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Your comments and suggestions are welcome. E-mail the Community Relations Office at info@4cd.net

"The News" for April 2007

District Office Switchboard Test Advisement

A second test to determine the feasibility of an automated switchboard at the District Office will be conducted April 30 – May 4. Callers during that week will be required to enter an extension number to be transferred to their desired party. Recorded department and personnel directories are available from the main company greeting as follows:

- Press 1 – **Department** Directory
- Press 2 – **Personnel** Directory

Please note that the test will only affect those callers who do not know the extension of their party. During the test, messages left in the attendant's mailbox will be responded to twice a day—once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Thank you for your patience while the switchboard system capabilities are tested.

For your convenience...

District Office personnel directories can be accessed on both the District's Internet and Intranet at the following links:

- **Internet:** <http://www.4cd.net> and select Personnel Directory from the District Office drop-down menu
- **Intranet** (requires your password): <http://gryphon.4cd.net/default.aspx>

The personnel directories are organized in two formats, by first name and by last name, and are updated monthly for your convenience.

District Office meeting room reservations should continue to be directed to Diana Rafii at extension 1400.

Governing Board Meeting

The Governing Board is scheduled to meet according to the following schedule on Wednesday, April 25, 2007, at the Brentwood Center, 101A Sand Creek Road, Brentwood.

- Open Session: 3:30 p.m. Discussion on Brentwood Center with city of Brentwood officials
Closed Session: 4:00 p.m.
Open Session: 5:00 p.m.

The Board Agenda and attachments can be accessed at the following link:
http://www.4cd.net/governing_board/agendas06_07.asp

Budget Forum Update

Please note that the DVC Budget Forum scheduled for May 4 has been rescheduled to May 17 from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. in the BFL Community Center.

Budget forums will begin on May 1. Chancellor Helen Benjamin and Interim Vice Chancellor of Finance and Administration Doug Roberts will facilitate the forums.

Please attend so that you can become better informed on the budget development of the 2007-08 District budget. The meetings are open to all employees, so pick a date and time and plan to attend a "Budget with Benjamin and Roberts" forum.

Date	Location	Room	Time
May 1	SRC	West 212	12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
May 2	CCC	LA-100	12:30 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.
May 7	LMC	Little Theatre	3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
May 10	Brentwood Center	TBD	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.
May 11	District Office	Board Room	10:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
May 17	DVC	BFL Community Center	1:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

Study Abroad Program Blog a First

Carolyn Seefer is a full-time faculty member in the Business Division at DVC and is teaching in Florence, Italy, this semester for the DVC Study Abroad program.

Seefer is excited about the blog she is keeping of the experiences: preparing for the trip, arriving in Florence, orientation, the start of classes, class activities, special excursions and classes, etc., which began in the Fall 2006 semester. The blog is filled with descriptions and photos and will serve as a complete chronology of the trip.

Recommendations on related books, films, and websites appear on the blog. As readership has grown to include students' families, who were among Seefer's original target, comments give important feedback to the blog's effectiveness.

Below recent comments from parents of two current program students:

"Your blog is fantastic! My husband and I have been enjoying reading it and of course seeing photos of our son and the other students. It is very reassuring for a mother to see her "baby." We have all been so busy we have not communicated much by phone. I try to email every other day and write cards when I travel so your blog really fills those gaps."

"Thank you so much for the opportunity to see pics of my daughter and her best friend. Wow, an opportunity of a lifetime! We appreciate your passion and feel comforted knowing that you are there to help them navigate their way through this journey. You appear to be wasting little time, what a schedule of activities. Seeing the girls brought tears of joy to my eyes."

Visit the Study Abroad Program blog at: <http://www.dvc-in-italy.blogspot.com>.

Kennedy-King Scholarships

The Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund, Ltd. was formed in 1968 as a living memorial to two great leaders – Senator Robert F. Kennedy and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., – who died in that tumultuous year.

The Kennedy-King Scholarship Fund was, and still is, an effort to provide equal opportunity in education for all. The Kennedy-King Scholarship Fund has successfully provided college scholarships for 38 years to disadvantaged minority students matriculating from any of the three Contra Costa Community Colleges to a four-year college or university. More recently a graduate scholarship program was established for the previous undergraduate scholars.

The scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of:

- need
- academic promise
- leadership potential
- community involvement
- determination to obtain an education

The all-volunteer effort has resulted in 482 scholarships for almost \$2 million; recipients have gone on to become successful teachers, lawyers, doctors, business people, and public servants.

To learn more about this Contra Costa County organization, access their Website at the following link: <http://www.kennedyking.org/>

The Thirty-ninth Annual Scholarship Awards Dinner is set for May 18. Below is a list of the undergraduates who will each receive a \$4,000 scholarship, which will be renewed for a second year if the student is in good standing and currently enrolled. The graduate student winners will be announced at the Awards Dinner.

2007 Kennedy King Scholars Undergraduate Students

Victor Bolan	Christopher MacAlpine-Belton
Oscar Davila	Kathy Madrid
Ruben Delgadillo	Luis Medina
Alva Evans	Rosa Mejia-Rios
Gabriela Gonzalez	Zulma Merino-Fuentes
Francisco Granados	Olufunlayo Onafowode
Danielle Hart	Brandy Oubre
Derrasha Hudson	Carmen Isabel Perez
Tephiny Jones	Daniel Ponce
Jordan Kendall	Bryan Rojas
Buffie Lafayette	Maria Ruiz
Zilose Lyons	Kevin Warmesley

Below are the bios for this year's undergraduate winners

Victor Bolan

Mr. Bolan plans to major in Liberal Arts at California State University, San Diego. He is a member of his college basketball team and the Business Club. He also serves as the Activities Coordinator for the Asian Pacific Islander Student Union. One of Mr. Bolan's instructors says, "Victor demonstrates an inquisitive mind and a delight in the process of education. He is always hard working and self-motivated and is motivated to achieve, yet does not sacrifice the enjoyment of learning just to pursue a grade."

Major: Liberal Studies

Oscar Davila

Mr. Davila intends to major in community studies at U. C. Santa Cruz. He hopes to become a lawyer with interests in immigration, crime and societal matters. He wants to help those who would not normally be able to obtain legal representation. He has been active in the Puente Project, whose mission statement includes returning to the community as a leader. He is the President of the Latino Student Alliance and one of his deans has said "He has an amazing store of energy to accomplish great things."

Major: Community Studies

Ruben Delgadillo

Mr. Delgadillo from childhood has been fascinated with machines and how they work. He intends to study mechanical engineering and hopes to attend San Jose State. One of his instructors writes that he "is a responsible and responsive individual whose vision and work ethic will fuel him through difficult times." He has had to work hard both in and out of school, but has found time to be involved in groups such as Latinos Unidos and Power of Unity. He has also volunteered in the Marsh Creek clean up projects.

Major: Mechanical Engineering.

Alva Evans

Ms. Evans plans to major in African American Studies at UC Berkeley. A returning student, she has served as President of the Black Student Union. Ms. Evans has mentored numerous neighborhood youth by feeding, clothing and tutoring them. An instructor comments "Alva is a very hard worker and does not turn away from responsibilities at home, on the job, or in college."

Major: African American Studies

Gabriela Gonzalez

Ms. Gonzalez will attend U. C. Davis where she plans to major in Economics. She has taken a demanding curriculum while earning outstanding grades and working twenty to thirty hours per week. One of her instructors describes her as “clearly one of the top students in class.” She assists other students by tutoring in the Math Lab and was active in student government. She will be the first in her family to graduate from college.

Major: Economics

Francisco Granados

Mr. Granados intends to major in Civil Engineering at UC Berkeley. He has an outstanding academic record and is a member of the Honors Transfer Program and is the first to attend college. He provided service for the city by classifying levels of water purity at Dow Chemical Company and helped the map the watershed with GPS devices at Kirker Creek. One of his instructors says, “Francisco is an extremely capable, astute and intelligent student with a diligent and unyielding work ethic.”

Major: Engineering

Danielle Hart

Ms. Hart will major in Biological Science at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where she has been accepted into their Honors Program. She has taken an extremely challenging program of honors courses. One of her advisors describes her as “a focused and highly gifted student” and “among the top students in the honors program.” Her community activities have included cooking for the homeless and visiting convalescent homes. She is a Certified Nurse’s Assistant and her career goal is to become a neurosurgeon.

Major: Biological Science

Derrasha Hudson

Ms. Hudson is currently President of the Associated Students Union at Contra Costa College and a former President of the Black Student Union. She has a “passion” for social justice and is a “natural born leader and teacher” writes her Academic Counselor. Her goal is to be a librarian, to pass on her love of learning and to empower others with knowledge. She hopes to attend Hampton University in the spring to continue her work in “Afrikan” studies.

Major: “Afrikan” Studies.

Tephiny Jones

Ms. Jones intends to major in mathematics at U C Berkeley. She hopes to become a youth math teacher and continue service to the community. She came to California from Belize in 2001 and entered college in 2003. Ms. Jones has been a volunteer math tutor for the past six years at various Richmond schools and currently works with inner city youth teaching math in an after school program.

Major: Math

Jordan Kendall

Mr. Kendall intends to major in Early Childhood Education at a four-year university. He wants to have a strong impact on children's lives and the opportunity to model positive behavior in their pursuit of reaching their full potential. He has received awards for his accomplishments in football. He is actively involved with his church and is developing a violence prevention program. He also volunteers at Little League games and at St. Anthony's Dining Hall in San Francisco.

Major: Not Available

Buffie Lafayette

Ms Lafayette is the first in her family to attend college, is a cancer survivor and takes care of her mother, daughter, a niece and a nephew. She is active in her church and volunteers as a tutor with 4AC's helping children with their homework. She intends to attend Patten University to study Psychology.

Major: Psychology

Zilose Lyons

Ms. Lyons has an outstanding academic record with a major in African American studies. She plans to major in developmental studies and/or international relations. She came to the U.S. from Zambia after graduating from journalism school and working as a reporter. Ms Lyons worked with various NGO's in Zambia and currently volunteers with the Bay Area Black Adoption Center and an organization mentoring a resettled Liberian woman and tutoring Liberian children. She is also the Spotlight Editor of the Advocate, the college student newspaper.

Major: African American Studies

Christopher MacAlpine-Belton

Christopher MacAlpine-Belton plans to major in Geography and International Relations. He works as a certified tutor and volunteers at the S. F. Boys and Girls Clubs, tutoring elementary and middle school children. He was chosen Treasure Island Clubhouse's Youth of the Year in 2004 for these efforts. One of Mr. MacAlpine-Belton's instructors says, "He is incredibly hard working, intellectually honest, determined, persistent and optimistic. For awhile homeless, he is now a "President's Scholar" with a cumulative 4.0 GPA.

Major: Liberal Studies

Kathy Madrid

Ms. Madrid plans to attend U. C. to study Psychology and then attend law school. She has been active in a leadership role with many student organizations and is currently the Inter-Club Council President. She is active in many community service areas, including tutoring middle school students and raising money for Hurricane Katrina victims. One of her instructors says "Her academic potential is unlimited; I have studied with graduate students at Yale who fall short of her intellectual attainments."

Major: Psychology

Luis Medina

Mr. Medina intends to major in Human Development at California State University East Bay, and to become a special education teacher. He worked in the hospitality industry before suffering a brain aneurism. After a long rehabilitation, he is seeking a college degree. He tutors middle school students with math and English. He co-founded the Puente Club and serves on its executive committee. One of Mr. Medina's instructors says, "Luis constantly looks for ways to be a more effective role model and teacher."

Major: Human Development

Rosa Mejia-Rios

Ms. Mejia-Rios plans to major in Nursing at Samuel Merritt College. She is a member of the Sociology Club; Educational Opportunity Club; Associated Student Union; Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society, and helped organize the W. E. B. Dubois Lecture Series at the college. Ms. Mejia-Rios was recently awarded a National Social Science Award from the U.S. Achievement Academy. She has worked in the healthcare field as a Certified Medical Assistant and as a Nationally Certified Phlebotomy Technician-I.

Major: Nursing

Zulma Merino-Fuentes

Ms. Merino-Fuentes intends to major in Sociology at Mills College and become a social worker in charge of a drug recovery center for women and infants. She is an active member of the Alpha Gamma Sigma Honor Society and president of the Sociology Club. She also volunteers in the reading programs at her children's elementary school and she volunteers for the Head Start program. She was awarded her a National Social Science Award and a Collegiate All-American Scholar Award.

Major: Sociology

Olufunlayo Onafowode

Ms. Onafowode plans to major in Nursing at a California State University. She is the first in her family to attend college. She volunteers for Celebrate Recovery Ministries, which aids people suffering with addictive compulsion disorders. She also works at Clara Mae's Group Home, helping clinically depressed and abused adolescent boys who have been removed from the foster care system.

Major: Nursing

Brandy Oubre

Ms. Oubre will attend U. C. to study Sociology. She has maintained an outstanding academic record while working full time. She also volunteers as a mentor and tutor for the Youth Empowerment Program. She wants a career in counseling teenagers and battered women. She was awarded a National Social Science Award and a Collegiate All-American Scholar Award from the U.S. Achievement Academy. She is a graduate of the Fashion Institute of Design and Merchandise. She says she wants to "inspire those in underprivileged communities."

Major: Sociology

Carmen Isabel Perez

Ms Perez has a fine academic record and has maintained excellent grades while working and participating in a number of volunteer community activities, including assisting at a pain management clinic and helping with an after school program for middle school students. She will be the first in her family to attend College. She intends to become a Registered Nurse and hopes to attend San Diego State University next fall.

Major: Nursing

Daniel Ponce

Mr. Ponce will major in Business Administration at California State East Bay and hopes to own a business employing Richmond's "harder-to employ." He is the first in his family to graduate from college. He served as Associated Student Union Senator; Vice President of the Business Club; and organizer of the Cinco de Mayo celebration and the Rally for Immigration Rights. He is a student intern in Richmond's Office of Economic Development and is a peer mentor coaching Richmond High's Soccer team and serving as a tutor at the school.

Major: Business Administration

Bryan Rojas

Mr. Rojas plans to major in Psychology and Child Development at San Jose State. He represented the Puente Program at a leadership conference in Sacramento and took part in Puente's teaching-training program. He founded the Dream Club which is dedicated to helping students realize higher educational dreams. He has served as an intern in Congressman George Miller's office. One of Mr. Rojas' instructors says, "Bryan is truly committed to helping others."

Major: Psychology

Maria Ruiz

Ms. Ruiz will major in Latin American Studies. She is the first in her family to attend college and has been actively involved in the Puente program. She represented her college in Sacramento at a Student Leadership Forum. Ms. Ruiz also volunteers for METAS (Spanish for goals), serving as a role model and mentor for junior high and high school Latino students and she also reactivated the Latino Student Union, serving as its Vice President.

Major: Latin American Studies

Kevin Warmesley

Mr. Warmesley will major in Sociology. He would like to become a police officer in Richmond, California and make his community safer for everyone to enjoy. Mr. Warmesley is involved with troubled youth at Helms Middle School in the Friday Night Live (FNL) program and was recruited into the Richmond Police Department Explorer Post. One of his instructors says, "Kevin is a bright young man with a caring attitude that suits him for police work." He is a "President's Scholar" and has a 3.8 GPA.

Major: Sociology