



RamPage

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“Journalism can never be silent: that is its greatest virtue and its greatest fault.”

-Henry Anatole Grunwald

Santa’s Work for Hi-Desert Kids

By Shayne Hughes

The Spring Valley Lake Lions Club is currently collecting monetary donations to provide Christmas gifts for children in the High Desert. The Club has donation jars located in local businesses throughout the High Desert. Sponsors are also being sought to give a tax deductible donation to ensure that all identified children are included in this community service project. The sponsors will receive a photograph of the children who will benefit from their generous donation. Teachers and principals will provide names of needy children who might otherwise not receive surprises during the holiday season. A minimum of fifty children with their siblings will receive gifts from their wish lists that they will personally write themselves. The Spring Valley Lake Lions Club and other volunteers from the local community will shop, wrap, and distribute gifts to these families. The Lions Club wants to ensure that all children in the selected families will be included in the donation, so no child feels left out of the celebration of the holiday season. Lions Club volunteers will shop during the week of December 8, wrap gifts during the week of December 15, and distribute gifts to the children on Saturday, December 20 at the Girl Scout building in Victorville. Any member of the community who would like to make a donation, can call (760)245-8373, and leave a message.

Help spread holiday magic throughout the High Desert! You can learn more about Santa’s Work for High Desert Kids on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/svl.lions.club2>



Thanksgiving: Why it’s important

By Tiffany Verduzco

Every time the month of November rolls in many prepare themselves for a day of feasting and being thankful.

That may be true for some, but to others something else comes to mind, shopping, discounts, camping out at different stores to get a “deal of a lifetime” on game systems, electronics, and other items that are publicized to get a good deal on the day after Thanksgiving. There are people that start camping out three weeks before Black Friday and totally miss out on the main idea of Thanksgiving.

The most familiar story of Thanksgiving occurred in 1621 when Native Americans and Pilgrims joined together to enjoy the plentiful harvest they experienced. This is what Thanksgiving should be about - spending time helping others, coming together to share our blessings with those who are less fortunate and enjoying our plentiful harvests whatever they may be.

The Struggle is Real

by Lillian Welch

As students there are many issues we may currently face but help is available at VVC to help us overcome many of these challenges. On campus are resources that can assist us in every area of our educational journey regardless of our situation, limitations, dilemmas and areas of struggle. It is up to every one of us to fully inform ourselves of what is available. When we utilize these resources there will be no doubt in our minds that we have done everything possible to achieve our goal of becoming successful students.

To tap in to various areas of assistance visit the VVC.edu web page. On the left-hand side there is a tab labeled Student Services. This tab will direct you to a variety of student resources that may possibly assist you in your particular area of struggle. Take the time to check these resources out. You never know what can possibly be there that can change your attitude from "I can't" to "I can."

Some of the resources available on campus are the Writing and Math Lab, Communication Center, DSPS, E.O.P.S./C.A.R.E., Career/Transfer Center and Veterans Resources. Along with these are additional resources that are geared towards student success. VVC is a place that thrives on student success, student retention and continued education.

The educational journey is one that can at times be challenging but with challenge comes growth. You'll never know what you are truly capable of unless you challenge yourself. You'll never know what you can achieve unless you make the choice to do so.

1st Place Motorsports

photo and article by Tiffany Verduzco

Robinson Family



Do you enjoy riding motorcycles, dirt bikes or anything related to that? Then, I've got someone who can help you with all the necessities you need to proactively ride. Nathan Robinson is his name and sales, service, and parts, is his game.

Robinson went to Victor Valley College in 1994-96 and played football under Coach Tashima.

He has owned 1st Place Motorsports for over a year. Robinson is very experienced in that field, values his customers and is familiar with all types of bikes. He has been racing for thirty years.

1st Place Motorsports is in competition with over five other stores. What sets them apart is his personal stance with his customers. He enjoys spending time with his family and makes sure his shop has that family friendly feel.

Come check it out for yourself!

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MISSION STATEMENT

The Victor Valley College RamPage is a student-run newspaper that aims to inform and entertain the Victor Valley Community. We strive too teach and preserve core journalistic values while supporting the unity of the campus community.

NEWS HOUND: Ebola

by Shayne Hughes

Ebola is a rare yet deadly disease that causes bleeding inside and outside the body. When the virus spreads throughout the body, it damages the immune system and organs. Ebola causes the level of blood clotting cells to drop, which then leads to severe, uncontrollable bleeding. Ebola spreads to people by contact with the skin or bodily fluid of an infected animal, like monkeys, chimps, or fruit bats. Ebola can also be spread when someone is in contact with a person who has died from the disease. Other ways of getting Ebola include touching contaminated needles or surfaces. If someone has Ebola, but has no symptoms, they cannot spread the disease. Often it is hard to tell if a person has Ebola from the symptoms alone. Doctors may blood-test to rule out other diseases like cholera and malaria. Tissue samples can also diagnose Ebola. If someone has been diagnosed with Ebola, they will be isolated from the public to prevent the spread of the disease. There is no cure for the disease. There is no vaccine to prevent



Ebola. The best way to avoid the disease is to stay away from areas where the virus is found. The Ebola virus first appeared in Africa in 1976. Ebola gets its name from the Ebola River, which is near the place it was discovered in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Dracula Untold: The Real Story of Dracula

by Austin Gehrke

This movie takes place in the quiet little mountain country of Transylvania. In this movie we are first introduced to the royal family of Transylvania. We have Vlad the Impaler who is played by the very handsome Luke Evans. We then have his wife Mirena who is played by the very attractive Sarah Gadon and then we have their son Ingeras, who is played by Art Parkinson. All was peaceful in their land, but everything changed when Mehemed the Turkish ruler, played by Dominic Cooper, decides to establish a rule that would force Vlad to give up at least 500 boys to join the Turkish army. Ingeras was one of the boys he had to give up. In order to make sure his son did not end up in the army Vlad encounters an older vampire he asks to give him the power to defeat the Turks. The only weird aspect to this movie was the fact that Vlad could not eat any blood for three days. If he did eat some blood Vlad would stay a vampire. In the end, he remains a vampire because he ate Mirena's blood in order to save his son from getting killed. In the end Vlad sends Ingeras away from Transylvania. This movie will be worth buying when it comes out on DVD. You will truly be amazed. (Stock photo of Bela Lugosi)



Heroes in San Fransokyo

by Van Vu

Big Hero 6 is an unconventional animation that transports us to the world of "San Fransokyo," (you know – San Francisco and Tokyo!) It's an East-meets-West futuristic city where young Hiro Hamada (Ryan Potter) and his big brother Tadashi (Daniel Henney) spend their time. They invent advanced robotics for an event that Hiro has always wished for. But trouble always stays awake. Hiro's brother (his only family) Tadashi died in an tragic fire while he was trying to save his professor (who was using Hiro's microbots to plan some scheme). Hiro's sadness and vengeance may be hard for sensitive kids. Still, every Disney movie has a lesson, either about forgiveness or caring. Baymax (the inflatable health care robot that Tadashi created) somehow teaches Hiro how to open up again. Baymax offers a compassionate and healing voice for that suffering, and a hug that can be felt through the screen. This time, Disney-Marvel have a really good treat not only for kids but also for every age group, especially comic-lovers.

Meet the Dead Rabbits.

by Elizabeth Taylor

VVC's recently established Ladies Rugby Team is compiled of a group of girls who love this game because it is a full contact sport. According to the Rabbits Secretary, Robert Mitchell, it takes determination, lots of practice, respect, endurance, strength, and selflessness to play the game. The game of rugby broke Alana Barbieri's shell, and gave her enough confidence in herself, to bring the game from Granit Hills High School to the soccer fields at VVC. Alana is joined on the field with Neysa Chavez, who loves to play soccer, baseball, and flag football. Aysha Chowdhury joined the team after being handed a flyer. Cheyenne Reames enjoys co-ed softball, while Cheyenne Rick enjoys playing volleyball and making time for archery. Mitchell states the girls have much more than just practice and games to contend with; their schedule is full of community and campus events as well as practice. Students may have seen them on campus, or throughout the community. The team was recently involved in Hesperia's Community Clean Up Event, where the girls combed the desert for trash and hauled it to the roadside for pick up, they also help out at the Children Development Center on campus, and at Pet Rescue. These girls are not only out on the field, but also helping out wherever they are needed. So, think you have what it takes to be a Dead Rabbit? Well, lucky for you, they are still looking for more players. Contacting them couldn't be easier than emailing them at: ladydeadrabbits@gmail.com.



Lloyd and Harry do it again

By: Elizabeth Taylor

If you loved the original *Dumb and Dumber* you will absolutely love *Dumb and Dumber To*. This sequel couldn't get any better unless it came with a plush toy. It is so full of raunchy jokes and great one-liners that it will leave you crying and laughing at the same time. Jeff Daniels and Jim Carey may have aged twenty years since the first installment, but the comedy between them is still young and fresh as ever. This movie picks up twenty years after the "Mary Samsonite incident." It takes Lloyd and Harry on a journey to find Lloyd's long-lost daughter in hopes of a new kidney. There is an awesome hot dog scene, great fake tattoo work, and an amazing comeback by Kathleen Turner. The soundtrack is great, full of good tunes from the nineties and vulgar one-liners. It has a hilarious cast which keeps the non-stop laughs rolling. Don't be fooled by other reviews. The Farrelly Brothers have outdone themselves once again.

Dumb and Dumber To ranks with the best sequels in a long time, and hands-down one of the funniest movies I've seen all year. If a good laugh is what you need, this movie is for you. (Box Office Mojo: Opening Weekend - *Dumb and Dumber To* - #1, \$36 million plus ticket sales.)



Tantalized by Glass Houses

By: Elivia Kirkley

Glass Houses by author Rachel Caine is a must read. *Glass Houses* is the first book in The Morganville vampires series. Set in Morganville, Texas, 16 year old college student Claire Danvers heads to live off campus as a band of mean girls threaten her life after torturing her for weeks. Finding a roommate wanted ad, Claire meets the three most unusual new roommates. They advise her not to go out after dark because the town is full of creepy creatures of the night and if you don't have protection you are a walking blood bank. Through an attempted killing, Vampires gone crazy, her parents, getting protection from the head vampire, and being trapped in Morganville like everyone else who knows its secrets—Eve, Shane and Michael help her through. Relatable realistic characters, an amazing storyline, and a terrific writing style that leaves you wanting more, make *Glass Houses* a must read.

Mexico Under Siege

by Erik Collado and Van Vu

Mexico has always been a topic close to home. Concerns have involved border control, corrupt governments and their officials and drug cartels in the southern states of the US. Most recent is the kidnapping and presumed murder of 43 students from Ayotzinapa Teachers College. The students, mostly in their 20s, have been missing for nearly seven weeks after reportedly being handed over to a local drug gang by city police officers.

In late September, the students were on their way to canvass for donations. Iguala Mayor Abarca thought they were going to disrupt a speech by his wife, Maria de Los Angeles. Late that night, police were ordered by the mayor to confront the students. They gunned down six people during the incident. The remaining 43 were handed over to the drug gang, Guerreros Unidos. Fifteen students were reported dead due to asphyxiation. The rest of the students who survived the long and brutal drive were said to be forced to their knees and shot. Then the inferno reportedly began - with the dead bodies of the 43 students piled on top of wood, plastic, and tires, covered in diesel and set ablaze.

Attorney General Jesus Murillo Karam gave a statement regarding the 43 missing students. Having heard from the suspected murderous kidnappers who recreated the incidents that happened that night. Karam stated that the brutality took place over two days, reportedly by local law enforcement and gang members committing the vicious crime. Karam said it would be difficult to extract DNA from the badly burned remains found at the riverside. He ended his announcement by stating, “Ya me cansé” – “I’ve had enough.” To the families of the 43 victims, his statement could only seem to be absurd

Since the war on drugs began under Mexican President Felipe Calderón in 2006, more than 100,000 people have been killed in drug-related violence. The U.S. has spent approximately \$3 billion, which came through the Merida Initiative under the administration of President George W. Bush. Some theories have held that the police in Iguala benefited from these funds. Further digging into this possible corruption, revealed the claim that Mayor Abarca had received 2 to 3 million pesos a week, which he used as a bribe to pay off his police units. These units reportedly allowed the drug gang Guerreros Unidos to grow opium poppies. The opium was made into heroin and marketed in the United States.

Dozens of corrupt police were arrested. Federal police officers took over law enforcement in Iguala, disarming the entire Iguala police force. On November 4, 2014, Mayor Jose Luis Abarca and his wife Maria de Los Angeleson were arrested. Thousands of protesters set fire to vehicles outside the Guerrero state congress building in Chilpancingo, demanding justice with the slogan: “They took them alive, we want them back alive.”

Did you Know?

by Elivia Kirkley

1. October is National pizza month.
2. Bae is the Danish word for poop.
3. Studies have found that women who wear red in their profile pictures on dating sites are more successful than those who don't.
4. There was a female ninja turtle names Venice De Milo.
5. 85% of people listen to strangers conversations and mentally give their opinions.
6. Abercrombie will burn their unsold clothes instead of donating them. They won't donate them because it's a bad image for the company for poor people to wear them.
7. Hugging for 20 seconds releases oxytocin which can make a person trust you more.
8. Kissing is actually good for your mouth. When you kiss you produce more saliva which gives the bacteria in your mouth sort of a “bath” which is good for your mouth.
9. The girlfriend of the man who created Match.com left him for someone she met on Match.com.
10. Ketchup was originally used as a medicine.



**VVC Off Broadway Performing Arts Club
presents: Rocky Horror Picture Show**
by Tiffany Verduzco

Finally after many years of waiting The VVC Off Broadway Performing Arts Club performed the iconic 1975 musical comedy horror film The Rocky Horror Picture Show. The performance was held at Victor Valley College on the 30, 31 of October and November 1. All three nights were completely sold out and the Black Box was full of excitement and the sweet aroma of horror. During the pre-show everyone was filled with enthusiasm as they participated in the games that were held. Everything escalated perfectly into the show filling the atmosphere with intense fever. It radiated through the bodies of the audience members who were to get involved while the show was occurring. The cast was spectacular and embodied their roles to the full extent, taking on personas of the characters they were playing. A most needed encore performance for VVC Off Broadway Performing Arts Club perform this fantastic piece again!



THE ADVENTURES OF MR. COCONUT & THE FLYING PAPAYA MOBILE



The Adventures of Mr. Coconut & the Flying Papaya Mobile

by Tiffany Verduzco

The Victor Valley College Theatre Arts Department presented The Adventures of Mr. Coconut & the Flying Papaya Mobile on the main stage in the Performing Arts Center November 7-16. The performance was based on the children's book written by Siana-Lea. Costumes were extremely colorful and larger than life. The adventure was experienced in two languages; English and Spanish. It left the audience able to understand Spanish on a whole new level. With a live action "Dora the Explorer" feel, it had interactive dialogue and songs, which let the audience get involved with the actual performance. Members of the audience were asked to watch for Coyote, played by Melanie Enciso, and Jaguar, played by Andrew Lopez, and rub hands together to warn they were coming. It was amazing to see the characters interact with one another, speaking Spanish to translate what they had said in English. The cast did a great job interacting with the audience. They projected their voices clearly with confidence in their acting. A great show for all ages!





VVC

December

11th 7:30pm - Thursday Night Jazz

Music of the season in classical, jazz and popular style from the guitar ensemble, jazz rock combo and the studio jazz band.
Conducted by Rich Sumner & Dave Graham

12th 7:30pm - Bands Night

The flute & brass choirs, tuba force, college band, and symphonic band perform holiday music, including a Christmas sing-a-long
Conducted by Craig Pridmore

13th 7:30pm - A Choral Christmas

Christmas music with the college singers, woman's choir, master arts chorale and the sinfonia brass and strings.
Conducted by Dr. Thomas Miller & Patty Yancey

14th 2:30pm - Holiday Strings

The string choir, prelude string ensemble, and college symphony with seasonal favorites
Conducted by Barbara Sternfeld

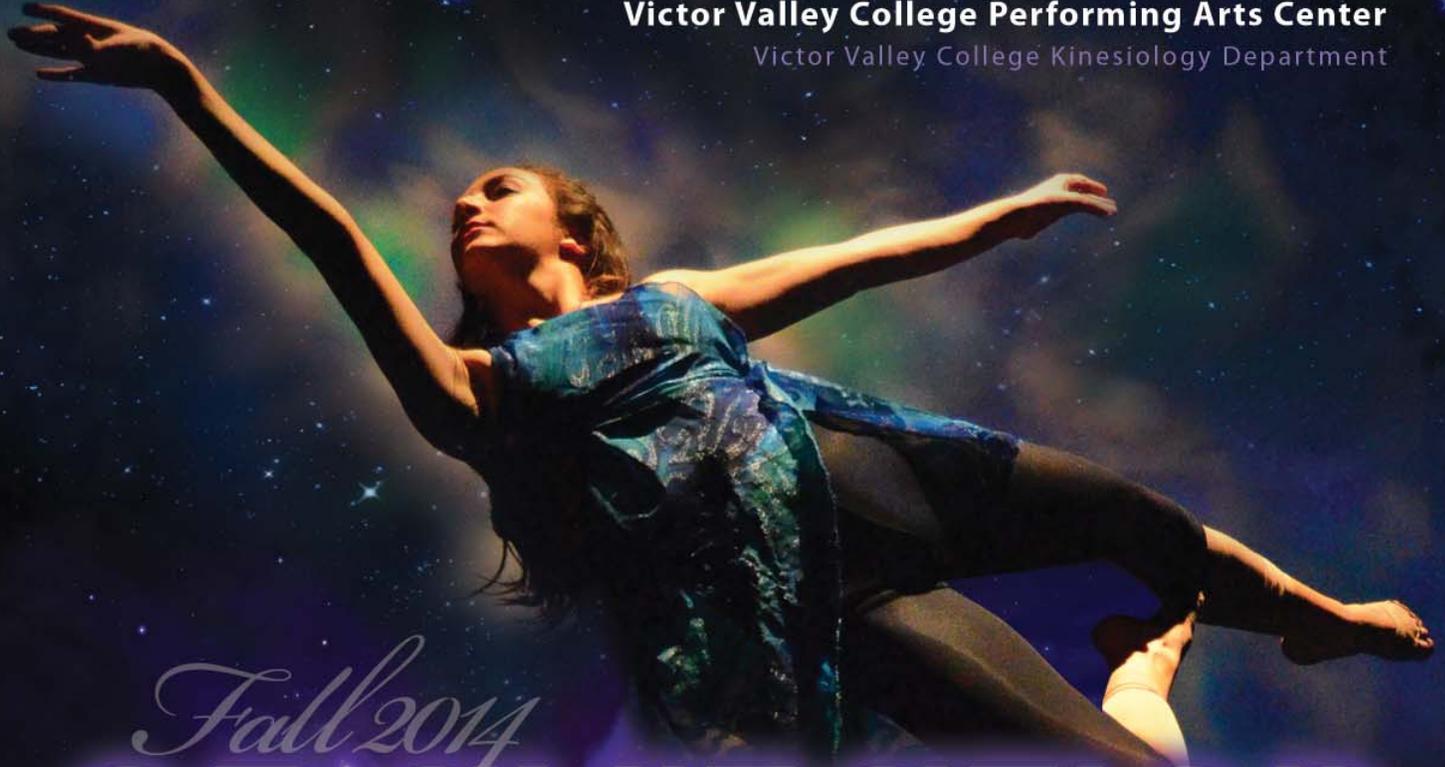


ASB FREE
Adults \$10
Seniors \$7
Children \$5

Order tickets online: www.vvc.edu/tix ~ Ticket info: 760-245-4271 ext. 849
Victor Valley College Performing Art Center
18422 Bear Valley Rd. Victorville, CA

Victor Valley College Performing Arts Center

Victor Valley College Kinesiology Department



Fall 2014

GRAVITATION

Faculty Choreographers

Debby Blanchard . Karla J. Franko . Lynn Guardado
Nancy Helms . Katherine Page . CiCy O'kalani Rosado
Rams Rhythmic Dance Team

Production Director

Lynn Guardado

Friday, December 5th 7:30pm

Saturday, December 6th 7:30pm

Sunday, December 7th 2:30pm (matinee)

To purchase tickets call 245-4271 ext.849 or online @ www.vvc.edu/tix

General Admission \$10 Seniors \$7 Children under 12 \$5 ASB Card \$Free

Victor Valley College 18422 Bear Valley Road Victorville, CA 92395-5850

Photographer Vinh-Huy Nguyen