



Letter from the Vice President Advancement and Development



Dear friends,

It's been a while since we caught you up on all the good work of the Hartnell College Foundation. I want to begin by acknowledging some very recent [news](#) that was widely reported early this month: Dr. Willard Lewallen, Hartnell's outstanding leader for the past seven years, will retire as superintendent/president effective Sept. 30, 2019.

We are thrilled for him and Michele as they prepare to begin a new chapter, one with more time for themselves and their family. Likewise, we are confident the Hartnell Governing Board will hire a gifted and inspiring new leader. Together, we will uphold Dr. Lewallen's unshakeable commitment to always put "students first."

As you read through the stories below, you may reflect on Dr. Lewallen's crucial role in so many of the past year's achievements and initiatives. A perfect example is his insistence on a comprehensive approach to the Salinas Valley Promise program, which this coming fall will extend beyond free tuition to also give first-time students confidence and life skills that will be of lifelong value.

Dr. Lewallen's leadership has been just as vital to our foundation's remarkable fundraising success, which last year exceeded that of all our fellow institutions in the California Community College system. I share his conviction that you, our generous partners, will step up for Hartnell's amazing students when we explain what an incredible difference you can make in their lives and in our communities.

Winter 2019 Edition

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New Members of the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors



Andrea Bailey,
a policy,
government
and public
affairs
representative
for the
Chevron Corp.

in Monterey County, responsible
for social investment strategy,
as well as managing community,
government and stakeholder
relationships



Susan Black,
former
president and
chief executive
officer of
Pinnacle Bank,
with more

On behalf of everyone at Hartnell and the Hartnell College Foundation, thank you so much for all you do. Best wishes for a wonderful New Year. With your support, it will be another great one for Hartnell College.

Sincerely,

Jackie Cruz

Vice President of Advancement and Development
Executive Director of the Hartnell College Foundation

SALINAS VALLEY PROMISE

Salinas Valley Promise program to include mentors and training, plus tuition

After providing free tuition to 45 first-time, full-time students in its first year, Hartnell's Salinas Valley Promise program is preparing for a major expansion for 2019-20 – in both in the scope of its services and the participation of students from across the college district.

Beginning next fall, Hartnell College will offer incoming students mentorship from volunteer professionals, as well as leadership development and life-skills training. That will build on this year's launch, which guaranteed one year of free tuition for qualifying students regardless of household income. Vice President of Advancement and Development Jackie Cruz considers it one of the foundation's most important efforts ever.

The Salinas Valley Promise is designed to encourage more students to enroll full-time, boosting degree completion and transfer rates to four-year institutions. To qualify, students must have



graduated from a Salinas Valley high school (public or private), enroll in 12 or more units, and complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California Dream Act Application. The value of this program to each participating students equals approximately \$1,100 to \$1,900, depending on how many units they enroll in.

than 30 years of extensive experience in the banking industry, and a co-founding member of the Women's Education Leadership Institute (WELI) program.



Emmett Linder, a 1979 graduate of Hartnell and director of grower and community

relations for Driscoll's, has led his company's involvement with and support of the college's Agricultural Business and Technology Institute.



Kerry Varney, chief administrative officer for Tanimura & Antle, is a member of the Hartnell

College Foundation Investment Committee and has been active in the Boy Scouts of America and other community organizations.



Check out our
[Hartnell College Alumni Website](#)

When Hartnell launched its Promise program this fall, the focus was on funding first-year tuition not covered by the income-based California College Promise Grant. Now, using the model of the successful WELI and MILE programs, it will also seek to strengthen student success through the guidance of mentors and small-group training in leadership and overcoming life's challenges. More than 700 students are expected to benefit from this opportunity every year.

For the past year, a Hartnell College task force has been working closely with Superintendent/President Dr. Willard Lewallen to develop a comprehensive strategy that will increase opportunity and success for Salinas Valley graduates and other first-time students. This work was supported by a Salinas Valley Promise Committee, consisting of the following members: Adrienne Laurent, Aleen Bradley, Alfred Diaz-Infante, Ana Valles, Andrew Myrick, Antonio Alarcon, Aurelio Salazar Jr., Benjamin Figueroa, Brenda Jones, Bronwyn Moreno, Chris Lopez, David Phillips, Elliott Robinson, Esther Rubio, Kate Roberts, Jackie Cruz, Jessica Tovar, Laurencia Walker, Margaret D'Arrigo-Martin, Mary Dominguez, Michele Peregrin, Mike Briley, Monica Tovar, Olegario Gomez, Dr. Pablo Romero, Rene Mendez, Dr. Romero Jalomo, Ruth Rodriguez, Scott Faust and Dr. Willard Lewallen. Regular meetings and creative brainstorming have allowed these teams to develop an approach that can continue to evolve over time.

In addition to seeking funding from local governments based on the number of eligible students in their jurisdiction, the Hartnell College Foundation is actively seeking individual contributions to support this ambitious undertaking. Please consider giving in any amount. Watch Alisal High graduate Adriana Gonzalez describe how the combination of free tuition, guidance from a volunteer mentor and training in leadership and life skills have prepared her for a four-year degree in public relations.

For more information, please contact Hartnell College Foundation at 831-755-6810 or visit www.hartnell.edu/salinasvalleypromise.

Steep gains in student credentials and transfer signal continued student success

New statistics released this fall show that Hartnell students have achieved dramatic annual and multi-year gains in completion of degrees and certificates, transfer to public four-year universities and other key measures of success.

In 2017-18, Hartnell students were awarded 2,165 degrees or certificates, an increase of 514 – or 31 percent – above 2016-17. That is a 159 percent gain from 2011-12, when 835 academic credentials were awarded by the college.



Join the Salinas Valley
Education Legacy Society.

Call Jackie Cruz at
(831) 755-6810 for information.

give!

Save the Date!

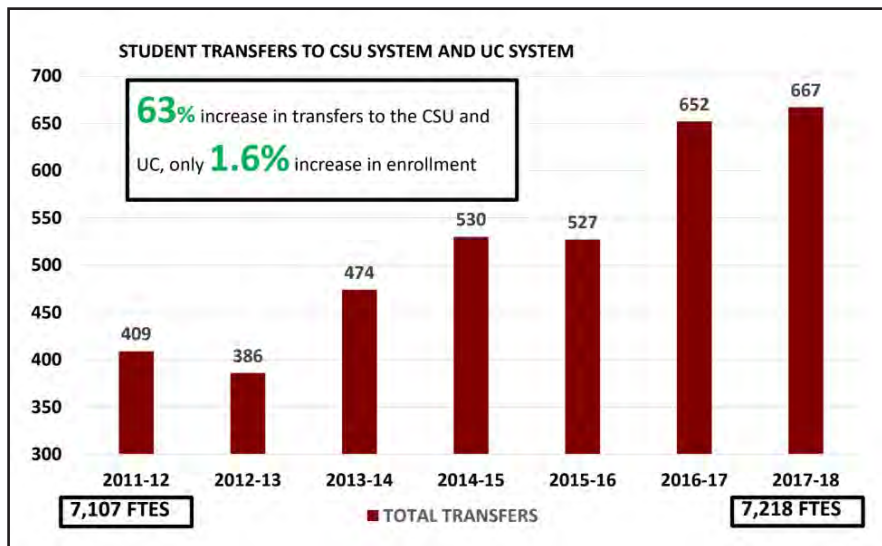
The Arts



Click for information.

"Ubu Roi"

Student adaptation and production of 1896 play by Alfred Jarry, itself adapted from Shakespeare's "MacBeth." Studio Theater, Building K
7:30 p.m., Feb. 23, and
2 p.m., Feb. 24 (free)



The past year's jump came after numbers had leveled off in 2016-17, when there had been only a slight increase, from 1,642 in 2015-16 to 1,651 in 2016-17. That followed a 26 percent gain between 2014-15 and 2015-16, when total credentials went from 1,305 to 1,642. Growth in associate degrees has outpaced gains in non-degree certificates. In 2011-12, Hartnell students completed 578 degrees and 257 certificates. In 2017-18, the ratio was 1,314 degrees to 851 certificates.

Among other benchmarks for success, Hartnell continues to see more of its graduates transfer to the University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) systems. The number of those transferring students was up by 2.3 percent in 2017-18, when 667 students transferred. Hartnell's transfers to UC and CSU are up 63 percent since 2011-12, when 409 moved into a university in the two statewide systems, compared with 667 in 2017-18.



2019 Party in the Library planning revs up

Party in the Library 2019 is less than five months away, on May 11, and planning is underway to uphold its growing reputation as one of the Salinas Valley's favorite events.

"Legacy Players in Performance"

The Western Stage's Legacy Players, 12 veteran actors from Monterey County.

2 p.m., March 2-3 (free)
Studio Theater, Building K

"ReAlisal: Stories from East Salinas"

Baktun 12 and Artists Ink collaborate on a production about the unsung heroes of East Salinas.

7:30 p.m., March 9, and
2 p.m., March 10
Studio Theater, Building K
\$5 suggested donation

"SOUTH: A Nautical Musical"

A wandering sailor searches for his long-lost mother, who has only a locket as a clue to her identity and whereabouts.

Studio Theater, Building K
7:30 p.m., April 6, and
2 p.m., April 7 (free)

"Breakfast at Nudlemans"

The Western Stage resident playwright Harvey Landa presents this kooky story of a young woman and older man whose paths are tied to one another.

7:30 p.m., April 13, and
2 p.m., April 14 (free)
Studio Theater, Building K

"Red Altar"

One-night-only, multimedia performance about six Chinese teenagers who began the fishing industry in the Monterey Bay area in 1850.

7:30 p.m., April 20
Mainstage Theater, Building K
\$20 adults, \$25 military/senior/student

This year's Leadership Award recipient is **Nate Holaday**, in recognition of the legacy he has cultivated with his passion for Hartnell.

More than 400 guests attended the hugely successful 12th annual celebration on May 12, 2018, which honored Leadership Award recipient **Alfred Diaz-Infante** and set a new mark in event fundraising at Hartnell, raising more than \$477,000 for the college's students and programs.

The night featured a cocktail greeting, delectable strolling dinner, amazing auction, dancing to Extra Large, and most importantly the opportunity to make educational dreams of Hartnell students come true.

Hartnell student **Louis Romero** shared his personal journey and the impact that Hartnell's programs, student success scholarships and career-preparation internships have had on him and his family.



College and foundation thank supporters at President's Circle reception on Dec. 12

Superintendent/President **Dr. Willard Lewallen** joined **Jackie Cruz**, vice president for advancement and development, and

"Quilters"

A musical about the lives of women who settled America.

7:30 p.m., April 26

Mainstage Theater, Building K
2 p.m. and 8 p.m., April 27-28

\$10 general seating

Farm Security Administration

Photos by **Dorothea Lange** and **Marion Post Wolcott**

Weekdays through Feb. 28
Hartnell Gallery, Building J

Music Extravaganza

Performance by all Hartnell instrumental and vocal ensembles

6 p.m., March 8

Mainstage Theater, Building K

Athletics



(Through February)

Women's Basketball

vs. MPC

5 p.m., Jan. 25

Monterey Peninsula College

Men's Basketball vs. MPC

7 p.m., Jan. 25

Monterey Peninsula College

Baseball vs. San Francisco

1 p.m., Jan. 26

Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Kurt Gollnick, president of the Hartnell College Foundation Board of Directors, to welcome donors and friends to a festive President's Circle Holiday Reception on Dec. 12 in the Center for Performing Arts.

As guests enjoyed wine, hors d'oeuvres and sweets, the three leaders noted years of achievement, including the past year's enormous gains in student success and the Hartnell College Foundation's outstanding distinction for top 2017-18 fundraising among all schools in the California Community College System, regardless of size.

Dr. Lewallen said a "secret sauce" of investment by individuals, agriculture and business remains the driving force behind Hartnell's excellence.

"It's the support we have from you that allows us to be innovative and creative and doing all of these things – because of your generosity. That's how we do it," he said. "I thank you – our college thanks you – for this incredible support."

The foundation honored outgoing board member Nick Pasculli for his second seven-year term and enduring contributions to Hartnell. Two community-based foundations were recognized for their multi-year support of the foundation – the Monterey Peninsula Foundation, which has donated \$1.94 million to Hartnell, and the Harden Foundation, whose support has totaled \$1.96 million.

The evening program also featured research presentations by students in respiratory care and other programs and speeches by students about their opportunities in the Respiratory Care Practitioner, Automotive Technology, STEM and Theatre Arts & Cinema programs.

Chevron invests in STEM at Hartnell, has new rep in Monterey County

Over the past decade, the Chevron Corp. has emerged as a strong supporter of the Hartnell College Foundation, with \$400,000 in giving focused on the college's STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) programs, students and activities. One example is Chevron's sponsorship of a Hartnell tent in the STEM Runway area during the California International Airshow Salinas, where Hartnell students provide hands-on science, health and technology experiences for Salinas-area youngsters.

Chevron's new policy, government and public affairs representative for Monterey County is **Andrea Bailey**, who also is a new foundation board member at Hartnell. She joined the corporation in August 2009 after an extensive nonprofit career in fundraising, capital campaigns, grant management and board and donor development, as well as organizational and strategic planning.

Women's Basketball

vs. De Anza

5 p.m., Jan. 30

Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball

vs. De Anza

7 p.m., Jan. 30

Hartnell Gymnasium

Baseball vs. Redwoods

2 p.m., Feb. 1

Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Women's Basketball

vs. Gavilan

5 p.m., Feb. 1

Hartnell Gymnasium

Men's Basketball

vs. Gavilan

7 p.m., Feb. 1

Hartnell Gymnasium

Softball vs. Foothill and Modesto

10 a.m., noon and 2 p.m.

Feb. 2

Hartnell College

Baseball vs. Redwood

10 a.m. and 2 p.m., Feb. 2

Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Baseball vs. De Anza

2 p.m., Feb. 6

Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Baseball vs. American River

2 p.m. Feb. 8

Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Softball vs. Santa Rosa

12 p.m., Feb. 8

Hartnell College



In Monterey County, Bailey is responsible for developing and implementing the corporation's strategies for social investment and community-stakeholder engagement, while also managing government affairs.

"I enjoy helping nonprofits build relationships to develop the resources they need," she said. "I've been impressed by this area's philanthropic spirit and by organizations' stewardship of donor support."

College receives \$1.5 million NSF grant to increase student success in STEM

Hartnell announced in August that it had been awarded a \$1.5 million grant from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Improving Undergraduate STEM Education: Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) Program. The program aims to increase retention and graduation rates for STEM students attending HSIs. Hartnell was one of only 31 institutions nation-wide selected for funding.

Hartnell's project, "Engaging STEM Transformative Experiences for Early Momentum (ESTEEM): Stepping Stones," will enable the college to develop and implement an innovative model that provides authentic STEM research experiences for undergraduate students at an early stage in their education pathway. Such early experiences will better equip students to overcome obstacles to success, including degree completion and transfer to a baccalaureate STEM degree program.

Softball vs. Cuesta

12 and 2 p.m., Feb. 12
Hartnell College

Track & Field

Gary Shaw Mini-Multi/

10k Qualifier

TBD, Feb. 18-19
Monterey Peninsula College

Baseball vs. Fresno City

2 p.m., Feb. 19-20
Tony Teresa Diamond, Hartnell

Softball vs. Taft

12 and 2 p.m., Feb. 21
Hartnell College

Softball vs. West Hills

12 and 2 p.m., Feb. 26
Hartnell College

Softball vs. Cabrillo

3 p.m., Feb. 28
Hartnell College

Call 831.755.6810 for more information about these and other events.

Hartnell College

Measure T Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee
2017 / 2018 Annual Report

Nov 14, 2018

Landscape and accessibility project rendering in front of Buildings D & E



Measure T Report

Read the 2017-18 [report](#) on Measure T projects from the Citizens' Bond Oversight Committee.

Each “Stepping Stone” will engage groups of students in the investigation of an authentic STEM research project, distinguished by collaborative inquiry, early access, a short duration and a flexible schedule, in order to respond to the needs of the local student population.

“In the U.S., Hispanics constitute 16 percent of the workforce, but they make up only 6 percent of the STEM workforce,” stated the project director, Dr. Mohammed Yahdi. “This project has the potential to be a key leverage point for recruiting and retaining more Hispanics into the STEM workforce.”



Hartnell and ag industry partners prepare for another successful Ag Tech Summit

A robust schedule of speakers and panels is coming together for the Sixth Annual Salinas Valley Ag Tech Summit on March 26-27, building on the success of a record-setting event in 2018, when more than 1,500 attendees from more than 30 countries heard from 64 experts.

The event will once again be hosted in the STEM Center on Hartnell’s Main Campus, beginning with a President’s Opening Reception from 6-8 p.m. on March 26, for qualifying ticket holders, and continuing from 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with educational programs and exhibitors on theme of “Tomorrow’s Technology You Can Use Today.”

The Hartnell College Agriculture Business and Technology Institute is co-presenting the summit with the Monterey Bay Chapter of the California Association of Pest Control Advisers (CAPCA). Keynote speakers will be Glenda Humiston, University of California vice president for agriculture and natural resources, and Dr. Bob Whitaker, chief science and technology officer for the Produce Marketing Association (PMA).

Share Input on Hartnell

ACCJC

The Accrediting Commission for
Community and Junior Colleges
Western Association of Schools and Colleges

On behalf of the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges (ACCJC), Hartnell College is public comment about the college in preparation for a review of Hartnell’s accreditation. Your comments can be submitted [here](#) until Jan. 25.



Report to the community 2016-17

[Click to download](#)

Contact Us

For information about the Hartnell College Foundation or to make a donation, call 831.755.6810 or visit

www.hartnellfoundation.org



Sessions will be grouped in three tracks: CAPCA, Ag Production and Ag Business, including food safety. For details and to register, visit the event website. Proceeds will support Hartnell's agricultural programs and students, and ag industry employees can earn up to five approved continuing education credit hours by attending the presentations and visiting the exhibitor trade show.

This year's event will build on the success of past years, including a 2018 summit attended by more than 1,500 people, including 64 speakers, and with more than 75 vendors and 30 countries represented.



14th annual Western Food Safety Summit will offer timely agenda in challenging year

This fall's romaine lettuce recall and its wider impact on the agricultural industry will be timely topics at the 14th Annual Western Food Safety Summit, to be held May 1-2 at the Mainstage Theater, Building K on the Main Campus.

The summit brings together all levels of the agricultural workforce and support services to Hartnell for a day of intensive training on the most current food safety issues and concerns for fresh fruits and vegetables.



Last year, on May 9, 250 people attended the 13th annual summit, hosted by Hartnell's the Agricultural Business and Technology Institute. Kurt Gollnick of Scheid Family Wines and Sonia Salas of Western Growers delivered the keynote presentations on food safety that marries leafy greens, berries and the winery industries.

Student Ag Ambassadors provided speaker introductions and interviewed attendees with videography support from David Cramer, summit committee member. The event would not have been possible without the generous support of sponsors and tireless efforts of committee members, volunteers, staff and Chatterbox Public Relations.



Crowd of 300 celebrates the arts at Hartnell's annual Black & White Gala

Beginning with hors d'oeuvres and a silent auction in the STEM Building atrium, followed by a special performance of "The Drowsy Chaperone" by The Western Stage in the newly refurbished Center for the Performing Arts, a festive crowd of 300 enjoyed the 2018 Black & White Gala for the Arts on Nov. 17.

Dr. Lewallen thanked all in attendance for their support of Hartnell College as a cultural beacon for the region. He also highlighted the combination of private donations and public dollars that enable improvements like those in Building M, which now has an exterior box office and a spacious new atrium.



Speaking before the play was Hartnell alum Sue-Lynn Ansari (photo above), a successful television and film actor who has begun sharing her knowledge and experience with the Hartnell students and the greater Salinas community, which she still considers home.

"If we can really rally the community together," Ansari told the gathering, "there's no reason why we can't see

more productions here with in the area and more of talent in this area finding their way to Hollywood.”

The foundation is grateful to the many gala sponsors, including founding sponsor Nancy E. Jenkins, as well as the work of the 2018 Gala Committee and the Hartnell College for the Arts Council.



Athletics adds 15 to Hall of Fame at annual celebration luncheon

On Nov. 3, Hartnell celebrated the achievements and contributions of former athletes, coaches and volunteers by inducting them into its Athletics Hall of Fame. Following a luncheon ceremony in the Student Center, plaques featuring each new honoree were unveiled in the Gymnasium. Inductees also were introduced at halftime of the Panthers’ win over Los Medanos in Rabobank Stadium.

The 2018 inductees comprise eight individual athletes, two former coaches, two volunteers and three teams. They join 40 former alumni athletes, 10 coaches, 10 teams and 10 volunteers named to the Hall of Fame since 2013. Honorees were selected by a committee of Salinas-area business and community leaders, Hartnell administrators, past Hall of Fame inductees, former coaches and others based on nominations in the preceding year. (Pictured is honoree Jim Forkum, men’s basketball coach from 1991-95).

Superintendent/President Dr. Willard Lewallen received the following email thank you from coaching inductee Mike Garibaldi, who coached swimming and water polo at Hartnell from 1973-78: “It was a surprise and a pleasure to return to the campus and receive this honor. My wife and I were very impressed by the growth of the campus. ... I will always be proud to say I had a small part to play in the evolution of this college. A Panther I will always remain.”



WELI highlights women in leadership and joins MILE grads to celebrate

About 160 friends of Hartnell College gathered Thursday evening at Tehama Golf Club for the Fifth Annual WELI Forum, celebrating the transformative impact of Hartnell's Women's Education & Leadership Institute in the lives of striving, deserving women students.

The event was an opportunity to recognize and thank supporters of the Women's Education & Leadership Institute, which serves socioeconomically disadvantaged female students. Through sponsorships, a raffle and a live auction, the forum also raised funds that will further strengthen WELI, which has graduated 175 scholars and granted nearly \$350,000 in scholarships since its founding in 2011.

WELI graduate Lumi Barba, who has since completed her degree at the University of California, Los Angeles, shared what the program has meant for her and her family. In addition, WELI donor, forum committee member and mentor Margaret D'Arrigo Martin moderated an inspiring conversation on leadership with Susan Black, chairman of Pinnacle Bank, center, and Kate Roberts, president of the Monterey Bay Economic Partnership.

On May 10, WELI Scholars joined with their counterparts from the MILE (Men's Institute for Leadership and Education) program for a joint graduation celebration. The celebratory event was emceed by former Esmeralda Montenegro, former director of communications and marketing, and Monica Tovar, director of Sales for Mapleton Communications and a WELI mentor.

The celebration was attended by the MILE (Cohort 2) and WELI (Cohort 7) scholars along with their families, which is yet another reminder that success is obtained with support from all of those that surround our students.

Students **Jamie Tindall** and **Ruben Tinajero** shared with the audience how being part of **WELI** and **MILE** has helped shape them and keep them on track with their education.



ABTI unveils new Strategic Plan to integrate industry and education

The Agricultural Business and Technology Institute (ABTI) at Hartnell College unveiled its new Strategic Plan for 2018-2023 on Aug. 29 to a gathering of regional stakeholders in agriculture and education.

The plan has 10 strategies for enhancing student learning, strengthening academic programs and expanding outreach and partnerships with schools and the agricultural industry. It was jointly developed by a committee of ag industry representatives and faculty and staff and chaired by **Emmett Linder**, director of community and grower relations for Driscoll's.

After listening to the plan's developers highlight each strategy, breakfast attendees worked in small groups to brainstorm ways to further individual strategies. They also were invited to share how they can directly support the institute, such as helping fund scholarships, providing internship and job opportunities and enrolling their own employees in its academic programs.

The program included brief remarks by student **Daniel Espinoza Castro** of Hollister, an agricultural production major who hopes to continue his education next fall at Cal Poly SLO. A native of Mexico, he shared what Hartnell's ag program has meant for his career plans, particularly the support and encouragement of his instructors.



State gives Hartnell \$1 million to boost ag, health programs

On July 1, Hartnell hosted a news conference to announce a \$1 million state award for agricultural technology and health care, both fields in which rapid technological developments require investment to stay current. The funds were obtained through the office of then-Assembly member Anna Caballero, who in November won election to the 12th District seat in the California Senate.

By supporting upgrades in programs and equipment, the money will further the college's ability to provide a skilled workforce in the two of Monterey County's most important employment sectors. Allocations include \$459,024 for diesel technology, \$70,000 for industrial refrigeration and \$337,518 for nursing education.

"I'm really excited about this grant because I think it's going to create an opportunity for students to be able to earn a better income," Caballero said, "to be able to stay in the community, because that's what we want, and to be able to provide good workers for the agriculture and health care industry as well."

In addition to Caballero, the event featured remarks by Superintendent/President Dr. Willard Lewallen, Aurelio Salazar, Jr., now president of the Hartnell College Board of Trustees; Norm Groot, executive director of the Monterey County Farm Bureau; and two students.

Tribute to Yolanda Celaya-Evans

Scholarship endowment honors her belief in education



It was Yolanda Celaya-Evans' wish to endow a scholarship at Hartnell College that helps students achieve their educational goals and aspirations. Her husband, Thad Evans, fulfilled that wish, and their generosity will live on for generations. Here is her story, as told by her husband:

Yolanda Marie Celaya-Evans was born Oct. 11, 1952, in Salinas to Ernest and Lorrie Celaya. She cherished her childhood in

Gonzales - playing with cousins who lived on the same block; making summer trips to Santa Cruz; and touring California with family on weekends.

After joining a previously segregated classroom in third grade, Yolanda felt isolated and struggled with her ethnic identity. Faced with loneliness, she started overeating. Despite this, she discovered a strong interest in science and enrolled in as many science courses as she could. Counselors encouraged her to go to college, but instead she joined her mother working in a produce shed and stayed with it for seven years. She struggled with depression and gained more weight.

Yolanda remembered one day when a handsome young man flirted with her in a local pharmacy. For the first time she felt acknowledged as a woman. Over three years of diets and fasting, she lost weight and felt more attractive, but her life did not change for the better. She met and quickly married a man who began abusing her. She divorced him in 1978 when he threatened her grandfather.

She began taking courses at Hartnell College but stopped when she got a job as a personnel secretary with the Monterey County Office of Education (MCOE). Life was good for five and a half years, until another relationship breakup. Feeling unhappy and stressed, she turned to the party and club circuit with a group of girlfriends but eventually tired of that lifestyle. She said she had learned to be comfortable with herself.

Yolanda returned to Hartnell and earned her Associate of Arts degree in 1987, subsequently receiving two promotions at MCOE. She traveled through Europe with a tour group and to Hawaii and Mexico with her mother. In 1985 she attended a three-day Catholic Cursillo and renewed her faith in her God. She also met a woman who became her best friend. In 1991, she met her husband of 25 years. They dated for a year before marrying on March 28, 1993.

Shortly after their marriage, Yolanda earned her Bachelor of Science degree in the College of Professional Studies from the Univer-

sity of San Francisco. She took time off from MCOE in the mid-'90s to volunteer and then work at the Monterey SPCA wildlife center. She labored long hours and loved every minute of it.

Yolanda then went back to school and earned a special education certificate from San Jose State University before teaching in that field for approximately five years. She stopped working in 2006 to care for her ailing parents and her brother, but she and her husband found time to travel extensively throughout Europe and the United States. She fulfilled a dream of seeing the northern lights in Alaska.

Yolanda loved learning all her life. She continuously took courses at CSUMB's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute and was still enrolled there when she passed away.

Her full, if short, life ended peacefully and surrounded by family on March 6, 2018. She battled weight and self-image but overcame many challenges to become competent and self-confident. She loved life, family and animals.



**HARTNELL COLLEGE
FOUNDATION**

The mission of Hartnell College Foundation
is to cultivate resources to champion student success.

PARTY IN THE LIBRARY



PARTY IN THE LIBRARY WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!



CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR LEADERSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT ALFRED DIAZ-INFANTE

A **BIG THANK YOU** TO ALL WHO HELPED
HARTNELL COLLEGE STUDENTS **THRIVE** THIS YEAR!

SAM LINDER AUTO GROUP



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Gill

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Barkins & Company
COMMERCIAL CONTRACTORS

CainSound

Smith
FLOORING

WINNIE

MCINTYRE

TOLOSA

WINNIE

Josue Alfaro
Moises Almendariz
Rosie Armstrong
Christopher Barrera
BFS Landscape Architects
Lucia & Michael Boggiatto
Emily Brandt
Paulette & Jerry Bumbalough
Buttgereit, Pettitt & Davis
Melissa Casillas
Mike Cling
Jackie Cruz
Margaret D'Arrigo-Martin
& Steve Martin
Mary Alice Davis
Kathy & Chris Davis
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Mark Dominguez

Jovita Dominguez
Patricia Donohue
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Renata Funke
Jim & Jeri Gattis
Susan & David Gill
Janet Rogers & Kurt Gollnick
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