

# CSU Channel Islands on a \$75M campus building spree

CSU Channel Islands near Camarillo is the newest school in the California State University system, and it's growing by leaps and bounds. To keep up with that growth, the school has construction projects in the pipeline totaling more than \$75 million.

First up is the \$32.5 million North Hall project, which breaks ground Oct. 6. The 120-seat lecture hall, seven classrooms, three computer labs and faculty and administrative offices add up to 28,700 square feet of new construction and 49,500 square feet of renovated space.

"The campus has an acute need for lecture space and faculty office space, as we have grown significantly over the first eight years of our life," said John Gormley, CSUCI's manager of design services. "We have a need for new and larger lecture classrooms and computer lab space. This project is meant to alleviate the strain on the campus."

Camarillo-based HMH Contractors is the general contractor on the North Hall project, which is expected to open in 20 to 24 months and is funded by a state bond sale.

CSUCI also has several other large, but less finalized, projects in the works. The new West Hall would include 48,000 square feet of new construction and 16,500 square feet of renovated space, but it still hinges on the passing of the final state budget for 2010-11. The project, with a budget of \$42.7 million, will provide new science labs, lecture space and faculty offices.

The school is also planning to start construction soon on a new entrance road that would connect to the new Lewis Road bridge. CSUCI is waiting for final approval from the state but will likely break ground in the next few months, Gormley said.

## WELLS, TOWBES GO GREEN

Wells Fargo & Co. opened its first LEED-certified branch in Ventura County on Sept. 27. The store, at 1700 E. Gonzales Road in Oxnard, is only the ninth Wells Fargo LEED branch in California and in-

cludes a fully recyclable carpet, insulation made from recycled denim, water-saving plumbing fixtures — which cut water usage by an estimated 40 percent — and a light-harvesting system, which adjusts lighting according to available daylight.

Speaking of green, The Towbes Group received a green business certification from the county of Santa Barbara. The Santa Barbara-based real estate development and property management firm's corporate offices have been renovated with new motion-control lighting, low-flow restroom fixtures and a more energy efficient HVAC system.



**MARLIZE VAN ROMBURGH**

*Commercial real estate*

## GROVER BEACH'S FACELIFT

Grover Beach hosts a block party from 6-8 p.m. on Oct. 7 to celebrate West Grand Avenue's recent facelift. The area was revamped with more pedestrian-friendly, decorative sidewalks — painted to look like waves lapping onto the beach — and crosswalks, landscaping, benches and new street lights. The enhancements are intended to increase pedestrian traffic and attract tourists to the area, the city said.

## DEALS OF THE WEEK:

- Rob Devericks of Hageis Group represented both landlord and tenant in a recent deal at the Paradise Victoria shopping center in Ventura. Persnickity Cleaners is opening in the center at 1171 S. Victoria Ave.

- A Santa Maria cooling facility and warehouse listed by Stafford McCarty for \$4.5 million recently changed hands. The two buildings, located at 1615 E. Betteravia Road, total about 23,500 square feet and sit on 7.6 acres.

- DeLong Construction recently signed a lease on a 1,800-square-foot building at 710 E. Grand Ave. in Arroyo Grande. Keith Simon of Lee & Associates Central Coast represented both landlord and tenant.

- Marlize van Romburgh can be reached at [mvr@pacbiztimes.com](mailto:mvr@pacbiztimes.com).

## CLARIFICATION

• A story in the Sept. 24 issue contained incorrect information on the proposed merger of Occam Networks and Calix. An updated release from the companies states that Occam investors would own between 14.1 percent and 15.9 percent of the combined company.

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