

Hub City News

Serving the cities of
Compton, Lynwood, Carson,
Gardena, Watts, Inglewood,
Long Beach, Wilmington and
Los Angeles County
April 23, 2010

Volume 5, Issue 17

news to "Communicate, Educate and Stimulate."

EDITORIAL

When Are WE Going to Get Over It?

By Andrew M. Manis

For much of the last forty years, ever since America "fixed" its race problem in the Civil Rights and Voting Rights Acts, we white people have been impatient with African Americans who continued to blame race for their difficulties. Often we have heard whites ask, "When are African Americans finally going to get over it?" Now I want to ask "When are we white Americans going to get over our ridiculous obsession with skin color?"

Recent reports that "Election Spurs 'Hundreds' of Race Threats, Crimes" should frighten and infuriate every one of us. Having grown up in "Bombingham," Alabama in the 1960s, I remember overhearing an avalanche of comments about what many white classmates and their parents wanted to do to John and Bobby Kennedy and Martin Luther King. Eventually, as you may recall, in all three cases, someone decided to do more than "talk the talk." Since our recent presidential election, to our eternal disgrace, we are once again hearing the same reprehensible talk I remember from my boyhood.

We white people have con-

trolled political life in the dis-united colonies and United States for some 400 years on this continent. Conservative whites have been in power 28 of the last 40 years. Even during the eight Clinton years, conservatives in Congress blocked most of his agenda and pulled him to the right. Yet never in that period did I read any headlines suggesting that anyone was calling for the assassinations of presidents Nixon, Ford, Reagan, or either of the Bushes. Criticize them, yes. Call for their impeachment, perhaps. But there were no bounties on their heads. And even when someone did try to kill Ronald Reagan, the perpetrator was non-political mental case who wanted merely to impress Jody Foster.

But elect a liberal who happens to be black and we're back in the sixties again. At this point in our history, we should be proud that we've proven what conservatives are always saying-that in America anything is possible, EVEN electing a black man as president. But instead we now hear that schoolchildren from Maine to California are talking about wanting to "assassinate Obama."

(Continued on Page 7)



CELEBRATING EARTH WEEK - The Long Beach Job Corps students joined Long Beach Mayor Bob Foster, Center Director Claire McMillan and Sustainability Coordinator Meredith Reynolds to spread the first dirt on a California Pepper Tree planted at the Long Beach Job Corps Center in Long Beach as part of a weeklong series of events celebrating Earth Week in Long Beach.

Workforce Readiness Center Opens In Compton



GRAND OPENING -- Compton Councilmembers Barbara Calhoun (second from left) and Yvonne Arceneaux were on hand to join representatives of the U.S. Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund, the Gateway Town Center, City National Bank and Clearinghouse CDFI for the grand opening of the Junior Achievement Workforce Readiness Center.

By Hub City News Service

COMPTON - Officials from the city of Compton joined with representatives of the United States Treasury Department's Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund, the Gateway Shopping Center, City National Bank and Clearinghouse CDFI April 22 for the grand opening of the Junior Achievement Workforce Readiness Center, located in the Gateway Towne Center.

The Workforce Readiness Center will operate out of donated retail space and provide financial literacy services as well as job search and readiness services for local residents, schools and other non-profit community groups.

"Our goal is to help youth and adults find a job, get a job and keep a job. With the addition of this satellite program, we're now able to extend many of the programs we already offer at our Finance Park in Los Angeles," said Junior Achievement President Gary

Hickman.

The Finance Park in Los Angeles uses reality-based learning for middle and early high school students. Through their programs, students learn about credit and debt, saving and investing, budgets and managing money and career goals.

The donated space was made possible through a \$29 million New Markets Tax Credit (NMTC) Loan from Clearinghouse CDFI and the partnership of City National Bank and the city of Compton.

"The New Markets Tax Credit has played a critical role in projects like the Gateway Towne Center and ensured that hard-hit communities like Compton are part of our national economy recovery," said CDFI Fund Director Donna J. Gambrell.

The event also served as a symbolic completion of the first phase of the shopping center, which opened in 2007. The 150,000 square foot center is

(Continued on Page 7)



WATER CONSERVATION - Inglewood Mayor Pro Tempore Ralph L. Franklin (l) and Councilman Daniel K. Tabor accepted a check this week in the amount of \$12,200 from Gloria D. Gray, director of the West Basin Municipal Water District (WBMWD), for a water conservation project at the "Hardy Slope" on Crenshaw Boulevard between 99th and Hardy Streets. The project reduces water use by 75 percent and eliminates runoff by 100 percent. It was completed in February, 2010, and included the demolition of the existing landscape which consisted of a think carpet of ivy, installation of a new irrigation system, soil preparation and treatment, and planting of 200 native and drought tolerant plants.

Hub City News... Voice of the People