



WHC Coalinga Vision Statement

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to the relentless pursuit of student success.

January is typically the month where we all make resolutions. Top resolutions often include vows like, "I need to exercise more." "I need to get involved with my community" or "I need to support a worthy cause." This month's newsletter shares three examples of how you can keep your resolution. Enjoy!

West Hills Century Cycling Event This year will mark the introduction of a new full Century route in addition to sister routes measuring 62 miles, 38 miles and 10 miles. As in the past, all routes will start and end on the campus of West Hills College in Coalinga. Since its inception in 2014, this event has been a joint effort of the Fresno Cycling Club and West Hills College Coalinga, and has quickly become recognized as a "true partnership."

According to ride coordinator and West Hills College Instructor, Al Graves, "This year the College and the Club will introduce an 'enhanced partnership'." Graves explained, "West Hills College will again host the event and provide volunteers, while the cycling club will encourage participation and provide SAG support." Graves added, "After deducting the cost of the after ride meal, all funds collected from registration will be split 50:50 with the Club." According to Club President, Dennis Ball, "If we can attract 200 riders, almost \$3,000 could be added to the Club's coffers. This would be good for the Club. We can use all the financial help we can get." College president, Dr. Carole Goldsmith, noted, "All of the College's profits will go to student programs—particularly our 'President's Scholars' program."

The event will be held on **March 12** (more information to follow). Thanks to the West Hills Century Coordination Committee, ASB Officers, Tom Wixon and Alex Villalobos for working together to make this happen.

Coalinga Chamber of Commerce Awards I had the honor of attending the 105th Coalinga Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner where our own Sandy McGlothlin was nominated (by yours truly) for Coalinga Citizen of the Year. In addition to serving as Vice President of Student Services, Sandy was recognized for her community service outside of her work such as serving on the Board of Directors of the Coalinga Regional Medical Center. She is dedicated to spreading the word about the new equipment and services that are available at the Medical Center. She also volunteers with CASA, the Court Appointed Special Advocate Program for Fresno and Madera counties. She has served on the initial Relay for Life Committee. She is a former board member of the Coalinga Oilers and Youth Baseball Programs. Sandy also has been involved in the Woman's Club and worked tirelessly to advance the health and educational obtainment of all residents of Coalinga.

She also has been a strong supporter of reliable energy and understands how it can help all of us. For a YouTube video: <https://www.google.com/#q=sandy+mcglothlin+west+hills&start=10>

Sandy has gone above and beyond her normal duties at the college. She has been a strong advocate for the homeless, victims of domestic abuse as well as those negatively impacted by the drought. She worked diligently to create a Foster Youth Program on campus as well as an educational substance abuse program. Sandy has served as a public speaker to various groups to encourage lifelong learning and healthy lifestyles.

Please join me in congratulating Sandy in her efforts to serve her community.

Coaches for Cancer, a campaign hosted through the American Cancer Society and began as a way to raise awareness to athletes and sports fans. On **January 30** WHCC will participate for the fifth time. Last year, we raised close to \$2,000. Coach Mark Arce and his staff will be among thousands who take place in this nationwide awareness campaign. The athletics department will hand out wristbands and drink cozies to those who attend the game. Please join me in supporting our team's efforts by wearing pink to the game.

Go Falcons!



**WEST HILLS COLLEGE
COALINGA**

President's Monthly Message

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Shortly after the holidays, students began to once again populate the Coalinga Campus and the North District Center getting prepared for another successful spring semester.

Students on the Coalinga Campus, joined ASB leaders and President Goldsmith for a Welcome Back BBQ on January 13. Director of the Residence Halls, Alex Villalobos and ASB hosted a Karaoke Night on January 26. In February, the Performing Arts Club will host a Valentine's Day event, celebrate Black History Month, and "Midnight Madness" which will include games such as ping pong, basketball and corn hole. March events include St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Spring Bash to be held on March 13.

NDC students joined Dr. Bertha Felix-Mata, Director of NDC to develop a vigorous list of student activities starting with a Welcome Back Celebration held on January 25. During the month of February, the students will be electing a NDC Senator as part of WHCC ASB. Staff and students will partner with UNIVISION for a Financial Aid Event, and host an event celebrating Black History Month. Planned for the month of March, the students are organizing a blood drive, will participate in the "Spring Bash", and take part in the Calf Dressing Event at the West Hills College Coalinga Spring Rodeo and Fresno State Vintage Days. Additionally, NDC will also host a Women's History Month Event.

TRANSFER CENTER - SPRING 2016
STUDENT SERVICES, BUILDING J
559.934.2300

Monthly Transfer Days

Academy of Art, Azusa Pacific University, Brandman University, Columbia College, CSU Fresno, DeVry University, Embry Riddle Aeronautical University, Fashion Institute of Design & Merchandising, Fresno Pacific University, Grand Canyon University, National University, UC Merced, Beijing Jiao Tong University, Walden University, and more...

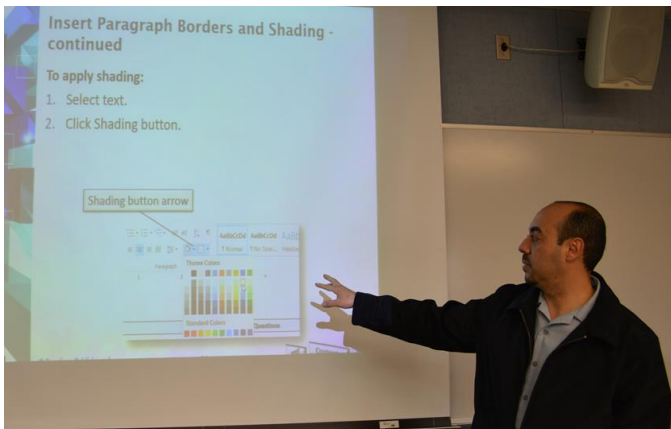
FEBRUARY

9th DeVry University, 10am – 1pm

23rd DeVry University, 10am – 1pm

WEST HILLS COLLEGE INSTRUCTION

Last summer, Dr. Goldsmith along with administrators and civic leaders, met with Mr. Chad McMullen, the San Joaquin City manager, to discuss the post-secondary education needs of the community. After several meeting with residents and employers, it was identified by all that there was a real need for basic computer skills.



West Hills College Coalinga was pleased to offer Word for Windows 2013 (Business 13 A/B) class this spring at the San Joaquin Center. The class is designed to teach students the basic and advance features of Word for Windows for fundamental use in an office or for personal use.

Mr. Cecilio Mora, Coordinator of Special Grants, leads the Fresno Regional Workforce Connection team who worked with Student Services and community members to conduct interest surveys and outreach.

"Currently, there are 21 adult working students who are attending this class, 19 students reside in the City of San Joaquin and two travel from Kerman. All of the students are

highly motivated and eager to learn" shared Mr. Mora (pictured) is also the adjunct instructor for the course.

Thank you to the collaboration efforts of community leaders and WHCC staff West Hills College Coalinga was able to surpass the enrollment goal. Based on the feedback received from students, they are looking forward to taking other classes at the San Joaquin Center in the future.



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FARM OF THE FUTURE

Wonderful West Hills Ag Academy @Avenal High School

The California Career Pathways Trust (CCPT 1) Ag Pathway is in its sixth semester. There are currently 117 students that are dual-enrolled, 53 sophomores and 64 freshmen. By the end of spring 2016 most of the sophomores will have completed 18 units of transferable college credit and are on-track to achieve their associate degrees the summer after their high school graduation (2018). This is a win-win for all involved, we started with CCPT1 offering the courses as contract education and for the first time, this spring, the courses are generating FTES. Special thanks to Coach Wright for teaching Health Education and Travis Blackstock for teaching Tractor Operation.

Do you want to know what is going on out at the Farm? Check out our social media sites to stay up-to-date with the latest news from the Farm of the Future. Keep your eye out for weekly videos, pictures and updates.



facebook.com/farmofthefuture



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bit.do/FOFyoutube

WORKFORCE CONNECTION

Yvonne Lopez was recently recognized by the Fresno Regional Investment Board with the *Outstanding Achievement Award*. Ms. Lopez decided to pursue the Psychiatric Training on 2014. Prior to enrolling in Psychiatric Technician, Ms. Lopez depended on public assistance and her part time as an In-Home Supportive Service Aide. Ms. Lopez decided that she needed to go back to school in order to better provide for her family, and to set an example to her children. Ms. Lopez heard about West Hills College making a difference in people's lives. She felt that with her skills as a CNA and In-Home Supportive Service, Psych Tech was the career she needed. Ms. Lopez went to the college's Workforce Connection and CalWORKs program for help and she became fully sponsored for the Psychiatric Technician program.



Ms. Lopez graduated from the Psychiatric Technician program with an overall GPA of 3.3, while working on weekends, raising her children, and maintaining her household. She started working at Coalinga State Hospital on October, 2015 as a Licensed Psychiatric Technician full time with benefits and annual estimated salary of \$52,000.

Ms. Lopez has set a wonderful example to her family - hard work, setting obtaining goals, and perseverance has paid off. Her motivation, determination, and willingness to succeed in life, in combination with the staff at Workforce Connection, and CalWORKs along with WHCC Faculty have assisted her in accomplishing her goals of becoming self-sufficient and a Licensed Psychiatric Technician. **You are Falcon strong! We are proud of YOU!**



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ATHLETICS

WHCC Falcon Softball presents "Strike Out for Cancer" a Breast Cancer Awareness game against Chabot College, Sunday, February 21. Game times are at 12pm and 2pm at the WHCC Softball Field. Entry fees: General Admission \$5 Senior Citizens (50 & over) \$3; Students with a college ID card free; Children 7 and under free with adult supervision. Raffle and Home-run Derby follow the game (\$10 for 10 balls). For more information contact Gabrielle Brixey at 559.934.2457 or gabriellebrixey@whccd.edu.



WHCC Rodeo March 10 and 11, at the WHCC Rodeo Arena. For more information contact Justin Hampton at 559.934.2702 or justinhampton@whccd.edu.

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Robert Ricks-Freshman-Student/Athlete-Football

Robert Attended Pacheco High School, in Los Banos, CA. While in high school, he participated in football, baseball, and track. He grew up in a household of 10 family members.

Robert first became aware of West Hills College Coalinga while he was being recruited by Assistant Football Coach, Steve Wright. "Coach Wright told me that WHCC would be a great place for me to continue my educational and athletic endeavors. I found Coach Wright to be a genuine person and cares a lot about his students" comments Ricks.

In Robert's first semester, he completed 20 units, earning a 3.75 GPA. He credits his academic success to the faculty and staff who take a special interest in students. "Living in the Residence Halls has provided an opportunity for me to grow and mature, and experience *college life*. I find it interesting learning about people from all over the country and the world. The coaching staff is top notch and has helped me improve my technique, knowledge of the game, and my strength and conditioning."

UC Berkley, UC Davis, UC San Diego, and Stanford are on the list of schools Robert wishes to attend subsequent to graduating from the College. He feels he can handle the rigor of such universities as he will be taking full advantage of the resources accessible to him at WHCC.

"Robert has been a pleasure to have the in the residence halls this year. He's been nothing but respectful and polite since his arrival in early august for football camp. He carries himself as a true leader in the residence halls and on campus. I hope that he becomes involved with our student government because our Associated Student Body (ASB) would benefit from having someone like Robert."—Alex Villalobos, Director of Residential Life/Student Activities.





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WEST HILLS COLLEGE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



MIGUEL CAZARES-MEDIA SERVICES SPECIALIST

Miguel grew up in Avenal and attended Avenal High School. Mr. Cazares earned a degree in Information Technology from Colorado State University Global Campus. He is the youngest son of 10 siblings and is married with two twin boys. His wife, Crystal, is a teacher at Avenal Elementary School.

Miguel began working for the District in September, 2014, as a part-time library clerk on the Lemoore Campus. He was hired as the Media Services Specialist for the Coalinga Campus in March, 2015.

As the Media Services Specialist, he is responsible for audio/visual equipment in all of the classrooms and buildings, including NDC. Additionally, he assists the library staff at the counter and sets up audio/visual equipment for special events and campus-wide activities.

Miguel enjoys the relationship he has cultivated with his colleagues and learning about all of the new educational technology. "I learn a lot from my direct supervisor, Matt Magnuson, including prioritizing budgets and how our technology integrates with student learning creating a campus-wide culture of student success", says Miguel. One of Miguel's favorite activities are the weekly "Pot Luck" lunches organized by the library staff.

"Miguel has been a great addition to the library team. He is a quick learner and has a great sense of humor. As the media services specialist, he serves an important role in setting up for college events and keeping the classroom technology working properly. I have been very impressed with his troubleshooting and research abilities, in addition to his willingness to help out in all circumstances"- Matt Magnuson, WHCC Librarian.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WHCC Athletics – Fall 2015/Spring 2016

Want to watch your Falcons and cheer for them? Visit our webpage for our Fall/Spring schedules:

WHCC Basketball: <http://www.westhillsfalcons.com/sports/mbkb/2015-16/schedule>

WHCC Baseball: <http://www.westhillsfalcons.com/sports/bsb/2015-16/schedule>

WHCC Softball: <http://www.westhillsfalcons.com/sports/sball/2015-16/schedule>



**WEST HILLS COLLEGE
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WHCCD FOUNDATION

Scholarship materials have now been posted for the 2016-2017 school year. There are a number of major changes. President's Scholars (starting with freshmen in the fall of 2016) will be required to enroll and complete 15 units per semester to qualify. Many of our other scholarships will also be increased to 15 units to meet full time requirements. Applications for scholarships will be due on March 1 and are posted, along with information on available scholarships, at: <http://westhillscollge.com/district/foundation/scholarships/index.asp>

Please encourage all students to apply. We have a number of scholarships that are not awarded each year due to lack of qualified applicants.

The foundation has been working with college staff to work out details on a Corcoran Promise scholarship. Any 2016 graduate who plans to attend West Hills College (any location) will have tuition paid. There is no GPA requirement. Other details will follow soon.