

# THE SAN JUAN COLLEGE Communicator



## SAN JUAN COLLEGE'S COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS

### Happy Birthday! San Juan College Turns 50

It's difficult to imagine the kind of vision and foresight that administrators at New Mexico State University in the 1950s must have had, to establish branch campuses in mostly rural areas of the state. One thinks of men in smoky rooms hammering out the details of offering college classes where there were no college campuses.

San Juan County, and specifically Farmington, was a dusty oil and gas town in 1956, booming from gas production in the San Juan Basin. The realization that this prospering community needed higher education truly changed the county's future. Now on the hilltop north of town is a nationally renowned community college – San Juan College – where nearly 9,000 students take credit classes and 4,000 take non-credit classes. A place where people can go to pursue their dreams. Through the years, campuses in the west (Kirtland) and east (Aztec) were established to further the educational reach.



San Juan College moved to its own campus in 1967, top, and although still part of New Mexico State University, the fledgling junior college began establishing its own identity. The first campus building, above, was completed in the spring 1968, allowing students to attend classes there for the last two weeks of the semester.

Imagine how different we would be without a college here. Imagine there was a prison on the hilltop. Or a factory. Or, simply nothing.

But instead, San Juan College contributes to an educated workforce, promotes the economy, educates our children, and enhances our lives with art, music and theatre.

In 1956, William O'Donnell, head of the Department of Education at New Mexico A&M (now New Mexico State University), came to Farmington to hold the first registration for the new

branch. More than 100 students showed up in the high school gymnasium to sign up for English and history classes.

The first classes of this new branch campus were held in the fall of 1956, enrolling 48 men and 34 women. The next semester 30 men and 37 women enrolled. Classes were held at Farmington High School, which was then located where Tibbetts Junior High is now. Many of the instructors were also teachers at the high school.

Now, students rarely have to stand in line for anything. The only line they have now is the online one: [www.sanjuan-college.edu](http://www.sanjuan-college.edu), which has replaced the line in the gym.

San Juan College's is a history filled with people who believed in the importance of higher education, in building capacity in its citizens, as being the center for economic development and education and training. The sometimes scrappy ways are smoother these days, but no less visionary.

Thanks go to the community for 50 years of greatness!

*Thanks to Donna Ogilvie, author of The Roots and Wings of San Juan College. A History: 1956-2002. The book will be available to purchase in the College Bookstore as part of the birthday celebration on September 26.*

### YOU ARE INVITED to SJC'S BIRTHDAY PARTY!

San Juan College invites the community to help celebrate its 50th birthday on Tuesday, September 26, from 3 to 7 p.m., at the Farmington campus.

#### JOIN US FOR '50S-STYLE FUN!

- ▶ Car Show
- ▶ Free Food
- ▶ Walt Disney's animated *Peter Pan* (showings at 4 and 7 p.m.)
- ▶ Costume Contest
- ▶ Hula Hoop Contest
- ▶ Historical Display
- ▶ Live Music
- ▶ Prizes and More!

Share your memories at  
[www.sanjuancollege.edu](http://www.sanjuancollege.edu)



## from the president's desk **Dr. Carol Spencer**

The fall semester is now well under way and, once again, I am amazed at the great things going on at San Juan College. A year ago our board of trustees directed us to grow programs in health care and the energy industry to better meet those educational and training needs. In response we created two new schools – the School of Allied Health, whose dean is Oliver Borden, and the School of Energy (formerly the Regional Energy Training Center), whose dean is Randy Pacheco.

Oliver Borden comes to San Juan College from SouthArk Community College in El Dorado, Ark., where he set up numerous healthcare degree programs. Randy Pacheco has years of experience in the oil and gas industry and most recently worked on the Department of Labor grant at the RETC.

You can look forward to a number of new programs being launched over the next semesters and to additional outreach efforts to determine what degrees need to be offered and in what kinds of class formats. Many of you will have the opportunity to give us feedback as we work to connect community needs with educational offerings.

I would also like to welcome our new vice president for Technology Services, Timothy Warren, who comes to us from Kirksville, Mo., where he worked with SunGard Higher Education for Truman State University. He replaces Shah Ardalan who has taken another position with SunGard in Las Vegas, Nev.

Interestingly, 50 years ago this semester, 82 students took classes in English and history at the new San Juan Branch of New Mexico State University. Now, there are about 9,000 students taking classes in more than 100 programs offered in Farmington, Aztec, Bloomfield, Kirtland and Shiprock. Not to mention the online students from around the country.

We have a lot to celebrate, so come out to the 50th birthday party on Tuesday, September 26, in the Learning Commons Plaza. I look forward to seeing a lot of old friends.

## SJC's First Dean of Allied Health

Oliver Borden has joined San Juan College as its first dean of the new School of Allied Health.

Borden most recently served as division chair and dean of allied health at SouthArk Community College in El Dorado, Ark. He has supervised and developed programs in nursing, health information technologies, medical technology, phlebology and surgical technology, to name a few.

His background in the health sciences will be an advantage to his leadership in this new school, as it assesses and develops new healthcare programs to serve the community.

Borden earned his master's degree in biological science and his bachelor's of science in medical technology from Louisiana Tech University. Borden also earned a bachelor's degree in microbiology from Louisiana Tech and served 20 years in the U.S. Navy. He retired from the military June 30, 1993.

Borden and his wife Su have relocated from their home in Spearsville, La. His daughter Amanda will be a freshman at San Juan College this fall.



## Timothy Warren Named Vice President of Technology Services



San Juan College welcomes Timothy Warren as the new vice president of Technology Services.

Warren comes to San Juan College with more than 22 years experience in information technology (IT) in both the corporate and education sector. In his new position, he will be responsible for providing vision, leadership, and planning of the College's information technology systems and services.

A 1983 graduate of Austin Peay State University, he earned a bachelor of science in computer science and MIS. Throughout his career, he has managed a variety of IT projects from start-up to enterprise-wide implementation, as well as administering multi-million dollar budgets.

Warren has been a computer systems manager, the director of computer services and telecommunications, executive director of information technology, and IT client service manager at educational institutions including Austin Peay State University and Tennessee State University, as well as corporations such as the Nuclio Corporation and Systems and Computer Technology in Houston, Texas.

Most recently, Warren comes to the Four Corners area from Kirksville, Mo., where he has served as the executive director of Information Technology Services with SunGard Higher Education at Truman State University, since 2002. He and his wife Linda have one son, Tim Jr.

## \$175,000 Construction Grant for the Quality Center for Business



Additional local start-up companies will have the opportunity to grow and succeed, thanks to a federal grant that was awarded to the San Juan College Enterprise Center to complete the west wing of the Quality Center for Business (QCB).

The Department of Commerce's Economic Development Administration (EDA) provided the \$175,000 grant. This funding will be added to \$225,000 the College allocated for the remodel and completion of 17,600 square feet of office and production space, which will allow room for six additional new businesses at the Enterprise Center.

The first stage of the QCB facility was completed in 1999. Since then, 30 businesses have had a leg-up in getting their companies off the ground.

"When new companies, or incubator businesses, become tenants at the Enterprise Center, their opportunity for growth and profitability increases dramatically," explains Jasper Welch, director of the San Juan College Enterprise Center.

Businesses present an application and business plan, and following a thorough review and approval, businesses benefit from production and office space as well as support services. The Enterprise Center leases space to incubating companies, with a targeted graduation date of three to five years. The goal is to help new businesses become financially viable and freestanding when they evolve into the community.

Information: Jasper Welch at 566-3699, or [welchj@sanjuancollege.edu](mailto:welchj@sanjuancollege.edu).

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## Navajo Healing and Western Medicine Combine for the Best Medical Care Broadening Horizons Lecture Series

Bridging the two worlds of traditional Navajo healing and conventional Western medicine to treat the whole patient will be the topic of discussion as Lori Arviso Alvord, M.D., presents, "Navajo Ceremonies: A Model for Creating Healing Environments," Thursday, October 5, at 7 p.m., in the Henderson Fine Arts Center.

Dr. Alvord's discussion is part of the Broadening Horizons speaker series, sponsored by Citizens Bank and the San Juan College Foundation.

As a Stanford-trained surgeon, Dr. Alvord developed her technical and clinical skills and became the first Navajo woman to be board certified in surgery. But when she returned to the New Mexico reservation to work in the Navajo community, she discovered that, "Although I was a good surgeon, I was not always a good healer."

"I went back to the healers of my tribe to learn what a surgical residency could not teach me," she continues. "I have heard a resounding message – everything in life is connected. I came to realize that our illness and our healing alike come from maintaining strong and healthy relationships in every aspect of our lives – human, spirit and nature."



Dr. Alvord is currently associate dean of Students and Multicultural Affairs at Dartmouth Medical School. She is also an assistant professor of surgery, assistant professor of psychiatry and a board certified practicing general surgeon.

She earned her undergraduate degree from Dartmouth College in 1979, and received her doctorate of medicine from Stanford University in 1985. She fulfilled a surgical residency at Stanford, where she finished as chief resident in 1991. For the next six years she worked for the Indian Health Service in Gallup, N.M., providing health care to members of the Navajo and Zuni tribes.

Dr. Alvord's autobiography, *The Scalpel and the Silver Bear*, tells the story of her journey from the reservation to become a surgeon and her work to combine Navajo philosophies of healing with western medicine. Married to Jonathan Alvord, she has two children, Kodiak and Kaitlyn, and lives in Enfield, N.H.

## Human Resource Training Offered Right Here

Training for human resource professionals can be found close home with a class being offered at San Juan College's Business and Industry Training Center – *Essentials of Human Resources Certificate Program*.

Whether an employee is new to human resources or for those who simply want to strengthen their management skills, the *Essentials of Human Resources* class is designed to meet those needs. This two-day class will provide a real-life overview of today's human resource issues.

"The course covers human resource essentials that will provide the employee with the knowledge of how to become a better manager and protect their company from needless litigation," explains Julie Rasor, Business and Industry Training Center assistant director. "Employees also will earn a certification of completion and earn 1.5 continuing education hours."

*Essentials of Human Resources* will be held on Friday, September 22 and September 29, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Business and Industry Training Center, 5101 College Blvd. The cost of the course is \$395, which includes all learning materials and classroom instruction fees. Deadline to register is September 18.

Information: Julie Rasor at 505-566-3592 or [rasorj@sanjuancollege.edu](mailto:rasorj@sanjuancollege.edu).

## Dr. Janet Gerstner Presents Paper in Turkey

Dr. Janet Gerstner's Women's Literature online class is sure to be enhanced through her trip to Izmir, Turkey, where she was invited to present one of her writings at the "Women and/in Culture" conference hosted by Ege University's English Department and Women's Study Program.

There, she presented a paper titled *Bold Acts and Authorial Anxiety: Ambivalence in Elizabeth Stuart Phelps' Confessions of a Wife*, which was a discussion about the works of Phelps, one of the authors Dr. Gerstner wrote about in her doctoral dissertation.

Under the pseudonym Mary Adams, Phelps wrote the novel, *Confessions of a Wife*, an intimate portrait of a repressive Victorian marriage. In the form of a diary and copied letters, the 1902 novel illustrates a young wife's emotional imprisonment

and suffering she endured in an unhealthy marriage.

In her paper, Dr. Gerstner writes that this was "a rather risky endeavor for a late 19th century woman writer." She goes on to say, "there are clear parallels between Phelps' own married life and her protagonist's marital confinement."

"I'm intrigued how the women who lived before me affected my life," Dr. Gerstner explains. "Much of what the women authors wrote about 150 years ago has given me and this generation of women opportunities and choices – to have children and a job, to have my work, a voice and independence."

In her fall online class, she plans to utilize the writings from many of the women who also presented their work at the conference in Turkey. "There was such a wonderful mix of cultures," she continues. "Scholars from Spain, Italy, Germany, the Czech Republic, Greece, Turkey, and the U.S. presented their work. In addition, two well-known writers from England and Turkey read from their



Dr. Janet Gerstner presented her work at a women's writing conference in Izmir, Turkey. Pictured above, left to right: Mimi Khalvati, England; Eleonora Chiavetta, Italy; Peggy Sharpe, USA; Judy Light Ayyildiz, Turkey; Dr. Janet Gerstner, USA; and Klara Kolinska, Czech Republic.

most recent publications, and I will include them in my Women's Literature course."

"I am looking forward to exploring the intercultural diversity in women's writing, as well as the common themes with my students in the fall."

## Grant Provides Students with Research Opportunities

For students interested in science or medicine, the opportunity to conduct original research can whet their appetite for a career in science. This summer, 10 students from minority populations at San Juan College learned about the opportunities available by working in one of three research projects funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

Led by chemistry professor Dr. Eric Miller, the NIH Bridges to the Baccalaureate Degree project ("Bridges") provides the College with about \$210,000 a year to recruit underrepresented minorities in medicine and related sciences and encourage them to pursue their education. "The idea is that students who have the opportunity to work in a lab and conduct original research are more likely to transfer and complete their bachelor's degree," explains Dr. Miller.

The groups work closely with Bridges partner New Mexico State University.

Dr. Merrill Adams, professor of biology, led a group that worked on electrophysiology neurology. Students focused on how neurological networks

learn by studying the responses of the nervous systems of snails. The researchers typically perform microsurgery on the snails probing the nervous systems. Sophisticated electronics are involved in recording the neurological responses.

Dr. Don Hyder, assistant professor of biology, led a group that studied entomology. The research focused on the flea beetle that attacks coyote willow in this region. Students collect the beetles, observe behavior and conduct microscopy of the beetles by optical and by the Scanning Electron Microscope (SEM). The group also attempted to determine the compounds the beetle is attracted to by using Gas Chromatography - Mass Spectroscopy (GC-MS).

Dr. Eric Miller's group focused on the assembly of highly ordered and high purity silicon (not silicone) for low cost manufacturing of solar cells. The research involved electrochemistry, organic



Students participated in science research through the "Bridges" project. Pictured back row, L-R: Erin Mascarenas, Dr. Don Hyder, Jim Maes, Tashina Watson, Aaron Benally, Erica Francis, Dr. Merrill Adams and Daryl Benally. Front Row: Dr. Eric Miller, Ashlee Begay, Crystal Mike, Joy Lynn Pahe and Monica Diaz.

synthesis, FTIR, GC-MS, and SEM-EDS.

In addition to the NIH grant, San Juan College's science department is receiving about \$60,000 a year from the National Science Foundation (NSF) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR). The EPSCoR program has allowed the College to

enhance its research capability by purchasing instrumentation that might be impossible to acquire otherwise. It is a statewide effort involving the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State, New Mexico Tech, Eastern New Mexico University and New Mexico Highlands. Students work with high quality, state-of-the-art instrumentation such as FTIR microscopy, GC-MS and SEM-EDS, typically found only at universities.

At the end of the summer research, students present their findings at New Mexico State University. Information: contact Dr. Eric Miller at (505) 566-3229 or MillerE@sanjuancollege.edu.

## Student Places in Top 10 at National Diesel Competition

After bringing home the gold from the state SkillsUSA competition in April, San Juan College (SJC) student Jason Hayes went on to finish 7th among 33 competitors in the Diesel Equipment Technology category at the national level.

"We are very proud of Jason - he not only worked hard to prepare for the competition, but he is also dedicated to learning

new skills that will help him advance in his career," says Merrill Carpenter, SJC assistant professor of Diesel Technology. "This also was the first time the diesel program has had a student place in the top 10 at the national competition."

Hayes went up against competitors who have worked in the industry for more than 20 years. Participants were required to show competency in areas including diesel engine, hydraulics, precision measurement, basic electrical, shop skills, transmis-

sions, chassis, drive axles, vehicle inspection, job interview skills, failure analysis, braking and operating systems, as well as pass an Automotive Service Excellence written test.

While Hayes was equally as excited in his accomplishment, he said the SkillsUSA also provided an opportunity to network with national companies in the industry, and gain a broad view of career opportunities.

"This was a great experience," Hayes says. "I would highly recommend that others become involved in SkillsUSA - you meet a lot of people and become a part of a great organization. I can't thank my professors and instructors enough - without their support and the quality of education I received, I would not have had these opportunities."

As the industry demand continues to increase for diesel technicians, San Juan College's School of Technology has added an evening diesel program. While the fall program has already begun, students can register for the spring session.

For further information, contact Merrill Carpenter at 566-3134 or via email at carpenterm@sanjuancollege.edu, or Mark Trennepohl, assistant professor of diesel, at 566-3349 or via email at trennepohl@sanjuancollege.edu.

## Bisti Writing Project Takes Teaching to New Levels

Taking students learning to new heights through writing is the focus of the Bisti Writing Project (BWP). Through an annual grant from the National Writing Project, area teachers recently completed a five-week invitational summer institute, where they earned six graduate credit hours.

The nine fellows, who were individually selected from nominations, advanced their teaching skills through intense writing and editing exercises, teaching demonstrations, research assignments as well as serving as guest speakers amongst their group. They take their skills back into the classroom where students benefit, as well as provide professional development opportunities for their teaching colleagues throughout the county.

Along with a five-week invitational, a three-week open institute was also held where participants were not required to undergo an application process, and earned three graduate credits. BWP fellows are chosen during the regular school year. For further information about applying to participate in the Bisti Writing Project, call Dr. Vicki Holmsten at 505-566-3290 or via e-mail at holmstenv@sanjuancollege.edu.

# Fall Silhouette Series – Rock n’ roll, ballroom, oriental brass and bluegrass



BYU Ballroom Dancers – October 13



Slonovski Bal – September 22

## Fabulous Fall Lineup

From vintage rock n’ roll to bluegrass and ballroom dance, the 2006-07 Silhouette Performing Arts Series promises to be one of the best ever.

### SHA NA NA – SEPTEMBER 29, 7 PM HENDERSON FINE ARTS CENTER

Sha Na Na has made vintage rock n’ roll their own. These New York City superstars have appeared at Woodstock, performed regularly at the Fillmore East, had their own TV variety show, and were featured in the movie *Grease*. Their tours have them performing for hep cats and hippies alike, and now they are



greased and ready to rock in Farmington. Tickets: \$20 adults, \$18 students/senior citizens, \$15 age 12 and under.

### THE LOVELL SISTERS – OCTOBER 8, 7 PM HENDERSON FINE ARTS CENTER

The three sisters blend in heavenly harmony and play mandolin, fiddle and dobro. Joined by talented collaborators on guitar and bass, the sisters perform music with roots deep in bluegrass Appalachia. The Lovell Sisters Band blends as only classic family ensembles can, providing a breath of fresh air to an all-family event. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students/senior citizens, free for those 6 and under.



### BYU BALLROOM DANCERS – OCTOBER 13, 7 PM, HENDERSON FINE ARTS CENTER

The BYU Ballroom Dance Company moves from the graceful glide of evening gowns and tuxedos to the upbeat and energetic sizzle of Latin-style dance. The performance of *Light Up the Night* is presented in the style of a major Broadway production. Colorful costumes, diverse repertoire and exceptional choreography make this show an instant audience favorite and an unforgettable experience. Tickets: \$12 adults, \$10 students/senior citizens, \$10 age 12 and under.



### SLONOVSKI BAL – SEPTEMBER 22, 7 PM HENDERSON FINE ARTS CENTER – A special performance to benefit the Silhouette Series

Grooving with the roaring sounds of tubas, the water-flow of the accordion, the tender whisper of the clarinet and the blasting clamor of the trumpet, Slonovski Bal steps out like a herd of young elephants joggling through an oriental breeze. The performers blend the centennial epic of gypsies along with a unique mix of European, Slavic, Turkish and Mediterranean cultures, providing a unique tradition of oriental brass band music. Slonovski Bal is on the top-flight revival of Eastern European music. Tickets: \$12 general admission; \$10 students/seniors (*Slonovski Bal is not included in the Silhouette season ticket price*).

## Search for Actors for “American Dream” Themes

Two 20th century classics take the stage at the San Juan College Theatre Department for the 2006-2007 season – *Picnic* by William Inge and *The Grapes of Wrath*, adapted by Frank Galati from the novel by John Steinbeck. *Picnic* will open the season and run November 3–5 and 10–11, in

the Little Theatre. The *Grapes of Wrath* will show March 9–11 and 16–17, in the Henderson Fine Arts Center.

Playwrights Inge and Galati both depict characters entangled in a search for the American dream. In *Picnic*, this search reaches a personal crisis when the women of a small rural town find themselves questioning the oppressive banality of their lives as they awaken to the animal vitality and tough-guy charisma of drifter Hal Carter. In *The Grapes of Wrath*, we witness the pursuit of the American dream as the Joad family heads west in search of the promised land of California.

*Picnic* auditions are Wednesday, September 13, and Thursday, September 14, from 6 to 8 p.m., in the Little Theatre. Actors are asked to bring a prepared monologue if possible; otherwise, be prepared for cold readings and some improvisation. Seven women and four men, ages 16-40, are needed for the production.

Watch for audition dates and times for *Grapes of Wrath*, which will be held in January, 2007. A large cast from ages six to 60 is needed.

*Studio Scenes 2007* will close the season in April. The productions are acted, directed and designed by students of San Juan College.

Information: Theresa Carson, instructor of the San Juan College Theater department, 505-566-3242.

**Tickets for the Silhouette Series can be purchased at the San Juan College Box Office. Buy tickets for individual performances, or save money and buy a season membership. A full season ticket – \$125 for adults and \$115 for students and senior citizens – allows you to attend all 30 Silhouette series 2006-2007 events. A half season ticket – \$75 for adults, and \$64 for students and senior citizens – will allow you to select from any six events of the season. For further information, call the San Juan College Box Office at 505-566-3430.**

## Local Youth Spend Summer Giving Back

Making a difference in their community while learning how to manage the conservation of natural resources – this is how two San Juan College graduates and 10 youngsters chose to spend their summer.

San Juan College graduates Allie Woodard and Ginny Springmeyer along with 10 students, ranging in age from 15 to 18, took part in a national program known as the Youth Conservation Corps (YCC). YCC works with communities to introduce youth to the concepts of managing the conservation of natural resources. Through the program, youth also have the opportunity to gain social and educational skills, enhance work ethics and increase their self esteem, as well as make extra money.

Under the direction of Alice Barnard, San Juan College grounds maintenance supervisor, Woodard and Springmeyer served as YCC supervisors. While this was the second summer Woodard has participated, Springmeyer just completed her third summer with the program.

Using native plants, the YCC crew landscaped the College area between the Child and Family Development Center and Information Technology Building, as well as near the Ropes Course. The San Juan College campus is only one of three local areas where the YCC participants worked.



A group of 10 students, ranging in age from 15 to 18, spent their summer helping the San Juan College grounds crew landscape areas around the campus.

Berg Park and Largo Canyon also benefited from the work of the Youth Conservation Corps.

Springmeyer and Woodard both feel the program provided them with valuable experience that will assist them in their career as teachers. Helping at San Juan College also has a personal meaning.

"I feel so fortunate to have had the opportunity to attend and graduate from San Juan College," Springmeyer says. "The faculty care about their students and seeing them succeed. This is my way of giving back."

Sarah Anderson and Maggie Pudwill, the two youngest participants, found the work to be enjoyable. "We've had fun and learned a lot," Pudwill says, "Working with all these people has been great."

"The entire grounds crew was impressed by all the YCC students and their hard work," Barnard says. "They should be proud of all they accomplished – I would be honored to work with them in the future."

## SJC Automotive Program Honored Top in Nation

Daimler-Chrysler Corporation awarded the San Juan College automotive department with the 2006 Award of Excellence, designating them the top college automotive program, above 30 other programs across the country.

The Daimler-Chrysler College Automotive Program began at San Juan College in 2003. "We started the largest class in the country with 24 students in the fall of 2005," says Kerry Meier, coordinator of the automotive program. "The award is confirmation that we are doing things right."

Meier extends a special thanks to the San Juan College administration, academic instructors and the automotive program staff, saying, "Without their support this award would not be possible."

Of the recent automotive program graduates, more than 50 percent have gone to work at deal-

erships within the Four Corners region, with 10 percent of the graduates securing employment in the Farmington area.

The San Juan College automotive programs are unique among automotive manufacturer's training schools in that the program has an individual appointed specifically for recruitment purposes. San Juan College requires students to have a dealer sponsor before entering the program, also a requirement of Daimler-Chrysler.

Ted Baldwin, automotive recruiter, recruits dealers to sponsor students through the program. "It's a win-win for both the student and the dealer," he explains. "The student is guaranteed employment upon graduation, and the dealer gains a factory trained technician."

Dealerships in New Mexico, Colorado, Texas, Nevada, Arizona and Wyoming, as well as local dealers participate in the program.

Information: Kerry Meier, 505-566-3388, or meierk@sanjuancollege.edu.

BY CARRIE THOMPSON

## New Director of Business and Industry Training Center

Marilyn King has been named director of San Juan College's Business and Industry Training Center.

She came to San Juan College in 1997, serving as a regional project manager for San Juan College's welfare to work program.

She has worked as sales director for a retirement community project in Washington state and has more than 20 years of experience in consulting and training.

As director of the Business and Industry

Training Center, King hopes to offer a wider scope of services such as executive coaching and consulting services, as well as training and organizational assessments and credit and non-credit classes pertaining to workforce development.

King earned her bachelor's degree in research psychology from the University of California at Long Beach and is currently working on her master's degree in educational administration with a focus on adult learning at the University of South Dakota in conjunction with the LERN Organization.



## New Instructor of Theatre

San Juan College welcomes Theresa A. Carson as the new instructor of theatre. She will oversee the Theatre Department, which was formerly directed by Dr. Sally Heath.



Carson spent the last two years as a visiting faculty member at Fort Lewis College. She came to Durango from Moorhead, Minn., where she was an assistant professor in the

Theatre Arts Department at Minnesota State University for four years. While pursuing a professional acting career in Chicago for six years, she was co-founder and actress with Kaleidoscope Children's Theatre Company.

A graduate of the University of Iowa, she earned a bachelor of arts in theatre arts and communication studies and then earned a master of fine arts in theatre arts from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City.

## Director of Library Authors First Book

Walks in the woods, bicycle rides on a country road, picking raspberries and ice skating on a pond – while these images may describe a picturesque Norman Rockwell painting – they are actually the memoirs included in the recently published autobiography titled *Goulash and Picking Pickles*.

Louise Mae Hoffmann (Bolton), San Juan College director of Library Services, wrote the book, her first, which is now available for sale through Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and the San Juan College Bookstore. It also may be checked out at the San Juan College Library.

“The inspiration for *Goulash* started years ago when I was taking an educational psychology course,” she explains. “The professor gave us an assignment to write a paper about an event from our young school years that had made an impact on our life. For the most part, I thought my school years were uneventful – but then I mentioned to my professor that I had attended the first eight years of school in a one-room school house where my father was my only teacher.”

That thought became the basis for her paper, and in turn, spawned many other childhood memories. Throughout the years of raising three children and teaching, Hoffmann didn’t do a lot of extra writing, but often kept a diary. When she was able to find moments of spare time, she especially enjoyed reading published memoirs.

After her parents passed away and her youngest left for college, she continued her journaling and began writing more about her own childhood memories. Before she knew it, she had written more than 20 stories.

With a desire to keep the family history alive, Louise chronologically organized the stories, added a few favorite family recipes, and gave it to her children as a Christmas gift.

As fate would have it, she shared her endeavor with a writer who has since started his own publishing company – and the book became available for sale in June of this year.

Through Hoffmann’s eyes, *Goulash and Picking Pickles* takes readers to a simpler time of the 1950s. Experience her childhood journey into college years, and learn how she grew through lives that touched her own.

*Every child should grow up with a long rope swing; A thick rope hung on a ten-foot-high branch of an oak, maple, or in my case, a box elder tree... The swing ritual went like this: I took a*



*book and then pumped for awhile to get a smooth rhythm going... I would go back and forth, over and over again until I was reaching up to the sky, back and forth, faster and faster. Then I would open the book and could swing back and forth and enjoy the breeze as I read Pollyanna or Cherry Ames, Clara Baron or Girl of the Limberlost. I was caught up in another world.*

*“The Swing,” excerpted from Goulash and Picking Pickles.*

## Help for Parents

From parenting classes to assistance in finding quality child care, the Family Resource Center (FRC) at San Juan College has a myriad of programs available to assist families find the resources to meet their needs.

**The Early Learning Center** offers books, educational materials and special needs resources for families and people working with children birth to eight years. In addition to resource material, the center also offers a variety of toys, books and family games for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school age children. The materials are free to citizens of San Juan County. The center is located at the 30th Street Center Annex Building, 3539 E. 30th Street. Hours of operation are Tuesdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 7 p.m.; and Thursdays, from 10 a.m. to noon, and 1 to 5 p.m.

**The Families First Program** provides assistance and education in improving the health of pregnant women and their babies. Families must be on Medicaid to qualify for the program. The program is

designed to support mothers who are expecting children and mothers with children from birth to one year old.

**The Child Care Referral Program** is a free service that assists families in identifying quality child care and child care options. Through the New Mexico Kids Database, the FRC staff provides families with referrals to available licensed homes and centers that best fit the individual families’ needs. It utilizes the STAR system, a State Licensing rating system that rates homes and centers from one to five stars.

“This information allows parents to

make child care decisions based on quality,” says Bellamie DeHerrera-Mason, training and technical assistance program coordinator for the Family Resource Center.

**The Family Resource Center** also offers

family support services. The support includes help with issues such as discipline, developmental delays, parenting and other family crisis situations in order to promote family stability.

For information on programs offered at the San Juan College Family Resource Center, contact Bellamie DeHerrera-Mason at 566-3825.

BY CARRIE THOMPSON



The Early Learning Center loans a variety of educational toys, books and games free of charge to San Juan County families. Pictured left to right: Patricia Hicks, Larilinda Aragon, Bellamie DeHerrera-Mason and Nicole Montoya.



# Happy 50th Birthday!

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INFORMATION 505-326-3311

SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER 2006

## campus calendar of events

### September 4, Campus Closed

Labor Day Holiday

### September 4 - October 21,

Community Learning Center Fall Session.

### September 15 - October 9

Fine Arts Committee artist invitational featuring watercolors by Dwight Lawing, Art Gallery.

### September 22, 7 p.m.

Slonovski Bal. Performance Hall. Tickets: \$12, general admission; \$10, students/seniors.

### September 23, 7 p.m.

Farmington Cinematheque. *Super Size Me*. Filmmaker Morgan Spurlock puts his own body on the line in this tongue-in-cheek look at the legal, financial and physical costs of America's hunger for fast food. Little Theatre. Tickets: \$5.

### September 26, 3 - 7 p.m.

San Juan College 50th Birthday Party. Farmington campus. Enjoy car show; free food; contests; prizes; and Walt Disney's animated "Peter Pan" (showings at 4 and 7 p.m.) Information: 566-3205.

### September 29, 7 p.m.

Sha Na Na, Performance Hall. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$18, students/seniors; \$15, age 12 and under.

### October 5, 7 p.m.

Broadening Horizons Speaker Series presents Dr. Lori Arviso Alford. Performance Hall. Free. Information: 566-3656.

### October 8, 7 p.m.

The Lovell Sisters Band, Performance Hall. Tickets: \$12, adults; \$10, students/seniors.

### October 13, 7 p.m.

The BYU Ballroom Dance Co. presents *Light up the Night*. Performance Hall. Tickets: \$12, adults; \$10, students/seniors; \$10, age 12 and under.

### October 21, 7 p.m.

Farmington Cinematheque. *Saltmen of Tibet*. The film documents the ancient traditions and daily rituals of a Tibetan nomadic community. Follow the three-month pilgrimage to the holy salt lakes of northern Tibet. Little Theatre. Tickets: \$5.

### October 27, 7:30 p.m.

Masterworks Concert. Performance Hall. Tickets: \$10, adults; \$8, students/seniors.

## Information

**Art Gallery Hours:** Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Friday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Closed weekends  
566-3464

**Library Hours:** Monday - Thursday 8 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Friday 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.  
566-3249

**Box Office Hours:** Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
566-3430

Art Gallery, Box Office and Performance Hall are located in the Henderson Fine Arts Center.

San Juan College seeks to provide equal access to its programs, services and activities for people with disabilities. Please give 48 hours notice to arrange accommodations for known disabilities. Call 566-3430 or 566-3242 to make arrangements.