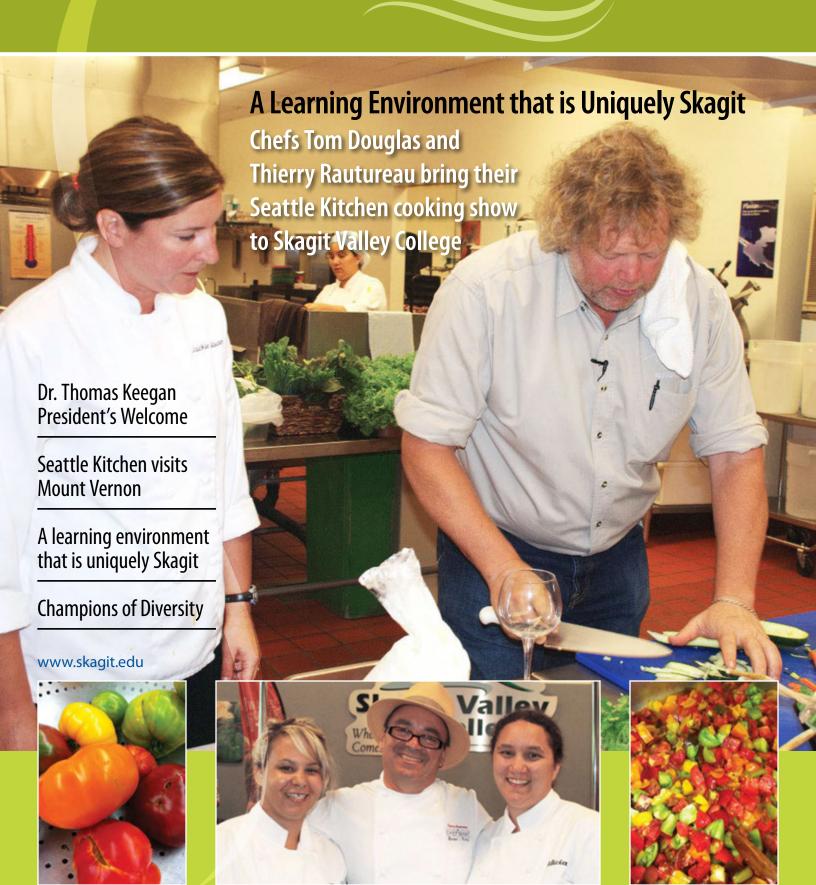
# SKAGIT VALLEY COLLEGE UTTEN September 2012



### Skagit Valley College

# irrents

September 2012

	President's Message
J	A Learning Environment tha
	is Uniquely Skagit
	is omquery skugit
Ţ,	Coattle Vitchen Visits

Mount Vernon

Faculty & Staff

10 - 12 SVC Foundation

Editors/Writers: Arden Ainley, Jennifer Fix, and Carl Young

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Since 1926, Skagit Valley College has provided high quality educational opportunities to the citizens of Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties, as they pursue higher education, meaningful employment, basic skills development, and personal growth. We change people's lives.

Our strength comes from being a diverse community that places student success and student achievement at the center of its work. These individuals are exceptional faculty who engage and inspire, devoted staff who support

teaching and learning, and enthusiastic donors who make student dreams a reality with their generosity. Collectively, they are committed to developing innovations and collaborations that enhance instruction, promote cultural enrichment, and foster professional and personal growth for our students. It's a learning environment that is uniquely Skagit.

As our cover story in this edition of Currents, we will feature the broad community partnership that brought Seattle chefs and restaurateurs Tom Douglas and Thierry Rautureau to our Mount Vernon Campus for a cooking demonstration for their Seattle Kitchen weekly radio show. Their visit was a very successful community event. It also provided a unique learning environment for our Culinary Arts faculty and student chefs. Also in Currents, we will salute our outstanding faculty, staff, and students who exemplify educational excellence and academic success. And, in the pages that showcase the SVC Foundation, we will share how community support makes a difference in our students' lives with highlights about donors, scholarships, and special events.

So, as we begin a new academic year, I am excited to be part of this institution and I am so excited about the future of the College. On behalf of the faculty, staff, administration, and Board of Trustees, I extend my appreciation for all you do in support of Skagit Valley College and the students we serve.

Sincerely,

Dr. Thomas A. Keegan, President





Lindsav Fiker Vice Chair



Debra Lisser



John Stephens

#### From the Board

Dear Friends of Skagit Valley College,

all is always an amazing time of year as we welcome students to our campuses and centers where they will remove the students. and centers where they will pursue their educational dreams and goals.

The past few months have been especially exciting for our College with Dr. Thomas Keegan joining us this spring as our President. In his first few months, Dr. Keegan has led our institution with the guiding principles of respect, integrity, open and honest communication, and collaboration. In addition, many of you know that Dr. Keegan is an SVC alum and we are pleased that he returned to the College where his educational dreams and goals began!

So, on behalf of the Board of Trustees and the entire college community, we are excited to work with Dr. Keegan to create an even brighter future for SVC.

Sincerely,

Mayort Royas Margaret Rojas, Board Chair

# A Learning Environment that is Uniquely Skagit

### American and International students team up to learn about the environment

The Fourth Annual Summer Global Environmental Program was held at Skagit Valley College in July 2012. With the theme of Citizen Action in the Global Environment, 26 International and American



students spent three weeks learning about environmental problems and solutions, here and around the globe. The students included one individual who traveled from Beijing just to take the course.

With the beautiful Pacific Northwest as the laboratory, students gained first-hand experience with visits to the Olympic rainforest, coastal waters, and the desert plateau of central Washington. Students heard from Environmental Conservation department chair Dr. Claus Svendsen and numerous guest speakers, gaining an appreciation for the complexity and importance of sustaining our ecosystem.

Other highlights included visits to Puget Sound Energy's salmon collection system at Baker River Dam and wind turbines at its Wild Horses Wind Farm near Ellensburg; laboratory examination of insects from a salmon bearing stream; stories of action by citizens to solve environmental problems; kayaking local marine shorelines and searching in the San Juan Islands for Orca whales.

The class culminated in presentations by students about environmental problems in their home communities and action plans for what they and their friends and neighbors could do to make a difference.



In April, the Swinomish Indian Tribal Community dedicated a Story Pole created by master carver and Swinomish Tribal member Kevin Paul at the Mount Vernon Campus.

# From Seattle to Santiago, Road Scholar brings lifelong learning and travel together

Skagit Valley College has been nationally recognized for its successful not-for-profit Road Scholar educational travel program offered through SVC's San Juan Center. Road Scholar learning adventures engage expert instructors, provide extraordinary access, and stimulate discourse and friendship among people for whom learning is the journey of a lifetime.

You can choose from 6,500 educational adventures a year in all 50 states and 150 countries. Whether it is a program close to home or an overnight program in cities and locations around the United States and the world, you are sure to find a Road Scholar adventure that captures your interest, dreams, and desires.

There are no grades or tests on Road Scholar programs. All that is needed is an inquiring mind, an adventurous spirit, and the belief that learning and discovery are lifelong pursuits. Established in 1975, Road Scholar



Road Scholar participants at the summit of Mount Constitution with surrounding islands and Mount Baker as a beautiful backdrop.

offers participants once-in-a-lifetime experiences delivered by local and world-renowned experts.

To discover more about Road Scholar programs, visit www.skagit.edu/roadscholar.



### Chefs Tom Douglas & Thierry Rautureau

The **Seattle Kitchen** cooking show comes to Skagit Valley College

n Saturday, August 18, more than 120 community leaders, along with college trustees and supporters, filled SVC's Cardinal Café and the Multipurpose Room to welcome renowned Seattle chefs and restaurateurs Tom Douglas and Thierry Rautureau to the Mount Vernon Campus for a special cooking demonstration for Seattle Kitchen, a weekly radio show heard on KIRO 97.3 FM. Their visit to Mount Vernon was part of Mayor Jill Boudreau's monthlong Wellness Challenge and the city's "Create a Great Life" campaign. Skagit Valley College is among the

fo sh MOUNT VERNON create a great life

community partners focused on showcasing the city as a great place to live, learn, work, and visit.

> Of course, for SVC Food

Services Manager Lyn Highet, along with Chef Instructor Gil Rodriguez and their student chefs, the visit by Tom Douglas and Thierry Rautureau was the learning opportunity of a lifetime. Before the audience began arriving, the SVC Culinary Arts team was busy behind the scene in the kitchen, working along side Douglas



Tom Douglas and Thierry Rautureau interview Lyn Highet, SVC Food Services Manager.

and Rautureau as ingredients were measured and veggies and herbs were carefully selected, washed, and chopped. The student chefs gained added culinary experience by preparing more than 100+ tastings to be enjoyed by the audience later in the show.

To begin the event, Tom and Thierry recorded engaging interviews with Mayor Boudreau, Viva Farms Director Sarita Schaffer, and SVC Food Services Manager Lyn Highet. Mayor Boudreau and Sarita Schaffer described the bounty that is uniquely Skagit and how connections between healthy living and local farm to table agriculture contributes to quality of life. Lyn Highet showcased SVC's highly successful Culinary Arts program and how strong relationships with local farmers helps bring fresh, local,

and sustainable products into the curriculum and then to the tables where meals are served on campus. The interviews can be heard online at http://kiroradio.com/seattlekitchen.

After the interviews were complete,
Tom Douglas and Thierry Rautureau
moved to the college's new
professional demonstration kitchen
where they prepared their recipes with
great flare and fun. Thierry, The Chef In
The Hat™, prepared Heirloom Tomato
Bisque with Goat Cheese Cream.
Without question, it was a huge hit
with everyone in the audience! And,
Tom prepared a delicate Grilled
Chicken with Nuoc Cham Salad that
combined a grilled chicken with
delicate balance of mint, cilantro, and
Thai basil. Delicious!

The Seattle Kitchen event was made possible thanks to community partners: City of Mount Vernon, Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce, Skagit Regional Health, Skagit Valley College, Mount Vernon School District, and Port of Skagit.

Supporting sponsors for the event: Skagit Valley Food Co-op, Skagitonians to Preserve Farmland, Mount Vernon Farmers Market, and Viva Farms.

Local farmers who contributed products that day were Hedlin Farms (Heirloom tomato bisque ingredients), Gothberg Farms (goat cheese), Well Fed Farms (chicken), and Viva Farms (salad veggies).

Thank you to the SVC Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management program for their work in support of this highly successful event!





Student Chef Alicia Bettger, Food Services Manager Lyn Highet, Thierry Rautureau, Tom Douglas, Student Chef Latonya Carter, Student Chef TJ French, Chef Instructor Gil Rodriguez, and Student Chef Brian Morrison.



### Grilled Chicken with Nuoc Cham Salad

1 package of chicken thighs, boneless, skin on

Rub with Love Chinese 12 Spice rub

1 carrot, shredded

5 sprigs of mint

5 sprigs of cilantro

5 sprigs of Thai basil

1 head of bib or green leaf lettuce

For the sauce:

6 tablespoons fresh lime juice

3 tablespoons Asian fish sauce (preferably Nuoc Mam)

3 - 4 tablespoons sugar to taste

1 garlic clove

1/4 - 1/2 cup warm water to taste

2 small thin fresh red or green Asian chilies (1-2 inches long) or serrano chilies, seeded and chopped fine

For the sauce: combine all ingredients and let the sauce sit for 30min to let all the flavors marry.

For the chicken: sprinkle chicken thighs generously with the Rub with Love Chinese 12 Spice rub. On a heated grill or grill pan, cook chicken on medium high heat, making sure not to burn the chicken, but to crisp the skin. Once cooked, cut the chicken into strips.

To assemble: Take a whole leaf of lettuce, and place in it the chicken, with a few leaves of mint, basil and cilantro. Top with sauce, fold and eat!

©Tom Douglas 2012

### Heirloom Tomato Bisque with Goat Cheese Cream

Serves 4

2 oz Extra virgin olive oil

6 Medium size ripe heirloom tomatoes (cut in about 1 inch cube)

2 whole shallots (peeled and chopped)

1 garlic clove (peeled and chopped)

15 leaves of Basil (chopped)

2 oz olive oil

Salt & pepper to taste

#### **Goat Cheese Cream**

4 oz of soft goat cheese

1 ½ oz heavy cream

Mix the two together and season to taste. Keep refrigerated.

In a hot skillet drop the olive oil and the tomato, let sear for a couple minutes while tossing the tomato around. Add the chopped shallots and garlic, cook for another 2 minutes then add the basil and mix the whole stew. In a blender, put the mixture with the remaining olive oil and blend thoroughly until smooth. Strain the bisque thru a fine mesh sieve and cool right away on iced water bowl.

Place the goat cheese mixture in the middle of the bowl. Add the bisque around and drizzle a bit of olive oil atop.

© Thierry Rautureau 2012 The Chef In The Hat™



# Recognizing Outstanding Faculty & Staff

Skagit Valley College is a diverse community that places student success and student achievement at the center of its work. Our community is comprised of outstanding faculty who engage and inspire and devoted staff who support teaching and learning. Together, they are committed to developing innovations and collaborations that enhance instruction, promote cultural enrichment, and academic success. We celebrate their commitment to students!

#### Jere LaFollette



Human Services faculty member Jere LaFollette received the Teacher of the Year award at the Mount Vernon Campus Commencement Ceremony. This annual award is voted on and bestowed by the SVC student body and recognizes a faculty member for outstanding

teaching in the classroom. Jere was recognized for his dedication to students and for working with colleagues to produce the Welcome To Our Community projects that included the development of a supporting environment where each student feels welcome.

### **Barbara Martinez-Griego**



Early Childhood Education
Department Chair Barbara
Martinez-Griego was
honored with the Trustees
Association of Community
and Technical Colleges
Equity and Student
Success Award that
recognized her success
in furthering equity and
student achievement.
As the result of Barbara's

commitment to the academic success of Latino students, the ECE program has received local, regional, and national recognition. Among the highlights, she successfully garnered \$700,000 to support degree completion that allowed 72 teachers from Washington State Migrant Council, Skagit-Islands and Samish Indian National Head Start teachers to earn their degrees through SVC's early childhood associate's degree and Washington State University's bachelor's degree in human development.

### Margo Grothe & Angela Atwell





Margo Grothe and Angela Atwell were honored with the Puget Sound Energy Staff Excellence Award at this year's Spring Celebration. The award, which includes a \$500 stipend, is organized through the SVC Foundation and recognizes staff members who demonstrate staff excellence, a positive attitude, and have had a valuable impact on the college and its students. Margo, an **Exempt Professional Staff** member in Mount Vernon, coordinates SVC's Life Transitions program.

— continued next page

She was recognized for serving adult learners who are returning to college, finding work, and rebuilding self-esteem. Angela Atwell, a Classified Staff member at SVC's San Juan Center, was recognized for her work at the Center with the nationally recognized Road Scholar program.

#### **Dr. Anne Will**



History instructor Dr. Anne Will was honored with the Puget Sound Excellence in Teaching Award, presented at the Mount Vernon Campus Commencement Ceremony this year by Brian Gentry, Community Services Manager for Puget Sound Energy. This annual award, which was established in 1989 and includes a \$1,500 stipend, is

organized through the SVC Foundation and recognizes a faculty member who demonstrates teaching excellence, a positive attitude, and who has had a valuable impact on the college and its students. In the nominations submitted by her peers, Dr. Will was described as "...the most thoroughly prepared, organized, passionate, and caring, inspired and challenging teacher with whom I have had the good fortune to teach."

### **Consuelo Guandique**



Retention and Transition
Specialist Consuelo Guandique
received the Eagle Award from
Opportunities Industrialization
Center (OIC) of Washington.
Rosey Hernandez, OIC
Regional Manager, presented
the award to Ms. Guandique
at the Partners at Work
Conference held in Pasco in
August. "Consuelo Guandique
has been recognized for

a lifetime of dedication to farm workers," said Rosey Hernandez. "Through her mentoring, they know the dream of attending college and gaining new job skills can come true for them and it will improve their lives." Consuelo works with students transitioning into SVC's Professional/ Technical programs including Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training that helps students learn literacy and workplace skills together.

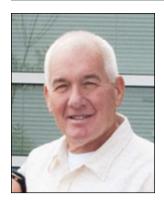
### **Mary Ellen Lykins**



Skagit/Islands Head Start
Director Mary Ellen Lykins
was elected to a leadership
position within the
Washington State Association
of Head Start and Early
Childhood Education and
Assistance Programs. "Mary
Ellen brings a wealth of
experience and knowledge
of Head Start, early learning,
and family support to the

statewide level," said Dr. Joan Youngquist, Dean of Basic Skills and Academic Education at SVC. In her position with the college, Mary Ellen oversees Head Start and Early Head Start programs that serve over 450 young children and their families in Skagit, Island, and San Juan counties.

#### Mike Swietzer



Marine Technology
Department Chair Mike
Swietzer was honored with
the Exceptional Full-Time
Faculty Award at this year's
Whidbey Island Campus
Commencement Ceremony
for dedication to student
success in the marine trades.
SVC is a founding member
of the Marine League of
Schools, a national consortium

of marine education providers noted for exceptional training. Also based at SVC, the Center of Excellence for Marine Manufacturing and Technology leads and supports initiatives statewide. Most recently, the college joined an 11-college consortium providing training under a Department of Labor grant, Air Washington, delivering Composite Technology and I-BEST Manufacturing training for the aerospace industry.

# Celebrating Outstanding Students

Throughout each year, we have the opportunity to meet many remarkable students who, through their individual accomplishments, inspire us to reach higher, encourage us to persevere, and motivate us to achieve our own dreams and goals. Individually, each of them held a standard of excellence that was a guiding force in their journey. Collectively, their accomplishments have blended to create a richness that has touched this our community. Join us in celebrating their success!



#### **Lauren Cribb**

When Lauren Cribb enrolled at SVC's Whidbey Island Campus through the Running Start program, she became an active student leader on campus and throughout the community. Among her accomplishments, Lauren was named to the All-Washington Academic Team 2012, along with 65 other high achievers from Washington community and technical colleges. She maintained a full-time credit load of rigorous academic courses during her two years at SVC, while maintaining a 3.99 GPA. She also received a President's Medal in recognition of her academic excellence and was honored with the Yates Award, the highest award bestowed at Whidbey. Lauren contributed two years to student government, serving as a tireless student advocate. After graduating from SVC, Lauren Cribb transferred to Willamette University where she will pursue a degree in political science.



### Seijiro Nishina

"Belief, encouragement, contribution, achievement, and fun ... these words represent my life while I spent time at SVC. As an International student who could not speak English when I arrived at SVC, I was nervous and did not know what it would be like living in the U.S. Little by little, step-by-step, with a safe environment at SVC, I was able to create the foundation of my life in the U.S., starting from learning English to achieve the highest award. During my life at SVC, I made many friends, encountered great teachers who influenced me to decide what I want to be, and gained excellent opportunities as an International student program staff. The most important experience at SVC was to build up my confidence and to believe, "I can do it."

Seijiro Nishina received the prestigious Charles H. Lewis Memorial Award and graduated from SVC with an Associate in Arts degree in 2001. After graduating, he earned his bachelor's degree in 2003 from United States International University. He also earned a master's degree in 2005 and a doctoral degree in 2012, both from Alliant International University. He is now working in his chosen field of couple and family therapy in San Diego, California.



### **Nallely Carreón Carrillo**

"I would consider myself as being from the best of two worlds: I come from a close knit Mexican family and I've also become part of the culture of the United States. Coming from a different country is really hard because of the barriers you can encounter such as the weather, language, customs, food, or even the way you dress. Thanks to a Champions of Diversity scholarship, I came to SVC. Being the first in my family to attend college is an honor and I'm very proud of what I have accomplished. I am paving the road for my siblings and future generations to choose education ... It was all worth it."

Nallely Carreón Carrillo was an active leader in SVC's Calling All Colors club and was a finalist for the prestigious Charles H. Lewis Memorial Award. After earning her AAUCT degree from SVC, Nallely transferred to Western Washington University where she will study Psychology. Her dream is to become a school counselor.



# Charles Lewis Hall Update

Dorcas Lewis Corbin celebrates after the official "first dig." (I to r): Margaret Rojas, Board Member; John Stephens, Board Member; Dr. Tom Keegan, SVC President; Dorcas Lewis Corbin; Debra Lisser, Board Chair; Dr. James M. Ford, President Emeritus.

n June 12, Skagit Valley College 1939 alumna Dorcas Lewis Corbin, the 92-year-old daughter of Charles H. Lewis, joined other Lewis family members, local community leaders, College trustees, faculty, staff, and students for a groundbreaking ceremony at the site of the new Charles Lewis Hall. The ceremonial "first dig" was extra special with Mrs. Lewis Corbin joining in with a commemorative shovel and construction hat. Planning for the three-story, 70,000 square foot building began in 2005.

The building's outdoor space, named the Gary Tollefson Plaza, will serve as a lasting tribute to Dr. Tollefson's nine years of exceptional leadership at SVC and his work to transform the campus.

The plaza will feature Northwest-style landscaping with gentle pedestrian walkways and seating.

Input into the building's design was gathered from a committee comprised of students, faculty, and staff who will use the new facility. When complete, Charles Lewis Hall will be the central hub for all of student services including admissions, registration, financial aid, counseling, veterans', and adult basic education, among others. Classrooms and faculty spaces for programs including math, English and literature, social and behavioral science, and testing will be located there as well.

Construction of this newest addition to the Mount Vernon Campus started in earnest in July. Site preparation began with earthmoving equipment preparing the area for the footprint of the building, locating existing utilities, and planning for storm water management during construction. As a "green" measure, the contractor rolled up some of the sod and placed it along silt control fences.



Charles Lewis Hall rendering by Stephanie Bower.



Dr. Tom Keegan presents Dorcas Lewis Corbin with a poem she wrote for the 1938 publication, The Trail.

Named for Charles H. Lewis, revered pioneer faculty member and first Dean of the College who served SVC for 28 years, the original 19,360 square foot building was among the first buildings constructed on the Mount Vernon Campus in 1959. While it served the College well for five decades, it no longer provides adequate space to meet student needs and it lacks the capacity to integrate the latest innovations for academic engagement.

Architect for the building is Schreiber Starling & Lane of Seattle. The general contractor is Burke Construction Group of Cheney, WA. The College expects the \$32.4 million project will be finished in time for classes in fall 2014. Completion of landscaping and the plaza is scheduled for late fall 2014.



Workers are forming up for the footings that will be poured.





# **SVC's Acclaimed Champions of Diversity Program Needs Your Support**

ollege tuition has increased at a very rapid pace over the past few years. Skagit Valley College tuition has increased an average of 11 percent per year in the past three years. Federal and state financial aid only provides one-third of the necessary financial support for SVC students. The SVC Foundation works to fill the gap by raising scholarship funds for deserving students.

The college's highly acclaimed Champions of Diversity Program was created and organized by Anita Ordóñez, SVC's Director of Multicultural Student Services, in 2000. It is one of many SVC programs that attempt to inspire and support students pursuing their dreams at Skagit Valley College. The Champions of Diversity program honors graduating high school students for their leadership in diversity issues, community service, and engagement of fellow students in multicultural activities. Each year, the program awards Champion scholarships for college to approximately 50 high school seniors in Island, San Juan and Skagit counties. These scholarships only cover 25 percent of a student's tuition for one year at Skagit Valley College— the scholarship gap is still very significant!

These Champion award winners pursue careers that help them make contributions to their local communities. Former Champion graduates are now helping our communities as engineers, counselors, doctors, nurses, teachers, mechanics, chefs, accountants, attorneys, and technical professionals.

For information on how you can help support Skagit Valley College's Champions of Diversity program, please call the Skagit Valley College Foundation at 360.416.7717 or e-mail foundation@skagit.edu.

#### **Board Of Governors**

Kathryn Bennett Janie Beasley
President Past President

Jeff Pleet Dan Carter
Vice President Kathy Doll
Susan Ragan
Treasurer Tom Harker
Megan Scott O'Bryan, Secretary Donnie Keltz

#### **Emeritus**

Elin Anderson\* Roger Hulbush Jim Anderson Elna Iversen\* Mark Iverson **Cheryl Bishop** Jack Kenney\* **Betty Black** John Meyer Susan Cooper **Bud Moore** Mike Crawford **Arlene Nelson** Norm Dahlstedt Pam Nelson **Denny Davis\*** Marje Peters\* Micki Deirlein\* **Scott Richards\*** James Ford **Bud Strom Wallie Funk David Strong Ruth Gidlund\*** Susan Scripps **Neil Hall Jack Henriot** \*(Deceased)

#### **Foundation Staff**

**Carl Young** 

Director Campus View Village -**Anne Clark and Resident Director** Jennifer Fix **Assistant Directors** Shannon O'Neil Karen Kotash Campus View Accountant Village -**Bridget Candler Administrative** Office Assistant Services Manager

**Chad Pettav** 

### Statement of Financial Position

June 30, 2012				
ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$469,775			
Investments	\$8,355,150			
Receivables	\$38,164			
Prepaid insurance	\$1,605			
Property and equipment, net	\$1,834,110			
Collections held for investment	\$4,584			
Deferred bond issue costs, net	\$39,590			
Total Assets \$	10,742,978			
LIABILITIES				
Accounts payable	\$27,752			
Accrued interest	\$17,754			
Tenant security deposits & prepaid rent	\$71,324			
Long-term debt	\$1,867,384			
Life income annuities payable	\$74,528			
Total Liabilities	\$2,058,742			
NET ASSETS				
Unrestricted	\$246,596			
Temporary restricted	\$816,500			
Permanently restricted	\$7,621,140			
Total Net Assets	\$8,684,236			
Total Liabilities & Net Assets \$	10,742,978			

### Campus View Village –

### A Unique On-Campus Living & Learning Experience

ampus View Village is Skagit Valley College's only on-campus living and learning program. The "learning" aspect of the CVV experience is known as Residence Life, which has the goal of offering residential students safe, affordable and engaging life experiences while attending Skagit Valley College.

Resident Assistants provide ongoing support to the Residence Life program by planning events that meet student and community needs. All programs and activities organized by Residence Life staff have defined learning objectives focused on one of five core themes: lifelong learning, community safety, interpersonal intelligence, diversity and inclusion, and personal development.

Beyond educational and social programming, Residence Life provides the opportunity to challenge students' habits of thinking and offer them new and diverse perspectives. More than half of the Campus View Village student population is comprised of international students who live among American students, providing both groups the opportunity to learn about different cultures, languages, and customs. Additionally, all students are held to a set of community-enhancing expectations, reinforcing Residence Life's commitment to safety and personal well-being.

A new addition to Campus View Village's plentiful co-curricular offerings is Village Council, a student-run organization which teaches students valuable leadership skills, democratic processes, and administrative program management techniques in a safe, inclusive, and fun environment. Campus View Village serves approximately 150 Skagit Valley College students each year and is owned by the Skagit Valley College Foundation.



SVC Foundation welcomes new Campus View Village Resident Director Chad Pettay. He previously served as Residence Community Coordinator at California State University-Chico.

### Academic Success, Family Style

or the tight-knit Bray family — daughters Samantha and Charleen, along with their mom, Diane — it's more than a college; it's a community. For Samantha, that feeling of community helped her gain the confidence she needed.

"At first, I was scared that I wouldn't succeed, but I found the instructors at SVC are passionate about helping students. It's an amazing learning environment." Samantha also found support through TRiO Student Support Services and the study skills classes offered through the program. "I thought I wanted to come and get out, but I fell in love with this place."

When Samantha completes her degree at SVC, she will transfer to Western Washington University's Fairhaven College and plans to become a social worker or counselor.

It had been 37 years since Diane had attended school, but she jumped in with both feet. Like her daughters, a strong support network has made a big difference in Diane's academic success. "We always ask one another for proof-reading support," she said. "And, with balancing school and home life, we like to keep in touch about what's going on and if one of us needs help."

When she completes her degree at SVC, Diane plans to work as a medical assistant.



Samantha, Diane, and Charleen Bray

Just like her mom and sister, Charleen has a deep passion for people. "I like that SVC is such a diverse place in age and gender." Being an older student has been positive for Charleen. "It's good to be an older student; we have more life experiences. I've found that people aren't judgmental here. In fact, I don't want to graduate. I'm going to cry at graduation — it will be my first time graduating from anything."

After graduating from SVC, Charleen plans to transfer to The Evergreen State College and eventually work as a chemical dependency counselor.

Samantha, Diane, and Charleen Bray are all 4.0 students and all received SVC Foundation scholarships, thanks to generous SVC Foundation donors! Congratulations to the Bray family!

#### **BANNER YEAR FOR**

### **SVC FOUNDATION GOLF CLASSICS**



A highlight of the day was the presence of former SVC presidents Dr. James Ford and Dr. Gary Tollefson and current SVC President Dr. Tom Keegan enjoying a day of golf.



**Puget Sound Refinery** 

#### **James M. Ford Golf Classic**

The 24th annual James M. Ford Golf Classic was held in May at Avalon Golf Links in Burlington under beautiful sunny skies. Fifty-two teams comprised of 208 community members and SVC faculty/staff enjoyed a full day of golfing, food, games, prizes and dinner.

The event was underwritten by Shell Puget Sound Refinery. Generous community sponsors

and golfers increased this year's event income by more than 20 percent from last year— the highest level during the tournament's 24-year run! This SVC Foundation event raised \$66,000 in gross funds for SVC students.



# Whidbey Island Golf Classic

The 20th annual Whidbey Island Golf Classic was held in June at Whidbey

Golf and Country Club in Oak Harbor. Although the weather was a "bit" uncooperative, 110 community members and SVC faculty/staff arrived ready to play and enjoyed a fabulous day filled with golf, games, and dinner hosted by Dr. Mick Donahue, SVC Executive Vice President of Instruction & Student Services, and SVC Foundation Board member Dan Carter. Guests heard a heartwarming testimony about the importance of scholarship support from one of last year's scholarship recipients.

Whidbey Island Bank of Oak Harbor was the underwriter for the event and each of the 18 holes was sponsored by local businesses and community members. Generous sponsors and golfers—and excellent organization from the planning committee—helped boost gross receipts 59 percent over last year for a total of \$33,000 for SVC Whidbey Island Campus students!

### Save the Dates!



