiating skills that are crucial for a city councilmember. He has a solid grasp of the issues facing the city, can clearly articu-

late details to the residents, and will bring sound judgment to the upcoming critical decision about critical items such as which regional water company to join forces with. He will work to bring much needed revenue into the city so that we can have public safety, road repairs and parks we deserve.

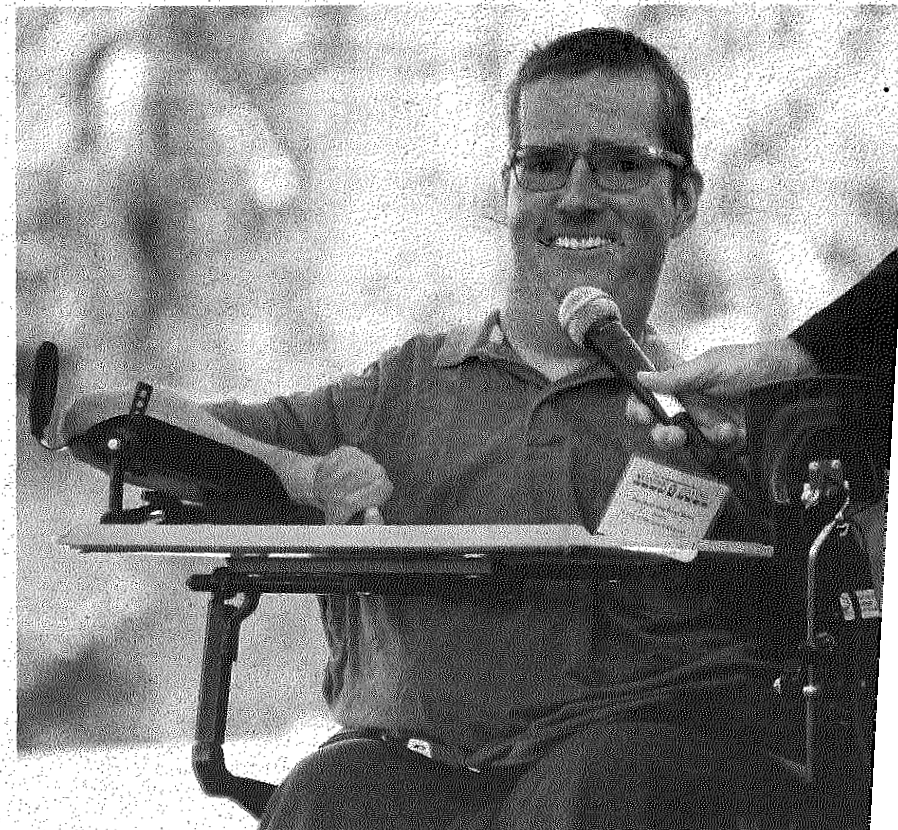
attacks. Founding members of the paper have actually left the publication based on truthful reporting giving way to personal vendettas. McCarthy has avoided public candidate forums, choosing

city councilmembers to be unable to work cooperatively with staff and other commissioners, often unjustly accusing them of illegal behavior.

DISTRICT 3 - SELECTION



DEREK REEVE - GREAT FOR SAN JUAN'S FUTURE



(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

As Former Mayor and two term councilmember, Derek Reeve brings level headed experience to the Council. He is straight-forward and has always been honest with residents. He has worked to mitigate the size of developments while respecting property rights and avoiding lawsuits. Reeve has a long-term view of regional and state view of issues that will impact our city. He is respectful to all residents and truly listens. [Watch a few City Council videos of the demeanor of Reeve as mayor compared to Patterson and Ferguson's intolerance of hearing opposing views from residents attempting to utilize their freedom of speech during the scheduled public oral communications] As the only seated Council Member carrying years of ex-

periences other than those of her close developer friend. The results are property owners filing lawsuits against the city to protect their rights.

JOYCE ANDERSON

UP AND COMER

Joyce Anderson, a longtime resident and political newcomer threw her hat into the ring and seems completely sincere in her desire to contribute to the city. A very engaging and positive person, Joyce herself openly speaks of her desires to educate herself further on the issues. We hope she'll continue to get involved, perhaps participating in the leadership academy and learn more about the role of city commissioners and council members.

KERRY FERGUSON

DANGEROUS TO SAN JUAN

Although Incumbent Ferguson should receive high marks for blind effort, it is in the execution of her duties and voting rational where things begin to fall apart. Ferguson seems to have a propensity to be influenced by and become the

personal spokesperson for outside friends and entities that have personal and financial agendas. This has led to favoritism, project delays and opposition leading to lawsuits. Ferguson has a history of flip flopping on votes which is perhaps due to her lack of understanding of complex issues. As a direct example, according to a grand jury, Ferguson joined Patterson in costing county taxpayers over twenty million dollars by unnecessarily delaying the Ortega widening. She also participated with her commissioner friends, contributing to bringing on the Equestrian Riding Park lawsuit against the city. She has repeatedly shown disdain for residents representing a different opinion than her own. The danger here is in the details and results, not necessarily the intent.

CODY MARTIN

UP AND COMER

Cody is currently a college student, and it is actually a pleasure to see a bright young man stepping up with the desire to give back to the com-

munity he grew up in. Kudos to Cody for getting involved and earnestly sharing his thoughts on possible solutions to City issues. Another great candidate to participate in the City's leadership academy, we look forward to seeing more of Cody in the future.

ROBERT HAGSTROM (WRITE-IN CANDIDATE)

UP AND COMER (and experienced long time resident) There is a lot to like about Robert Hagstrom. Robert is refreshingly direct, speaking clearly and candidly regarding the present challenges in our City. Hagstrom has an unusually sound knowledge of the various political players active in San Juan and we are convinced his intentions to serve the residents and get the City back on track are pure. Hagstrom does not mince words nor overstate on topics. We look forward to seeing more of Robert Hagstrom in the future whether he is running for office or not, he is a benefit to our City and seems to embody the fiber of San Juan.

perience, staff and other councilmembers regularly consult with him relying on his hard-earned knowledge and problem solving skills.

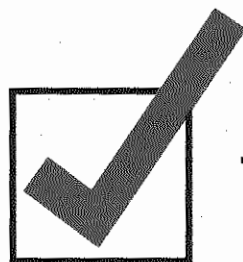
PAM PATTERSON

DANGEROUS TO SAN JUAN
Unfortunately, Pam Patterson is currently a lone wolf on the council. She brings acrimony and has little to no working relationship with her colleagues or city staff. Contrary to the spirit of District elections with each district electing one of its own to Council, Patterson moved to District 3 only days prior to the deadline to pull nomination papers, as she would not be able to run in the district she actually resided in. Patterson is blatantly disrespectful to residents that speak at City Council meetings, refusing to acknowledge most with even a glance, unless it is a direct friend or ally. Patterson has one especially interesting trait of occasionally logging votes without discussion of the other Council Members or the Publics Comments. She has a problem with transparency by refusing to deliver her emails conducting City business. She is uninterested in resident property rights, opposing all develop-

influenced by and become the sire to give back to the com-

the fiber of San Juan.

DISTRICT 4 - SELECTION



JOHN TAYLOR - GREAT FOR SAN JUAN'S FUTURE



Taylor brings strong experience as a former Mayor and councilman who streamlined staff and city finances to weather the fallout of the 2008-2009

recession in a fiscally responsible manner. A long-term resident of Los Rios Street, he not only restored his historic property, he also saved

the Historical Yorba Love House from destruction, by taking the time and expense to physically move the home to Los Rios street and spend five years restoring it. His son and grandchildren live in it now. John is not only a long-term resident, but an active volunteer contributing his time and dollars to the SJC Historical Society and has served as past president of the SJC Little League and SJC Rotary Club. We truly believe John has a genuine call to faithfully serve the Resident's of San Juan Capistrano and help get the City's finances back on track while protecting our historic culture.

JEFF VASQUEZ

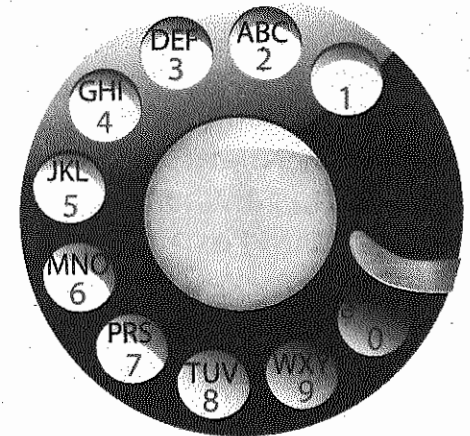
DANGEROUS TO SAN JUAN
Jeff Vasquez, another candidate who avoids all public candidate debates and forums, appears to be running to protect his own self-interest on a single issue...the potential development of the Ito Nursery property behind his Cape Cod style house. The house he built after demol-

(Continued on page 18)

DISTRICT 4 COUNCIL RACE | 33 YEARS OF CONTROVERSY REVEALED

1985 CALLING ...FOR CLARITY IN DISTRICT 4 RACE

By Ann Ronan & Gil Jones



Vasquez' project concerns residents

Aged house falls during restoration

By Daniel C. Smith
News editor

A controversy in the Los Rios Historical District that has grown as a house currently under restoration there crumbled will be the subject of a meeting today between owner-builder Jeff Vasquez, the director of community planning for San Juan Capistrano and the Los Rios Review Committee.

Vasquez submitted plans to the city last week to rebuild the 60-year-old house on Los Rios Street, the majority of which he said collapsed Oct. 26 as asbestos siding was being removed per the original restoration plans.

"If it fell, it was because he let it. It has to be negligence," said Marguerite Kennedy, a member of the Los Rios committee and one of several residents in the neighborhood who have questioned whether the house was actually torn down.

"That's not what happened at all," said Vasquez, a local photographer who bought the house last year and is contracting the restoration. While he admitted to having removed a front porch on Nov. 10 that was to have been preserved, Vasquez said he did this because he believed the porch was about to fall victim to the same rot and decay that he thinks caused the collapse last month.

"I don't have any evidence that Jeff did anything (wrong) except make some errors in judgment about our (approval) process," said Tom Merrill, city director of community planning and development, with regard to allegations made to him by some Los Rios residents about Vasquez' intentions.

"If he was able to interrupt the work...and get the city involved before it collapsed, it would have been good to do that," conceded Merrill, who will present tentatively-approved plans for the site to the Los Rios committee at 6 p.m. this evening in the city council chambers.

"If it fell, it's because he let it. It has to be negligence."

—Marguerite Kennedy

not saying he did, the other people might get the idea that they can do the same. We don't want that kind of precedent set," said Gil Jones, a committee member who added, "It looks almost as if they didn't even want to fiddle with the (original structure of the) house."

"That building went down without a demolition permit," said Kennedy, noting that Vasquez' plans to double the house's floor space was predicated on his retaining its original framing. "There's rules that we're all supposed to live by."

"There are a few disgruntled members of the Los Rios Review Committee in spite of the fact that I had the signatures of the majority of the people on the street, saying that they liked the design of my house," commented Vasquez, who said he had "purchased a lot, a foundation and a sort of strait jacket of regulations" that resulted in

numerous public hearings on the project this year.

At least one Los Rios resident who is not on the committee was possibly more upset about the collapse than any of its members. David Chorak, a general contractor who said he doesn't believe the original framing was weak enough to fall on its own, charged that Vasquez planned to "get away" with bringing it down through "political racketeering" at city hall.

"I live in a house down the street and it's three times as rotten, and we'll all be in a box some day and it'll still be standing," said Chorak, alleging that Vasquez' friendship with city senior planner Ray Becerra would enable him to rebuild the house with only "a little bit of stink" about the plan changes.

Vasquez, however, said he not only would have avoided additional fees and possible penalties if his

See LOS RIOS, page A9

IN EARLY NOV. 1985, I LOANED JEFF MY
TRACTOR-LOADER TO CLEAN HIS LOT. I
DON'T KNOW WHO OPERATED THE LOADER.
HOWEVER, IT WAS USED TO DEMOLISH,
AND LOAD THE EVIDENCE WHICH WAS
HAULED AWAY BEFORE HE RETURNED THE
TRACTOR ON MONDAY. THERE WAS
NO EVIDENCE OF THE HOUSE LEFT.
GIL JONES

LOS RIOS:

original plan had succeeded, but also would have qualified for a \$12,000 tax credit.

Merrill said that phone calls he received from Chorak and other residents about Vasquez' intentions regarding the building were merely hearsay, stating, "If they had a photograph or a videotape of Jeff out there with a sledge hammer, then I might get excited."

Assistant City Manager Glenn Southard observed that most of the original part of the house would have been covered by new materials in accordance with the initial site plans, concluding, "The important thing is what are we trying to achieve as an end result, which is to have a building that is compatible with the neighborhood."

District 4 council candidate Jeff Vasquez has made a point of selling himself as a preservationist that wants to save the Los Rios District. Based on his platform, much controversy has arisen around Vasquez's original single-story historic home that was allegedly demolished by Vasquez in order to erect his current non-historic Cape Cod style, 2-story home. Vasquez has stated that he did not demolish his historic home, but it collapsed on its own during renovations.

To help bring some clarification to this debate, the SCOOP received a copy of a Capistrano Valley News article from 1985, covering the same story that, interestingly, was even more controversial 33 years ago. Preservationist minded neighbors and Los Rios Committee Members were in an uproar over

Vasquez's demolished historic home on Los Rios Street.

Along with the reprint of the article, notice the handwritten note by Gil Jones, former 10-year council member and three-time Mayor of San Juan Capistrano.

TRANSCRIPT OF GIL JONES' NOTE RECALLING THE DETAILS OF THE EVENT:

"In early Nov. 1985, I loaned Jeff my tractor loader to clean his lot. I don't know who operated the loader. However, it was used to demolish, and load the evidence which was hauled away before he returned the tractor on Monday. There was no evidence of the house left." Gil Jones

Vasquez submitted plans to rebuild the 60-year-old house. He removed the front of the home and porch that was to have been preserved. According to a member of the then Los Rios Committee, Margarite Kennedy: "That building went down without a demolition permit...There's rules we're all supposed to live by."

David Chorak a General Contractor and Los Rios resident at the time stated he did not believe the original framing was weak enough to fall on its own, "I live (in a house) down the street and it's three times as rotten, and we'll all be in a box some day and it'll still be standing" said Chorak. Vasquez's comment at the time was that he had: "purchased a lot, a foundation and a sort of straight jacket of

regulations." This is an interesting statement coming from a council candidate that has been ruthlessly criticizing other property owners, conducting failed City Council Member Recalls, while proselytizing "preservation first." This is exemplified in his attacks on the 59-year land owners and SJC business owners of Ito Nursery, Doug and Sheree Ito, in regards to the Agrarian Barn Themed Marketplace project proposed on their property. The Itos onerous land restrictions are an anomaly in the entire city of SJC. It should be noted that the Itos have not dismantled, torn down, or caused the collapse of any historic structures. One might say: "They purchased a lot, a foundation and a sort of straight jacket of regulations."

ELECTION WATCH | *COUNCIL CANDIDATE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE?*

CAMPAIGN FACT CHECK

THE FACTS DON'T LIE. WHICH CANDIDATES DO?

With a whirlwind of Candidate mailers, flyers, and counter-flyers, the SCOOP has run a fact check on the statements made by city council candidates through their campaigns to date. The information evaluated comes from the candidates themselves via public statements, emails, debates, candidate forums and campaign materials. What became distinctly clear is that the few candidates that have been avoiding joining their opponents in public candidate debates and forums seem to be the same candidates that are more than a bit uninterested in actual facts.

DISTRICT 2:

against its personal enemies.

McCARTHY STATEMENT: "San Juan will no longer be the small-town many of us moved her to enjoy."

FALSE: San Juan Capistrano is almost entirely built out, very few buildable properties remain.

McCARTHY STATEMENT: "I will rein in wasteful spending by City Administration."

FALSE: McCarthy is the poster child for wasteful spending. She demanded the city personally pay her \$250,000.00 twice under threats of litigation. McCarthy also directly conspired with a litigant against the city creating a loss

es a number of commercial developments in the downtown, including the hotel next to the Mission.

FROM McCARTHY NEGATIVE FLYER ON TROY BOURNE:

"Troy Bourne bussed in people from out of town [to support a development]."

FALSE: This falsehood has been pushed by McCarthy and survived for over four years despite irrefutable evidence it did not occur. This is an exact example of a candidate utilizing false narratives to try to win a Council seat at all costs.

TROY BOURNE

BOURNE STATEMENT: "I have

JOYCE ANDERSON

We have not heard from Joyce beyond her candidate statement outlining her volunteer work in our community and her responses to issues in the Capistrano Dispatch. To date we have not found Joyce to make any controversial or inaccurate statements.

DEREK REEVE

REEVE STATEMENT: "I have a proven track record of defending individual property rights, while keeping my word of opposing massive developments: Overturned Urban Village, replaced with 60 percent less dense Kimpton Hotel; Overturned development next to

DISTRICT 2:

KIM MCCARTHY

MCCARTHY STATEMENT: "City administration continues to... operate under a cloud of secrecy to the extent that most residents have no idea what's really going on."

FALSE: McCarthy for years has accused successive administrations of conducting city business in secrecy, repeatedly calling for the firing of numerous City Managers, City Attornies, etc., and all the while city business, including taxpayer spending, is conducted openly. Closed session actions are also reported publicly according to law.

MCCARTHY STATEMENT: "This is one of the reasons that I helped found the Community Common Sense [designed] to inform residents about decisions being made by their elected officials, and how their tax dollars were being spent."

TRUE and FALSE: McCarthy did co-found Community Common Sense; however, not only has her newsletter repeatedly spread false information, racist information, and wrongly defamed residents, her original partners literally defected when the CCS began printing false facts

against the city creating a loss of taxpayer dollars totaling \$3,900,000.00+.

MCCARTHY STATEMENT: "I am committed to restoring transparency to local government actions that affect the lives of SJC residents."

FALSE: McCarthy failed to produce emails related to city business while serving as a city commissioner that were required by law. Additionally, McCarthy is avoiding every candidates' debate and forum, so she is not even showing transparency in her campaign.

FROM MCCARTHY NEGATIVE FLYER ON TROY BOURNE: "If elected, Troy Bourne (District 2 opponent) will have to recuse himself [from anything related to Ortega widening, Del Obispo traffic, and the River Street proposal]."

FALSE: False is an understatement. Troy Bourne will not be restricted from these votes and it is actually McCarthy herself who may need to recuse herself from anything related to the Riding Park based on her involvement working hand in hand with the outside entity suing the City. She may also have to recuse herself from downtown developments, as her husband is Vice President of Farmers and Merchants Bank which financ-

BOURNE STATEMENT: "I have run organizations. I've worked with some of our country's largest and most successful firms as well as started and grown my own small companies. I've led teams in both professional and non-profit capacities with great results. I've also worked with the City of San Juan Capistrano's professional staff—and the staff of other great cities in California. I'm familiar with how great cities are managed and have seen pitfalls that we can avoid."

TRUE: His resume shows extensive experience working hand in hand with City staff, in identifying problems, analyzing them, developing conclusions and implementing recommendations.

BOURNE STATEMENT: "As a former board member of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society, I'm familiar with our town's history and the hard work performed by volunteers to preserve and tell San Juan's stories."

TRUE: Bourne served as a board member of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society.

DISTRICT 3:

turned development next to Armstrong Nursery; Rejected the mall adjacent to the Mission; Rejected a high-density residential development, resulting in 75 percent less density."

TRUE: During the course of eight years Reeve consistently voted for individual property owners property rights. He also voted against the developments indicated with the corresponding results.

REEVE STATEMENT: "I have a proven track record fighting for taxpayers, everyday residents, and assuring the constitutional rights of all."

TRUE: Reeve is well known as the most fiscally conservative councilmember, as well as always defending residents' right to speak even if they disagreed with him.

REEVE STATEMENT: "Under my leadership we have: Balanced budgets by cutting spending, Never raised taxes, Tripled city financial reserves, Resolved numerous costly lawsuits."

TRUE: Councilmember Reeve has been very consistent in these four areas throughout the past eight years on the council.

KERRY FERGUSON

■ ELECTION WATCH | COUNCIL CANDIDATE STATEMENTS TRUE OR FALSE?

FERGUSON STATEMENT: "I see far too much divisiveness... I believe in working together, not dividing our community with ugly rhetoric."

FALSE: Ferguson has contributed to much of the City's divisiveness by rudely interrupting residents while speaking from the dais, blatantly favoring certain project developers over others, and actively spreading falsehoods against long time San Juan residents.

FERGUSON STATEMENT: "Brought incentive program that will encourage our new hotels to maintain the highest standards over time and bring us the highest possible transient occupancy tax revenues..."

FALSE: This "incentive program"

terson has violated numerous campaign promises. Patterson supported and/or voted for multiple developments including developments inconsistent with the General Plan; Reckless spending including TWICE voting to award \$500,000.00 of taxpayer's money to her commissioner friends Kim McCarthy (current candidate in District 2) and Eva Crabbs. She involved the city in unnecessary lawsuits wasting millions and actively obstructed transparency by refusing to disclose her city council communications.

PATTERSON STATEMENT:

"I kept my promises [regarding] opposing more traffic."

FALSE: Patterson supported and/or

into depth of detail.

MARTIN STATEMENT: "We must protect the philosophy of preservation as established in our General Plan."

TRUE & FALSE: Although the General Plan does provide a protective baseline for development, if the General Plan restrictions were unilaterally applied to all properties in San Juan, there would be no Mission Basilica. There would be no J Serra High School, among other schools, no Franciscan Plaza with our town's Movie Theater, even a structure such as the Trading Post would spill outside the allowable floor area ratio of 50% property massing as is the present limit in the General Plan.

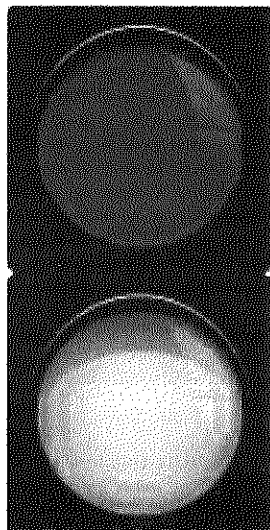
on our surface streets. It will likely cut through our ridge lines in SJC."

FALSE: Vasquez's statement of 241 extension, traffic landing on our surface streets, and a highway that somehow runs up and over our hillsides is as ludicrous as it is inaccurate.

FROM VASQUEZ NEGATIVE AD ON JOHN TAYLOR:

"Jeff Vasquez is for sensible growth, and against creating commercial sprawl and more gridlock...to help developers create more density and more traffic violates our General Plan."

FALSE: Although Jeff Vasquez preaches violations of the General Plan, he is in full support of his developer friend's project that is the most massive development in decades, spills far outside the General Plan in numerous ways, and is also a Specific Plan (the developer rewrites the city's codes and regulations). He also opposes the projects that land on SJC resident properties that his developer friend has pursued owning.



Fact

program is nothing more than a taxpayer giveaway of millions of dollars to her developer friends who have contributed almost \$4,000.00 to her political committees this year alone. When he had submitted an even larger hotel project, there was no request for taxpayer funding.

FERGUSON STATEMENT:

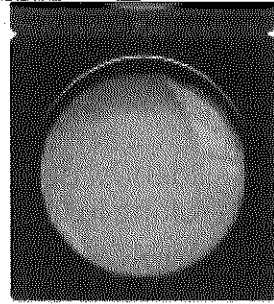
"Brought two 4-star hotels, Trader Joe's, Ganahl Lumber, will bring many good jobs while bringing millions in revenue to our City."

FALSE: Kerry Ferguson joined forces with one developer to actively help halt his competing 4-star hotel project. The other credits she lists were simply Council Majority votes. Important to note that with the exception of Trader Joes, none of these other projects have actually been built.

PAM PATTERSON

PATTERSON STATEMENT: "I'm proud to be the only incumbent candidate to have kept my campaign promises."

FALSE: A Whopper! Pam Pat-



Check

voted for multiple developments that would contribute to more traffic. Patterson also voted against every traffic improvement project.

PATTERSON STATEMENT: "I kept my promises [regarding] defending the General Plan."

FALSE: Patterson on numerous occasions voted to initiate General Plan Amendments on developments that were clearly outside the parameters of the General Plan. This is a clear example of a candidate campaigning with a line that is patently false.

CODY MARTIN

We have heard little from Cody Martin beyond his candidate statement and responses to questions about issues in the Capistrano Dispatch. Cody is a student with his general message including his vocal support of youth programs and the elderly. His statements in favor of the General Plan have yet to go

DISTRICT 4:

JEFF VASQUEZ

VASQUEZ VIDEO STATEMENT:

"There have been numerous referendums...in an attempt to correct bad council decisions."

FALSE: Not only is this statement false, but it is Jeff Vasquez himself that orchestrated the failed referendums. The failure was due to singling out two Council Members who had done nothing more than participate in 4-1 majority votes. The residents were not fooled seeing the numerous lies and false accusations. It is disappointing that Jeff Vasquez has chosen to refer to the referendums as though they were credible and conducted by actual residents.

FROM VASQUEZ NEGATIVE AD ON JOHN TAYLOR: "Taylor wants the completion of the 241. Guess where all that extra traffic will end up, right

FROM VASQUEZ NEGATIVE AD ON JOHN TAYLOR: "Taylor's vote (for a project approval) cost the Taxpayers of SJC over

\$2,000,000 in legal fees and settlement costs."

FALSE: Ironically, it's Vasquez's political allies, District 2 candidate Kim McCarthy and District 3 candidate Pam Patterson (as well as District 3 candidate Kerry Ferguson) who are responsible for multiple lawsuits, not Taylor. Taylor's vote would have brought tens of millions of dollars of future revenue to the City. Instead, the collection of McCarthy, Patterson, and Ferguson, working in conjunction with the suing parties against the City of SJC, Ken Friess, Mark Neilson, and Rob Williams, who instead brought a \$2,000,000 loss to Taxpayers.

FROM VASQUEZ NEGATIVE AD ON JOHN TAYLOR: "Taylor says he is for 'fixing our traffic' even though he is endorsed by supporters of the Mall on Los Rios Street."

FALSE: Vasquez is referring to the proposed River Street Marketplace, which he per-

(Continued on page 12)

("Candidate Fact Check" Continued from page 11)

sonally has falsely represented with fabricated images. John Taylor has been clear that he will study the environmental impact report and all studies on the project before making a decision. Taylor is also not endorsed by developers and has no signs on developer's properties as Vasquez himself does. Vasquez's use of the term "mall" is somewhat comical, as the project is actually built around a central green with trees, community seating in a park setting, a farm to table restaurant, all with an agrarian barn theme. Vasquez's misrepresentations of the project in his materials have even been noted several times by city council and city staff.

JOHN TAYLOR

JOHN TAYLOR STATE-

MENT: "I protected and restored the 1911 Yorba Love House from being destroyed by the city for a parking lot in 1995. I moved the home to Los Rios and spent years restoring it by hand."

TRUE: John Taylor literally saved a San Juan historic home that was set for destruction, physically driving it across town to his property on Los Rios, renovating the historic home at his own time and expense.

JOHN TAYLOR STATE-

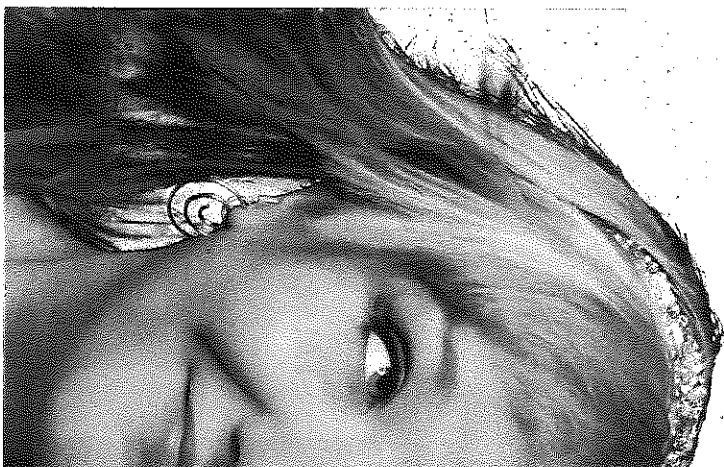
MENT: "I would like to see the downtown with more pedestrian friendly streets, planted medians, in a style that her-

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FROM VASQUEZ NEGATIVE AD ON JOHN

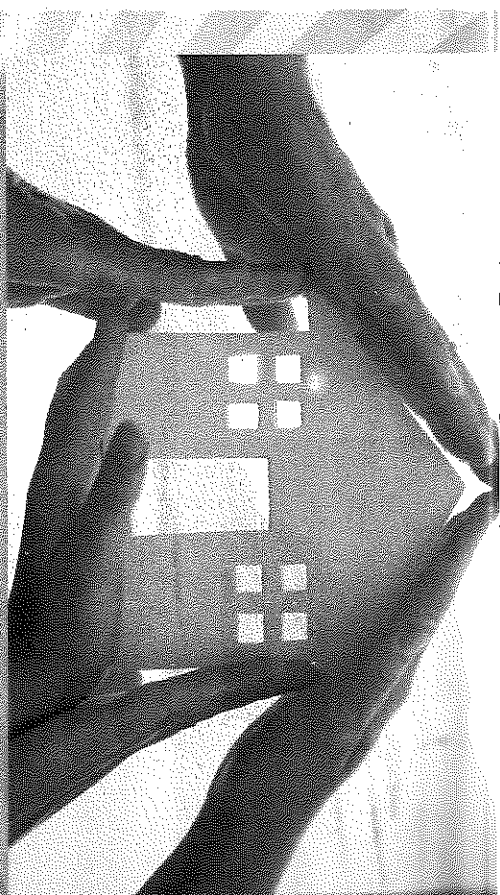
TAYLOR: "Taylor hides behind the label "Small Business Owner", In fact he is in the "Commercial Construction and Property Management Business" Taylor is Pro Development. That is how he makes his living."
FALSE: The Jeff Vasquez goal seems to be continually pushing a false narrative. Taylor has no developments. He has made his living managing the same seven buildings in Brea for the same owner for 30+ years.

alds San Juan's historic roots."

TRUE: When Taylor previously served on the city council he advocated and voted for pedestrian friendly streets and planted medians.

JOHN TAYLOR STATEMENT: "[I] Increased our emergency cash reserve from 8% in 2010 to a healthy 50% in 2014."
TRUE

JOHN TAYLOR STATEMENT: "[I] Increased positions in the Sheriff's Department resulting in the lowest crime rates in years."
TRUE



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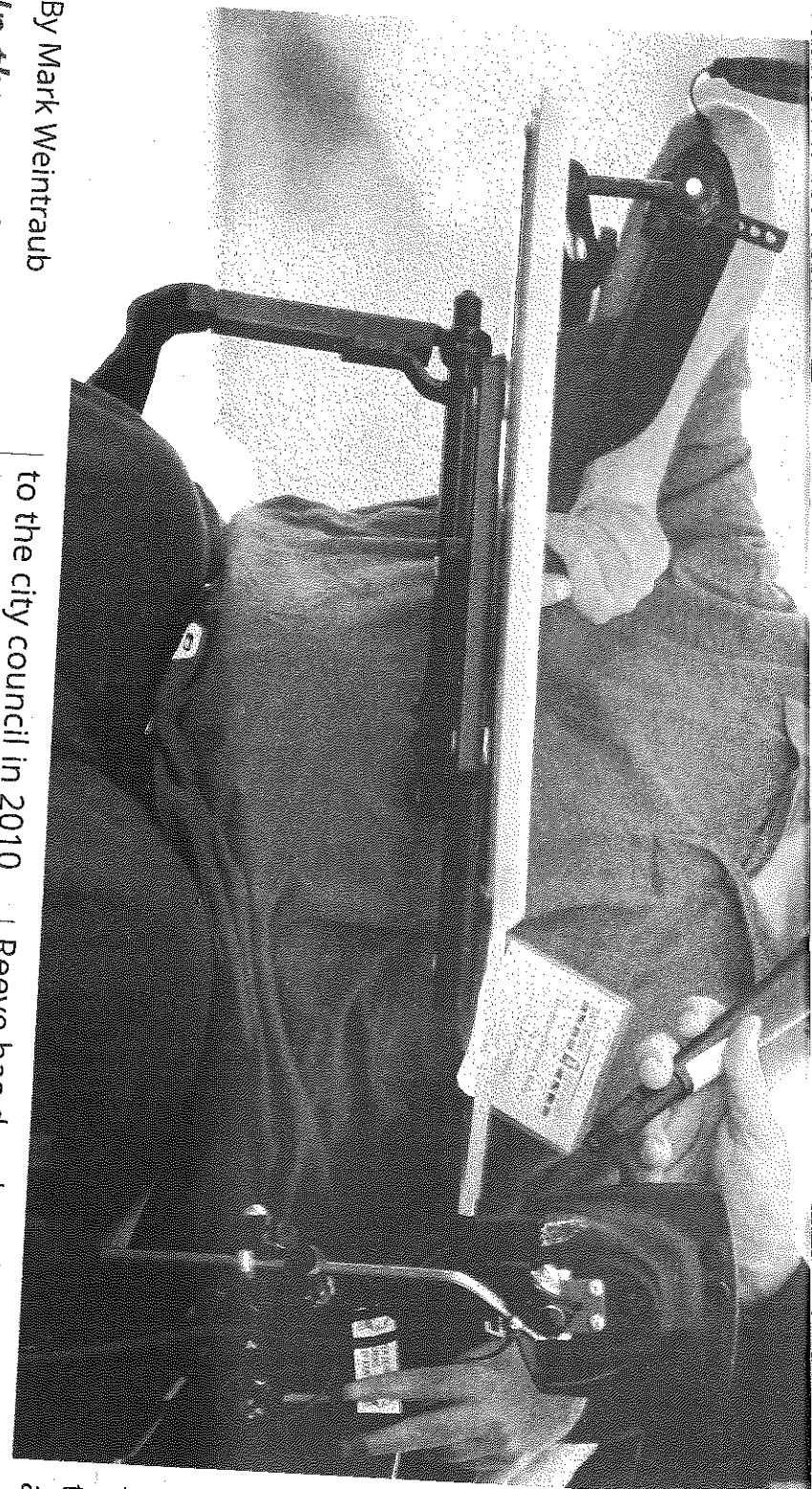
acknowledges "This doesn't completely replace me visiting with residents personally."

According to Reeve his message centers around a "Residents First" mission statement. "The residents are the heart and soul of San Juan Capistrano"

By Mark Weintraub

In the previous issue of San Juan SCOOP we addressed the unique challenges that face Councilmember Derek Reeve, who is confined to an electric wheelchair, campaigning for votes.

Reeve is the most experienced candidate running for city council having been first elected



to the city council in 2010 and served as Mayor in 2015. Reeve is now running for reelection in District 3. However, this will be Reeve's first district election as he previously only ran in city wide general election and did not go door to door.

This obstacle has not deterred Reeve. "It certainly is problematic" Reeve admits; "however truthfully, I do enjoy finding solutions to overcome challenges."

Reeve has developed two such solutions. One we previously addressed, something Reeve calls his Digital Handshake. "In essence it is to utilize social media to share my message that I would ordinarily share at their front door."

The other involves friends, neighbors, and volunteers whose campaign and motto is "Walking for Derek." They will walk door to door campaigning for Reeve, however as he

San Juan Capistrano" Reeve said, "The residents must always come first and I have dedicated myself to ensure the residents' voice is heard."

District 3 is the most competitive of the three district elections with five candidates, including three sitting councilmembers. All candidates are expected to knock on our doors except one: That one just happens to have a small army of passionate supporters Walking for Derek and his Digital Handshake.

You can see Derek's digital Handshake at www.VotedDerekReeve.com and on Facebook at Reelect Derek for San Juan Capistrano City Council District 3