



CommLines

March 26, 2007

Three SPC students named Trio Achievers

South Plains College students Courtney Bullard, Alexandra Chapa and Irene Torrez were named Trio Achievers at the West Texas Trio Luncheon on March 1 at the Texas Tech University Market Alumni Center.

“These programs are very important to the students of this region as can be seen through these award recipients,” said Dr. Kelvin Sharp, SPC president. “I praise these students for their successes and for the many more I know they will have. I also thank the staff of these programs, who work to improve the lives of all students involved and help students overcome the obstacles to higher education.”

Each Trio program recognizes one student annually recognizing their accomplishments while in the program and after completion of the Trio program.

Bullard, a Brownfield native, received the Trio Achiever award from SPC Upward Bound. Bullard participated in the SPC Upward Bound Program while attending Brownfield High School. She has excelled at SPC serving as co-associate editor of the SPC newspaper, Plainsman Press, and also gave back to Upward Bound by serving as a tutor and volunteer mentor.

Chapa of Post received the award from Upward Bound Quest. She was a member of Quest from 2003-2005. Chapa currently attends SPC working on her Associate of Arts in Teaching degree. She was first runner-up in the Miss Caprock pageant and plans to attend Texas Tech to achieve a degree in elementary education.

Torrez of Sundown received the Trio Achiever Award from the SPC STAR Center. She was a member of the STAR Center from 2002-2004. She graduated from SPC with an Associate of Science degree in 2004 and earned her teaching degree from Lubbock Christian University. She now teaches Spanish for Sundown Independent School District.

Trio programs assist students from low-income, first generation and/or disabilities overcome college barriers to achieve higher education. The South Plains area has six Trio programs in the region including Upward Bound, Upward Bound Math and Science, Student Support Services (STAR Center), McNair Scholars Program, Talent Search and Education Opportunities Center. SPC houses two of these programs, which are Upward Bound and the Student Support Services (STAR Center).



Three South Plains College students were recognized as Trio Achievers at the Trio Luncheon on March 1 in Lubbock. The students were Alexandra Chapa of Post, Irene Torrez of Sundown and Courtney Bullard of Brownfield.

Seminar slated to help individuals overcome college barriers

The annual Go For It! Seminar is scheduled for Tuesday, March 27 from 7:00 – 8:30 pm at the Byron Martin Advanced Technology Center on the corner of 34th Street and Avenue Q in Lubbock. The seminar is sponsored by the South Plains College Special Services Office at the Reese Center in Lubbock.

The Go For It! Seminar targets single parents, displaced homemakers and anyone else experiencing college barriers. The agenda includes presentations by local agencies, information on financial aid and childcare funding and a chance to learn what it takes to be a successful college student.

Representatives from LEARN, Inc., Catholic Family Services, WorkSource Career Center, WorkSource Child Care Services, Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, Dorothy Lomax Adult Education Center and counselors from SPC Special Services Office and SPC Counseling Center will present. A panel of students will also share their own college experiences and explain how they accomplished their educational goals through help offered through these organizations.

“This is the 14th year we have held the Go For It! Seminar and in the past we have had great turnouts,” said Lynn Gregory, SPC special services counselor. “We are hoping faculty and staff that know of anyone in the area that is thinking about attending college refer them to this workshop to help them discover exactly what steps they need to take and how different agencies can help them achieve their dreams.”

For more information or special concerns, contact the SPC Special Services Office – Reese Center at extension 4615.

All invited to attend fine arts groundbreaking ceremony

South Plains College will host a ground breaking ceremony on March 29 at 11:30 am for phase two of the SPC Fine Arts Building Renovation and Expansion Project. The ceremony will take place at the east entrance of the Fine Arts Building in Levelland.

The two-phase construction project will add 12,500 square feet to the existing building along with a comprehensive interior remodel. Upon completion, the facility will host four art studios, an expanded recital hall, scenery shop storage and a grand foyer that will join the entrances to the Theatre for the Performing Arts and the Fine Arts Building. Also, a 1,760 square foot art gallery will provide a permanent home for the college's Marjorie Merriweather Post Art Collection.

“We are very pleased with the progress of the building thus far and hope supporters will attend this event marking the beginning of phase two,” said Jon Johnson, SPC department chairperson and professor of music. “The fine arts program at SPC serves more than 2,200 students each year and this project is enabling our department to provide students with the most quality educational experience possible.”

The \$2.7 million project has received generous donations in private grants and gifts totaling \$1.1 million. To help in the completion of this project, donate to the Friends of the Fine Arts Campaign by contacting extension 2019.

SPC students recognizing Child Abuse Awareness Month

South Plains College student organizations will be hosting a candlelight vigil in recognition of April being National Child Abuse Awareness Month. The vigil is scheduled for April 3 at 7:00 pm in the SPC Sundown Room in the Student Center in Levelland.

The evening will welcome guest speakers Gary Goff, Hockley County district attorney and Beth Parsley, Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) representative. The event will also host several presentations from SPC student organization members.

“Everyone thinks that child abuse is not happening and that it won't happen in their family,” said Crystal Orosco, SPC student and vigil coordinator. “My family is currently undergoing the pain of dealing with child abuse and I organized this event in collaboration with the SPC student organizations to help bring awareness so more children can be saved.”

The national symbol for child abuse awareness is the color blue so students are asking the community to show support throughout the month of April by wearing blue clothing on Tuesdays, leaving their porch lights on Sundays and placing blue ribbons on their cars and trees.

Scholarship gala claimed a success

Many students' dreams of higher education will become more achievable through the success the South Plains College Foundation Scholarship Gala. The event, hosted by City Bank, was termed a "shining success" raising more than \$92,000 to benefit student scholarships.

"We want to thank you for your presence here tonight and thank you for your support of South Plains College and our students," Dr. Kelvin Sharp, president of South Plains College, told the crowd. "For almost 50 years, South Plains College has been providing educational opportunities to Levelland residents and people all over the South Plains. Your support does make a difference for SPC students and we want to say thank you for sharing in our vision to improve each student's life."

More than 500 people attended the evening that was highlighted by a musical showcase of student and faculty talent from SPC's Fine Arts and Creative Arts Departments, a gourmet meal and a live and silent auction. The evening culminated with through the recognition of the 2007 recipients of the SPC Foundation Pacesetter Awards, which included outstanding benefactors Carroll and Marcie Bowen, Nathan and Freda Tubb and Mike and Janna Worley. Carroll Bowen and Freda Tubb were honored posthumously.

Fifty-two businesses and individuals joined the SPC Foundation in sponsoring the event. An additional 70 individuals and five businesses joined the foundation as gala benefactors for the evening.

"We want to thank all our corporate and business sponsors and benefactors for their continued support of this event," said Russell Hall, SPC director of development. "We are so grateful to everyone who made this year's gala a record-setting event," said Hall. "As the college continues to grow, it's great to know that our friends in the community want to help expand educational opportunities for students."



The South Plains College Foundation held its annual scholarship gala on March 3. At the event, the foundation recognized the recipients of the 2007 Pacesetter Awards. The award honors benefactors who have provided exemplary support to the foundation and South Plains College. Pictured, left to right, are Dr. Kelvin Sharp, SPC president, Nathan Tubb, Marcie Bowen, Mike Worley, Janna Worley and Bobby Neal, chair of the SPC Foundation Board. Carroll Bowen and Freda Tubb were honored posthumously.

Upcoming Events

March

- 27 – Go For It! Seminar, 7:00 pm, BMATC
- 28 – SPC Guitar Night, 6:30 pm, Crazy Chrisit’s Café
- 29 - Fine Arts ground breaking (phase two), 11:30 am, FA building (east entrance)
- 9 – Guitar Hero Tournament, 5:45 pm, Tom T. Hall
- 29 – Alterna TV, 8:00 pm, Tom T. Hall

April

- 3 – Child Abuse Candlelight Vigil, 7:00 pm, Sundown Room
- 3 – Country Jukebox, 11:40 am, Tom T.Hall
- 4 – SPC Jazz Jam, 6:30 pm, Larry’s Smokehouse
- 5 – Thursday Nite Live, 7:30 pm, Tom T. Hall

Birthdays

March

- 1 – Jan Buxkemper
- 2 – J.D. Harrell, Iris Keeling
- 3 – Manuel Cedillo, Cary Marrow, Gail Smith
- 4 – Sally Robinson
- 5 – Josh Crow, Helen Daniels, Cat Steinhauer
- 8 – Leslie Baker, Helen Delgado, Laura Graves, Juanita Medina
- 10 – JimAnn Batenhorst
- 11 – Pauline Escarcega, Jackie Long, Vivian Moore, Li Xiang
- 12 – Chris Riley
- 13 – Lynda Reid, Dolores Rodriguez
- 14 – Stan Weatherred
- 15 – Alex McAdoo
- 16 – Joe Wise
- 17 – Pat Chavez, Betty McWilliams, Yolanda Morin
- 18 – Blaine Wiley
- 19 – Lee Jourden
- 21 – Pat Foard, Julie Gerstenberger, Sam Lopez, Tanya Ward
- 22 – Shirley Davis, Rosemary Jenkins, Chris Metsgar
- 23 – Irene Baca, Tracey Cooper, Mari Evans
- 24 – Juli Wood
- 25 – Deborrah Caddell, Kathy Townsend
- 26 – Matt Quick
- 27 – Orville Fox, DeAnna Nowell
- 28 – Juan Carlos Martinez, Mollie Melton, Debora Rice
- 29 – Patsy Garner

30 – Ginger Mulloy

31 – Bob Bilodeau, Stacie Johnson

All in the Family

Carol McDonald welcomes new granddaughter, Koi Eden McDonald. She was born March 6 at 12:58 pm in Levelland. She weighed six pounds, one ounce and was 19 inches long. Her mother is Cassion McDonald.

Shane Bryant, son of Steve and Natalie Bryant, is a member of the nationally ranked and state championship Angelo State University rugby team. The team, currently seeded second in the nation, will be competing for the national championship beginning with the Western division competition to be held in Denver over Easter weekend. Bryant is a senior at ASU with a double major in biology and kinesiology and has already received certification as a strength and conditioning coach and personal trainer.

If you would like to announce weddings, births or other personal achievements, email jmontgom@southplainscollege.edu. Announcement deadline is the Friday before each week's edition.