A RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

CULINARY ARTS CENTER ON THE MENU FOR 2014

Previewing the grandeur of the main course still being prepared, a ground-breaking ceremony on Aug. 19 marked the official start of construction of the College of the Canyons Institute for Culinary Education (iCulE). Plans for the state-of-the-art culinary facility call for a roughly 12,200-square-foot building housing a variety of kitchens, classrooms and laboratories. It will be located at the southeast corner of the Valencia campus, near Mentry Hall. When completed, iCulE will provide

Goodwill Mission

College of the Canyons students reach out to help needy schoolchildren in Nicaragua – PAGE 3

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ARE ‘UPWARD BOUND’

INNOVATIVE PROGRAM COMPLETES FIRST YEAR

Upward Bound, a program designed to increase the number of Golden Valley High School students who earn diplomas and continue their education at the college level, celebrated its first year with an awards banquet on Friday, July 26 at The Learning Center (TLC).

Sixty students, including three graduating seniors who enrolled at the college this fall, were honored for their successful completion of the recent six-week Summer Academy at the college.

“IT is amazing to see how much the program has grown since it started,” said Omar Torres, dean of mathematics, sciences and engineering at the college and the banquet’s keynote speaker. “It

PLAN AHEAD FOR EXPANDED WINTER, SPRING SESSIONS

WINTER SESSION REGISTRATION BEGINS NOV. 12

With the fall 2013 semester in full swing at College of the Canyons, students and community members who haven’t enrolled yet should be reminded that it’s never too late to start your academic journey.

Thanks in large part to funding restored by Proposition 30, students at College of the Canyons will continue to have access to more class sections and educational opportunities than ever during the upcoming 2014 winter session and spring semester.

The winter session is expected to provide about 300 class sections, more than twice the number offered last winter.

“There’s no shortage of classes at College of the Canyons,” college spokesman Eric Harnish said. “I encourage any student interested in attending to apply, register, and take advantage of the

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CULINARY
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a modern, efficient and affordable educational center where all aspects of culinary arts will be taught. The success of any recipe is determined by the availability and quality of the ingredients, the creativity of the chefs, their courage to try new things and their knowledge that the other chefs they work with as part of a team are there to help make a meal extraordinary,” said College of the Canyons Chancellor Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook. “This project is no different. And now that we have the ingredients, and the right team in place, we can get cooking.”

The center will feature demonstration, savory, sweets and banquet kitchens, as well as a chocolate room, wine study classroom, multiple culinary labs, retail bake shop and a variety of instructor office spaces.

All of the kitchens, classrooms and labs have been designed to train students for occupations in the restaurant and food service industries – one of the nation’s largest sources of private-sector employment.

It’s estimated that the Santa Clarita Valley and greater Los Angeles area have more than 2,000 restaurants of all types and sizes, which will need well-trained culinarians to keep up with the demand.

The center is particularly evident at College of the Canyons, where our skilled culinary arts graduates have gone on to work in some of the most prestigious kitchens in the L.A. area, said Dr. Van Hook. “Their success, and the continued growth of this program, have inspired us to create a new on-campus educational facility in which we will train the next generation of chefs and restaurant entrepreneurs.”

The facility will provide students, with director of food services for the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and member of the “Let’s Move!” campaign, an initiative to address childhood obesity led by First Lady Michelle Obama.

“I was very busy last year,” said Binkle, who was La Quinta High School principal when he was hired by LAUSD, whose $350 million food program provides 650,000 meals daily.

“We have been on a path for many years of trying to eliminate candy from the lunchroom,” he said. “But we’re also trying to make sure that the kids have something to eat.”

Binkle refers to traditional school food staples such as pizza, chicken nuggets, chicken sandwiches, corn dogs and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. LAUSD menus now also include more fresh foods and vegetables.

“LA is a big piece of the healthy transition that’s happening nationwide. No kids in Indiana is doing that. We are trying to lead the nation.”

Last year, the Obama administration approved new school lunch nutrition guidelines to quell the rise of childhood obesity.

“Let’s Move!” campaign, an initiative to address childhood obesity led by First Lady Michelle Obama, appear to be making a difference.

“The campaign is going really well,” said Binkle, who went to the White House with a group of LAUSD students as part of the campaign. “It’s really making an impact. Obesity levels are declining.”

Binkle loves to teach because it allows him to stay connected. “The most important thing is to give back and pass on knowledge. Cooking is such a historical, cultural trade. I’m interested in passing it on to future generations. Teaching also allows me to stay in touch with trends and stay focused. I really enjoy teaching at COC. The college has been very dear to me.”

Kitty Veldman, lead culinary arts faculty member, said it’s an “absolute pleasure” to have David as part of the COC faculty. “He is a great educator, and his students gain invaluable knowledge and experience with him,” she said.

Binkle is especially excited about the state-of-the-art College of the Canyons Culinary Education (CUE), a 12,000-square-foot building that will become the permanent home. “It really is a sign of the times,” said Binkle.

“The college is really listening and watching the trends. The Santa Clarita Valley provides a great deal of restaurant industry jobs. The connectivity of the program is really inspirational.”

CULINARY
FROM PAGE 1

Every Friday, students took field trips to locations such as California State University, Northridge, University of Southern California, Los Angeles; Los Angeles County Museum of Art, California Science Center and Six Flags Magic Mountain.

“Upward Bound has to be considered a tremendous success considering it was our implementation year,” said Sal Fris, Golden Valley High School principal. “We had our challenging moments, but with dedicated CVC support, our students will truly benefit from this wonderful opportunity and this program will continue to strengthen and succeed.”

A partnership between College of the Canyons and the William S. Hart Union High School District, the Upward Bound program is the result of a five-year, roughly $1.2 million grant awarded by the U.S. Department of Education to help high school students who have the potential to excel academically, but need enrollment and encouragement to prepare for and succeed in college.

Upward Bound provides students with weekly tutoring at Golden Valley High School and Saturday academy classes at College of the Canyons in order to support the development of English and math skills.

“College of the Canyons continues to be fully invested in our Upward Bound Program, and plans are under way to offer these successful Saturday Academy classes again for the 2013-14 academic school year,” said Torres.

“Accreditation is critically important to California community colleges, as it allows us to keep our financial aid package stable for our students,” said Dr. Jerry Buckley, assistant superintendent/vice president of instruction. “Without accreditation, the units our students would have been able to attend for six years after graduation would have been closed.”

The college last had its accreditation reaffirmed in 2009, with WASC confirming its highest status. At that time, the commission commended the college for its strong commitment to student success, collaborative governance, strength of community partnerships, and wide array of student support services.

Critical Thinking Program

Students enrolled in the program’s Summer Academy have already developed a variety of critical thinking and writing skills, including how to identify main idea, supporting details and logical progression. They have also practiced proper citation in different disciplines, master the process of writing a research paper, and how to utilize the library database.

“This has been a rewarding experience for me,” said Binkle, who also teaches creative writing. “Classes have been very diverse and so have the students.”

“Some students are very focused and it’s rewarding to see them grow as learners,” said Binkle.

The campaign has been very beneficial to students, said Sal Fris, Golden Valley High School principal. “We had our challenging moments, but with dedicated CVC support, our students will truly benefit from this wonderful opportunity and this program will continue to strengthen and succeed.”

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T
 thanks to the efforts of three College of the Canyons student organizations, Miravalle School students in Granada, Nicaragua will no longer have to drink water from a garden hose or miss school entirely in search of water.
Five students traveled to Nicaragua in June as part of an SCV International Program (SCVIP) delegation to complete a global collaboration project for needy families near Granada.
The delegation included members of Alpha Mu Gamma, Associated Student Government (ASG) and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). They collected donations to provide Miravalle students with school supplies and access to clean water.
“These COC students have made a global impact by giving these Miravalle students and their communities access to clean water,” said Dr. Claudia Acosta, professor and liaison for international education.

STUDENTS PITCH IN FOR NICARAGUA

The trip was amazing,” said Adriana Vargas, an SCV International Program participant from Valencia campus. “This trip emphasized to me that it’s not enough to send people food or money,” COC student Jesse Lopez said. “You need to understand the culture and the problems before you try to fix them.”

The delegation included members of Alpha Mu Gamma, Associated Student Government (ASG) and Phi Theta Kappa (PTK). They collected donations to provide Miravalle students with school supplies and access to clean water.
The group met with former Nicaraguan President Enrique Bolanos for a private meeting at his home. “The trip was amazing,” said Adriana Vargas, ASG cultural student involvement officer and one of four students who traveled on ASG scholarships. “Many community members thanked us, and at the end of our trip the kids gathered around us and gave us a hug.”

SCVIP is a non-profit focused on promoting and developing mutually beneficial strategic alliances and international goodwill between the people of Santa Clarita and people of international cities.

THANKS TO THE EFFORTS OF THREE COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS, MIRAVALLE SCHOOL STUDENTS IN GRANADA, NICARAGUA WILL NO LONGER HAVE TO DRINK WATER FROM A GARDEN HOSE OR MISS SCHOOL ENTIRELY IN SEARCH OF WATER.

FIVE STUDENTS TRAVELED TO NICARAGUA IN JUNE AS PART OF AN SCV INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM (SCVIP) DELEGATION TO COMPLETE A GLOBAL COLLABORATION PROJECT FOR NEEDY FAMILIES NEAR GRANADA.

THE DELEGATION INCLUDED MEMBERS OF ALPHA MU GAMMA, ASSOCIATED STUDENT GOVERNMENT (ASG) AND PHI THETA KAPPA (PTK). THEY COLLECTED DONATIONS TO PROVIDE MIRAVALLE STUDENTS WITH SCHOOL SUPPLIES AND ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER.

THOSE COC STUDENTS HAVE MADE A GLOBAL IMPACT BY GIVING THESE MIRAVALLE STUDENTS AND THEIR COMMUNITIES ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER,” SAID DR. CLAUDIA ACOSTA, PROFESSOR AND LIASON FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION.

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SCVIP IS A NON-PROFIT FOCUSED ON PROMOTING AND DEVELOPING MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL STRATEGIC ALLIANCES AND INTERNATIONAL GOODWILL BETWEEN THE PEOPLE OF SANTA CLARITA AND PEOPLE OF INTERNATIONAL CITIES.

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25 YEARS OF VISIONARY LEADERSHIP

CHANCELLOR DR. DIANNE G. VAN HOOK HONORED FOR TRANSFORMING COLLEGE INTO LEADING INSTITUTION

Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook arrived for her first day on the job on July 1, 1988. Aside from herself, some colleagues and the board members who hired her, no one could possibly have imagined how new superintendent-president’s passion, energy and influence would reshape College of the Canyons.

The clues were certainly there, notably an L.A. Times story whose headline proclaimed “Fireball” to Take Helm of College of the Canyons. That headline would prove accurate, although the “fireball” moniker could easily and perhaps more accurately, be replaced by “inovative,” “shaker” or “builder.” Certainly, she also has been a “motivator” and “developer” of people, places, possibilities and potential.

When hired, the then-37-year-old dean of the Lake Tahoe Community College District was the youngest person ever to serve as a district-level community college CEO in California and, at the time, one of only five women of the 70 CEOs in the state. She hit the ground running and has never looked back. Twenty-five years later, College of the Canyons resembles its former self in name only, having been transformed into one of the leading, most innovative and widely respected community colleges in the nation.

Numbers help put such a radical transformation into context. The college’s budget, for example, has grown from approximately $8 million in 1988 to nearly $181 million today. Enrollment has grown from 4,000 to a high of 27,000 students. And physical space has quadrupled, climbing from just under 200,000 square feet to today’s 812,000 square feet across two campuses, with additional construction expected that will add more than 700,000 square feet even more.

While numbers can provide context, they can also obscure how this progress really means, which is this: Dr. Van Hook’s leadership has drawn a quarter century of cross-generational momentum at College of the Canyons. This commitment has provided a manifold of cutting-edge educational and training opportunities for all who have sought to better themselves. It has embraced innovation and excellence in education. It has instilled hope, and turned dreamers into doers. Her efforts, passion and unceasing resolve have transformed not only the college, but the lives and livelihoods of the hundreds of thousands of people who have embarked on an educational journey here.

One of the few people who had a sense for what this “fireball” could do was HALLIE JENKINS. "When Dr. Van Hook arrived in 1988, she was the board president who led the development of the CEO search. Having overseen that process 25 years ago, she remembers vividly how one person stood out above all the rest. “At the time, I couldn’t help but smile to myself, thinking about how much of a difference she was going to make at the college because she’s just so dynamic,” Jenkins recalled. “Days later, after she had been formally introduced, I asked one of our instructors what he thought about our new president, to which he replied, ‘Administrators come and go, and it won’t really make a difference who the administrator is.’ I simply smiled again and thought to myself that he has no idea what this woman’s leadership will bring to College of the Canyons. Today, 25 years later, I’m still smiling.”

Indeed, that instructor’s observation was based on the average four-year tenure of the previous College of the Canyons presidents to that point, but he clearly made an assumption that would prove wildly inaccurate in very short order. When Dr. Van Hook arrived, she immediately went to work developing the college’s first educational and facilities master plan. Five plans later, the college has been radically transformed, the result of a seemingly non-stop series of construction and improvement projects that continues to this day.

Dr. Brice Harris, chancellor of the California community college system, said Dr. Van Hook’s focused, dedicated service to a single college district over the course of 25 years has allowed College of the Canyons to thrive – and the Santa Clarita Valley to reap the rewards.

"Such longevity is a rarity and speaks to the skillful leadership she provides to the college community day in and day out,” Dr. Harris said. “It’s a type of stability fosters institutional focus and commitment on a remarkable scale.”

College of the Canyons has been propelled forward by a unique combination of community support and daring leadership. Aided by the passage of two multimillion-dollar bond measures over the past dozen years, Dr. Van Hook has presided over the highest level of construction and preparation for the future since the college opened in temporary quarters at Hart High School in 1969. She has substantially transformed the Valencia campus – and provided the vision to create an entirely new campus in Canyon Country – to keep up with community demands, enhance access, and anticipate the educational needs of the future.

When Dr. Van Hook arrived in 1988, the college was housed in eight major structures. Today, more than a dozen additional major facilities have been built or expanded, including: the Dr. Dianne G. Van Hook University Center, the Santa Clarita Performing Arts Center at College of the Canyons, the Library and TLC (The Learning Center), Mentry Hall, the Family Studies and Early Childhood Education Center, Aliso Lab and Aliso Hall, Pico Canyon Hall, Hasley Hall, the East Physical Education Building and tennis courts, and of course, the Canyon Country campus and its first permanent facility, the Applied Technology Education Center. Construction has begun on the College of the Canyons Institute for Culinary Education and the new Student Services & Administrative Building.

These wide-ranging facilities are much more than mere buildings. Each has been designed to serve a specific educational purpose and outfitted with the latest technology. Most importantly, they allow students to gain the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed in the real world.

If one were to ask Dr. Van Hook to reveal her secret of success, she would likely repeat a familiar mantra that she has widely shared within the campus community: “If you can imagine it, you can achieve it. If you dream it, you can do it.” It’s a philosophy that has been taken...
What do you consider to be your greatest accomplishments?

Becoming a college president by the time I was 37 was a major accomplishment. Being able to turn ideas about what a place like College of the Canyons could become into reality is another. Growing a small community college into a suburban center of higher education that has earned the respect of the community and its leaders is yet another. But I would have to say that my greatest accomplishment is enabling us to expand access – the greatest accomplishment of all.

As a child, can you remember what you wanted to be when you grew up?

In junior high, I wanted to be an architect. In those days, they wouldn’t let girls take drafting, auto mechanics, wood shop or advanced math. We could take art and music, cooking, sewing and typing. On the aptitude assessment tests I took in junior high, I always ranked high on spatial relations and mechanical reasoning. I have always had the ability to design things in my head, and I am grateful that in my position as Chancellor, I have had the chance to build them.

Whether it is buildings or programs or partnerships or people (professional development) or places, I’m in the building business.

You played a big role in changing state funding formulas that allowed College of the Canyons to flourish. How did you do it?

In 1988, the funding formula penalized fast-growing colleges like ours as they didn’t account for the actual, real growth of our community. So I set about on a two-fold mission. First, to get the Department of Finance to fund our real growth and change our enrollment projections, and, second, to secure adequate funding for colleges where there was a large demand for access. I invited representatives from the Department of Finance to come down here and get up with us in a Sheriff’s Department helicopter so they could see firsthand the growth and building we were talking about. It was a very interesting day and a stellar moment! The people who were flying over Saugus when the sheriff’s pilots got a call about a robbery could see firsthand the growth and building we were talking about. We invited them down here and go up with us in a Sheriff’s Department helicopter so they could see firsthand that the growth and building we were talking about were real.

We were flying over Saugus when the sheriff’s pilots got a call about a robbery in Canyon Country. The helicopter pilots were high above Canyon Country, spotted the suspect and helped with their capture. When they were done with that arrest, they wanted to resume the tour but, because we were flying in a commercial airplane, everybody on board was sick. I managed to pass some of it around! I turned to the finance representative who was with us and asked if we could continue with the tour. She answered, “As I’ve seen a lot and I think I want to go back.” And I replied, “Well, you haven’t seen the biggest parts of the growth in our area.” So I asked her, “What are you doing this?” “I’d like, I think you believe what you say. We’ll change your projections. Please don’t make us do that ever again.” It was a very interesting day and a stellar moment!

We sent them our projected enrollment changes based on the number of new businesses and homes to be built. Those projections are the reason we received so much growth funding and it’s why we have just been on a fast clip ever since, because of that helicopter ride. As another positive part of that helicopter experience, as we were funded to build additional space, we were funded to expand access and serve more students and businesses.

Tell us about your early career. It’s clear you wanted to be a college president.

I did. While I was teaching junior high school, I went back to get a master’s degree at the same time I was teaching at night at Long Beach City College and counseling at Centro’s College. I applied for and was able to receive a two-year sabbatical leave replacement at Santa Ana College. I thought if I could get some full-time experience, I would be more marketable. So I applied at Santa Ana College and got the job. I realized that I really liked working at the community college level as a counselor and instructor and I let my sights on that career. However, I was a temporary replacement. I needed a strategy, so I went into the president’s office and said, “So this is the thing, Dr. Wernick, I don’t want to return to junior high school teaching.” I like the pace of change at the college level. I need a little assistance. How do you think I can get to stay here?” He told me I could write some grants, which, if successful, meant that positions could be added and I could stay. I had no idea what a grant was, but I was willing to learn. I wrote about five grants and received three of them. So, ultimately it all worked out and I was able to stay at Santa Ana College.

So, you literally created that position for yourself. What did you do next?

In my second year at Santa Ana College, I resolved in a doctoral program in educational leadership at the University of La Verne. In one of my courses on organizational development, my hypothesis was that we were providing student services only for traditional students and that was not meeting the needs of the students who were there. Student services were available only between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., we weren’t open on weekends. We weren’t supplying services sensitive to the needs of re-entry adults. And, frankly, our counselors did not represent the students we were serving. So I developed a proposal to have a non-traditional counseling center called New Horizons, which would serve women on rental trying to obtain skills to go to work, support women to move into “non-traditional careers,” provide support services to non-native English speakers and develop programs for older adults. At the end of the term, I made my presentation to the president of Santa Ana College and immediately I left for a summer residency at La Verne. To my surprise, he called two days later and said, “You know, Dianne, we want to implement your proposal.” I had strategically written in a contractual provision into each component. I wanted a full-time job because I was on soft funding: a grant that was due to end the next year. So I assumed he wanted me to fill one of those positions. But he said, “No, you’re not going to be a counselor. You’re going to run the program.” So I became the coordinator of New Horizons, which evolved into a model program that in 1984 was deployed statewide.

You made a name for yourself in Santa Ana making it easier for businesses to train their employees. Can you explain?

I finished my doctoral program and along the way I became involved in an initiative with Congressman Jerry Pomar, our dean of vocational education, Dr. Kathy Loek, and Dr. Benitez, who was the chancellor down at Coast Community College District. We decided that we needed to do something differently to figure out how to match companies that wanted to move into Orange County with the right college for the training they needed, so when they relocated from other cities or states, they could have a turnover operation and we could place our students in real jobs that had a future. That was a challenge in those days because we didn’t have “flex flow,” so you had to go to the community college where you lived. The only way you could go anywhere else was if the major you wanted wasn’t available at your local college. We came up with a model and interested in the establishment of the Technology Exchange Center in Garden Grove. It served all four community college districts in Orange County. All four of the community college districts agreed to let people and employees of companies that wanted to locate in their area go to the college where their training needs could best be met. That was 1983, and it got a lot of press in Southern California.

When did College of the Canyons first appear on your radar?

When this job (Superintendent-President of College of the Canyons) opened in 1983, there were several CEOs who nominated me because of my efforts in developing the model program for Orange County. I went through the first round and then through the second round and was invited by the COC Board of Trustees to interview.
25 YEARS PAGE FROM 4

heart – and is at the core of most, if not all, college initiatives that bear her trademark of innovation. It harnesses the adventurous, entrepreneurial spirit behind good educational programs – and a track record that other colleges can only dream about.

"People believe in themselves and the power of teamwork; vision, energy, and innovation has produced favorable outcomes. The result? Expansion of instruction, security, and success, with significant increases in funding, launching a robust building program, and increasing enrollment to more than 3,000 percent. These qualities have helped us develop an atmosphere of optimism, take calculated risks, be entrepreneurial, and most importantly, believe that we could create our own future. And, together, we have done just that!

The belief that everyone has the ability to develop themselves to their fullest potential is a key component of Dr. Van Hook’s philosophy of personal empowerment, but it actually goes further than that. She always believes and understands the value of inspirational mentors. She attributes much of her early drive to her inspirational mentor who instilled in her the confidence that she could become whatever she wanted to be. The positive influence on her self-confidence and ultimate development of her potential was so significant that she closed her eyes to the possibilities, which is precisely what she now does for others. Years of mentoring have given her the ability to see in people what others do not see yet, insinuating success and ensuring that they reach the heights of their potential.

That philosophy has contributed to an environment where absolutely anything is possible.

I became a believer in California’s community college system. Dr. Van Hook and I were hired by the Board of Trustees at Long Beach City College. From there, she went to California State University, Long Beach, which, incidentally, honored her recently as its 2013 Distinguished Alumna for the College of Liberal Arts. She graduated with a bachelor’s degree in sociology in 1972. While attending classes, she worked as a Head Start preschool teacher, and upon graduation became a junior high school teacher. She later went on to earn both her master’s degree and doctorate from the University of La Verne.

The program was ultimately implemented at 66 community colleges throughout the state. From there she went to Feather River College to serve as dean of instruction/student service in 1984. Two years later she became dean of the Lake Tahoe Community College before her last stop before returning to Southern California to take the top post at College of the Canyons.

A quarter century later, Dr. Van Hook has been the longest-serving community college CEO in the state, she is a widely respected Visionary and leader – the go-to CEO of California’s community colleges.

Named chancellor of the Santa Clarita Community College District in 2009, she is widely regarded as a strong, knowledgeable and capable advocate for community colleges statewide and nationally. Her experience, expertise and passion for higher education have contributed to her receiving every statewide recognition that can be bestowed on a California community college CEO.

A popular metaphor describes time as a flowing river whose current carries those who don’t resist it through happy, easy days – living, unquestioning in the moment. That may be relevant for most, but not Dr. Van Hook. While no one can control the passage of time, some adventurous souls have the courage and ability to change its course into magnificent territory. And so it has been for 25 years at College of the Canyons.

"At every stage, Dianne has been a leader in terms of innovation, always thinking outside the box, and always with the perseverance and ability to rally people to expand the idea and keep the idea in reality," said Dr. Jack Scott, immediate past president of the Western Association of California’s community college system.

"She has left an indelible imprint upon all students who need more units. Currently she added, "particularly on College of the Canyons and the entire Santa Clarita Valley."
Measure M provides the funding to construct new facilities to accommodate an ever-increasing number of innovative educational and training programs. The beneficiaries are the people who come to College of the Canyons for education, training and inspiration now and in the future.

The bond measure is a key component driving the college’s recent progress, but a lesser-known factor has played an equally important role. The college has maximized every bond-issued dollar by leveraging other resources. The original $160 million bond authorization’s actual value is now in the neighborhood of $232.8 million. The value has increased with the addition of more than $5.3 million in earned interest as of June 30, 2013, as well as a new “$12.9 million,” a first step for new students and visitors. The building will also house areas for the Financial Aid Office, Counseling Center, Transfer Center, Career Services Office, Student Services Office, Instruction Office and various administrative offices.

**COLLEGE OF THE CANYONS INSTITUTE FOR CULINARY EDUCATION**

*Valencia Campus*

Status: Under construction, estimated completion fall 2014

Size: 12,208 square feet

Cost: $5.8 million

The new permanent home for the college’s culinary arts program is being built in an architectural style that lends an elegant sophistication appropriate for a building that will serve both educational and social functions. Approximately $3 million of the construction costs come from bed-to-beds on the library project. The building will include a Show Kitchens, Savory Kitchen, Sweets Kitchen, a Wine Studies area and Culinary Lab space. Most importantly, the facility will expand a premier culinary arts program whose quality is comparable to those offered by private culinary arts institutions, but at considerably less expense.

**MENTRY HALL EXPANSION**

*Valencia Campus*

Status: Completed 2011

Size: 28,000 square feet added (total size now 78,237 square feet)

Cost: $7.1 million

The new permanent home for the college’s culinary arts program is being built in an architectural style that lends an elegant sophistication appropriate for a building that will serve both educational and social functions. Approximately $3 million of the construction costs come from bed-to-beds on the library project. The building will include a Show Kitchens, Savory Kitchen, Sweets Kitchen, a Wine Studies area and Culinary Lab space. Most importantly, the facility will expand a premier culinary arts program whose quality is comparable to those offered by private culinary arts institutions, but at considerably less expense.

**APPLIED TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTER**

*Valencia Campus*

Status: Completed 2010

Size: 46,370 square feet

Cost: $8.5 million

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**LIBRARY EXPANSION**

*Valencia Campus*

Status: Completed fall 2012

Size: $1,435 square feet added (total size now 86,606 square feet)

Cost: $15.8 million

The library was dramatically expanded and now provides a home for the heavily utilized TLC (The Learning Center), which occupies 4,145 square feet on a single level. The library now occupies 45,171 square feet on two levels. The expanded facility offers a new Computer Commons area with 100 student workstations, group-study rooms, and a Special Collections area to accommodate rotating exhibits of student and community art.

**CANYON COUNTRY CAMPUS PARKING LOT 2**

*Status: Completed 2010*

Size: 72 acres

Cost: $5.8 million

The Canyon Country campus welcomed more than 3,000 students when it opened in 2007, fulfilling the community’s need for convenient access to college programs in the eastern Santa Clarita Valley. The campus has made a huge contribution to meeting the area’s educational and training demands. The campus has benefited from a number of improvements, including the opening of the Carl A. Rasmussen Amphitheater, a fee-based food concession and extensive landscaping improvements.

**TECHNOLOGY INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADES**

*Valencia Campus*

Status: Completed

Cost: $1 million

Other Measure M-funded improvements include secondary effects in Science Hall and Mentry Hall ($1.4 million), the Facilities Master Plan ($255,000), and various health and safety upgrades ($50,000) primarily on the Valencia campus.

**CONSTRUCTION UPDATE**

**STAY INFORMED**

FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION ABOUT MEASURE M, CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE MEETINGS, AGENDA AND MINUTES, AND MORE, VISIT:

canyons.edu/pio
Cougar Stadium is ready for fall sports! The largest athletic stadium in the Santa Clarita Valley underwent a summer renovation that resurfaced the running track and replaced the playing surface with a higher grade of artificial turf.

The process of removing the previous artificial turf, which was installed 10 years ago, began June 17. It was replaced with a state-of-the-art surface called FieldTurf Revolution, designed to provide an unparalleled level of player safety at a surface temperature up to 40 degrees cooler than traditional artificial turf. The same type of artificial turf is utilized by Division I schools such as the University of Texas, University of Missouri and U.S. Naval Academy.

The stadium track also was completely resurfaced with a new 7-mm layer of rubber and granules before being restriped with official collegiate track & field markings. The pole vault/long jump/triple jump runways were completely resurfaced as well.

The approximately $780,000 renovation was funded by a deferred maintenance and replacement account set up jointly by the Santa Clarita Community College District and the William S. Hart Union High School District, whose schools make routine use of the facility. Both districts have contributed equally to the account since the original artificial turf was installed in 2003. The remaining balance was funded by Measure M bond funds, which local voters approved for such purposes in 2006.

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