



insider

Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, October 31, 2003

WWII and Korean Veteran's Share Stories on November 10

Veterans from World War II and the Korean War will share their experiences at a **Veteran's Roundtable on Monday, November 10 from 12:15 – 1:15 p.m. in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa Campus.** The roundtable is sponsored by SRJC Student Affairs, Associated Students and Arts & Lectures.

The panel discussion will be composed of the following speakers: Captain Jack Morris (WWII, Marine Air Corps, Pacific Theater), author of the book, *One Angel Left*; 1st Lieutenant Dick Lewis (Korean War, U.S. Army - Infantry); and Fire Controlman 1st Class, Jim Fitch (WWII, U.S. Navy, Pacific Theater), author of the book, *Desert Sailor: Growing Up in the Pacific Fleet*.

All of the panel members live in Santa Rosa and are full of interesting and amazing stories. We lose about 1,000 WWII veterans daily so time is running out to hear their incredible stories. This presentation is being held in honor of Veteran's Day, November 11, and is free and open to the public.

Pianist Brian Ganz to Perform November 7

Brian Ganz, widely acclaimed as one of the leading pianists of his generation, will perform in concert, **Friday, November 7** and give a master class the following day on the Santa Rosa campus.

Part of SRJC's 2003-04 Chamber Concert Series, the concert begins at **8:00 p.m. in Newman Auditorium in Emeritus Hall.** The program includes music by Schumann, Beethoven and Chopin.

Tickets for the concert are \$30/general and \$20/students and seniors and are available in advance by phone (707-527-4372) or in person in Community Education on the southeast corner of Elliott Avenue and Armory Drive on the Santa Rosa Campus.

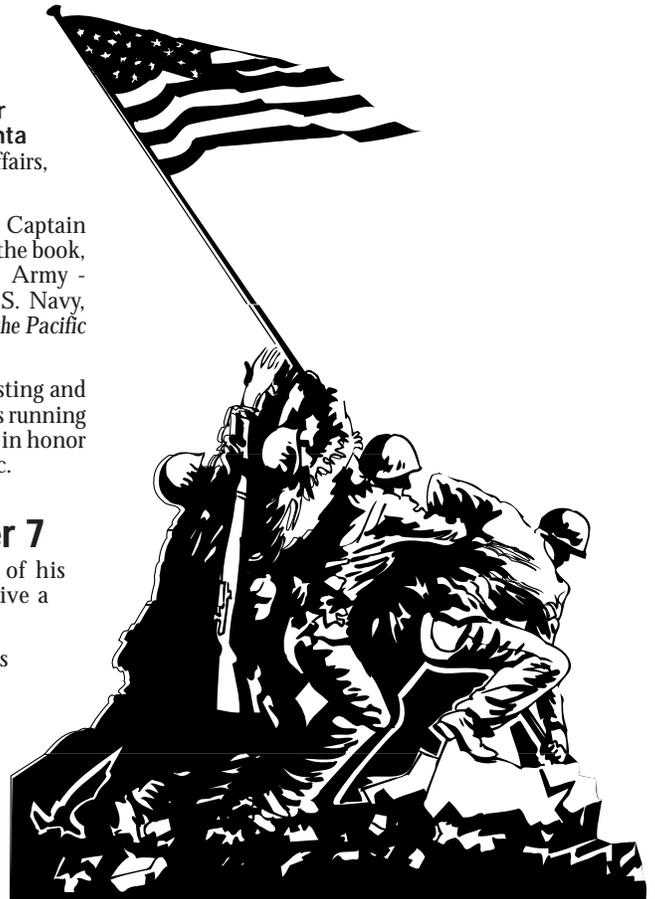
The master class will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, November 8, in Newman Auditorium. Tickets to observe the master class are \$5 per person and will be sold at the door.

Ganz has performed through the United States, Europe, Japan and the Philippines and has appeared as a soloist with such orchestras as the St. Louis Symphony, the National Symphony, the Baltimore Symphony, the Buffalo Philharmonic, and the National Chamber Orchestra. Call ext. 4372 for more information.

Gospel Ensemble Kicks Off Holiday Season

The Oakland Interfaith Gospel Ensemble will present an evening of gospel, spirituals, and rhythm & blues on Saturday, **November 8 at 7:00 p.m. in Burbank Auditorium on the Santa Rosa Campus.** Tickets at the door are \$15/general and \$10/ages 16 and under, and in advance \$12/general and \$10/ages 16 and under. Advance tickets are available at the Burbank Auditorium Box Office, Wednesday - Friday, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.; and at SRJC's Community Education Office at Amory Drive and Elliott Avenue, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

The group has performed at the New Orleans Jazz and Heritage Festival, the San Francisco Jazz Festival, the Oakland Coliseum Concert for Nelson Mandela, and Bishop Desmond Tutu's 1994 Grace Cathedral sermon; and is featured on recordings with artists ranging from gospel's famous Hawkins family, the Dixie Hummingbirds, Clarence Fountain and the Five Blind Boys of Alabama to pop artists Linda Ronstadt, Jeffrey Osborne and Peter Gabriel.



Musical Instrument Exhibit at Jesse Peter Museum

A special exhibit, "Wood, Skin & Strings: Musical Instruments of the Lute Family," will continue at the Jesse Peter Museum on the Santa Rosa Campus through November 30. There will be a demonstration and lecture on Thursday, November 6 at 3:00 p.m. in the museum by exhibit curator, William Spires. Regular museum hours are 9:00 - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday. The museum will be closed November 11, 27 and 28.

Environmental Sociology Presentation November 5

Professor of Sociology at Sonoma State University Elaine Wellin will give a lecture on "Environmental Sociology" **Wednesday, November 5, beginning at 12:15 p.m. in Newman Auditorium, Emeritus Hall on the Santa Rosa Campus.** Admission is free. The lecture is a part of SRJC's Fall 2003 Environmental Forum.

Cornell Chesnik Named October Employee of the Month

Congratulations to Cornell Chesnik, SRJC Employee of the Month for October 2003. Cornell is a longtime Electronics Lab Technician on the Santa Rosa Campus, having worked for the department for 32 years. Electronic Technology Chair Frank Pugh and Classified Senate President Raoul Yriberri introduced Cornell at the October Board of Trustees meeting.

Hired in 1971 when the Electronics Department was in Shuhaw Hall, Cornell's tenure goes back before handheld calculators and personal computers were widely used. As with many SRJC employees, Cornell first came to SRJC as a student, worked as a student employee, and eventually became a member of the Classified Staff.

"During the many years that Cornell Chesnik has worked for the Electronics Department, he provided significant and valued leadership in the development of lab stations, equipment



purchases, curriculum development, and student support," says Frank. "Cornell is constantly busy repairing and maintaining the equipment used by our students and faculty. When he started working for our department we were using slide rules, since no affordable calculators were available. Tubes were the order of the day, and, of course, there were no computers."

To remain current with rapidly changing technology, Cornell has frequently reinvented himself. With the electronic advancements new equipment inevitably needed to be repaired, which required the

kind of talent that only Cornell has. He is constantly learning and retraining himself, and "we all benefit because of his efforts. All of our laboratory stations are now networked, and our well used equipment still functions well and is in good condition," notes Frank.

"I believe that Cornell is always willing to drop what he is doing to help others with any question or challenge, whether it's computer related, a malfunctioning classroom VCR, or a jammed drafting machine," Frank notes. "If any staff member or student needs his assistance, Cornell is always available."

"There is a rumor that Cornell may be considering retirement, however, we sincerely hope that he continues to work in our department for many years to come. Years ago Cornell taught most of SRJC's electronics courses. If he retires, we want him to return to contribute his many other talents because he's just too valuable to leave our college. Our faculty needs him; students benefit from his instruction, and the college is a better place because of him.

While he's a private person who doesn't take credit for his many achievements, I am very appreciative that we now have the opportunity to publicly honor his excellence and recognize his significant contributions to our college," emphasizes Frank.

Cornell's many responsibilities include installing, calibrating, maintaining, and repairing all lab equipment, working on generators, milliamp meters, frequency counters, and a broad array of other equipment that includes four separate computer labs. Cornell's working philosophy can be narrowed to two key points: first, providing instructors with what they need to deliver outstanding instruction, and, second, helping students "learn without babying them, an instructional style that dovetails nicely with what he likes most about working at SRJC, which is helping students," Frank notes.

Cornell states that his greatest accomplishment at SRJC is keeping up with the ever-changing technological developments, and that his biggest challenge was "learning about Windows 95 when we first got lab computers. I knew nothing about the operating system. During the first week after receiving them someone changed the name of the recycle bin to a name that I can't repeat. It took me over an hour to figure out how to change it back."

"Since the founding of the Classified Senate in 1994, Cornell has been an active participant. He first agreed to be our Parliamentarian, then became a Senator, and he is now serving as Vice President," says Classified Senate President Raoul Yriberri. It was Cornell's idea to develop the Classified Senate Web page, which has been effective in improving the Senate's communication with staff and members of the District. Classified Senates on other California campuses have used the SRJC Classified Web page as a model to develop their own sites.

Born in Milwaukee, Cornell moved to San Francisco during high school, graduating from Mission High. Following one year at San Francisco City College, he moved north with his family, enrolled at SRJC, and has been a campus member ever since. He met wife Jill at SRJC in the mid-70s. Together they raised their daughter and two sons, and now have three grandchildren. During his 37-year association with SRJC, Cornell has been very active outside of work. He volunteers as a 4H leader. He has also worked at Sugarloaf and Jack London state parks as a docent, and currently volunteers as a docent at the Luther Burbank Home and Gardens. He also enjoys gardening, skiing, model railroading, and back packing.

To his coworkers inside and outside SRJC's Electronic Department, Cornell Chesnik is a team player and an individual who always sees the big picture. To the thousands of students he has helped over the years, he is a fine example of how much good comes from a life of public service. Congratulations, Cornell, for being selected as SRJC's Employee of the Month and a job well done!

We Tip Our Hats

Terri Isaac, retired SRJC Child Development faculty, was posthumously honored with a City of Santa Rosa Merit Award on September 30. Terri, along with her two grandchildren, Jonathan and Rebecca Ashbach, received awards for their work as Creek Stewards. The three were responsible for a segment of Santa Rosa Creek, where they weekly removed trash and non-native growth, encouraging native growth and the natural beauty of the creek environment. The grandchildren continue the legacy through Creek Stewardship work every Friday. A Terri Isaac Creek Stewardship Memorial Fund has been established to fund projects related to Creek Stewardships. Those interested in contributing may mail their checks to: City of Santa Rosa, Alistair Bleifuss, 69 Stony Circle, Santa Rosa CA 95401. Checks should be made out to "City of Santa Rosa." Be sure to note, "Terri Isaac Creek Fund" on the memo line of your check. Any questions about the fund or the creek project can be directed to Alistair at 543-3845.

Correction: Renata Breth's installation piece about the war in Iraq on exhibit at the International Danube Conference in Belgrade is entitled, "A-DAY."



www.santarosa.edu/insider/

Published by the SRJC Public Relations Office
(707) 527-4266

Board of Trustees: B. Robert Burdo, Richard W. Call, Kathleen Doyle, Carole Ellis, W. Terry Lindley, Mike Smith RN, Don Zumwalt, Nick Caston, Student

Dr. Robert F. Agrella,
SRJC President and District Superintendent
Susan Bagby Matthews, Public Relations Manager/Editor
Mike Garcia, Graphic Designer
Bill Shelley, Editorial Assistant
SRJC Graphic Services, Printer