

remembering dr. a. keith crandell

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inside the cover

On New Year's Day, Jan. 1, 2016, EVIT and Arizona lost a true champion of quality career and technical education when Dr. A. Keith Crandell passed away.

In the 1990s, Dr. Crandell played a lead role in the effort to create EVIT and other Joint Technological **Education Districts (JTEDs)** in Arizona. The idea – to centralize vocational education resources on one campus so students in



all East Valley public schools would have access to high quality career training - resulted in EVIT becoming a state and national model. Every year, educators from other states visit the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus in Mesa because they want to create their own versions of EVIT.

And every year, over 1,000 students complete their EVIT training and then enter the workforce, move on to college or other post-secondary schools, or enter the military. In fact, 87 percent of EVIT students do this within one year of finishing their EVIT programs.

Many Arizonans have been touched by the work of Keith Crandell even if they never knew him. His legacy lives on in the hands of the builder, the welder, the health-care giver; in the courage of the firefighter and the police officer; in the creativity of the cosmetologist, the chef, the designer; and in the work ethic of so many who discovered their career passion through EVIT.

We will never forget you, Dr. Crandell. Your work and legacy has ensured that we all have the opportunity to be the best that we can be.

You were – and always will be – EVIT.



EDITORIAL

CeCe Todd **Public Information Officer**

DESIGN

Patrick Jervis, Creative Director

PHOTOGRAPHY

JoJo Huckeba Patrick Jervis

PUBLISHER

East Valley Institute of Technology Public Information & Marketing Office publicrelations@evit.com

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Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus 1601 W. Main Street Mesa, AZ 85201

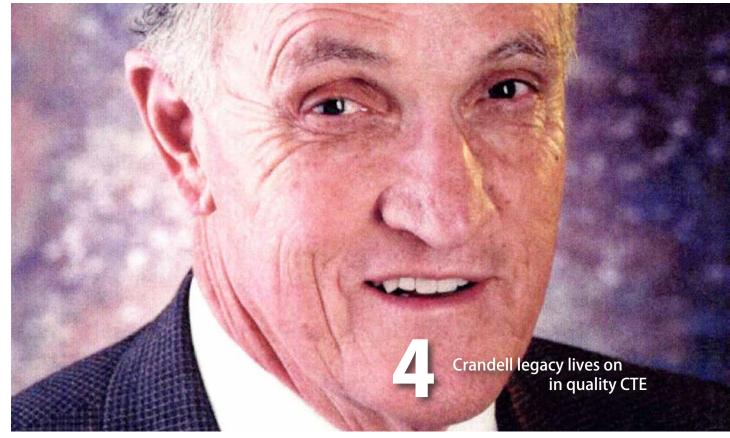
East Campus

6625 S. Power Road Mesa, AZ 85212

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UPCOMING events

• Jan. 27. 8 a.m. –

Teen Traffic Safety Day, Main Campus

• Feb. 8, 4:30 p.m. -

EVIT Governing Board, Main Campus

• Feb. 12, 8 a.m. & noon -

Mr./Miss EVIT's Got Talent Assembly

- Feb 12, 7 p.m. -
- EVIT Masquerade Ball, Main Campus
- Feb. 15 -

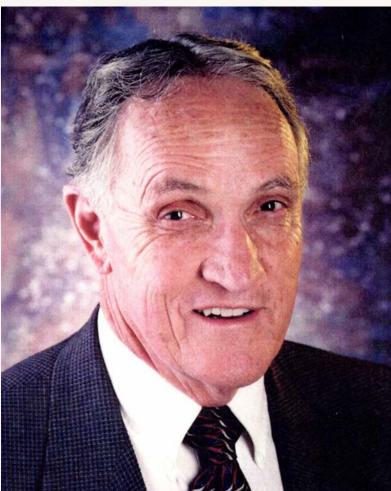
Presidents Day, No School

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main story • we are evit

crandell legacy lives on in quality cte

Dr. A. Keith Crandell, EVIT's first superintendent and a visionary in Arizona career and technical education, passed away on Jan. 1.



EVIT Superintendent Dr. Sally Downey said Crandell's passing is a huge loss for those who knew him and for those who may not have known him but were touched by his work. Crandell played a key role in the creation of EVIT, Arizona's first Joint Technological Education District, and the formation of several other JTEDs across the state.

"Dr. Crandell was the person you would want in the fox hole with you," Downey said. "He would sink his teeth into an idea and never let go."

Crandell taught business skills for 11 years and then served as Mesa Public Schools' vocational director before making it his life's mission to centralize vocational education to best use resources and improve the quality of career training. He was instrumental in creating Mesa Central High School and Mesa VoTech, the precursors to EVIT. He served as EVIT's first superintendent until his retirement in 1992, and then sat on the EVIT Governing Board until 2012. He also served as the first superintendent of the Northern Arizona Vocational Institute of Technology (NAVIT).

Crandell served three years of active duty in the Army in the 1950s and then 29 years in the Arizona National Guard.

He was also a lifelong member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, serving in many capacities, including missions to Ohio and Tonga.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Carolyn, who currently

serves on the EVIT Governing Board. He is also survived by six children, 27 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren. Two daughters and one grandson preceded him in death.

Downey offered a tribute from EVIT at the funeral.

"Keith's legacy will live on in the hands of the builder, the courage of the firefighter, the creativity of the cosmetologist, and in the work ethic of so many who discovered their career passion through EVIT," she said. "We are so thankful for his commitment to ensuring that we all have the opportunity to be the best that we can be."



EVIT provides the **ADVANCED** Career and Technical Education for the East Valley.

- Nearly 40 TUITION-FREE high school programs including Academy of Cosmetic Arts, the George Brazil School of Plumbing, and the EVIT Fire Science Academy -- at two centralized
- Adult programs offered at competitive rates with financial aid available
- College credit, internships and prep for state/national licensing & certifications
- Arizona's only high school Culinary Arts program nationally accredited by American Culinary Federation Education Foundation (ACFEF)
- East Valley's only high school **Automotive** and **Collision Repair** programs accredited by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF)
- American Welding Society (AWS) accredited **Welding** program with a 100 percent success rate in job, college or military placement
- EVIT School of Health Sciences: 12 health occupation programs, including Practical Nursing for adults





3D Animation Aesthetics **Automotive Technologies** Aviation Banking Behavioral, Mental & Social Health Services Cisco Networking Academ Collision Repair Commercial Baking & Pastry Arts Computer Programming & Mobile App Design Construction Technologie Cosmetology Culinary Arts **Dental Careers** Diesel Technologies

Digital Device Diagnostic & Repair Early Childhood Education **Education Professions Emergency Medical Technician** Fashion, Interiors & Textiles (FIT) Fire Science **Future Engineers** Graphic Design Human Anatomy & Physiology

> iTEC (Info Technology & Engineering Careers) Law Enforcement **Machining Technology** Massage Therapy Medical Assistant

Nursing Assistant Pharmacy Technician Photography Physical Therapy Technician Plumbing Radio/Audio Production Veterinary Assistant Video Production Web Design Welding

** Practical Nursing
** Sterile Processing Technician ** Surgical Technologist

**NOTE: Adults only

high school and adult students











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competition can strengthen career training in arizona

by Dr. Sally Downey, EVIT Superintendent

Career and technical education (CTE) is making a lot of headlines in Arizona as the 14 Joint Technological Education Districts and the schools they serve grapple with how to handle looming budget cuts. The East Valley Institute of Technology is also concerned about a decrease in funding, but encouraged by Gov. Doug Ducey's plan to restore \$10 million a year over three years through competitive grants, focusing on programs that train workers for high-need employment sectors.

This reflects what we do every day at EVIT: Develop a workforce that meets the needs of business and industry.

Often, industry comes to EVIT requesting help in filling a need for skilled workers such as health-care technicians, plumbers, diesel mechanics and machinists. EVIT responds by developing programs for high school students and adults that offer hands-on lab experiences and internships, preparation for industry credentials leading to jobs, and dual enrollment college credit to give students a head-start on post-secondary education. We don't do any of this in a vacuum; every program has an advisory council of industry representatives who ensure that our students are being trained to the latest standards.

By the time a student completes a CTE program, he or she should be ready to go into the workforce. It might be the job they've chosen as their career, or it might be an entry-level position to make money while going to college in a related field. For example, many alumni from EVIT's health programs work as certified nursing, dental or veterinary assistants while going to college to become registered nurses, dentists or veterinarians. They often have little trouble finding employment because their EVIT training came with valuable work experience made possible through internships and externships offered by our business partners. It's a win-win for our students and industry.

Over the past 15 years, Thorobred Chevrolet in Chandler has hired over 20 students from the EVIT Automotive Technologies program, which is certified by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF) to prepare our students for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications.

Service director Steve Marley said Thorobred knows that EVIT students will be "disciplined, skilled workers." In the last 18 months, Nichols Precision in Tempe hired a half-dozen students from our Machining Technology program because, as company president Dante Fierros said, the EVIT students have a strong work ethic from a school with "a proven track record and certification process."

Schools like EVIT that provide high quality career and technical education are in a good position to help Arizona come back strong from a recession that resulted in so many in our state losing their jobs and businesses. Sundt Construction gave EVIT's Construction Technologies program a check for \$5,000 this month. This followed many other donations of equipment and supplies this year to our construction program by Okland Construction, the Home Builders Association of Central Arizona, and the Association of the Wall & Ceiling Contractors of Arizona. The construction industry in Arizona is making a comeback – and they want EVIT to help them do it. This is good for the industry and for students who want to work in construction.

I'm very proud of EVIT's centralized campus programs at the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus, East Campus and Apache Junction High School, and our dedicated instructors who are training Arizona's future workforce. Like any other JTED or school district in Arizona, EVIT is not perfect -- but we are always striving to improve. All EVIT programs provide hands-on lab experiences and/or internships, nearly all of our programs lead to professional industry credentials, and 16 programs now offer over 200 hours of college credit through partnerships with area colleges. Our students at EVIT's centralized campuses have a 96 percent high school graduation rate, two out of three go on to college, and 87 percent are in jobs, college or the military within one year of their training.

Our strongest programs are those in which the instructor has embraced working with business partners to ensure that curriculum, equipment and training are of high quality. I have no doubt that all of our programs will raise the bar if there is the opportunity to vie for a competitive grant. Obviously, the devil is always in the details. But if career and technical education is truly training students to be competitive in today's economy, then we should welcome working with business and industry in a competitive process that strengthens outcomes.

We also should welcome working with our governor and elected leaders to improve the quality of career and technical education for all students, parents, and industry in Arizona.



EVIT business partners: Jason Pistillo, University of Advancing Technology; Tamara Caraway, Hunt & Caraway Architects; Connie Wilhelm, Home Builders

Since 2000, Thorobred Chevrolet has hired over 20 students from the East Valley Institute of Technology. The Chandler dealership taps EVIT for new employees because of the quality of EVIT's Automotive facility, equipment and instructors, said Thorobred service director **Steve Marley.**

The Automotive program at EVIT's Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus is certified by the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation (NATEF), and every year, EVIT students earn hundreds of Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certifications. "You know you're getting disciplined, skilled workers, well-trained in the basics and familiar with automotive equipment," Marley said.

It's an example of how EVIT meets Valley workforce needs – and why business and industry are generous in donating equipment, materials, expertise and funding to the Mesa career and technical education (CTE) school.

"Industry supports quality CTE when they see a return on their investment," said EVIT Superintendent Dr. Sally Downey.

EVIT offers 40 career training programs tuition-free for East Valley high school students and tuition-based for adults. Every program has an advisory council that includes industry representatives. And hundreds of workplaces – car dealerships, veterinary clinics, dental practices and more – provide EVIT students with job shadowing, internships and externships. When EVIT was selected last spring as an A+ School of Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation, judges noted in their critique: "EVIT has created and nurtured a significant investment and trust from the business community." Nowhere is this more

Association of Central Arizona; Giovanni Briseno, Salt River Project; Gary Levine, Hilton Phoenix/Mesa; and Bill Okland, Okland Construction.

evident than at the annual EVIT Foundation Gourmet Breakfast fundraiser. Last November's breakfast drew about 400 business, community and elected leaders, raising over \$80,000 to help students with program fees. Arizona Cardinals president Michael Bidwill, the breakfast's keynote speaker, called EVIT "a jewel of Arizona."

From the EVIT Classes of 2012, 2013 and 2014 alone, Arizona industry hired 870 students within one year of their training. During that same timeframe, many more EVIT alumni graduated from college and entered the workforce.

Dante Fierros, president of Nichols Precision in Tempe, hired six students from EVIT's Machining Technology program within the last 18 months. He said EVIT students "have demonstrated to employers that they have a tremendous work ethic because they've

taken the program for two years at a school with a proven track record and certification process."

This month, Sundt Construction presented the Construction program with a check for \$5,000. The program also received significant support this year from the Home Builders Association of Central Arizona and the Association of the Wall & Ceiling Contractors of Arizona.

Bill Okland, president of Okland Construction, serves on the EVIT Foundation Board. "Okland is a strong supporter of this type of training," he said, "since it fosters advanced skills that can be immediately applied upon the students' hire in the workforce."

EVIT is enrolling for 2016-17. Information: www.evit. com Follow EVIT on Twitter @evitnews Use hashtag #WeAreEVIT



The East Valley Institute of Technology helps young people find their career passion, and fuels Arizona business and industry with a pipeline of technically-trained workers:





EVIT Students

From 2012 to 2015, within one year of completing their EVIT training:



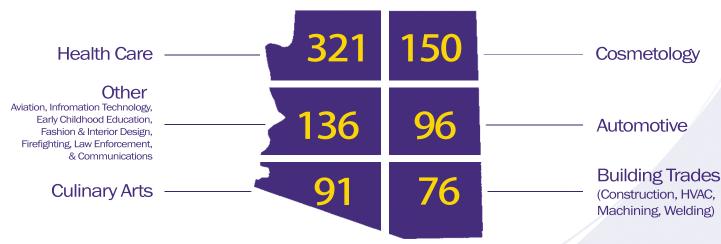






Arizona Workforce

EVIT students hired by the following industries:



mesa donates truck to evit fire science



The City of Mesa and Mesa Fire and Medical Department donated a fire truck pumper to the East Valley Institute of Technology on Jan. 12 at the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus, 1601 W. Main Street, Mesa.

The 1997 Pierce Quantum truck can pump 1,500 gallons per minute and will be used by EVIT's Academy of Fire Science, which trains East Valley high school students and adults for first-responder careers in firefighting and emergency medical services.

Mesa Vice Mayor Dennis Kavanaugh and Deputy Fire Chief/Public Information Officer Forrest Smith noted that while EVIT trains students from many East Valley communities, the career and technical education school is an important part of Mesa.

"You are *our* guys," Smith told the Fire Science students, adding that many from that program have gone on to be firefighters and paramedics for the Mesa Fire Department, as well as other fire departments in the Valley.

Instructor Terry Baugher said the truck donated on Tuesday is the third truck donated by Mesa Fire, which has also donated other equipment to the program. Smith said the fiscal impact of donating one fire apparatus to EVIT is minimal to the City of Mesa and the Fire Department and estimated at \$5,000 to \$15,000 revenue loss. Total cost for the Pierce Quantum unit in 1997 was \$260,000.

EVIT Superintendent Dr. Sally Downey thanked the City of Mesa and Mesa Fire for their support. "We simply could not do what we do without you," she said.

EVIT Fire Science students gain practical experience through hands-on training that includes live fire training, search and rescue, high-rise tower drills, and the operation of fire apparatus and equipment used by local academies. First-year students get a basic overview of fire science and emergency medical technician fundamentals. Second-year students participate in physical training, team activities and demonstrations by local, state and federal agencies.

EVIT Fire Science Academy provides the opportunity for students to earn up to 15 hours of dual enrollment college credit through Mesa Community College, and prepares students to test for several professional industry certifications, including Aircraft Rescue Firefighter (ARFF).

EVIT students have a 96% high school graduation rate, 2 out of 3 go on to college, and 87% are in jobs, college or the military within one year of their EVIT training.

sundt donates \$5000 to evit construction program

Sundt Construction donated \$5,000 this month to the Construction Technologies program at the East Valley Institute of Technology. Instructor Billy DeWitt said the donation will be used to purchase materials for the program.



Michael Yeager, Daniel Haag and Sean Ray of Sundt Construction presented the \$5,000 check to DeWitt, Principal Mark Yockus, Assistant Superintendent David Schapira and Superintendent Dr. Sally Downey.

Downey said EVIT is fortunate to have such support from the business community. "Our business partners make it possible for us to provide quality career and technical education," she said.

The Construction program has also received significant support this year from the Home Builders Association of Central Arizona and the Association of the Wall & Ceiling Contractors of Arizona.

Students in Construction Technologies learn hands-on skills in various disciplines of commercial and residential construction including electrical wiring, plumbing, masonry, framing, roofing, drywall and finish work. They also learn about safety, the use of hand and power tools, blueprint reading, estimating and construction industry operations.

An industry-driven curriculum and internships prepare them for professional credentials, jobs, apprenticeships, community college and four-year colleges and universities.



EVERYONE'S LISTENING





Ahwatukee Foothills parent Barbara Job describes the East Valley Institute of Technology as a life-changer that has given her son the skills and direction he needs to be successful.

"It's given him ... an idea of what he wants to do with his future in a way that I don't think he ever would have found in the traditional high school," Job said of son Kevin, 18, who completed the EVIT Fire Science Academy with a 4.0 GPA and graduated from Mountain Pointe High School last spring.

That sentiment was echoed by parents in April when EVIT was selected as a 2015 A+ School of Excellence by the Arizona Educational Foundation. A+ judges said the parents they interviewed "indicated that EVIT profoundly changed their child's view on school and was the single most powerful motivator for their learning. One parent shared that 'EVIT saved my child's life."

EVIT provides tuition-free career training for high school students living in 10 East Valley districts. Students can choose from 40 different programs.

Job said EVIT gave her son "the opportunity to really find the value in himself." Kevin was also able to earn dual enrollment college credits in the Fire Science program while still in high school.

Today, Kevin Job is in the Army and plans to eventually go into firefighting. EVIT, his mother said, gives students "such a focus. Kids get to come and learn something and realize they can be successful."

In a survey of 734 parents last spring, 95 percent said EVIT provides high quality education that encourages their child to learn, and 98 percent said they would recommend EVIT to other parents and students.

Tony Meadows, whose daughter, Cheyanne, is enrolled in the EVIT Academy of Cosmetic Arts, called EVIT "a great opportunity for kids." The academy's Cosmetology program is also a great bargain for families: It's tuition-free for high school students and graduates under age 22. The same training at a private beauty school can cost over \$25,000.

Originally, Meadows enrolled Cheyanne in a charter school where she took college-level classes. But her passion for hair styling was stronger. "Not every kid learns the same way," her father said. So now, Cheyanne is enrolled in Mesa Public Schools' distance learning program and thriving at EVIT, where she is training to be a cosmetologist.

Kayli Albertson is training in EVIT's Emergency Medical Technician program for a health career. Her mother, Kelli Albertson, said EVIT gives students "a great choice for numerous careers and they can come right out of high school with the skills to be successful. I feel that EVIT has helped prepare Kayli for a future in health care. EVIT has given her the confidence to care for patients as well as the skills and the

knowledge to work as an EMT."

EVIT students have a 96 percent high school graduation rate, two out of three go on to college, and 87 percent are in college, jobs or the military within one year of completing their EVIT training.

"This school serves such a meaningful purpose that resonates with students and parents profoundly," A+ award judges said. "EVIT has provided such a powerful environment that students refuse to miss school."

Enrollment for 2016-17 is under way. Information: www.evit.com. Follow EVIT on Twitter @evitnews. Use hashtag #WeAreEVIT



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regis corp. challenges evit cosmetology students





Regis Corporation spoke about their salons and had a fun activity for the students. The theme was Arizona Cardinals. The students were given a bag of tools & they had to create a style using only the tools in the bag. The winners were given prizes. (Photos & description by Maria Pelliccio, EVIT Cosmetology Instructor)

in pictures • we are evit in pictures • we are evit

evit is a game changer at fiesta bowl parade

EVIT's Game Changer float won first place in the Fiesta Bowl Parade! (Photos by EVIT Construction program)







evit cosmetology

gives mini-lesson to evit aviation students





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evit students, staff catch

cardinals fever

On Dec. 15, EVIT students and staff caught the Arizona Cardinals fever as they recorded scenes for a commerical for FOX 10 Phoenix that aired during a recent Cardinals game. The commercial was filmed in the Health Sciences building and featured Arizona Cardinals Cheerleaders, Arizona Cardinals' mascot -- Big Red, Ron Hoon of Fox 10, Linda Williams of Fox 10, Syleste Rodriguez of Fox 10 and



evit automotive students receive ase certification

On Dec. 14, EVIT Automotive students received their Automotive Service Excellence certification & badges.









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evit dental careers students at arizona dental mission of mercy

On Dec. 12, EVIT Dental students volunteered at the Central Arizona Dental Society Mission of Mercy as they transformed the coliseum at the Arizona State Fairgrounds into a massive dental clinic to provide dental services for the underprivileged in the valley. All of the dentists, hygienists, assistants throughout the valley donate their time to provide these services to whomever is willing to stand in line and wait. Many in need of services stand in line for days to assure they will be seen. (*Photos & description by Angela Dominguez, EVIT Dental Careers instructor*)



evit aviation welcomes tuskegee airmen

EVIT Aviation had a great visit from two airline pilots. They are with the Tuskegee Airmen chapter here in the valley. It was a great opportunity to learn about what it takes to obtain a career as an airline pilot and hear some great stories of their lives as an airline pilots. (Photos & description by Jim McRae, EVIT Aviation instructor)







 $24 \mid$ we are **evit** • jan. 2016 • we are **evit** | $25 \mid$

EVIT News in Brief ACADEMY FOR COSMETIC ARTS





Our newly-remodeled Academy for Cosmetic Arts opened this month on the Dr. A. Keith Crandell (Main) Campus. The building features state-of-theart cosmetology equipment and beautiful spa-like design. Services – including skin care, hair coloring, hair treatments, nail care, makeup and styling -- are offered to the public by students under the direct supervision of licensed cosmetology instructors. Call (480) 461-4033 to schedule your appointment.

NATIONAL RECOGNITION



EVIT is being featured this semester in three issues of Techniques, the national magazine for career and technical education. The February, March and April issues include stories about successful EVIT alumni and students, how EVIT engages business and industry in CTE, and post-secondary options available through EVIT. Our school is frequently featured in Techniques, which has resulted in representatives from numerous states visiting our Main and East campuses because they would like to replicate the EVIT centralized

campus model in their own states. For more information about Techniques, visit https://www. acteonline.org/techniques/.

PUSH FOR QUALITY

EVIT is continuing to upgrade programs to ensure that our students are being well prepared to enter the workforce or to move on to college and additional post-secondary training. EVIT Cosmetology students now have the opportunity to earn 44 college credits toward an associate degree through a new partnership with Eastern Arizona College. And, nearly all EVIT programs now train students to test for professional industry credentials. Our Veterinary Assistant program and Dental Assistant program are the latest to add these third-party credentials to their course offerings.

MORE ADULT ED

adult education

EVIT currently offers 11 post-secondary, tuition-based programs for adults. This month, the EVIT Governing Board approved 11 more programs that will be offered this year. New offerings include Electrical Power Testing Technician and Solar Maintenance and Installation Technician. Because Adult Education at EVIT is accredited by the Commission of the Council on Occupational Education, EVIT can offer federal Pell grants as financial assistance to adults who qualify. For more information, call (480) 461-4025.

MR. AND MISS EVIT



Our students are preparing to compete for the titles

of Mr. and Miss EVIT, an annual fund-raiser for the Mesa United Way. Students who raise the most money for United Way are crowned and serve as ambassadors for

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

EVIT Alumni and students: Go to www.evit.com/ studentiobs to find postings from area employers with job openings. Businesses contact EVIT when they have positions to fill because they know our alumni and students come highly recommended. Over 250 Valley businesses hired 322 students from the EVIT Class of 2014 alone. So polish up that resume and check out the employment opportunities that are available!

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 Lacy Davis at 480-461-4016 or e-mail Idavis@evit.com. You can find more information about carpooling at www.sharetheride.com or bus route information at www.valleymetro.com.



Video Series: Britt At EVIT

EVIT Recruiter Brittany Johnson is having a blast learning about EVIT programs and even participating in the same hands-on activities the students do. Check out Britt's venutures on Wednesdays at evit.com/britt.



New Market in Cosmetology

EVIT staff and cosmetology students celebrated the opening of the food market in the new EVIT Academy of Cosmetic Arts building. The market features a lot of tasty treats and healthy snacks. (Photo collage by Lacy Davis, EVIT Office Manager.)



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CAREER AND COLLEGE PREP