

## O&P support group helps amputees

Gerald Gregory was not only a student in St. Petersburg College's Orthotics & Prosthetics program; he was also an amputee, having lost his left leg above the knee in a motorcycle accident.

Gregory learned how to make artificial limbs. But he also learned that amputees need more than prosthetics; they need support, understanding and help in learning how to live in a world that is considerably friendlier to those who are able-bodied.

That's where the idea of a support group started.

"Gerald was the one who first expressed an interest in a support group, and really was the person who got it off the ground," said Sam Phillips, dean of SPC's Orthotics & Prosthetics program.

Gregory graduated in May 2007

and moved on, but the amputee support group he founded survives, serving anywhere from eight to 20 amputees who show up for monthly meetings at SPC's Caruth Health Education Center in Pinellas Park.

D.J. Young, a senior in the program who is not an amputee, now moderates the group's meetings.

"It brings amputees from around the area together and allows them to express their views," Young said. "We have a meeting once every month. We get people who are recent amputees who don't know where to go



Sam Phillips

See *SUPPORT* Page 3

## Everyone's input is needed to save energy

Two years ago, the college made a major push to save on utility bills. With the help of faculty and staff, the Facilities Department found ways to adjust temperatures, to concentrate classes to keep more buildings unoccupied at night and on weekends, and to promote conservation across the board.

The effort shaved \$800,000 off the college's nearly \$6 million utility bill in the 2006-07 fiscal year. Unfortunately, escalating energy costs threaten to erase the savings.

Many of the changes made to achieve the original savings were fairly obvious, said Jim Waechter, director of facilities services. "Now, it gets tougher."

Facilities staff is studying a

See *ENERGY* Page 5

## SPC makes room for 1,500 more summer students

While many Florida colleges are cutting enrollments, St. Petersburg College has made room for additional students in the upcoming summer term.

"We are creating 1,500 spaces for new students when our community needs us most," said SPC President Carl M. Kuttler Jr. "These are difficult times, but we don't feel that students should suffer. We know students are feeling the financial pinch because we have received twice as many applications for summer scholarships as we usually do."

SPC has space in many programs at several of its locations.

"While there has been plenty of bad news coming out of Florida colleges during recent weeks,

See *ROOM* Page 5



## About 250 participate in the Relay for Life

From 6 p.m. Friday until 8 a.m. Saturday, 27 teams walked in the annual Relay for Life at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs campus to raise awareness and money for cancer research. Above, from left, Stephanie Booth, a student services specialist on the Seminole Campus; Mindy Thomas, an SPC Student Ambassador; and Lindsey Eaton, a student assistant in Enrollment Management; carry the banner for Team Cure DodgeBallers. Co-chairman Marse Walsh said the amount of money raised is still being computed, but she called the event a success. Organizers want to thank all who contributed, especially the SPC Facilities Department, for their help, Walsh said.

## Baseball team tied for conference lead

The college baseball team has struggled lately, losing its Suncoast Conference lead as it lost two games to Lake Sumter to fall into a tie with Manatee Community College.

Both teams are 8-4 in the conference. SPC is 26-14 overall. Hillsborough CC is third at 6-7.

This week was scheduled for making up rained out games and SPC had three games postponed earlier, so the team was busy all week. All three games were at Carpenter Complex. The make up games conclude tonight at 6 when Polk CC visits.

The team is home again Monday at the same time and place against Polk. A three-game series with Manatee begins at home Wednesday at 6 p.m.

After Wednesday's game, the team has seven conference games remaining. The conference champion

automatically qualifies for the state tournament and the second state berth is determined in a postseason playoff between the remaining teams in the conference.

The softball team is 7-4 in the Suncoast Conference and 21-12-1 overall after losing to Santa Fe CC Saturday 8-0.

The team had a crucial doubleheader Thursday against Manatee, conference leader at 13-1 and ranked fourth in the state.

The tennis team seems to be rounding into shape for the state tournament later this month at Hillsborough CC. After going 0-5, the team is now 5-7.

To keep up with all of the SPC sports teams, visit [www.spcollege.edu/athletics](http://www.spcollege.edu/athletics).

## Gang violence study to extend to Guatemala

St. Petersburg College, the first and only college in the nation to offer a gang-related investigations specialty track as part of a Criminal Justice Technology Associate of Science degree, soon will offer students in the program a chance to study in Guatemala, where there is a serious gang problem.

Last month, Carol Rasor-Cordero, program director for SPC's gang-related investigations specialty track, traveled to Guatemala to coordinate the itinerary for the course, which will begin next year. SPC is working in partnership with the U.S. Embassy, Galileo University and the Civilian National Police in Guatemala to make this study abroad program a unique and educational experience.

Students will tour a police precinct that has taken aggressive

measures to impact one of the most violent gangs, MS-13; tour the police academy; and participate in interactive discussion sessions with representatives from the U.S. Embassy, Civilian National Police, Galileo University and the prison system. Students will be required to conduct a research project and also a group project designed to help the Civilian National Police.

SPC has taken a leadership role in helping modernize technology in Guatemala and directly upgrade the country's law enforcement infrastructure. Last year, SPC President Carl M. Kuttler Jr. sent 1,000 computers to Guatemala. As of last month, 87 percent of these computers had been programmed and are being utilized by the Guatemalan government.

## Russian choral ensemble to perform

Archiglas, a group of professional singers from St. Petersburg, Russia, will perform a program that includes Russian a cappella liturgical, sacred and folk music at 7 p.m. Thursday at Christ United Methodist Church, 467 First Ave. N, St. Petersburg. The concert is sponsored by Christ United Methodist, Lakeview Presbyterian Church and Russian Heritage. The concert is free, but donations will be accepted.

## Employment Opportunities

For job openings at the college, visit the Human Resources Web site at [www.spcollege.edu/central/hr/](http://www.spcollege.edu/central/hr/).

St. Petersburg College is dedicated to the concept of equal opportunity. The college will not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or marital status, or against any qualified individual with disabilities, in its employment practices or in the admission and treatment of students. Recognizing that sexual harassment constitutes discrimination on the basis of sex and violates this rule, the college will not tolerate such conduct. Should you experience such behavior, please contact the director of EA/EO at (727) 341-3261; by mail at P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, FL 33733-3489; or by e-mail at [eaeo\\_director@spcollege.edu](mailto:eaeo_director@spcollege.edu).

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St. Petersburg College

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## Spring job fair is Wednesday

The Career Development Center on the Clearwater Campus hosts its annual Spring Job Fair on Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., outdoors on the quad. The job fair is open to the public. Participating employers represent a wide assortment of industries, offering

a variety of positions from entry-level to experienced and skilled. Faculty and staff are encouraged to promote the event to their students. The Job Fair is sponsored by Career Development Services and The Male Outreach Initiative. Call 791-2680 for additional information.

College Wellness Coordinator  
Cathleen Shears' wellness column  
appears weekly in the Blue & White.

## Wellness update

by Cathleen Shears



### Home safety:

#### The wellness perspective

Home safety and wellness go hand in hand. Wellness is the prevention of lifestyle disease; home safety is the prevention of needless accidents, illness and sometimes death. Falls, food safety and fire are among the most prevalent causes of home injury.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), millions of people are treated in emergency rooms each year for non-fatal injuries from falls. Fall-related injuries such as broken bones not only cause pain, but sometimes lead to lengthy recuperation that may interfere with work and other activities.

Tips for preventing falls:

- Regular exercise, concentrating on activities such as core strengthening and balance, can help you to better withstand the threat of falls.
- Remove home hazards such as slippery rugs and toys and avoid walking with socks on slick floors.
- Wipe up spills immediately.
- Use caution on a stepladder. Never stand on the highest step or use an unsteady step stool when reaching for objects from overhead.

The CDC estimates that millions of Americans suffer from food poisoning each year. To avoid this hazard, follow some tips from the Mayo Clinic Women's HealthSource.

- Before preparing or eating food, wash your hands vigorously. Hand washing should last at least 20 seconds and is especially important after preparing raw meat, poultry or seafood.
- Use a separate cutting board for raw meats. Don't use cutting boards that have excessive cracks, and always use hot, soapy water to clean cutting boards and surfaces.
- Avoid thawing meat on the kitchen counter. It is better to thaw in the refrigerator or in a microwave.

According to the CDC, someone in the U.S. died in a fire every 162 minutes in 2006 and was injured every 32 minutes. In 2005, the majority of these fires, four out of five, occurred in the home. The two leading causes of home fires are cooking and smoking. Here are some tips from the CDC to minimize those risks.

- Get and maintain smoke detectors.
- Don't smoke in bed.
- Don't empty ash trays until you are certain fire has been extinguished.
- Don't leave pots and pans unattended on the stove.

To find out more about home safety, contact [shears.cathleen@spcollege.edu](mailto:shears.cathleen@spcollege.edu) or visit the wellness link on the HR home page.

### Support from Page 1

for support — they find out about us, and we give them the support they need."

Some meetings may include speakers who are amputees or who may sell products of interest to those who have lost limbs, Young said. People hear about the group, called the St. Petersburg College Amputee Support Group, via word-of-mouth, or through ads in the Amputee Coalition of America magazine or other publications.



Gerald Gregory started the group.

Those who show up for the meetings have a range of interests, concerns and needs, according to Young.

"They want to know how to adapt to losing their limb," Young said. "I would say most are victims of traumatic injuries, and a lot of them like to come and talk and get it off their chest — they feel better having someone listen."

"Other people were born without limbs, and they can share with recent amputees what it has been like to live their entire lives without a limb."

While not an amputee, Young gets a great deal of benefit out of the meetings, too — information that he believes will make him a better professional.

"It gives me a different viewpoint as to what amputees go through," he said. "I make the limbs, but I don't really know how the patients feel. It gives me a different outlook on what their lives are really like with a limb."

There is another important benefit Young said.

"What gets discussed in the meetings gives me ideas," he said. "An amputee may talk about how he or she wishes a limb could do this or that, and those comments may help me figure out how to fulfill that need."

Phillips, the program dean, said the support group is good for students as well as for amputees.

"Students run the group through our Society for Orthotics & Prosthetics Students," Phillips said. "It is very much a student-led activity. Students pick out the discussion topics, and they get valuable exposure in a non-clinical setting."

Young has enjoyed moderating the support group, but his time as leader is coming to end. A senior, he will soon graduate and begin his professional career; when he does, a junior in the Orthotics & Prosthetics program will take over.

### Mail rates going up May 12

This is a reminder postage increases on Monday, May 12, to 42 cents for a first class letter. Please try to address letters correctly to avoid any extra costs to the college. All letters must have a typed, not handwritten, address to save money. Thank you for your cooperation.

**The amputee support group meets at 5 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month, Room 142, HEC.**

# Cultural corner

Some of the arts and entertainment events  
presented by St. Petersburg College and its partners



## **Tonight**

St. Petersburg College Piano Concert Series with Rebecca Penneys, 7:30 p.m. Music Center, St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus. Free.

## **Saturday**

Master Class with Rebecca Penneys, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Music Center, St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus. Free.

## **Sunday**

"RockShop Revue" Winter-Spring 2008 Concert, featuring area students. 7 p.m., Palladium at St. Petersburg College, 253 Fifth Ave. St. Petersburg. \$9.

## **Continuing through April 24**

Ninth Annual Juried Student Art Exhibition, Crossroads Gallery, Clearwater Campus. Free.

## **Continuing through May 8**

"Dorothy Gillespie: Shaping Sculpture," Leepa-Rattner Museum of Art, Tarpon Springs Campus. 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Saturdays, extended hours 5-9 p.m. Thursdays, 1-5 p.m. Sundays. \$5 adults, \$4 children. Free admission Sundays.

## **Continuing through May 11**

"Vatican Splendors," collection of art, documents and historically significant objects from the Vatican. Florida International Museum, 244 Second Ave. N, St. Petersburg. Museum hours are 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday-Saturday and noon to 6 p.m. Sunday. Last entry is at 5 p.m. \$20 adults, \$13 ages 6-12, \$17 seniors, \$15 military.

## **Tuesday**

Side Door Gospel: David O'Neill, 7:30 p.m., Palladium. \$15.

## **Wednesday through May 4**

American Stage in the Park, "Pirates of Penzance," Demens Landing, St. Petersburg. \$11-\$26.

## **Thursday through April 12**

Co-Motion Dance Theatre Concert, 8 p.m. Arts Auditorium, Clearwater Campus. Free.

## **Friday, April 11**

Festival of States Band Competition, high school jazz, 10 a.m., Palladium. Free.

## **Friday, April 11**

Faculty Recital: Barbara Prescott, flute and Ruth Northcutt, piano. 7:30 p.m., Music Center. Free.

## **Saturday, April 12**

Jeff Narell, steel drums workshop, demonstration & clinic. 10 a.m., Music Center. Free.

## **Saturday, April 12**

Suncoast Singers: "An Andrew Lloyd Webber Evening," 7:30 p.m., Palladium. \$12-\$16.

## **April 12-14**

Florida Orchestra, Pinchas Zukerman, 8 p.m. April 12, Mahaffey Theater; 7:30 p.m. April 13, Ruth Eckerd Hall; 8 p.m. April 14, Tampa Bay Performing Arts Center. \$19-\$54.

## **Sunday, April 13**

Side Door Special: James "Kimo" West, Hawaiian slack key guitarist. 6 p.m., Palladium. \$15.

## **April 17-19**

Disney's "Beauty and the Beast," musical, 7 p.m. Arts Auditorium, Clearwater Campus. Free.

## **Friday, April 18**

Organ Concert Series; Daniel Sullivan. 7:30 p.m. Music Center. Free.

## **Saturday, April 19**

Women Taking Care of Music Variety Show and Singing Contest, benefits CASA. 7 p.m., Palladium. \$20 - \$50.

## **Sunday, April 20**

USF Symphony Orchestra: Stravinsky's "The Rite of Spring," 4 p.m., Palladium. \$6 - \$12.

## **Sunday, April 20**

Florida Orchestra, Concert in the Park, 7:45 p.m., Coachman Park, Clearwater. Free.

## **Monday, April 21**

St. Petersburg College Orchestra Concert, 7:30 p.m., Music Center. Free.

## **Tuesday, April 22**

Encore 2008, Made in the USA: "From Sea to Shining Sea," 7:30 p.m., Palladium. \$12 - \$17.

## **Thursday, April 24**

Side Door Jazz: Impromptu, 7:30 p.m., Palladium. \$20.

## **Friday, April 25**

St. Petersburg College Band Concert, 7:30 p.m. Music Center. Free.

## **Saturday, April 26**

Florida Orchestra, Concert in the Park, 7:30 p.m., Al Lopez Park, Tampa. Free.

## Onward & Upward

**Tom Loveland**, an instructor at the Clearwater Campus, was honored in the March issue of "Technology Teacher" as one of the seven Top Leaders in Technology Education to Watch in 2008. The honor was based on teaching, written work, presentations, research and recognition from professional groups. This publication is an affiliate of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

**Elizabeth Indianos**, a fine arts instructor on the Tarpon Springs Campus, was recently awarded a Pinellas County Artist Development Grant to further develop her multidisciplinary work, "Waiting for Guacamole," which was inspired by and loosely based on the literary classic "Waiting for Godot" by Samuel Beckett. In its fullest form, "Guacamole" incorporates writing, artwork, music, dance, theater and film.

**Julia Rawa**, an English instructor on the Seminole Campus, was awarded a federal grant to participate in the 2008 National Endowment for the Humanities Institute for College and University Teachers: "W.B. Yeats: A Reassessment." The institute will

be held in Galway, Dublin and Sligo in July and August, and will include study and research at the National University of Ireland with a long weekend at Trinity College to visit the Yeats Exhibition at the National Library of Ireland, and participation in the Yeats International Summer School.



**Beverly Young**, wife of Congressman Bill Young, and Seminole provost **James Olliver** were recognized as Paul Harris Fellows by the Seminole Lake Rotary Club last week at a meeting on the Seminole Campus. Pictured from left are: Rotary District Governor Tim Schuler, Mrs. Young, Olliver and Rotarian George Bessler, foundation chairman.

**Tom Gregory**, former chairman of SPC's board of trustees, was named Mr. Sun last week at the Suncoasters' Coronation Ball. The Thomas H. Gregory Ethics Center at St. Petersburg College is named in his honor.

## Room from Page 1

potential students should know that SPC has room and is encouraging people to apply for admission for the summer," said Anne Cooper, senior vice president of academic and student affairs.

Because of a slumping economy and the resulting funding cuts, state universities may be limiting or eliminating summer courses. Students turned away elsewhere can find space at St. Petersburg College and receive a quality education at very favorable tuition rates. SPC is fully accredited.

"Our desire is to stand alongside the legislature and governor and offer some small degree of help at this challenging time," Kuttler said.

Students should apply quickly if they have interest in SPC's summer term. Enrollment began Wednesday.

## News about SPC

St. Petersburg College is attracting increasing attention from the news media on a wide variety of subjects. For links to several recent reports of interest to the SPC community, visit [www.spcollege.edu](http://www.spcollege.edu) and click on the spotlight "SPC in the News."

## Energy from Page 1

number of initiatives for saving energy, both to conserve money and resources, said Susan Reiter, director of Facilities Planning and Institutional Services. Many of those involve technology and equipment.

But Waechter and Reiter said they need help from faculty and staff as well.

"We need to



**Susan Reiter**

ramp up awareness," Reiter said. "And we need faculty and staff members to let us know when they have ideas for conserving resources."

If you have a suggestion or see a place for an energy fix, please contact Waechter at [waechter.jim@spcollege.edu](mailto:waechter.jim@spcollege.edu). Watch the *Blue & White* for regular energy saving tips and reports on progress.

"Being vigilant about the use of energy and natural resources is here to stay," Waechter said. "It's going to be part of our lifestyle."

## More health screenings available April 11

Comprehensive health screenings are available for budgeted employees who did not get the screenings in 2007. Budgeted employees are those who qualify for the SPC health benefits.

The screenings will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Friday, April 11, at the St. Petersburg/Gibbs Campus. To make an appointment, call toll-free 1-888-822-2347.

## UPC info session

The University Partnership Center at the Seminole Campus will have an information session from 4 to 7 p.m. on Thursday. Program advisors from partner colleges will be on hand to offer information. For details, contact the UPC at (727) 394-6200.

## Hall of Distinction April 30

The fifth annual Hall of Distinction dinner will be April 30 at the Renaissance Vinoy Resort and Golf Club in St. Petersburg. The reception starts at 6:15 p.m. with dinner at 7 p.m. Former CBS executive Jim Sirmans will be honored as the outstanding alumnus, and Bankers Financial Corp. chairman Robert Menke will be honored by the Foundation. Tickets are \$100. Reservations can be made at [www.spcollege.edu/events](http://www.spcollege.edu/events).

## **Notice of change in workshop Board of Trustees • St. Petersburg College**

A workshop of the St. Petersburg College Board of Trustees will be held immediately following the 8 a.m. Board meeting on April 15, 2008. The topic of discussion at the workshop has changed to "2+2 Articulation Agreement - A.A. to Bachelor Degree Transfer." (The original workshop, entitled "Report on the SPC Foundation, Inc.," will be held at a later date.) The meeting and new workshop will be held at the EpiCenter, Conference Rm. 1-453, 13805 - 58th Street N., St. Petersburg, Florida, including all matters of the Board previously noticed for public hearing.

A copy of the Meeting Agenda may be obtained by writing to the Board of Trustees in care of the Board

Clerk, P.O. Box 13489, St. Petersburg, Florida, 33733, or calling the Board Clerk at (727) 341-3260.

If any person wishes to appeal a decision made with respect to any matter considered by the Board, he or she will need a record of the proceedings. It is the obligation of such person to ensure that a verbatim record of the proceedings is made. Section 286.0105, Florida Statutes.

Those planning to attend who have a disability and are in need of an auxiliary aid or other accommodation are requested to telephone (727) 341-3260 at least seven days before the meeting date so that their needs can be accommodated.

## **Faculty/A&P staff expected at graduation**

Spring graduation is Saturday, May 3, beginning at 10 a.m. at Tropicana Field. All full-time faculty and Administrative and Professional staff are expected to participate.

Commencement is an opportunity to exhibit to students and their families our respect for the work they have done and the sacrifices they have made to earn their degrees.

According to college policy, May graduation day is considered an official duty day with pay for faculty, and participation in the ceremony satisfies the duty requirements for that day. (For more information, contact your program director or campus provost.)

If you have a circumstance that might require your absence, a written or e-mailed request with the purpose specifically stated should be submitted to the President's Office (via Kim Corry and cc to your supervisor) no later than April 18. You will be notified of the status of your request by April 21.

As noted by President Carl M. Kuttler Jr., those faculty excused from participating will be expected to complete the appropriate leave form or arrange for an alternate duty day as directed by their supervisor.

"As valued members of the college family and as mentors to our students, please mark your calendar for this important event," Kuttler said.



"And keep in mind the appreciation felt by many students and parents for your presence there."

Those who need to order a cap and gown should do so immediately at any on-campus Follett's Bookstore or by calling Amy Pelletier at 347-0310 (SP/G bookstore).

For questions about graduation participation, please call Kim Corry at Ext. 3260 in the President's Office between 8:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.

### **Attention, adjuncts and percent-of-load faculty**

Adjunct instructors and percent-of-load faculty are invited — but not required — to participate in the May 3 graduation ceremony.

Participation includes marching in the faculty processional, along with full-time faculty and A&P staff, in full academic regalia. Program directors can provide further instructions as necessary for participation.

Those adjuncts and percent-of-load faculty who wish to take part are asked to inform their program directors immediately and make any necessary arrangements for regalia.

## **SPC hosting virtual job fair**

To attract more part-time (adjunct) faculty, the college is hosting a Webinar-style job fair. Prospective adjunct faculty members will be able to attend the virtual job fair from their computers. Two times are scheduled: noon to 1 p.m. on Tuesday and 6 to 7 p.m. on Thursday. Instructors are needed in more than 30 disciplines. Meanwhile, prospective adjunct instructors may apply any time by going to [www.spcollege.edu](http://www.spcollege.edu). From there, click on the "Human Resources" link at the left of the page and then go to "Employment Opportunities." Click on "Adjunct Instructional Opportunities."

## **SPC night at Vatican Splendors**

The final of three special evenings for SPC students, faculty and staff to enjoy the "Vatican Splendors" exhibit at the Florida International Museum at SPC Downtown site is April 18. Hours are from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$6 for SPC students, \$13 for ages 6 to 12 and free for ages 5 and younger. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, which closes at 7 p.m. RSVP at [www.spcollege.edu/events](http://www.spcollege.edu/events). SPC faculty, staff and students can park free in the SPC parking garage next to the museum, at 244 Second Ave. N, St. Petersburg. Refreshments will be served in the second floor Community Room.