



WHC Coalinga Mission Statement

West Hills College Coalinga is committed to achieving student learning through the provision of educational, cultural, and economic development opportunities to our current and future students and the local and global communities that we serve.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What does 90 pounds of pancake mix, 44 dozen eggs, 50 pounds of bacon, and 24 pounds of sausage make? No, not breakfast for the Falcon Football team. Rather breakfast for the hundreds of community members and students who were in attendance at the 50th anniversary of WHAMOBASS Hot Air Balloon Fest on October 25th. We had a record crowd at this year's event. Conne Cleveland, Co-Director of WHCCD Child Development Centers, said it was the largest gathering she has ever had since the inception of the CDC Pancake Breakfast. A special thanks to Brandon Hicks, from M&O, for coming out before dawn to make sure the CDC staff and volunteers had everything they needed and made sure that the lights were working.

The popularity of the balloon fest and breakfast translated into success at the Farm of the Future too! On that same Saturday, the FOF held the First Annual Harvest Day. Students sold 243 pumpkins and 27 watermelons. The hay ride and corn maze was a big hit with the community...383 kids traversed through the corn maze. After visiting the Harvest Day, many of our community visitors walked over to the Rodeo Grounds to watch the first West Hills College Rodeo Boosters Winter Barrel Racing Series. We had over 100 women barrel racers participate at the new Rodeo Grounds. I heard lots of positive comments throughout the day about how much fun our community has at our events! Next in the series will be Team Roping Jackpot Challenge on Saturday, November 15th and another is scheduled for November 29th. Thanks to Mark Gritton, Clint Cowden, Tim Ellsworth, Justin Hampton, Sherry Freeman and the Ag and Rodeo Students-- your dedication, hospitality and detailed planning made these events a huge success!

Not to be out done, the volunteer and community spirit caught on with other groups at WHCC too! WHCC Associated Student Body (ASB) along with Alex Villalobos and Marcel Hetu organized the annual blood drive at NDC and WHCC. Coach McGovern and the Baseball team hosted a Halloween Baseball Game with community members. It was quite a sight watching kids and community members in costume play ball with our mighty Falcons! Coach Stacy Mosher and the Softball girls have been working the concession stand at the Falcon Football games and have reported increased sales. We think this is due to the large community turnout to watch our undefeated Falcon Football Team play! Our men's football team plays Hartnell (8-1) on Saturday, November 15th. Hope to see you on the bus! Telephone 559-934-2434 for more information!

This past month Sandy McGlothlin and I have been meeting with our feeder high schools to review student success data and conduct outreach. These sessions have proved to be quite insightful as to how we can work better to meet the needs of our incoming students. On October 16th I had the opportunity to represent the District at the ground breaking of Horizon Nut Company in Firebaugh. Ted Sheely, company president, said this new facilitate will bring in 170 full-time jobs and 400 seasonal jobs. We are continuing to strengthen our partnership with local employers, Workforce Boards and the Trades Apprenticeship, to ensure our educational training programs prepare their workers.

Go Falcons!

FEATURED LEARNING AREA – CalWORKs

CalWORKs at West Hills Community College Coalinga

The California Community Colleges CalWORKs program was established in 1997 as part of California's response to the 1996 federal welfare reform legislation. The federal government redesign of the former Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC) became Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) Program. California's system within TANF is California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs). Single parent students with dependent children get help through the CalWORKs program at West Hills Community College Coalinga.

Some of the key aspects resulting from the CalWORKs system are:

- Time limits
- Welfare-to-work activity requirements
- Minimum hours of participation in activities
- Education is included as an allowable welfare-to-work activity

Eligibility

1. There must be an adult receiving TANF cash aid (cannot be "child-only" case)
2. Recipient must be enrolled as a college student with an educational plan
3. Recipient must have either a Welfare-to-Work plan or be on an Exemption

As an integral partner in the state's welfare system, the community colleges CalWORKs programs are instrumental in providing critical education, training, support services, and job opportunities to assist families living in poverty to reach their educational/employment goals and achieve economic self-sufficiency.

The services offered to the CalWORKs students include: 1) coordination of services for CalWORKs recipient students between the college and the counties, 2) academic, career, and personal counseling services to focus goals and develop student education plans, 3) case management to track progress, support persistence, and make appropriate referrals to on-campus and off-campus services, 4) work study employment, 5) job development and placement services, 6) child care, and 7) curriculum development and redesign to accommodate TANF benefit time limits.

West Hills Community College Coalinga (WHCCC) student, Chanel Cervantes, stated in *Portraits of Success*, a magazine featuring successful CalWORKs participants, "The support that was given to me through the CalWORKs program was very much needed." She added, "I plan on staying positive and focused on accomplishments to help me reach future goals." Chanel shares her story of achievements and accomplishments and about life in general with fellow classmates, urging them never to give up and stay focused, using our school's motto, "Once you go here, you can go anywhere."

WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

STUDENT SUCCESS WORKSHOPS

Date	Topic	Time	Room
Tuesday, November 18	Financial Literacy/ TRIO	12:00PM	H-2
Thursday, November 20	Substance Abuse/ Amy Long	12:00PM	H-2
Tuesday, December 2	Final Preparation/ Mark Matteson	12:00PM	H-2

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT STUDENT SERVICES AT 559.934.2300 - WORKSHOPS ARE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION

TRIO hosted a "Financial Literacy Workshop," at noon, on October 22, at NDC. Students learned how to track their expenses; basic banking services; checks and finances; and about their earning potential. Sylva Leyva was the presenter.



ASB and TRIO celebrated Dia De Los Muertos during the week of the October 27-31, at NDC, by setting up a table of Mexican artifacts representing this special event, as well as providing pan dulce which is a traditional sweet bread eaten during this event.

TRIO, ASB, and NDC staff hosted a Halloween Contest on October 31. Students had an opportunity to win different gifts based on various dress categories that they enter into. They included: Most Scary; Most Funny; Most Unique; and, Super Hero. Judges were: Rosemary Burciaga (former NDC Student Service Manager); Scott Wilson (Faculty); and Maribel Gonzalez (Alumnus). TRIO students sold beverages and snacks to raise money for their club. The common

area at NDC was decorated with Halloween costumes, fake spider webs, skeletons, and other scary items as well. NDC staff also hosted a potluck luncheon on Halloween as a way of celebrating on that special day.

The TRIO Club spearheaded the 2014 Halloween Festival on Friday, October 31. This is an annual WHC Coalinga student event co-sponsored with the ASB, Glee Club, International student club, and the WHC Workforce programs. The students, faculty and staff joined in on the event to just have fun. The club members helped out on a variety of games and a costume competition. WHC President Dr. Carol Goldsmith, ASB President Ashley Rocha, and Financial Aid Interim Director Mali Flood judged the customs and made the tough decisions in a variety of categories. The TRIO club sold pizza, drinks, and popcorn. According to participants' comments, this has been the biggest and greatest Halloween ever! A similar event was hosted at NDC as well.



WEST HILLS COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Jessica Vasquez



Jessica Vasquez is a student at North District Center (NDC). At 26, Jessica is a single mom with three children; two girls 9 and 5 and a boy 6. One of the biggest challenges she has overcome is to believe that she could attend college and succeed academically. Her struggles began when at 17 years she decided to move out and into a relationship with a man six years her senior. Soon after, she began experiencing verbal and psychological abuse. Nonetheless, Jessica continued her schooling through home studies and was able to graduate along with her class. Upon graduating high school, Jessica took a couple of college classes and did well. Unfortunately, her home life took a turn for the worse and her live-in boyfriend prevented her from continuing college.

As her third child was born, she became determined that she was going to provide a better life for her children. Jessica decided to join her younger sister who had started attending West Hills Community College, NDC, commuting from Kerman. At first, even though she had taken previous college classes and done well, the college work was intimidating and Jessica thought that perhaps her dream to go to college was farfetched and insurmountable.

Jessica visited the CARE advisor who provided her with the support available through the college's CARE, CalWORKs, and other support programs. As she excelled in her classes, Jessica began to get involved in student activities. In spring 2013 she was recommended and became a CalWORKs peer-mentor. In this role, Jessica helps other students with academic support and shares successful skills to help them navigate through college. She has continued to progress in her academic work. In addition to her work experience placement, she is president of the TRIO Club at NDC.

She is planning to graduate in fall 2015 and transfer to Fresno State to pursue a degree in social work. Jessica stated, "I want to share my experiences to help others succeed."

WEST HILLS COLLEGE EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

President's Monthly Message

Juan Rubio



Juan emigrated with his family from Mexico to Salinas, CA, at the age of 16. After graduating high school he continued working the fields to help his family make ends meet. In Salinas he worked picking lettuce, strawberries, and broccoli. While working during the day, he decided to attend the local community college part-time in the evenings, because he couldn't afford university cost.

As a young man, his biggest dream was to buy a car; he was able to save five hundred dollars to buy his dream car, a red MGB convertible. He continued his education at Hartnell College and earned enough credits to transfer to CSU Fresno. At Fresno State he continued to support himself and attend school part-time. Juan earned a bachelor's degree in Spanish literature and a Master's degree. He started his professional career as adjunct faculty in Spanish for CSU Fresno, Fresno City, Reedley College, and West Hills Community College in 1992.

After working part-time at West Hills, he was hired full-time as academic advisor in the College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP) in 2001. As an advisor, Juan also worked in the EOP&S, TRIO, and SSS programs, and is currently the Upward Bound Advising Specialist.

Upward Bound (UB) provides a program of instruction, tutoring, academic and career guidance, personal counseling, and summer college residential life to 60 high school students recruited in the 9th, 10th, and 11th grades. The UB



participants must meet eligibility criteria: potential first-generation, income criteria, be college-bound students and attend designated high schools served by West Hills College – Coalinga, Mendota, and Tranquility high schools. Juan proudly states that under his guidance the participants in the UB program meet the 90th percentile in retention, persistence, and college enrollment upon high school graduation with a GPA greater than 3.0.

Juan expresses fondly, "It is a privilege to work at West Hills College, because it is an accessible institution to a wide group of students from different socio-economic backgrounds. He added, "I want to continue serving and encouraging young people, many of whom (like me) are the first in their families to attend college, to further their

education and take advantage of the opportunities available to them so they can have a better life."

Juan is married and has two teenage daughters.

WHCCD FOUNDATION

October was a busy month in the foundation. A breakfast for key Ag leaders in the area was hosted by Mark Borba, a west side grower and foundation supporter. It allowed Dr. Gornick, Dr. Goldsmith, Dr. Van Horn, Farm of the Future director Clint Cowden and Foundation Executive Director Frances Squire to present information about some of the great things happening at the farm and the partnership that have helped make them possible. Additional meetings are planned throughout the district.

It was the foundation's great pleasure to host a 50 year reunion of the 1964 WHCC Falcon football team during homecoming weekend. Ranked 11th in the nation, the team won the 1964 California Community Junior College Association championship and beat Santa Barbara City College in the Lions Bowl in Santa Maria. Many thanks to WHCCD marketing assistant Amy Seed Kessler who put together a memory book for the players that included pictures from their playing days as well as contact information for each of the players. It was a huge hit.

Pictured are (seated l. to r.) Jim Davis, Coach Walt Johnson, Gary Hill, (standing l. to r.) Ed Wilson, Bob Bowers, Dan Goich, Chico Lopes, David Sadler and Ron Clark.

ATHLETICS

19th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner for College Students – November 27, 2014

The West Hills College athletic department staff members will be serving a Thanksgiving dinner to the students from out of the area and foreign countries who are unable to get home for the Holiday. From this event dinners are also delivered to needy families in our community. The meal will be served at 2:00 PM on Thursday, November 27th, in the Lobby of Gordon Hall.

This is the 19th year that members of the West Hills College Coalinga Athletic Department, community members, and other college staff members have put this meal together. With your help over the years, it has been a wonderful display of why Coalinga is a great place to live, and why West Hills College Coalinga is a great place to be.

If you would like to make a donation to feed the students, please telephone the athletic office at 559.934.2455

18th Annual Hall of Fame Dinner – October 18, 2014

More than 250 persons packed the West Hills College Coalinga gym for the annual athletics awards ceremony and dinner. The well-wishers were there to acknowledge the 1999 football team and four new inductees in to the WHCC Hall of Fame. Saturday's event was the 18th annual Hall of Fame celebration. This year's Hall of Fame honorees are Steven Edwards, football; Cedric Johnson, football and track; Chet Payne, baseball and football; George Yamamoto, football and tennis; and the 1999 football team, coached by Mark Gritton. Inductees were also honored during halftime of the Falcon's homecoming game against Reedley. "The Hall of Fame inductees have made an indelible imprint in the athletic records books at West Hills College Coalinga," said Gritton, now athletic director and associate dean of student services for WHCC. "They have gone on to establish successful careers as teachers, coaches, police officers and business owners. Many of them have taken on civic responsibilities in their communities."



Chester Payne



Cedric Johnson

Also attending the Hall of Fame Dinner were four "leading ladies -
From left: Paulette Clement, Sandy Clark, Gloria Gornick, and Edna Ivans.



Men's Basketball annual fundraising dinner – BIG MONDAY BASH

This year's event will take place on Monday, December 1, at 6pm, Coalinga Elks Lodge. For more information contact: Mark Arce at 559.934.2460.

President's Monthly Message

Men's Falcon Basketball Schedule 2014-14

DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Nov-21	Friday	Bakersfield College	Coalinga	6pm
Nov-22	Saturday	San Diego Mesa College	Coalinga	6pm
Nov-28-30	Friday-Sunday	Diablo Valley Tournament	Pleasant Hill	TBA
DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Dec 12-14	Friday-Sunday	Quinn Henry Memorial Tournament	Los Altos	TBA
Dec 28-30	Sunday-Tuesday	San Diego Mesa Tournament	San Diego	TBA
DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Jan-7	Wednesday	*Reedley College	Reedley	5pm
Jan-10	Saturday	*Columbia College	Coalinga	6pm
Jan-14	Wednesday	BYE		
Jan-17	Saturday	*Fresno City College	Fresno	5pm
Jan-21	Wednesday	*College of the Sequoias	Coalinga	6pm
Jan-24	Saturday	*Merced Jr College	Merced	5pm
Jan-28	Wednesday	*Porterville College	Coalinga	6pm
Jan-31	Saturday	*Reedley College	Coalinga	6pm
DATE	DAY	OPPONENT	LOCATION	TIME
Feb-4	Wednesday	*Columbia College	Sonora	6pm
Feb-7	Saturday	BYE		
Feb-11	Wednesday	*Fresno City College	Coalinga	6pm
Feb-14	Saturday	*College of the Sequoias	Visalia	5pm
Feb-18	Wednesday	*Merced Jr College (Coaches vs. Cancer)	Coalinga	6pm
Feb-21	Saturday	*Porterville College	Porterville	5pm
*Central Valley Conference Games				