December 11, 2000 Newsletter from President Margie Lewis

**THIS WEEK**

12 • Tuesday  
> NOCCCD Board meeting, DEC, 5:30 p.m.

14 • Thursday  
> mALL, Campus Theater, 8 p.m.

15 • Friday  
> mALL, Campus Theater, 8 p.m.

16 • Saturday  
> Holiday Fanfare – A Jubilant Song, Campus Theater, 7:30 p.m.

17 • Sunday  
> Holiday Fanfare – A Jubilant Song, Campus Theater, 3 p.m.

21 • Thursday  
> Last day of Fall 2000 semester.

22 • Friday  
> College closed.

**HOLIDAY GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

**Dr. Lewis offers holiday wishes and praise to Cypress College employees.**

As the year 2000 draws to a close and we enter this time of celebration, I want to wish everyone at Cypress College “Happy Holidays.”

Thank you for what you have done this year to help our students achieve their goals. Thank you, too, for your hard work, your commitment, and your support.

Much of our strength as an institution lies in the fact that each of you is a “star” in your own way and yet we are all part of a team, a learning community dedicated to student success.

Regardless of how you celebrate the season, may you enjoy the fellowship of family and friends and may you find time for relaxation and renewal.

I look forward to seeing you again in the new year.

**Hey! Who Turned the Lights Out? CA Power Problem Hits Hard**

All the hoopla about Y2K came and went without so much as a bat of an eyelash at the turn of the year. Still, one of the predictions – of a massive electrical system failure – has come to pass, even though it’s unrelated to the “millennium bug.”

For a wide variety of reasons – including power generators being closed for refurbishment or to avoid violating smog-production limits – California has experienced a severe electrical power shortage this year. Since July, Cypress College alone has been forced to severely curtail power usage on more than a dozen occasions. As a result, we are facing increased electricity costs of over $100,000.

According to Nancy Byrnes, vice president of Educational Support and Planning, we may be in for many more power interruptions. We will not cancel classes, but we must conserve energy. Please turn off lights when you leave a room or office. If you’re going to be away from your computer for more than an hour, it should be shut down to save energy.

Whenever power interruptions occur, deans or their designees will go through buildings turning off lights and copiers and asking faculty and staff to turn off any computers that are not providing direct instructional support to students. Staff in computer labs are asked to turn off any computers that students are not using.

In the midst of this crisis, it is up to all of us to be responsive and work as a team to conserve power. Thanks to all in advance.

**Payroll Department Looking for Updated Info for Tax Forms**

The Payroll Department is currently in the process of preparing the 2000 Form W2 Wage and Tax Statement. The Form W2 is required by Federal and State agencies as an annual report of your federal and state wages, along with other tax information. It is also used by the Social Security Administration as a verification document to ensure individuals are properly credited for future Social Security and Medicare benefits.

In order to report the most accurate information, please take a moment to verify your name, address and social security number printed on your most recent paycheck stub. If you find any discrepancies, notify the Payroll Department in writing of the changes needed.

The Social Security Administration regards names and social security numbers as “critical links” connecting your W-2 data to your lifetime earnings record.

If your name has recently changed, the District will continue to use your old name until you have obtained a new social security card with your new name. Information on obtaining a new card is available from the Payroll Department.

Your 2000 Form W-2 will be mailed to the address listed on your paycheck stub no later than January 31, 2001.

When you receive your 2000 Form W-2, keep it in a safe place. If you misplace it, you may request a copy in writing or come into the District Payroll Office to fill out the Replacement for Lost W-2 Form.
ServSafe Certificate to be Offered in Culinary Arts

Cypress College, home to one of the most-respected Culinary Arts programs in the region, is now offering the National Restaurant Association’s ServSafe Food Safety Certificate course.

California state law requires every food-service operator to have one in-house certified food handler per establishment. The new Cypress College course prepares food industry employees for the ServSafe Food Safety examination. The certification exam occurs at the end of the second class.

The nine-hour course will be offered during two consecutive Tuesday evenings, with the first session scheduled for February 6 and 13, 2001, from 5:30-10 p.m. The second class offering is March 13 and 20, at the same time.

Corporate on-site training is available with a guaranteed minimum of 20 students. The course can also be taught in Spanish.

Holiday Fanfare Concert on December 16 and 17

The Cypress Masterworks Chorale, Camerata, Star Carolers & the Festival Brass under the direction of Dr. Sheridan Ball present “Holiday Fanfare: A Jubilant Song” on Saturday, December 16, at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, December 17, at 3 p.m.

The program features guest appearances by choirs from Cypress High School, under the direction of Matthew Gray, on Saturday and Los Alamitos High School, under the direction of Randi Carp, on Sunday.

As in years past, the audience will be invited to join the Star Carolers in singing several traditional holiday selections and, as part of the 25th Anniversary Season, Cypress Choral Alumni will be invited to join the singers on stage for a performance of the Hallelujah Chorus.

Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling (714) 995-4832. General admission is $8 with discount seats available for groups of 10 or more, senior citizens, students and children under 12 years.

Alice Tuan’s Original ‘mALL’ Closes This Weekend

This week brings an end to the West-Coast premier of Alice Tuan’s original play, titled “mALL.”

“mALL” opened in the Campus Theater on December 8 and closes with performances on Thursday and Friday, December 14 and 15 at 8 p.m. Tuan – a performer and playwright known for her work in Seattle, New York and Los Angeles – is serving as a professional playwright in residence this semester in the Theater and Dance Department.

“mALL” concerns the American mall at Christmas. It becomes a modern-day Cathedral where shoppers gather to enact the private and public rituals of shopping. This world of consumer frenzy becomes transformed when the great Eastern and Western philosophers resurrect themselves and open up a shop to dispense their wisdom with comic and unforeseen results while a reconfigured Buddhist Santa, Shinran Claus, chants endless compassion to frantic shoppers seeking salvation.

“mALL” is directed by Cypress College student Eddie Eien.

For tickets, call ext. 47200.

Facilities Work to be Done on Campus During Break

It’s beginning to look a lot like work for the Maintenance and Operations staff and their contractors.

During the break: new carpet will be installed in the library, Business 203, and Student Activities; Pads will be reupholstered in the weight room; automatic doors will be installed in CE-8 and Admissions and Records; renovations will take place in Humanities lecture halls, the Fine Arts Recital Hall, Food Services and on the softball field; telecommunications will be tested in Humanities and Student Activities; and the campus will get spruced up with tree trimming, shampooing of carpet and waxing of floors in public areas and asphalt repair in the parking lots.