FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 12 – 19, 2005

In progress

- Kristen Habbestad arranged to have a reporter from the Westside Weekly interview Dr. Ralph Casas, a professor of pharmacology, for a profile article that appeared in the weekly paper on Friday, September 16.

- Ms. Habbestad also provided an article for placement in Norwalk’s city publication, Norwalk Now, to highlight display of the college’s “Building Futures” display.

Coverage

Wave (East & Northeast editions), Herald American, Lynwood Press – August 11, 2005 – Article about athletes being signed with various universities. Cerritos College student Marques Hamilton mentioned.


Wave (Northeast edition) – August 11, 2005 – Article about a local nurse. Cerritos College mentioned.

Wave (East & Northeast editions), The Press, Lynwood Press – August 11, 2005 – Article about Cerritos College sophomore Dan Kuykendall committing to play football at the University of Oregon.

Whittier Daily News – August 17, 2005 – Article about 9 board members declining to run in local district elections. Cerritos College mentioned.

Wave (East edition), The Press, Lynwood Press – August 18, 2005 – Article about the third class of the Cerritos College/Downey Regional Medical Center nursing students.

Whittier Daily News – August 28, 2005 – Article about the city of La Mirada offering free classes taught be Cerritos College teachers.


Bellflower Bulletin – September 2005 – The second article from a series focusing on the history of Cerritos College in the 60s.

Westside Weekly – September 16, 2005 – Article about Cerritos College Culinary Arts Café.

Related Articles
Whittier Daily News – September 1, 2005 – Article about Gov. Schwarzenegger having to miss the UC Merced opening.
Cerritos College Celebrates 50 Years in the Making

Academic Excellence: Innovation and Articulation of 1970s Campus

Note: the following are the third in a series of five articles, each released monthly describing a decade of Cerritos College’s 50 years.

NORWALK, CA – September 12, 2005 – The 1970s proved to be a dynamic decade for the Cerritos Community College District and its surrounding communities. Changes in students’ attitudes, actions and apparel reflected trends evolving from an era of dubious politics, soaring gas prices, double-digit inflation, equal rights and increased social activism.

The year 1971 marked a significant year in the college’s evolution, as its name changed from Cerritos Junior College District to Cerritos Community College District. Meanwhile, as school districts grew in population to 400,000 during the 1971-72 academic year, the college was accommodating 15,000 students.

Dr. Siegfried C. Ringwald served as college president during the 1971-72 school year, and students had more than 40 courses to choose from while working toward their certificate of achievement in vocational programs. These courses included: business supermarket management, structural steel layout and fitting, television servicing technology and aerospace production planning.

Dr. Wilford Michael, the longest standing president ever to serve at the college, was brought on board at the college in 1973 and would serve through 1986.

– More –
Optimism still abounded from the college's founding father, Ralph Burnight, who expressed pride in the school over which he'd presided during the college's early years. During a 1972 interview, Burnight reflected on the rich history of the college's creation and the payoff yielded from the hard work of the many people who invested in its progress. He often shared with others his pride for the college's evolution and emphasized that while the institution was growing to accommodate the burgeoning population of the communities it served, maintaining a "personal touch" was key to good education.

Local politics at the college also incurred changes, as Mr. Leslie Nottingham, a valued member of the Cerritos College Board of Trustees for 23 years decided to say goodbye and newcomer Rich Goul, 21, was elected onto the board.

The student body composition changed during this time, as more than 18,000 students enrolled at the college. The ever-evolving campus population continually reflected the busy lifestyles of students.

Just as Cerritos College students reflected the changes of 1970s, so too did the college, which expanded its vocational education program and improved its academic transfer program. Plans were also in the works for the health science building, bookstore and a $2 million Advanced Auto Technology Center in the C-10 parking lot area south of Falcon Way.

First-time programs introduced during the decade included the recruitment and retention, paralegal training, food services and reading programs. Also introduced on campus were the child care center, the campus police department and weekend college.

As the women's liberation movement of the '60s continued into the next decade, Cerritos College students reflected the nation's evolving views and elected the college's first female student body president. Similarly, the college began offering a program for women's studies.

- More -
College curriculum during the decade included a Mexican-American studies program to give Mexican-American students a greater understanding of their backgrounds and helped other students gain additional knowledge of Mexico, its people, culture and development.

Students attended courses like a 5-week workshop on dealing with divorce, offered through the college outside of its standard curriculum. The workshop, “Divorce: A New Life,” focused on experiencing divorce in a more healthy and creative way by addressing issues such as coping with stress, anger, loneliness and the single experience.

Other notables who visited the campus during the decade included comedian George Carlin, blues-singer Richie Havens and singer Jimmy Sphoris, who gathered at the college gym to perform in 1972. Students would long remember the night of Carlin’s outspoken comedy, Havens’ blues magic and Sphoris’ refreshing voice as the “Can he say that?” performance.

As the decade progressed, so too did fashion and technological advances, as calculators, digital watches, telephone gadgets, video games and CB radios ushered in a push-button era.

The college experienced its own version of increased technology usage throughout the decade. The board voted to upgrade a $750,000 donated computer that filled an entire room and replace it with a computer that could fit into a briefcase with five times the capability of its predecessor for under $1,000.

Faculty began using Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI) in 1975 to instruct students in various subjects through computer terminals that could provide lectures, tests and evaluations for our students. A student studying subjects ranging from administration of justice, chemistry and court reporting, to data processing, dental assisting, electronics, math and physics, had the option of using CAI.
As the decade neared to a close, Cerritos College students and staff thrived in the era of new technologies, added school buildings and courses and interesting professional lectures. Evening courses continued to draw attendance, with 45 percent of students attending night courses during the 1978-79 school year. Of the remaining 55 percent of students enrolled that school year, 33 percent attended day classes exclusively and 22 percent had mixed schedules.

Together, these students brought creativity, enlightened attitudes and style to their 1970’s experience at the college, discarding old conventions and loosening their collective collars in preparation for the coming decade.

Cerritos College’s 50th anniversary celebration officially begins August 1, 2005 with the Cerritos College Foundation’s 20th Annual Golf Classic. Once the fall semester begins, a special convocation involving several generations of faculty and staff will be held in September. A fund-raising gala is planned for October with proceeds benefiting Cerritos College students who may be presented later with 50th Anniversary Scholarships created in honor of the milestone.

Cerritos College celebrates the 2005-06 school year as its 50th anniversary in serving as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County communities including Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada and Norwalk. The college offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently surpasses 22,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu, and view a celebratory site honoring the college’s 50 years of tradition, honor and values at www.cerritos.edu/50.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
September 19, 2005

Media Contact:  
Kristen Habbestad  
Public Affairs  
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Cerritos College Brings its History to City of La Mirada

WHAT:  
Cerritos College will bring its 50th anniversary celebration to the residents of La Mirada through “Building Futures,” a free exhibit of college memorabilia, historical photos and collector’s items on display at the La Mirada Activity Center.

La Mirada is one of eight local cities that are located within Cerritos College’s district boundaries, and throughout the years, Cerritos College faculty members and administrators have had prominent ties with the city. For example, retired Cerritos College philosophy professor Sherill L. Moses served on the La Mirada city council in the 1970s, and Cerritos College pharmacy technology instructor Hal Malkin is currently serving on the La Mirada City Council.

WHEN:  
Monday, September 19 - Friday, October 7. Activity center hours are Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. – 9 p.m. and on Saturday, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

WHERE:  
La Mirada Activity Center  
13810 La Mirada Boulevard  
La Mirada, California  90638-3028

CONTACT:  
For more details about the Cerritos College 50th Anniversary Traveling Display, please contact Megan Richardson of Cerritos College Public Affairs, at (562) 860-2451 ext. 2401, or contact La Mirada City Hall at (562) 943-0131.

COST:  
Free.

—More—
Cerritos College celebrates the 2005-06 school year as its 50th anniversary in serving as a comprehensive community college for southeastern Los Angeles County. Communities within the college’s district include Artesia, Bellflower, Cerritos, Downey, Hawaiian Gardens, Lakewood, La Mirada and Norwalk. Cerritos College offers degrees and certificates in more than 180 areas of study in nine divisions. Annually, more than 1,200 students successfully complete their course of studies, and enrollment currently surpasses 22,000 students. Visit Cerritos College online at www.cerritos.edu, and view a celebratory site honoring the college’s 50 years of tradition, honor and values at www.cerritos.edu/50.
College signings:

South Gate High School All-City pitcher Isaac Morales has signed a national letter of intent to play baseball at Cal State Los Angeles.

The university announced its letter of intent signings for all sports this week.

A lefthanded pitcher, Morales led South Gate to the Eastern League title by going 10-2 with two saves, five complete games and a 1.53 earned run average. He had 111 strikeouts in 78 innings.

The Golden Eagles' baseball program also signed Adam Klein, a Los Angeles native who attended Crossroads School and Pierce College.

CSLAX men's basketball signees include Marques Hamilton from Cerritos College and Robert Reynaga, a Mission Valley resident who attended St. John Bosco High and Santa Ana College. Hamilton is a graduate of Peabody High in Pittsburgh.

Imoua Mackie from Dorsey High and Irvine Valley College has also signed with the program.

Women's basketball signees include Amber Feuz from West L.A. College and Shyrna Stanley from Westchester High and L.A. Southwest College.

Robert Ramirez from Lynwood and Cerritos College has signed with the Golden Eagles' men's soccer program.

Women's track and field signees include Jamie Berenal and April Brown from Cerritos College. Both are Bellflower High graduates.
Aircraft workshop: The Centinela College Manufacturing Technology Department hosts the Experimental Aircraft Association's composite aircraft parts and repair workshop from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday in the Metals Building on the college campus, 11110 Alondra Blvd., Norwalk. The workshop is open to the public and provides hands-on fiber-glass lay-up and repair, vacuum bagging, hot wire foam cutting, and other demonstrations. (562) 860-2451, ext. 2927.
Hospital, area agency help nurse reach her career goals

DOWNNEY — When Whittier resident Sulma Bravo chose to become a nurse, she found lots of help to move her forward on her career path, thanks to a program offered by Downey Regional Medical Center and TLACAC, an East Los Angeles-based community services agency.

She first received a scholarship through the joint program to fund her nursing education at East Los Angeles College, according to a hospital representative.

The 2001 ELAC graduate began working at the medical center as a registered nurse three years ago, and has now set her sights on a bachelor’s degree in nursing.

As she begins her first semester at Cal State Dominguez Hills, she is receiving financial support to continue her nursing education through a medical center program as one of the recipients of the Henderson-Goergen Scholarship Fund.

“I love being a patient advocate,” Bravo said. “Seeing a patient come in ill and leave well is very rewarding. My co-workers and I want to stay (at the medical center) because we see it like a family and very supportive of each other.”

A nurse on the medical/surgical floor, Bravo plans to take two classes a semester towards her bachelor’s degree. She is working toward her long-term goal of getting her master’s degree in nursing and becoming either a nursing instructor or nursing supervisor.

Bravo also plans to be married within a few years. Her fiancé is currently serving with U.S. forces, guarding the border between Syria and Iraq, the representative said.

According to U.S. Department of Labor statistics, registered nurses constitute the largest health care occupation, with 2.8 million jobs.

The nursing workforce is struggling to keep pace with an aging population. The nursing shortage in the U.S. is 125,000 currently, and expected to be 434,000 by 2020, the representative said.

The shortage is particularly acute in California, where many nurses are nearing retirement age and the state is the nation’s first to have a nurse-to-patient ratio law. More new jobs are expected to be created for registered nurses than for any other occupation, she added.

“The Downey Regional Medical Center has committed significant resources to training new nurses through partnerships with East Los Angeles College and Cerritos College,” said Chief Nursing Officer Heather Corwell.

“Retaining our existing staff and helping them to hone their clinical skills is also a top priority. The Henderson-Goergen scholarships help turn this initiative into reality. We feel it is vitally important to ensure that in the future our community will have skilled medical professionals to care for them.”

For details on DRMC’s nurse training programs, call (562) 904-5033.
Kuykendall commits to Oregon

Defensive lineman has one more year at Cerritos College

Cerritos College defensive tackle Dan Kuykendall has given a verbal commitment to the University of Oregon next year.

The 6-foot-4, 270-pounder, who will be playing his sophomore year at Cerritos in the fall, made his decision after a recruiting trip to Eugene last weekend. It was his only trip.

"I really love the area and the coaching staff and facilities are just great," Kuykendall said.

As a freshman, he recorded 23 tackles, three sacks, two blocked kicks and two fumble recoveries for the Falcons. He missed the final two games of the season due to injury, but is healthy and ready to go in the fall.

The Long Beach Millikan High School grad was also recruited by Louisiana State, Washington State, Texas Christian, Oklahoma State, Arizona, Arizona State and Washington. Oregon, though, was the only place he considered.

"I really saw myself fitting into their program because of their aggressive and intense approach to defense," Kuykendall said. "I play with intensity and I can bring my experience to their program. They are fairly young on the defensive line right now, but after this season, they will be more experienced and I felt as though I would fit into their system perfectly."

Oregon was 5-6 last year.
9 board members decline to run

A record number of incumbents in eight local districts will not seek re-election Nov. 8 for reasons ranging from health to wanting to spend more time with family.

By Mike Sprague
Staff Writer

A record nine incumbents have chosen not to seek re-election in eight local school districts on Nov. 8. That’s about 28 percent of the 35 positions on local ballots this fall. The next deadline for candidates to file is 6 p.m. today.

It doesn’t appear that there’s a single reason for so many school board members choosing to step down. It may just be coincidence.

But since 1991, the largest number of school board members choosing not to run was six. That happened in 1991 and again in 1993. Last year, only Los Nietos’ Betty Elizalde and Whittier Union High’s Cathy Warner voluntarily stepped down.

“It’s a larger number than normal,” Whittier Councilman Owen Newcomer said. “It’s just a fluke-type thing. I would be worried if there was a particular cause or issue. I don’t think there’s a particular cause. It’s just personal lives taking different directions.”

The reasons given by the incumbents run the gamut from health to spending time with family to wanting more time for other causes.

And the range of experience also is wide — from El Rancho Unified...
BOARD

Nine incumbents won't run

Continued from A1

School District's Frank Boyce, a 26-year veteran, to three board members just completing their first terms. Boyce, and Jose Martinez of Los Nitos District chose to step down because of health reasons. Rio Hondo College's Leo Camalech cited his new assistant superintendent position with the Whittier Union High School District, while fellow Rio Hondo trustee Michelle Yanez was recently married and also has a new job.

Then there's John Peel of the Whittier City School District, who is leaving after eight years and wants to spend more time on other causes, such as the Whittier City School District Educational and Whittier High School Alumni Association and Educational foundations.

Little Lake City's Janet Rock said her daughter plays softball for the University of Nebraska and she plans to spend a lot of time watching her.

Norwalk-La Mirada Unified's Gabe Garcia also cited family, while Bob Ehlers of East Whittier City School District said he no longer wants to put in the time needed to be a board member.

Also not running is Eric Gutierrez, a Cerritos College trustee.

La Mirada Councilman Hal Malkin said he's not surprised by the turnover. "It's a very tough and almost thankless job," Malkin said. "People expect miracles and you don't have that much control."

With so many openings, there should be much more activity during the election, predicted Ralph Pacheco, a Whittier Union High School District board member.

"It's an exciting time for our region where you have a heightened interest from the community in serving on our local boards," Pacheco said. And that could mean change on the board.

That can be a good thing, Pacheco said. "It brings a new perspective, outlook and point of view."

Pacheco said. "It can stimulate a discussion on what's important for children."

Javier Gonzalez, member of the Whittier City School District, said too much change can lead to problems. That's one reason why he chose to file for re-election.

"We can't have too much of (change)," Gonzalez said. "Then you lose consistency. The board would be different and we would have different chemistry."

Mike Sprague can be reached at (562) 980-6605, Ext. 9022, or by e-mail at mike_sprague@sgvn.com.
Future nurses prepare to start classes this fall at Cerritos College in the Bridge to Nursing program in partnership with Downey Regional Medical Center. From left are Lindsay Allen, Regina Alba, Raymond Jimenez, Heather Conwell, chief nursing officer at the Downey hospital; Jacqueline Lopez, Christine Warren, Eugene Sanchez, Cindy Cornejo and Rainoud Bagnot.

Hospital, college greet future nursing students

DOWNY — The third class of the Cerritos College/Downey Regional Medical Center nursing students was welcomed to the Downey family at a Bridge to Nursing luncheon July 18.

The students are expected to begin their courses at Cerritos College in the fall semester and graduate in spring 2007.

Chief Nursing Officer Heather Conwell said: "We had nearly 100 applicants and selected the top achievers whose grade point average, essays and applications reflected nurses we want to have in our society and hospital. "We realized four and a half years ago that our own exceptional personnel couldn’t get into nurse training programs [because they were full]. In partnership with Cerritos College, we laid out a plan to get more nurses into the pipeline by funding a nursing instructor. Cerritos has an excellent program and faculty."

A number of nursing educators and managers at the luncheon said they were proud to be Cerritos College nursing graduates. One of them, Ronie Hamilton, nursing director for the family birth center and health at the hospital, told the students: "Everyone here is passionately interested in your success and we will support you in any way we can."

Several of the students are already employed at the medical center. After graduating from the two-year program and passing their state boards, the nurses can work at the hospital for at least one year and hopefully for many years to come, Conwell said.
Crowded fields brace for battle in area elections

By Mike Sprague

The field is set in what could be the most competitive election in years for Whittier area school boards and a local city council.

A total of 13 candidates will vie for six school board seats in an election season of last-minute decisions and changes.

Candidate filings were completed Wednesday night for eight school boards and the Montebello City Council. The filing deadline for the races was last Friday but was extended because a record 11 incumbents chose not to seek re-election.

Unlike past years in which some incumbents and even challengers were elected without a contest, every single school board and city council in the Whittier area will have an election.

The contests range from the Montebello City Council, where nine candidates, including one incumbent, are seeking three seats, to the Whittier Union High School District, where one challenger and three incumbents will vie for three open seats.

Only two school board incumbents are running unopposed: appointed incumbents Janet Baird of the South Whittier School District board and Karen Morris of the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District board.

Both are seeking two-year unexpired terms that ended in December 2007.

Barbara Stone, professor of political science at Cal State Fullerton, said term limits for state legislators might be playing a role in creating more competitive local races, because candidates sometimes view school board and council seats as potential stepping stones to higher office.

"In this day and age, with the circulation of seats, you know there will be a shake up at that (state) level," Stone said. "And the new ones tend to come from city councils and school boards.

Even before the filing deadline closed, some candidates played a political ping-pong game, making last-minute decisions based on who would run or not.

When Rio Hondo College trustee Michelle Yamas chose not to run for re-election, Louis Reyes, an aide to state Assemblyman Rudy Bermudez, abandoned what probably would have been a cinch win for a Whittier City School District board seat in favor of what could be a tough fight for Yamas' seat.

Barbara Ruiz, a county grants manager from La Mirada, decided at the last minute Friday not to run for the Norwalk-La Mirada Unified School District board, despite having taken out nominating papers earlier.

Some of the candidates have family connections.

For example, parent Jesse Benavitez and appointed incumbent Cathy Martinez, who are husband and wife, are among six candidates running for the Los Nietos School District board.

Gina Almazan-Renierrez, wife of Norwalk Councilman Rick Ramirez, is one of four candidates running for the Little Lake City School District board.

The hottest race, however, might be for the Montebello City Council, in which six candidates filed to run for three open seats.

Incumbents Mary Anne Salcido and Ed Vasquez did not seek re-election, but Vasquez's wife, Rosamaria, is among the challengers.

Mike Sprague can be reached at (626) 917-8585, Ext. 323, or by e-mail at Mike.Sprague@htn.com.
Local activity center offers adult classes

LA MIRADA — The city of La Mirada is offering an array of free classes for adults and seniors, ranging from arts and crafts to sports and fitness throughout the rest of the year. The classes include china painting, ribbon embroidery, quilting, watercolor painting, vocal arts workshops, boating courses, memoir writing, world events, easy cooking and exercise.

Classes are open to those 18 years and older. They are taught by Cerritos College and local adult school teachers at the La Mirada Activity Center and the La Mirada Resource Center.

Classes don’t require registration. For more information, refer to the La Mirada Living publication or call (562) 933-3180.
Cerritos College First Year Experience
Students Describe Program’s Benefits

Cerritos College’s Public Affairs Office recently interviewed a group of students who have just completed their first year or semester at Cerritos College. We asked them about their experiences as part of the First-Year Experience Program, which organizes incoming students into cohesive or "house" groups that are comprised of a select number of classes to promote student success at Cerritos College.

Students sign into a full program of courses taught by faculty who are trained to work collaboratively for their benefit. The program introduces students to the challenges of academic life and includes courses in English, math, career counseling, problem solving, health classes, and study skills. FYE classes are designed to give students the opportunity to form study groups and lasting friendships—a campus "family."

The program also offers special programs and events, including field trips to museums, art exhibits, and plays, as well as orientation sessions, Family Night, and End-of-Session award ceremonies and celebrations.

Cerritos College student Karla Capistran of Lakewood, Victoria Padilla of Norwalk, and Elizabeth Ramos of Norwalk, along with peers of the Bell and La Mirada House members have each completed either their first semester or first year as part of the First-Year Experience (FYE) program. They provided some insights into how the program helped them adjust to college, make friends, and develop study skills.

English Professor Suzanne Ashe, who coordinates the FYE program, also provided a faculty member’s view of the benefits of the program.

"I took classes with the same people every day, and that helped the transition to college. It seems a bit smaller and less intimidating," said Capistran, who is currently an undecided major, but is considering entering the nursing program.

"All of us who entered at the same time still attend most of the same classes," explained Hernandez, who wants to go into education. "We talk about different things related to class, and I have more confidence and am not tarred anymore about discussing my class questions with professors."

Bostick, a sociology major, commented that he was able to develop a relationship with his professor, and "that allowed me to go through the learning process." He said, "They helped me toward my goals and convinced me."

Each of the students recommended that incoming students get involved in activities and study groups as soon as possible, since they begin it at the start of the school year.

"Get involved," said Ramos. "It really helped me out. Approach a counselor and get on track as far as classes."

Professor Ashe agreed. "Having the students travel through classes together helps them to know they’re not alone," she said. "They learn, for example, that asking questions in class shouldn’t make them feel awkward. They can be open about not understanding. They can feel free to get involved in talking in class and interacting."

The students also mentioned that the FYE cohorts helped them to become more familiar with people on campus.

"I became closer with groups," said Padilla, who is studying fine arts and wants to some day return as an instructor in the college. "Now, I don’t want to change classes!"

"They usually were caused by meeting people who have the same interests as me," said Hernandez.

Ramos emphasized how the students also met in her classes because study partners.

"It’s great as an incoming student to get into study groups," she said. "If you have something like a study group to encourage you in studying, you’ll find a much easier path.

Professor Ashe added, "For new college students, it’s easy to get lost. They need a little direction. Anybody who’s knowledgeable enough, and their peers. But once they began interacting, learning and growing together, they see that they are all really in the same boat."

"Get involved with positive people and stay away from negative people," offered Padilla. "FYE staff is helpful and nice, oriented, many professors, mentors. I know that teachers can help out. They’re people too!"

Padilla, who returned to college after being out of school for several years, said that through FYE, she realized that age doesn’t matter when it comes to learning.

"No matter what obstacles you have at home, you can do it," she said. "Even now, I’m not sure how I’m doing it, but I’m not sure."

For more information about the FYE program visit www.cerritos.edu/fye or contact Suzanne Ashe, Cerritos College First-Year Experience program coordinator, at (562) 860-2453, ext. 2814 or sashe@cerritos.edu.
Exponential Growth: Expansion and Development of 1960s Campus

The 1960s were years of societal growth, change, reflection and reform. This period also marked growth for the Cerritos Community College District as its campus grew and evoked pride from its visionaries. These were the college’s true formative years as additional buildings adorned the campus, new departments and curriculums were created and many post World War II baby boomers flocked to the burgeoning institution from surrounding communities.

By the end of 1959, eight buildings had been completed on campus, and funds were made available to provide the remaining facilities to accommodate a student body of 3,500 students. The Student Center was completed March 8, 1960 and became a social nucleus for students who could collaborate, question, debate and discuss the topics of the day.

See Cerritos College Celebrates 50 Years page 8. Architect’s rendering for Cerritos College Social Science Building circa 1960s.
Exponential Growth: Expansion and Development of 1960s Campus

The library, completed July 1, 1961, became an anchor of valuable knowledge for students and the beneficency of external campus news publications that would later serve as windows into the thoughts, goals, ambitions and events that parallel the college's evolution. The library included 92 acres, and its permanent buildings brought the value of the college to $8 million.

The Ralph F. Burchett Center for Performing Arts, named after the first president of the college, was also built in the early '60s and served as a reminder of Burchett's commitment to the creation of the institution after his retirement in 1962. The $1.7 million performing arts center was constructed north of the quad to serve the college and the community. It was a magnificent addition to the campus, offering facilities for virtually any type of theatrical production.

The music wing of the building included класс rooms, concert rooms and individual practice rooms. Also included were a production center for the musical services and a radio studio. The music drama complex offered a 1,000-seat main stage, a regular stage, workshops equipped for costume, makeup, scene construction and lighting.

Following President Ralph Burchett's retirement in 1962, Dr. Jack W. Manns was named as the second president and superintendent of the college. Manns, a former student at Arkansas A&M College, received much praise for the college's students and faculty, commenting, "I have been a student at the college for the past 20 years, and I am convinced that the college is well run and that the students are satisfied with the education they receive."

The college's 95 acres and 15 permanent buildings in 1964 brought its value to $5 million and the assessed valuation of the district served by the college was estimated to be $229 million. The year brought also a new building for the college, the science building. The science building is a 100,000-square-foot facility for 1,000 students. The building also includes a music room, a gymnasium, a library, a cafeteria, a cafeteria, a high school, a middle school, a elementary school, and a preschool.

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Dinner & a movie

Cerritos College Culinary Arts Cafe 11110 Alondra Blvd.,
Norwalk Student Center (562) 860-2451, ext. 2456
www.cerritos.edu/culinary

Cuisine: International Price range: Salads and sandwiches, $4.65; entrees, $3.75-$5.45; three-course meal, $9.95
Hours: Mondays through Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. and 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. The cafe is closed when school is not in session and the first two weeks of each semester. Specialties: Of the standards, the Cobb salad and caprese sandwich, served on grilled herb focaccia, are favorites. The entree and two three-course menus change weekly. Occasionally, exotic ingredients such as frog legs are served. What makes this place unique: Students learn to become chefs, and diners try out their new dishes at this campus restaurant. Everything is done from scratch. The 89 cooks and 70 pastry chefs make their own sausage and cured meats, bread, sauces and desserts. Students staff the kitchen's butcher shop. Fresh herbs come from the garden just outside. Three-course and entree menus suggest a four-star restaurant. Next week's entrees include fresh chicken breast stuffed with wild mushrooms and wrapped in crispy phyllo, poached salmon with potato crust, and grilled steak and chorizo sausage with red and yellow pepper coulis. Three-course meals include a starter or salad, entree and dessert for under $10. Department chair Michael Pierini said he discourages the use of recipes. He teaches his students all types of cuisine but not trends, i.e. fusion but not low-carb.

- Candice Shih

Photo by Candice Shih, Westside Weekly

The chefs-in-training use the basil, sage, lemongrass, thyme and other herbs grown in the garden out back. There's even aloe vera for their inevitable kitchen burns.

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Governor to skip UC Merced opening

By Tom Chorneau
ASSOCIATED PRESS

SACRAMENTO — A long list of state officials, including two former governors, is scheduled to attend opening ceremonies Monday for the University of California, Merced, the first UC campus to be built in four decades.

Absent from the gala will be the state's current chief executive, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger. University officials were notified about 30 days ago that the governor would not be coming.

"We received a telephone call advising us that his schedule was booked and he would not be able to participate," said Patti Istas, spokeswoman for the university. "We were told that he understood the significance of our event and regretted not being able to attend."

Neither the governor nor his staff has disclosed what other events or activities will occupy his time Monday. On Wednesday, Schwarzenegger said he will take his own private tour of the campus today.

"I'm not skipping it; I'm skipping ahead of it," the governor said in response to a reporter's question during a press event related to homeless issues in Lodi Beach. "I'm visiting it tomorrow. Tomorrow I am taking a tour of UC Merced because I'm very, very proud that we are building another university." Istas confirmed that a private tour for the governor had been arranged. Schwarzenegger didn't respond to questions about where he would be on the day of the ceremony.

Officials in California's vast and fast-developing San Joaquin Valley consider the campus opening an important milestone. UC Merced is the 10th campus of the University of California system and the first major research university to be built in the United States in the new millennium.

Schwarzenegger is a big supporter of the campus and of education but just could not attend, said Katherine McLane, a spokeswoman for the governor. She said she did not know where Schwarzenegger would be on Monday.