



INSIDE ROP

A dynamic workshop was held Saturday, March 18, in San Bernardino featuring **Dr. Fred Jones**, author of the highly acclaimed *Tools for Teaching*. Nearly 100 ROP teachers and administrators attended, representing 11 districts, two correctional facilities and county ROP staff. Topics included classroom management, producing responsible behavior and creating independent learners. ROP students from **Elaine Bison**'s Restaurant Occupations class in Fontana served a continental breakfast, and Rialto students in **Lori Pilarcik**'s Restaurant Occupations class prepared our sack lunch. This very popular and in-demand speaker delighted his audience with his innovative ideas, delivered with a sense of humor. Jones confided, "Your teachers really seem to 'get it' so quickly! I keep teaching 'say, see, do' and your teachers already do that!" Teachers earned professional development hours needed to keep credentials current.



Bill Clarke's ROP Robotics Team competed at the Western Tool Show in March against Northrop Grumman's engineers' robots. The ROP robot was one of the most successful because it was able to pick up all of the opponent's balls in one robotic move. Mayor of Los Angeles **Antonio Villaraigosa** [pictured] was very impressed with the team's robotics and engineering skills and hopes to visit the ROP class at Fontana High School.



ROP teacher **Gary Daigneault** of Morongo received high honors from the Associated Press Television-Radio Association of California and Nevada at their recent convention. Daigneault, News Director for radio station Z107.7 FM of Joshua Tree, was awarded the prestigious "Twain" award for the Best News Writing for small market radio news. The station has received high honors from the AP in the past, including "Station of the Year" in 2002, over 25 awards for breaking major stories, and scores of individual awards for Daigneault in his 30-year career. In the photo, ROP Radio Broadcasting Occupations teacher Gary Daigneault, left, is congratulated on his "Best News Writing" award by "Lifetime Achievement" recipient **Steve Edwards**, host of "Good Day LA" on Fox 11 TV. More accolades are due Daigneault for spearheading a 12-hour fundraiser that collected \$141,000 for Hurricane Katrina victims last year. "One little 5-year-old girl brought in eight cents and was smiling so big. Everyone wanted to do something," he said. "People of the Morongo Basin are very generous. The radio station simply provided the spark for the citizens to share."

A Note from Director Mark Lyons

The Inland Empire is growing! We are seeing population growth, business and industry growth, and job growth. The economy of the IE is expanding at a blistering rate. Unfortunately, funding for our ROP, which is an important part of the economic development machine, is not keeping pace. Let me share some of the positive indications from our region. The Miken Institute ranks the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario area as one of America's ten "Best Performing Cities" based on their ability to create and sustain jobs. According to Grubb & Ellis, the IE ranks first in industrial space under construction in the U.S. The California Economic Forecast states that 31% of all jobs created in Southern California are in the Inland Empire. *Inc. Magazine* ranks Riverside and San Bernardino first in the country for top U.S. cities to do business. *Inc. Magazine* also considers the IE the second best place for entrepreneurs to do business in the U.S. Our noted local economist John Husing states that the Inland Empire economy boasts 1.19 million jobs, which is more than 19 states including Nevada. Husing also is forecasting that the IE will add 805,286 jobs from 2000-2020. The combined job growth of Orange, San Diego, Ventura and Imperial counties will provide about 50,000 less jobs than the Inland Empire. (See **DIRECTOR** / page 4)



REALIZING OUR POTENTIAL:

TEACH THEM WELL, KEEP THEM SAFE, PREPARE THEM FOR THE FUTURE

Good News!!

Rialto Restaurant Occupations student **Drew Casteel** grins for the camera with his acceptance certificate from the California School of Culinary Arts in Pasadena where he will study the prestigious Cordon Bleu program. Casteel credits teacher **Lori Pilarcik** with urging him to excel in culinary arts and giving him the background needed to achieve his dream.

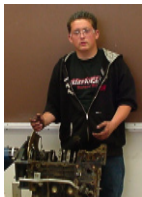


Teacher Aides in Big Bear Lake worked with students on holiday projects. Using creative art skills and imagination, ROP student **Katrina Salmas** enjoys her assignment. Aides are trained by **Debbie Bechtel** on various school machines to allow the classroom teacher more time with students. The ROP students work with children in groups and one on one. Elementary students are more successful and look forward to learning with their Teacher Aide's positive reinforcement.



Congratulations to all students who participated in the NHRA Multimedia Challenge last November. Awards in video competition went to Victor Valley students of **Jim Hall** [1st place] and Rim of the World students of **Joe Urbaszewski** [2nd place]. Hall's students also captured first place in color photography!

Jayson Whittaker and **Andrew Pizzitola**, pictured at right, **Robert Royalty's** automotive students at Silver Valley, are enjoying the new alignment machine received in January. **Chris Rivers**, pictured at left, learns how to take an engine apart and put it back together.



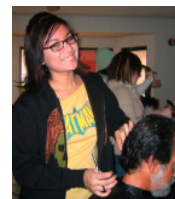
John Griffin's Restaurant Occupations Hesperia students sold over 1,800 tamales last winter. Said Griffin, "The students love the experience they get when making a full production line. The payoff to the class is priceless, and the staff appreciates the students' hard work."



Randy Lockie, Rialto HS Auto Technology teacher, encourages students to get a taste of the automotive industry. To add experience, Lockie has instituted a Service Manager program, which teaches students what it takes to run and manage an auto shop. These seven seniors have earned the role of Service Manager, which allows them to motivate and pass on knowledge to other students. L-R: **Izmael Loria, Nicholas Guizado, Victor Hernandez, Ivan Ventura, Anthony Miral, Caleb Jardines** and **Quinn Brim**.



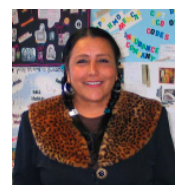
Barstow students **Jason Schuff** and **Adam Williamson** decided what they needed this spring was a new barbecue grill, which they are making with the help of their instructor **Adam Hopkins**. This Welding Occupations class began second semester, just in time for summer cookouts. They haven't yet completed the project, but instructor Hopkins is very proud of the work that both students have accomplished.



Last Christmas, the Hesperia "Cosmo Girls" gave a priceless gift by visiting a homeless shelter in Victorville. **Susan Krause's** cosmetology students worked seven hours cutting and styling hair and giving manicures. About 35 men, women and children took advantage of these free services and were amazed at the talent of the ROP students like **Elizabeth Navarro**, pictured. ROP students love giving back

to the community!

An "ROP Fair" for sophomores at Serrano HS acquainted them with courses before they select classes for the fall. Teachers and ROP students staffed tables displaying industry-specific tools, course descriptions and photos from the classes. A scavenger hunt gave them a good overview of what ROP offers. The Fair was a very tangible way for every 10th grader to see the career training opportunities available to them, as well as talk to the teachers and current students for each program.



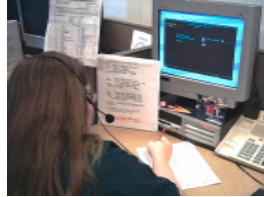
Congratulations to **Tina Escareno**, ROP Medical Terminology and Intro to Health Careers teacher at Victor Valley, for her appointment to the Women's Health Council by the California Department of Health Services.

During his two years in Apple Valley's Restaurant Occupations class, 2005 grad Alfonso "Poncho" Vasquez amassed quite a list of honors: he won gold at the local outstanding student competition and then again at the Inland-Chapter level. As team captain, he again took the gold against 15 other schools at the statewide Pro-Start Boyd's Culinary Cup in 2005. The team went on to compete in Florida against 30 other states and proudly took seventh place. Vasquez attends VVC working on an AA degree while working as a line cook at a local country club. His future plans include attending Scottsdale Culinary Institute followed by apprenticing at the French Laundry restaurant in Napa. His ultimate goal is to apprentice in Spain to hone his regional culinary knowledge with plans to open a Spanish-style restaurant in the United States. Keep in touch, Poncho. ROP is behind you all the way!



Good News!!

They don't call Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center (GHRC) a "rehabilitation center" for nothing. A majority of both the male and female population at GHRC has drug and/or alcohol charges; and in addition to these charges, many have never completed high school. ROP has been part of the rehabilitation process for many years and continues to produce well-trained men and women in preparation for joining our county's workforce. ROP instructors at GHRC have been trained not only in the teaching field, but also in the daily operations of dealing with the inmate population. GHRC currently offers six ROP courses: Auto Collision Repair, Bakery Occupations, Desktop Publishing, Printing Occupations, Office Operations & Technology and Landscape Maintenance & Design.



CAROCP's annual logo design contest celebrated another "Top 10" win for this ROP. **Jon Freeberg**, pictured with Rim of the World instructor **Stephanie Phillips**, took tenth place in a contest of 188 entries submitted by 15 ROCs throughout Southern California. This was Phillips third year to have a student place in the top ten.



These eleven teachers know the value of professional development because each earned at least 30 hours during the 05/06 school year. 30 hours or more: **Mary Beth Arnold, Elaine Bison, Mark Bramble, Katie Clark, Clifton Harris, Christine Tacy**; 40 hours or more: **Kathryn Betancur, Marsha Halquist, Bill Hancock**; 50 hours or more: **Derelyn Howard, Simon Mendoza**. Congratulations, one and all!

Barstow Childcare Occupations students work with small children once a week in the classroom. Instructor Rochelle Himmelrick brings seven children from her preschool, and ROP students prepare lesson plans, snacks, and playtime. The high school students get hands-on experience, and the tots love it!

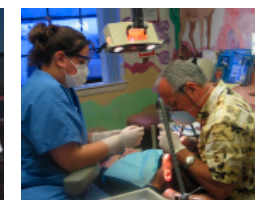
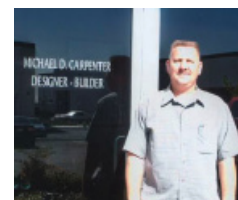
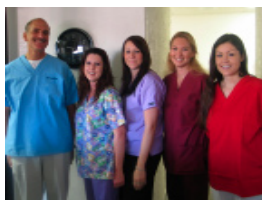
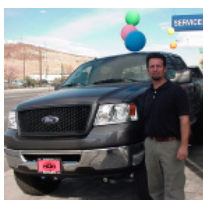
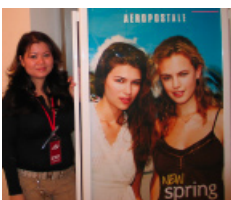


The Regional Occupational Program and the Transition Partnership Program co-hosted the 3rd Annual Career Exploration Day at Twenty-nine Palms High School.† Students were given the opportunity to talk to a wide range of professional fields. Over 50 vendors, including businesses, colleges, and military recruiters attended the event.† The day was a huge success, with the entire student body participating. Staff is already planning for next year's event.



Instructor **Betty Brooks** held a luncheon in March at Fontana HS for past and present nursing students to celebrate the start of their nursing careers and to provide a networking opportunity. CNA students are in white, and Acute Care students are in blue. It was such a success that Brooks plans to hold this celebration every year.

Business partners are the lifeblood of ROP, and we salute all of our business members for their constant support: AAA, Access Realty, Adelanto Library, Adelanto School District, Aeropostale, American Home Mortgage, Anchor Blue, Apple Valley Village Preschool, Arrowhead Business Systems, Arrowhead Credit Union, Barstow Christian, Barstow Parks & Rec, Best Buy, Big Lots, Blur Studios, Boys & Girls Club, C & C Inc., Calif. Tool & Welding, Cameron Elem School, Champions Day Care, Charter Media, Child Care America, Citi Financial, City of Victorville, Claire's Boutique, Coachspa Capital Mgmt Group, Columbia Steel, Computer Nook, Copper Mtn Broadcasting, Copper Mtn College, Crafton Hills College, Crestline Elem School, DEMO Clothing, David Camera & Digital Lab, Desert Community Bank, EDD, Enterprise Funding, Esther Alexander Tax Preparer, Express Blinds & Draperies, Farmers Insurance, Fashion Bug, Field Ironworkers Apprenticeship, Francesco's Italian Restaurant, Game Stop, Goodwill Education Center/Maverick HS, Gottschalks, Greystone, Henderson Elem School, Himmelrick Child Care, Hollywood Video, Home Gallery, Inland Empire Job Corps, Inland Regional Center, Ironworkers Union Local #433, J Michaels Salon, KB Toys, KVMD TV23, Lane Bryant, Mesa Vet Care Center, Michael D Carpenter Designer/Builder, Michael's Arts & Crafts, Minute Man Press, Morongo Basin Broadcasting, Morongo Basin Mental Health, News Talk 590, Pal Child Care Dev Center, Petco, Preschool Services Dept, Primerica, Print Pros, Progress Rail Services, Ronald E Green, DDS, Sam Goody, San Bernardino Adult School, San Bernardino Co. Preschool Services, San Bernardino Fire Dept, San Bernardino Sun, Sav-on Drug Store, Sears, Sheldon Hough, DDS, Smart & Final, Soutars Dodge, So Cal Gas, Spencer Gifts, State Farm Insurance, Suncoast Motion Pictures, Teddy Bear Tymes, Thomson Elem School, Toys 'R' Us, Victor Valley Community Hospital, Victorville Library, Victorville Chamber of Commerce, Wal-Mart, Wet Seal.



San Bernardino County ROP Wins Seven Medals at CAROCP Outstanding Student Competition

What an exciting night for San Bernardino County ROP students competing for medals at the Inland Chapter CAROCP outstanding student competition held May 9, 2006, at the San Bernardino Elks Lodge No. 836. Herbert R. Fischer, Ph.D., County Superintendent of Schools, welcomed the 50 students and their parents, along with educational and community representatives, to the evening awards ceremony. In addition to medals, students took home scholarships as well [150 gold, 100 silver, 50 bronze, and 20 honorable mention].

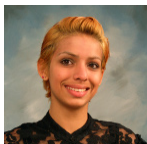
“We are proud of every ROP student who participates in this competition,” said Mark Lyons, Administrator of SBCSS ROP. “Each of these students has demonstrated qualities that lead to success.” Judges were also impressed with the students. “The caliber of student was incredible,” said Lorraine Velarde, district director for Assemblyman Joe Baca Jr. “The students amazed me, and I was impressed with every student I interviewed,” said Peggy Cranford of the San Bernardino Elks Lodge. Let’s meet our outstanding students:



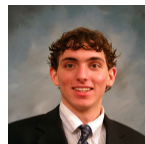
Richaun Tremble, Gold
Rialto
Marcella Munoz
Health Occupations



Mersades Medley, Gold
San Bernardino City
Julie Menge
Home Economics



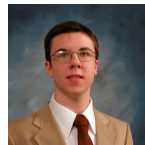
Estivaliz Cuartango, Silver
Rialto
Rick York
Industrial Technology



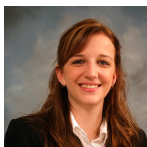
Morgan Acaldo, Bronze
Rim of the World
Joe Urbaszewski
Arts/Media Communication



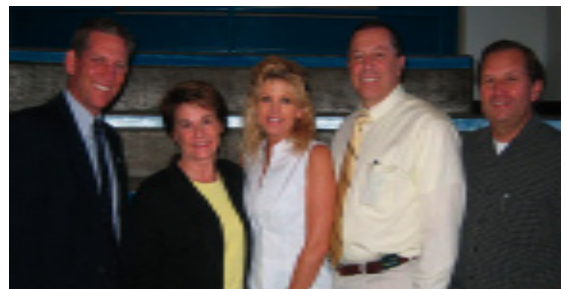
Jose Contreras, Bronze
Victor Valley
Robin Rask
Service Occupations



Raymond Cormier, Bronze
Rim of the World
Joe Urbaszewski
Information Technology



Heather Wolken, Bronze
Victor Valley
Kathy Lachele
Home Economics



The San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools Regional Occupational Program honored Ms. **Stephanie Phillips**, Rim of the World High School teacher, with their prestigious County ROP Teacher of the Year award. She has been with the Rim of the World Unified School District since 1993 and currently teaches Computer Business Applications, Desktop Publishing, and Website Design, as well as Leadership. Her duties include acting as Activities Coordinator, and she has been a Class Advisor for the past 12 years. **Dr. Herbert R. Fischer**, San Bernardino County Superintendent of Schools, will honor Ms. Phillips at a reception at the county schools office on June 5. Pictured are **Dr. Clint Harwick**, Rim Superintendent; **Barbara Harding**, ROP Coordinator; **Stephanie Phillips**; **Guy Bonanno**, Rim Principal; and **John Fenn**, Rim Assistant Principal.

Congratulations to the following ROP students for taking home medals from the Skills-USA statewide competition: From Apple Valley: **Christine Billings**, bronze; **Jennifer Christian**, 2 golds; **William Dos Santos**, silver; **Leo Lopez**, gold; **Lachelle Reyes**, bronze; **Courtney Rillamas**, 2 silvers, and **Donald Stegmann**, bronze. From Fontana: **Audrey Avila**, gold; **Christina Dennis**, gold; **Ivan Fuentes**, gold; **Michael Gamboa**, bronze; **Daniel Hernandez**, silver; **Miguel Peraza**, bronze, and **Sarah Schwab**, bronze. From Hesperia: **Max Bishop**, silver, and **Jack Jaggli**, silver. From Rim of the World: **Chris Wogen**, silver.

DIRECTOR / continued from page 1

The question I have is—will our population (mainly our children) be ready to fill the coming jobs, sustaining this growth? I know that our K-12 schools, community colleges and ROPs are doing what they can on limited funding to prepare our population for the workforce. ROP funding, of which I am more familiar, is clearly inadequate. Every year our ROP falls behind more and more in its ability to serve our high schools. Our current level of funding only allows us to serve about 4% of our high school enrollment. This dilemma has attracted attention throughout the state and Assemblymember Betty Karnette has introduced legislation (AB 2107) to try to remedy the problem. This comprehensive bill addresses 10 areas that almost all impact our ROP in a positive way. Although this bill will not completely solve our growth-related problem, it will help. Please support this bill if you get an opportunity. Our students need it, our communities need it and the Inland Empire needs it.