



NOVEMBER

2011

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SONOMA COUNTY FORUM

Thursday, November 3, 2011

Roseland School District: The Jewel of Southwest Santa Rosa



The Hispanic/Latino community is the fastest growing ethnic group in Sonoma County. But statistically their college enrollment and achievement rates are considerably lower than Anglo students.

The Roseland School District is changing that.

Under the direction of Superintendent Gail Ahlas, the district has developed a program from grades K through 12 to support its students and their families and to ensure the students' success. The district's charter high school, Roseland University Prep has a near perfect graduation rate of 98 percent (compared to a statewide average of 76%).

Gail is currently serving her 18th year in the Roseland School District, initially as a principal and now as superintendent. Join us on November 3rd, as Gail tells us more about the programs and services offered by this amazing school district and how it is serving the residents of Roseland.

November 17, 2011

SRJC's New Culinary Center Opens in January 2012

Should You Make Your Reservation Now?

In January, Santa Rosa Junior College will open its new Culinary Arts Center on Mendocino Avenue that will serve as a permanent home for the college's exemplary culinary training programs. The center will house five commercial kitchens, three classrooms, a retail bakery, a wine library, and a 100-seat culinary cafe open to the public. How will this new facility train students for the \$2 billion/year tourism and hospitality industry in Sonoma County and how will it serve area residents?



Betsy Fischer, who has worked in the hospitality industry for more than 30 years, teaches dining room management, restaurant operations and food and wine studies at the college and also manages the college's Culinary Cafe. Join us as Betsy gives us a virtual tour of this new facility and discover why it may just become your favorite local restaurant!



BIO's Continued



Eunice Valentine

Eunice is the Executive Director of the Volunteer Center of Sonoma County and has served in that position for five and one-half years. The Volunteer Center is the largest of its kind in the country, offering 12 services and 9 special events, including the Human Race. Eunice has a tradition of volunteering. After college graduation, she worked for 2 years in a Children's Hospital for refugee children in Danang Vietnam.

Earning a B.S in Psychology and Sociology, a Masters in Social Work and a Masters in Fine Arts in writing, literature and publishing, Eunice had held executive leadership positions at the Volunteer Center of Marin, the YWCA of San Francisco & Marin, RIDES for Bay Area Commuters and the United Way in San Francisco and Cincinnati, Ohio. Prior to coming to Sonoma County, Eunice served for 6 years as the Executive Director of the Lindsay Wildlife Museum in Walnut Creek.

Her own volunteer activities include service on the Health Action Council Board, Junior League Community Advisor, and Roseland University Prep High School.

Born in Montana, Eunice has been married for 32 years. She enjoys her step children. Her interests include literature, writing, golf, classical music and hiking. Welcome Eunice!



Marie Theilaide

Marie is with Merrill Lynch and serves as a Financial Advisor/Chartered Retirement Planning Counselor. She is a graduate of the College for Financial Planning. She has earned the title of Certified Financial Planner and C.R.P.C.

Marie volunteers through her church as well as with other organizations, such as WHAM, PACE, SCRAPPI, Connections and ABWA.

Born in Ohio, Marie and husband, John, moved to the East Bay in 1963 and to Santa Rosa in 1997. Her hobbies include church activities, golf, gardening, family and friends and travel. Marie's two dogs, Buddy Red and Buster are also an important part of her life. Welcome Marie!

Nomination Committee Slate of Officers for 2012



President

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Susan Suddith

Maggie Brothers

Donna Spilman

MEETINGS ARE THE 1ST & 3RD THURSDAY @ 7:30 AM @ THE FLAMINGO RESORT