



MJC Reflection

December 14, 2012

The campus has been very quiet this week as faculty and students are focused on finals. The finish of finals week is what really moves me into the holiday season and sparks my attention to Christmas shopping. There are lots of things remaining on my holiday to do list and I look forward to being part of the spirited late start shoppers! On a personal note, it was a difficult week as our family began to adjust to my mom's diagnosis of high grade cancer. Additionally, two special dogs were bid good bye. So, the quotes today celebrate the lives of bulldog Louie and doxie Zoe who remain in our hearts.

Supporting our community – The MJC CARE program students exceeded their 10,000 can goal by collecting **11,570** non-perishable food items that were distributed to five local associations that will distribute the food to those in need. The CARE students and staff did a fantastic job with their second annual canned food drive and are making a positive difference in our community.

Grants awarded – Fourteen grants for professional development were awarded to faculty and staff of MJC for spring 2013. These grants are funded by a federal Title V grant that supports professional development by covering the costs of registration and travel. The MJC Foundation also recently awarded grants for special projects proposed by faculty and staff. These grant funding opportunities have enabled MJC to engage in professional growth and innovation during the midst of the extended budget difficulties. I look forward to sharing information about the projects and conferences funded by Title V and the MJC Foundation soon.

Nursing news – On Thursday, 42 students were honored at the CNA Pinning Ceremony. The ceremony marks successful completion of the academic requirements for becoming Certified Nursing Assistants. Send positive thoughts their way on Saturday when the students will be taking the Red Cross Nurse Assistant Competency Certification Exam. Also in the CNA area, Instructor Tonya Robinson deserves recognition and thanks for her initiative to secure funding from the Arthur N. Rupe Foundation in support of the CNA course. Thanks to generous funding from the Rupe Foundation, 45 students will have the opportunity to enroll in Nurse Assistant 40 in Spring 2013.

I wish you the most joyous of holiday seasons. May you be surrounded by those most precious to you and find peace in quiet moments.

The great pleasure of a dog is that you may make a fool of yourself with him and not only will he not scold you, but he will make a fool of himself too.

Samuel Butler

A dog is the only thing on earth that loves you more than you love yourself.

Josh Billings