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THE PHYSICS OF GIVING

For **Dr. Elwood Schapansky**, physics has never been merely a subject. It has been a way of understanding the world—and a way of helping others understand their place in it.

A longtime **SBCC physics professor**, Elwood taught at the college for 30 years, served as Academic Senate president, helped introduce aeronautics to the curriculum, and later brought science lessons to elementary classrooms with the same curiosity and joy that defined his teaching career.

In December, Elwood and his wife, Karen, made a generous gift to the SBCC Foundation in support of the Physics Department. For Elwood, the decision was rooted in memory as much as generosity. Throughout his career, science equipment funding was often scarce, and faculty had to build or repair much of what they needed themselves. Now, his gift will help provide updated equipment, more sophisticated experiments, and greater hands-on learning opportunities for students.



“Physics teaches you how to reason and to solve problems,” Elwood said. His gift ensures that future SBCC students can do exactly that.

FROM THE CEO

What a joy it was to gather for the **SBCC Foundation's Spring Forward! Gala**.

Seeing our community come together in support of something we all believe in deeply—the promise of Santa Barbara City College students—is what makes this work so meaningful. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors, donors, partners, and guests, the evening was a tremendous success, **raising \$370,000 in support of the SBCC Promise, scholarships, grants, and programs.**

But the true measure of the evening was not only in dollars raised. It was in the spirit of the room. Everywhere you looked, there was a shared understanding that when we invest in students, we invest in the strength and future of our entire community.

The SBCC Foundation exists to make that investment possible. Through your enduring support, students are able to pursue their education with fewer financial barriers and greater confidence. They are able to imagine futures that may once have felt out of reach. They are able to thrive.



To all the sponsors, donors, volunteers, guests, and everyone who helped make this evening possible: thank you. Your generosity changes lives, expands opportunity, and helps ensure that SBCC remains a place where students can discover their potential and build meaningful futures.

And, we had a good time! What a wonderful world.

Babbi Abram

Chief Executive Officer

Spring Forward! Gala Speakeasy Style

Event Highlights

311

Attendees

\$370,000

Raised for Education

2

Vintage Cars

1

Full Moon



Spring Forward! is a reminder of what happens when a community believes in education. Lives are changed, opportunities are created, and the promise of SBCC students springs forward!



A MESSAGE FROM THE SBCC FOUNDATION PRESIDENT



Dear Friends,

When I was a student at Santa Barbara City College, I had the privilege of playing basketball in what was then a brand-new Physical Education building. Like so many students, I did not fully appreciate at the time how much a campus facility can shape an experience—how a gym, a classroom, or a gathering space can become part of a student's confidence, discipline, and sense of belonging.

Now, decades later, I have the honor of serving as President of the SBCC Foundation Board as the college breaks ground on the new Physical Education & Athletics Building for a new generation of students.

Approved by local voters in 2024, the \$198 million bond will modernize aging infrastructure and help ensure that students have the facilities they need to learn, train, compete, and thrive.

But this building will be more than a physical education facility. It will serve as a true community center: a place for academic activity, athletics, wellness, gathering, and, when needed, emergency response and disaster relief. It will be a beacon lighting up our waterfront and strengthening SBCC's role as a resource for the entire community.

With gratitude,

Paul Menzel

Building for the Future: SBCC Breaks Ground on New Athletics Facility



There are moments when a college campus seems to turn, quite visibly, toward its future. On April 6, SBCC marked one of those moments with the groundbreaking of its new Physical Education & Athletics Building—a four-story, 77,000-square-foot facility designed to support student wellness, athletic achievement, and hands-on learning for generations to come.

The project is the first major undertaking funded by Measure P, the \$198 million bond approved by local voters in 2024 to modernize SBCC's aging infrastructure. The new building will replace outdated facilities and create a dynamic home for physical education, athletics, kinesiology, and health education programs. With an additional \$34 million in state matching funds, the project reflects both local confidence and strategic stewardship.

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO LUNCH?

For the first time since 2019, the SBCC Foundation hosted its beloved **Guess Who's Coming to Lunch** event, which sold out even before formal invitations were sent.

Guests enjoyed a lively conversation with Dr. Devin Daugherty, Dean of Educational Programs for Health & Human Services and Career Technologies, and Dr. Erika Endrijonas, SBCC Superintendent/President.

Together, they discussed the evolving landscape of higher education, SBCC's role in preparing students for high-demand careers in healthcare,

technology, and related fields, and the college's vision for the future.

Attendees left with a deeper understanding of SBCC's impact on students and the regional workforce—all while enjoying a delicious multi-course meal prepared and served by SBCC Culinary Arts students.



NANCY AND LARRY HARTER INVEST IN THE FUTURE OF RADIOGRAPHY STUDENTS

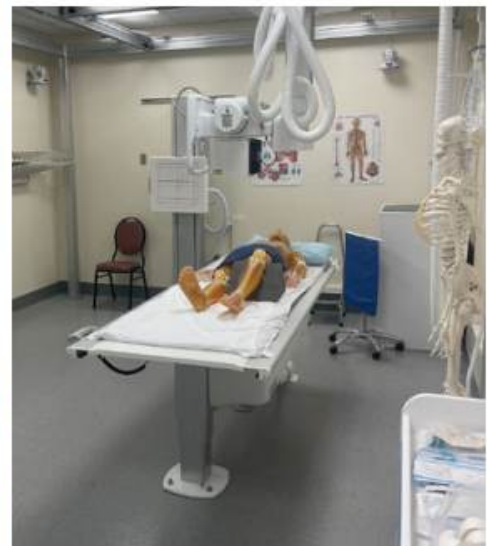
Education can open doors, but for many students, staying on the path requires more than tuition. It requires time, stability, and the ability to keep going while balancing work, family, and the ordinary pressures of daily life.

That understanding is at the heart of **Nancy and Larry Harter's Radiography Endowed Scholarship**. Larry, a radiologist with more than 40 years of experience in Greater Santa Barbara, has seen SBCC radiography students rotate through his facilities over the course of his career. Many, he says, are "working parents already balancing significant responsibilities." The scholarship, he hopes, can relieve some of that pressure.

Nancy, who serves on the SBCC Foundation Board, understands that pressure personally. The daughter of parents who did not attend college, she relied on student loans to complete her own education.

"I've been there," she says. "I've been in that seat, filling out those forms and stressing."

For the Harters, their scholarship is designed to ease the financial burden of a college education. But it offers more than financial support, they emphasize. It offers breathing room, encouragement, and the community's belief in a student's future.





Rotary Club of Montecito Helps SBCC Students Build the Future

At its 2026 annual luncheon, President of the Rotary Club of Montecito, Sese Ntem, reminded the room that scholarships are never merely scholarships. They are acts of faith—proof that a community can look at a student's ambition and say, "We believe in you!"

For decades, the Rotary Club of Montecito has made education a cornerstone of its service, continuing a legacy that began with Rotary International's founding in 1905 and the Montecito chapter's establishment in 1953. Its long-standing partnership with Santa Barbara City College reflects a shared commitment to opportunity, perseverance, and the kind of practical support that can change the course of a life.

One student carrying that promise forward is Juan Anguiano Zavala, a Running Start, EOPS, and Promise student. Juan began at SBCC in Automotive Technology before discovering a passion for justice studies and law enforcement. Along the way, he joined Phi Theta Kappa, explored aviation, and learned to fly airplanes.

Now a 2026 graduate, Juan is in the final stages of joining the California Highway Patrol—ready to serve the community that helped invest in him.

THANKS TO YOU: A RECORD-BREAKING YEAR OF SBCC SCHOLARSHIPS

The SBCC Foundation annually offers scholarships to incoming, continuing, and transferring students. Awards are based on a mix of academic achievement, financial need, and community involvement.

We're thrilled to share that the SBCC Foundation **awarded a record 1,049 scholarships totaling \$1,395,302 this year**—helping SBCC students pursue their goals with less financial stress.

A scholarship is more than tuition or textbooks—it's a message: we believe in you. For many students, that encouragement makes all the difference.

These scholarships are in addition to the SBCC Promise, which covers up to two years of tuition-free enrollment for local high school graduates. Together, these programs keep education accessible to all. None of this happens without our donors. Every gift helps students thrive in and out of the classroom.



THE PRESIDENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

Each year, the **President's Scholarship** recognizes an academically exceptional SBCC student transferring to a four-year institution—someone whose achievement, leadership, service, and promise reflect the very best of Santa Barbara City College.

This highly prestigious scholarship was established by **Janet and Eugene Aiches** (during their lifetimes and through their estates), and the **Luria/Budgor Family Foundation**.

This year's applicant pool was so strong that the selection committee expanded its recognition, awarding a runner-up in addition to the top honor.

Vania Pereyra received the \$10,000 President's Scholarship, while **Paul McClain** received a \$5,000 runner-up award.

Vania, who moved from Lima, Peru, to the United States on her own in 2024, said, "I learned not to fear failure but to embrace the lessons that come with it."

Paul, an aspiring materials scientist, sees research as a way to serve the world: "What I would most love [to do] with my life is scientific research for academia."

Together, Vania and Paul represent the ambition, perseverance, and promise the President's Scholarship was created to celebrate.



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**SCAN TO
DONATE
NOW!**



THE SBCC PROMISE MARKS TEN YEARS OF IMPACT



Having now served more than **10,000 local students**, the SBCC Promise is still one of the most comprehensive programs of its kind in the country. The SBCC Promise has fundamentally shifted college-going culture in south Santa Barbara county.

Covering tuition, required fees, books, supplies, and other essential costs for eligible students, the Promise's impact continues to be profound. In a recent survey, 43% of Promise students said they would have been very unlikely to attend college without the program, nearly half said it allowed them to work fewer hours, and more than 90% said it helped them stay motivated to complete their education.

As one student shared, **“the program is the ONLY reason I’m in college right now.”**

Ten years later, then SBCC Promise continues to live up to its name.