



HUMAN SERVICES ACADEMY NEWSLETTER JANUARY 2016



RONALD
REAGAN
PRESIDENTIAL
LIBRARY

H.S.A. seniors visited the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library on Friday, Dec. 4th. The class divided up into three groups and docents provided lectures and enrichment during this unforgettable day.



They were able to board Air Force One, view Xmas ornaments from nations that President Reagan traveled to during his two terms of office, toured an exact replica of the Oval Office, and visited his burial tomb at this mountain top museum in Simi.



JOB SEARCH TOOLS

Freshmen spent the entire month of December developing skills that many adults still need. They began practicing their writing skills by creating a professional cover letter written to a mentor located in the Santa Paula community. This adult had to be someone within their chosen pathway: education, health, or human services.

The second step was to create a resume. They downloaded a template from Ms. Gregory's website and input their personal information in the areas of:

- ◇ Volunteer Mentoring,
- ◇ Sports,
- ◇ Clubs,
- ◇ Volunteer Hours in Santa Paula,
- ◇ Extra-Curricular Activities, and
- ◇ Three References.

Third, every student completed a job application in blue ink. The proper method of writing the date, capitalization, and signing it were emphasized.

Interview skills were reviewed and thirty-six common questions were provided. Their final exam for semester one involved dressing appropriately, making eye contact, and introducing themselves with a firm handshake. They were in groups of 5-6 students for the mock interview.



AWARDS

After a long fall semester, students have earned their rewards. All freshmen received an a package of band aids, hand sanitizer, plus a needlework project, bookmark, or mousepad. In addition, those with above average grades got chap stick and lanyards.

The sophomores felt they had worked hard doing the birth defect research project so rewards came in the form of Academy sports bags, lanyards, plus a sports bottle or laptop bags. Most really enjoyed the Cardinal beanie baby.

However, the juniors raked in the gifts this year at the Awards Breakfast at Denny's Restaurant. Twenty-eight students, five team teachers, one counselor, and the principal all joined in on the festivities. Breakfast was paid for from the Home Economics Club that earned monies from the sales of cookbooks. The Academy sweatshirts were the highlight of the awards followed closely behind by Academy portfolios, Academy tote bags, and wallets for some guys. What a fun way to end the semester!



SIX H.S.A. ALUMNI RETURN



On December 18, 2015, several alumni returned: Bailey Van Buren (2015 California Lutheran University, Johc Garza (2014) from UC Irvine, Yesenia Nunez (2013) from CSU Channel Islands, Sabrina Espino (2012) from UC Irvine, Laura Magana (2012) from CSU Dominguez Hills, and Erica Preciado (2012) from UC Davis. They spent two hours presenting PowerPoints. Obtaining financial aide was emphasized for students with free or reduced lunch status. They were encouraged to apply for FAFSA and EOP for assistance and everyone mentioned the scholarships they received: VCCF, Rotary, and Santa Paula Alumni Association. Adjusting to life

without parental supervision was exciting but inhibiting. Due to the cost of tuition, they have buckled down and put their studies first. Science classes seemed to be the most rigorous. All agreed that the portfolio developed in 11th grade was the most beneficial tool especially the Personal Statements that could be used for college applications and adjusted to apply for scholarships.

CAREER CARE INSTITUTE



For the first time, H.S.A. frosh and juniors visited the Career Care Institute located in Ventura just off the 101 Freeway at Seaward off ramp. There are four programs that end in certifications for those students wishing to get into the workforce quickly. There are four levels in the Vocational Nursing program. Students observed a lecture in one classroom related to leadership skills. Hands-on demonstrations were done on finger prick and blood draw. In the Medical assisting class the students learn the theory which is followed up with applying those skills in the lab. Then they are placed in 160 hour externship at a local business. The SPHS students observed taking of vital signs. In the Dental Assisting program there were three stations set up for the high school students to interact with those getting certified. They saw a typical dental room, learned about the equipment on the trays and sterilization, in addition to observing how to fill a syringe for the dentist. Last but not least, the Limited X=Ray Tech department showed them how to take an x-ray.

FROSH COLLEGE TOURS



On Thursday, January 7th, thirty-five freshmen from the Introduction to Human Services classes went to Santa Barbara City College which opened in 1911 and has 74 acres. Two college students walked the class around the campus. They shared the process of how to apply, cost, and fees. Housing was discussed briefly. They mentioned how they were employed by the college which grants flexibility to work around their college schedules.

UC Santa Barbara was the highlight of the day. Courtney Good, Assistant Director of High School Services, showed a new PowerPoint. She mentioned that Dr. Shuji Nakamura was the 2014 Nobel Prize winner for work related to bright blue LED technology and is one of their

professors on campus. This campus has two miles of private beach for the students. The eleven research institutes on campus are well known. In 2016 the library was renovated and has a 360 degree view. There are three academic colleges: Letters and Sciences, Engineering, and Creative

