

# 'Transfer Day' planned for students

EL CAMINO COLLEGE COMPTON CENTER HOSTS EVENT » PAGE 6A

# The Bulletin

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## Compton Community College District reaches out

### A campaign to involve citizens in the activities of district includes advisory committees

By Cheryl Scott  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The Compton Community College District has launched an aggressive effort to reach out to the community, with a three-pronged strategy designed to encourage commu-

nity participation.

"It's important to keep the community informed about what's going on in the district and with the Compton Center," said interim CEO Dr. Keith Curry. "People want to know. And lack of accurate information can lead to the circulation of rumors that give a false picture of

the district's affairs."

The district is forming a Special Trustee Advisory Committee that will be composed of seven members from the community. The committee will provide input to Special Trustee Thomas Henry, who will provide the members with updated information about

decisions affecting El Camino Compton Center.

An informational session is scheduled for Nov. 30 at 6 p.m. in the CCCD boardroom, 1111 E. Artesia Blvd. "At this session we will explain what service on the committee will involve in the way of participation from the members,"

said Curry. "Members will not receive compensation and will act in an advisory capacity only. But their input is very important and such a committee is one of the requirements of AB 318."

AB 318 is the legislation that created the partnership agreement between El Camino Community College District and Compton

» See COLLEGE, Page 9A



Photo by Shon Smith of D'Angelo's Photos

Councilman Dr. Willie Jones with Jaylon, 11, Annette, 10, Kendrick, 9, Jonah, 3 and Joseph, 6, with their mother Virginia at the Fall Festival in Compton.

## FALL FESTIVAL

### Community support key to keeping event going

By Chris Frost  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The Fall Festival in Compton is alive and well, thanks to the efforts of Councilman Willie Jones, his staff, and local sponsors that stepped up to make sure the event continues.

The event featured flag football, basketball, and soccer exhibitions. The Dominguez High School Band was the featured musical guest.

Free eye and dental screenings were among the activities offered to residents, as well as face painting,

lunch and a healthy eating presentation.

"I am coordinating the basketball demonstration," volunteer Chris Beckom said. "We will have a basic skills demonstration, then let them compete three versus three in a game."

The program brought kids between the ages of six through 14 to the court, all taking part in some healthy activities, while learning teamwork.

"There are going to be similar activities featuring football and soccer," Beckom said. "My friends and I

» See FESTIVAL, Page 4A

## CUSD looking into alleged VP misconduct

By Chris Frost  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The Compton Unified School District Personnel Commission is reviewing allegations of misconduct by commission Vice President Janice Irving.

She is accused of trying to use her influence to get jobs within the CUSD for friends of friends, then offering rewards for the hiring of those people. If the allegations prove to be true, the district may choose to censure Irving.

"Staff members told me Irving called about a friend who needed work," Personnel Director Dr. Matthew Spencer said. "On Friday, Oct. 7, I learned that Irving was in the office, and inquired about the applicant's status. When informed that she was hired, Irving offered the employee a gift card to Houston's restaurant as an expression of appreciation for getting her friend a job."

The employees told Spencer that Irving had called the office staff five times asking about the applicant. In one other incident earlier in the year, she called an additional five times, asking staff members to

help the son of a friend get hired. The staff members said they felt pressure from her, because of her requests.

"The staff members said they witnessed what could happen if they did not do what Irving wanted," Spencer said.

Irving refutes the allegations made against her, and said Spencer must prove the phone calls took place.

"Spencer has presented allegations, made by a personnel technician for the CUSD, that I pressured people to find employment for two friends," Irving said. "I deny that emphatically."

She said people approach her frequently about employment in the district because she is a member of the commission.

"Compton has an unemployment rate of over 20 percent," Irving said. "I am a long-standing citizen of this community, and familiar with many people because my daughter is a former president of the CUSD."

She said she asks for no special consideration from the personnel

» See CUSD, Page 9A

## Neighborhood stabilization program offers new life for out-of-date homes

By Chris Frost  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The efforts to remove blight and maintain home values in the Hub City moved forward on Tuesday, Oct. 25, as Community Redevelopment Agency Director Dr. Kofi Sefa-Boakye announced the first three homes offered for sale as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

The program utilizes money from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to acquire foreclosed properties and rehabilitate them, so they can be returned to the market and sold.

The federal government awarded

Compton \$3.2 million dollars two years ago to assist in the removal of blighted homes. The CRA purchases the homes.

"The redevelopment agency teamed up with a contractor, ANR Industries of Santa Fe Springs California, and purchased 12 foreclosed properties," Sefa-Boakye said. "The rehabilitation process started after the agency acquired the homes, and three are on the market."

ANR industries partnered with Long Beach, Pomona, Corona and Hemet on similar NSP endeavors.

"We rehabilitate these properties, and sub-contract part of the work to local vendors to help the

» See HOMES, Page 9A

## Mayor projects bright future for Carson

FULL STORY » PAGE 7A



## Fatburger in Compton holds its grand opening

SEE PICTURES FROM THE EVENT » PAGE 7A

# El Camino Compton Center hires new faculty members

## From staff reports

COMPTON—El Camino College Compton Center has hired four full-time faculty members.

Karla Coti is a chemistry instructor. After graduating magna cum laude in 2004 from California State University Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree in chemistry, Coti went on to earn a Ph.D. in chemistry from UCLA in March 2010 and was awarded a Dissertation Year Fellowship. She has served as a teaching assistant for UCLA's Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, and as a student research advisor at Northwestern University, UCLA and CSU Los Angeles. Most recently she was an adjunct chemistry instructor at both Glendale Community College and El Camino College Compton Center.

Brent Kooiman will be an instructor in the Auto Collision and Repair program. He brings



Karla Coti

30 years of experience in the auto collision repair and refinishing industry. He has worked in every aspect of the field including estimator, technician, and collision repair shop owner, as well as serving as an instructor. He earned his associate degree in automotive collision repair from Cerritos College. Kooiman has also served as an adjunct instructor



Brent Kooiman

at both Cerritos College and El Camino College.

Dale Ueda will be a heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) instructor. After earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from California State University Dominguez Hills, and an initial career with the United Parcel Service, Ueda completed the HVAC apprenticeship pro-



Dale Ueda

gram through the state of California. He is now a certified journeyman with more than 11 years in HVAC and refrigeration-fitting experience. Since 1999, Ueda has served as an adjunct instructor at El Camino College. In 2009 he joined the adjunct faculty at ECC Compton Center, where he has contributed to program review and student learning



Cassandra Washington

outcome statement development for the HVAC programs at both locations. Ueda has also served as an adjunct faculty member at Long Beach City College and Orange Coast College.

Cassandra Washington is an instructor of child development. An alumna of El Camino College, she received a bachelor's degree in liberal studies

from California State University Dominguez Hills and a master's degree in education from California State University Los Angeles with a minor in early childhood education. She has served as an adjunct instructor at ECC Compton Center since 2009, and has more than 12 years experience in early childhood care and education. Since 1995, she has worked at the Los Angeles County Office of Education as an educator and tutor. Since 2006, Washington has also served as a youth counselor at the Starview Adolescent Treatment Center in Torrance.

El Camino College Compton Center offers a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. El Camino College Compton Center is located at 1111 E. Artesia Blvd.

# Hamilton guides Dominguez students

By Chris Frost  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—Dominguez High School graduate and soon-to-be NBA player Jordan Hamilton paid a visit to his alma mater on Thursday, Oct. 27, to offer some advice to students who may be struggling with making the right choices as they move forward.

Hamilton will begin his NBA career with the Denver Nuggets once the current labor strike is resolved. He made a decision that changed his life when his grades stopped him from playing basketball during his freshman year.

"I focused on basketball all the time and did not focus on my studies," he said. "I attended school at night and on Saturday to make up for the mistakes I made in school. That was a reality check for me."

His father, Gregory Hamilton, worked with troubled children through the Los Angeles County Probation Department. The examples he used made a positive impression.

"I have an older brother who was a troubled kid grow-

## Our Town

ing up," Hamilton said. "My father used him as an example, and said you can choose that route or listen to me."

The road back started during his junior year at Dominguez High School, and his father pushed him to make the most of his education.

"I was at an eighth grade reading level in my junior year, and I worked hard with Mr. Routt, my English teacher, to bring my skills up by the time I graduated," he said. "There are a lot of programs at Dominguez High that can help you turn around any academic deficiency. It is important to stay focused and keep your eyes on the prize. It starts by taking a deep look at yourself, and see what you need to do."

That caused some issues with his friends while he developed his basketball skills, Hamilton said, but it paid off during his junior and senior years.

"The younger students looked up to me during my junior and senior year," he

said. "I ran into some familiar faces today, and they are doing well."

While he calls himself the beneficiary of a blessed family situation, Hamilton stressed that those less fortunate can reach out for help and benefit from it.

"A mentor makes a difference," he said. "I plan to come back whenever I can, help the youngsters, and continue the work my parents did with me, my siblings and other children in the community."

There are people that did not look for the help, he said, and they are still playing street ball, rather than pursuing a future.

"Some are better than me," Hamilton said. "It hurts me to see these guys not achieve the success they are capable of."

Hamilton took his success to the University of Texas, and after two years he is ready for the NBA.

As he looks forward, Hamilton said the values he learned from his family will keep him well-grounded, even though



Photo by Shon Smith of D'Angelo's Photos

NBA Denver Nugget player and Dominguez High School alumnus Jordan Hamilton with current DHS senior basketball player, Juwan Godwin.

his life will change dramatically when the strike ends.

"I am very religious and that drives me through life," he said. "It is easy to lose your way when you have all this money, but I will focus on my career."

Hamilton said his first priority is listening to his new coaches and contributing to the team.

"I did not listen very well during my freshman and sophomore years, and it cost me playing time," he said. "The mistakes I made then are valuable lessons now, and they will

not happen again."

He made a commitment to his parents and himself to finish school, he said, and he plans to be a journalist after his playing days are over.

"These students need to remember to keep God and family first," Hamilton said. "Listen to your parents or guardians, they will not steer you in the wrong direction."

# Perrodin calls for unity in the city's budget crisis

By Chris Frost  
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The political unrest among Compton City Council members led Mayor Eric J. Perrodin to question the communicative process between them.

His remarks stemmed from his displeasure over the selection process for new interim City Manager Lamont Ewell, during the City Council meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

"You hear rumors out there all the time, but I did tell Mr. Ewell that he was coming into a bad situation, and it was not just the fiscal issues," Perrodin said. "I am the mayor of the city, but I only have one vote."

He said that he did not like the fact that Mr. Ewell's name popped up one day, and he was told that he was going to be the new city manager.

"I did my review of Mr. Ewell, and I find him to be a man of integrity," Perrodin said. "I have said that to everyone, but I wish my colleagues had been more forthright in bringing him here."

He said that the credentials that the new city manager brings to the table are unbeatable, but the cloud surrounding his arrival makes it hard to warm up to him.

"I will not base my opinion of you on that situation," he said. "It is the work that you do that is important, and so far I like what you have done."

Zurita acknowledged the mayor's remarks, but denied that a cloud surrounded Ewell's arrival in Compton.

"I appreciate your comments and support of Mr. Ewell, but our intent is clear," she said. "It was on the agenda for a couple of weeks. We gave you Mr. Ewell's name at Norfleet's first evaluation, but I guess you were not interested."

Mr. Ewell's name, Perrodin said, appeared the same night they voted to fire

"We need to come together and solve our budget crisis. When I was first elected I was in the minority. If something is not proper, I will point it out, and make the city better. I am not accusing the Council of this, but the last thing I want to see is a return to corruption."

— Compton Mayor Eric J. Perrodin

former City Manager Willie Norfleet. "Perhaps my colleagues met Mr. Ewell before that, but that was the first night that I met him," Perrodin said.

Council members presented Ewell's name to Perrodin the week before, Zurita said, and the mayor was asked to look him up and do his investigation.

"That is my point," Perrodin said. "You met Ewell and gave me his name. I am the mayor of the city, and I should have been afforded the respect to meet with him prior to his appointment as city manager."

Zurita did not respond to the mayor's comment.

"I was one of her (Zurita's) colleagues, and I am happy that you agree that Ewell's hire is a good thing," Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux said. "I think we need to stop here and move forward. If we support him, the city will be in better shape than before his arrival."

In comments after the meeting, Perrodin said that he did not feel he personally

was disrespected, but his office was during the selection process.

"It was no secret that the Council wanted to get rid of Norfleet," he said. "It is not a vetting process to tell me to look Mr. Ewell up on the Internet."

The City Council has not voted on a contract for Ewell, and Norfleet still needs to be compensated for his efforts until his termination.

"Maybe he is working for free, I do not know," he said. "How do we have a city manager working without a contract?"

Perrodin said he does not see council members reconciling personally, but they need to find common ground professionally.

"We need to come together and solve our budget crisis," he said. "When I was first elected I was in the minority. If something is not proper, I will point it out, and make the city better. I am not accusing the Council of this, but the last thing I want to see is a return to corruption"

## Metro Briefs

GATEWAY CITIES

### Where's My Bus? Check Your Cell Phone

Get real-time bus arrival information on your cell phone with Metro's new Nextrip. Using satellite technology, Nextrip pinpoints your bus and tells you how soon it will arrive at your stop. Access Nextrip from either text/SMS, mobile web, voice or online. For complete details and options, visit [metro.net/nextrip](http://metro.net/nextrip).

### Metro Receives Clean Air Award

The South Coast Air Quality Management District's (AQMD) Clean Air Award has been presented to Metro in the category of "Promotion of Good Environmental Stewardship." The award went to Metro for its achievement in being the first major transit agency in the nation with a fleet run entirely on alternative fuels.

### Go Metro To Hollywood Christmas Parade

Celebrate the start of the holidays with more than 80 years of tradition. The Hollywood Christmas Parade once again marches down Hollywood Boulevard on Sunday, November 27. Metro Rail's Hollywood/Highland and Hollywood/Vine stations are located on the parade route.

### When Traffic Is Naughty, Metro Is Nice

Here's a bright idea for getting through a hectic holiday season: Let Metro shuttle out-of-town guests, be your designated driver or ease your daily commute. Try the affordable Metro Day Pass and ride all day for only \$5. For happier holidays, Go Metro.

### Get Breaking Metro News Online

Get instant updates on the issues and actions that keep LA County moving. Just go to "The Source," an online news and feature service that is updated throughout the day. For Spanish speakers, there is the nation's first transit agency blog "El Pasajero." Look for them today at [metro.net](http://metro.net).



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## Compton Community College District seeks member applications for Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee

From staff reports

COMPTON—The Compton Community College District is currently accepting applications from anyone interested in serving on the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee. Applications are available now and must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 18.

Applications are available at [www.district.compton.edu](http://www.district.compton.edu) or by calling 310-900-1600, Ext. 2000.

Bond Oversight Committee members serve a term of two years and do not receive any compensation or benefits for their service. The committee will meet quarterly beginning in January 2012.

There will be an information session for potential applicants on Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 6:00 p.m. in the CCCD boardroom.

As outlined in Education Code Section 15278, the role of the District Citizens' Oversight Committee is to inform the public concerning the expenditure of revenues received from the sale of bonds authorized by the voters. The committee will provide oversight to ensure that:

- Bond revenues are expended only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of district facilities, including the furnishing and equipping of district facilities, or the acquisition or lease of real property for district facilities.

- No bond revenues are expended for any teacher or administrative salaries, or for operating expenses other than the salaries of district employees who provide administrative oversight for the bond program or individual bond projects.

The Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee will consist of at least seven members, including at least one representative from each of the following categories:

1. A member active in a business organization representing the business community located within the district.
2. A member who is a resident of the district and active in a senior citizen's organization.
3. A member who is a resident of the district and active in a bona fide taxpayer's organization.
4. A member enrolled as a student at the El Camino College Compton Educational Center and active in a campus group.
5. A member active in an organization supporting the district such as the foundation.

To qualify for appointment, a candidate must meet the criteria listed in one of these categories. A member cannot be an employee, official, contractor, consultant or vendor of the Compton Community College District. Elected officials are also disqualified from service on the committee.

Applications should be submitted to Keith Curry, Interim CEO of the Compton Community College District, 1111 E. Artesia Blvd., Compton, CA 90221, by Nov. 18 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, call 310-900-1600, Ext. 2000.

# Survivor reveals warning signs of physical abuse

From staff reports

Esther Francis Joseph believes that almost everyone knows someone who is being physically abused at home—they just don't know it.

"Victims of abuse are very good at hiding it," said Joseph, a survivor of child abuse and author of *Memories of Hell, Visions of Heaven — A Story of Survival, Transformation and Hope*. "In most cases, they are threatened with more abuse if they ever tell anyone about it, so they become very adept at hiding bruises and acting as if nothing is wrong at all. In many cases, abusers were abused themselves. Abusers are very good at terrorizing their victims because they were trained on how to be a successful abuser by those who abused them as children. As a result, the abusers themselves are often seen by friends and neighbors as friendly, affable people in good, healthy relationships. The abused seem happy and content in their lives. But when the doors close and lock behind them, the facade is dropped."

Joseph thinks it is critically important to know what to do if you suspect someone you care about or work with is being abused at home by their spouse.

"Before you do anything, make sure that you are educated on the subject and the different types of abuse," she said. "Prepare yourself for the encounter because your discussion may be unwelcome and viewed as interference. It is also important to know when to step back. If the person denies the allegation, you may want to simply express your concern and willingness to help."

Warning signs of abuse include:

- Bruises are the most obvious signs of abuse, but victims will usually hide them. They may use makeup to hide any facial cuts or bruises. Be mindful of those tactics if you think abuse is taking place.

"Abusers are very good at terrorizing their victims because they were trained on how to be a successful abuser by those who abused them as children. As a result, the abusers themselves are often seen by friends and neighbors as friendly, affable people in good, healthy relationships."

— Esther Francis Joseph, author and abuse survivor

- Clothing may change in style or unusual fashion choices that would allow marks or bruises to be easily hidden. For instance, someone who wears long sleeves even in the dog days of summer may be trying to hide the telltale signs of abuse.

- Frequent talk about their partner's temper or jealousy might be the main tip-off. Sometimes, victims will vent about other issues in their relationships, but stop short of talking about abuse. In their minds, it is the only way they can reach out for help without disobeying the commands of the abuser and not to reveal the abuse.

- Constant phone calls can be a subtle way abusers manipulate their victims, making them fearful of uttering a stray word that might alert someone that something is wrong. Many abusers are very controlling and suspicious, so they will call their victims multiple times each day to "check in." Many abusers are also jealous, and suspect their partner is cheating on them, and the constant calls are a way of making sure they aren't with

anyone they aren't supposed to be around.

- Missing work more often than other employees can be a way to keep others from noticing cuts and bruises that can't be hidden. Victims stay home from work to prevent alerting people to their abuse.

- Always being seen together outside the office could be a sign that a co-worker is being controlled by a jealous and potentially violent partner. By itself, this behavior may not be as revealing, but together with other warning signs, it could be an important sign.

"Approaching someone and bringing up the topic of abuse is a difficult conversation to have, but it is one worth having," Joseph added. "You might just be saving a life."

Esther Francis Joseph holds a bachelor's degree in international affairs from New York University. Her goal is to help others still in the grips of abuse and violence to break the cycle and find a way to a place of healing.

## El Camino College Compton Center to host student transfer day Nov. 2

From staff reports

COMPTON—El Camino College Compton Center will host a Transfer Day Fair on

Nov. 2 to help prepare students for transfer to a four-year college or university. College and university representatives will be at ECC Compton Center to share information with students regarding transfer opportunities. It is anticipated that 30 universities and colleges will participate.

The event will take place in the Tartar gym from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and will provide students with the opportunity to submit applications to the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) and California State University, Dominguez Hills.

Representatives from additional University of California and California State University campuses, as well as member institutions of the Association of Independent California Colleges and Universities (AICCU), are

also scheduled to attend.

Students will have an opportunity to ask questions about the campus communities, academic programs, tuition, housing, eligibility for admission and the application process.

The event will also feature workshops on financing a college education, careers under the Career and Technical Education (CTE) umbrella, and UC and CSU admissions for the undergraduate transfer student.

On the evening of Nov. 2 local middle- and high-school students and their parents are invited to attend a College and Career Night Fair from 5 to 8 p.m., also at ECC Compton Center. Through a focused and collaborative effort, known as the "Compton Commitment," the El Camino College Compton Center, the

Compton Unified School District and California State University, Dominguez Hills have entered into an agreement to work together to increase local rates of college attendance and student success.

Both events are free and open to the public. For more information, contact the ECC Compton Center Transfer Center at 310-900-1600, Ext. 2769.

### About El Camino College Compton Center

*El Camino College Compton Center offers a full complement of transfer and degree courses, as well as career and technical education. Students may earn an associate degree or certificate, transfer to a four-year university or train for a career. El Camino College Compton Center is located at 1111 E. Artesia Blvd.*

## Public hearing on Compton Community College District trustee area boundaries set for Nov. 15

From staff reports

COMPTON—Compton Community College District (CCCD) Special Trustee Thomas Henry will hold a public hearing on the proposed district trustee areas on Tuesday, Nov. 15, at 7 p.m. in the CCCD boardroom, located in the Administration Building, 1111 E. Artesia Blvd.

The district, along with many other public agencies and school districts in California, has begun a public process

to review and modify its elected trustee area boundaries. Every 10 years, local community colleges, city councils and other local agencies must adjust their election boundaries in order to equalize the population and ensure fair elections. In the CCCD, there is an additional need to modify the district's election structure and change from "at large" to "trustee area" elections.

Currently, trustees in the CCCD must live in the trustee area they represent, however

residents of the CCCD vote for trustee candidates "at large," casting their votes for all candidates on the ballot. When voting by "trustee area," residents will only vote for the candidate who resides in their specific trustee area.

The proposed maps for the new Compton Community College District Trustee Areas will be available through Nov. 15 in the office of interim CEO Dr. Keith Curry and on the district website.

Members of the public are encouraged to review the redistricting maps on the district website at [http://district.compton.edu/district\\_information/district-redistricting.asp](http://district.compton.edu/district_information/district-redistricting.asp). Included on this web page for review and input are the current Compton Community College District trustee areas and four additional proposed Compton Community College District Trustee area maps. The public may submit written comments on this web page, and may also create and submit maps indicating their communities of interest through an interactive redistricting mapping tool.

## The Compton Community College District is currently accepting applications for positions on the Measure CC Bond Oversight Committee



*The application for the Measure CC Bond Oversight Committee is available online at [www.district.compton.edu](http://www.district.compton.edu) and in the Office of the Interim CEO*

Potential applicants are advised to attend an Information Session:

Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
at 6:00 p.m.

Compton Community College District Board Room

Applications may be submitted to:  
Keith Curry, Interim Chief Executive Officer  
Compton Community College District  
1111 E. Artesia Blvd., Compton, CA 90221

Applications must be received no later than:  
Friday, November 18, 2011 at 4:30 p.m.

For more information, or if you have questions,  
please call 310-900-1600, ext. 2000.



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# COLLEGE

Continued from Page 1A

Community College District.

Applications for the committee are available from the CEO's office or online at [www.compton.edu](http://www.compton.edu). They are also available by calling 310-900-1600, Ext. 2000. Applications must be submitted to the office of the interim CEO by Dec. 9, 2011, at 4:30 p.m.

A Citizens' Oversight Committee is also being formed. "Their job will be to inform the public about the expenditure of the money received from bonds authorized by the voters, including the Measure CC bond of \$100 million passed in 2002," said Curry.

The committee will ensure that bond revenues are expended only for the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation or replacement of district facilities and that no bond revenues are expended for teacher or administrative salaries, or for operating expenses other than the salaries of district employees who provide administrative oversight for the bond pro-

**"We want to give the community a chance to give us their input and help us make decisions on issues that affect the college and the district. Any group in the community can receive an invitation to sit on the dais by calling Special Trustee Tom Henry at 310-900-1500, Ext. 2000." — Interim CEO Dr. Keith Curry**

the community can receive an invitation to sit on the dais by calling Special Trustee Tom Henry at 310-900-1500, Ext. 2000."

The district expects an overwhelming response from the community. "We are very excited about this," said Curry. "It will give the opportunity to community members to become engaged in the district. They will be able to help us shape the district's operations for the next five or 10 years. Community members will also have the opportunity to promote higher education in the district."

gram or individual bond projects.

Applications are now available and must be submitted by 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 18.

The Bond Oversight Committee will meet on a quarterly basis beginning in January 2012.

"Actually, we are repopulating the Bond Oversight Committee," Curry said. "It met once in September 2011 but attendance was lacking. We are looking for people who will take the responsibility seriously and attend the meetings."

The district has also initiated community partici-

pation in its board meetings. Different groups will sit on the dais on an alternating basis. "This month members of the student body will be seated on the dais," he said.

"Next month the district board of trustees will be back."

The importance of sitting on the dais, as opposed to in the audience, lies in the fact that audience members only get one opportunity to speak and their time is limited to two or three minutes. Those on the dais have more opportunities to speak and more time allotted for their comments and questions.

"We decided to do some-

thing different at our monthly board meetings," Curry said. "We want to give the community a chance to

give us their input and help us make decisions on issues that affect the college and the district. Any group in

# HOMES

Continued from Page 1A

economy," Lisa Silva, director of real estate properties for ANR Industries said. "J and J Fence and the local Home Depot are just a couple of examples of local involvement."

They feature green technologies, including tank-less hot water heaters, energy efficient lighting and plumbing fixtures.

"These homes are superior to others in the market," she said.

The properties, listed through local realtors, are located on South Mayo Avenue, North Van Ness Avenue, and West Plum Street.

"We have an offer for the house on South Mayo," Silva said. "It has been received very well. They are selling at the current market rate, so they do not reduce the value of the neighborhood. The program increases the value of the neighborhood, because we eliminate dilapidated homes."

Sefa-Boakye said that the city received a \$5 million award in conjunction with a Los An-

geles neighborhood housing nonprofit organization to purchase 25 more homes, and offer them for sale in 2012.

"This money is not always available," Sefa-Boakye said. "The money for NSP one, two, and three is allocated for home purchases. HUD sent the money for phase one directly to the city, while two and three distribute the funds to organizations that we partner with."

Once the city has used all the allocated funds it will re-apply, and continue to remove blight in neighborhoods.

Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux asked about home conversions, such as a garage remodel, and how the NSP addresses this condition.

"If a home has undergone an illegal remodel and is not up to code, it is restored to its original condition," Silva said. "The city building and safety department inspects these properties."

For more information about the homes offered through the neighborhood stabilization program, contact the CRA at 310-605-5511.

# CUSD

Continued from Page 1A

department, no matter who asks for help.

"I want everyone to be treated fairly, in accordance with the merit system," Irving said.

Irving offered her explanation about the two prospective employees, a man and a woman, that led to the allegations.

"I was advised the female applicant was upset because the job she applied for had passed," she said. "I asked the personnel technician if she had a problem calling her and she said she did not. She also asked for the gentleman's phone number."

On Oct. 7, Irving was informed that the CUSD hired the female applicant, and she offered the employee either lunch or dinner in show of appreciation for her expeditious work.

"I understand that staff may misunderstand that we would pressure them to hire someone, but that is not the case," she said. "To offer her lunch is the same as giving her a bouquet of flowers. In the future, I will be more cautious about offering anything for a job well done."

Commission President Tara Bonner said that the first obligation is to hire from the re-employment list.

"Those employees should be afforded the right to come back and take a job, even if it is a sub position," Bonner said. "I get calls, and it is OK to tell a friend to call the CUSD and see what is open, but the staff should do what they are paid to do, and we should not harass them. We do not give gifts out as a gesture to any employee."

Commissioner Florence Adams-Vickers said she will research the issue before voting to censure Irving.

In comments after the meeting, Bonner said the commission will revisit the issue at its next meeting, scheduled on Thursday, Nov. 3.

## ELECT Compton Unified School District Board of Trustees November 8



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# Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker November 2, 2011

**ACROSS**

1 One on the fast track?

6 Meander

10 Warm greetings

14 Humorous literary technique

15 Razor's cutter

16 Yet another time

17 Canapes and tea sandwiches, e.g.

19 Notion

20 Game of pursuit

21 First word in the Lord's Prayer

22 Mensa aspirant's hurdle

24 Practice piece

27 Needling literary works

28 Some McDonald's fare

31 Skin moisturizer

32 Crackerjack

33 "Get out of here!"

37 Winner of four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics

38 Banned insecticide letters

39 Ripped off

40 Money rolls

41 Inconclusive result

42 Made from a fleece

43 Mr. Chips' chips

45 Marching to

a different drummer

49 Time-honored practices

50 Freedom from pain

51 One that goes to school regularly

52 Windy City trains

55 Bittersweet coating

56 Healthy serving

60 Bulletin board affixer

61 Serious about

62 Use it to prevent running on

63 City in northern Nevada

64 Matter of grammar

65 Labor leader Chavez

**DOWN**

1 Fissure

2 Diva's operatic ditty

3 Like a cold sufferer

4 A famous conjoined twin

5 "... a pocket full of \_\_\_"

6 Gas up for the next leg, e.g.

7 Ammonia attribute

8 Word with "many moons"

9 Propose a compromise

10 Part of Hispaniola

11 Beneath

12 Canadian migrants

13 Belts, as a homer

18 Balzac's sculptor

23 Oil amts.

25 Adds water, as to soup

26 Strange sky lights

27 Splinter group

28 Type of chart

29 The 29th state

30 Weighed down

33 Mall occupant

34 Certain sports venues

35 Sheltered from the wind

36 Double-digit bills

38 Atkins regimen

39 Tender-hearted

41 Rush-hour certainty

42 Curtain-in-the-breeze sound

43 Agent's charge

44 "Thank God, it's Friday" declarer?

45 Address Congress, e.g.

46 Born in the wild

47 Film, familiarly

48 Sergeant once played by Phil Silvers

51 Vegas ventures

53 Pizarro founded it

54 The sun, for one

57 Cell messenger

58 TV regulators

59 Fish spawn

**PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER**

1	R	O	M	A	5	S	H	R	U	B	10	P	L	O	P
14	A	M	E	N	15	H	O	U	S	E	16	I	O	T	A
17	T	A	S	K	M	A	S	T	E	R	19	G	A	I	N
20	E	N	S	L	A	V	E	21	E	V	I	N	C	E	
23	E	R	E	24	L	T	A	R							
25	M	A	T	E	26	M	B	A	28	L	O	29	A	T	H
33	H	O	G	S	34	H	E	A	D	H	O	N	C	H	O
36	A	V	E	37	F	U	N	I	E	R	38	T	I	N	
39	R	I	N	G	L	E	A	D	E	R	41	Z	O	N	E
42	M	E	T	R	O	43	C	O	S	44	H	E	R	E	
45	O	D	E	S	S	A	46	P	E	N	47	P	E	N	
48	V	A	M	P	49	B	I	G	B	R	O	T	H	E	R
50	E	R	I	E	51	S	C	A	L	E	52	H	A	N	G
53	E	R	D	53	T	E	P	E	E	54	S	P	A	S	

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11/2 **FILLING FOOD** By Gary Cooper

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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Answers next week!