



The Peralta Retiree

From the President...

by Jerry Herman, PRO President

Get Me To Woodminster On Time

“My Fair Lady” has always been one of my favorite musicals. It not only has some of the most memorable songs of musical theater, but to this old English instructor, what could be better than a story about the power of language? Make no mistake, below the sparkling musical surface is George Bernard Shaw’s insightful drama, “Pygmalion,” about how the use and misuse of language can change lives. Fine music, clever lyrics, and thoughtful drama – what a trifecta!

The best news is that “My Fair Lady” is the Woodminster production that PRO has chosen for its annual theater party in the splendid outdoor amphitheater high in the Oakland hills. Plan to be there on Friday, August 5. See details on page 3. It’s always been a great event and promises to be even better this year.

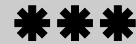
Farewell Shirley, Welcome Anna

Shirley Timm, affectionately known as Mac, a founding member of PRO and our treasurer, is stepping down from the office she has held since PRO’s inception six years ago. The PRO Board will miss Mac’s candor and her commitment to her principles. When Mac felt the board was straying from its mission, she would let us know it bluntly and keep us honest. We wish her well in her activities with the Civil Air Patrol, a life-long passion, and in whatever other activities she chooses to undertake.

Anna Pavelka-Lodato, longtime business instructor at Laney, will become PRO’s new treas-

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Upcoming PRO Events



**PRO Theater Party at
Woodminster Amphitheater**

My Fair Lady

Friday, August 5

Details on Page 3



PRO's Annual Picnic

Thursday, September 8

Details on Page 5

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Shirley ‘Mac’ Timm Leaves PRO Board

Shirley ‘Mac’ Timm has served as PRO’s treasurer since the organization was founded. She is leaving the Board for personal reasons that involve her commitments to the Civil Air Patrol and other activities.



Mac started at Laney in Feb 1969 as the sixth academic instructor – and taught Biology, Math, Health Ed, Sanitation, Medical Terminology and several other related subjects the first couple of years.

As the Biology department expanded, she served as the department chairman, in addition to teaching Biology, from the early 70s until 1989. In 1989 she became the District Energy Coordinator responsible for obtaining a \$350,000 grant from the US Department of Energy, and implementing it to upgrade lighting and modifying other high electrical use equipment. Shortly thereafter she was appointed as the Assistant Director of the Physical Plant for the District, where she remained until she retired in 1989.

Anna Pavelka-Lodato New Treasurer

Anna Pavelka-Lodato has joined the PRO Board as the organization’s treasurer.



Anna is an alumnus of UC Berkeley. She worked as a Peralta employee for 38 years – seven years were as a classified employee and 31 years as an instructor in the Laney College Business Department.

Her first certificated position involved developing, recruiting, assessing, training and job placement for the accelerated job training program in Office Technology for blind and sighted students at Laney College.

After several years in the accelerated program, she

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Peralta Retirees Organization

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El Cerrito, CA 94530
<http://www.peraltaretirees.org>

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Volume 7 Number 4

Welcome New Members

PRO welcomes the following retirees who have recently joined.

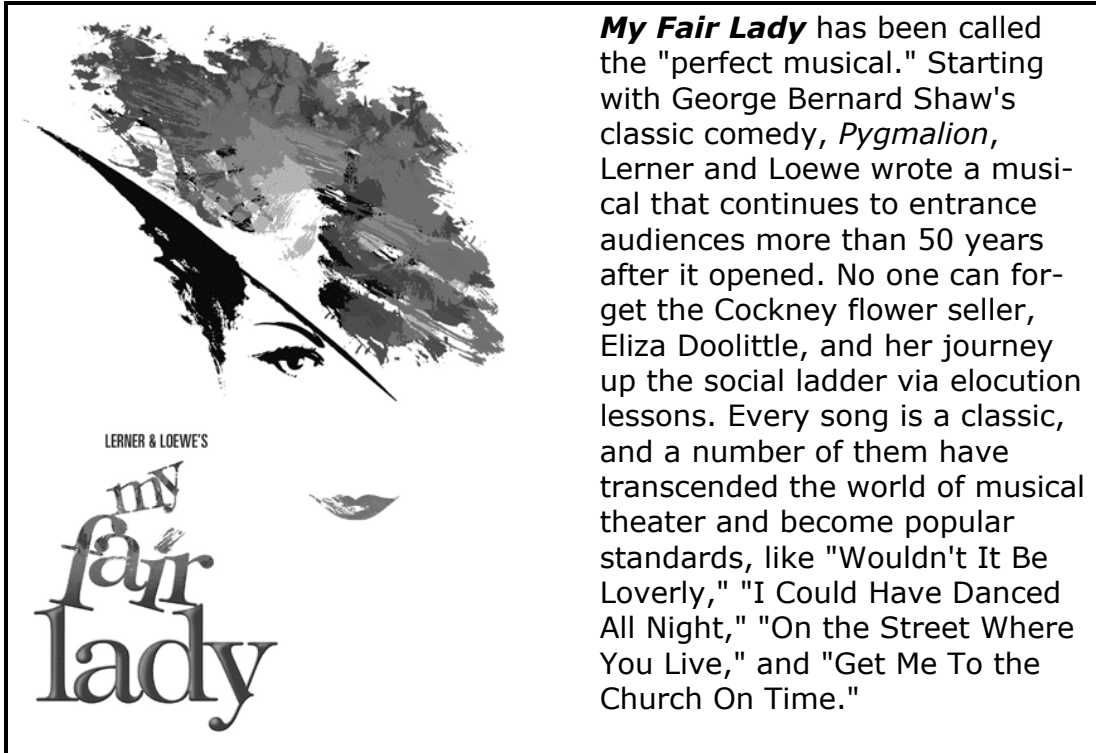
Edy Chan	Ronald Mackrodt
Neil Dunlop	Andrea Safir
Robin Freeman	Cheri Smith

PRO T-Shirts Available

You can order a PRO T-Shirt in your size (S-M-L-XL). The shirts are turquoise and have the PRO logo on the front and the logo and the words “Peralta Retirees Organization” on the back. Shirts are 100% cotton. \$18 each. To order, send a check, your size, number of T-Shirts and your address to PRO, PO Box 1951, El Cerrito, CA 94530.



Order Your Tickets Now for the PRO Evening at the Woodminster Amphitheater



My Fair Lady has been called the "perfect musical." Starting with George Bernard Shaw's classic comedy, *Pygmalion*, Lerner and Loewe wrote a musical that continues to entrance audiences more than 50 years after it opened. No one can forget the Cockney flower seller, Eliza Doolittle, and her journey up the social ladder via elocution lessons. Every song is a classic, and a number of them have transcended the world of musical theater and become popular standards, like "Wouldn't It Be Lovely," "I Could Have Danced All Night," "On the Street Where You Live," and "Get Me To the Church On Time."

Friday □ August 5

\$22 per ticket

(center section—close to the stage—regular price for these tickets is \$42 — order early as there are only a limited number of seats available)

To reserve your tickets (friends and family are welcome)
complete the form below and mail by July 18 to:
PRO, PO Box 1951, El Cerrito, CA 94530

✂

Please send me _____ tickets for the Woodminster Summer Musical *My Fair Lady* on Friday, August 5. Enclosed is my check made out to 'PRO' for _____ (\$22/ticket).

(Please print)

Name _____

Address _____ Email _____

Phone _____

Single-Payer Health Care Bill Passes in CA Senate Health Committee

By Bruce Jacobs, PRO Vice President

The California Universal Health Care Act (SB 810) provides for a "medicare-for-all" style single-payer health care reform plan for California residents. It passed the Senate Health Committee on May 4, and is currently in the suspense file pending approval of a state budget for the fiscal year that starts July 1.

The bill, sponsored by Senator Mark Leno of San Francisco, still has a number of hurdles to overcome before it becomes state law. Similar bills have passed both the Senate and the Assembly in the last few years only to be vetoed by former California Governor Schwarzenegger. Governor Brown has not indicated whether or not he will sign the bill if it gets to his desk. That being said, there is a real possibility that the bill will become law.

What would be covered?

Coverage includes all care prescribed by a patient's health care provider that meets accepted standards and practice. Specifically coverage includes hospital, medical, surgical, and mental health, dental and vision care, prescription drugs and medical equipment (including hearing aids), emergency care including ambulance, skilled nursing care after hospitalization, substance abuse recovery programs, health education and translation services, transportation needed to access covered services, diagnostic testing, and hospice care.

How would this be paid for?

SB 810 creates the California Healthcare Premium Commission to determine the cost of the California Healthcare System and to develop a premium structure for the system that complies with specified standards. In January 2006, the Lewin Group, a national health care and human services consulting firm, issued a report indicating what such a premium structure might look like. In the report they identify a variety of sources for funding the services

that the bill authorizes. They note that the new single-payer plan would replace all current public-sector insurance systems for Californians including: Medicare, Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, and military dependent coverage. It would also replace private health insurance plans in the state (with the exception of insurance purchased to cover services not covered by the Act).

According to the Lewin Report, the program would be financed with current government health care funding for discontinued programs, a payroll tax to replace employer benefits plans and other taxes to replace the premiums currently used to finance health care in the state. Although the actual rates have not been determined (this is the job of the Premium Commission) it is expected that the payroll tax rate for employers would be about 10% and for employees about 6%. By most calculations this would save a substantial amount of money for employers who are often paying much more per employee to private health insurance companies as well as for employees since deductibles and co-pays would be eliminated and coverage would be broader than is currently available from most employer-paid health plans. Another possible source of additional funding is a tax on unearned income (investment income).

Other Savings

Proponents for the single-payer system argue that SB 810 will save governmental agencies (like school districts, counties and the state) millions of dollars each year, and will reduce administrative overhead costs for health care providers. Eliminating clinical and administrative waste and private insurer overhead and profit would save California \$20 billion in the first year alone according to the Lewin Report. Other savings will result from bulk purchasing, the emphasis on preventive and primary

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Join your fellow Peralta retirees for

Pro's Annual Picnic

In the Redwoods at the Huckleberry Picnic Area of Oakland's beautiful Roberts Regional Recreation Area

Thursday September 8th 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



**Mad Hatter Contest — Decorate or wear a hat
Win a prize for most creative headwear**

PRO will supply water, soft drinks, plates, utensils, salad and dessert. Bring your picnic lunch and any other beverage of your choice.

Parking: \$5 per car
Wheelchair Accessible

Driving Directions:

From Highway 13 (Warren Freeway)

Take the Joaquin Miller exit and go east, up the hill on Joaquin Miller. Turn left at Skyline Blvd. Proceed one mile to the Roberts entrance on the right.

From 580

Exit on 35th Ave. and proceed up the hill on 35th, which will eventually become Redwood Road. At the intersection of Redwood and Skyline Blvd., turn left and proceed for one mile, then right to stay on Skyline. Proceed for one mile to the entrance to Roberts on the right.

RSVP: Let us know if you're coming and how many will be in your party. Call or e-mail Social Committee Co-Chair:

Linda Japzon 510-483-7183 · coolbigeyes@sbcglobal.net

PRO Awards Annual Scholarships

By Sondra Neiman, Member of the PRO Board and Chairperson of the PRO Service Committee

Once again, the PRO board is pleased to announce that four very deserving students, one from each of the Peralta colleges, was awarded \$1000 as individual recipients of the PRO scholarship, at each college's awards ceremony, in May, 2011. The following biographical information of each student is provided so that we might all have the pleasure of knowing something about their background, achievements, and academic and career goals.

Berkeley City College's recipient is Daniela Milian. Her award was presented to her by PRO member, Chris Hadley, at the college's awards ceremony. Daniela received her A.A. degree in Liberal Arts with an emphasis on Social and Behavioral Sciences with a minor in Linguistics. She plans to attend U.C. Berkeley in the Fall of 2011 majoring in Sociology. In response to the question of why she thinks she is deserving of the PRO scholarship, Daniela stated that she has demonstrated her dedication and determination in achieving higher education and overcoming many obstacles. Being the first in her family to attend college while being a parent, has been a challenge. Her goal is to work for improving her community and she sees the importance of community involvement and the development of leadership skills. She has been awarded many Certificates of Honor and Recognition, including one that she received, in October 2010 from Loni Hancock for Academic Excellence. It included the Chicana/ Latina Scholarship. Daniela's overall GPA is 3.25.

College of Alameda's recipient is Linda Hoang. Her major is Dental Assisting, and she is interested in becoming an Oral Surgeon. As well as being an honor student, she describes herself as an outgoing and fun person who loves to travel and learn about different cultures.

Laney College's recipient is Kimberly Gonzalez-Campos. She has been accepted to U.C. Berkeley for the fall 2011 semester and plans to major in Ar-

chitecture. She is very proud of her Latina heritage. One of her passions is soccer, and she was instrumental in organizing a women's soccer team, at Merritt College. She currently works with the Gateway to College program at Laney College and is dedicated to helping other students in their pursuit of a higher education. Kimberly currently has an internship with the City of Oakland, working with a civil engineer. With all of her activities and pursuits, she has maintained a GPA of 3.85, and is certainly a student destined for success.

Merritt College's recipient is Harold Woodard, His college major is Health Sciences and he will transfer to CSU East Bay, and enroll in the Nursing Program with a goal of receiving a Masters Degree in Nursing, specializing in anesthesia. His GPA is 3.75, and he is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society. Harold is described as an inspiration and encouragement to other at-risk students. His life is exemplary because he chose to abandon a life of crime and poverty, which led to despair and hopelessness, for a college education and opportunities to help himself and others to advance in academics and to achieve a better way of life.

Clearly, all of these students have shown themselves to be worthy recipients of the PRO Scholarship and we congratulate them and wish them further success in the pursuit of their individual goals and aspirations.



Contribute To The Pro Scholarship Fund By Honoring Or Memorializing A Friend Or Loved One



Yes, I want to support the PRO Scholarship Fund with a contribution.
(Please print)

In honor of: On the occasion of: In memory of:

Please send acknowledgement card to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Zip: _____

Contributor's Name: _____

Contributor's Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Zip: _____

Make check payable to: **The Peralta Foundation—PRO**

Send to: PRO, PO Box 1951, El Cerrito, CA 94530

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by federal and state law.

IN MEMORIAM

The following Peralta retiree has passed away during the last months. PRO extends our deepest condolences to his family and loved ones.

**Edith Gray
Tony Latorre
Carl Tonini**

If you have any information about the passing or the serious illness of a Peralta retiree, please contact Bruce Jacobs at: webmaster@peraltaretirees.org or by writing to PRO, PO Box 1951, El Cerrito CA 94530.

Contributions Received for the PRO Scholarship Fund

In Memory of	Contributor
Walter Asato	Juanita Peterson
Edith Gray	Alice Chinn
Edith Gray	Heo Park
Donald Peterson	Ida Aiko Asato

(From the President... *Continued from page 1*)
urer. Anna will bring experience and a keen sense of organization to the position. She becomes the first member of PRO's board to "represent" retired "Peralta couples", those who met and established committed relationships while both were Peralta employees. Anna is married to retired Laney photography instructor John Lodato. Welcome aboard, Anna.

(Anna Pavelka-Lodato *Continued from page 2*)
taught various Office Technology classes in the Business Department.

She met her husband, retired photography instructor John Lodato, at Laney. Anna retired from full time teaching in 2005 and currently teaches part time.

(Single-Payer *Continued from page 4*)
care, and reduction of fraud.

PRO

Members of the PRO Board are following the progress of SB 810 as it moves through the legislative process. We are meeting with advocates of the bill to determine how its enactment would affect Peralta retirees – those that reside in CA and those who have moved out of state. At this point it appears that the system SB 810 will bring into being will have many positive aspects for all Californians including members of PRO. The PRO Newsletter will continue to provide you with information about the bill’s progress and how its passage might impact PCCD benefits.

Stay Informed

You can learn more about SB 810 at the following web sites:
<http://pnhpcalifornia.org/fact-sheetsfaqs/> (includes

fact sheets and faq’s about single-payer generally and SB 810 in particular)

<http://www.healthcareforall.org/> (includes an excellent video explaining more about SB810 as well as info about how individuals can get involved in the campaign for single-payer in CA)



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