



# The Messenger

Summer 2014 Volume 6, Issue 1

PRESENTED BY THE EVERGREEN VALLEY COLLEGE NEWSPAPER CLUB



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## Our Top Picks for Four Things to do this summer

Contributed by the Newspaper Club Officers

California has been in drought for ages and yet, as if nature is outdoing herself, we are headed for the hottest summer in record. That's why when we look at what to do for summer we should try to head out of the heat and indoors into cooler museums and malls. But repetition gets boring and for those of you who are ready for an adventure, try something new and exotic. Here are our picks for the top four things to do in the Bay Area this summer:

### The Tech Museum of Innovation

201 S Market St, San Jose  
(408) 294-8324

A museum of technology may sound like an oxymoron, but somehow the Tech Museum in downtown San Jose manages to incorporate modern technologies into a museum experience. The massive building is full of exhibits dedicated to advancements in technology and the fields of science: if there is a tool or technique from our recent history that you are curious about, expect to find it here. Interactive motion sensing devices and sound synthesizers are some of the fare you will find at the Tech's Special Exhibitions and a more visual display can be found at the museum's unique IMAX Dome Theater featuring educational films and the occasional blockbuster movie. For a day trip spot that offers informational and interactive fun for all age groups, check out the Tech Museum of Innovation.

### San Francisco and the California Academy of Sciences

55 Music Concourse Dr, San Francisco  
(415) 379-8000

San Francisco is a great place to visit during the summer. The weather is perfect around this time. You don't even need to go to a specific tourist attraction, just walking around their parks is a grand enough treat itself. If you are looking to visit one of its attractions, however, I have always loved the California Academy of Sciences.

It's science in action! They have an aquarium, planetarium, and even an Albino Alligator. Every month they have a free admission day and the Museum really comes to life. It is full of families and amazed children from all walks of life and the staff members are ecstatic to share knowledge with anyone. And, if you are already a fairly knowledgeable person, it's always fun to simply watch the penguins!

### The Cupertino Ice Center

10123 N Wolfe Rd, Cupertino  
(408) 446-2906

Many of us at EVC watched the Winter Olympics and marveled at how difficult it is to learn to ice-skate. In truth, however, this sport is easy and fun to participate in. The Cupertino Ice Center is an ice rink open year round with long public hours and good rates. The center offers sessions for those who do not skate and the friendly staff will be disposed to working with you even if you are not enrolled. Heading from the sunny heat into these cooler recesses, this rink is also a marvelous venue to bring your family or date: it is open on both Friday and Saturday evening and continually plays popular new music. Located in The Vallco shopping mall, there are also various options for a perfectly romantic meal afterwards. And, if you are lucky, the Cupertino Ice Center may exchange the lights for the flashing colors of a disco creating the perfect dance floor ambience.

### The Hiller Aviation Museum

601 Skyway Rd, San Carlos  
(650) 654-0200

The Hiller Aviation Museum is an enjoyable outing for this summer. I developed an appreciation for old airplanes when my family took me to the Museum of Flight in Seattle and when I watched films such as "The Rocketeer" and "The Aviator". If you visit this museum, you will experience what I did by viewing old airplane models, learning about aviation through documentaries, purchasing gifts for your loved ones, and taking pictures for memory. The tour guides are knowledgeable of when the airplanes were built and are also friendly, so feel free to ask them any questions. Aviation is a major part of American history: millions of people travel on airplanes every day. If you go to the Hiller Aviation Museum, you can encourage your loved ones or yourself to be a pilot and to become a part of the aviation history that this museum is so dedicated to keeping alive.

# Summer

## Service Learning and the Meaning of Student Success

By Anthony Disilvestre

“The core mission of the community college is to provide education for individuals in its service region, and to serve its community as a community-based institution of higher education.”

—California Legislature Assembly Resolution, April 8th 2014

The Service-Learning and Public Service Program at Evergreen works on a large scale, coordinating community service efforts for college students. During its height, more than 200 students attended the program per semester for the volunteer hours, college credits, and invaluable experiences it provided.

Evergreen Valley College provides SLPSP as a way to give back to the community, while fulfilling the district's goals of student success. Students put to use the information they have studied in class and learn the value of community service. There are opportunities available on campus as tutors and as assistant professors and, outside of the college, 60 community organizations offered positions in various fields of study.

It was in the 2010-2011 academic year when the college's services got hit hard by budget cuts. Service-Learning in particular lost its Program Assistant position and was shut down. When the program reopened, almost everyone involved had moved on, leaving few of its original participants. Everything had to be rebuilt, with only 26 remaining community partners, 40 registered students, and 5 faculty members to coordinate the effort.

But as you may have heard, the SLPSP is currently in a crisis again, pending a decision by the administration in the 2014 fall semester. In a statement by the President of Evergreen Valley College, he explained “it was brought to [our] attention that the Service Learning program, with its current level of faculty support, is operated in an ‘unsafe manner’ and that this required an immediate response.

Their concern is that the program doesn't have enough supervisors for all the students working



outside of campus, making it possible for some service projects to be conducted unsafely. The district chancellor made the issue known, however no specific incident has been cited. If the program is found to have significant safety hazards, it will be closed until necessary changes have been made.

Looking back at 2010 and how the progress of the program got set back by years, it is clear what is at stake in this decision. Should the program be allowed to operate with its limited resources, or should it risk everything in another closure? To get a better sense of the program's needs, I went to Program Coordinator Marjorie Clark for her stance on the issue.

Marjorie explained that “accurate databases and faculty reports were major weaknesses” of the Service-Learning and Public Services Program, but that it was no fault of the staff. Even with the help of two separate resolutions by the EVC Academic Senate in 2011 and this past April recommending an increase in its funding, the program has had too few personnel to complete all of its duties.

It is Marjorie's belief, as well as the Academic Senate's, that after another disruption of services the community may lose its remaining faith in the program. In short, the problems discovered by the chancellor would have to be resolved in a non-invasive way because in her words “the program would never survive another closing”.

## Story of an Inspiration

By Jose Govea, Staff Writer

“Some people hear their inner voices with great clearness. And they live by what they hear. Such people become crazy...or they become legend.” – Jim Harrison. In this world we have those who are born into comfort and those who have to work for it: Hermes Castro is a man who is half human half machine.

Growing up, Hermes was born into an immigrant family that had to risk their wellbeing in order to have a brighter future. At the age of ten, he and his family crossed the Mexican border in search of work and dreams to be pursued. Once they actually made it here to the United States, his father spent most of his time working to be able to put food in the mouths of his family. Despite working long hours Hermes' father still managed to condition himself by running marathons and always brought his children with him so they'd be able to realize what hard work feels like.

Since Hermes was constantly pushed past his limits, he grew a fascination with jogging and biking, he'd usually jog to school and joined his school's basketball and track teams. As Hermes quotes, “I was beating people up on track”. He broke his school's mile record at an astonishing time of four minutes and thirty-eight seconds, he was pushing his own limits and the limits of those around him. As time passed, his athletic ability grew stronger; his constant repetition of working out molded him into the warrior he became as an adult. He had his life flowing towards a good direction; he was working a good job from which he rode his bike back and forth every day.

One day during his daily routine of bicycling to work, Hermes' life would change permanently. As he

rode his bike down the street, a drunk driver going forty-five miles per hour collided with Hermes causing intensive pain and drastic body changes. He suffered from a stroke and broke both his fibula and tibia from both legs. As he was in the hospital, thoughts of giving up on his dreams rushed inside his mind. Due to the accident Hermes lost control of his legs and had to be put on a wheelchair, diminishing his dreams of running multiple marathons and keeping focused on playing basketball.

Once he started to recover Hermes was too stubborn and dedicated to give up on himself and call it quits: he used a stationary bicycle for up to three hours a

day and walked a mile daily. He managed to still play basketball fiercely even though he was a paraplegic; his skills were noticed by the Mexican national paraplegic basketball team and they granted him a chance to redeem his goals. Playing with the Mexican basketball team gave him the opportunity to play against the world champion Canadian team. As Hermes and his team smoothly took down the Canadian team in



Source: The San Diego Union-Tribune

Colombia they were blessed with another opportunity of playing against Korea's national team.

Hermes still motivates himself to be part of marathons despite having to use a walker; he was part of the Rock n Roll marathon in San Diego in 2011 and inspired many other upcoming athletes. In the future he hopes to walk from San Jose all the way down to San Diego to bring awareness to the world about paraplegic research. Hermes has been broken down both physically and mentally but never loses sight of where he wants to be in life, never loses hope of what he could be and most importantly never gives up on himself. And that's why I say, Hermes is half human half machine.

\*Based on interview with Hermes Castro



# Summer

## #KeeptheseHashtagsGoing

By Janani Mohan, Editor-in-chief

Because they're our sisters, said Malala. Because they're innocent girls targeted by terrorists, said Hillary. #BringBackOurGirls

On April 14th, in Nigeria, a group of men raided a girls boarding school (Chibok) telling the girls that they would take them to safety. After the girls realized that the men were actually terrorists who had previously perpetrated mass killings, 53 managed to escape over the next few days but 276 girls remained in captivity. And by the beginning of May, the terrorist group, the Boko Haram, had threatened to sell the girls into marriage (forced prostitution in a sense).

Though #BringOurGirlsBack had become viral with over 1.5 million people calling for their release, it was already rumored that the girls had been sold. The Boko Haram also continued to strike and kidnapped more girls each time. They revealed that they would give back the girls only if the government released certain terrorist prisoners.

In response, the Nigerian government only offered a monetary reward for information on the Boko Haram and where the girls were. As governments procrastinated and discussed a plan of action, troops of soldiers and people rallied and began to search for the missing girls.

Now, however, many are feared to be lost forever, separated, and already pregnant.

So why did the governments not bring the girls back? Firstly, the US urged the Nigerian government to not deal with terrorists ever even if it could save hundreds of Nigerian girls (a rule that the US then broke when they traded terrorists for one American soldier, Bergdahl). Secondly, women's rights and child prostitution are simply issues everywhere. For example, 800,000 American children are reported missing and over 100,000 children are used in US sex rings each year. In an undeveloped country with Al-Qaeda-related terrorists who do not believe in women's rights, the Boko Haram kidnappings are somewhat expected to occur.

So how can we solve this? Even though several organizations continually try different methods to liberate women, women still face not only violence but other problems such as gender wage gap, property ownership regulations, bans from participation in jobs and education,

infanticide, and marriage/divorce problems in countries around the world. Not only does the Nigerian government need to create anti-sexism laws but the people need to bring these issues into the spotlight. #BringBackOurGirls should not just be another hashtag lost in a slew of other social media campaigns. It is up to us, the international community, to intervene.

Because every EVC female student will face some form of gender inequality at some point in her life. And because it's time that the whole world realized that its female half is an equal half. #YesAllWomen

Please discuss your opinions at the EVC Messenger Facebook Page.

Sources: Discovery.com, Humans Rights Watch, CBC News, International Labor Organization

**Down**

- Country which the Nigerian constitution is based on
- A woman who worked for women's right to vote
- Lake that forms one of Nigeria's borders
- Last Name of the person that the US amendment granting women the right to vote was named after
- First country to grant women the right to vote
- River that Nigeria is named after
- Gulf that Nigeria is located on

**Across**

- One of Nigeria's main religions
- Desert found along Nigeria's northern border
- Nigeria's official language
- US amendment that granted women the right to vote
- Founder of the Boko Haram
- Main color on Nigerian flag
- Nigeria's president
- Capital of Nigeria

The Messenger

Evergreen Valley College's  
Newspaper Club

Editor-in-Chief

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Martin Tran

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Anthony Disilvestre

Multimedia Department:

Maxima Paredes

Webmaster

Jose Govea

Advisors

Sterling Warner

Marjorie Clark



## Come join us this fall!

The Messenger Newspaper Club is committed to giving EVC students and EVC interest groups a voice. While trying to remain unbiased, we also want people to have their opinions heard and their viewpoint on different events spoken.



### The Different Departments and Fall Plans

#### The Graphics Design Department

formats newspaper and arranges articles/photos

This department will become more standardized and accessible to all while includes creating a newspaper format, submission limit guidelines, and designing themed newspapers. We will use software such as Adobe InDesign and will create artistic pieces graphically.

#### The Journalism Department

writes articles for the newspaper and edits articles

This department will branch out into different categories and become more standardized as well. The future categories will include events happening on EVC, in the World, in Sports, in Science, and in Entertainment. We will also have an Op-ed section and journalists will be able to choose what topics they wish to write on.

#### The Business Department

organizes events, writes meeting plans, creates presentations

This department will plan journalism workshops/events and fundraisers. For fall, we are already planning on holding a joint movie night and journalism workshop. We will also create presentations for funding,

#### The Multimedia Department

promotes the club using social media

This department will use sites such as Facebook and Tumblr to further the club's interests. We will post the newspaper online and other articles as well while blogging and increasing awareness about the newspaper. You can also join our Photographers who cover events and our Members who have an active say in all

We hope that you will be interested in joining one of our departments and that you will become a part of our team for this fall. Please contact us at [newspaper.editors.messenger@gmail.com](mailto:newspaper.editors.messenger@gmail.com). We'd love to have you work with us!





# Officers



**Janani Mohan**  
Editor-in-Chief

I am the President of the EVC Newspaper Club. My job is to coordinate the club and drive things forward. I also function in various capabilities like journalism, editing, and multimedia.

Here are some fun facts for you to get to know me:

- 1) I remember all of the important events of history: June 25, Janani is born. ;)
- 2) I love to travel: I have been to over twenty countries and I hope to add more to the list.
- 3) I love music: The music I listen to is mostly antiquated. (Aren't the Black Eyed Peas lentils?)
- 4) I love books: I have read books across the spectrum from adventures to historical fiction. Don't ask me about fantasy or apocalyptic, however. That region I meticulously avoid.
- 5) I love movies: My favorite movies are those made by Steven Spielberg and Disney. I have yet to figure out how I can like such diverse films and nothing in between.
- 6) I can predict the future: the Messenger will become one of the best California Community College Newspapers!

I hope that this has told you some things about me and that you will join us here in the fall!



**Martin Tran**  
Productions Manager

My name is Martin Tran and I have been a student at Evergreen Valley College since fall 2003. I am the newly elected Vice President of Production for the Newspaper Club.

My role in the club is to assist with organizing events on campus and networking with the journalism community.

I have expressive language disorder which is a learning disability that affects people's ability to communicate clearly in speech. However, I have worked very hard to sound clearly and am now able to speak normally.

Several of my interests are music, writing, watching dramatic films, reading inspiring stories, and travelling with my family. Family vacations are fun because we get to go to a new place, meet people, eat food

together, and take pictures for memory. One of our most memorable vacations was when we had a chance to go to Vietnam in the fall of 2008. The trip to Vietnam gave my family a chance to have a reunion with relatives that we haven't seen in a long time as well as travel to other parts of Vietnam and to see my family's country for the first time.



**Maxima Paredes**  
Chief of Multimedia

My name is Maxima. During my high school years, I did the graphic designs and page layouts for my high school's newspaper. When I was nominated and elected as the Chief of Graphic Design for the

Messenger, I was so ecstatic. The school's newspaper is a great platform for the students to voice their thoughts and I think it's important that students have that platform. Evergreen students are very involved in their school and its festivities and I am very excited to be able to contribute!



**Jose Govea**  
Webmaster

If I were to look at myself in a third person point of view, I'd like to think that I give off a very strong and poised persona, full of integrity like my Hispanic ancestors. I'd like to think that people see me as a man who is all business and no

nonsense, never letting temptations lead me. But in reality, I'm the same as everyone. I'd rather spend a day at the beach enjoying the moment with my family instead of having to sacrifice my day writing an article and getting my priorities straight. I'm a guy who's too difficult to understand simply because I don't understand myself yet but that's the beauty of life; you find your true self in the most awkward and unexpected moments. Due to my spacy mentality, I enjoy activities like playing guitar and reciting my poetry in front of small crowds in public parks or Iguanas Mexican restaurants. My goal in life is to become the best Jose Govea I could be, whether I become a journalist, a male nurse, or a father to a loving family. My lifelong duty is to become the best man, friend and family member I could possibly be.