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Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, November 2, 2001

Alumni and Auxiliary Receive Foundation Awards

Two SRJC alumni and the Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa Auxiliary received partnership awards this fall from the Santa Rosa Junior College Foundation. The awards were presented at the Foundation's annual President's Dinner.

The Alumni Partnership Award was presented to Harold G. "Hal" Hester, a 1954 SRJC graduate who transferred to Stanford and studied engineering. He worked for IBM for 29 years before retiring. An ardent supporter of SRJC's Engineering Program, Hester has established two separate funds through the SRJC Foundation, the Hester Family Engineering Program Endowment and the Hester Family Engineering Scholarship Endowment.

Another SRJC alum, Fred R. Lahm received the Individual Partnership Award. Lahm, a member of SRJC's Class of 1942, began participating in the SRJC Foundation activities in 1985 when he, his brother Charles, and their mother, Mrs. Christine Lahm, established the F and C Lahm Memorial Scholarship Fund. In 1996 Lahm was among the very first to commit his support for the Healthy Lives Campaign for the William B. Race Health Sciences Building. His leadership gift to the campaign was instrumental to its success.

The SRJC Foundation's Organization Partnership Award was presented to the Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa Auxiliary. It was accepted by auxiliary member Olivia Leveque. For many years the Sutter Medical Center of Santa Rosa Auxiliary has provided scholarship funds for SRJC's Associate Degree Nursing and Radiologic Technology Programs. The Auxiliary also donated to the Healthy Lives Campaign in support of the William B. Race Health Sciences Building. Recently, the group established the Sutter Medical Center Auxiliary Scholarship Endowment to assist continuing SRJC nursing students.

Governor Davis Restores Funds for New Library

Funds for the preliminary drawings of a new library on the Santa Rosa campus were approved by California Governor Gray Davis when he signed the SB 735, the community college funding restoration bill. The legislation allocated \$1,199,000 for preliminary drawings.

"This is, at long last, great news," said Curt Groninga, Vice President of Administrative Services. "What is difficult, however, is that college staff and consultants have been asked to submit the completed preliminary drawings by April 2002 which is an extraordinarily short time frame for a complex facility."

The original plans called for preliminary drawings to be completed over a 12 month period. The purpose of the shortened schedule, according to the Chancellor's Office, is the need to qualify the project for working drawing funds by July 1, 2002, Groninga explained.

The library is expected to cost \$38 million.

"Assuming we have the funds to build the library and that the approval process goes smoothly, we could be looking at occupancy by the 2006-07 academic year," Groninga said. "But those are large assumptions."

Private College Offers BS Degrees at SRJC

Touro University, a private, independent college with a campus at Mare Island, will be offering classes leading to a bachelor of sciences degree in Health Sciences at SRJC's Santa Rosa campus.

Touro will be renting facilities on the Santa Rosa campus and offering classes two nights a week. Ezbon Jen, Assistant Dean of Health Services, said the college has signed an articulation agreement which will enable SRJC students to complete their B.S. degrees through Touro without ever leaving town.

Information About Anthrax and Bioterrorism

Student Health Services' staff have been closely monitoring developments in the public health arena since September 11th, when the first public health alerts were released on bioterrorism.

Since the anthrax outbreak, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has been coordinating the epidemiological investigation, and has released a number of excellent communications towards educating all health care providers, and citizens, on the issue. The CDC's web site specifically addressing bioterrorism is <http://www.bt.cdc.gov>.

If anyone has any specific questions or concerns, please consider contacting Student Health Services at 527-4445 and ask to speak with one of our clinicians.

"Educating ourselves is an excellent choice in responding to fear, and in gaining an accurate perception of risk," explained Susan Quinn, Director of Student Health Services.

A video tape of a CDC presentation on anthrax intended for health care providers and featuring some of the nation's top medical experts, is now available for viewing in the Media Services section of Plover Library on the Santa Rosa campus. Faculty, staff, or students should ask for the "anthrax video" which is on temporary reserve in Media Services through the end of November.

Bookstore's Holiday Sale Begins Nov. 5

Holiday ornaments, cards, gift bags and giftware as well as SRJC sweatshirts, T-shirts, and jackets will be on sale at SRJC's Bookstores from November 5 through December 21.

A flyer detailing the sale prices has been distributed to faculty and staff. Shoppers will receive an additional 10% off when they purchase items during the Bookstore's open houses: set for Wednesday, Dec. 5 at the Santa Rosa campus and Thursday, Dec. 6, at the Petaluma campus.

Classified Staff Mentor Program Established

New classified employees will now have an opportunity to learn even more about SRJC's programs and services through a Staff Mentoring Program established by SRJC's Classified Senate and Classified Staff Development Committee.

Under the program, new classified employees are contacted by the Classified Senate President and chair of the Classified Staff Development Committee, welcoming them to SRJC, explaining the mentoring program and asking if they would like to be assigned a "mentor" who will help introduce them to key people on campus, and guide them to campus resources. These mentors will supply more detailed information than can be covered during the one-day new staff orientations, which are held twice a year.

The classified mentors have all worked at SRJC for a year or more and have agreed to make themselves available on their own time to help new employees.

"We have about 28 classified employees who have signed up to be mentors," explained Margarita Montes, testing specialist and instructor in ESL, who is the mentor program facilitator. "They have all agreed to help orient the new staff to SRJC. They are very enthusiastic and look forward to supporting their new colleagues."

The mentors meet with the new staff during breaks, lunch hours, and after work and also stay connected via phones and email. The mentoring period will generally last 3 to 6 months depending on interest of the two parties. Frequency of contact is entirely at the discretion of the two parties.

The mentoring program was introduced to new staff at the Classified Orientation held October 19. Any new employee who would like a mentor should contact Margarita Montes at 527-4881 or Toni Eaton at 527-4834

SRJC Offers Two New Training Programs

In response to a severe labor shortage and the challenge of recruiting and retaining qualified employees, SRJC has developed two new training programs: Entry-level Winery Maintenance Mechanic and Electro-Mechanical Maintenance Technician. These are the first in a series of technical maintenance and manufacturing training programs to be offered at the college. Classes for the Winery program began this fall; the Electro-Mechanical program is scheduled to begin in January 2002.

Core coursework is the same for both programs, with only 4.5 more units required to complete the Electro-Mechanical program. A student could conceivably complete the required coursework for both programs in 9-12 months. Instruction is provided in electronics, welding, diesel technology, industrial shop practices, preventative maintenance, computer basics, and communications. Both programs include a paid internship as well as industry certification of skills.

For enrollment information, contact Chuck Robbins, SRJC Economic Development Director (527-4498) or crobbs@santarosa.edu.

Sympathy

Afton Root

Our sympathy goes to Ron Root, Vice President of Business Services, and his family on the sudden death of his father, Afton Root.

Mr. Root died of a heart attack on October 19 at the age of 78. A native of Battlecreek, Michigan, he was a design engineer who worked for Massey Ferguson, the largest manufacturer of heavy equipment in Michigan. He was avid golfer, retired in 1987 and moved to Sun City, Arizona. Mr. Root is survived by his wife, Lola, and his two sons, Ron from Windsor and Doug from Cleveland, Ohio.

Edna Orr

Our sympathy also goes to Bill Orr, Director of SRJC's National Park Ranger Academy, on the death of his mother, Edna Orr. Mrs. Orr died in Dallas, Texas on October 21, following a brief illness. She was 98 years old.

Mrs. Orr is remembered as a woman who was easy to talk with and quick to make friends. According to Bill, she would always speak her mind in a direct and sincere way, and loved to read and keep current on state and national events.

She is survived by her daughter, Betty Leeth of Dallas, her son, Bill Orr of Petaluma, and one sister, Gladys Chebultz of Wichita, Kansas, as well as 12 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

We Tip Our Hats

Maury Lapp, retired SRJC art instructor, will be featured on KPIX Channel 5's "Evening Magazine," Wednesday, November 21. The show will air at 7 p.m. Maury was interviewed and photographed while he painted near Railroad Square in Santa Rosa.

Landscape Designer Robert Kourik Presents Slide/Lecture Nov. 13

Well known landscape designer, photographer, and author Robert Kourik will give a free lecture/slide show, "Eccentric Gardens: Follies for the Soul and Soul," Tuesday, November 13, at 7:30 p.m. in the Mahoney Library on SRJC's Petaluma campus.

Kourik's slide show, which is sponsored by the college's Arts and Lectures Committee, will reveal some of the characteristics of a "Folly"—the English term for an eccentric garden.

A resident of Occidental, Kourik has written several books ranging in subject from drip irrigation and the use of graywater in landscaping to designing and maintaining an edible landscape. He is the former director of the Edible Landscape Program at Farallones Institute and was instrumental in the development of the graywater ordinance in Santa Barbara and the city of Malibu.

His most recent publications include *Pruning, Clipping with Confidence*, Smith & Hawken/Workman Publishing, 1997, *The Lavender Garden*, Chronicle Books, 1998 and *The Tree & Shrub Finder*, Taunton Books, 2000.

For more information about the exhibit, call SRJC's Mahoney Library, (707) 778-3974.

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