

'Renewed' offers original, melodic music

By TAMARA WARD
CORRESPONDENT

Listeners looking for a break from today's overwhelming supply of new CDs featuring deejays' rap or monotonous rock-and-roll beats may find a refreshing sound on "Renewed," a newly released CD by local resident Paula Chafetz Snyder.

The disk contains 15 original songs, each song with a unique character - from thoughtful music poetry to a song with Latin flavor - but with common threads of blues and jazz.

"My material is melodic; it's pretty easily identifiable," Snyder said. "I think that what makes it different is it's probably back to more basic music. You can hear the lyrics, you can hear the vocals, you can hear the story, and the expression." Snyder said she wasn't expecting to release a music

CD at this time in her life. She has been writing and performing music throughout most of her life and compiled demos earlier in her musical career.

"I wanted to get some of my old songs and new songs out bigger than I could perform them myself," she said.

In addition to lead vocals, Snyder performs backup harmonies and both guitar and piano on the CD. She also brought in other musicians to enhance the sound.

"As I started recording and working on (the CD), I found I could put more harmonies and more parts and more sounds together," she said.

Having taken a six-week break from singing after a neck surgery, the chance that a future surgery might have an adverse affect on her voice also prompted her to record the CD, she said.

Snyder said that immers-

ing herself in her music with the CD was like a revival, enabling her to both work full time and to be creative. "The love of music always has been in my life, and I've never wanted to let go," she said.

If you missed her performance at Java Divine earlier this month, Snyder's website, pcsnymusic.com, lists upcoming performances, offers previews of her music and includes a link to a website where "Renewed" can be purchased.

Paula Chafetz Snyder, at right, said, "My material is melodic; it's pretty easily identifiable," Snyder said. "I think that what makes it different is it's probably back to more basic music. You can hear the lyrics, you can hear the vocals, you can hear the story, and the expression."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

