

June 23, 2009

This newsletter is available in alternate formats.



## *VC Classified Senate Selected as Tops in State*

### **UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:**

- 6/22: 2nd Summer Session begins
- 7/ 3-4 Holiday
- 7/4 Independence Day Celebration, page 2
- 8/ 10-14: Flex Week
- 8/17: Fall Semester begins



VC Classified Senate President Barbara Cogert receives the Model Classified Senate Award at the 4CS Leadership Institute

The Ventura College Classified Senate was selected as one of five 'Model Classified Senates' in the state by the California Community College Classified Senate (4CS) and was recognized with an award as an exemplary organization at the Classified Leadership Institute on June 4 in Tahoe City.

A 'Model Classified Senate' is one that, among other standards:

- Is a participatory governance body elected by its constituents, is so recognized by the college administration and actively engages in the shared governance process
- Operates professionally under bylaws and/or a constitution approved by its constituency
- Has an up-to-date website

From the VC Classified Senate website, the 4CS learned of the breadth of activities taking place on this campus—from the Campus Clean-up to Flex Week Welcome Tea to the Scholarship Fundraising Drive, and selected ours for recognition. The officers of the VC Classified Senate are Barbara Cogert, President; Cindy Crispin, Vice President; Barbara McGinley, Secretary; and Alan Courter, Treasurer.

## *President's Corner*

Summer normally gives us a chance to catch our collective breath, but evidently that will not be true this year. The state and national budget crisis continues to challenge our collective ability to plan for and adjust to rapidly changing circumstances.

My thanks to all who attended yesterday's college Budget Forum. Each such

meeting provides an opportunity to exchange updated information and suggestions, and for us to come together as a community seeking the best approach to weather this financially stormy period.

My congratulations to Barbara Cogert and the incredibly active Classified Senate for their well-deserved statewide recognition as a Model Senate – these are tough

times for a group to contribute above and beyond their job descriptions, but Classified Senate members certainly do so.

And lastly, don't forget the 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Independence Day Celebration on July 4! With live music, food and fireworks, the event is jointly hosted by the VC Foundation and the Downtown Rotary, and is

always a wonderful community activity!

*Robin Calote*



## Independence Day Celebration!

The Rotary Club's 16th Annual Independence Day Celebration will be held on the Ventura College Athletic Field on Saturday, July 4. The gates open at 5 p.m., and fireworks begin at 9 p.m.

The evening features fun activities for the whole family, including food, games and contests, and performances by Men on the Moon and Dennis Johnson. Please do not bring pets, glass or alcohol. Do bring a blanket, lawn chairs and a jacket. There will be many food vendors or attendees can bring their own picnics.

Presale tickets are available only at Ventura-area Vons Markets and McDonalds Restaurants and will go on sale June 24. Presale admission is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 3 through 12, and family 6 packs of tickets are \$25. Ticket prices at the gate will be \$8 for adults, \$6 for children, and \$35 for a family 6 pack. Children under 3 are free.

Event sponsors include Hilford Moving and Storage, Affinity Bank, Gold Coast Broadcasting, Kipp Financial Group, Vons, McDonalds and the *Ventura County Star*.



## VC Voices Celebrates 9th Edition

The 2009 edition of the Ventura College literary magazine, *VC Voices*, will feature 24 pieces of writing from students in English composition, literature and creative writing classes. In addition, the publication will include black and white reproductions of faculty art work and student art work selected from the spring 09 juried exhibit. *VC Voices* is used as a textbook in English classes and will be available for sale in the bookstore in July.



Winning authors of *VC Voices* essays and poems gathered in the LRC for a reading and celebration

## Braille Program Recognized



The Alternate Text Production Center (ATPC) was the star of the Ironwood State Prison Second Annual Braille Program Open House on June 2. The open house was attended by staff from the state Chancellor's Office, the prison and Alternate Production Center.

The creation of the Ironwood Braille Program (IBP) by the ATPC of the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office and Ironwood State Prison, provides participating trainees with promising opportunities and brighter futures.

Pictured are (left to right) Sandra Greenburg, ATPC Coordinator; Jamie Montgomery, ATPC E-Text Coordinator; Cheryl Fong, CCCCCO; Scott Valverde, CCCCCO; Michael Bastine, ATPC Director; Scott Lay, CEO, CCLC; Jeff Baugher, ATPC IT Support; and Mariann Shigetani, CCLC.

The best can earn official certification as skilled Braille transcribers, a skill is in great demand, providing a trade for prisoners who have completed their incarceration.

# Celebrating Student Successes

## 52 Nurses Pinned at May Celebration

Fifty-two new nurses received their pins at the Ventura College 2009 Nursing Pinning on Friday, May 15 at the Buena High School Auditorium. The traditional ceremony included the personal pinning of each graduate by the nurse or nursing instructor who had mentored or inspired the student to enter the profession. Ventura College Nursing Professor Linda Barlow-Palo, R.N. M.N., C.C.R.N., was the keynote speaker.



A number of students were recognized for their significant academic achievements and community contributions.

The School of Nursing and Allied Health prepares students to care for individuals in hospitals, homes, and other health care settings.

The School administers the Associate Degree Nursing, Certified Nurse Assistant, and Continuing Education for Registered Nurses programs.

## Commencement Held for Paramedics



Valedictorian Austin Toole

Fourteen students completed the rigorous Ventura College School of Pre-hospital and Emergency Medicine Paramedic Studies program, participating in the certificate presentation ceremony on Friday, June 22 at the Ventura College Theatre. This is the tenth graduating class from the program.

The Ventura College School of Pre-hospital and Emergency Medicine is the only fully accredited paramedic training program in the county— training Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics (highest level of EMT certification), who provide urgent care in any location or while transporting patients in ambulances or helicopters.



Paramedics graduates Michael Douglass Ellison, recipient of the Tommy Anthony Scholarship, and Kyle A. Bauerlein, winner of the Benjamin Tanner Scholarship, celebrate

## First MAPS Program Certificates Issued



On May 22, President Robin Calote joined Michael Planet, Court Executive Officer of the Ventura Superior Court (both shown left) to present Certificates of Achievement in Supervision to 11 members of the first graduating class of the Superior Court MAPS Program (Managing and Advancing Professional Success).

Developed in conjunction with the VC Institute for Community and Professional Development, the VC business faculty have provided instruction at the Superior Court site for the past two years, enabling the participants to complete 18 units of supervision classes.

## Faculty and Staff Accomplishments

### *“Campus Linner” Brings Staff and Managers Together*



The campus administrators hosted the first-ever “Campus Linner” on June 1 to celebrate Classified Employee Week. The managers served the delicious barbeque and Tom Dalton talked about how to sharpen your memory. “Linner” is that time period somewhere between lunch and dinner.

### *Math League Celebrates Year-End with Awards*



Math League Faculty Advisors Alex Kolesnik (back row), Donna Beatty (center) and Mike McCain (far right) with their winning students at the Cake and Prizes Celebration on May 13

The 2009 Spring Math League students had impressive scores. Each semester, the students have improved, according to advisor Mike McCain. The top five scores will be used to represent Ventura College at the national level against 185 other community colleges across the U.S. The students’ scores come from their participation in a one hour, multiple choice math test. To prepare for the test, students attend weekly workshops and take practice exams.

### *Diverse Magazine Recognizes Ventura College*



Ventura College was named as the 37th best two year school in the nation for granting associate’s degrees to Hispanic students, and 95th in the nation for granting associate’s degrees to minority students, based on Department of Education statistics, according to the *Diverse: Issues in Higher Education Magazine* special report in their May 14, 2009 issue.

According to the magazine’s editors, “This year’s report includes degrees conferred during the 2005-2006 academic year that have so far been reported to the U.S. Department of Education’s National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) through the Completions Survey of the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set (IPEDS). The preliminary data are complete and accurate for those institutions included in the analysis, which, in our experience, represents the vast majority of the country’s two- and four-year institutions.”