Cabrillo College Foundation celebrates planned bequest

REGISTER-PAJARONIAN STAFF REPORT

APTOS — Long-time Cabrillo College supporters Brian and Patti Herman have established a planned bequest that will provide a significant contribution to several programs at the college. Although Santa Cruz County is their home for more than 40 years, the couple and their three children, have supported the college with their time, talent, and donations to the mission of the community college.

This is the largest private bequest to Cabrillo College to date, according to the college. Proceeds from the Brian and Patricia Herman Endowment will benefit the Tutorials Center, Women’s Educational Success (WES), Cabrillo Advancement Program (CAP), and the President’s Circle, Early Childhood Education, and Cabrillo Stage.

Early in the year, the couple gave $27,289 to sustain the Cabrillo Tutorials Center, which had suffered from severe budget cuts. Their gift helped sustain free peer tutoring services for about 400 transfer students per semester.

Patti Herman has enjoyed Cabrillo literature courses over the years and said, “It is a small thing we can do. Cabrillo has been a part of us.”

The couple made the decision to allow the gift to be public because they wanted to encourage similar philanthropy in others.

“We’re regular people,” Patti Herman said. “This is about Cabrillo and the students.”

The Hermans noted the enthusiasm of student tutors and Lori Chavez, Cabrillo College Tutorials coordinator, and how easily it is to see the positive impact peer tutoring has on students’ ability to move forward with their goals.

“The support will result in enhanced academic success,” Chavez said. “We greatly appreciate this kind of support from our community.”

American Sign Language student Christine Holeman, who practices regularly with native signer and student Garrett Nichols, said, “Tutoring has made the difference between passing and being successful. With a tutor, it comes alive.”

“It’s very enriching to be able to give back,” said Brian Herman.

In addition, the couple established a planned bequest that will provide a significant contribution to several programs at the college. Although Santa Cruz County is their home for more than 40 years, the couple and their three children, have supported the college with their time, talent, and donations to the mission of the community college.

Cabrillo College fills an important gap in the educational system for students who aren’t prepared for a four-year university or can’t afford the cost,” said Brian Herman, who taught Communication courses at the college and served as an intermittent tennis coach in the 70s. “We’ve really seen the programs working here and see the people involved.”

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The importance of Cabrillo College for students who aren’t prepared for a four-year university or can’t afford the cost was underscored by Brian Herman, who taught Communication courses at the college and served as an intermittent tennis coach in the 70s. “We’ve really seen the programs working here and see the people involved.”

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