

CLARK

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Sundae on a Monday

Classified staff thanked with ice cream and awards

The line stretched down the hall of the Penguin Union Building, all the way from the Penguin Student Lounge past the double doors of Gaiser Student Center. But the people standing in this line weren't students waiting for textbooks or financial aid checks—they were members of Clark College's classified staff who were waiting for a simple but sweet gesture of appreciation for their past year's worth of service to the college. Sweet, indeed: Members of the non-classified staff were slicing bananas and scooping ice cream for decadent thank-you sundaes for the classified crew.

The Classified Staff Ice Cream Social is an annual tradition, a way to thank staff members and relax after another academic year comes to a close. It is also the time when the Spring Quarter Exceptional Classified Staff Award is announced.

This year's nominees for the award were:

- Gail Conners Junker, Business & Technology Secretary Senior
- Terry Haye, Early Childhood Education Program Specialist
- Alan Logston, Information Technology Specialist
- Michelle Mussen, Admissions Program Support Supervisor
- Marci Wedemeyer, Dental Hygiene Instruction and Classroom Support Technician

The winner was Wedemeyer, who was described in her nomination as “perhaps the one utterly indispensable individual in among the Dental Hygiene program staff.

“She can even fix the electrical and plumbing issues that come up in our dental chairs,” the nominator added. “She is the go-to person on any question at all related to the Dental Hygiene program.”



Marci Wedemeyer, center, with her co-workers, left to right, Honey Knight, Donna Wittmayer, Tracy Cobile, and Katy Graham.

Wedemeyer was presented with a certificate and a check by President Bob Knight. It was her second big accomplishment in the past week; just that past Thursday, she had walked across the stage at Commencement to receive the associate degree she had earned through Clark's Weekend Degree program. “This has been a pretty good week,” she said, sneaking a peek at the check amount. “I'm feeling really fortunate right now.”

Funding for the Exceptional Classified Staff Award and for the Ice Cream Social was provided by a donation made through the Clark College Foundation.







Witness to Disaster

President Knight views the devastation in Japan during a recent goodwill mission



It was a flight of friendship and a journey of hope. In late May, Clark College President Bob Knight boarded a plane to Tokyo on a week-long goodwill mission to Japan organized jointly by Mercy Corps and Azumano Travel. While there, he witnessed the devastation wrought by the March earthquake and tsunami.

“The TV, the media, the pictures you see—they don’t really do it justice,” he said. “There were mounds and mounds of rubble. I saw cars stuck in windows. I saw boats in the middle of the highway.”

Together with more than 80 volunteers from the Portland-Vancouver area—including Knight’s son, Scott, who just graduated from Warner Pacific

University with a bachelor’s degree in business—Knight, who made the trip as a private citizen, traveled by bus to the coastal town of Kesennuma, which had been hit hard by the tsunami.

“When we turned a corner and saw the devastation, the bus went completely silent,” said Knight. “We could not believe it. You went from complete normalcy to complete devastation so quickly that it hit us hard, even though we thought we were prepared.”

As soon as they got off the bus, Knight said, all the volunteers grabbed masks and gloves and went to work cleaning a house that Mercy Corps had determined could be salvaged. They cleaned the first floor, which was filled





Top and previous page: The devastation in Kesenuma, Japan. Bottom left: Pres. Knight stands with the owners of the house he helped salvage. Bottom right: Scott Knight, *brown jacket*, took time to talk with young people in Japan. "It turned out they had a lot in common," said Pres. Knight.

with mud, debris, and dead fish. The house's owners were on hand to answer questions and to decide whether any objects found were worth saving or not. "We found a family album," Knight recalled. "We gave it to them, and the family just broke down in tears."

Knight also spent time learning about Japanese culture and sharing gifts with people who had been displaced by the disaster. He said he learned two valuable lessons from the trip. "The main lesson is that no matter how well a society is prepared for disaster, Mother Nature is so powerful, it can still really do significant damage," he said. "The second lesson was about the resiliency of the Japanese people. They were two and a half months into the recovery, and they were just going about it and trying to rebuild infrastructure, trying to move on with their lives."

Like the city of Vancouver, Clark College has a longstanding relationship with Japan. For six years it has hosted a Sakura Festival in honor of the 100 Shirofugen cherry trees donated in 1990 by John Kageyama, who at the time was president of America Kotobuki Electronics (now SEH America). That relationship has been further strengthened by SEH America's sponsoring a new Japanese garden being which will be built on the college's main campus. While in Japan, Knight met with the current president of SEH to personally thank him for his role in making the garden a reality.

"I'd love to bring some college students to Japan to visit one day," Knight said. "We have built meaningful relationships with friends and partners in Japan, and those relationships will continue to grow."





Clockwise from top left: The view from the window of the house Pres. Knight helped salvage; Pres. Knight with his son, Scott, a Clark College alumnus; Scott Knight and others help remove wreckage from a house hit by the tsunami.

The Write Stuff

Mature Learning students unveil new literary anthology

You're never too old to start a writing career, as students of Clark College Corporate & Continuing Education's Mature Learning Creative Writing Program can attest. The work of 28 of these students can be found in *Elderberry Wine, Vintage 2010*, available through the Clark College Bookstore and online at major booksellers' websites, including Amazon.com, Barnes and Noble, and Borders. The authors celebrated their accomplishment at reading and book launch on Friday, June 24, 2011.

The event took place at Columbia Tech Center with approximately 75 people in attendance, including most of the book's authors as well as staff from both Corporate & Continuing Education and the Clark College Foundation. The afternoon featured energetic readings by 16 of the authors, handmade refreshments, book signings, an authors' meet-and-greet, and books available for purchase from the Clark College Bookstore. The readings were also recorded using the Corporate Learning Center's innovative Lecture Capture system.

The 435-page anthology is filled with poetry—from haiku to sonnets—as well as fiction and memoir. The authors developed their writing voices and techniques as students of a Clark College Corporate & Continuing Education creative writing class, which is for students 55 and older. The Mature Learning Program offers classes every quarter, in subjects that include creative writing and the arts. This project has been supported by donors who give to Mature Learning through the Clark College Foundation. In 2009, the program was a recipient of the American Association of Community College's Plus 50 Initiative grant, which showcases best practices and innovative programs that engage 50-plus learners at community colleges nationwide.



Visit Clark College Corporate & Continuing Education's YouTube Channel to see select author readings: <http://www.youtube.com/user/ClarkCollegeCCE>

You can also visit the website below to read each author's biographies: http://www.clark.edu/corporate_continuing_education/mature_learning/ElderberryWineProject.php



Clockwise from top left: Elderberry Wine author and Mature Learning student Sandra Goodwin, center, poses with her proud family; contributors signed copies of the anthology at the event; left to right, Dean of Health Sciences Blake Bowers, Corporate & Continuing Education Program Manager Tracy Reilly Kelly, and Foundation Vice President of Development Ara Serjoie attended the event.

More news from Corporate and Continuing Education:

Catch a profile of Kevin Kussman, Corporate & Continuing Education's new associate vice president, in the next issue of *Clark 24/7* on August 9.

Site Seeing

Tell the Clark College Libraries how their new website stacks up

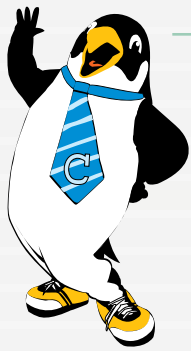
The new **Clark Libraries Website**, still in its testing (beta) phase, includes improved access to familiar resources, plus new features such as:

- subject access to resources
- computers and technology
- study areas and rooms
- live feeds from the library's blogs
- daily updated open hours

The new site will run alongside the current site through Summer quarter 2011, at which time we'll retire the current site.

Check it out and let them know **what you think**.

The screenshot shows the Clark College Libraries website. At the top is the Clark College logo and the text "Clark College Libraries" with the tagline "Connect * Engage * Learn". Below this is a navigation bar with links: home, find, services, about, ask a librarian, my account, quick links, and a search box labeled "Search Site". The main content area has tabs for "Library Catalog", "Summit (36 libraries)", "Online Resources", and "Reserves". A search box is prominently displayed with the text "Search the Library Catalog for books, e-books, videos and more at Clark Libraries:". Below the search box are dropdown menus for "Limit by: All Locations" and "All Material Types", and a "More Search Options" button. To the right, under "Hours & Locations", it says "Today: Monday, July 11, 2011" and lists hours for Cannell Library, iCommons @ CTC, and the Student Learning Center. Below this, it says "June 27 - Aug. 19 (Summer Quarter)". In the center, there's a "News and Events" section with a list of events: "Summer Hours @ Cannell Library", "CTC iCommons and Lab 203 Summer Hours", "Summer quarter 2011", "It's Graduation Day!", and "Special Hours". To the left of this section is a photo of students in a study room with the caption "Check out the iCommons study room and media cart!". To the right is a photo of students with the caption "It's Beta! What do you think of our new website? Let us know!". At the bottom, there are three buttons: "Find All Subjects", "30 Clicks Info", and "Site Feedback". The footer contains a "Donate to the Library" button, contact information for Cannell Library and iCommons @ CTC, and links to "Clark College Home", "Clark College Privacy Policy", "Clark College Non-discrimination Policy", and "staff only". Social media icons for RSS, Twitter, and Facebook are also present.



Penguin Patter

*News about people from
throughout the Penguin Nation!*

WHERE CHILDREN PLAY

Back in 1996, Children & Family Services Director Laurie Cornelius wrote a touching essay about Clark's efforts to create an outdoor play space for the children in its Early Childhood Education program in the first edition of *Reflecting Children's Lives: A Handbook for Planning Child-Centered Curriculum* by Deb Curtis and Margie Carter (Redleaf Press). This March, a new edition of the book was published, and Cornelius got to update her original essay with happy news: In Fall 2010, the college began a three-phase project to build a new facility. The first phase is almost complete, with a grand unveiling scheduled for September 29. The new building and grounds create a welcoming environment, with windows that let in light and views of greenery, and lots of natural materials incorporated into the interior. Outside, the grounds are designed to encourage play and exploration. "My hope is that our play space will continue to evolve into a rich sensory experience where children play, live, and experience the responsibilities that come with being connected to the natural world, a 'spirit of place,'" Cornelius writes in her new afterword. Intrigued? Walk across the Green Lot to CFS and check it out yourself.

BUSY AS BEES

The Hazel Dell School and Community Garden was buzzing with activity on June 2 when 28 Clark College students from Health 100 (along with their instructor, Veronica Brock) swarmed to help upkeep the place. WSU Master Gardeners Bobbi Bellomy and Barbara Nordstrom headed the work session



Clark College Health 100 students, left to right, Randy Kadow, James Mattson, Jayme Motanic spent an afternoon working in the Hazel Dell School and Community Garden.

while students weeded, pruned, spread bark donated by Thomas Family Tree, and planted flowers donated by Sweet Nectar Nursery. By the time these busy bees left, the butterfly/hummingbird garden and vegetable beds were ready for summer. Good job, everyone! It's worth noting, too, that over the last several years Clark students from Service Learning, Food and Your Health, and Health 100 have made an incredible difference in the school garden.

TWO CLICKS!

Have you checked out Clark College's [Facebook](#) page yet? A lot of people have—in fact, the page got its 2000th follower in June. It's a great place to pose questions, start conversations, and post news about upcoming events. In June alone, its posts were viewed 62,558 times. Looks like Penguins aren't afraid of mice!

Upcoming Events

For additional information, see the activities calendar on the Clark College website: www.clark.edu/news_events/college_calendar/ (Unless otherwise noted, all events take place on the Clark College main campus. If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in an event, contact the Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (video phone), or visit Gaiser Hall Room 137.)

PENGUIN ATHLETIC CLUB GOLF TOURNAMENT

Monday, August 29, 2011

Royal Oaks Country Club

More information at [Clark College Athletics Website](#).

WPEA/UFCW Meeting Schedule

WPEA Membership meeting will be held Wednesday, July 20, at 12:00 p.m. in SHL 214.

From the HR Department

SAVE ON GAS—TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE COMMUTE TRIP REDUCTION PROGRAM

Automobiles are one of the most significant sources of air pollution in the Vancouver-Portland metropolitan area. Reducing the number of people who drive to work alone may be the most important and most effective measure we can take to help preserve our environment.

There are a number of ways that Clark College employees can participate in the commute trip reduction program. Most options include the additional feature of a guaranteed ride home:

- Bike riders will find bicycle racks and bike shelters on the main campus. Bike riders may also receive a helmet.

- Walkers are eligible for an umbrella.
- Bus riders are eligible for subsidized transit passes (free for one-zone travel).
- Riders and van poolers are also eligible for the guaranteed ride home.

Other services in support of the commute trip reduction program include personal laundry pick-up and delivery on the main campus and use of lockers on the main campus.

For information about the C-Tran/Clark College bus pass program click on: http://intranet.clark.edu/departments/information/human_resources/c-tran_bus_program.doc

To sign up for the Commute Trip Reduction program feature that meets your commuting needs, contact the Human Resources Office, X2105.

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