



It's Politics: Whittier Councilman Bob Henderson gives Matrix royalty rights to son

By Mike Sprague, Staff Writer

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Editor's note: It's Politics reports Saturdays on the ins and outs of Whittier-area politics and city government.

Whittier Councilman Bob Henderson has decided to quit-claim the current royalties he receives from Matrix Oil Co. to his son, Ken.

There had been questions raised about whether his rights were a conflict of interest with the impending oil drilling issue.

While City Attorney Dick Jones said there's no conflict because the amount of money is less than \$500 a year, Henderson said he decided to make the controversy go away.

"You don't know what's going to happen with oil prices in the future," Henderson said. "They might drill some more wells and it's possible to have (the royalty) pop up to \$700."

It is true that Henderson's royalties come from a different field than the property owned by the

city that Matrix is seeking to drill for oil.

"But there is a legal thing of dealing with a party and receiving money from that party, you have a potential conflict," he said. "You can argue the fact that this is a whole different oil field but I don't want to get into that kind of controversy."

Henderson said his son, Ken, a Whittier City school board member, will use the money for college education expenses of his daughters, Emily, 17, and Sarah, 20.

The royalties were received as a result of having the mineral rights to the house Henderson has lived in for about 40 years. The prior owner received the same

payment.

MARIJUANA DEBATE: The Robert F. Kennedy Democratic Club will hold a debate over Proposition 19 that would legalize marijuana at its 6:30 p.m. Monday meeting at Carrows Restaurant, 1000 S. Beach Blvd., La Habra.

For information call John Smith, 562-943-8527

REPUBLICAN MEETING: Tim Shaw, a field representative for state Sen. Bob Huff, R-Diamond Bar, will speak at the 11 a.m. Wednesday meeting of the Rancho La Habra Republican Women Federated.

The group will meet at the Hacienda Golf Club, 718 East Road, La Habra Heights.

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