

evit Insider

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Issue 7

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Upcoming Events:

- Mar. 10-14: Spring Break—No School
- Apr. 3: Broadcasters Career Fair, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Main Campus — Culinary Arts)
- Apr. 4: Explore EVIT event for charter schools 9 a.m. to noon (EVIT Main Campus)
- Apr. 14: Governing Board meeting, 5:30 p.m. (EVIT Main Campus)

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HOSA walkers raise more than \$10,000 for CF

Hundreds of health occupations students at the East Valley Institute of Technology raised more than \$10,000 in March for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. Walk-a-thons hosted by the HOSA-Future Health Professionals were held on Main and East campuses.



The Phoenix Coyotes mascot, Howler, joined 700 Main Campus walkers in meeting their goal of raising \$10,000. More than 350 walkers at EVIT East raised \$800. Dominick Yastrzab won first place for raising the most money -- \$325. Paige Nagel came in second, raising

\$237.83, and Abrianna Braaksma was third, raising \$215. Last year, EVIT's HOSA students also raised more than \$10,000 for cystic fibrosis – more than any other high school HOSA group in the nation.

The HOSA students are enrolled in the EVIT School of Health Sciences, which includes Dental Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician, Human Anatomy and Physiology, Massage Therapy, Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapy Technician, and Veterinary Assistant programs. Adults-only programs are also offered in Practical Nursing and Surgical Technology.

(See story about the EVIT School of Health Sciences on Page 2)

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CAREER AND COLLEGE PREP

In the News

EVIT health students gain experience, path to college

When Jesus Yanez completes his program at the East Valley Institute of Technology this spring, he will be ready to take the certified medical assistant exam, have practical experience from an internship with a pediatrics practice – and he will already have a job to help pay for college.

Yanez, 17, a senior at Mesa’s Westwood High School and a second-year Medical Assistant student in the EVIT School of Health Sciences, is interning now at Happy Kids Pediatrics. The practice has offered him a job after he completes his intern hours.

“EVIT is a great school,” said Yanez, who plans to attend Mesa Community College and Northern Arizona University, get a master’s degree in biology and eventually become a certified registered nurse anesthetist. “EVIT opens a lot of doors for you.”



Yanez is one of nearly 1,000 students enrolled in the EVIT School of Health Sciences at the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus, 1601 W. Main St., Mesa, and the East Campus, 6625 S. Power Road, Mesa.

Most health students start off by taking EVIT’s Human Anatomy and Physiology for Medical Careers class – which East Valley school districts count as a science credit -- in their junior year, and then pick a specialty for their senior year. Specialized programs include Dental Assistant, Emergency Medical Technician, Massage Therapy, Medical Assistant, Nursing Assistant, Pharmacy Technician, Physical Therapy Technician and Veterinary Assistant. All of those classes are tuition-free for high school students.



Seniors in their first year at EVIT can still complete a health program by enrolling their second year as adults. Adults pay tuition, but financial aid is available. And, students who have already taken two years as high school students can also enroll for a third year as adults in one of EVIT’s adult-only health programs – Licensed Practical Nursing or Surgical Technologist.

Superintendent Sally Downey said it’s a natural progression for students to take the human anatomy and physiology class, followed by the certified nursing assistant course, and then as adults, choose between practical nursing or surgical technologist. And, starting in August, EVIT hopes to be offering a third adult option – respiratory therapy – that

would lead to an associate’s degree through a new partnership with Central Arizona College. Eventually, Downey said, EVIT also will offer occupational therapy, physical therapy and radiation technology with associate degrees through CAC.

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East Campus Spotlight

Aviation, vet programs on display at Gateway event

EVIT East Aviation teachers and students, as well as instructor Jessica Berger from the Veterinary Assistant program, participated in Gateway Aviation Days on March 8. Future aviators were shown the many opportunities of how to achieve their goals in a career through the EVIT Aviation program or as future veterinary professionals through the Vet Assistant program.



Main Campus Spotlight

Fire science students join alumni for live burn exercise

Amazing job by the second-year EVIT Fire Science students who participated in a live burn exercise along with EVIT alumni who now work for Mesa Fire Department, Queen Creek Fire Department, and the U.S. Air Force.



Alumni Spotlight

Dental alumna's message: EVIT is college

ALUMNA SIENA KARACAS

EVIT Program: Dental Assistant

Completion: 2013

Occupation goal: Dental Hygienist

"EVIT is college when you're in high school."

That's how alumna Siena Karacas, 18, sums up the EVIT experience. And it's a message she'd like to spread to high school students across the East Valley because too often they are told that EVIT isn't for honors students or those who are college-bound.

Karacas' internship through EVIT's Dental Assistant program led to a job with Kids First Pediatrics in Gilbert. Now Karacas is taking pre-requisite courses at Chandler-Gilbert Community College before moving on to dental hygienist school at Phoenix College or Rio Salado College.

"I love working with kids and helping them realize (going to the dentist) is not scary," said Karacas, who graduated from Chandler's Hamilton High School and completed her EVIT program in 2013. "It's nice to be able to educate people, to know what I'm talking about, and help them."

Karacas recently visited her former Dental Assistant teacher, Janet Jensen, at EVIT's Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus.

"Mrs. Jensen is awesome," she said. "She's a great teacher ... and so warm and welcoming."

EVIT's Dental Assistant program has an 85 percent success rate in placing students in jobs, college or the military. It's one of 11 programs in the EVIT School of Health Sciences, where students often enroll as a step toward college – and a way to secure employment to help pay for college.

Like college, EVIT allows students with shared interests and goals to learn alongside each other.

"EVIT is a choice, and we're doing it to learn and to grow," Karacas said. "EVIT students already know what they want to do when they're in high school. How many other high school students can say that?"



Program Highlights

Start your engines! EVIT sponsors a race car.



The East Valley Institute of Technology has agreed to sponsor a late model dirt race car in a fun and prestigious series that not only races locally, but travels through the season to the West Coast and the Midwest. Not only do we expect to get a lot of exposure locally as a recruitment tool, but also some national exposure for EVIT.

Collision Repair instructor Hollywood Leary came up with the idea for an EVIT race car.

“There is very little doubt in my mind that every racing magazine in the country will take notice and want to do a story about the only high school vocational-sponsored dirt race car in the country,” Leary said. “I think a missing part of our school – that, by the way, is an amazing

facility full of amazing teachers and students -- is that we don't have the football, baseball or basketball team to rally around on Friday nights. Well, I believe I have found a cure for the missing piece of an otherwise perfect puzzle.”

You can follow the EVIT race car's results on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/evitnews.

(EVIT health programs continued from Page 2)

“This will allow our EVIT students to have first priority in those (CAC) programs,” Downey said. “The strength of this seamless system is well-prepared students moving into a post-secondary option.”

EVIT's health programs also include the opportunity for practical clinical experience at Adelante Healthcare, a community health center located on the Main Campus. Adelante CEO Avein Saaty-Tafoya said the EVIT students are embedded with primary care experts in family practice, pediatrics, internal medicine, obstetrics and gynecology. They get to see first-hand how whole-person care is delivered.

“Adelante Healthcare is a teaching incubator for the community-minded physicians of the future,” Saaty-Tafoya said. “Our partnership with the East Valley Institute of Technology ensures we can train within our comprehensive health center a wide variety of allied health and nursing students who will graduate ready to perform where patient experience is concerned as well as excel in providing quality of care.”

That kind of practical experience and hands-on learning is what sets EVIT's health programs apart from other high school programs, Downey said.

“Our students learn by doing,” she added. “This is not just learning theory from a book and a lecture.”

EVIT's health programs have an approximate 83 percent success rate in placing students in jobs, college or the military. For information on all EVIT programs, visit www.evit.com or call (480) 461-4000.

Program Highlights

Law students honor fallen Phoenix police detective



The Law Enforcement class at EVIT's Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus honored Phoenix police Detective John Hobbs in a memorial silent flag run on March 6.

The flag run consisted of students in formation running for approximately one mile. They were led by the purple Law Enforcement police car and accompanied by a recorded bagpipes rendition of "Amazing Grace."

Law Enforcement instructor Tony Garcia said the students came up with the idea to honor Hobbs, who died after being shot while conducting surveillance on an attempted-murder suspect.

"They wanted to do something for him and for his family," Garcia said.



Trip Reduction Program

In a partnership with Valley Metro, the EVIT Trip Reduction Program is designed to reduce single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips to the work site.

If you carpool, vanpool, walk, bike or ride the bus to school you are considered an Alternate Mode User (AMU), and you can register to win quarterly prizes valued at \$25.

For more information, or to sign up as an alternative mode user, contact Liz Bortkun at 480-461-4160 or e-mail lbortkun@evit.com.

You can find more information about carpooling at www.sharetheride.com or bus route information at www.valleymetro.com.

Program Highlights

Heads will roll: Bowling, EVIT East Cosmo style



EVIT East Cosmetology students in Brenda Fenwick's and Sarah Liu's classes had fun and took a short break from working in the salon to do some Cosmetology mannequin bowling!



General Announcements

Happy Birthday!



March Birthdays			
1	Laurie Morehouse	17	Christian Vencill
3	Laura McKinley	18	Belinda Long
6	Arturo Zamorano	18	Anita Moody
12	Leon Zamora	23	Roel Cortina
15	Edith Perez	25	Sarah Liu
16	Randy Golding	29	Kathie Kopp
16	Shayna Stephens	30	Lou Ann Hoffman

EVIT hosts new FOOD-BALL cooking TV show for teens

FOOD-BALL is an exciting new TV show where high school students team up to compete against each other in a cooking contest for a chance to win great prizes -- including a \$1,000 college scholarship.

An open call is under way for high school students to be on the show -- no cooking experience required!

Auditions are: 3-6 p.m., Friday, March 14 at Fiesta Mall in Mesa; and 3-6 p.m., Saturday March 15 at SanTan Village in Gilbert, next to Harkins theaters. Auditions also were held March 8 at Mesa's Superstition Springs Center.



To try out, students and their parents will need to sign a release form. The release is available on www.foodballshow.com and will also be available at the auditions.

The Pulse 90.7/92.7 FM will be at each tryout broadcasting live. The Pulse is the East Valley Institute of Technology's student-run radio station.

FOOD-BALL will be taped this summer in the Culinary Arts kitchen at EVIT, 1601 W. Main Street, Mesa. EVIT Radio/Audio Production Instructor Steve Grosz is an executive producer of FOOD-BALL.

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