

SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE Currents

Spring/Summer 2010

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Celia Garcia



Mercedes Hernandez



Guadalupe Guzman



Mary Ann and Wallie Funk

Currents

Spring / Summer, 2010

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BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Since our founding in 1926, Skagit Valley College has made a difference in people's lives by providing access to quality higher education in Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties. We have been successful by being community focused and mission driven, transforming acquaintances into friendships, relationships into partnerships, and visions into reality.

Our commitment is built upon the legacy of people whose contributions have helped shape SVC as a center of learning excellence. They are exceptional faculty who teach in our classrooms, students who walk through our doors, and supporters and donors who generously give of their time or provide important scholarship funding.

So, in this edition of Currents, I hope you will find meaningful inspiration as we highlight several of these remarkable individuals who challenge us to reach higher, encourage us to persevere, and motivate us to achieve our goals and dreams. Their collective vision, dedication, and enthusiasm have left an indelible mark on the life of this institution.

On behalf of the Skagit Valley College Board of Trustees, thank you for your ongoing support. The work we do reflects our dedication to student success and our relationship with you, our community.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gary Tollefson
President



John Stephens
Chair



Debra Lisser
Vice Chair



Tom Moser



Don Piercy



Margaret Rojas

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Skagit Valley College provides a drug-free environment and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, sexual orientation, or age in its programs and employment. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Executive Director of Human Resources
2405 E. College Way
Mount Vernon, WA 98273
360.416.7794

COLLEGE MISSION

Skagit Valley College exists to expand opportunities and horizons for students and to improve the communities in which they live. We achieve this by welcoming and valuing diverse learners, providing quality education and support, and contributing community leadership and service.

HALL OF FAME

Honoring Service & Achievement



(left to right)
Don Piercy, Board Chair
Dr. Gary Tollefson, President
Mark Funk, son of
Wallie & Mary Ann
Tom Moser, Trustee
Wallie Funk, Inductee

Surrounded by the beautiful architecture of McIntyre Hall, Skagit Valley College welcomed 300 community members on April 7 to celebrate the induction of 18 individuals into SVC's Hall of Fame 2010. Serving as emcees were long-time friends of SVC, Don Wick, Executive Director of the Economic Development Association of Skagit County and Mike Crawford, Hall of Fame 2000 inductee. Special guests included past Hall of Fame inductees, elected officials, SVC Board of Trustees, SVC emeriti, and SVC Foundation Board of Governors. The evening included a banquet prepared by the McIntyre Hall catering staff and entertainment by the SVC Jazz Band.

Established in 1989 and one of the highest honors that the college bestows, the SVC Hall of Fame honors alumni, community leaders, faculty, public officials, and staff members who have made positive and outstanding contributions to the college. These individuals must have accomplished extraordinary achievements in their personal, professional, or scholastic lives that have contributed to the pride and prestige of SVC and its community.

It was as if a pebble had been tossed onto a glistening pond that night. An amazing ripple of pride in SVC and the community began to fill McIntyre Hall as each inductee was honored. One could easily tell that the college held a very special place in each honoree's heart, underscored by poignant remarks that illustrated the vital role that higher education played in their life.

For three little Latina girls and their respective families, Celia Garcia, Mercedes Hernandez, and Guadalupe Guzman, life began in Texas and Mexico back in the 1930s. Little did the girls know, their paths would cross some years later and would remain intertwined throughout their lives, leaving a legacy of learning and living for many.

story continues on page 4

Throughout a combined lifetime of leadership, service, and generosity to Skagit Valley College and the community, Wallie and the late Mary Ann Funk demonstrated a commitment to education and community that inspires others to reach higher. And, happily, they did it as a team.

Originally from North Dakota, Mary Ann Funk attended the University of Washington and was a career-long English and literature teacher in Oak Harbor.

As a member of the Skagit Valley College Board of Trustees for 10 years, Mary Ann was a strong advocate for SVC, taking on a challenge even if it was unpopular. She was also committed to providing women with opportunities when no others existed. Her unwavering support for the Licensed Practical Nurse program at the Whidbey Island Campus helped to create a program that continues to be vibrant today.

In expressing the essence of his mother, Mark Funk remarked, "Mom loved this college. She believed in its mission, not just because she was a Trustee, but because of the people it serves..."

As the grandson of a pioneer, Wallie Funk has always been a civic-minded man with a zest for area history and the arts. Wallie devoted 38 years in the newspaper publishing business, serving as co-publisher of the Anacortes American from 1950-1964 and the Whidbey News Times/South Whidbey Record from 1965-1988.

With a keen awareness of education and community, Wallie and Mary Ann established an endowment scholarship to the SVC Foundation in 1988. Their generosity has resulted in annual financial support for students in the Humanities. As individuals and teammates in life, Wallie and Mary Ann shared their passion for life and have made a long-lasting impact at SVC and on the community.

"... I am so delighted to be here tonight," said Wallie. "It's like a remarriage, Mary Ann and I going down in one of the wonderful honors together. It means so much to me and Mary Ann, who never saw any honors like this. I know that she will be honored that this has befallen both of us."



HALL OF FAME



story continued from page 3

HONORING SERVICE & ACHIEVEMENT

The Skagit Valley College Hall of Fame honors staff, community members, and public officials who have made positive and outstanding contributions to the college. These individuals must have accomplished extraordinary achievements in their personal, professional, or scholastic lives that have contributed to the pride and prestige of Skagit Valley College and its community.

After moving to the Skagit Valley, and with families of their own, Celia, Mercedes, and Guadalupe supported their husbands and children by working as farm laborers, but knowing very well that a brighter future was to be found elsewhere.

So, with a fervent hope for a better life, the three women began to dream. Eventually, each of them made the courageous decision to walk out of the fields and into Skagit Valley College. They never looked back.

After working for Hulbert's Farm, Guadalupe chose to become a Licensed Practical Nurse. Upon completing her degree at SVC, she dedicated herself to a rewarding career at Skagit Valley Hospital for 33 years.

In talking with Guadalupe one day, Celia commented that she had always wanted to be a nurse. At that moment, she decided to, "give it a try" too. Celia Garcia did more than give it a try... she realized her goal of becoming a Registered Nurse. She was a dedicated and caring nurse at Skagit Valley Hospital for an amazing 35 years.

Mercedes Hernandez and her husband Morris Hernandez, Sr. held a deep desire to improve their way of life. So, Morris took up the trade of meat cutting and encouraged Mercedes to return to school. For a woman of Hispanic descent, many felt that her place was in the home. But, against the odds, they listened to their hearts and

Mercedes went back to school. She earned her high school diploma and enrolled at SVC where she became a Licensed Practical Nurse. In 1968, she joined Skagit Valley Hospital where she worked for 26 years.

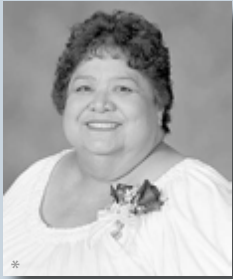
These three nurses, Celia Garcia, Mercedes Hernandez, and Guadalupe Guzman, were also wives, mothers, friends, and mentors. By embracing higher education, charting their own course, rising above the challenges, and achieving their goal, they have empowered many young women to reach higher too. In fact, they have inspired an entire community.

In reflecting about his mother, Mercedes, Morris Hernandez, Jr. reflected in an email, "Legacy is about life. About the times we've lived in, the people and events that have helped shape us, how and whom we've loved, what has stirred us, and how we've tried."

During your next trip to the Mount Vernon Campus, please take a few minutes to visit our new Hall of Fame photo wall. The installation is a fitting tribute to those individuals in our community who have played an important role in shaping this institution. It is located just a few steps from Admissions and Registration in the Gary Knutzen Cardinal Center. Or, you can take a virtual tour, www.skagit.edu/halloffame.

010 INDUCTEES

ALUMNI



Celia Garcia
Caring nurse, Latina community mentor, and champion of higher education.



Nancy Gentry
Registered Nurse and passionate care provider for children and seniors.



Guadalupe Guzman
Caring nurse, Latina community mentor, and champion of higher education.



Mercedes Hernandez
Caring nurse, Latina community mentor, and champion of higher education.



Roger (Joe) Peterson
State wrestling champion, community supporter, and generous scholarship donor.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS



Kenneth and Elizabeth Cave
Long-time, generous scholarship donors for Whidbey Island Campus nursing students.



Norman H. Dahlstedt
Appointed to first Board of Trustees and helped craft original college policies.



Mary Ann and Wallie Funk
Combined service to the Board of Trustees, women's opportunities, and scholarships.



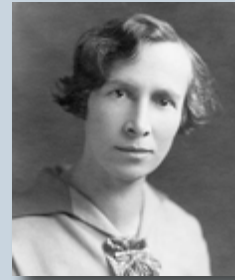
Jack Henriot
Foundation Board, dedicated countless hours overseeing Campus View Village construction.



Sydney S. McIntyre, Jr.
Donor of the Foundation's largest math, science, and engineering scholarship.

* © Cathy Stevens, Peeps Photography

FACULTY

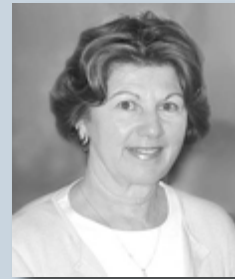


Dr. Laura Angst
Emerita, pioneer biological science professor, mentor to women student organizations.



Dr. Joan Armstrong
Emerita and coach with many field hockey and tennis championships over 40 years.

PUBLIC OFFICIALS



Patty Cohen
Supported Whidbey Campus during service as Oak Harbor City Council member and mayor.

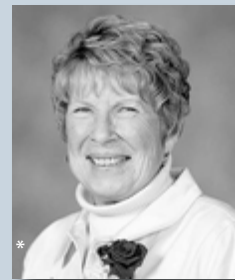


Kenneth A. Dahlstedt
Alum and Skagit County Commissioner, exemplifying the best in partnerships.

STAFF



Gerald Jordheim
Long-time counselor, began international program and faculty exchange with China.



Wendy (Nash) Moon
Whidbey Campus dean's primary assistant, began campus recycling effort.

WA Supreme Court

A once-in-a-lifetime event for the community and area students.

© Cathy Stevens, Peeps Photography



© Cathy Stevens, Peeps Photography

To learn more about the Washington Supreme Court, please visit www.courts.wa.gov

On February 22-23, Skagit Valley College was honored to welcome the Washington Supreme Court's nine justices to the Mount Vernon Campus where they spoke to classes about state and federal constitutions as well as legal careers. In addition, several hundred members of the community visited McIntyre Hall to observe the justices as they heard arguments on three actual cases.

The Washington Supreme Court, the state's highest court, is located in the Temple of Justice on the state capitol grounds in Olympia. For more than a decade, the Court has heard cases "on the road" three times a year in an outreach effort, allowing citizens to see the court in action in their local communities.

After a reception and welcome from SVC President, Dr. Gary Tollefson, the justices began their two-day visit with a tour of the Mount Vernon Campus, with key informational stops at Laura Angst Hall, the Northwest Career and Technical Academy, Fire Protection Technology, and Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management. Members of the Court also visited classrooms and held open forums on a variety of topics.

During both days of the Court's visit, the college hosted a luncheon in McIntyre Hall, which provided a unique setting for college and high school student leaders to personally interact with the Justices who were seated at each table.



© Cathy Stevens, Peeps Photography

The justices pose for an informal photo to be used in the Norwood Cole Library's "READ" promotion. (Standing): Justice James M. Johnson, Justice Susan Owens, Justice Mary E. Fairhurst, and Justice Debra L. Stephens. (Seated): Justice Richard B. Sanders, Associate Chief Justice Charles W. Johnson, Chief Justice Barbara Madsen, Justice Gerry L. Alexander, and Justice Tom Chambers.



Department Chair Patrick McVicker gives four members of the Court an up-close look at the Fire Protection Technology program, including an on-campus ride in the program's fire truck.

Who Floats Your Boat?

Help support SVC Marine Maintenance Technology scholarships

Skagit Valley College Marine Maintenance Technology students will be starting classes this fall in the beautiful new Northwest Career and Technical Academy's Marine Technology Center in Anacortes. The Marine Maintenance program has been housed for many years in Oak Harbor at the college's Whidbey Island Campus. All program equipment is currently being transferred to the new marine center to prepare for September courses.

Skagit Valley College Marine Maintenance Technology program is a member of the Marine League of Schools and is one of only five schools in the United States to offer the top-rated American Boat and Yacht Council (ABYC) certified training. Currently, there are eight ABYC certifications offered at Skagit Valley College:

- Composite boat builder certification
- Diesel engine & support systems certification
- Gasoline engine & support systems certification
- Electrical certification
- Marine corrosion certification
- Refrigeration and A/C certification
- Marine systems certification
- ABYC standards certification

Each year it costs Marine Maintenance students approximately \$3,925 for tuition, books, tools and certification fees (tuition \$3,000; books \$300; tools \$125; certification fee \$500). Unfortunately, covering the cost of training for two years is a large obstacle for most marine maintenance students and current scholarship support is very limited--Skagit Valley College Foundation has only one Marine Maintenance Technology student scholarship.

Help Float Your Boat!

The Skagit Valley College Foundation is currently seeking scholarship donations for Marine Maintenance students. The SVC Foundation plans to raise \$20,000 in scholarship funds by the end of October 2010. These critical funds will help encourage well-deserving students to complete the two-year certification program. Marine Maintenance graduates are routinely employed in boat repair companies throughout the Northwest. Scholarship donor names will be displayed in the new Northwest Career & Technical Academy Marine Technology Center in Anacortes and will receive public recognition during open house events. Help keep your boat afloat by supporting an SVC Marine Maintenance student!



"It means more to me than you know...not only a chance to continue on with my education, but a real boost for someone making the dream a reality."

Pamela Navis
2010 Marine Maintenance Scholarship recipient

To make a scholarship donation, contact:

Jennifer Fix, Foundation Assistant Director
360.416.7870 / jennifer.fix@skagit.edu

For Marine Maintenance Technology program information, contact:

Dr. Mick Donahue, SVC Executive Vice President
360.416.7732 or 360.679.5333 / mick.donahue@skagit.edu
Mike Swietzer, SVC Marine Technology Department Chair
360.679.5306 / mike.swietzer@skagit.edu

Create Your Own Story with the SVC Foundation



Skagit Valley College Foundation has been making student dreams a reality and supporting exceptional educational programs since 1978, thanks to the generosity of thousands of donors. This outstanding community support to the SVC Foundation has helped make Skagit Valley College a premier educational institution.

There is a unique story behind every gift to the Skagit Valley College Foundation. Such stories reflect donor interests, commitments, and experiences. Join the hundreds of generous alumni, friends, staff, corporations and private organizations who support students and top-rated educational programming.

Just like the donors listed on page 9, you can begin your own story by deciding what type of scholarship or program you want to support. No matter how you choose to make a gift, your generosity helps ensure the future of our communities and Skagit Valley College.

Thank you past and present donors for “*providing opportunities and realizing dreams*” for Skagit Valley College students in Island, San Juan and Skagit counties!

Meet Some Foundation Story Writers (donors)



Donors Elna Iversen and Jim Anderson



Donors Jack Kenney and Norman Dahlstedt



Donors Ken and Elizabeth Cave



NEW SVC FOUNDATION "STORIES"

New Scholarship and Program Funds

2009 – Present

Fund: William D. Werner Endowed Memorial Scholarship

for students pursuing science or engineering degrees.

Original Donor: Anonymous

Fund: Dave Mumford Theatre Technician Endowment

Original Donor: Gifts in memory of Dave Mumford

Fund: Wilson Gift Fund Scholarship

Original Donor: Anonymous

Fund: Doug Rowell Memorial Scholarship

Original Donors: Gifts in memory of Doug Rowell

Fund: Rainbow Alliance Scholarship for students demonstrating a record of service that promotes equality, diversity, and human rights.

Original Donor: Rainbow Alliance Club, SVC Whidbey Island Campus

Fund: Herb and Dorothy Carter Educational Scholarship for Whidbey Island students pursuing degrees in education.

Original Donors: Dan & Linda Carter

Fund: American Association of University Women Science, Technology, Engineering & Math (STEM) Scholarship

for students pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering or math.

Original Donor: American Association of University Women, Mount Vernon Branch

Fund: Native American Studies

Original Donor: Elmyra Dalton Zehner

Fund: Whidbey Military Assistance Fund

to help support educational needs of military students and their families.

Original Donor: Jim Bricker

New Planned Giving

January 2010 – Present

The SVC Foundation has received three new bequests since January 2010.

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Tom Harker

Don Keltz

Jeff Pleet

Erica Pickett

Megan Scott O'Bryan

Stephanie Wood

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Micki Deierlein*	Scott Richards
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Jack Henriot	Wood
Roger Hulbush	*Deceased

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Accountant

Jennifer Fix & Kelli Tolf
Assistant Directors

Martha Fernandez
Resident Director, CVV

Shannon O'Neil
Administrative Services
Manager, CVV



Skagit Valley College Foundation presents

Dr. Yoram Bauman

World's First (and only) Stand-Up Economist

Appearing in venues ranging from New York Improv and Seattle's Comedy Underground to the annual meeting of the American Economic Association, YORAM BAUMAN has become successfully known as "THE FIRST, AND ONLY, STAND-UP ECONOMIST." With a B.A. in Mathematics from Reed College and a Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Washington, Bauman seeks to "spread joy" through economics comedy and reform economics education.

September 9, 2010

McIntyre Hall

2501 East College Way, Mount Vernon
Complimentary Breakfast
7:30 a.m. - 9:00 a.m.

or

Whidbey Golf & Country Club

2430 S.W. Fairway Lane, Oak Harbor
Complimentary Lunch
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Join us as we have 'fun' while fundraising!

Guests will be encouraged to make a tax-deductible contribution to support critical Skagit Valley College student scholarship and program needs.

R.S.V.P. to Kelli Tolf
kelli.tolf@skagit.edu or
360.416.7821

Save the Date!

January 27, 2011

Greg Mortenson, author of *Three Cups of Tea* and *Stones Into Schools* will speak at Skagit Valley College.

Tickets go on sale
September 15

To purchase tickets
www.mcintyrehall.org
360.416.7727
Toll Free: 866.624.6897

