

INLAND VALLEY Daily Bulletin

THURSDAY | JANUARY 22, 2009
DAILYBULLETIN.COM

50¢ PLUS TAX



LISET MARQUEZ DELIVERS THE LATEST NEWS AT
ONTARIO NOW
blogs.dailybulletin.com/ontarionow | PAGE A5



Pay less

Cal Spas introduces new line of products | D1

the SCOOP

WEATHER

TODAY
Not as warm
68/53

FRIDAY
Clouds and sun
67/43

MORE WEATHER ON PAGE B8

SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY



Board to discuss removal of Postmus

The San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors will hold a special meeting at 1 p.m. today to discuss options for removing Assessor **Bill Postmus** from his elective office.

Investigators from the District Attorney's Office arrested Postmus, 37, last week at his home on suspicion of possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. Authorities said the contraband was discovered during the serving of a search warrant as part of an investigation into possible political malfeasance at the Assessor's Office.

The investigation is ongoing. Postmus has yet to be formally charged.

Despite the scandal, firing Postmus is proving to be difficult. One thing, however, is certain: The county has more ammunition now.

"Something needs to be done now," said Burt Southard, spokesman for Gary Ovitt, chairman of the board.

ONTARIO

Mayor may lose big

Councilman Jim Bowman has asked the City Council to consider eliminating the mayor's salary increase after 2010, reverting the salary back to its scale in 2007. **A3**

BUSINESS

DOW +279.01
Wednesday's closing **8,228.10**

Going under?

1st Centennial Bancorp is on the brink of collapse. The Redlands-based publicly traded parent of 1st Centennial Bank announced Tuesday night that it is "critically undercapitalized" by federal regulatory standards and said there's no plan on the table that would recapitalize the company. **D1**

SMILE!

SHARE THOSE SNAPSHOTS



Pictures are meant to be shared, and the Daily Bulletin has a way to help you do that.

Go to dailybulletin.com and click on "Reader Photos."

STAY INFORMED

dailybulletin.com

HAS NEWS UPDATES THROUGHOUT THE DAY

HOW TO REACH US

Main (909) 987-6397

Circulation (909) 987-9900

Classified (909) 987-9200

Editorial (909) 987-6397 ext. 267

No. 267 / Y19



7 96954 00023 3

SPIDER-MAN MEETS OBAMA



Photos by Will Lester/Staff Photographer

Carlos Helu of Rancho Cucamonga grabs a copy of "The Amazing Spider-Man" comic book featuring President Barack Obama on Wednesday at 4 Color Fantasies in Rancho Cucamonga. By midafternoon, all 35 copies of the issue that the store had were sold.

Comic book caper

By Diana Sholley
Staff Writer

RANCHO CUCAMONGA — Spidey-senses all over the Inland Empire were tingling Wednesday as the second printing of "The Amazing Spider-Man" issue featuring President Barack Obama was released.

Phaniel Rigaud was first in line when 4 Color Fantasies, a Rancho Cucamonga comic book store, opened its doors at noon.

"I've been here since 10:15 a.m.," said Rigaud, who had a line more than a dozen deep behind him. "I wanted to make sure I got a copy. A comic book with Barack Obama, our first black president, on the cover is something special."

Obama has said he read Spider-Man and Conan comics from Marvel in the 1970s, leading the publisher to return the favor by featuring Obama in "The Amazing Spider-Man" No. 583.

That comic was released Jan. 14 and quickly sold out. Rigaud missed getting a copy but returned to the store Wednesday, when the second printing was released. He intends to come back next week for the third printing.

"I'm not a big collector, but I want these," Rigaud said. "They're something you can take out 50 years from now and remember that you were part of something historic. They're also something I can pass down to my kids."

Chris Brady, co-owner of 4 Color Fantasies, watched as the line grew outside his door even before he opened for business. By midafternoon, the issue was sold out.

"I only got 35 copies, and I was lucky to get them," said Brady, who owns 4 Color Fantasies with partner Nat Ieamwongnukul. "I got pretty excited when I heard this comic book was coming out. I've even kept a copy for my own collection."



4 Color Fantasies co-owner Chris Brady holds recent copies of "The Amazing Spider-Man" comic book at his Rancho Cucamonga store on Wednesday.

Comic Madness in Chino got 200 copies of the second printing Wednesday and by evening had sold 160. Funny Business in Pomona didn't get any copies.

The story is a five-page bonus in the back of the comic book. Spider-Man's alter ego, Peter Parker, is photographing the inauguration when he spots a duplicate Obama. As Spidey, he challenges the two Obamas to a quick game of basketball, punches out the imposter and shares a fist-bump with the president.

Comic books are traditionally an inexpensive form of entertainment. Although the comic is priced

See **COMIC** | Page A4

Obama's first day on the job

Some of President Barack Obama's first actions as commander in chief:

- Issued plans to close the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, within a year and halt all war-crimes trials in the meantime.
- Presided over a White House meeting on the economy as the House Appropriations Committee moved toward approval of \$358 billion in new spending, part of the economic stimulus package.
- Held his first meeting in the Situation Room, where he, Vice President Joe Biden and senior military and foreign policy officials discussed war in Iraq and Afghanistan.

- Signed new restrictions including a ban on gifts by lobbyists to anyone serving in the administration. He also imposed a pay freeze for about 100 White House aides who earn \$100,000 or more.
- Retook the oath of office. Chief Justice John Roberts delivered the oath to Obama on Wednesday night at the White House in response to Tuesday's much-noticed stumble, when Roberts got the words of the oath a little off, which prompted Obama to do so, too. (Don't worry; Obama has still been president since noon on Inauguration Day.)

— The Associated Press



INSIDE

EARLY PULLOUT

Iraq willing to have the U.S. withdraw before the end of 2011. **A10**

CLINTON CONFIRMED

Hillary Rodham Clinton cleared for secretary of state. **A12**

KENNEDY OUT

Caroline Kennedy confirms she is not seeking U.S. Senate seat. **A10**

Ontario is seen as sitting pretty

By Liset Márquez
Staff Writer

ONTARIO — To Thomas Galvin, the Inland Empire is an expansion market, a place where companies go to get bigger.

The research associate with Colliers International commercial brokerage firm in Ontario said more companies would rather come to the city before going eastward in San Bernardino County.

The reason is because of

Ontario's proximity to freeways, trains and L.A./Ontario International Airport, Galvin said.

"When companies are shrinking, the Inland Empire will be overlooked," he said. "Things will likely remain in the doldrums here until business expansion nationally and globally takes off again."

As national companies size down or go out of business, the industrial and office markets

See **ONTARIO** | Page A4

'JUDGE JOE BROWN'

Local litigants battle on air

By Wes Woods II
Staff Writer

The familiar baritone of Judge Joe Brown on Wednesday rumbled on the television. "That's not professional. ... It's the pits," Brown said.

But for Inland Valley residents watching KCAL-TV (Channel 9), this episode of the court show "Judge Joe Brown," taped Oct. 22, hit close to home.

Pomona hairstylist Quenesha Williams said she was displeased with the video work Fontana resident Jay Shaw, 40, did for her May 25 fashion show.

Williams — who sued for \$500 — said the video cost \$375 and, without her knowledge, Shaw presold DVDs of the show for \$125.

Shaw countered that Williams, 31, was not



Brown

pleased with any of the work he provided and he could only work with what she made available to him.

Brown didn't buy Shaw's argument.

The cameraman didn't follow the models on the runway, there were blackouts and a lack of sound, Brown said.

Judgment was for Williams for \$1,500. The extra money was the result of Shaw preselling the DVDs, Brown said.

wes.woods@inlandnewspapers.com
(909) 483-8549