While job availability in many fields has slowed and increased technological and economic factors narrow the entrance into others, Victor Valley College’s Administration of Justice program offers students preparation for a variety of careers that are not only satisfying and in high demand, but those jobs survive economic turbulence.

Stressed in the program are physical training, self-defense, discipline, as well as classroom study.

Some of the instrumental drivers of the VVC program spoke recently about its success and promise.

Department Chair Ron Fields expressed pride in the training and is pleased to have support of VVC President Dr. Robert Silverman. “During tough economic times, jobs in the areas for which we prepare students are not going to disappear. Our students get a well-rounded experience to ready them for a wide range justice system careers,” Fields said.

Associate Professor of Administration of Justice Michael Visser is a retired assistant police chief, who has served 34 years as a peace officer. With his California State Teacher Credential, he also has a Master of Public Education Degree, a Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Associate Degree in Administrative Justice. Visser has a sixth-degree black belt in Shorin Ryu Karate and has served in many capacities of law enforcement, including SWAT command. He is a graduate of FBI National Academy and FBI Southwest Command College. Visser wants the community to know about the many jobs available to those who complete the VVC program. “Law enforcement, crime scene investigation (CSI), probation, forensics, communications and corrections careers are just a few that can start here at our own community college. Many of these jobs can be had at federal, state, county and city levels,” said Visser.

Assistant Warden of Programs Felicia Carter works at Desert View Modified Community Corrections Facility in the high desert. “The program at VVC will open doors to a world of opportunities,” said Carter. She is a graduate of the VVC Administration of Justice program and has earned a Bachelors Degree in Corrections. Carter is pursuing a masters degree and is working on a violence prevention program for the corrections system. “I particularly love the rehabilitation aspect of my job. Helping make changes for the better in lives is very rewarding.” Her belief that ‘students come first’ is a cornerstone of her love of teaching and mentoring. “I have gift of identifying potential in students. I have a 19-yr old sergeant who already displays excellent leadership skills,” she said.

Desert View Modified Community Corrections Facility Warden Charles McBurney maintains a strong affiliation with the college’s program. With 29 years working in corrections, McBurney is a committed, active administrator, who frequently visits classes and speaks to the students. “These people are potential recruits, importantly involved with keeping the community safe, so I hold them to high standards. I learn quite a bit from the cadets, too,” said McBurney. He points to a former warden of high desert corrections, who is now a member of the VVC board of trustees, Angela Valles, as a good friend and proponent of the AJ program at the college.

Information about classes that comprise the Administration of Justice Program can be found in the VVC schedule of classes.
O’Hearn Applauds College Innovations

Story By  
Kathleen Allen  
Managing/Online Editor/Board Secretary

Dr. Christopher O’Hearn is the deputy superintendent of instruction and came to VVC from Mount San Antonio College in Walnut. He really likes the change, enjoys the offerings of the slower pace in the Victor Valley community and the challenges faced by everyone in the high desert.

The things O’Hearn does not deal with on campus are buildings, grounds and money. Anything that deals with student instruction is under his control.

When asked what accreditation means to the student in layman terms, O’Hearn said, “The credit received for the classes taken at VVC means something. Without accreditation students would not be able to transfer the credits from VVC and the credits taken here would not help them get any degree.”

Next to O’Hearn’s office is the former location of the switchboard and mailroom. He said he is pleased that area is now being staged to house a transfer center.

Recruiters will meet with students in that area, and there will be a counselor available to give information and help students with transfer decisions. Positioning across from the career center places the transfer center in a strategic location for students interested in researching their future possibilities.

O’Hearn is impressed with the enormous experience of all the recently hired personnel and feels they see and appreciate the leadership and vision of Silverman. “President Silverman has an interest in a one-stop center for student services as most institutions are doing,” said O’Hearn.

The primary reason is the pragmatic need to better serve students, and as these services are housed in one place, the current locations can become classrooms.

VVC is discussing introduction of instruction in emerging technologies of our geographic interests, including air, rail and green technology. “The college needs to offer a significant means of growth for the community due to the influx of new students and fewer jobs being offered. That means more students are looking for retraining in emerging fields and staying until completion of those studies,” said O’Hearn.

“Winter intersession was down by 50 percent of the sections offered and was specifically designed that way to keep the current funding under the cap. This allows providing services without state reimbursement. The winter and summer sessions have to balance out the course offerings for payment from the state,” said O’Hearn.

“I feel fantastic things are happening with this institution,” said O’Hearn.

Planetarium Shows Out of this World

Story By  
Kathleen Allen  
Managing /Online Editor, Board Secretary

The Victor Valley College Planetarium opened in 1996 and is a non-profit entity supported by the VVC Foundation. The planetarium depends on volunteers and financial donors to continue making the shows available to the high desert community.

Daytime programs are available for groups or classes. Reservations can be arranged by calling Director Dave Meyer at extension 2324.

Doors open for seating at 6:30 p.m. for all shows, which start Fridays at 7 p.m. sharp. Doors remain shut until the show ends for safety and liability reasons, so latecomers will not be admitted. The planetarium seating capacity is 50, and reservations are accepted for family groups of at least six. Prices range from two to four dollars.

Three shows remain during spring semester.
• April 3, a 33-minute program follows the progress of the Magellan radar-mapping mission to Venus.
• April 17, a 33-minute program focused on problems with the Hubble Space Telescope.
• May 1, a 40-minute program concerns the fascination humans have always had with Mars, narrated by Patrick Stewart.

There are enthralling images included in each program, and opportunities to view the night sky by telescope exist following each production, weather permitting.

VVC student Javier Franco is stoked about the planetarium. “I’m currently taking Astronomy, and I’ll have to say that it is my favorite class. This is my first year in college, and VVC has a great planetarium. I’m always learning something new. The more answers I get, the more questions I want to ask,” said Javier Franco.

For more information call (760) 245-4271 extension 2324.

Student Javier Franco loves astronomy.  
Photo by Bill Buttler.
Extended Opportunity Program and Services Assists VVC Students

Story and Photos By Bill Buttler
Editor-In-Chief

Prospective students who think personal obstacles make it impossible or difficult to attend college have a team of dedicated people in their corner ready to help. They can provide tools to remove roadblocks and smooth the path to learning. They are the Extended Opportunity Program and Services (E.O.P.S.), and they are right here on campus.

According to E.O.P.S. Specialist Ms Audrey Williams, E.O.P.S. opens doors for non-traditional college students to earn their college credential. E.O.P.S. offers priority registration, individualized counseling and academic assistance, peer assistance and referrals. Help is available to locate community services, such as family services and women’s special services.

For information concerning E.O.P.S. at VVC, contact Ms Audrey Williams, E.O.P.S. Specialist at (760) 245-4271, ext. 2438

VVC: Health Classes, No Clinic

Story By Kathleen Allen
Managing/Online Editor/Board Secretary

Patricia Luther is an RN and the dean of Health Sciences and Public Safety. “VVC did have a health clinic where the police department is now located, funded by Dr. Prem Reddy. Physicians Assistants were on duty, but it wasn’t utilized enough by students to be cost-effective and closed, I believe, in the late 1990’s,” she said.

The former Vice President of VVC did some checking on restoring a health department for students, but determined the cost wasn’t justified. The cost of liability and insurance were the major reasons for not trying to do it again, but the idea remains in the talking stages. This is an administration and governing board decision.

If there is a health concern on campus, the recommendation is to call 911 or go to the hospital. Basically attending school at VVC is a ‘come at your own risk’ decision for students.

“There is always an RN on campus. We can stop bleeding, take blood pressure and advise students on what to do. It is best to call campus police first. We are teaching student nurses here, but their training is to prepare them for working in a hospital, not a clinical setting. We do not have any of the equipment needed to care for injuries, such as x-ray machines,” Luther said.

Luther has been at VVC 19 years. She came from Imperial Valley College which is a very small college. They did have a clinic that dealt with light health concerns such as birth control medicines, std’s and headaches. “It would be great if we could have a health center here. Very good,” said Luther. She is not an ‘active’ advocate for health care facilities at VVC.

As a leadership project, the senior nursing students handle the blood mobile and health screenings that are done on campus. These projects require a lot of participation by students. In 2008 the nursing department received an award from San Bernardino and Riverside Counties for their outstanding performance as a donor group.

It has been brought to the attention of the nursing department that more of the faculty would use those services if they were not closed during normal lunch hours. That is under discussion, and maybe it will be different when offered again, probably in October.
Parking Only Perceived as Problem

Story and Photos By Evan Spears
Features/Photo Editor

While parking space availability is reaching critical mass on upper campus, parking on lower campus is still readily available. While the upper campus parking situation might stem from the recent spike in Victor Valley College enrollment, Chris Hylton, director of maintenance and operations, says that the issue also lies with parking spaces not being where people want them to be.

"There's plenty of parking on campus," said Hylton. Hylton says the parking lots on the lower campus are often only one-third full.

When asked if any plans to build a multi-level parking structure have ever been considered, Hylton says no. "Multi-level parking structures are extremely expensive to build, and they take up too much space. It would not be cost effective. The school wouldn't generate enough parking-related revenue to justify building such a structure," said Hylton.

Regarding citations for parking violations, VVC Police Chief Jon D. Schorle says he has not overseen an increase in the number of citations given out, but instead has purposefully "backed off in light of students' problems (with parking)," as Schorle said in a March 18, 2009 interview. "You have to find a balance between hard-line enforcement and the acknowledgment that there are other issues contributing to the problem," said Schorle.

Christopher O'Hearn, Deputy Superintendent of Instruction, is also concerned about the parking and flow of traffic. "Parking is atrocious and with the unidentifiable flow of traffic, it's a wonder we don't have accidents every day," said O'Hearn.

Writing Contest Deadline Fast Approaching

Story by Aaron Bañuelos
Sports/Video Editor

Once again, it's time for the Victor Valley College writing contest. Submissions must be in by Friday, March 27. Categories include poems, essays, personal narratives, short stories, shorts or artwork submitted to compete for cash prizes.

Three grand prizes will be given winners in each of the writing categories, and two additional prizes will reward those judged best in the artwork category.

It is easy to enter, and eligible entrants must be current students of VVC. All written entries must be typed, double-spaced, with the exception of poetry, and in 12-point font. Students can submit up to five entries.

Entrants are not to place their names on the actual work submitted. Each submission must have a cover sheet indicating category of entry, title of work submitted, applicant's name, address, student ID number and telephone number to be eligible for judging.

As with any contest, entrants should not contact judges, and judging won't begin until close of the contest. Winners will be announced, and winning entries will be published in a magazine.

No literary entries will be returned, and art work will be held until May 15. The magazine may be purchased at the book store for fifty cents.

Entries can be emailed to adellt@vvc.edu or by hand at Tim Adell's office in the Advanced Technology Center, building 21, room 140. Tim Adell can answer questions at 245-4271, extension 2691.
CBS News reported that there were more than 4,000 emergency calls last year due to button batteries. The cover story was about a toddler who almost died because she swallowed a button battery out of a remote control unit.

The battery compartments open too easily and toddlers can get the batteries out. These batteries are about the size of a nickel. Children think they’re candy and put them in their mouths.

This little girl had to have emergency surgery and is still going through treatments. The battery lodged in her throat, began corroding, and did enough damage to the esophagus that the little girl will have to have several more surgeries. Thankfully, she is still alive.

When batteries get wet they corrode and release electrical charges. When placed in a glass of water, a battery begins corroding within three hours. When the natural body fluids are secreted, they contain acids not present in water.

One can check remote controls, children’s toys and anything else that uses button batteries.

If the battery is small enough to swallow but large enough to get stuck in the throat, try to secure the battery compartment with a screw or key. If it is impossible to secure, keeping it out of a child’s reach may be the way to prevent a tragic mishap from occurring.
The Apple Valley Kennel Club hosted a dog show on the lower campus March 7 and 8. People came from all over to attend, and the lower campus was filled with tents and recreational vehicles. Although all first place winners were champion dogs (Ch), the show had non-champion dogs take second and third place in the Toy Group and fourth place in the Non-Sporting Group. Best-In-Show went to (Ch) Coventry Vanity Fair (Carly) and according to Wyndstar Kennels website, this Pembroke Welsh Corgi has 41 "Best In Show" titles under her coat.

Listed by group, breed and name - first place winners for this show were:

- **Sporting Group:** Weimaraner, Ch Smokycity Silhouette Dbl Ur Pleasure
- **Hound Group:** Saluki, Ch Srinagar Glory Halelujah Ladyhawk
- **Working Group:** Bullmastiff, Ch Escalades All Tricked Out

- **Terrier Group:** Fox Terrier - Wir Maximo
- **Toy Group:** Chihuahua - Long, Dancing With The Stars
- **Non-Sporting Group:** Dalmatian Angel Sabrina
Story and Photos by Tony and Taylor Resendez

Guest Contributors

RamPage  Victor Valley College  March 20, 2009  Page 7
WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Find and circle all of the flowers that are hidden in the grid. The remaining letters spell a secret message - a quotation from Romeo and Juliet.
SUDOKU

2 4 3 8
6 7
5 8 4
1
4 1
7 5
2 8
1 6 7
3 5
4 9 2 1

Courtesy of KrazyDad.com

YAHOO’S Top Ten MOVIES

1. Taken
2. Underworld: Rise of the Lycans
3. Tyler Perry’s Madea Goes To Jail
4. Coraline
5. Inkheart
6. Uninvited
7. Pink Panther 2
8. Race To Witch Mountain
9. Confessions Of A Shopaholic
10. Fired Up!

SINGLES

1. Flo Rida—Right Round
2. T.I.—Dead and Gone
3. Lady GaGa—Poker Face
4. Soulja Boy Tell ‘Em—Kiss Me Thru The Phone
5. The All-American Rejects—Gives You Hell
6. Kanye West—Heartless
7. Lady GaGa—Just Dance
8. Eminem, Dr. Dre and 50 Cent—Crack A Bottle
9. Taylor Swift—Love Story
10. Kelly Clarkson—My Life Would Suck Without You

ALBUMS

1. Taylor Swift—Fearless
2. Lamb of God—Wrath
3. Jonas Brothers—Music From The 3D Concert Experience
4. A.R. Rahman—Slumdog Millionaire
5. Nickelback—Dark Horse
6. Beyoncé—I Am … Sasha Fierce
7. Lady GaGa—The Fame
8. The Fray—The Fray
9. Jamie Foxx—Intuition
10. Kanye West—808’s & Heartbreak
A charity event benefiting Children’s Miracle Network held at the Victorville Wal-Mart was boosted by the presence of Super Bowl winning receiver Cliff Branch.

Branch signed autographs and had pictures taken with fans to raise money for children’s hospitals across the nation, something that Branch has been doing since his retirement in 1988.

Branch was All-American at the University of Colorado and was All-Conference. His school ranked third in the nation in 1971. That year Nebraska was ranked first and Oklahoma was ranked second.

This was the only time in history that all top-three ranked teams came from the same conference.

In 1972, Branch was drafted in the fourth round and 98th player to be selected overall. When asked about his favorite memory in his career, “The happiest moment was being drafted by the Raiders, knowing that I was going to be a pro playing for the NFL,” said Branch.

Branch had a very successful 15-year career from then on, going on to be all-pro four times and all pro-bowl four times. Branch and the Raiders won three Super Bowls in eight years starting in 1977.

Most of Branch’s successful career was due to an amazing quarterback-to-receiver chemistry he and Jim Plunkett displayed on Sundays. This amazing duo tied an NFL record that can never be broken by having a 99 yard pass play in a 1983 game vs. the Redskins.

Branch was joking around with one fan who asked him if he had any Dallas Cowboys memorabilia to sign and answered by asking him if he was such a big time Cowboy fan why he was dressed in all black and grey. Branch said, “Even your shoes are white and black.”

“I live and die with the Raiders,” said Branch when asked who his favorite team was now that he was retired.

“John was a players coach. He only had three rules. Be on time for work, pay attention at practice, and go like never before on Sundays,” said Branch when remembering his time working for Coach John Madden. He added, “Time working with Al Davis was great too because he is an innovator and his legacy should speak for itself.”

The controversial Davis has won Coach of the year awards and according to Branch is well loved by all former players.

There is nothing Branch regrets in his 15-year pro career and being nominated to the Hall of Fame since 1992 for 17 years straight.

He enjoys his time with fans and it gives him joy being able to help raise money for the Children’s Miracle Network.
GENERAL INFORMATION

The RamPage is a newspaper published as an educational exercise and First Amendment Public Forum by students at Victor Valley College in Victorville, Calif. Issues come out approximately twice a month in the two full-length semesters, generally each February, March, April, May, September, October, November and December, for a total of 14 issues each calendar year.

The views expressed by the RamPage are not necessarily those of VVC, its board of trustees, its administration, its faculty, its staff, its Associated Student Body Council or its students.

The RamPage welcomes press releases, story ideas, letters to the editor, guest articles and guest editorials. Submit proposed items to the on-campus mailbox of RamPage Adviser Judith Pfeffer — clearly marked as being submitted for publication. Or, email them to VVCRamPage@hotmail.com or mail information to RamPage, Victor Valley College, 18422 Bear Valley Road, Victorville, CA 92395 or leave a message at 760-245-4271 extension 2773.

ADVERTISING

The RamPage generally accepts as advertising only 8 1/2 - by -11-inch flyers as inserts. The cost is $100, which covers insertion/distribution of 1,500 copies. The cost and responsibility of designing, reproducing and delivering the 1,500 flyers to the RamPage is borne by the advertiser.

To discuss display advertising options or to purchase any form of advertisement, call Assistant Director of Auxiliary Services Deanna Murphy at 760-245-4271 extension 2707.

Acceptance of any advertisement in the RamPage does not constitute endorsement by the paper, college, district, board, council or student body.

The RamPage reserves the right to reject any material — advertising or editorial — that it deems to be not in keeping with the standards of the paper.
After a messy divorce, Allan Felix gets dating advice from the ghost of Humphrey Bogart.

**MUSIC**

- **Mar. 13—7:30pm** Free Music Recital! Faculty & Students perform.
- **Apr. 23—7:30pm** Ensembles—Studio Singers, Jazz—Rock Combo, Guitar Ensemble & College Band.
- **Apr. 24—7:30pm** Bands—Symphonic Band, Brass Ensemble & Studio Band.
- **Apr. 25—7:30pm** Choirs – Master Arts Chorale, College Singers, Women’s Choir & Sinfonia.
- **Apr. 26—2:30pm** Strings—Guitar Ensemble, Beginning Strings, Preludium Strings & College Orchestra.
- **Jun. 4—7:30pm** Ensembles—Studio Singers, Jazz—Rock Combo, Guitar Ensemble & College Band.
- **Jun. 5—7:30pm** Bands—Symphonic Band, Brass Ensemble & Studio Band.
- **Jun. 6—7:30pm** Choirs – Master Arts Chorale, College Singers, Women’s Choir & Sinfonia.
- **Jun. 7—2:30pm** Strings—Guitar Ensemble, Beginning Strings, Preludium Strings & College Orchestra.

**Passport Travel Series**

Share in the excitement of the world and its wonders. Join family & friends for a series of travelogue film lectures by professional cinematographers.

- **General**-$7 • **Seniors/Kids**-$5

**Egypt** • Feb. 1 • 2:30pm
**Italy** • Mar. 15 • 2:30pm
**Jerusalem** • Apr. 19 • 2:30pm