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Santiago Canyon Students "Paws" for Stress Relief

Orange—Students at Santiago Canyon College will be able to take a break from finals stress by spending time on campus with therapy dogs.

A number of trained and certified therapy dogs will be available to students on the lawn near the SCC Library from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday, May 15. The event is being held in connection with the Stress Free Zone, May 14-15, sponsored by SCC's Associated Student Government.

"There's scientific evidence that animal therapy decreases stress hormones and improves the immune system," said Melissa Campitelli-Smith, a licensed psychologist with the SCC Health and Wellness Center. "May is Mental Health Month, and we want to help students improve their mood and well-being."

The event is co-sponsored by Paws 4 Healing and Classic Party Rentals.

Santiago Canyon College is a public community college of Rancho Santiago Community College District, serving the residents of Anaheim Hills, Orange, Tustin and Villa Park. The college provides education for academic transfer and careers, courses for personal and professional development, and customized training for business and industry.