



# insider

Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, March 15, 2002

## Academic Senate Faculty Awards April 11

The 2002 Academic Senate's Faculty Recognition Awards will be held on Thursday, April 11 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in the Staff Lounge, Doyle Student Center on the Santa Rosa campus. Awards presented by the Academic Senate in consultation with the Faculty Recognition Committee include: Unsung Hero, Outstanding Contributions-Adjunct Faculty Member, Staff Development, Professional Achievement, Curriculum Development, Publications, Santa Rosa Chamber of Commerce Excellence in Education (three faculty members to be recognized), President's Award, Sabbatical Leave Project, and Tauzer Lecturer. Award recipients are nominated by faculty, staff, and students. The campus community is invited to attend the ceremony and congratulate awardees.

## *solace* Art Series Continues

Part three of the four-part "SOLACE" series, a juried student installation, opens April 8 and runs through April 27. The Solace series is a response to the September 11 assault in New York and Washington, D.C., and is intended to provide a space where students, staff and the general public can relax, recuperate and re-energize. Gallery hours are 12-4 p.m., Monday-Saturday.

## Management Development Activities Scheduled

A series of workshops has been scheduled for Management Team and confidential employees. Please be sure and mark the dates on your calendar for the workshops that interest you!

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Thursday, March 28, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. (PDA Session)  
**Conflict Resolution**, Lake McClenney, SRJC Psychologist  
Room to be determined

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Friday, April 26, 8:15 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
**New Managers Orientation**  
Schedules to be sent to participants.

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Wednesday, June 12, 4:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Management Team "**Cook It Yourself**" Italian dinner  
Seven teams of managers will prepare a gourmet Italian meal with the help of a culinary instructor.  
Garcia Hall kitchen & dining room

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Wednesday, August 15/Thursday, August 16 (PDA sessions)

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**Running Effective Meetings**, Karen Mathre

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**Time Management in an Electronic Age**,  
Carole Bennett, BOT and Bea Griffith, Resource Center

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**Appreciative Inquiry: Positive Change Management**,  
Jennifer Mann, Staff Development

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For more information, contact Kris Abrahamson, ext. 1519.

## Upcoming Chamber Concert Series Events

FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 8PM

### *St. Lawrence String Quartet*

The St. Lawrence String Quartet, the ensemble-in-residence at Stanford University, will perform a program of Mozart and Tchaikovsky along with Jonathan Berger's 1999 Quartet "Miracles and Mud," Friday, March 22 at 8p.m.

A dynamic, young quartet, the St. Lawrence has created a name for itself as a group that is revitalizing chamber music. Musicians Barry Shiffman and Geoff Nuttall, violins; Lesley Robertson, viola; and Marina Hoover, cello joined forces in the late 1980s with the philosophy of expanding the appeal of string quartet music to a younger and wider audience, by including work by the old masters as well as selections from modern composers.

Friday's concert includes Berger's Miracles and Mud which was commissioned for the St. Lawrence String Quartet and received its premiere in 2001. The piece is a single movement work about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and attempts to present diametrically opposing interpretations of a single musical "turf."

APRIL 19, 8PM & APRIL 21 2PM

### *Stephen Prutsman Pianist*

Stephen Prutsman, hailed by critics for his musicality, virtuosity, and distinctive performance style, will perform Friday, April 19 at 8:00 pm., and again on Sunday, April 21 at 2:00 p.m. The program will include Liszt's Benediction, and Sonata in B minor, and Schumann's Fantasy in C. Prutsman received medal recognition for his performances at the 1990 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition and at the 1991 Queen Elisabeth International Music Competition of Belgium.

**Chamber Concert Series concerts are held in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa campus. Tickets are \$25/general, and \$15/students and seniors, and are available in advance from SRJC's Community Education Office at the corner of Elliott Avenue and Armory Drive. For ticket information, contact SRJC's Community Education Office, 527-4372.**

## Diana Wells Recognized as Employee of the Month for March

"An incredible, exhilarating journey!" That's how Diana Wells, SRJC fitness instructor and March Employee of the Month, describes her job.

Her enthusiasm for teaching is highly contagious, and has motivated colleagues and students to nominate Diana for her award. In addition to her enthusiasm, they recognize her awareness of her students' needs and her dedication to helping them achieve physical fitness and a strong sense of self.

In addition to her busy teaching schedule, Diana serves on department staffing, curriculum, and hiring committees, and has been a presenter at Staff Development Days. Diana sets up specialized training for athletic teams, while also acting as a mentor to new instructors in her department. She teaches fitness, step aerobics, and aquatic calisthenics. She regularly attends fitness clinics and workshops to expand her knowledge to keep pace with the most current trends in her field. Joe Morello, Assistant Dean of Physical Education/Dance, and Athletics, pointed out that Diana readily integrates new methods in her instruction, citing an example of how she recently completed a 48-hour yoga training course and then developed a yoga training class in time for the spring 2002 semester.



Members of the Physical Education Department stress that what sets Diana apart as an instructor is her patience and caring for students. "Diana has the ability to teach in a manner that the quickest and slowest learners in her classes all find her instruction challenging and yet understandable," said Assistant Dean Morello. Her teaching style has made Diana so popular that she typically has large classes, but no matter the class size, she always makes the instructional experience beneficial to students.

Born in Tucson, Arizona, Diana received a B.A. from the University of Arizona and an M.E.D. from Indiana University. Her former employment experiences include leadership roles in Girl Scouts of America, Johnson and Johnson Surgical Division, and Sisters for the Holy Cross Hospitals. Diana decided to move to Santa Rosa in 1988 from Denver, Colorado, after *Money Magazine* spotlighted Santa Rosa as one of the 'best places to live.' She was hired by SRJC in 1989, and has taught both on the Santa Rosa and Petaluma

campuses. Her community involvement includes Project Graduation and Face to Face, while her hobbies range from travel and cooking to hiking and sewing. Her immediate family includes husband, Robert, and son, Cory, a sophomore at the University of Arizona.

Diana says that one aspect of her work that may surprise the campus community is how frequently "she spends time counseling students about health goals, challenges, and their achievements." According to one student, "She treats students like adults, and yet is also open minded enough that she gains the trust of students of all ages." Students don't simply come to her as their teacher, but as a friend and mentor.

When Diana was notified of her selection for Employee of the Month, she said, "I was in shock! I thought that I had just been nominated and I was honored by that alone. I am truly surprised to actually be named Employee of the Month. I love what I do and this award is just icing on the cake."

"I truly think Diana Wells is an outstanding person, teacher, and friend who deserves to be the employee of the month," one student expressed. Joe Morello added, "Diana will be an excellent choice for this award. She has the highest recommendation of our department chair, Diane Campagna, and the full respect and support of the department."

## We Tip Our Hats

SRJC's Detective **Sally Miller** has received the Award of Merit from the California College & University Police Chiefs Association. The award will be presented on April 25 at the CCUCPA Annual Conference Dinner at South Lake Tahoe. SRJC Police Chief Terry Stewart nominated Miller, citing her role in the passage of State Assembly Bill 4, dealing with college campus protections against sexual predators. Miller is also a presenter at the conference regarding implementation of the new law.

"City Scapes and the Ocean," an exhibit of paintings by **Maury Lapp**, retired SRJC art instructor, will open with a reception and wine tasting Sunday, April 7, from 3-5 p.m., at Robert Mondavi Winery in Oakville. The show will continue through June 6. Maury currently teaches drawing and painting through SRJC's Community Education Program.

SRJC P.E. instructor and 5<sup>th</sup> Degree Black Belt, **Marty Callahan**, won a gold medal for 1<sup>st</sup> prize at the Yuba City Karate Tournament at Yuba College on March 2 & 3. He competed in the Kata division, which is limited to Black Belts.

### Congratulations!

Congratulations to first time grandfather, **Curt Groninga**, Vice President of Administrative Services! Curt's daughter, Kari Chippero, gave birth to Hope Noelle on March 8 at 5:07 p.m. in Walnut Creek. She weighed 7 lb. 15 oz., and was 20 1/2" long. Curt reports Kari, her husband, Chip, and baby, are all doing fine.



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