Community Day at the Public Safety Training Complex
You’re Invited — August 2

Central Coast residents have an exciting opportunity to see law enforcement, fire, hazmat, and emergency medical technician crews in action while exploring the only public safety training facility of its size on the West Coast. Allan Hancock College will host Community Day at its new state-of-the-art Public Safety Training Complex on Saturday, August 2, 2014.

The free, “open house” runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Visitors of all ages can take a guided bus tour of the 68-acre facility, check out emergency vehicles and equipment, operate a fire hose, and talk with emergency personnel.

The premier training complex for fire, law enforcement, EMS and environmental sciences is located off Highway 1, at the college’s Lompoc Valley Center. The $38 million facility features a six-story burn tower, 100-yard pistol and rifle shooting range, a 1.3 mile high-speed track, scenario village, fire props, and more state-of-the-art features.

“This amazing facility was built thanks to the generosity of our communities,” said Hancock Superintendent/President Kevin Walthers, Ph.D. “It will serve as a means of preparing thousands of current and future public safety professionals to save lives and protect our cities for many decades to come. We are grateful for the communities’ support and look forward to sharing it with everyone on August 2.”

Explore the only public safety training facility of its size on the West Coast.

Tops again: Hancock one of best colleges in the country

Allan Hancock College has again been selected as one of the top community colleges in the nation. It now competes for the 2015 Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence and $1 million in prize funds. It is among just seven community colleges in California to be singled out for this recognition. The prize, awarded every two years, is the nation’s signature recognition of high achievement and performance among America’s community colleges. Hancock has twice been selected as a top college by Aspen.

Ten finalists will be named in fall 2014, and prize winners will be announced in early 2015.

Fire cadets in action

Flames engulfed a vehicle, the driver in a second car a few feet away was pinned inside, while smoke billowed from windows on the second floor of a nearby building. That was the scene for the first fire academy graduation at Allan Hancock College’s new Public Safety Training Complex in Lompoc.

Hundreds of proud family and friends watched in awe as 38 cadets in the Fire Academy’s Class #132 and Class #133 climbed out of fire trucks and sprinted into action at the foot of the complex’s imposing six-story burn tower. Hauling ladders, fire hoses and chainsaws, the cadets doused the flames in both the multi-story structure blaze and vehicle fire and extricated the trapped driver after removing the top of the car.

The live demonstrations were part of the first graduation ceremony to take place at the $38 million state-of-the-art facility which opened in January 2014.

Registered veterinary technician students with Dr. Richard Slevinburg.

Class #133 president Eric Gardley
**Flash mob entertains grand opening attendees**

A flash mob of happy students and staff helped celebrate the grand opening of the new Student Service building with a surprise performance. The surprise dance troupe jumped in to perform the choreographed number just as Superintendent/President Kevin Walthers, Ph.D. began his remarks.

The new, two-story structure is positioned at the west end of and campus off the Bradley Road entrance and considered the new “front door” to the campus.

“We moved in on October 25 and have not looked back,” said Director of Admissions and Records Marian Quaid-Mallalgat, who had worked in the previous administration building for nearly 30 years. “This is an incredible gift from the community to current and future generations of students.”

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**Industrial Technology Complex: top-of-the-line equipment and training**

The new Industrial Technology Complex will open its doors in August with new classrooms, labs, offices and top-of-the-line equipment. The 15,000-square foot, $15.0 million facility will house all industrial technology programs in one location - architecture, electronics, computer electronics, automotive, auto body, machining and manufacturing, and welding. It features heated paint booths for auto body technology, a welding lab twice the size of the old one, a climate-controlled lab/vac, and cold storage.

“We are excited to be moving into our new facilities. The new buildings are a top-of-the-line learning environment to prepare our students for high-wage, high-skill jobs,” said Eric Mason, department chair.

**Measure I Progress**

Since its passage by voters in 2006, the $180 million Bond Measure I has infused nearly $20 million in technology improvements for teaching and learning and funded eight capital construction or major renovation projects at the college. The construction includes a new Early Childhood Studies building, the Public Safety Training Complex in Lompoc, Student Services and Administration buildings, Industrial Technology Complex and new sports facilities. Measure I has also funded major infrastructure upgrades to the Performing Arts Center and Santa Maria campus Commons.

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**Original children’s book illustrations on display**

A birthday gift for their book-loving daughter launched a decades-long passion for collecting original children’s book art for local residents Cheryl and Ted Madarin. Part of that extensive collection is now on display at the Allan Hancock College library on the Santa Maria campus. The collection is open to the public during regular library hours. It is not necessary to be a student to enjoy the show.

The art has been matched with the children’s book for which it was created, thanks to a generous donation by library patron and donor Lola Dymy.

The display has been coordinated as part of the public art on campus effort at Allan Hancock College. The Madarin collection joins a host of other art installations, including a recently installed hanging bird sculpture series created by Sandra K. Johnson, outdoor mosaics, original metal sculptures, paintings, and more.

The library is located in the heart of the Santa Maria campus. For library hours and more information, call (805) 922-6996 ext. 3322.

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**Graduates celebrate 93rd commencement**

“The education received and lessons learned have prepared you to take a leap of faith and fearless pursue your goals,” said Superintendent/President Kevin Walthers at the 93rd annual commencement ceremony.

Nearly 2,000 friends, family, faculty and staff attended the ceremony that took place on the Santa Maria Campus Commons.

The graduates participating in commencement were among 887 students who earned 1,521 associate in arts or science degrees during the 2013-14 academic year.

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**LeSage awarded Citation of Merit**

After nearly 50 years in the park and recreation profession, Allan Hancock College part-time instructor Paul LeSage has been recognized with a major honor from the state. The California Park & Recreation Society (CPRS) awarded LeSage a Citation of Merit for Professional Service. LeSage is the only person in California honored this year.

“Paul is beyond thrilled,” said LeSage, who started teaching recreation classes at Hancock eight years ago. “I have dedicated my life to improving the quality of life for people in the cities where I have worked. So to be recognized by my peers makes the award even more special,” he added.

After 17 years in Santa Maria, he became the Park & Recreation Director for the City of San Luis Obispo. During his 12 years in the position, LeSage led projects like building the Damon Garcia Sports Complex, adding adult softball fields, and renovating gyms at elementary schools.

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 Donation$ = STUDENT SUCCESS

ExxonMobil fuels MESA students

Wells Fargo supports STEM endowment

High-tech soil moisture equipment benefits agribusiness program

Twilight childcare assists low-income, military-connected students

Allan Hancock College has established childcare for evening students who are parents with special needs kids and those connected with the military.

At least 40 additional, full-time childcare slots will open over a four-year period.

“With more than 2,800 military personnel and more than 3,700 military family members in the region, we continue to be committed to ensuring that our faculty and staff embrace and understand the unique challenges faced by military-connected students and their children,” said Allan Hancock College Superintendent/President, Kevin G. Waithe. “This includes the social, emotional, and learning challenges specific to students and their children whose family members may be deployed or injured.”

Funding for the program comes from CCAMPS (CAREM More Parents in School), a grant to help provide childcare services for Pell-eligible students. Pell federal post-secondary education grant funding.

For more information, contact Thessa Ripekle, CCAMPS Project Director and associate professor of early childhood studies, ext. 3549 or ripekle@hancockcollege.edu.

Softball

The softball team finished with 26 victories and won the program’s first Western State Conference title since 1998. The Bulldogs made their first Regional Tournament appearance in 15 years. Freshman pitcher Kaley Cheenawel led the state with 26 wins and a program-record 370 strikeouts. Cheenawel was named the conference’s Pitcher of the Year. Misy Regalado, Jessica Rothanzl and Kristine Ramos earned All-Conference First Team honors. Two other Bulldogs received Second Team recognition.

Baseball

The baseball team advanced to the second round of the Regional Playoffs for the first time since 2010. The Bulldogs upset Palomar, the No. 4 seed, in the first round to advance to the Super Regionals. Hancock finished the season 24-10-1. Nine Bulldogs received All-Western State Conference honors. Third baseman Ryan Bendle, as well as pitchers Nathan Thompson and Ryan Beavers were All-WSC First Team picks.

Track and Field

With a brand new facility in which to train, the track and field team enjoyed its finest season in years. The men earned their first Western State Conference meet victory in at least 15 years, and won the best finish, 6th, at the WSC Championships in 25 years. Steven de Comarmond won the 110-meter high hurdles and Jonathan G. Kraus was top 10 in the 100-meter dash to become Hancock’s first conference champions in eight years.

Nursing program among the state’s top 10

Students also receive 984 hours of clinical experience during their three semesters in the program. The NCLEX-PN is used by state boards of nursing around the country for testing proficiency and granting licensure. The study considers the passing rates as the best way to determine how well a program prepares its students for a career in practical nursing.

Friedrich attributes Hancock students’ to the program’s high standards of instruction, consistent full-time faculty and strong relationships with clinical facilities on the Central Coast. For more information about the LVN program, call 805.922.6966 ext. 3549 or email Tawnya Karstrom at tawnya.karstrom@hancockcollege.edu.
It’s an exciting time for me to be part of Allan Hancock College and to serve as President of the Allan Hancock College Foundation Board of Directors. Our board is made up of influential and dynamic leaders who have high regard for the college and transforming power of education that happens here. Along with hundreds of others, they give generously of their time and money to provide opportunities for students to “Start Here, Go Anywhere.” And, often, the “anywhere” is right back here in Santa Maria, Lompoc, Guadalupe, and Santa Ynez.

When we as a community give to the foundation, we share a sense of hope about the future. We invest in students, and those students quickly become the next generation’s community leaders. By investing in them, we make one of the most effective investments in our community by ensuring it will continue to be a wonderful place to live and do business.

As you see from the financial pie chart on the next page, you have been very generous to the foundation this year. On behalf of our Board of Directors, I thank each of you for powerfully moving the foundation forward.

Record-breaking $478,000 in scholarships

The 45th annual Allan Hancock College Foundation’s scholarship awards banquet was an evening to remember for hundreds of students, especially Janice Sanchez, who received the prestigious Marian Hancock Scholarship. “It was the best moment of my life,” said Sanchez. “When I was reading a standing ovation, I felt so proud because I felt everyone in the room and at the college believed in me.”

The $10,000 gift is named in honor of the late Marian Hancock, the wife of Captain G. Allan Hancock, for whom the college is named. Mrs. Hancock wanted the gift bestowed on a student who demonstrated a commitment to continuing his or her education, and who had shown great promise and dedication.

The scholarship committee selected Sanchez, a first-generation student, to receive the award. The 18-year-old, an environmental science major, plans to forever be your Hancock College student.

Sanchez was a junior at messaging school when she received the scholarship. “I was not sure where I could afford to live in college,” said Sanchez. “Now, with this scholarship, I can live in the dorms and focus on my education. It is a huge relief.”

Sanchez plans to become an English as a second language instructor, possibly at Hancock, to pay it forward and help others the way he has been helped.

The awards banquet was a record-breaking event. A total of 454 scholarships, totaling nearly $480,000, were awarded to 266 students, matching all previous records. More than 800 students, relatives, friends, donors, and community members attended.

Nearly 180 donors from the community, another record, funded scholarships to both returning and transferring students. Scholarships ranged from $500 to $10,000.

Right new scholarships were presented this year, including the Paul O. Hahn award and the Richard Lem Armit, Jr. Memorial Scholarship. The latter was established in memory of the late Allan Hancock counselor who passed away last March at the age of 78. Armit graduated from Hancock before earning a master’s degree in Cal Poly. A 4-Generation college student transferring to Cal Poly, the Fall received $200 in Armit’s memory.

The scholarship committee selected Sanchez as representing “all that was right with education.” Sanchez has worked since the age of nine to help support a disabled father, a working mother, and 11 siblings.

Despite beginning to learn to read and write five years ago, Sanchez has a 4.0 grade point average in 133.5 credit units. She will attend UC Berkeley in the fall.

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You can afford college!  

Whatever the cost of attending a university, cut it in half by completing the first two years at Hancock. You could be one of those students. These funds do not have to pay back.

Apply for financial aid to waive your enrollment fee and receive up to $8,500 annually at Hancock.

Go to www.hancockcollege.edu/financialaid or call the Financial Aid office at (805) 922-6966 ext. 3200.