



THE PAW PRINT

Welcome! | Farewell to Doc | Walking Shield

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

CFS 91126

Don't miss the introduction of your new Fall officers, a mixer to get to know your fellow pre-vet pals, and an intro to the officer nominated positions.

Walking Shield:

What a funny name!...So, what is it, anyway? Walking Shield is a charity that the Pre-Vet Club has been proudly taking part in every fall since 1987. We receive the names, ages, and clothing sizes of at least 250 poverty stricken children who live on Native American reservations in the United States and give each one a personalized, thoughtfully packed backpack. Each backpack is filled with fun and necessities, from toys and toothbrushes to calculators and clothing. These backpacks act as an early holiday gift, a home, and an incentive to stay in school.

Please start digging in your closets and drawers and begin



Dr. Leland Shapiro

After 44 years of tireless dedication, passion, and service, Dr. Leland Shapiro is retiring from Pierce College. He is currently chair of the Agriculture Department, creator of Pierce's Pre-Veterinary Program, creator of 39 Farm Walks, Professor of the Year, teacher, mentor, and counselor among countless other distinctions.

His very first time in the Valley and at Pierce was in 1968, running cross country for Fairfax High. The very next year, his family moved to Chatsworth where he began attending classes at Pierce and, in 1971, was hired as a farm hand, farm tour guide, cow milker, and maintenance assistant. He went on to earn his B.S. degree in dairy science at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, and while doing graduate work in agriculture there in 1976, he got the life-changing



putting together bags of donations for this cause. Whatever you can gather can be brought to each meeting or you can call or email the Walking Shield VP for this Fall, Christy Daugherty. The more we get as donations, the less we each have to spend from our respective pockets. If you or a friend would like to adopt a child, please let Christy know. We will start to hand out children as soon as possible and will let everyone know when that exciting time comes. Thank you in advance and remember, the donations will be needed from now until early November (actual due date to be determined).



What We Need:

- Backpacks
- Toiletries
- School Supplies
- Clothes
- Shoes
- Toys
- Books
- Hair Accessories
- Jewelry

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opportunity to become dairy herdsman and dairy instructor at Pierce. About this busy time in his life Shapiro stated, “I worked 18 hours a day, seven days a week for the first year. Then the college hired a herdsman.”

During his time teaching, the young professor designed 35 new classes and taught students not only farming skills, but to work effectively, safely, and humanely with cattle and other animals. In the evenings and during summer months, he completed an M.S. degree from Cal Poly, and during a sabbatical, a doctorate in animal reproductive physiology from Oregon State University, and post-docs in animal ethics at Georgetown and Iowa State. When Pierce’s dairy farm was closed by the school in 1990, despite Shapiro’s fervent protests, he spent his newfound free time on creating a unique and successful pre-veterinary program. Over the years, he rose to chair the Pierce Agriculture Department and directed the highly successful pre-veterinary program he created.

In an email sharing the news of his resignation Shapiro states, “I will miss Pierce College, the Farm, the animals, my faculty, but mostly the students. Their energy is what kept me going after three major surgeries (in three years’ time). Their passion and compassion and their dedication to our industry makes me proud that I might have had a small part in their successes”. He has taught over 12,000 students, 229 of which have successfully become Doctors of Veterinary medicine. His accelerated retirement is caused by health concerns due to a brain tumor along with the farm (his treasured laboratory) being transferred from Agriculture to the facilities division at the college.

Dr. Lu Dao, who earned a DVM degree from UC Davis in 2013, has been hired to take his former professor’s place on the Pierce faculty. He is highly trained as a food animal veterinarian and is not only ethical, kind, and compassionate, but also a dear friend to Dr. Shapiro. Shapiro expressed, “I hope you will welcome him to the college and our department”. Additionally, he said that he wants “to make sure that Pierce College continues to offer the same opportunities that it did to me as a student so that someone growing up in the inner city can come and learn about production agriculture, animal agriculture and become a veterinarian.” Dr. Shapiro is loved and will be dearly missed by countless people at Pierce College.

CHRISTY DAUGHERTY

