

# THE GATEWAY



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KAISER PERMANENTE®

## Santa Rosa

A PUBLICATION FOR EMPLOYEES AND PHYSICIANS

### January PEACH Somlith is the best of the best!

Employees from the Family Medicine department were thrilled to hear that the January PEACH Award went to their very own **Masto Somlith**, RN. The PEACH committee had received numerous nominations for Masto, and at a January FMS staff meeting it all paid off!

“At first, I was overwhelmed by it all,” said Masto. “I was delighted and taken by surprise to be awarded the PEACH.”

One thing that comes across immediately about Masto is his positive personality and warm smile.

“It’s important to love your job and the people you work with,” he said. “We have a top-notch crew here, and it gives me positive energy to do what I do.”

Masto has been with Kaiser Permanente since 2002, and his colleagues offered these (and many more) words of praise for him.

“We can always count on Masto to go above and beyond to provide the best possible patient care,” said a co-worker. “Masto is a true team player; he is the best of the best!” And “Masto puts patients at ease with his friendly and approachable manner.”

So what keeps Masto’s smile on his face? He says his happiness comes from his partner of 13 years. He also says he loves eating, walking his dogs, and photography.

Congratulations Masto!



Masto Somlith

### Come by the Gift Shop!

After a two-month refurbishment, the Gift Shop has re-opened! Make sure to drop in and see the new look as well as new merchandise. The volunteers in the Gift Shop are eager to greet you and help you with your shopping needs.

“The Gift Shop is so much more inviting,” said **Corrine Lorenzen**, Volunteer Services Department manager. “It has enhanced our hospital lobby and people can now ‘window shop’ even when the Gift Shop is not open.”

The large steel roll-up door was replaced in the recent construction with glass windows and doors. It’s much more inviting, warm, and friendly.

New items in the store include the Laurel Burch line and other local products ranging from scented lotions to cooking ingredients.

All proceeds generated from the Gift Shop are used for patient amenities such as flat screen televisions for all inpatient rooms, transport chairs, red wagons, tea service for new moms, fabric

### Take Note:

**Palliative Care Day** will be Friday, Mar. 5, from, 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. in MOB East E3-E5. This free event is hosted by our SRO Palliative Care Team and is open to all KP SRO medical center staff and providers.

Topics will include pain and symptom management, issues in comfort care, psychosocial issues in palliative care, and spiritual issues and self care. CEUs are offered and refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to 8-442-3869 by Feb. 26.

**Reminder – Flu vaccination or vaccine declination form required of all NCAL employees by January 31, 2010.** All NCAL employees, both health care workers and non-health care workers, are now required to either obtain seasonal and H1N1 influenza vaccinations **or** complete and sign an Influenza Vaccine Declination form. Declination forms are available on Inside KP’s Flu News You Can Use page, see <http://insidekp.kp.org/ncal/portal/>.

Compliance with this policy is a condition of employment or association with KP. Please check with you manager for more information.

**2010 Community Benefit Grant Program** Kaiser Permanente Santa Rosa is pleased to announce its 2010 Community Benefit Grant Program. Each year, Kaiser Permanente provides funds to community organizations and government entities to improve the health of the communities we serve. Kaiser Santa Rosa has identified priority health and social needs that impact the lives of vulnerable populations through a community needs assessment that is conducted every three years. These priorities provide the basis for the Kaiser Permanente Marin / Sonoma Community Benefit Program and guide the distribution of Kaiser Permanente Santa Rosa Medical Center contributions to the community.

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For 2010, the Marin Sonoma Community Benefit Program is requesting that Letters of Interest (LOI) be submitted for organizations interested in applying for grant funding. The range of grants this year is \$5,000 - \$20,000. Letters of Interest are accepted through February 1, 2010.

We look forward to working with you to improve the health of our communities. Please contact Andrea Michelsen, Community Benefit Manager, (707) 571-3867 or Myrna Rivas, Community Benefit Specialist, (707) 571-3846.

### Go Red for Women!

Circle **Friday, Feb. 5th** in red on your calendars. That's the day Kaiser Permanente will join with the American Heart Association (AHA) in the fight against heart disease by supporting "**Wear Red Day.**" We encourage everyone to participate by wearing red to work on February 5th as a way to raise awareness that heart disease is the number one killer of women in America.

We are proud to continue our relationship with the AHA in the fight against this deadly but often preventable disease. Wear Red Day is a chance for us to not only acknowledge, but also educate ourselves and our patients about this devastating disease. We can all make choices today to live heart healthy lives.

To learn more about the national cause to increase awareness and help women reduce their risk of heart disease, visit [www.GoRedForWomen.org](http://www.GoRedForWomen.org).

Thank you for your participation and support!

## Please welcome new employees



(left to right): **Cindy Collins**, Med/Surg, **Alicia Ballantyne**, Continuity of Care, **Rose Buechler**, Occ Med, **Adrienne Amundsen**, Labor and Delivery, **Kristin Aharonian**, Med/Surg, **Erin Byrn**, Ob/Gyn



(left to right): **Michelle Kangas**, Maternal Child, **Linda Elliot**, Ob/Gyn, **Christina Dilks**, ED, **Katie Fore**, FMS, **Vanessa Karitanos**, Lab, **Kathleen Kendall**, Health Ed



(left to right): **Christine Mielock**, Nursing Admin, **Imelda Rubio**, Med/Surg, **Nicole Quinto**, Lab, **Claudia Mendoza**, FMS, **Karla Malvino**, Labor and Delivery, **Bruce Koepp**, Lab, **Vanessa Renovato**, Chronic Pain

### Come by the Gift Shop! – continued from page 1

for breast cancer pillows, yarn for baby hats, "Thrive" t-shirts for new babies, and much more.

With the help of our wonderful volunteers, our Gift Shop is open daily from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Come and see our new look!



Volunteers shown left to right are **Hilda Metz**, **Betty Rhoades**, **Jacqueline Kemp**, **Charlotte Robbins**, **Peggy Martin** and **Joan Galindo**.

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