Students lend community helping hand

ALEX SPICER
Staff Writer

Whether a student is looking to give back to the community or gain valuable work experience, community service opportunities are available to students through many avenues, said the associate director for the SJSU Center for Community Learning and Leadership.

“A variety of projects are listed on our center for community learning and leadership websites, under community learning opportunities,” Michael Fallon said. “On our websites there are probably 50 different partnerships organizations, agencies and schools where we invite students to go and serve because we have had some presence there, or we feel they can get a meaningful experience there.”

The center’s website states its missions are to promote and develop ways for students to participate in public life “as an informed, conscience and constructive manner, with focus on addressing community problems.”

Fallon said students can participate in different ways in programs that fall under the umbrella of the center, which includes the American Legion Borders program and Project SHINE.

“Project SHINE — Students Helping in the Native Environment program — is project founded to tutor at six different senior centers located downtown, while helping elderly immigrants who speak English as a second language study for their citizenship tests. The Americorps is part of the national service program, and invites students to become part-time members to do 350 hours of service over the course of a year, while earning a living stipend and education award,” he said.

Ronald Coronado, the Project SHINE director, said she began as a student involved in the program before becoming the coordinator.

“I fell in love with what I was doing, so I volunteered to become a coordinator,” she said.

Coronado said that it took them about three months to come up with the project with the opportunity to tutor at six different senior centers located downtown, while helping elderly immigrants who speak English as a second language study for their citizenship tests.

“It’s really interesting,” said Coronado.

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“Th e festival is held annually as an opportunity for media arts students to gather in one place and participate in work-sessions, contests and rec- eive awards,” Pat Lepus Har- ris said.

She said the film was di- rected by senior animation/ illustration majors Kemohpi Knoll and Yum-Han Chang.

Knoll said that it took about three months to come up with the final script since she and Chang had such dif- ferent ideas.

“We would meet with the teachers and they would give us advice,” she said. “We drew storyboards after we wrote our script and from the

He said America is strug- gling with health issues, and this exhibit shows how the body works and how to pre- vent certain diseases.

“You are what you eat,” she said.

“Th e body works and how to prevent certain diseases,” she said.

Her favorite part of the exhibit was the smoker’s lung.

“My uncle is a chain smoker, so it is kind of scary to see how bad your lungs can be just by smoking,” she said.

“No Robots” is part of the national service program, and invites students to become part-time members to do 350 hours of service over the course of a year, while earning a living stipend and education award, he said.

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“Th is is the world premiere of this exhibit,” said Roqua Montez, director of public re- lations at the Tech Museum. “It will be here in San Jose until Jan. 31, then we will de- termine from there if we want to extend the date.”

Bones, muscles and veins are all on display for visitors walking through the Body Worlds Vital exhibit at the Tech Museum in downtown San Jose.

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“...There is also a good learning expe-
rience,” he said. “We talked about how all of the
work was going to be organized and that we should have
nothing to show. This project not only gave us a u-
standing in animation, and I feel very happy about
it.”

Knoll said that the animation tracks were
very different from the other courses he had
taken because of the animation class. “I
thought that animation was going to be
very difficult, but it was actually quite
easy.”

She said that the animation class was
more challenging than the other courses
she had taken because of the technical skills
required. “I think animation is a very dif-
ficult medium to work with.”

Knoll said that he enjoyed his experi-
ence in animation because he was able
to work on a project that was very personal
to him. “I really enjoyed being able to
express myself through animation.”

Knoll said that he would recommend
the animation class to anyone who is inter-
ested in learning more about animation.
“...It was a very important part of my
education in animation.”

Knoll said that he would like to work
on more animation projects in the future.
“...I would definitely like to work on more
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Knoll said that he was looking forward
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Since the age of 21, African-American history has been the passion of Steven Millner, an African-American studies professor at SJSU. "I’ve been a professor at San Jose State, this is my year No. 30," he said. "I also taught at Santa Clara, University and the University of Mississippi."

Millner said his journey to study African-American studies at a university was very difficult because he is a person of color and it was a time in history when college students were forcefully drafted into the Vietnam War.

"It was very difficult coming to San Jose State in the late '60s because this was a very hostile atmosphere for people like me," he said. "I was determined that I was going to stay in college. I was not going to go 11,000 miles to Mississippi as long as I could, but I was committed to San Jose State."

Millner also went on to become a social historian trained in sociology and graduate with a focus on elements of America's past and the challenges they will encounter as they become more mature adults," he said. "They were less than 10 Chicano, 150 black students and there were virtually no Asian-Americans either. So this was really a white campus in many respects when I arrived."

However, Millner said he didn’t let the challenges of life shatter his dreams of graduating from a university. He graduated from SJSU with a bachelor’s degree in sociology.

"I’m a social historian trained in sociology and it’s a challenge to get through a variety of things to accomplish my goals, but I still have a lot that I would like to share with students," Millner said.

"It’s inevitable," he said. "It’s going to be very difficult because I still feel fairly vigorous and I still have a lot that I would like to share with students.

"Retirement is a crisis in a human beings’ life. If someone is going to be a crisis for me, I approach every class as if it might be my last, so I try to grow all the way to the end. That’s pretty much how I’ve been all my career."
Study tips for finals:

As finals approach, students may find themselves feeling at a loss for what to do as they juggle term papers and projects with the need to study for exams.

Here are tips from teachers to help ease the strain:

- Sometimes what students neglect to do is go over previous quizzes or previous testing material that was given throughout the semester so they can try to figure out what they got right and wrong,” said Portuguese Lecturer Deolinda Adao.
- "Please sleep well and eat enough protein and good nutrition,” said anthropology Lecturer Annapurna Pandey. “I advise them (students) to go over all the review questions that they are given by their instructors and spend a lot of time reading and preparing for the exam. They should take their exam seriously and give their best. The more confident you are going to do."
- "It's really good advice to study and then go to sleep,” said Carolyn Glogoski, an associate professor for the occupational therapy department. “Because information moves from the short-term memory into long-term memory, a student will do better if he or she stayed up an hour after hour. Studying — togetherness. (Create) a test for themselves and have a friend do it and then switch positions so they can put themselves in the testing position while they're taking it. That way, they will be able to see what someone else thinks. Then they can also teach their friend or group of friends and then if they're teaching then they will know the material as well."
- Flashcards and summary sheets really work, because then you're condensing the information and putting it in your own words when you write it down — that way you really understand it a lot better."

Disability Resource Center also has some advice on its website for taking final exams:
- Read all the directions on the exam slowly and carefully. Underline key terms and steps in the instructions and in the exam questions.
- Answer the easiest questions first — this builds your confidence and triggers your memory. It reduces your anxiety and facilitates clear thinking.
- Underline key terms and steps in the instructions and in the exam slowly and carefully. If you are not sure what to do as you juggle term papers and projects with the need to study for exams, you. Work at your own pace and see all the time allotted. Do not worry when others finish before you.
- Attempt every question. If there are various types of questions, start with multiple choice first. They warn you up and have ideas in the choices which might help in the exam. They warm you up in the exam position while they're studying and taking the test, the better you are going to do."

Information compiled by: Sonia Ayala

SASHA

KELSEY

Junior Mechanical engineering

Meeting teachers for office hours. Meeting with groups and working with teams. Studying — hour after hour.

TAKU

SASHA

Junior Physics

Just the regular reading assignments. I do not do anything special, just a lot of reading. I'm an exchange student, so I'm mostly just doing fun classes.

WANG JUN

Junior civil engineering

Mostly just going over my notes for my classes. There's a lot of textbook work. For most of my classes it's just notes.

CHERRY

WONG

Senior Chemical engineering

A lot of time in the Engineering building and a lot of time in my office doing practice problems, going to see professors, which is what I'm doing here.

MACKIEN HIEW

Senior Mechanical engineering

I am working on a NEHR simulation project for my radio class. That's due next Tuesday. Studying an hour a day for my final. My final is the last week of the semester.

JAN CHOPIN

Senior Occupational therapy

I haven't started studying yet for my final. I generally make cue cards and then go through those over and over again. I still sit down with friends.

BY: KRISTEN PEARSON

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Information compiled by: Sonia Ayala
The Blue and Gold exhibition meet against Stanford University on Sunday will start off the new season for the SJSU women’s gymnastics team.

“One main goal is making sure the kids stay healthy and stay focused and doing what they need to do,” said head coach Wayne Wright. He said the event will give the team the opportunity to show off the hard work they have put into practice this past summer.

“We’ve been preparing doing floor routines for a good month, which we have never really done in the past,” junior Katie Valleau said. “Stanford will be there, so it will be good to see how we can compare to them since they are a good rival from the Bay Area.”

Valleau said the team has a lot more depth this season with more people capable of competing in each event — if the team has injuries or sickness they can switch out people.

Wright said the team has welcomed three freshmen girls who will bring something different to the events they will compete in.

“We’re looking for them to come in and have an immediate impact on the team in helping us with what we want to achieve this year,” he said. “The team is looking really good and I was really impressed with our preseason training this past couple of weeks.”

Freshman Julia Greer, who was previously from Mission Valley YMCA gymnastics club in San Diego, said there are major differences between club gymnastics and competing at the collegiate level.

“Club is different because it is so individual and it is all about you — you get to do everything,” Greer said. “But now as a team it is way different because you depend on everyone else and not just yourself. If you mess up it is bad.”

Greer said the experience may be different but she enjoys her time with the team regardless of the intense practices.

Wright said the preseason training helped the girls overcome some minor injuries and lit a fire within the team to show everyone what it can do.

“Beam can pretty much make or break teams ... Last year we weren’t really deep on beam, but we spent a little more time on it. Now we’re really sold on beam this year...”

WAYNE WRIGHT
Head Coach

Junior Samantha Wong runs into her tumbling pass on the floor exercise during Monday’s practice.

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Classes begin Monday, January 3, 2011.

www.winter.sjsu.edu

Spartans to flip into new season at home exhibiton
Holiday tech: the gift that keeps upgrading

Our reporters review the perfect gift items for the gadget geek in us all

Gifts for the Obsessive Gamer

Games can be tough cookies to shop for, especially if the holiday shopper isn’t so intense about sifting in front of a screen as the person they have a gift in mind for, so here’s some holiday suggestions for the obsessive gamer in your life.

Xbox 360 Kinect

Kinect for the Xbox 360 is Microsoft’s newest piece of technology, a motion sensor that turns your body into the controller, placing players into the action and offering a new dimension of video gaming.

The Kinect is looking to be a popular holiday item and Microsoft is looking to gain the attention of gamers by offering a device that combines cameras and microphones to capture a wide range of body motions and sound that translates into actual gameplay.

The Kinect unit retails for $149.99 alone, or can be purchased in a bundle with the brand new 4GB Xbox 360 starting at $299.99.

Don’t forget to pick up “Dance Central” for a Christmas morning dance party via Kinect.

Gran Turismo 5

The acclaimed magnum opus of driving simulators was finally released on the PS3 after five years in development.

Fans of the series know what to expect from a Gran Turismo game, and GT5 delivers, offering the almost ludicrous amount of realistic customizability that has become synonymous with the franchise since its first iteration on the PlayStation 1.

GT5 retains the photorealistic graphics that have become a series hallmark, and the game allows you to build and drive the car of your dreams without paying the cost of an arm and a leg they realistically retail for.

DSi XL

The DSi retails for $150, which might not be a justifiable purchase for someone who already owns a DS.

The DSi XL is the fourth iteration of Nintendo’s DS series of handhelds, and is the perfect gift for a gamer who isn’t afraid to carry around an oversized video game handheld.

The DSi XL offers all the same features as the DSi, which includes two cameras and more multimedia features such as Internet connectivity and access to social media such as Facebook.

The main draw of the DSi XL is its larger screen, which allows for greater viewing angles in the event there are multiple people using the device.

The DSi retails for $150, which might not be a justifiable purchase for someone who already owns a DS.

Rock Band 3

Rock Band 3 can turn a stale holiday family gathering into a raging Slipknot concert with nothing but the well-developed ingenuity of a polished rhythm game and some plastic instruments.

The game introduces the keyboard — a first for the genre — offering some enjoyable possibilities for armchair musicians, although it seems like they could’ve included more keyboard-supported tracks for the game.

If you’re a fan of the series, chances are you have some instruments already so the game can be purchased in a bundle with just the keyboard for $130.

Fallout: New Vegas

If you’re itching to escape reality, sink into the post apocalyptic wasteland of Fallout: New Vegas, the latest take on the expansive, open-world, role-playing universe of Fallout available on PC, Xbox 360 and PS3.

New Vegas is the perfect gift for the gamer with a lot of time on his or her hands, featuring hours upon hours of exploration and eerie moments while conversing with locals and exploring the wastes of the Mojave Desert.

Though not every gamer’s cup of tea, the world of Fallout offers some gratifying experiences if one can get past the density of the experience.

GoldenEye 007

The legendary multiplayer of Nintendo 64 fame has received a rework and is back in action on the Wii, so gamers can jump into the shoes of Agent 007 and begin gunning down Russian Ultranationalists in no time.

Don’t forget to pick up “Dance Central” for a Christmas morning dance party via Kinect.

The DSi retails for $150, which might not be a justifiable purchase for someone who already owns a DS.

The Xbox 360 Kinect is Microsoft’s first foray into motion sensor gaming and the high tech camera is shaping up to be a hot holiday item.

The tech holiday buyers guide continues on Page 7.
Gifts for the Aspiring Photographer

DONOVAN FARNHAM
Senior Staff Writer

If you’re looking for the few ideas for the aspiring photographer in your life and you’re ready for gift ideas then consider these gift ideas for the 2010 holiday season.

iPod and iPhone

If you’re shopping for someone that wants to add flair and style to photos shot on their iPhone in the sea of mediocre photo apps than add flair and style to photos shot on their iPhone in the sea of mediocre photo apps then a consider these gift ideas for the aspiring photographer in your life and you’re looking for a great gift for the person who has everything. The iPod allows you to read ebooks, watch movies, listen to music and browse the internet in a great size.

Two dollars, an aspiring photographer gets a program that has a range of filters that makes a generic iPhone photo looks as if they’ve been taken with a cheap, plastic camera made in the ‘70s and ‘80s. The gift might seem like a cheesy idea but the eight filters are perfect for the initial purchase will add a bit of style when uploaded to Facebook and Twitter. The downside of the app is the digital view-finder is a fraction of the iPhone’s screen while the rest is mocked up to look like the back of a camera. It’s a good idea to have a retro-style but it should at least have an option to switch to the full-screen view-finder.

Olympus PEN cameras

Our photographers that are looking to graduate from the traditional point-and-shoot — the type of camera used for the Kodak Zi8’s— are excited to make the jump to a new camera. The PEN cameras range from $500 to $900, which isn’t cheap for a glorified point-and-shoot but they offer comparable features to the DSLR. The PEN cameras offer a wide-screen format and could result in iPad-smashing syndrome.

The Kodak Zi8

If you’re considering a Flip Camera, don’t buy it. The Kodak Zi8s are able to shoot in 1080p resolution, and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera. The camera has a wide-screen format and could replace the flip-camera.
 Teachers need to keep their hands to themselves.

What was obvious to me was probably obvious to him, but he kept his composure and was professional even as the female student body swooned over him. He laughed and joked with all the students, but outside of school he knew not to cross the line. There was no way any student could form a close friendship — let alone a romance — let alone a romance with him.

A number of teachers got caught up in the attention of their students and indulged themselves in private relationships — even taking it as far as having sex with their students.

Twenty -year- -old science teacher Jennifer Ranzi resigned from her job in October, a month before giving birth to a son, according to ABC News. What was obvious to me was probably obvious to him, but he kept his composure and was professional even as the female student body swooned over him. He laughed and joked with all the students, but outside of school he knew not to cross the line. There was no way any student could form a close friendship — let alone a romance — let alone a romance with him.

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Give children the American DREAM

By the end of this month, I will no longer be a student at San Jose State University. I will be moving from Union City, some 30 miles from SJSU. This is the final appearance of “Humor Me.” This is a new beginning for me, a chance to make this move and find a career. I essentially feel like I’m going into exile to find a career. I’m not excited for this move, I will be more than three years, I will be more than three years old my parents, in the middle of nowhere. Allow me to put things into perspective. For 24 years, I lived in Union City, a city that is overshadowed both in size and reputation by its neighboring booming cities of Fremont and Hayward. For the last year, I’ve re-realized downtown here in San Jose, a city so large and grand in scale I’ve yet to be able to experience everything it has to offer. And then there’s sleepy little Kelseyville. Kelseyville, Calif., had an estimated population of 2,328 in 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau website. Although I love my home, Kelseyville is situated, only has an estimated 63,279 people living there as of 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau website. My hometown has more people in it than all of Lake County. After growing up in the suburbs and living in a major city for a year, I’m moving into my parents’ new home, in which they have settled as retirees, in the middle of nowhere. Words cannot even express how humbled I am to be moving to this semi-isolated place. Being in downtown San Jose for a year has gotten me used to walking around to get to spots after I was used to driving around to get anywhere in Union City. Now I’ll have to again get to places because my parents’ house is on the side of Mount Konocte, a dormant volcano that overlooks Clear Lake. What I’m really unhappy about missing out on is shopping in downtown San Jose. I essentially feel like I’m going into exile to save some money and use all my free time to focus on my future. But I have to look at the bright side of things. This is a new beginning for me, a chance to start fresh and build a complete life. The air in Kelseyville is so much more clean and fresh than the air I’m used to around the Bay Area, something I will thoroughly enjoy and the fresh air will help motivate me to get outside more and stop staying inside. Numerous wineries line the lake, and I plan to make many visits to them to buy wine and buy some of the excellent wine Lake County produces. It will be awesome to have home-cooked meals again and be able to hang out with my parents and my silly little dog, Cleo. But it isn’t home, and I don’t have any friends here. This is a stepping stone to finding a place to call home and field and making the life I’ve always planned for myself. We move to make that effort and reach for that proverbial brass ring on the merry-go-round of life. It sucks that I have to be 150 miles north of everyone I care about, but I have to leave this country, which I have belonged for so long.

Kevin Hume

This is the final appearance of “Humor Me.” Kevin Hume is the Spartan Daily Multimedia Editor.
Deck the halls with the merriest gifts

- Kimchi Blue French Dress from Urban Outfitters
- Chanel Quilted Leather Bicycle at Sybarites
- The Lost Beatles Photographs: The Bob Bonis Archive, 1964...
- Clarisonic Skincare Brush
- Mad Men Illustrated World By Dyna Moe
- Coco Mademoiselle Chanel perfume
- Inception (Three-Disc Blu-ray/DVD Combo)
- Apple - The new iPod nano with Multi-Touch
- Global Concrete Culture - The Wilson Coat in Gray Tweed
- Gold Gym's Dance Workout for Wii
- Peppermint Bark, Set of 2 from Williams-Sonoma
- N.Y.L.A. 'Sheen' Over the Knee Boot

4th Street Pizza rises to the occasion

A small pizza parlor lies a block away from the SJSU campus, hidden in the shadow of San Jose City Hall. As the name suggests, 4th Street Pizza Co. sits on the corner of Fourth and Santa Clara streets, providing students with an alternate choice to the more mainstream restaurants nestled around the perimeter of campus. As I stepped out of the rain and into a warm, dimly lit and relatively small restaurant, I immediately forgot I had just trudged a couple of wet blocks to get there.

The restaurant was fairly quiet — I was there in the middle of the afternoon — but it had evidence of a more raucous atmosphere during the evenings or on game days, based on the flat-screen televisions lining the walls and the bar awaiting its tender.

Sport-themed trinkets and memorabilia hang along the walls and despite its somewhat dark mood, it has a relaxing quality about it. The prices were a little higher than I had anticipated: $3.25 for a slice of pizza and $12.95 for a small specialty. Increasing pizza size to medium and large raises the price in about $5 intervals.

In addition to pizza, the restaurant has two bars — one serving alcohol, the other salad.

In the spirit of following the 4th Street theme, I opted for a small pizza called 'The 4th Street,' which was topped with pepperoni, smoked ham, salami, red onion, bell peppers, black olives, mushrooms, Italian sausage and smoked bacon.

The pizza tasted as good as it looked. The meat-to-vegetable ratio was in perfect harmony, and the array of colors, flavors and textures topping the pizza made it enjoyable. My only gripe would be that the crust was too big, but even that comes down to personal tastes and a thin crust pizza can be ordered instead of thick crust.

Despite being what the restaurant called a small pizza, it was of adequate size to properly fill up one or even two people. I went into the 4th Street Pizza Co. hungry and still left with a few slices of pizza. The service was very friendly, and they even offered to keep the slices of pizza my friend had ordered warm while we waited for my pizza in the oven.

Overall, 4th Street Pizza Co. is a relaxing spot to meet up with an old friend for lunch, or for those who want to have fun. The restaurant gets busy during the evenings — especially since there are different events and discounts every night of the week.

If you’re looking for a new place to mix up the usual student routine and have not already been to the 4th Street Pizza Co., it’s definitely worth checking out. However, if you’re on a student budget, you might want to hold off until the evening when pizza and drinks are cheaper.

ALEX SPICER
Staff Writer