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**** MEDIA ALERT ****

Congressman Sam Farr to Speak at Grand Opening of Cabrillo College Veterans Information Center, Wednesday October 19

Cabrillo College and its Student Veterans invite the Santa Cruz County community to the Grand Opening of its new Veterans Information Center, on Wednesday October 19 from 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. in Building 900, Room 919 (on the end of the pedestrian bridge on upper campus), Cabrillo College Aptos Campus, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos, CA 95003. Congressman Sam Farr will attend the event and will speak during the Dedication Ceremony from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m.

The Veterans Information Center is a resource on Cabrillo's campus designed to serve the College's student Veterans and members of the community who have served our country. There are currently more than 200 student Veterans currently enrolled at Cabrillo College.

The Purpose of the Veterans Information Center is to serve as a center for connecting returning Veterans to educational benefits, health benefits and various other services available. The Veterans Information Center will also be a safe place for Veterans to study between classes or just to relax and enjoy a cup of coffee. The new Veterans Information Center will also be the site for all Cabrillo College Veterans Club meetings and future Veterans Support Group meetings.

The Veterans Information Center will provide the following services:

- Peer to Peer mentoring
- Command Sponsorship
- Academic Counseling
- Tutoring

Dr. Francisco Ponce, Cabrillo's Academic Counselor for Veterans, will be available at the Veterans Information Center Tuesdays, 0800 to 1200. Dean Kaufman, Santa Cruz County's Veteran Advocate, will provide assistance for Veterans seeking benefits from the V.A. and will act as a bridge to connect Veterans to their benefits from 1300-1700 every Monday. In addition, several community members and graduate students at San Jose State University will volunteer at the Center to provide support and re-entry services for Veterans in the Santa Cruz County community.

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