

Hub City gets visit from African ambassador



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Martin takes over as administrator at Compton Courthouse

By Chris Frost
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—Returning to the place where his career began, Daniel Martin, the new Compton Courthouse administrator, faces a tough budget situation, as well as needed building improvements.

"I started as a court clerk straight from school in 1992," Martin said. "I graduated early and was assigned to Compton during the riots."

Martin began his work as administrator in April, taking over projects to improve the courthouse and new initiatives based on his observations.

"The elevators have been an issue at

the courthouse for years," Martin said. "It's not just the public elevators, but all of the elevators in the building and in the parking garage."

Martin said the long-awaited \$2 million project is just getting started, with contractors coming to tour the building and then start bidding on the projects.

"When I got here, I noticed the jury

assembly room was in very poor condition," he said. "We have some discretionary funds available that we will lose if they aren't used by June 30. Those funds will be used to correct that situation."

The project will replace the worn, stained carpet and lumpy chairs, Martin said. "It gives jurors performing their

civic duty comfortable surroundings."

Projects still waiting approval have been brought to the attention of Mayor Eric J. Perrodin.

"The broken lighting outside of the courthouse is a public safety concern," Martin said. "The \$100,000 project has

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Moms get their due



Bulletin Photo by Chris Frost

Enae Jackson-Atkins kept the audience entertained throughout the Salvation Army Mother's Day event.

CCCD Special trustee reaches out to community

Genethia Hudley-Hayes says she'll speak to city councils of communities served by Compton Community College District

By Cheryl Scott
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—Special Trustee to the Compton Community College District Genethia Hudley-Hayes plans to make presentations and take questions at City Council meetings in Compton, Carson, Lynwood and Paramount showing the status of the accreditation process for El Camino Compton Center.

"I think there has not been enough communication about what is happening," she told The Bulletin. "And I think some misinformation has come out that has people confused about the process and the current state of the college."

Hudley-Hayes has been sharply criticized by the Committee to Save Compton Community College for her abrupt firing of Dr. Lawrence Cox, who was widely respected for progress made at the college during his tenure.

"I cannot speak about personnel matters," she said. "But the district has not been communicative enough in the past. Consequently, there is a lot of misunderstanding in the community."

Recently published FCMAT (Fiscal Crisis and Management Team) reports have shown

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Compton students to perform at Arts and Aviation Career Expo

By Chris Frost
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—Bands from the Compton Unified School District and California State University Dominguez Hills will be featured performers at The Arts and Aviation Career Expo on Saturday, May 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will also feature airplane and helicopter rides, arts and crafts, career booths and food.

"Our advanced orchestra and concert band will perform at the expo," said David Lizarde, music department director at Willowbrook Middle School. "We look forward to participating, and the children are very busy preparing for their performance."

The Compton Airport, 961 W. Alondra Blvd., will host the event, which is free and open to the public.

Lizarde said the children get an opportunity to explore their musical talents in his program.

"Many of the kids are starting from scratch," he said. "At the beginning of the year I make a presentation of instruments so the students can pick the ones they like."

Lizarde said the sousaphone is the most requested instrument in his program. He said an alumnus of the school performed many times for students while at Willowbrook and many of the children are looking to follow in his footsteps.

"When I first began the program I had a really hard time with the parents," Lizarde said. "Now that the program has been established and the parents can see the benefit, they are advocates of the work we do."

He said the parents mobilized to raise money for

the program and are planning a fundraiser for a trip to Knott's Berry Farm.

"We haven't had much mentoring in the program," he said. "I am really hoping the expo and the work of the parents will encourage the students going through this program to come back and be a positive influence."

Lizarde, a Cal State Dominguez Hills graduate, said he had a terrific mentor who made a difference in his pursuit of music. He will be coming to Willowbrook next week to assist the youngsters in their musical endeavors and be an example of making better choices as they grow up.

"Giving the kids a diversion from life on the street is making a difference in the lives of children," Lizarde said. "They come here to hang out after school, they practice, and the older musicians men-

tor the ones who are just starting out. We need to expand that to include our alumni."

Good grades, however, are still the foundation for success, he said.

"There still needs to be a balance between schoolwork and their music," Lizarde said. "Participation in the band program is not tied to their performance in school, but I speak to the parents of students who are failing and encourage them to get involved."

He said he also teaches music to the fourth- and fifth-graders at Carver Elementary School, which accelerates their musical development when they reach Willowbrook Middle School.

For more information about the Carver Elementary and Willowbrook Middle School music programs, call David Lizarde at 562-682-4701, or email to dlizarde2005@yahoo.com.

Royal couple coming to visit — and the state's already abuzz

FULL STORY » PAGE 6A



Should L.A. get a football team from another city or wait for expansion?

SEE THE ANSWERS » PAGE 2A



Photos by Shon Smith of D'Angelo's Photos

Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, the first woman to be named permanent representative of the African Union, visited Compton last week. Mayor Eric J. Perrodin welcomed her to the city with a proclamation.

African ambassador visits Hub City



Left to right: Councilwomen Yvonne Arceneaux, Lillie Dobson and Mayor Perrodin gave a heartfelt welcome to Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, who represents 53 African nations.



Left to right: Khalipha Majid, Councilwoman Yvonne Arceneaux and Lillie Dobson, Mayor Eric J. Perrodin, Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, Councilwoman Barbara J. Calhoun, Councilman Dr. Willie O. Jones, CSUN professor Dr. David L. Horne, Ali's assistant Sharrita, and Shakkara Thomas pose for a photo during the City Councilman meeting on May 3.

NAEJA brings anti-crime leaders to meeting

By Chris Frost
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—The Los Angeles County SWAT team, homicide department and gang detail all gathered at the National Association for Equal Justice in America's meeting on May 2 to discuss ways to make Compton safer.

The gathering surprised everyone, especially Barbara Calhoun.

"She made a \$5 bet that I couldn't get all these agencies to come together," Royce Esters, president of NAEJA, said. "While she was paying me I asked her if she would like to bet on the FBI coming to the meeting next month, and she said no."

The goal of NAEJA is to promote dialogue among diverse populations, counteract mob violence and police brutality, eliminate racial discrimination and segregation, seek justice in the courts and secure job opportunities for minorities that are based on merit without regard to race.

"The message that came from the meeting is that you should not give up hope," Esters said. "Homicide is looking into many cold cases, including one that cost Barbara Calhoun's brother his life. SWAT also spoke about their role in crime prevention."

Esters said the NAEJA meetings are a place to vent frustrations and get help. Participation, he said, can make a difference.

"At the meetings we ask the attendees where we can help," Esters said. "We had an area around Tucker Street that had crime and dope everywhere. We involved the sheriff's department, walked

the street, and worked to eliminate the problem on Tucker."

"At NAEJA meetings people can learn who has been a victim of crime as well," Esters said. "When people feel like they aren't being heard, they take matters into their own hands and crime goes up."

Compton has come a long way from the violent times in the 1980s when he was appointed crime commissioner, Esters said. Back then, the gunshots would start at 5 p.m. and continue all night.

"The key to moving our community away from our violent past is to bring everyone together," he said. "We have many small entities trying to make a difference. When we all unite against crime, change will happen."

This battle must be fought at every level all the way down to elementary schools, NAEJA anti-crime state chairman Leon Harper said.

"There is more crime committed by the youngsters than gang members," he said. "The problem is they don't have anything to do, or anywhere to go, so they get in trouble."

Esters said NAEJA continues to look toward breaking the cycle of crime in every community.

The June meeting will feature a discussion by gang specialists from the FBI, who will be in town to address the recent violence in Compton, Esters said. Shot spotters, who track and arrest people when shots are fired into the air, will also be at the June 6 meeting.

For more information about NAEJA call 310-608-5878.

Judge Filer reveals his poetic journey

By Chris Frost
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—Judge Kelvin Filer reflects on life's highs and lows in his autobiography, "Race Ipsa Loquitur: A poetic journey from Compton to the Los Angeles Superior Court."

"The book's title means that it speaks for itself," Filer said. "It tells you all about me, and my experiences are told through my poetry."

A strong, loving family provided the support Filer needed to help him make the right choices in life. The book is dedicated to his mother and father.

"My brothers would always tease me and call me the spoiled one," he said. "They told me that the day after I left for college, the pancakes my mother always made stopped, and five bowls of oatmeal would be on the kitchen table for breakfast."

In making the right choices in life, Filer said the whole

neighborhood also played an important role.

"Everybody in my neighborhood watched out for us," he said. "If I did something wrong at Mrs. Simmons house, I would probably get spanked two or three times before I got home."

Filer said the neighborhood parents kept all the children involved in many activities, like Little League, Pop Warner Football, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts and church choirs. There wasn't time for the negative temptations in life.

"I have been writing poetry since I was a little boy," he said. "Many of the poems I've written reflect new experiences and changes in my life."

Filer describes writing poetry as cathartic. This outlet, he said, would help him achieve his career goals.

"I was focused on my first year of law school because

» See JOURNEY, Page 5A

Compton Center 2010 grad accepted to Junior Summer Institute at Carnegie Mellon

From staff reports

COMPTON—El Camino College Compton Center alumnus Jamal Stokley is one of only 20 students who will spend the summer at Carnegie Mellon University's prestigious Public Policy & International Affairs Junior Summer Institute. Stokley was chosen from a pool of exceptional applicants to receive not only admission to the program, but also a fellowship. His fellowship includes roundtrip airfare, stipend, meal allowance, uni-

versity housing, books and related course materials.

The PPIA program grooms students like Stokley for admission into the nation's top graduate-level policy programs and ultimately for roles serving the public good. During the seven-week program, he will receive intensive training in the areas of public policy, quantitative thinking, communication and leadership.

Stokley, who graduated from ECC Compton Center in June 2010, began carving out his role as

an emerging leader while earning his associate degree in liberal arts. He had many experiences that set the guidelines for his success, including making the Dean's List with a 4.0 GPA, serving as Associated Student Body commissioner of financial aid, and founding an entrepreneurship association.

In April of 2010, Stokley participated in the Greenlining Institute's annual economic summit. Along with seven other ECC Compton Center students, he attended presentations on immigra-

tion reform, California's economy and political term limits.

"The economic summit will long be remembered as an experience that paved the way for a group of ambitious college students from Compton Center to achieve great things both for themselves and the communities they represent for many years to come," said Stokley.

His level of engagement during the summit, coupled with his strong networking skills, led to an internship with the organization.

Stokley spent the summer of 2010 in Berkeley working under and learning from the Greenlining Institute's CEO.

Stokley transferred to San Francisco State University in fall 2010 and is currently earning a degree in marketing and communications. In the future, Stokley, a father of two, is interested in becoming an entrepreneur or perhaps pursuing a career in advertising or marketing. "I want to make an impact in America from a corporate perspective," he said.

El Camino Compton Center math instructor participates in elite program

From staff reports

COMPTON—El Camino College Compton Center instructor Ruth Zambrano dedicates her summers to engaging inner-city youth in a demanding academic schedule of pre-college and college mathematics through the Jaime Escalante Math Program where she teaches pre-algebra and algebra. Instructors for this program are carefully selected based on their teaching skills and a passionate dedication to the success of their students.

Zambrano, who teaches courses such as basic arithmetic skills, pre-algebra, elementary algebra, intermediate algebra and college algebra at ECC Compton Center, has been a part of the Jaime Escalante Math Program since 2007.

The mathematical “boot-camp” provides rigorous instruction in intermediate and advanced mathematics to middle- and high-school-aged students in order to improve their chances of being accepted to university-level math and science programs. The program is the legacy former math instructor at Garfield High School Jaime Escalante, who is the subject of the 1988 film “Stand and Deliver.” During his tenure, Escalante dramatically improved the performance of his students by demanding the most out of them with a “hard work for student and teacher alike” approach.

Zambrano’s approachable, attentive teaching style lends itself to this innovative, total-immersion mathematics program in which students cover one year of mathematics (two semesters) in seven weeks.

“In spending four hours per day, five days a week with students, you really get to know their strengths and weaknesses and are better able to meet their needs,” said Zambrano. “I try to do the same thing with my students at ECC Compton Center by giving step-by-step instruction, creating a comfortable environment for questions, and making myself available for one-on-one tutoring.”

Female students account for more than half of the Escalante Program’s enrollment. Zambrano enjoys being a role model for young women interested in mathematics.

“I love it when even the shy girls start to ask questions,” she said. “It means they have a desire to understand, which is important in keeping middle school girls engaged in the subject.”

Zambrano spent her formative years in Huntington Park and Lynwood. One aspect of participating in the Escalante Program and teaching at ECC Compton Center that she finds particularly rewarding is working with students in the communities where she grew up.

“I see myself in my students and want to show them that anything is possible,” she says. “One of the greatest feelings in teaching is giving others the skills they need to achieve their goals.”

Zambrano earned a Master of Science degree in applied mathematics from California State University Long Beach, in addition to a Bachelor of Science degree in the same subject from UCLA.

Zurita endorsed by Hall, Rodriguez



District 1 candidate Janna Zurita

By Chris Frost
Bulletin Staff Writer

COMPTON—District 1 candidate Janna Zurita has been endorsed by Assemblyman Isadore Hall and former City Council candidate Francisco Rodriguez. Zurita is challenging incumbent Barbara Calhoun in a runoff election on June 7.

“As a current member of the California State Assembly, I know what is required of our leaders during these truly extraordinary times,” Hall said. “I am confident that you possess the qualifications for being that kind of leader, and a key player in bringing renewed hope to the citizens of Compton. I am happy to endorse your candidacy for the Compton City Council, represent-

ing the District 1.”

“We shared many of the same platform issues during the campaign,” Rodriguez said. “Janna Zurita has my endorsement in the runoff election against Barbara Calhoun.”

“I’m honored and humbled by Assemblyman Isadore Hall’s endorsement,” Zurita said. “This is validation that he is committed to work with me to help bring resources to the citizens of Compton during these tough economic times,” said Zurita. “I have shared with him our concerns about high water bills, the need for more senior programs, increased public safety and the city’s deficit.”

The deadline to register to vote in the runoff election is May 23.

Shutting down public schools one month early a possibility as state wrestles with budget deficit

From staff reports

SACRAMENTO—The concept of closing schools a month early is on the table as legislators continue to seek ways to reduce the state’s \$17-million budget deficit.

The discussion comes as President Obama has pushed for longer school years, concerned that U.S. students are losing ground to their counterparts around the world.

Children in frigid areas have “snow day” school closures. Could students across sunny California face “budget days” in bad fiscal times?

Gov. Jerry Brown and school officials warn that shutting down school one month early—a loss of 20 instructional days—is a real possibility next year without an extension of

higher taxes. Some see Hawaii, which slashed 17 days in 2009-10, as an example that drastic measures are possible.

But there remain significant hurdles to imposing a month-long closure in California, particularly getting approval from teachers’ unions and lawmakers. Republicans suggest that Democrats are raising the possibility as a scare tactic.

In the past two years, most California school districts have reduced their schedules below the 180-day calendar that was standard here in the previous decade and remains the norm nationwide.

No legislative proposal exists, but Orange County Superintendent of Schools William Habermehl said his 27 districts are talking about the option, whether it means a shorter

school year or four-day weeks.

The Corona-Norco Unified School District in Riverside County was one of those that reduced its school year to 175 days, the state minimum.

“As terrible as it might be, I would advocate for a shorter year with a quality school program rather than a longer year and a decimated program that has morale at its all time low,” Corona-Norco Superintendent Kent Bechler testified at the state Capitol last month. “I think a 160-day school year is not out of the question.”

The Democratic governor is expected to outline deep cuts as he revises his budget in two weeks, when he will likely explain his alternate vision should Republicans block taxes to balance the remaining \$15.4 billion deficit.

JOURNEY

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everyone told me it is the toughest, and I really wanted to be a lawyer,” he said. “I decided that the poems I began writing when I was a child tell my story of my life.

His journey from Compton to the California Superior Court Bench led him right back home, he said. Filer’s parents taught him that success comes from standing on the backs of others. So he came back to give to the community.

“After I graduated from law school I spent two years in the public defender’s office and it was a great experience,” he said. “I had the opportunity to move on to law firms from there, but I wanted to go into private practice in Compton.”

The low points in his life, Filer said, are also reflected in his writings.

“When my marriage fell apart, I was worried about my daughters, and I was confused about what went wrong,” he said. “I started to drink when I wasn’t working. I was self-medication.”

In 1996, when he was a court commissioner, no one celebrated his birthday with him, so he celebrated by himself—and got a DUI.

“That was the best thing that could ever have happened to me,” Filer said. “I was sending the wrong message to my daughters and the community. I had terrific support from my colleagues, who understood what I was going



Judge Kelvin D. Filer

through.”

He decided at age 38 that a career change would be good, and he describes his position on the Los Angeles Superior Court Bench as “pretty cool.”

“As I look forward,” Filer said, “I take every opportunity to mentor school children, and spread the message of making good choices and having positive role models.”

Finally it was Filer’s daughters who encouraged him to tell his story.

“I wanted my children to read the story, because they are a big part of my life, and it tells of some very personal struggles,” he said. “They read it, and they encouraged me to go forward.”

“All of these experiences make up who I am,” Filer said, “and they are expressed through my poetry.”

News in brief

LA union leader arrested on suspicion of theft

LOS ANGELES—The executive director of Los Angeles’ largest union has been arrested on suspicion of grand theft and three members of the governing board have been suspended on allegations of misconduct. Police said Friday that 51-year-old Josif Kahraman, the head of the Engineers and Architects Association, and his wife, Ani, were arrested following a report of a theft at the union’s office late Wednesday. Both were booked for investigation of grand theft and released on \$20,000 bail. The next day, the union announced that Kahraman went on “indefinite leave” and two labor representatives went on temporary leave. The union also said three board members were suspended due to the “serious nature” of the misconduct allegations. A call seeking further details was not immediately returned. The union represents about 5,000 city employees.

2 stabbed at OC fraternity's Cinco de Mayo party

FULLERTON—Two California State University Fullerton students who were stabbed outside their fraternity’s party near campus are hospitalized in stable condition. Police Sgt. Andrew Goodrich said the men, age 21 and 22, were injured early Friday when a group of six to eight men approached them and one pulled a knife. The attack occurred outside Phi Sigma Kappa’s Cinco de Mayo party. Goodrich said no arrests have been made, and the attackers were strangers. Both students are being treated at UCI Medical Center in Orange.

LA Sheriff's deputy denies having sex with minor

LOS ANGELES—A Los Angeles County Sheriff’s deputy is denying allegations that he had sex with a teenage relative. County prosecutors say 34-year-old

Deputy Orlando Denison pleaded not guilty Friday to two sex-related charges, both of them felonies. He faces up to three years and eight months in state prison if convicted. Prosecutors allege the offenses occurred in July 2010 and involve a female relative who was 16 at the time.

Denison was arrested at his Long Beach home Thursday. Bail was set for \$100,000. Sheriff’s spokesman Steve Whitmore said the department has begun the process of releasing Denison without pay.

Commuter aircraft from LA to Reno lands in Fresno

FRESNO—Officials say a commuter aircraft from Los Angeles to Reno has made an emergency landing in Fresno after complaints of fumes in the cabin. Fresno-Yosemite International Airport officials say American Eagle Flight 3024 landed safely at 1:40 p.m. Friday after a pilot and passengers smelled fumes. The Federal Aviation Administration said there were no reports of injuries among the 42 passengers or three crewmembers on board the 44-seat commuter jet. FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said the agency will work with the airline to determine the source of the fumes. Earlier Friday, an American Airlines flight bound for San Francisco made an emergency landing in Las Vegas after the crew smelled smoke in the cockpit.

Grand jury sees evidence in Grim Sleeper murders

LOS ANGELES—Grand jury transcripts reveal that police found two pieces of evidence further linking a Los Angeles man to the “Grim Sleeper” serial killings. The Los Angeles Times reports Thursday that prosecutors presented to the grand jury two items found at Lonnie Franklin Jr.’s home: a gun that police say was used to kill one woman and a photo of another woman moments after she was shot. The 58-year-old is accused of committing 10

murders and one attempted murder, typically shooting or strangling African American women in South Los Angeles. Their bodies were found dumped in alleys and showed signs of sexual abuse. Franklin’s attorney, Louisa Pensanti, criticized the secrecy of the hearings and said she was not present to challenge any of the submitted evidence.

Life in prison for gunman in gang hate killing

RIVERSIDE—A California jury has decided the gunman in the gang hate killing of a Black teenager should spend the rest of his life in prison. The Riverside County jury rejected the death penalty and recommended Tuesday that 31-year-old Daniel Murillo Salgado be sentenced to life in prison without possibility of parole. He will be sentenced June 17. The same jury last month convicted Murillo of the October 2002 car-to-car shooting death of 13-year-old Markess Lancaster, who wasn’t a gang member. Jurors also found the killing was a hate crime. The Riverside Press-Enterprise says Lancaster was targeted by a Hispanic gang because he was black and the killers wrongly believed he and others with him were rival gang members. Three other defendants have either been convicted or pleaded guilty.

Motorcyclist killed in LA freeway crash

LOS ANGELES—A motorcyclist has been killed in a crash with a sports utility vehicle on a Los Angeles freeway. Friday’s 2 a.m. crash forced the California Highway Patrol to close down the southbound Pasadena Freeway, State Route 110, a few miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles in the Highland Park area. The freeway was reopened before 5 a.m. CHP Officer Patrick Kimball told City News Service the 26-year-old male motorcyclist was dead at the scene.

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EPA ratchets down radiation samples in milk and water

From staff reports

SAN FRANCISCO—The Environmental Protection Agency has ratcheted down the nation's radiation monitoring program for rain, drinking water and milk in response to a consistent drop in the levels of fallout detected in the wake of the Japanese nuclear crisis.

Extremely low amounts of radioactive iodine showed up in milk sampled in California, Colorado, Connecticut and Massachusetts over the last two weeks, but agency officials said Friday the levels were so minuscule they were not harmful to public health.

A range of radioactive particles have been detected in milk, water and air tests nationwide since the magnitude-9.0 earthquake and tsunami struck the Fukushima Dai-ichi nuclear power plant on March 11.

EPA decided this week to resume sampling water and milk once every three months, a move some critics felt was premature given that the world's second-worst nuclear accident is still unfolding.

"Throughout this and other radiation accidents it has always turned out that more radiation was involved than we initially thought," said Ira Helfand, a co-founder of Physicians for Social Responsibility and a physician who practices internal medicine in Springfield, Mass. "The U.S. should continue to monitor milk and rainwater until we can be sure that the plant is under control and there are no further emissions."

The nuclear plant lost its power and cooling systems in the earthquake and tsunami, triggering fires, explosions and radiation leaks. Radiation leaking from the Fukushima plant has forced 80,000 people living within a 12-mile radius to leave their homes, and many still are living in gymnasiums and community centers.

Federal officials use the EPA's RadNet monitoring system to validate the impact of nuclear incidents, then alert local governments and the public. Launched after the Cold War and upgraded following the Sept. 11 attacks, it also measures radiation levels through dozens of air monitors that periodically suck in air samples and pump out real-time readings about radioactive isotopes.

Some of the nation's air monitors were out of service as the public braced for possible exposure to the fallout from Japan in mid-March. EPA said at the time that the malfunctioning monitors weren't a problem because the system had more than enough units to safeguard the country against a threat that did not materialize.

This week, EPA officials announced they were weighing whether to keep operating additional air monitors that were sent out in March to increase the network's geographic coverage. There are currently two each in Alaska and Hawaii, and one in Guam, Saipan and Idaho.

"No decisions have been made. Those monitors are still deployed and continue to transmit data to EPA scientists," said agency spokesman Brendan Gilfillan. "We would likely see signs of elevated radiation levels in the air before seeing it in precipitation, drinking water or milk."

People typically are exposed to natural sources of radiation every day — most of it from radon in the air and, to a lesser extent, from cosmic rays. Foods we eat also contain low levels of naturally occurring radioactivity, including bananas, carrots and red meat.

The type of radioactive iodine found in the milk samples is short-lived and decays fairly quickly, becoming harmless. Cows could have ingested the particles through the air, or from eating tainted feed or drinking puddles of rainwater containing it, but that does not pose any threat to the milk supply.

TRUSTEE

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dramatic improvement in the college's scores in a variety of areas in which improvements are necessary.

"The scores were very good," said Hudley-Hayes. "But when auditors studied the actual figures in the district's business office we found we could not prove the progress we reported to FCMAT. The CCCD Business Office has a fiduciary responsibility for the district. It is required to code expenditures correctly, balance the budget and meet standard business practices. This was not happening, and it is something we have to improve."

"In moving forward, if we are to say to El Camino we have 22 criteria of eligibility, we will need to prove it."

The Citizens to Save Compton Community College has criticized Hudley-Hayes for not communicating with the Board of Trustees. Hudley-Hayes said that the only communication she is allowed to have with board members is with the entire board at meetings that are open to the public.

"It's a violation of the Brown Act to meet individually with board members," she said. "Any meeting must be inclusive of all of the members. Private meetings with individual members are not inclusive."

Hudley-Hayes has criticized the Citizens to Save Compton Community College for not attending

her recent State of the District event. "We sent them an invitation," she said. "But no one from their organization came. We are very eager to establish a better rapport with them, but so far they have not gone to any of the meetings we have held to deliver accurate information about the accreditation process. I hope that changes in the future."

She said she would be available to go to any meeting to explain why she has made changes since her appointment as special trustee and answer questions about the college's progress.

"I want to speak at each of the cities that are served by the college because they all voted on the bond issues affecting the college," she said.

She said she is disappointed that few members of the community have attended meetings she has held. "On April 12 we held our regular board meeting in the student lounge, which holds 200 people," she said. "The entire community was invited to attend. It was posted on our website and there was ample notification. But only four people showed up. We were very disappointed."

Hudley-Hayes considers communication to be one of the most important aspects of her job. "I think it's vital that everyone be informed every step of the way as we proceed through the accreditation process. I intend to make sure that they are. I sincerely hope the community and all of the citizens who care about the college will come to our public meetings and hear the facts. But whether they do or not, I will not be badgered into not informing the community."

MARTIN



Photo provided

Compton Court Administrator Daniel Martin

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not yet been approved by the state. I will remain the squeaky wheel advocating the allocation of those funds."

When approved the project will repair the broken lights, raise the lights from 7 feet to 12 feet and update the antiquated wiring. If the money for that plan can't be acquired, Martin said he would simply fix the lights.

"There are only certain amounts of funds available," he said. "When you make a pitch for funds you need to present honest needs, because if you don't, you lose credibility, and that will hurt you. You have to be aggressive and assertive about it."

Martin said that it is vital from a "dollars and cents" standpoint to make sure that everybody

knows what is going on and to make the operation as budget-efficient as possible. This issue, he said, affects every courthouse in California.

"This courthouse has done a really good job of moving people from one department to another to work on backlogs caused by layoffs," Martin said. "As a result of that, we had only minor issues when I arrived, and they have been addressed."

In conclusion, Martin said he is thrilled to be back in Compton, and proud to assist with making the city a better place when he can.

"In spite of our budget issues we were able to support the Compton Initiative and their clean-up day project to remove graffiti," he said. "We were able to provide underground parking at no cost to the participants. The results were terrific and the project was worthwhile."

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Equal Housing Opportunity

Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker May 11, 2011

ACROSS

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 Alka-Seltzer sound | 47 Superficially | 11 Gardening talent | 40 Fugitive flights |
| 5 Decide with a coin | 49 Hotel waiting area | 12 Tidal flood | 45 Good-sized rib portion |
| 9 They may be raised after striking | 51 Sentence analyzer | 13 Quick on the uptake | 48 Out of reach of |
| 14 Gwen Verdon's role in "Damn Yankees!" | 53 What a cowboy calls a lady | 21 Was acquainted with | 50 Western or Spanish egg dish |
| 15 Apartment | 55 Scepter's companion | 22 Removal from power | 51 Father, informally |
| 16 Whiskey's Walker | 56 Cowardly one | 26 Scottish tongue | 52 Ram of the zodiac |
| 17 90-degree building extensions | 62 Steinway creation | 27 Anagram for "nail" | 53 Type of lodge or home |
| 18 Ruffle some feathers | 64 Minute portion | 28 Excited about | 54 Tony or Emmy |
| 19 Greek alphabet ender | 65 Stead | 29 Gorilla patriarch | 55 Great Britain's emblem |
| 20 Kind of pie | 66 Popular pie variety | 30 Touches up against | 58 Valuable deposit |
| 23 Make a wrong move | 67 What air fresheners fight | 31 Potato salad or coleslaw, e.g. | 59 Vatican coin, once |
| 24 Quote-book abbr. | 68 Singer Clapton | 34 Measure of electric current | 60 Hawaiian floral gifts |
| 25 Early computer discussion group | 69 Inquired | 35 Max Jr. who played TV's Jethro | 61 "Ew!" |
| 27 Fine cotton thread | 70 Stereotypical sci-fi fan | 37 Syrian, for one | 63 Scottish turndown |
| 30 Arrange by kind | 71 Honey-do list item | | |
| 32 Singer DiFranco | DOWN | | |
| 33 Bugs, to Elmer Fudd | 1 Mere commoner | | |
| 36 Type of carpeting | 2 Take it easy | | |
| 39 "___ all come out in the wash" | 3 Earthenware pot | | |
| 41 Bea Arthur TV role | 4 Unit of pressure | | |
| 42 Replacer of the franc | 5 Supercharged engine | | |
| 43 Star of changing brightness | 6 Pungent burger topping | | |
| 44 Broadway's Bernadette | 7 Riverbank component | | |
| 46 Damage | 8 Undo a dele | | |

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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PURPLE HEART By Kevin Carr

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Solutions next week!