



JIM BRANNON/TM

Recycle, reuse: ReStore manager Scott Lee (left), reporter Gayle Anderson (center) and consultant Darren Moore (right) film a live segment for KTLA 5 on Aug. 16. Habitat for Humanity's Norwalk ReStore had its first anniversary this month

KTLA 5 visits Habitat for Humanity

JIM BRANNON
Online Editor
online@talonmarks.com

The Habitat for Humanity ReStore was visited by KTLA 5 to film a live broadcast on Aug. 16.

The ReStore facility is just across the street from Cerritos College on Alondra Boulevard.

ReStore Manager Scott Lee stated that KTLA 5 has been incredibly supportive of them.

KTLA 5 reporter Gayle Anderson and her crew covered the grand opening of the Norwalk location that was held last August and returned this month for its first

anniversary.

David Lopez, electronic news gathering specialist, cameraman for KTLA 5, said that the channel has already done a few stories about Habitat for Humanity in Southern California.

"Today we thought we'd do a follow-up story to see what the retail side of Habitat for Humanity does and how it generates revenue to help build the homes around the country, or specifically here in Southern California," he said.

They were to report from the Gardena Habitat ReStore just after filming at the Norwalk location.

Habitat for Humanity is well-known for its support from former president,

Jimmy Carter.

ReStore's sales profits go toward a program called "A Brush with Kindness," helping those in the greater Los Angeles area with a low income who cannot afford a home loan to restore and refurbish their house.

Also present to mark the occasion was Darren Moore, creator and adviser for Ecovations, who was filmed shopping at the ReStore as part of the KTLA 5 segment.

Moore said Ecovations, which was founded in 2006, takes materials that normally wouldn't have a use and they make them into something that someone would interact with regularly.

"Our background is in buildings, but we're really moving into the lifestyle of reuse and recycle and doing the right things with what we have, in terms of resources, because there are so many materials out there that get wasted," Moore said.

Moore said he created a persona called the "Eco-MacGyver," whom he described as someone who could "go out and give you an eco-solution on the fly."

Moore gave an example of a person who might seek an eco-friendly toilet.

"We come up with a way to do gray water, or lower the water volume of the toilet or recycle water. We could take waste water in your house and reuse it into

the toilet.

"It just seems so ridiculous that we're using water to flush a toilet."

Lee said he was excited both about the anniversary and KTLA 5, but emphasized that he was also excited to be able to support the Norwalk and Cerritos communities and other neighboring cities that "have been extremely supportive coming in with their donations."

"We need you to bring us your donations, we need to recycle as a community, we need to think green and we need to all get on that train and do it.

"If we all do it, we can make a difference."

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Farmer concludes career

ANTHONY HODGE
News Editor
news@talonmarks.com

Vice President of Academic Affairs and Assistant Superintendent William "Bill" Farmer will retire after working 30 years at California community colleges and six years at Cerritos College, at the end of August.

He said "Cerritos College is a wonderful community college with many talented faculty, staff and administrators who care deeply about student success.

"I have been honored to be part of such a fine organization to work with many talented people for the past six years.

"I believe the college is in better shape as I leave than when I arrived and I hope and believe my efforts have played a part in that improvement.

"I wish the college nothing but the best in the future."

Farmer sent an e-mail to faculty members addressing his retirement at Cerritos College.

During his six years with Cerritos College, Farmer served as the Vice President of Academic Affairs, Assistant Superintendent and Interim President.

While working as Interim President, he helped oversee the construction on campus, helped balance Cerritos' financial stability, and removed Cerritos from warning status with "the Accrediting Commission in less than a year by addressing four critical recommendations," according to his e-mail.

Serving as Vice President of Academic Affairs and Assistant Superintendent, Farmer helped restore enrollment management, secured up to millions of dollars in grants to support Cerritos, and helped established the Student Learning Outcome.

Taking over as the Interim Vice President is Executive Dean Marilyn Brock.

She said, "retirement is a per-

sonal decision. And people decide to do it different times in their career."

Brock also said, "I think we both respect each other professionally, and we both work well together."

She has had some experience working as the Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs when Farmer was the Interim President.

Stephen Johnson, Vice President of Student Services, talked about Farmer's work at Cerritos College.

"He has been somebody who has been very caring about student success, and making sure that we have excellent faculty," Johnson said.

"I wish him well in his retirement. He's had a long career in working with colleges and academic life, and I think he will look back on those years very fondly, and he's earned a good retirement," he said.

Farmer was an English professor at Pasadena City College from 1981 to 1993.

He also worked as the Division Dean of foreign languages in from 1993 to 1997 and then as an Associated Dean of Instruction from 1997-2000 at Pasadena.

He was Los Angeles Mission College's Vice President of Academic Affairs from 2001 to 2005 until arriving at Cerritos College.



PHOTO COURTESY OF AYA ABELON, PUBLIC AFFAIRS
End of an era: William "Bill" Farmer, Jr. will wrap up an extensive career working with California community colleges over 30 years. His last day will be Aug. 26.