



insider

Staff News for Santa Rosa Junior College, January 25, 2008



Welcome! Spring Semester 2008

The New Year and spring semester have lifted off with many exciting changes at SRJC. This week Public Relations distributed a new, colorful *2008 Calendar* through college mailboxes that spotlights the Bertolini Student Services Center currently under construction on the Santa Rosa Campus. An added feature on the calendar is a quick reference list of key phone numbers.

If you need additional copies of the calendar, give PR a call on ext. 4266. Also, remember to send information to include in the weekly *Insider* by noon each Tuesday to at sbagbymatthews@santarosa.edu. We hope the spring semester is a creative, successful adventure for you all.

Employee of the Month Nancy Persons January 2008

Congratulations to Nancy Persons, Public Services Librarian, Mahoney Library, Petaluma Campus, for being selected Santa Rosa Junior College's Employee of the Month for January 2008. Nancy was introduced at the January Board of Trustees meeting by her supervisor Will Baty, Dean of Learning Resources and Educational Technology, and Jane Saldana-Talley, Vice President/Executive Dean, Petaluma Campus, and was presented with an EOM plaque, gift vouchers to the Culinary Café, season passes to SRT performances, and other gifts from coworkers. "In all areas of her professional life at SRJC, Nancy demonstrates a consistent commitment to quality and the student experience. She is an exemplary faculty librarian, colleague, and leader," says Will. "She also makes significant contributions to college wide library services, Petaluma Campus governance, college wide staff development and faculty support."

In her role as Public Services Librarian, Nancy's key responsibilities include "working with students to help them become responsible, capable researchers and to assist them as they identify and use resources responsibly for their classes while developing lifelong learning skills." Will emphasizes that much of Nancy's effectiveness is because she is "highly motivated and very dedicated to student success in the library. Her commitment to Petaluma is very strong. Under her leadership, faculty and administration on the Petaluma Campus have forged a strong and supportive working relationship characterized by mutual trust, openness, and respect."

What Nancy most likes about working at SRJC is the array of learning opportunities. "I love that it's my job to help students learn to be self-sufficient. As a staff development coordinator I also help college staff pursue professional development options. These elements of my job work together to create a work life that is always highly interesting and challenging." She also helps in collection development for the library, supervising library staff in Petaluma, and bringing valuable professional development programs to the Petaluma Campus and to the College as a whole. "Nancy's work in the Mahoney Library is testament to her strong commitment to student success. Her work on behalf of all SRJC faculty is significant, "particularly in faculty staff development and her leadership role as past chair of the Petaluma Faculty Forum, demonstrating her tireless contribution to her fellow employees," Will notes.

In addition to her workload, Nancy's many volunteer contributions at SRJC include committee work with Petaluma Faculty Forum, various hiring committees, AFDAF/FTTF, Academic Senate, Basic Skills Initiative, Library Reference Committee, and the Instructional Librarian Student Learning Outcomes committee. She has also participated in Day Under the Oaks, the New Faculty Mentoring program, and serves as a Puente mentor.

When asked why she believes she has been so successful at SRJC and with students, she responds, "I think I am in the right place for the kind of work I enjoy the most. It was always my goal to find an occupation where I could do work that I loved. I have always

wanted to work with community college students because I think I work well with students just getting acclimated to the expectations of college learning, and I was eager to work with reentry students. She adds that part of her success may also be attributed to "working with many like-minded staff, faculty, and administrators who believe in the mission of the community college. I could never have accomplished anything without the constant support and encouragement primarily of my husband, Mike, and from the strong support of my department and colleagues across this institution."

Nancy describes her greatest accomplishment at SRJC as, "Pulling together the efforts of many people and making connections that benefit the College as a whole, such as the Petaluma Faculty Teaching Breakfasts, the current Petaluma Faculty Reading Colloquium, and the first ever Adjunct Orientation Program in fall 2007." Her greatest challenge, "Taming my tendency to communicate in a too abrupt, direct manner and learning

to curb my impatience, so that I can pay better attention to what I have to learn from my colleagues." What would likely surprise others most about her job, "Librarianship looks pretty straightforward on the surface, but below the surface, the job entails good budget allocation skills, technological knowledge, database management familiarity, good listening and communication skills, and especially an ongoing curiosity about everything going on around you. To an academic librarian, everything is relevant to one's work."

Born in Manhasset, New York, Nancy grew up in Port Washington, New York where she graduated from Paul D. Schreiber High School. After earning a bachelor's degree in German and religion from the University of Vermont, she pursued a master's in German literature and an M.L.S. at Boston's Simmons

College. Nancy moved to Sonoma County in 1996 with her family. Outside of work Nancy especially enjoys hiking in Annadel Park, swimming, reading, knitting and quilting, and spending time with her husband Michael Roth, and her two children Krissy, 23, and Andy 20.

Before joining SRJC's staff, Nancy was employed as a Generalist Librarian at Dickinson College in Pennsylvania, a Collection Development and Acquisitions Librarian at Sonoma State University, and an Adult Services Coordinator for the Sonoma County Library System. Since being hired in 2002 at SRJC, Nancy has held the same position as Reference and Instruction Librarian primarily in Petaluma's Mahoney Library, although she also taught Information Literacy at the Santa Rosa Campus while working one day a week in the Doyle Library.

"Nancy is a wonderful colleague and a positive force at the Petaluma Campus and throughout SRJC. She is very deserving of this award." Honored to be named Employee of the Month, Nancy says, "I was very happy because I feel that I work hard for SRJC, and I was mortified because it just feels weird to have this attention focused on me when all I've done is to try to emulate the hard work of those around me." Our congratulations, Nancy!



No Cost - Student Psychological Services Available

Free psychological services are available to students enrolled at SRJC. Students can make appointments on either campus by contacting the Student Health front desk or by making an appointment in person at the Student Health front desk at:

Santa Rosa Campus, Race Building Room 4017, 527-4445

Drop-in appointments available Monday-Friday at 2:00 PM; students should arrive after 1:30 PM.

Petaluma Campus, Call Hall Room 616, 778-3919

Drop-in appointments on Tuesdays at 2:00 PM; students should arrive at Call Hall, Room 616, after 1:30 PM.

New SPS Therapy Groups

Three new therapy groups will be offered to students this spring. Students should contact the appropriate intern therapist in the next couple of weeks.

Crisis Referral Yellow Card Referrals

Faculty and staff can be very helpful in connecting students to Student Psychological Services, and can also access an updated referral procedure at: www2.santarosa.edu/file-depot/download.

You can also e-mail a request to cwilliams@santarosa.edu to have yellow cards mailed to you or to request a department training about the crisis referral process.

Bilingual Services

While very aware of the need for bilingual psychological services, services are currently available in English. However, an extensive list of community psychological resources is available to ensure that students are connected to the appropriate providers. Questions? Call 521-6911. Visit the Student Psychological Services Web page for more information at: www.santarosa.edu/for_students/student-services/student-health-services/.

Theatre Arts Presents *The Anatomy of Gray*

On January 25, 26, 30, 31, February 1, 2 at 8:00 PM and February 2, 3 at 2:00 at PM, SRJC's Theatre Arts will present Jim Leonard's *Anatomy of Gray* in Emeritus Hall in Newman Auditorium. Described by Leonard as "a children's story for adults," *Anatomy* intertwines death, loss, love, and healing in an unforgettable coming-of-age story in the American heartland in the late 1800s.

The production is directed by John Shillington. Scenery and properties by Megan Lush. Costume, Hair, and Makeup by Ilana Stoelting. Stage Management by Claire Branch. Jennifer Mann will also be one of the performers.

Tickets may be purchased online at www.santarosa.edu/theatrearts. (AS vouchers cannot be processed online.). All AS member students, faculty, and staff admitted free with the AS Voucher from Pioneer Hall (exchange this voucher at the Burbank Box Office in advance of the show for a ticket.) Call 527-4307. For advance tickets: Burbank Box Office W, Th. F Noon to 5:00 PM. One hour before the show: Newman Auditorium Lobby, General \$15 Student and Senior (62+) \$10 Youth (12 and under) \$8 Group (15+) \$10

Art Gallery Presents "Bringing Back the Fire" Feb-March

The Art Gallery in the Doyle Library on the Santa Rosa Campus will present "Bringing Back the Fire: Art & Community at Burning Man & Beyond" February 22 through March 22. The exhibit opening is scheduled on Thursday, February 21 from 4:00 to 6:00 PM. The display can be viewed Tuesday – Saturday from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM, but the gallery is closed on Sunday and Monday.

For a brief week each August, the Burning Man Festival turns Nevada's Black Rock Desert into the world's largest outdoor art gallery. While some of the art created at Burning Man is intended to be burned, other works are meant to be exhibited. "Bringing Back the Fire" displays some of these unique works and even includes some of the participants at Burning man who created the works. In addition to the show's video and photographic work that allows visitors to experience the scope of the Nevada Burning Man event, artwork will be displayed ranging from huge installations to more ephemeral images of the night, people, and fire at Burning Man.

Support SRJC Alumni & Friends Jan 26

On Saturday, January 26 from 7:00 to 11:00 AM, stop in the Muffin Street Baking Company at 52 Mission Circle, #112, in Santa Rosa for a muffin, breakfast sandwich, breakfast burrito, specialty coffee drink, coffee or tea to support the SRJC Alumni and Friends Association. You can also meet the association Board Members on the 26th. A percentage of the profits from all sales between 7 and 11 will go directly to the SRJC Alumni and Friends for their student scholarship funds. Call Jean Schettler at 544-5478 for more information.

Volunteers Needed! Expanding Your Horizons Conference

The Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) science and math conference organized for 7th and 8th girls will be held this year on April 12 at Sonoma State University. In its 16th year, EYH is co-sponsored by SRJC, Sonoma State University, and Agilent Technologies.

One key aim of the conference is to encourage the young women to seriously consider pursuing careers in science and math. SRJC's women employees are urge to volunteer to lead hands-on workshops that encourage young women's interest in science, math, technology, or business. SRJC faculty members have been very involved in past EYH conferences, and both seasoned and new leaders are sought to present workshops.

If you are interested in participating in the conference, send an e-mail message to Donna Spilman at Agilent Technologies donna_spilman@agilent.com or contact Kelly Mackura at kmackura@santarosa.edu or 527-4400. You can also find a brochure and online registration at <http://www.eyh-soco.org/CallForWorkshops.htm>. Note that the sign up deadline has been extended. Please contact Donna for further information.

Faculty Jazz Concert March 7

SRJC's Music Department presents its first Faculty Jazz Concert on Friday, March 7 at 8:00 PM in Newman Auditorium on the Santa Rosa Campus that spotlights seven faculty members and special guest artists Scott Nygard on trumpet and David Prescott on trombone. The concert is a benefit for the SRJC Foundation Music Department Fund.

Directed by Bennett Friedman, the ensemble will perform new arrangements of jazz classics. Faculty performers will include: John Mattern and Bennett Friedman on saxophone; Mark Anderman, Paul Christopoulos, and Chris Pimentel on guitar; Gary Digman on bass; and Michael Brandeburg on drums. Admission is \$10 general and \$5 for students and seniors. Contact the Music Department at 527-4249 for more information.

Urbania 2008!

Join SRJC's Community Education's Study Italian journey this summer to central Italy, June 28 to July 19. Stay in the charming town of Urbania and combine the three weeks of study with your own travel around Italy or other European destinations before or after the tour. Unfortunately, SRJC won't offer the tour in 2009, so 2008 is the best time to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. For more details, access <http://www.santarosa.edu/sa> and click on "Urbania."

There are only ten days remaining before the important February 1 deposit deadline. Also, let your students know about the final three informational session dates and locations before the February 1 deposit date:

Tuesday, January 22, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, 2009 Lark Hall, Santa Rosa Campus;

Wednesday, January 23, 5:30 - 6:30 PM, 181 Petaluma Village, Petaluma Campus;

Saturday, January 26, 10:00 - 11:00 AM, North Bay Italian Cultural Foundation, 64 Brookwood Avenue, Santa Rosa.

Call Gino Muzzatti with questions, ext. 4886.



Chemistry Instructor **Karen Frindell** recently made a presentation at Coffee Catz in Sebastopol as part of 'The Science Buzz Café,' a group of expert in science and math who volunteer to "bring science and curiosity back into culture" on Thursday evenings. Presenting to an eclectic group of attendees, Karen made a "wonderful presentation on December 20 titled 'Better Living through Nanotechnology,'" says **Craig Price**, College Skills Instructor. "The rapt audience included individuals ages 17 to 91 who were intrigued and delighted by the information Karen provided."

Constituent Relations Manager **Rachael A. Cutcher** and her husband, Jim, proudly announced that their oldest son, Jonathan, celebrated his Bar Mitzvah at Congregation Shomrei Torah on Saturday, January 12. "Jonathan did a marvelous job and we're tremendously proud of him," said Rachael.

Baby News

Congratulations to **Diane Traversi**, Director of Admissions & Enrollment Services, at the birth of a new grandson **Jonathan Michael Alejos** who was born on November 11 to Diane's oldest son Micky Alejos and his wife Charity. Diane was present at Jonathan's birth at 2:13 AM in Oceanside. As a new grandmother, Diane is hoping that baby Jonathan and his parents will move back to Sonoma County to live this summer.

Congratulations to Administrative Assistant III, Lark Service Center, **Carrie Brady** and her husband **Steve** at the arrival of their daughter **Lauren McKinley Brady** who was born on Wednesday, January 9 at 7:27 PM. Baby Lauren weighed 7 pounds, 14 ounces and was 21 inches long at birth. All Bradys are feeling and doing fine; Steve is already changing diapers.



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