

WHEREAS, The "Faith Forum" a weekly religious dialogue at the award winning Reno Gazzette Journal has recently completed five years in print; and

WHEREAS, Religious statesman, Rajan Zed, who has been bestowed with "World Interfaith Leader Award," leads a panel of local leaders of various denominations to produce this weekly discussion forum in the Sunday Reno Gazzette Journal (RGJ), involving important religious issues affecting the local, national and international regions; and

WHEREAS, Rajan Zed points out that religion is powerful and complex, and is interconnected and dependent on each other. If we dig deeper we find that we have more in common than in conflict. This widely-read column is for constructive dialogue which has brought mutual understanding and trust and loyalty in the community; and

WHEREAS, Panelists currently include: Father Robert W. Chorey, Father Charles T. Durante, Monique Jacobs, Lauri Anne Reinhart—all Roman Catholic; Dr. Steve B. Bond (Christian Church); Dr. Sherif A. Elfass (Muslim); Father Stephen R. Karcher (Greek Orthodox); Reverend Matthew T. Fisher (Buddhist); Rabbi ElizaBeth Webb Beyer (Jewish); Sharla S. Hales and Ryan J. Earl—both of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Dr. Bradley S. Corbin (Baha'i); Brian E. Melendez (Native American spirituality); and Dr. Kenneth G. Lucey (religion professor at UNR). Guest panelists, belonging to diverse religions/denominations, are also invited to participate from time to time. We would also like to recognize the Reno Gazzette Journal, the Faith Forum, John Maher, Publisher of the RGJ, Kelly Ann Scott, RGJ Executive Editor; and Rajan Zed, Faith Forum Producer and religious statesman.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor of the City of Sparks, Nevada, do hereby congratulate the Reno Gazzette Journal's column "Faith Forum" for completing five years in print!

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Sparks, Nevada to be affixed this 4<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2016.

GENO R. MARTINI, Mayor

ATTEST:

TERESA GARDNER, City Clerk