

LINK

VICTOR
VALLEY
COLLEGE

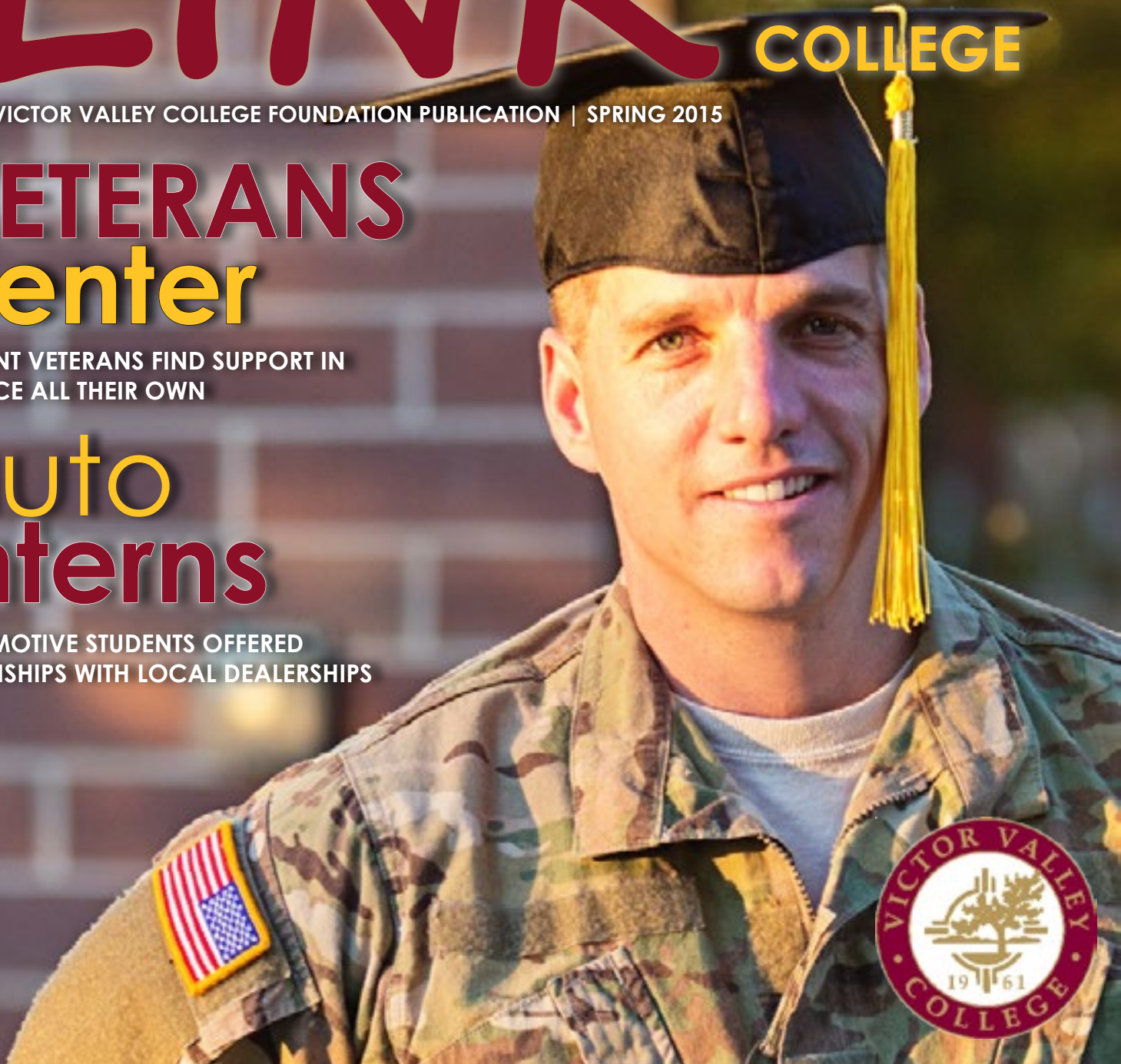
A VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE FOUNDATION PUBLICATION | SPRING 2015

VETERANS center

STUDENT VETERANS FIND SUPPORT IN
A PLACE ALL THEIR OWN

auto interns

AUTOMOTIVE STUDENTS OFFERED
INTERNSHIPS WITH LOCAL DEALERSHIPS



FOUNDATION LINK

CAMPUS GRANTS

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HALL OF FAME

HONORS ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS
Annual event celebrates service
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CHAMPIONS OF EDUCATION

FOUNDATION SUPPORTERS
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SPRING 2015

at VVC
I LEARNED



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VETERANS CENTER

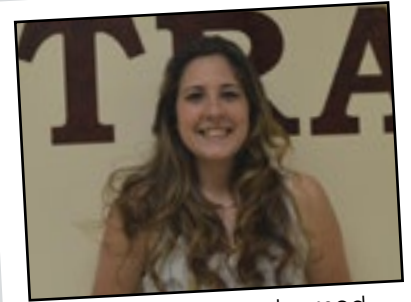
Students find support in a place all their own



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AUTOMOTIVE INTERNSHIPS

Automotive students offered internships with local dealerships



As an athlete, I have learned how to improve my leadership skills.

Megan Taos

Major: Chemical Engineering

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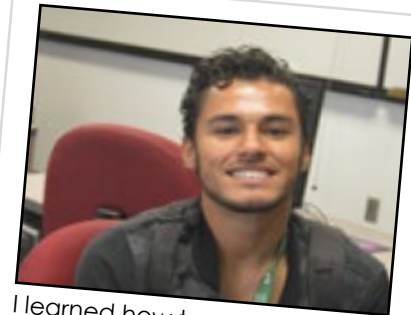
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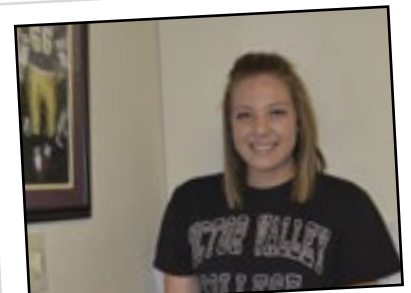
Outlook on jobs and the Victor Valley College programs that prepare graduates to get them.



I learned how to use the AutoCad to create and review new building designs.

Kelvin Villatoro

Major: Architecture



I learned the importance of rehabilitation and training with athletic injuries.

Rebecca Shervick

Major: Athletic Training



The LINK is a publication of the

Victor Valley College Foundation

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These generous organizations have made an annual commitment to support the events and activities that fund the important work of the Victor Valley College Foundation



You can change lives...

Your tax deductible gift to the Victor Valley College Foundation will change lives. Donations provide scholarships for deserving students, purchase training

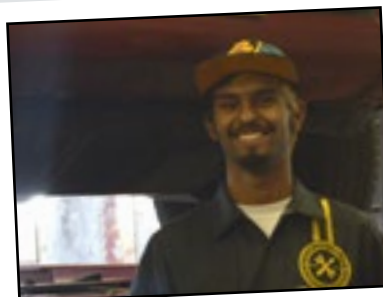
equipment for classrooms and allow students to participate in life-changing extra-curricular activities.

Gifts can be made easily online at the Foundation website:

www.vvcfoundation.com



at VVC
I LEARNED



Parts and tools often fall when working on cars, because of this I learned to always have a magnet on hand.

Sam Ayon

Major: Automotive Technician

Thank **YOU** for Caring

Veteran Students get new home base at VVC

Veterans Resource Center opens with help from Walmart Foundation

Veterans who return to college often face a very different battle as they try to navigate their new environment and Victor Valley College is closing ranks to help them succeed. In February, with the support from the Walmart Foundation, VVC opened a new Veterans Resource Center (VRC). An official grand opening is scheduled for April 23, 2015 at 11 am.

The VRC now provides dedicated tutoring, counseling and financial aid support to help those who've served in the military succeed in college. Returning to civilian life can be a difficult and challenging transition; adding college can further complicate the lifestyle change. Victor Valley College administrators, staff students and foundation members recognized these challenge and wanted to do something meaningful to help. Together, they worked open the VRC so veteran students would find a safe place on campus to meet with peers and learn to succeed in the campus environment.

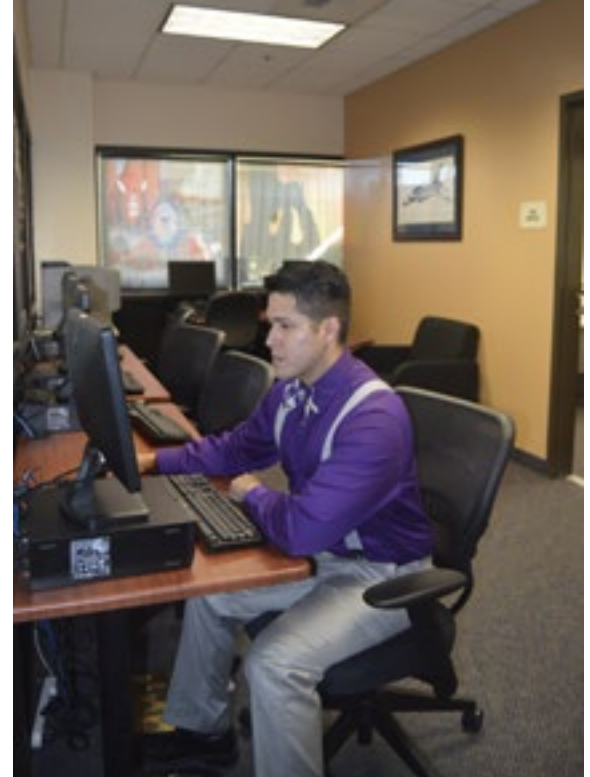
One student veteran, David McConnell (USMC) shared his appreciation for the new center in saying, "The VRC is a place on campus I can go to find someone I trust. (It is) a place where I know someone understands me, a place where I can get help - the right kind of help from people who understand my needs."

"Our mission is to help our veteran students in meeting their educational goals whether it's to transfer, attain a degree, or refine their job skills. The Veterans Resource Center will help us do that and it's a chance for us to give back to our veteran students who have already sacrificed so much for us," said Jason Judkins, Director of Financial aid and Veterans Services at Victor Valley College.

The new Veterans Resource Center is located on the second floor of the Student Activities Center. A \$25,000 grant from the Walmart Foundation helped outfit the center with furniture, computers and additional tutors to help students succeed. This grant was part of Walmart Foundation's commitment to veterans which has provided more than \$30 million to improve veteran services nationwide.

"As more of our military members attend VVC, our goal is to have a space for our veteran students to feel comfortable, informed and to have a space that VVC can be proud of. I believe, it is a promise we made to them when they signed on the dotted line to serve our country," said Judkins.

Upon learning of plans to improve service to Veterans, the VVC Foundation quickly jumped on board to identify support for the VRC. In addition to securing the grant from the Walmart Foundation, members of the Friends of the Foundation made personal contributions of miscellaneous items to support the center.



A VVC student and Veteran utilizes the new space provided by

at VVC
I LEARNED



I learned that you have to get uncomfortable to be comfortable when speaking in public.

Fabian Leos
Major: Communications

Thank you

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760-241-8000 www.dvmc.com

New VVC auto internship

Auto Park at Valley Center partners with VVC to provide internships

A new partnership recently launched between the Auto Park at Valley Center and the Victor Valley College Automotive Program could prove to be the training ground dedicated automotive students at VVC need to eventually secure a good paying job and career right here in the Victor Valley.

In January, more than a dozen students from the VVC automotive program interviewed to be selected for a one semester internship position at several local dealerships. To date, six students were chosen to begin working in the service departments and all will gain valuable hands-on-training as well as real world industry experience.

"We are proactively doing something to address the skills gap in our labor force," said Vice President of the Auto Park, David Greiner. "Instead of just complaining, we are doing something about reaching into our community to find the employees we need to work in our dealership service departments. We have undeveloped talent right here in our community and it starts with our local community college."

Greiner mentioned many of the candidates currently work in small transmission repair shops or local lube and oil franchises. "We couldn't understand why we have never known about them before and never understood why they haven't applied at a franchise dealer," said Greiner.

During the interviews the service managers were so impressed with a few of the candidates they decided to hire two on the spot. Since the programs start, a student has been hired but will continue with the program while on the job. Christopher Gooden is now working full time at Valley Hi Nissan and says he is excited to be working in the automotive industry. "It is unbelievable," Gooden said. "I didn't think anything like this was ever going to happen. I went to interview and now I have a career just down the street from my house."

Building an economically viable Victor Valley is not only beneficial to the Auto Park at Valley Center and the residents of the Victor Valley as a whole, but it is also a core principle the organization holds as goal for the entire community.

"In furthering this goal, the Auto Park at Valley Center named the Victor Valley College Foundation its largest ever benefactor in a single gift when it pledged \$50,000 to the Foundation in November of 2014," Greiner said. "The pledge was designed to enhance the efforts of VVC to build a better work force in the region."

The Victor Valley College Foundation brokered the partnership with the Auto Park, while the internships are facilitated by Victor Valley College's Cooperative Education Department which offers elective credits to students who are enrolled in the program. The

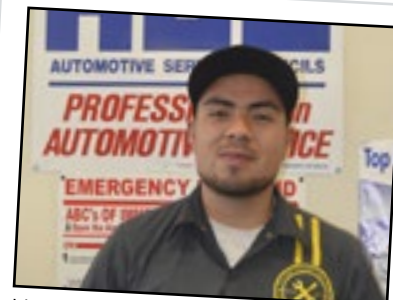
interns are currently enrolled in VVC automotive class (AUTO-138) through Cooperative Education where their classroom is their worksite and they are trained on specific learning objectives by the dealership.

"This really highlights how the college and local businesses can partner together to better prepare our students for the workforce," said Maggi Dunsmore, Victor Valley College Professor/Cooperative Education. "We are so proud of our students and grateful to the Auto Park for offering this opportunity. We hope other employers will contact our department with their internship needs."



VVC, Auto Park Interns, David Sanchez and Julian Romero, with John Sweet & David Steinbeck, Automotive Instructors.

at VVC
I LEARNED



I learned how to diagnose and rebuild engines to ensure they get back on the road without any problems.

Julian Romero
Major: Automotive Technology

Foundation invests in college

Foundation awards thousands in campus grants to programs in need

Three times a year, the Victor Valley College Foundation grants thousands of dollars to VVC employees to implement innovative ideas that promote student success at Victor Valley College. These awards can provide up to \$2,500 to enhance a program, purchase equipment, or fund a life-changing student experience. Some of these campus grants are featured below.

PHYSICAL SCIENCE

JOHN HOSKINS

The physical science program received \$2,470 for repairs on a Gas Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometry (GC-MS). The GC-MS is an integral part of learning organic chemistry for the students. The GC-MS is used to separate, identify, and quantify complex chemicals.



DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES

MARIO TAMAYO

The DSPS department received \$1,000 to purchase an iPad and educational software. The iPad will contain resource books and materials for students struggling with reading comprehension.



FIRE TECHNOLOGY

HEATH COHEN

Fire Technology received \$2,479 for in-mask communications equipment. The in-suit communication devices will provide students the opportunity to train on the ground with devices found in regional fire departments.



INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA SERVICES

TIMOTHY ISBELL

Instructional Media Services (IMS) received \$2,500 to purchase digital video cameras. The cameras will be used to record and capture classroom activities and lectures.



AVIATION

CHRIS OSHITIA

Aviation program receives \$2,500 for purchase of aircraft electronic training equipment and hand tools. Students will use these tools in hands-on-training and learn proper safety functions as required by the FAA.



MEDIA ARTS 3D ANIMATION

JEFF STALIANS

The Media Arts 3D Animation program received \$2,500 to purchase a 3D printer called the MakerBot Replicator. Students can utilize the printer to create testable prototypes, physical models, physical characters, and functional devices.



programs



COMMUNICATIONS

JENNIFER FOWLIE

Communications department is awarded \$874 to complete a production space used for creating lecture capture videos for distance learning courses. Production space would all the department to incorporate pre-recorded video lessons that can be uploaded to Blackboard for student use during classes.



CONSTRUCTION

TONY BONATO

Construction Technology acquires \$2500 to purchase mini Photovoltaic modules. These mini modules will allow students to experiment, troubleshoot, assemble, and analyze PV systems.



AUTOMOTIVE

STEVE COULTAS

Automotive Technology department receives \$1,945 to obtain subscriptions for computer reprogramming software. This software will allow students to receive training in an area of repair that is consistent with dealerships and independent garages on newer and late model vehicles.

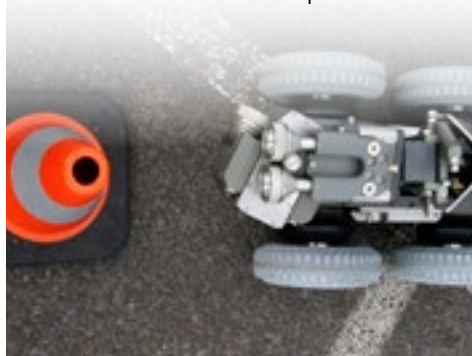
This is one of three grants for the Automotive Department supported by the Auto Park at Valley Center.



ROBOTICS

KHALID RUBAYI

The Robotics program received \$2,500 to purchase professional, "competition grade" robot kits. The robotics kits will allow students to learn through participation in local and national level competitions.



CONSTRUCTION

JUAN MORALES

Foundation awarded \$2,000 to the Construction Technology department to obtain re-usable, "build-your-own" air conditioning kits. Such kits will provide students with hands on training with proper HVAC components in on air conditioning units.



KINESIOLOGY

DEBBIE BLANCHARD

The Kinesiology program applied for and received a \$2,500 mini campus grant. Grant funds were used to purchase spinner bikes, spinning DVD's, and provide additional funds to the expansion of the weight room. The weight room services 2,000 students, serving as a cardiovascular endurance area, helping to increase their health and wellness.



The Victor Valley College Foundation is a charitable organization that makes friends and raises funds to help Victor Valley College better serve its students and community. Visit www.vvcfoundation.com or find us on Facebook to join the growing number of people and organizations who contribute to support our mission.

April 30 2015 7-8:30PM

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Image: NASA, ESA, and M. Buie (Southwest Research Institute)

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Congressman inducted into Alumni Hall of Fame

Foundation launches 40th Anniversary year celebration

Guests at the Victor Valley College Alumni Hall of Fame and Distinguished Service Awards flashed back to the 1970's in honor of the decade in which the Victor Valley College Foundation was founded. For 40 years, the Foundation has been helping to bring the college and community together. With the help of the event's presenting sponsor, Heritage Victor Valley Medical Group, the Foundation honored four notable award recipients and raised funds to support education during a "Disco Fever" themed celebration on February 28, 2015.

Each year the Foundation recognizes a Victor Valley College Alum whose success reflects positively on their alma mater, honors a community servant, highlights an advocate for education, and acknowledges a friend of the College. This year the four recipients included a US Congressman, a former College Trustee, an accomplished vocalist, and a founding father.

The Alumni Hall of Fame inductee for 2015 is Congressman Jeff Denham who currently represents the 10th District of California in the United States House of Representatives. Denham is a 1989 graduate of Victor Valley College who served both as the ASB President and Captain of the Rams Football team. He quipped upon notification that it was at VVC where his political career started. Denham officially began his public service career by serving 16 years in the US Air Force. He owned a small business and was twice elected to serve in the California State Senate.

For only the second time in its history, the Foundation offered posthumous recognition for Distinguished Community Service. This year, the honor remembers the contributions of Carollee Stater. Carollee volunteered as a leader for numerous civic and philanthropic organizations including American Red Cross, Girl Scouts of San Geronio, Assistance League of the Victor Valley, but perhaps was best known for serving three terms as a VVC trustee. Those closest to her recognize her selfless devotion to others and her family.

While not always the case, this year's Distinguished Education Service Award recipient also has a college connection. Dr. Thomas Miller, the faculty member at Victor Valley College with the longest tenure, has been teaching for more than 40 years. In that time, he has developed a preeminent reputation for music education that has led VVC choral groups to perform by invitation for audiences worldwide.

While his accomplishments with students on stage are many, he says his biggest reward may be the many smaller moments in rehearsal when the music gets to the "goose bumps" stage, where the hard work of his students falls into place.

The Presidents' Award for 2015, which recognizes a person or organization for their impact on the College, honors the Victor Valley College Foundation's first president, John Kroencke. It is fitting for this award to acknowledge the legacy Kroencke started as the Foundation's founding father, but his service to the Victor Valley is wide spread. Among his many current involvements, Kroencke is an active Rotarian who practices the club's motto readily offering 'Service Above Self'. He has been involved in helping Rotary and other organizations providing scholarships for Victor Valley College students, and humanitarian aid to residents throughout the High Desert.

The Alumni Hall of Fame and Distinguished Service Awards Celebration was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Victorville on Saturday, February 28, 2015. This year, the Foundation raised over fifty thousand dollars due in large part to the many donors and community leaders who attended the event.

The Victor Valley College Foundation is a fundraising and public relations partner for Victor Valley College. Gifts to the Foundation change lives by providing scholarships for deserving students, equipment to enhance training programs, tutoring to demystify difficult academic subjects, and other support to enrich the college experience. For more information about the Foundation, please visit www.vvcfoundation.com.



**Congressman
Jeff Denham**

also honoring

Carollee Stater

*Distinguished Service to Community
Posthumously*

Dr. Thomas Miller

Distinguished Service to Education

John Kroencke

Presidents' Award

Summit charts new course

Economic Summit brings expert analysis, current data, and fresh new perspectives in a growing economy



Dr. John Husing, Ph.D.
Vice President,
Economics & Politics, Inc.
Chief Economist,
Inland Empire Economic
Partnership

Dr. John Husing, a favored expert on economic trends that directly affect the Victor Valley, will be among the speakers addressing the 2015 High Desert Economic Summit next month. His presentation at the April 30, 2015 event will provide robust analysis of data to offer local developers, businesses, governments and investors with actionable information to enhance decision-making in these uncertain economic times. His presentation will focus specifically on the local and regional economy and this year will be different than anything he has done in the High Desert before.

"We have embarked on a new economy and the landscape for success has changed," said Don Brown, President of the Victor Valley College Foundation. "Dr. Husing has a solid handle on what makes the High Desert economy tick. He offers a tremendous amount of insight into the conditions affecting our region and anyone who wants to be successful here should consider attending the High Desert Economic Summit."

Dr. John Husing is the Chief Economist with the Inland Empire Economic Partnership and specializes in studying Southern California's growing economy. He is also a leading authority on the impact of the goods movement industry on the region, and in particular its role as a provider of upward economic mobility to blue collar workers. His primary focus for nearly 50 years has been the Inland Empire, studying the nature and growth of San Bernardino and Riverside Counties.

His extensive study of the region has led to several economic strategies that combine a database of statistics with interviews of executives and entrepreneurs to understand the forces shaping Southern California. Dr. Husing has produced project specific economic impact studies for transportation and water agencies, housing developers, and environmental entities.

The High Desert Economic Summit will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Victorville on April 30, 2015. Details about the event, including how to purchase tickets, can be found on the web at www.highdeserteconomicsummit.com or by calling the Victor Valley College Foundation at 760.245.4271 ext. 2522. Proceeds from the 2015 High Desert Economic Summit will support the charitable purposes of the Victor Valley College Foundation

at VVC I LEARNED



I learned what a lathe is and that they are used to create circle objects out of a block of wood, like table legs or baseball bats.

Robert Orndorff

Major: Construction Technology

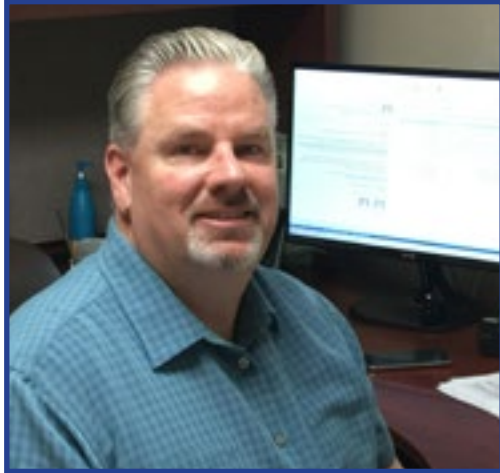
Valley Hi Toyota Scion donates vehicle to VVC Employee



Congratulations Nancy Lewis!
Valley Hi Toyota Scion is a proud supporter of Victor Valley College and the Foundation.



why we support VVC



A FAMILY PHARMACY FAMILY PRACTICE ASSOCIATES

Mike Stephenson

For more than 20 years, Family Practice Associates located in Hesperia, has treated the underserved in the High Desert. Dr. Michael Vizcarra and his medical group's mission is to ensure and deliver quality healthcare for everyone as well as being committed to better health in the High Desert. In the early years, the practice was a one stop shop. Patients would not have to leave for certain services such as blood-work and x-ray's, instead everything was handled in house.

Today, much has changed due to managed care and now the clinic serves dual purposes. It not only provides primary medical care services for any member of the family, it is also an urgent care. Family Practice Associates and A

Family Pharmacy in Apple Valley are proud to be part of the Victor Valley College Foundation's Champions of Education program. Administrator Mike Stephenson says it is important for these two organizations to give back to Victor Valley College and support education. "We want to invest in those who are attaining their education," Stephenson said. "Our medical group wants to be a part of building a stronger community."

Stephenson and his family have lived in the Victor Valley most of their lives. After an industrial accident at the age of 20, he had to be retrained for a new career which makes him appreciate even more the value of life-long learning. "My new career as an X-ray tech led me here to Family Practice Associates," he said. "I met my wife here, and through a series of fortunate circumstances, I am now managing the group as well as a part owner of A Family Pharmacy. My wife and I constantly encourage our own children to keep up with their educations." Stephenson says he loves the High Desert and has thought about leaving numerous times. "Until I go away, then I can't wait to come home."

FRANK & LISA ROBINSON

As a couple who give generously to the Victor Valley College Foundation, Frank and Lisa Robinson believe it is important for us all to support our communities. "For Lisa and me it is our divine calling," Frank says. "To whom much is given, much is expected (Luke 12:48)."

The Robinson's are individual Champions of Education annual package holders (COE). An option offered for those who want to be involved with the Foundation and prefer to donate personally. "We feel the COE package is an exceptional opportunity to touch lives and see results," Frank explains. "We know our gifts to the Foundation are truly used for their intended purpose."

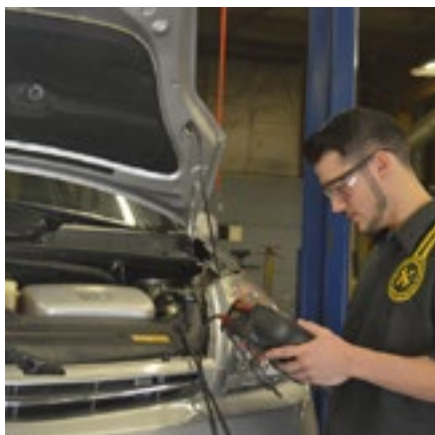
Frank serves as a Vice President on the VVC Foundation Board as well as a member of the Finance Committee. His reason for joining the board he says is because he believes and values education. "Education opens the doors to unlimited opportunities. Lisa and I are personally satisfied

and blessed to be a part of this wonderful Foundation and college."



Career LINK

Automotive Service Technician



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Automotive Service Technicians inspect, repair, and maintain automobiles and other gasoline, diesel, or alternate fueled vehicles. Automotive Service Technicians typically maintains vehicle functional condition by listening to operator complaints; conducting inspections; repairing engine failures; repairing mechanical and electrical systems malfunctions; replacing parts and components; repairing body damage. Technicians also verify vehicle serviceability by conducting test drives; adjusting controls and systems.

JOB OUTLOOK:

Automotive Service Technicians and Mechanics in the Inland Empire Area earn \$51,104 annually, or \$24.57 hourly. The need for Automotive Service Technicians will remain very strong as the number of vehicles in operation increases, reflecting the continued growth in the number of multi-car families.

VVC PROGRAMS:

VVC offers an Associates Science degree in Automotive Technology as well as ASE certificate programs that can lead to employment in this growing field.

<http://www.vvc.edu/academic/automotive>

Airframe & Powerplant Technician



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

A&P Mechanics maintain and repair the aviation and mechanical equipment needed to make planes and helicopters operate safely. This includes repairing, inspecting and maintaining the structural, mechanical and electronic elements of the aircraft, replacing parts, measuring wear and assessing whether parts need repair or replacement. Aircraft mechanics use a wide variety of diagnostic devices, computers, hand and mechanical tools to assess and fix aircraft, and maintain aircraft standards as required by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Mechanics can specialize in a specific form of aircraft or be a generalist.

JOB OUTLOOK:

The average wage for an A&P Mechanic in 2014 was \$ 30.19 hourly, or over \$60,000 annually. Job growth in the Inland Empire is very strong through 2020.

VVC PROGRAMS:

VVC currently offers an FAA approved A&P Mechanic certificate program with hands on training designed to equip students with the knowledge and skills they need to find success in their field.

<http://www.vvc.edu/academic/aviation-tech/>

Medical & Clinical Laboratory Technician



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Laboratory testing plays a crucial role in the detection, diagnosis, and treatment of disease. Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians collect, examine, and analyze bodily fluids, tissue samples, blood, and other substances. They may also cut and stain tissue specimens for microscopic examination by pathologists. They use a variety of techniques to detect bacteria, viruses, fungus cells, cancer cells, and other agents of disease. Tools used include microscopes, cell counters, and other sophisticated laboratory equipment. After testing and examining a specimen, they analyze the results and relay them to physicians.

JOB OUTLOOK:

The job prospects for Medical Laboratory Technicians are very good. New, increasingly powerful diagnostic tests should encourage additional testing and stimulate employment growth. The median wage for Medical and Clinical Laboratory Technicians in California is \$40,799 annually, or \$19.61 hourly.

VVC PROGRAMS:

An Associate's Degree in Math and Science with emphasis on physical or biological science from Victor Valley College might lead to a job in this rewarding career field.

http://www.vvc.edu/academic/allied_health/

Career LINK

Natural Resources Manager



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Natural Resources Managers will play an important role in the emerging green economy. They will be involved in activities related to environmental protection, such as advancing scientific research, developing new products, and improving manufacturing and production processes. Natural Resource Managers may have an interdisciplinary background or specialize in many different areas such as biology, chemistry, geology, hydrology, or mathematics. Their responsibilities vary depending upon the industry and company size. They may oversee the work activities of scientists by coordinating production, quality control, or testing.

JOB OUTLOOK:

The median wage for Natural Resources Managers in the Inland Empire Area was \$108,160 annually, or \$52.00 hourly.

VVC PROGRAMS:

VVC has long been a leader in sustainable practices and offers a certificate program in Natural Resource Management. While many in this career field hold a Bachelor's degree, a professional technical certificate will help students gain experience.

<http://www.vvc.edu/academic/agriculture/>

Industrial Engineering Technician



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Industrial Engineering Technicians can be found working in many industries including computer, health care, utilities manufacturing, and transportation. Most Technicians assist engineers in the performance of a company's total operations process by evaluating and improving cost, productivity, quality, safety, and work environment. They also help to decide the best use of facilities, equipment, and material. They also play an important role in the green economy by assisting with industrial, manufacturing, or other processes to use fewer natural resources, produce less waste, and be more energy-efficient.

JOB OUTLOOK:

The median wage for Industrial Engineering Technicians in the Inland Empire was \$49,999 annually, or \$24.04 hourly. With increased focus on sustainable business practices, Industrial Engineering Technicians have increased job opportunities.

VVC PROGRAMS:

Victor Valley College currently offers ELCT 87 and ELCT 88 within the developing Industrial Controls pathway program to fast track students in this exciting career field. For more information on this new program, please contact the CTE department.

<http://www.vvc.edu/offices/career-technical-education/>

Machinist



CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Machinists use machine tools, such as lathes, drill presses, and milling machines to produce precision metal or plastic parts. Machinists produce large quantities of a single part, or precision Machinists produce small batches or one-of-a-kind items. They use their knowledge of working properties of metals and their skill with machine tools to plan and carry out the operations needed to make machined products that meet precise specifications. Specifications often require high precision tolerances. After completing the machining operations, Machinists may finish, fit, and assemble the final part.

JOB OUTLOOK:

With the increased focus on the sustainable production of goods and manufacturing processes that are environmentally sound, there may be more opportunities for Machinists. The median wage in 2014 for Machinists in California was \$39,581 annually, or \$19.03 hourly.

VVC PROGRAMS IN DEVELOPMENT:

VVC offers an advanced manufacturing courses that focuses on machining technology. Students can gain the necessary skills to obtain employment and a lucrative career in this field.

<http://www.vvc.edu/academic/construction/>



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