

## **Cosmetology Instructor Promotes Breast Cancer Awareness Month**

Chris Allegri, Manager of Shoreline School of Cosmetology in Santa Cruz, has announced a month-long celebration focused on awareness of Breast Cancer. Goodwill Industries offers this vocational program through Shoreline-it's educational division. Beginning October 3<sup>rd</sup>, student stylists will be donning pink aprons and offering free haircuts and pedicures to breast cancer survivors.

Ms. Allegri, a survivor of breast cancer herself says, "It's important to teach young women that breast health and self exams are not just for women over 40. "Without early detection and support, I might not be alive today"

Allegri, whose mother died from breast cancer at 39, knew her chance of getting breast cancer was high. She began having yearly check ups and mammograms at 30. In January of 07, she had her yearly mammogram and everything was normal. Eight months later she found a lump in breast. "If I hadn't been paying attention, doing my own exams, it might have turned out much different. Unlike my mother, I was very blessed to live in a time when breast cancer is openly talked about and the treatment far surpasses anything they could have imagined 40 years ago".

Speakers from the American Cancer Society have been scheduled by Ms. Allegri to address the cosmetology students about breast cancer and answer questions.

Pink ribbons will be given to customers during the entire month of October and pink bracelets will be available for purchase with proceeds going to the Katz Cancer Resource Center(at Dominican Hospital) which provides access to information and services in all aspects of cancer care to patients, families and friends at no charge. "The Katz Center helped me take the right action when I got my diagnosis. It was a frightening time, but with the help of people like Ann Linberg, one of the oncology nurses at the center, I was able to find the courage to do the treatment I needed.

The month will be kicked-off with refreshments beginning Friday October 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10 am at the school-189 Walnut Ave. Downtown Santa Cruz. Look for the pink balloons and the painted windows at the corner of Walnut Ave. and Center St. Supercuts has in part sponsored this event with a financial donation to help pay for aprons. School hours are Mon. – Friday 10 am – 5 pm. Please call the school to make your appointment at (831) 423-5806.