

# CAPITAL PROJECTS SANTA ROSA JUNIOR COLLEGE



## Garcia Hall Ribbon Cutting Celebration

*New home for the Communication Studies Department*

On Friday, September 23, the SRJC Communication Studies faculty and staff were thrilled to share their new home with the community who turned out for a ribbon cutting and open house to celebrate this major achievement. Funded through Measure H, approved by Sonoma County voters in 2014, the Garcia Hall Renovation project retained the historical beauty of the 1936 Heritage building while creating an elegant and modern learning environment that will serve students for many years to come.



SRJC Foundation Building  
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Lindley Center for STEM  
Education — page 3



Shone Farm photos —  
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October 8—SRJC Shone  
Farm Fall Festival  
November 10—Professional  
Development Day / No  
Classes  
November 11—Veterans Day  
Holiday  
November 24-27—No  
Classes, Thanksgiving  
Holiday

*A Look Ahead—*  
• *SRJC Petaluma*



**Garcia Hall Ribbon Cutting**—continued from page 1

Superintendent Dr. Chong welcomed guests and shared a brief history about the building, originally named Commerce Building. In 1953, “the name was changed to Garcia to honor [founding Trustee] Al Garcia, who turns out to be Al Magini’s uncle.” He also thanked the many people involved with the renovation, including the department and the technical team.

Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees President Dorothy Battenfeld acknowledged students, faculty and staff for their patience with the construction, and the Citizens Bond Oversight Committee Chair (CBOC) Michael Coutre spoke about the role of the CBOC in providing fiscal oversight to the bond program.

Kerry Loewen, Dean of Arts and Humanities, and Michael Traina, Communication Studies Chair, and several faculty members who attended the event, spoke of how long the department has waited for its own building and what this means to students and faculty.

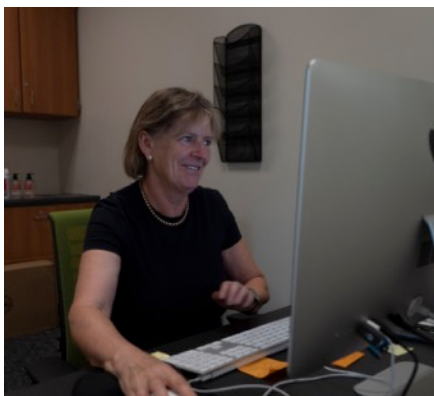
“Our department has never had its own building,” said Department Chair Traina. “Our programs have never been centrally located. Moving into Garcia Hall marks a new era for our department.”

Dean Kerry Loewen acknowledged Serafin Fernandez, Capital Projects Senior Director, for his ability to find a home for Fashion Studies at SRJC Petaluma, comparing his moves to the war board in *Game of Thrones*.

SRJC journalism student Sean Young, *The Oak Leaf* Co-Editor-in Chief, is glad to be in closer proximity to Bailey Hall, and is thrilled the student-run award-winning news media will now have a modern, dedicated news room. He spoke with pride and humility over the number of outstanding journalists who gained a start at SRJC. Journalism instructor Anne Belden is *The Oak Leaf* advisor.

After the ribbon cutting, faculty led tours. In addition to the news room and its own conference area, the renovated building includes the creation of a 49-seat screening room, a dedicated speech lab, faculty offices and conference room, an all-gender restroom, and more. Guests were able to take in videos on speech and forensics, student short films, digital filmmaking, and news reels in various classrooms and labs. Refreshments, including fruit from Shone Farm, were available in the faculty conference room, thanks to administrative assistant Jennifer O’Mahony, who was acknowledged by several speakers. “She is the backbone of the department,” one said to warm applause.

*Photos (from top right, clockwise): Project Manager Ryan Leahy checks out notes while test driving a seat in the screening room, Superintendent Dr. Chong addresses the crowd, Dr. Chong and Board President Dorothy Battenfeld, Nick Vides and Sean Young, Co-Editors-in-Chief, The Oak Leaf, refreshments and conversation in the lobby, and Jennifer O’Mahony checking her To-Do List in a candid shot by The Oak Leaf photographer Nick Vides prior to the event.*



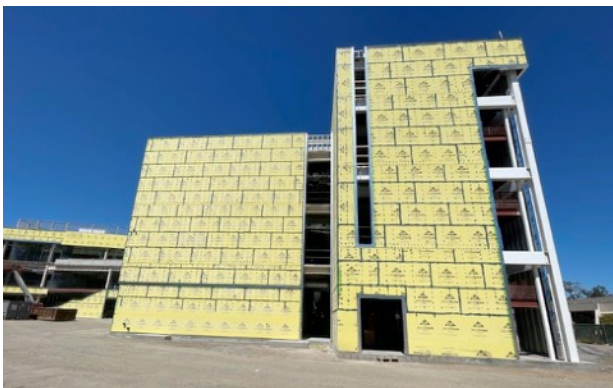


## SRJC Superintendent, Foundation staff, and guests don hardhats and vests for tour of the new building scheduled to open in January 2023



Earlier this month, the SRJC Superintendent and Foundation staff enjoyed a tour of the new SRJC Foundation building, currently under construction. The Foundation plays a critical role in securing resources and providing opportunities for students and community. Now, thanks to Measure H, Foundation staff will be housed in one location after the winter break. To learn more about the Foundation's important work, please visit <https://>

## Lindley Center is one of three major Elliott Avenue new construction projects



Recent construction activity at the Lindley Center include:

- Exterior sheathing completed
- Exterior air barrier and flashings, roof insulation and membrane, window clips and frames, and hydronic piping installation underway
- Electrical Room equipment set and mechanical chiller installed
- Elevator shafts enclosed
- Plumbing and HVAC ongoing

A walk on Elliott Avenue is filled with a bustle of construction activity, with the new Student Housing (non-Measure H funded) underway at the corner of Elliott Avenue and Armory Drive, the new SRJC Foundation building (707 Elliott Avenue) at Elliott and Illinois Avenues, and the new 100,000 square foot Lindley Center for STEM Education building (pictured) between Bech and Bussman Halls.

The SRJC Foundation building is scheduled for completion in January 2023, and both the Student Housing and Lindley Center for STEM Education will open in fall 2023.

### PLEASE REMEMBER SAFETY FIRST!

STAY OUT OF ALL CONSTRUCTION AREAS.

DO NOT WALK ON THE STREET.

FOR CLOSED SIDEWALKS, SAFELY CROSS THE STREET AND USE OPEN ONES.

THANK YOU!

## Lathrop Construction Associates selected for the modernization and expansion of the SRJC Southwest Center

At its September 13 meeting, the Sonoma County Junior College District Board of Trustees approved a \$16 million proposal by Lathrop Construction Associates, Inc. and HKIT Architects for the design-build contract to modernize and expand the Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) 9.5-acre Southwest Center campus, located in the historic Roseland district of Santa Rosa. This follows approval of the design-build project delivery method at the Board's May 10 meeting.

"For over thirteen years we leased Wright School in order to provide services at the Southwest Center," said SRJC Superintendent Dr. Frank Chong. "The purchase of the property last spring is the fulfillment of a pledge I made to the community during the Measure H campaign back in 2013. Our investment in Roseland demonstrates our long-term commitment to providing higher education to a historically underserved community. I could not be more pleased!"

Senior Director, Capital Projects Serafin Fernandez said it was a difficult choice between the five project proposals provided by the shortlist of contractors, adding that "we are very happy with the board's decision and look forward to working with the design-build team."

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**"Our investment in Roseland demonstrates our long-term commitment to providing higher education to a historically underserved community. I could not be more pleased!"**

—SRJC Superintendent Dr. Frank Chong

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Classes at the site include Non-Credit English as Second Language (ESL), College Skills, Older Adults, Community Education, Electronic Technology and Computer Literacy classes. Student support services such as food distribution, student health services and remote assistance with online admissions, class registration and academic counseling are also offered.

Pre-pandemic, the campus served more than 7,000 non-English speaking and conventional students from Sonoma County each year. Enrollment is anticipated to grow alongside the densifying of the southwest area of the city, in line with the District's Facilities Master Plan approved in 2016. The current



*Southwest Center Director Hector Delgado (second from left) celebrates this investment in education and the opportunities it provides for students and families.*

ten-classroom Roseland facility was established in 2009 via a lease from the Wright Elementary School District, and was purchased outright earlier this year for \$5.25 million. The project will include a new welcome center that will provide administrative, student services and classroom facilities, modernize existing classrooms, and expand available parking.

Southwest Center Director Hector Delgado celebrates this investment in the education of Sonoma County residents, stating, "[The expansion] allows them to create a pathway to break the cycle of poverty. Over 70 percent of the students at the Southwest Center possess less than a 10-grade education. Pursuing higher education equips students with better job opportunities as they build their resumes with GED, educational certificates, and degrees. It allows them to be better citizens, provides their children with educational opportunities, and contributes to the local economy."

This development of the Southwest Center campus has been made possible by the Measure H funding approved by Sonoma County voters in 2014. The \$410 million Measure H bond has allowed the college to modernize teaching facilities District-wide for the education, workforce training, and enrichment of the region's residents.

"We are grateful to Sonoma County residents for supporting our work," said Dr. Chong. "And we are grateful for the opportunity to build on the important work taking place at the Southwest Center and increasing educational opportunities to the Roseland community."



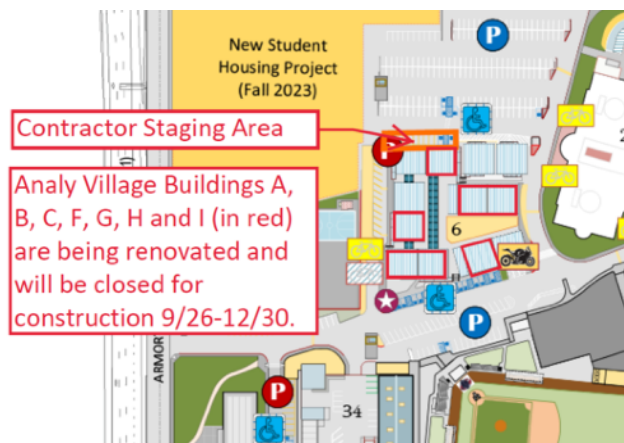
## Seven Analy Village buildings, and ten parking spaces, will remain closed closed through the end of the year due to construction

Demolition and renovation began on Monday, September 26, at Analy Village on buildings A, B, C, F, H & I. Approximately ten parking spaces at the lot north of Analy Village will be fenced off and used for the contractor's staging area.

Demolition, which will likely be the most impactful part of construction, will last for approximately two weeks.

**The row of ADA parking spots south of Analy Village will not be closed throughout the project.**

Buildings A, B, C, F, G, H, & I will be closed through December, as will the staging area in the parking lot.



For SRJC Shone Farm, the 365-acre outdoor learning laboratory for the District's Agriculture / Natural Resources Department, the Notice of Completion for the AG Portables project will go before the Board of Trustees at their October Meeting.

Also—the SRJC Shone Farm Fall Festival on October 8.  
Get your tickets at <https://shonefarm.santarosa.edu/fall-festival>.





More Garcia Hall Ribbon Cutting photos (from top left) courtesy of SRJC Public Relations photographer Jason Steger: 1. Red Ribbon eagerly awaiting guests to arrive. 2. Many guests found shade under SRJC's beautiful trees, other found shade under canopies. 3. Board President Dorothy Battenfeld expresses her pleasure in celebrating this Measure H Milestone with everyone. 4. Dean of Arts and Humanities Kerry Loewen acknowledges everyone involved with the vision and creation of the Department's new home. 5. Communication Studies Dean Michael Traina acknowledges the Capital Projects Team for getting the building ready in time for the fall semester. 6. The Oak-Leaf Co-Editor-in-Chief Sean Young provides a student perspective on the building and the importance of the Advisor Anne Belden and other journalism students, past and present, in fostering excellence. 7. Dr. Chong holds up the big scissors and asks, "Are we ready to cut the ribbon?" Everyone applauds before the party moves inside.

