

NEW BLOOD NEEDED ON THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Opinion: By Sharlene Hamilton

It is a sad state for democracy to read in the Union Tribune regarding the San Diego County Board of Supervisors that "...no incumbent supervisor has lost a re-election bid in 22 years" and know that the present board has served together since 1995.

This board has gotten stale and arrogant knowing their reelection is almost a given fact. Incumbents have the advantage of an accumulated treasure chest, name recognition and built up gratitude from worthy groups who benefit from taxpayer money handed out by each Supervisor as if it were their own cash.

The current board has a reputation for being non-responsive to many constituent concerns. It is impossible to adequately address them in the two minutes allowed at public meetings. Numerous people give up trying. Many of us who have met with their representatives have left knowing we are just wasting our time.

This year each of the three incumbents running for reelection has a challenger; Rudy Reyes, John Van Doorn and Howard Johnson. They are facing incredible odds. They should be supported in their efforts, if only to inject new life and accountability into the Board of Supervisors.

It is time for new blood on the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.