

# LINK

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A VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE FOUNDATION PUBLICATION | SPRING 2014



$+ .08y = (14.10)$   
 $+ .08y = 1.40 / 100$   
 $14$   
 $5x + 8 = 190$   
 $x + y = 14$   
 $4x = 10$   
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## Why MATH?

MATH AND HOW IT AFFECTS  
OUR LIVES EVERYDAY

## Math Success

VVC'S MATH SUCCESS CENTER  
PROVIDES TUTORING FOR STUDENTS



## FOUNDATION LINK

### ACCELERATED EDUCATION

COURSES HELP STUDENTS PLACE HIGHER  
Preparation for Accuplacer Test  
PAGE 7

### REDDY SUPPORTS STEM

YEAR END GIFT HELPS PROGRAMS  
Gift funds tutoring, equipment and training  
PAGE 9

### HALL OF FAME

JAMES RAMOS INDUCTED  
Annual event celebrates service  
Page 17

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# Content

SPRING 2014

## at VVC I LEARNED



12

### COMMON DENOMINATOR

Students get help in the VVC Math Success Center



17

### RAMOS INDUCTED

Supervisor James Ramos inducted into VVC Alumni Hall of Fame



I learned that everything has a mathematical formula and size is infinite and reality is never explicit.

**Nicholas Sabala**  
Major: Engineering

## QUICK LINK

### 05 MATH, WHAT IS IT USED FOR?

Ever wonder what Calculus is used for? Here's a quick explanation of how most common math subject affect our lives.

### 07 ACCELERATING EDUCATION

Incoming students now have new options to help them prepare for the community college assessment.

### 09 REDDY STRENGTHENS STEM

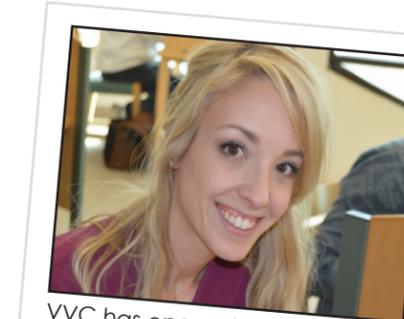
VVC's Math Faculty experiment with flipped classrooms which send lectures home and bring homework to school.

### 14 FLIPPING MATH

VVC's Math Faculty experiement with flipped classrooms which send lectures home and bring homework to school.

### 22 CAREER LINK

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



VVC has opened many doors giving me the opportunity to grow and develop my nursing skills to become a better RN.

**Nicole Brancato**  
Major: Nursing



I learned that units are very essential in finding the answers for stoichiometric problems.

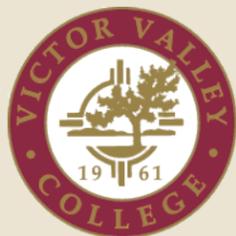
**Roberto Castaneda**  
Major: Chemistry



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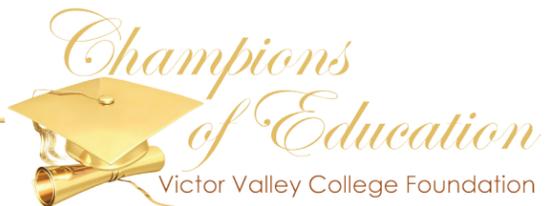
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Thank YOU for Caring

## I LEARNED



VVC has taught me the practical ways to reach my dreams.

**Kanikka Wofford**  
Major: Mathematics



For many people, math is a little like going to the dentist. It brings great anxiety, and unless you have a toothache, it feels really unnecessary. Algebra may not fix your toothache, but it has been known to cause a headache or two.

Teachers tell us that math is important, but many people today tend to shy away from the subject. Employers say math is important, but the majority of college students get out of math classes as fast as they can. Perhaps knowing why math is important to you and how you probably already use it in your daily life will offer some comfort and motivation.

Here are a few examples of how math subjects are used in everyday life.

We can all probably understand that arithmetic helps us to keep track of how much money is in our bank account. Adding deposits and subtracting expenditures will help you to know if you can afford the next thing you want to buy. You might also readily understand that decimals are found in money anytime you use a coin to pay for something. Fractions are another way to express the partial value of a whole. Most sports games are made of fractions. Everyone knows when halftime is in a football game for example.

But what happens when we move into more complex math, the subjects that really cause palms to sweat? Even Algebra, Geometry, Trigonometry and Statistics affect us every day.

Algebra deals with understanding relationships between variables. For example, if you have a recipe that serves four people but you are planning a dinner party for ten of your best friends, you will use algebraic concepts to determine how much of each ingredient should be used to increase the number of people you can feed. It is used to determine how much interest

you will pay on a loan depending upon how many years you want to stretch out the loan. Algebra is also valuable because it allows us to rearrange formulas to suit our needs. For example, it allows us to convert between Fahrenheit and Celsius temperatures.

Geometry measures space. It will be used any time you want to buy new carpet for your house or purchase fertilizer for your yard. And the next time you take a drink from a soda can, remember that geometry was used to determine how big it needed to be to hold 12 ounces of your favorite bubbling beverage. In an effort to be conscious of our environment, geometry helps us to minimize packaging materials while maximizing the space to be packed.

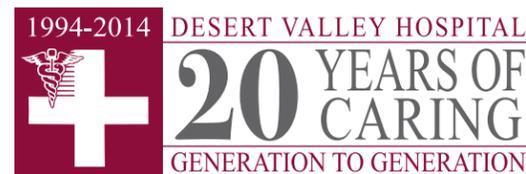
Trigonometry deals with angles. The architectural design of the house you live in relies on trig concepts. Of course, most people move in after the construction is done so the math may not seem important, but you will intuitively use trigonometry to position the speakers of your new sound system so that you can best hear the surround sound in your home theater. So you might already be getting "Triggy With It." It is also used in flight navigation systems.

Introductory calculus allows us to calculate the rate of change of things. For example, the rate of change of the velocity of an object is its acceleration. Consider the liftoff of the space shuttle: not only is its speed (and height above the ground) changing, but its weight is also changing as fuel is being burned. Have you ever noticed as you dive into a pool that the pressure on your ears increases as you dive deeper? We can use calculus here, too, to calculate the fluid pressure on our ears at different depths.

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## Accelerating education

New online courses prepare students for the assessment exam

One of the first things a new community college student must do when they enroll is to take the assessment exam. This placement test will determine how many classes a student must take in order to graduate or complete their educational plan and transfer to a university. It does not determine whether or not the student will be admitted, as the SAT or PSAT might when applying to a university, but in very real ways can impact whether or not a student ever graduates.

Studies show that students who place in remedial classes face an uphill battle and many drop out before finishing school. About 60% of community college students nationwide end up in remedial classes and only about 25% of them graduate or transfer. The challenge comes from the fact that their path is longer and the longer they spend in college the more likely life challenges will get in the way. Each extra class that students must take will cost them hundreds of dollars and require months of extra schooling to complete.

Most students who are planning to attend a university will take time to study for the SAT or PSAT exams by taking a prep course. These classes provide academic refreshers and test taking strategies to help a student maximize their score. These programs generally cost anywhere from \$199 to \$999, but students and their parents see this investment as important to advancing their education.

Few students taking the Accuplacer exam at Victor Valley College prepare for the test and as a result well over the national average place into remedial classes. The Accuplacer gauges whether or not a student has mastered concepts in mathematics, grammar and reading comprehension. These are critical to success in college and therefore very important for students to understand. When remedial classes are needed, they are available at Victor Valley College and give students an opportunity to succeed by preparing them to perform well in college level courses. However, some students who are placed in remedial classes are there simply because they forgot something they once knew and they didn't study for this exam.

There are a variety of ways to prepare for taking the Accuplacer exam, but

until now, most relied on the student to search for their own options, create their own learning plan, teach themselves and monitor their own progress using many free sources online. Now however, students coming to Victor Valley College can take advantage of a new partnership with Accelerated Education Resources to access assessment test preparation courses online.

These cloud-based classes each begin with a diagnostic exam which will customize the course so that students only study what they need help mastering. They then include video instruction, practice questions, skill check quizzes and organized learning paths to keep students on track. Students can review difficult subjects repeatedly until they have learned what they need in order to move on. And best there are three options available starting at \$69 for eight weeks of online course access. Just one remedial class will cost about \$300 so the odds are that students will save both money and time by taking an Accelerated Education Resources test prep course.

Visit [www.accelerateyoureducation.com](http://www.accelerateyoureducation.com) for more information and prepare to place higher.

*Accelerated Education Resources is a for-profit subsidiary of the Victor Valley College Foundation designed to keep costs low, help students get ahead and generate support for scholarships and grants at Victor Valley College.*



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# Catch the wave

Some would say the tide is turning. Rough economic waters of the past are settling as a new world emerges. The key to navigating our future is knowing what lies on the horizon. Sail with this wind rather than against it. Are you ready to catch the wave?

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8 am - Noon

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Keynote Speaker:

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Chief Economist

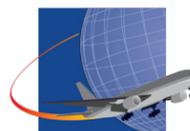
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- Insights to promote success today



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## Gift strengthens STEM

**Dr. Prem Reddy Family Foundation makes year end donation for tutors, training and technology.**

As Victor Valley College Faculty and Students returned to start the Spring Semester, they returned to the news that a generous year end gift from the Dr. Prem Reddy Family Foundation is providing new equipment and additional services to help them succeed. The Victor Valley College Foundation reached out to Prem Reddy, MD, FACC, FCCP, with a list of immediate needs identified by the Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) programs at Victor Valley College and he responded by underwriting the entire list with a \$120,000 gift just before the new year.

"Dr. Reddy has proven yet again that he values education and is a friend to our students," said Peter Allan, Interim Superintendent / President at Victor Valley College. "His generosity over the years has allowed our college to do very good things to better serve and support student success. This gift to STEM programs helps us meet some immediate needs so we can stay focused on innovation."

"These students are our future, and it is imperative that we give them the best training available," said Dr. Reddy. "I came from an impoverished background to become a cardiologist. Nothing is impossible for these hard working students, and I hope that this contribution helps them achieve their dreams."

Dr. Reddy and his family founded the Dr. Prem Reddy Family Foundation (also known as Desert Valley Charitable Foundation), a nonprofit foundation that has donated millions to various charities, including those that support health education, college scholarships, public healthcare education and free community clinics. Additionally, the Prime Healthcare Foundation was founded and entirely funded by Dr. Reddy and his family with current assets of over \$700 million. It owns six non-profit acute care hospitals both in California and Texas, which are considered community assets.

Among the items supported with Dr. Reddy's most recent gift to Victor Valley College is a new autoclave for the college biology department. This aging piece of equipment sterilizes supplies used in science labs and while it had been well taken care of was operating beyond its expected life. The funding donated will allow the department to acquire a new, more efficient piece of equipment that will literally serve thousands of students each year. His contribution also expanded tutoring services in the Victor Valley College Math Success Center to help students master math concepts when classroom instruction is not enough for them individually. Hundreds of students need one-on-one

tutoring in math in order to pass the subject each year. Additional support from this gift will also assist the College's new robotics program (engineering) to acquire robotics kits for use in instruction and the computer information systems program to add new technology for its students to use. All STEM programs will also benefit from additional staff development funding so that teachers can stay on top of the newest advances in their fields thanks to Dr. Reddy's gift.

Inspired by Dr. Reddy's generosity, the Victor Valley College Foundation will continue to focus on a "Year of STEM" in 2014 to support additional initiatives in these valuable disciplines.

"We know how important Science, Technology, Engineering and Math are in creating the workforce of today and tomorrow," said Foundation President Don Brown. "The needs in these programs are high priorities for the Foundation because these programs are high priorities for our community."

The Victor Valley College Foundation is a fundraising and public relations partner of Victor Valley College, providing resources to help the College better serve its students. For more information about the Victor Valley College Foundation, visit [www.vvcfoundation.com](http://www.vvcfoundation.com), find us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter.

Thank You



Dr. Prem Reddy



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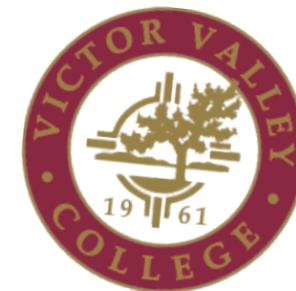
Our thanks go out to each of our primary care physicians and specialists who give their best every day to provide the highest quality healthcare!



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## Eight reasons to go to Victor Valley College



### 1. Exceptional Faculty

VVC's faculty are some of the most gifted individuals in the California Community College system. They are dedicated to your education. Plan on enrolling in one of the best nursing programs in the state, participating in hands on published research projects or learning in a flipped classroom environment. Whatever your degree path, faculty care about your future.

### 2. Award Winning Programs

Students are engaged at VVC! Whether you join the Model United Nations Team, Phi Theta Kappa or become a member of the Associated Student Body Leadership you are joining the ranks of award winning and internationally recognized clubs!

### 3. Programs and Certificates

With more than 25 degrees and slightly more than 125 certificate programs, enrolled students will find a wide range of career paths to pursue and job skills training to help you enter the job market today. With our new Associate Degree Transfer programs, students on select four year paths benefit from a streamlined transfer into the Cal State University System.

### 4. Conveniently Located

If you want to go to a college where you feel comfortable and be with your friends, VVC is the place to be. Here, the short drive will save you gas money and keep you close to home so you don't have to pay higher rents for housing. If you live at home with your family you can continue to benefit from their loving support everyday.

### 5. Affordability

Victor Valley College is a great way to save money and receive a quality education for the first two years of your degree path. Students should plan on paying approximately \$1,000 per semester while attending VVC which is substantially less than the same courses at a university.

### 6. New Facilities

As a result of the passage of Measure JJ your learning will take place in state-of-the-art facilities like our new \$31.5 million Regional Public Safety Training Center located in Apple Valley. The training complex is specifically designed to support students in the Administration of Justice, Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Services and Corrections programs. It provides students the opportunity for cooperative emergency scenario cross-training exercises experienced by first responders every day in the normal course of the job. Currently, the music building is being renovated and a 20,000 square foot new health science center is slated for completion for Fall of 2015.

### 7. Short Term Fee Based Classes

The Department of Contract & Community Education offers general interest as well as skills-based certification training to the greater Victor Valley community. These training opportunities do not carry any college credit, but usually result in a state and/or nationally recognized certification that leads to a job in the high desert. A few of our more popular fee-based classes include training to be a Certified Notary, Certified Phlebotomy Technician, and Solar PV Installation Technician.

### 8. Beautiful Campus

VVC has a beautiful, tranquil and sustainable campus. At the heart of the campus is a gorgeous lake that is home to a wide variety of wildlife. Migratory birds, geese, ducks, turtles, and of course fish live in and around the campus main water feature. It provides a peaceful study spot for students. A gazebo overlooking the picturesque lake is a popular wedding spot proving that the campus is truly beautiful.



# Tutors are the common denominator for math success

Enter the doors of the Academic Commons and you are immersed in a world where students are learning the one subject considered the scariest, math. Yet, there is no need to be afraid to sit down at one of the many desks provided for students because this place is the Math Success Center (MSC). Fostered by a grant from Southern California Edison, the MSC provides peer to peer on-site tutoring to help students with the tools they need to help them pass math. The tutors at the center are some of the most dedicated students on campus. Even if you are a little shy about asking questions no need to worry, they will ask you.

"I'm not usually the one to ask questions, but when people come up to you and ask questions it's kind of hard not to accept it," said Noe Oseguera who made his first trip to the Math Success Center this semester.

Daniel Barragan is in his second semester as a math tutor. He is working towards becoming a chemical engineer and to help him reach his goals he applied for a job to be a tutor. It's time he finds very rewarding. "I really like seeing everyone succeed. I have helped two hearing impaired students and a disabled kid and it's really cool that I can interact with them and learn a little bit of sign language and it's helped me learn to interact with people better," Barragan said.

In December of 2013, the tutoring center was in jeopardy of closing its doors. The Victor Valley

College Foundation was able to find some resources to sustain the center for a few additional months. However, this was only a temporary band aid and much more needed to be done. Chief Executive Officer of Desert Valley Hospital, Dr. Margaret Peterson, heard about the critical need at the MSC and took immediate measures to secure a generous donation through the Dr. Prem Reddy Family Foundation. A gift of \$120,000 was made to the College and also benefitted other programs in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. This support was a huge relief to a large number of students who depend upon the center for supplemental instruction.

One of the students was Kelly Hames who is currently taking her required math courses to enter the nursing program. "If the center wasn't here I wouldn't have passed and I know I wouldn't have passed. We need this center," said Hames.

The center is also a free resource for Victor Valley College students and a great alternative for those who can't afford private tutoring. As many as 50 students cycle through per day and that number multiplies considerably around midterm and finals week. Tutors like Christelle Rocha says students need to take advantage of utilizing this center to improve their skills.

"Especially because if you haven't been able to brush up on your skills and you haven't taken a math class yet we can help you before you go into

your class it's kind of like a well-rounded center," Rocha said.

Having a dedicated space to support Math students has also spurred math clubs and study groups. At the end of the 2013 semester, students in different levels of Math competed against each other to "solve equations." Students were awarded prizes and at the same time learned how to take the "scary" out of math and calculate back in some "fun!"

at VVC  
**I LEARNED**



I learned how to systematically differentiate hyperbolic trigonometric functions.

**Chad Hoogendyk**  
Major: Mathematics

**Don't wait any longer, find out how you can get your Math success today!**

Rather than going home to study on your own, visit the Math Success Center to do your homework and get any tutoring you need. Appointments can be made online at the Math Success Center website:

[www.vvc.edu/academic/mathematics/MSC.shtml](http://www.vvc.edu/academic/mathematics/MSC.shtml)

The Math Success Center is located in the Academic Commons (bldg. 42). They are open for tutoring, Monday thru Friday from 8:30 am to 5 pm.



A VVC student raises his hand for help from a math tutor.



Math Success Center tutor, John Topete helps a student in need.



VVC Math tutor Steve Sedgwick helping a few of the many VVC students who utilize the Math Success Center.



MSC Tutor, Daniel Barragan helping Kelly Hames, a VVC Nursing student, with her Math 50 class.



Christelle Rocha, a third semester Math tutor helps one of the many students at VVC gain success with math.

# Flipping math

## Putting lectures online makes room to practice in class

Several of the VVC Math Faculty are beginning to experiment with a flipped learning environment. Rather than using class time for lecturing and note-taking, students are challenged in the classroom to dive deeper. Students come to class better prepared, already having watched lecture videos and completed initial assignments. Class time then becomes a time to dive deeper, ask questions and explore the content further.

"I now have class time to teach concepts at a deeper level than before," says Stephen Toner, Math Professor at VVC. "I have time to interact with the students rather than just present information to them. All of my lectures are already online. This allows me to take the best part of an online learning environment and pair it with the best parts of a regular classroom environment."

The math faculty are using a variety of video formats. Professor Jeff Ridge has been creating pencasts for his students, which are basically voice-embedded pdf files, which he creates using a Smart Pen. Professor Toner records his video lectures using a document camera, while Professor Mary Lynn Doan videotapes her lectures using a video camera.

In a lecture classroom environment, students need to stay focused for the entire class to catch every part of a lecture. Watching video lectures online, however, allows students to pause, rewind and replay lectures, as well as study at a time more conducive to their schedules.



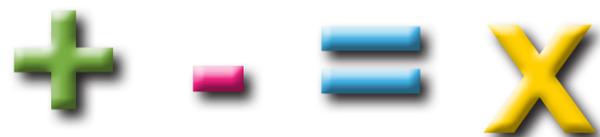
Professor Toner instructing a Math class using an ELMO document scanner

**"I now have class time to teach concepts at a deeper level than before."**  
- Stephen Toner

### Continued from page 5: Math

Statistics help people predict things like the weather, how much a stock will grow in value over time, and how fast a cancerous tumor might grow. It is often used to determine the outcome of an experiment when conducting the experiment would be unethical or too expensive. For example, even if math causes a great deal of anxiety for us, we'd probably all rather learn Statistics than be the subject of an experiment that was trying to determine how much force the eyeball could withstand in an industrial accident. Yes, there are things worse than math.

Math is really very useful and can even be interesting. Real problems affecting our daily life require math solutions and learning it should not be scary. At Victor Valley College the Math Success Center helps students every day to overcome the challenges that math presents.



# VVC math in the cloud

## Professor Stephen Toner maintains website to make math lectures available online.

Victor Valley College Faculty do many things outside of the classroom to help Victor Valley College students. Occasionally those things also help people far beyond the campus. Math Professor Stephen Toner has created one such resource in his website MathVideos.net

The MathVideos.net website currently offers the complete set of lectures for two of the classes taught at Victor Valley College: Elementary Algebra (Math 50) and College Algebra (Math 105). This allows students who are taking these courses to revisit lectures when extra help learning concepts is required. It also supports the new flipped learning model that some instructors are using to allow more time in class for guided practice.

"My goal is to have a full curriculum from Elementary Algebra through first semester Calculus on the site," said Toner.

Students can download blank sets of lecture notes to help them follow along with the lecture completing problems together with the

video. The videos allow students to learn at their convenience with the ability to pause and rewind videos according to their needs.

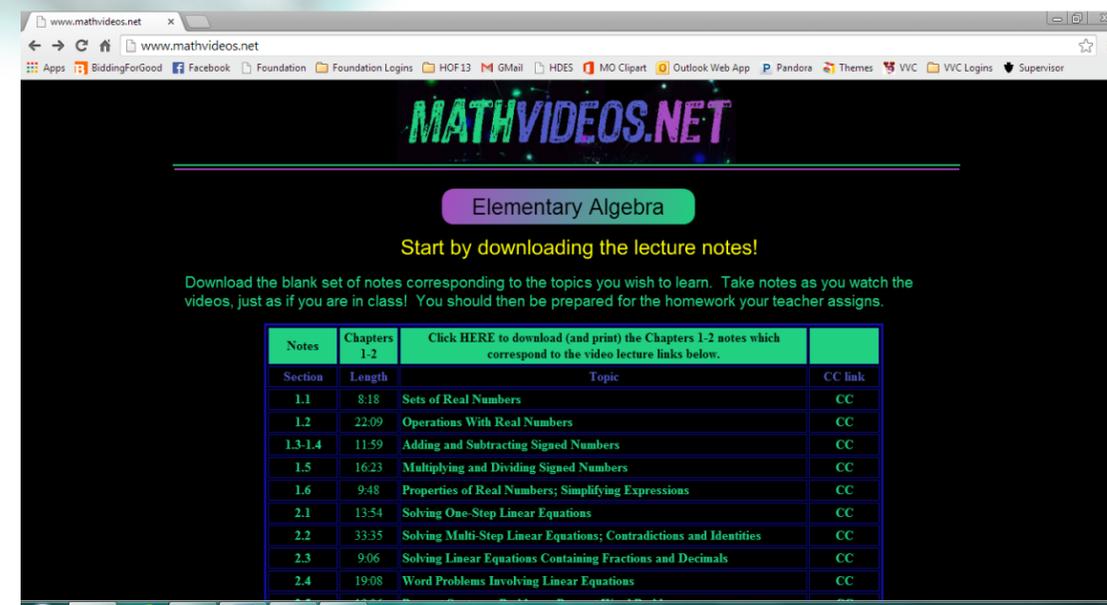
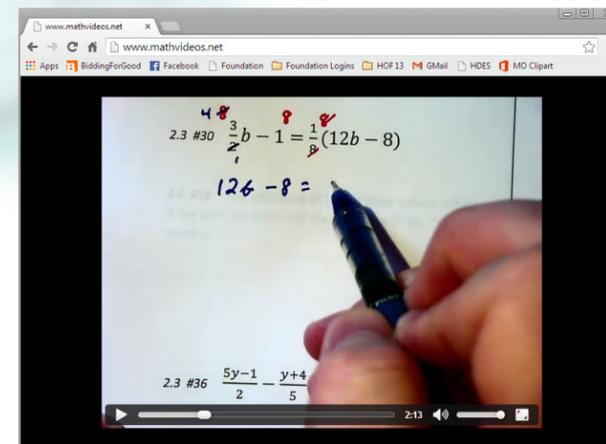
Eventually students will also have access to all of the same support online for Intermediate Basic Math (Math 10), Algebra (Math 90), Trigonometry (Math 104), Introduction to Statistics (Math 120), Calculus (Math 226).

The site has become quite popular requiring Toner to find a new web hosting solution that would allow him to keep the recourse free to visitors. These include students in his classes, of course, but also homeschoolers and anyone needing to brush up on their math skills.

"I have received emails from students and teachers all over the world telling me that they have benefitted from these videos," said Toner.

Toner pays for and manages the site on his own time demonstrating his extraordinary commitment to the success of his students.

Access Mr. Toner's math videos online at [www.mathvideos.net](http://www.mathvideos.net).





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- Ozel Jewelers
- Valley Hi Kia
- Valley Hi Toyota
- ARMAC-ISU Insurance
- Compass Energy
- Forbes Graphx & Printing
- ICR Staffing Services
- Printmart
- Victor Valley College Associated Student Body
- Armstrong Fairway Insurance
- Bradco Companies
- Century 21 Real Estate
- Citizens Business Bank
- Cimarron Escrow
- CSEA, #584
- Donna J. Wells, CPA
- Edible Arrangements
- Greiner Buick GMC
- Investment Bankers Network, Shannon Shannon
- Mojave Water Agency
- Napa Auto Parts
- Norm & Paula Hurst
- TXI Riverside Cement

# Conservation has many faces...



“Use drip irrigation” Kristen Maley      “Check for leaks” Curtis Green      “Remove your turf” David and Cecilia Otto      “Turn off the faucet” Samuel Ruesch      “Wash full loads” Iris Gutierrez

# Is one of them yours?

**Before the drought made recent headlines, the Mojave Water Agency had been working with our communities to ensure a sustainable water supply.** One way is to use less water. That’s why MWA and the Alliance for Water Awareness and Conservation encourage you to conserve.

**To date, we’ve made great progress and even surpassed state goals.** We’ve removed 6.1 million square feet of turf and replaced it with water-wise landscaping, and together we’ve reduced the region’s per person water use by 30 percent since 2000!

## Conservation is working! But there is more each of us can do!

- ◆ Use the washing machine and dishwasher with full loads only
- ◆ Participate in the Cash for Grass Program    ◆ Plant drought-resistant trees and plants
- ◆ Use water-efficient irrigation    ◆ Install low-flow toilets and check for leaks
- ◆ Turn off water when brushing teeth or shaving    ◆ Use a broom to clean outdoor areas
- ◆ Take shorter showers    ◆ Use mulch instead of plastic to allow water to recharge our aquifers

For more information visit the MWA website at [www.mojavewater.org](http://www.mojavewater.org) or [www.saveourh2o.org](http://www.saveourh2o.org)



# Mojave Water Agency

Together, we're securing water for today and tomorrow...

# Alumni Hall of Fame welcomes James Ramos

The Victor Valley College Foundation officially inducted into the Victor Valley College Alumni Hall of Fame, 3rd District Supervisor for the County of San Bernardino, James Ramos. Ramos rose from an underprivileged youth on the San Manuel Indian Reservation to become one of the most prominent leaders in San Bernardino County.

At a young age, Ramos developed a strong work ethic and entrepreneurial spirit which prompted him to pursue an education degree ladder in business administration and accounting. He graduated from Victor Valley College with his associate's degree in 1994, earned his bachelor's degree in 2002 from California State San Bernardino and eventually his MBA in 2009 from the University of Redlands.

"Victor Valley College provides an essential avenue for students in the High Desert region to obtain a higher education. Having the opportunity to complete my Associate's Degree from VVC allowed me to move forward in my life to where I am today. Education opens doors we may not think possible. I am proud to be a graduate of an institution dedicated to opening those doors for all students in the community," Ramos said.

Ramos' educational background has led him on a successful career path and his resume is unique. When asked what some of his proudest accomplishments are, Ramos says it is being an advocate for Native American culture and preserving its history. He has been actively involved in cultural awareness programs and curriculum at various educational institutions throughout the county for over 20 years.

His passion for education led him to seek a seat on the San Bernardino Community College District Board of Trustees. In 2005, he won the election and continued to serve for seven years until 2012. While serving as a Trustee, he was appointed by the Governor to the California State Native American Heritage Commission in 2008 and became the first Native American elected to the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors in 2012.

Through his work as a civic leader, Ramos received an honorary doctorate in Humane Letters from Northern Arizona University in 2009 and was awarded the "Keeper of the Light Award" for his distinguished contributions to the Inland Empire education community.

- ★ also honored:
- Michele Spears  
Community Service
- Larry & Catherine Heywood  
Education Service
- Jaye Tashima  
Presidents' Award
- Southern California Edison  
Presidents' Award



How much **longer** do you want to be in **school?** &

How much more **money** do you want to spend on **college?**

**Your assessment scores determine how many extra classes you will have to take.**



**You could pay...**

The cost of each extra remedial class at a Community College

Tuition & Textbooks  
(4 units)

**\$350**

plus

**6 months**  
of your life!

**or you could prepare**

**AER**

**Accelerated Education**  
RESOURCES

# Campaign for Classes wins the **GOLD**

As an Olympic athlete there is nothing like taking home Gold for your country, the same can be said about a Community College Foundation Staff who earns a gold award for their College! This year, the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) District VII awarded the Victor Valley College Foundation "Gold" or First Place for its five week Campaign for Classes.

District VII supports all public and private Universities, Community Colleges and other higher education institutions in the Western States and Territories of Arizona, Hawaii, California, Guam, Nevada, Utah and the Northern Mariana Islands.

The "C4C" as we called it aimed at raising money from the support of the community to add new core classes to Victor Valley College's fall and spring schedules. Due to budget constraints thousands of students found themselves on maxed out waitlists for classes that would help them graduate, transfer or earn a certificate.

"This was a huge effort that was supported by our students, staff and faculty at the college," said Executive Director Ginger Ontiveros. "We can't thank the Valley Hi Auto Group enough for partnering with us to kick start the successful campaign which yielded 20 additional classes."

Central to the campaign was "Auto Occupado" which challenged students, faculty staff and friends of the college to occupy a new car from Valley Hi parked on the college campus for 888 straight hours - every day and night between May 1 and Graduation last year. The comprehensive campaign also included a text to give opportunity advertised on the radio, in the newspaper and on local billboard. Thousands participated in the effort to make education more available.

The award was submitted in the category of Fundraising - Targeted Campaigns. Tying for Bronze and Bronze (no University earned a silver in this category) respectively were Biola University and the University of California President's Office. or Valley College

Foundation was the only Community College to be recognized in any category. CASE supports alumni relations, communications, development, and marketing professionals at educational institutions worldwide. The District hosts the annual awards program to highlight and recognize the best practices in our profession.

**CASE District VII**

**Awards of Excellence Winners 2014**  
CASE District VII is pleased to announce the winners of its 2014 Awards of Excellence Program!

**Fundraising Programs - Targeted Campaigns**  
Gold: Victor Valley College Foundation, "Campaign for Classes"  
Bronze: Biola University, "#BiolaTen10GivingChallenge"  
Bronze: University of California Office of the President, "University of California Promise for Education Fundraising"



Save hundreds of dollars and graduate sooner

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AER AssessmentPrep provides online, interactive, test preparation programs for the Community College Accuplacer test.

**Invest now to accelerate your education.**

**www.AccelerateYourEducation.com**



Arthur Miller's

# ALL MY SONS



**Directed by: Dr. John Rude**

What starts out as a relaxed image of American life as neighbors congregate in Joe Keller's backyard on a summer's evening, soon begins to develop tensions. Set in post-World War II, Arthur Miller's landmark drama examines the relationships between fathers and sons and the price of living the American Dream. An explosive secret threatens to tear the family apart in this powerful play about the conflict between business ethics and taking responsibility for one's actions.

| APRIL  |        |        | MAY    |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 25     | 26     | 27     | 2      | 3      | 4      |
| 7:30pm | 7:30pm | 2:30pm | 7:30pm | 7:30pm | 2:30pm |

Adults \$10  
Seniors \$7  
Children \$5



## VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE Performing Arts Center

Order your Tickets Online: [www.vvc.edu/tix](http://www.vvc.edu/tix)

TICKET INFO: 245-4271 ext. 849

24-hr. P.A.C. event information 760-245-ARTS (2787)



**18422 Bear Valley Road  
Victorville**



# Grant builds stronger public safety ladders

For a second year in a row, the San Manuel Band of Mission Indians granted \$77,000 to the Victor Valley College Foundation to help enhance emergency responder training provided at the Victor Valley College Regional Public Safety Training Center.

The state-of-the-art center in Apple Valley, California is one of the only facilities in the United States which assists students to not only learn their specific areas of study but also to participate together in a wide variety of emergency scenarios. Thanks to San Manuel's generous grant to the Emergency Careers Ladder's Project, students enrolled in the Administration of Justice, Paramedic and Fire-Technology programs will now have additional equipment to give them a "leg up" as they prepare for future careers as law enforcement officers, paramedics and firefighters.

"Without question their commitment to safety is evident in their investment in our programs," said Heath Cohen, Victor Valley College Fire Academy Chief for the Regional Public Safety Training Center. "We couldn't be more thankful to San Manuel for their continued support and we value their partnership."

Three of the programs at the RPSTC will benefit from the grant funds. First, a portion will be used to purchase much needed turnout gear for fire-technology students who are fulfilling their required internship hours at local stations. Students serving in the capacity as an intern have a direct effect on the community as they work alongside active firefighters on emergency calls. In addition, it gives them the qualifications they need to obtain their Firefighter 1 Certificate as well as the time and experience they need to be competitive in

"The people of San Manuel have a strong belief in keeping their career field. our communities safe," said Chairperson Carla Rodriguez. "This is why we strongly support Victor Valley College and their continued efforts to better prepare our public safety professionals with state-of-the-art equipment."

Other funds will be used to purchase a new class set of computers dedicated for testing students enrolled in the Administration of Justice program. As of 2014, the California State Peace Officer's Standards and Training (POST) has phased out the use of current testing methods – scantrons – and requires all POST training providers to use electronic testing through the use of laptop computers. These computers will also be available for research, report writing and review of study materials. The Administration of Justice program serves more than 800 students annually and the computers will assist the students in meeting their certification requirements as well as give them transferable technical skills for the workforce.

Finally, San Manuel's grant will provide funding for new audio visual equipment to create a mobile simulation field lab for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program. Currently, students record these training exercises on iPad's (also funded by San Manuel), however, now with the new equipment it will give them the ability to record, watch and evaluate their performance. Students of today learn best through active participation and self-evaluation provided through well-designed simulation experiences.



# Career LINK mathematics

Actuary  
...Insurance



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

An actuary analyzes the financial consequences of risk. Actuaries use mathematics, statistics, and financial theory to study uncertain future events. Actuaries assemble and analyze data to estimate the probability and likely cost of the occurrence of an event such as death, sickness, injury, disability, or loss of property. Actuaries may work for insurance companies, consulting firms, government, employee benefits departments of large corporations, hospitals, banks and investment firms, or in businesses that need to manage financial risk.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

Actuaries continue to be one of the most in demand jobs and is expected to grow by more than 26% through 2020. The Jobs Rated Almanac has consistently rated an Actuary as one of the most desirable careers available. The median wage for Actuaries is \$46.94 an hour in California.

## VVC PROGRAMS:

VVC offers an A.S. degree in Math/ Science and an A.A. in Mathematics for transfer degree; both are designed to prepare students who wish to complete a bachelor program in mathematics or a related field.

Civil Engineer  
...Construction



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Civil Engineers plan, design, and supervise the construction and maintenance of airports, bridges, buildings, dams, irrigation projects, power plants, roads, tunnels, and water supply and sewage systems. They must consider many factors during the design process, from the construction costs and expected lifetime of a project to governmental and environmental regulations and potential natural hazards, such as earthquakes and hurricanes. They may also work with specialists on problems, such as soil or ground water contamination, or energy development and conservation.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

The median wage in 2013 for Civil Engineers in California was \$95,158 annually, or \$45.75 hourly. With the increased focus on environmentally sustainable business practices, the expected ten-year growth rate for the occupation of Civil Engineer is expected to have increased job opportunities.

## VVC PROGRAMS:

An Associate's Degree in Math/ Science offered at VVC is designed to prepare students who wish to transfer to complete a bachelor program in Engineering.

Financial Analyst  
...Equity Analyst



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Financial Analysts evaluate investment opportunities. They work in banks, pension funds, mutual funds, securities firms, insurance companies, and other businesses. They provide guidance to businesses and individuals making investment decisions. They assess the performance of stocks, bonds, and other types of investments. Financial Analysts generally focus on trends affecting a specific industry, geographical region, or type of product.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

The Financial Analyst occupation is expected to see high employment growth in California. A growing range of financial products is expected to fuel the demand. The median wage in 2013 for Financial Analysts in California was \$89,053 annually.

## VVC PROGRAMS:

VVC offers an A.S. in Business Administration and certificate programs in Management and Bookkeeping; both are designed to prepare students to complete a bachelor's degree in a business-related field, such as accounting, business administration, economics, finance, or statistics.

# Career LINK mathematics

Airframe &  
Powerplant  
Technician



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) Technicians 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, and most will have an FAA Airframe and Powerplant (A&P) certificate.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

The average wage for an A&P Mechanic in 2013 was \$29.26 hourly, or over \$60,000 annually. Locally there are many job opportunities for A&P mechanics.

## 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.

Real  
Estate  
Agent



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Real Estate Agents rent, buy, or sell property for clients. They perform duties such as study property listings, interview prospective clients, accompany clients to property sites, discuss and negotiate conditions of sale, and draw up real estate contracts. Real Estate Agents are also responsible for appraising properties, providing financial information and analytical data to the potential buyer or seller, discussing costs of maintaining residence and possible renovations with clients, and determining the best method of purchase based on client financials.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

Job growth in this field is very strong; the median wage in California for Real Estate Agents was equivalent to \$25.31 hourly, in 2013.

## VVC PROGRAMS:

Victor Valley College offers an A.S. in Business Real Estate and Escrow and several Business Real Estate Certificates; both prepare students for state licensing exams.

Pharmacy  
Technician



## CAREER DESCRIPTION:

Pharmacy Technicians generally greet patients and accept their written requests for prescriptions or prescription refills. In addition to medication, they help pharmacists provide other health care products to patients. Technicians may perform inventory control, keeping track of medications, chemicals, medical equipment, and other supplies that are dispensed to patients. They also receive and store incoming supplies, check invoices against quantities received, compute prices, file prescriptions, and record prescription information and other data into a computer.

## JOB OUTLOOK:

Employment of Pharmacy Technicians is expected to grow and their demand is high because of the increased pharmaceutical needs of a larger, older population. The median wage in 2013 for Pharmacy Technicians in California was \$38,500 annually, or \$18.51 hourly.

## VVC PROGRAMS:

Pharmacy Technician training will be available this fall through VVC's Skills360 Workforce Development program. The course is designed to allow students to fast track a certification in this field.

# ATTENTION VICTOR VALLEY COLLEGE STUDENTS

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FINANCING  
AVAILABLE  
FOR COLLEGE  
GRADS!**



**NEED A CAR?  
WE CAN HELP!**



**DO YOU HAVE 3 PERSONAL REFERENCES?  
BEEN IN YOUR JOB AT LEAST 6 MONTHS?  
THEN LET US GET YOU IN YOUR 1<sup>ST</sup> CAR!**

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