



### FEB. 22, 2016

# **Big Accomplishments for Student Club**

The Human Collective Club had a busy fall and is still actively engaging students interested in psychology and human services. Open to all majors, the club "promotes and encourages professional development ... through the promotion and recognition of excellence in scholarship, leadership, research, and community service," according to club adviser and psychology professor Saki Cabrera.

Last fall, in its first semester, the club brought speakers to campus to discuss mental illness, as well as the use of animals in helping people. They also helped collect 780 items for WEAVE.



This semester the club plans more activities to help kids and families in need in addition to other activities focused on mental health. *Human Collective Club assembling the donations they collected for WEAVE.* 



# **Community Service**

Biotechnology professor Jim DeKloe received the Silver Beaver Award for being one of the top volunteers in the Boy Scouts

of America (BSA). The honor was given by the Mt. Diablo Silverado Council of the Boy Scouts of America. DeKloe has devoted 1,000 hours a year to BSA.

Professor and Silver Beaver Award recipient Jim DeKloe.

# **Inside Solano**

#### **SCC Calendar of Events**

**FEB 27** | Super Saturday, Enrollment Event

FEB | SCC Ethnic Studies Program Presents Black History Month Programs and Events

FEB | Recyclemania Tournament 2016 and Campus Club Contest

MAR 19 | Super Saturday, Enrollment Event

MAR 22 | Mini Transfer Fair at Vacaville Campus

#### **Upcoming Deadlines**

**MAR 17** | Last Day to Petition for Spring 2016 Degrees and Certificates

MAR 28-APR 1 | Spring Break-Campus Closed

**APR 3** | Last day to drop a full term class with a W

#### Let Us Know What's Happening

Welcome to the first edition of "Inside Solano." Our goal is to bring what's happening at Solano Community College to your desktop each week. Let's share our knowledge of all of the ways we're working together to help SCC students and the community.

If people or programs in your area are doing something noteworthy, please let us know. Send any information to Ginny McReynolds at mcreynolds.ginny@yahoo.com.

## English/ESL Professor José Cortes

#### In His Own Words

I struggled to graduate high school. I spent the majority of my senior year scrambling to make up

credits. Naturally, after I narrowly managed to graduate, I did not feel like college was a realistic option. I spent a few years working random jobs, and I felt lost. One of my friends told me he was starting classes at Solano College, and he asked me to come along; taking that trip with him to register for courses was one of the best things I have ever done. The faculty and staff I encountered as a student at Solano were amazing. They helped reveal an identity I didn't know I had; I was a college student. I majored in English, and I transferred to Chico State. After I graduated, I knew I wanted to find a job teaching. I returned to Solano College, and started volunteering in the English lab. When I was a student here, the English lab helped me tremendously, and it was a great feeling to go from being a student to helping others with their writing. After a few months of volunteering, I was hired as an English Lab Technician where I worked for eight years. A few years ago, I entered graduate school, and my colleagues and administrators supported me through the process. After graduating, I became a full-time English/ESL Instructor. This is my second semester as a faculty member, and I still can't believe it, given my start as a confused student. Our Vision Statement says that we transform students' lives. Solano helped transform my life, and I am overwhelmingly thrilled to be a part of this institution.

### Making Financial Aid Count

The Solano Community College Financial Aid program is continuing to do good work for our students. The Cohort Default Rate for SCC was reduced more than any other college in the state during the last year. Our 31.5 percent default is now in the low teens. This is due in large part to our Financial Aid staff teaching our students more about financial literacy. Workshops for students include the basics in financial literacy, smart borrowing, money management, and budgeting. The SCC program was even featured recently on the CashCourse website (http://info.cashcourse.org/cashcourse-acrossthe-usa/success-stories/solano-community-college.aspx).



### Super Saturdays

Two Super Saturdays are in the works for all new incoming students. On Feb. 27 and March 19, new students will have a chance to register for Fall and Summer classes and take care of the enrollment procedures necessary to become students at Solano Community College.

