

BOARD REPORT

HONORING OFFICER GONZALO CARRASCO

The Reedley College family was honored to pay final respects to former RC student and Selma Police Officer Gonzalo Carrasco along Reed Avenue February 16. Officer Carrasco dedicated his life to protecting his community. On January 31, he paid the ultimate sacrifice serving and defending others. A large procession of officers escorted Officer Carrasco from Selland Arena in Fresno where his funeral service took place to the Reedley Cemetery for the graveside interment. Many of our faculty and staff postponed meetings and appointments to watch the procession and support the Carrasco family and the hundreds of members of local and state law enforcement who escorted Officer Carrasco to his final resting place. The Fresno County Deputy Sheriff's Association is supporting the



Selma Police Officer's Association by establishing a memorial fund in which all donations will be given to Officer Carrasco's family. Please send contributions to the Fresno Deputy Sheriff's Association, C/O Selma POA Memorial Fund, 1360 Van Ness Avenue, Fresno, CA 93721. Officer Carrasco began his career with the Selma Police Department in May of 2021. He is survived by his parents, brother, sisters and girlfriend, who is currently pregnant with their child, a son, Gonzalo Maximus Carrasco.



REMEMBERING JULIO BERNAL



The RC family continues to mourn the passing of Farm Laboratory Instructional Technician Julio Bernal. Mr. Bernal was a dedicated employee on our campus for over 30 years, spending most of his time maintaining the farm lab for our agriculture students. He started at Reedley College as a student in

our ag program, and turned the knowledge he gained here into a life-long career. We will always be indebted to Julio's service to our campus, the positive impression he left on the hundreds of students he worked with at RC, and the kindness and warmth that he shared with all of us.

Mr. Bernal passed away peacefully in his home. Funeral services were held February 17 in Reedley. Cards may be sent to Julio's family at 20532 E. Parlier, Reedley, 93654. Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to the Bernal family during this difficult time.

2023 COMMENCEMENT SCHEDULE SET

Reedley College will hold its 2023 Commencement Ceremonies Saturday, May 13. To date, over 500 students have already reserved their spot to attend. To accommodate students and their families, there will be two ceremonies, separated by pathways.

- 10am: Ag & Natural Resources, Business & Industrial Manufacturing Pathways (check-in at 9am)
- 2pm: Art, Music & English, Social Sciences, STEM & Early Childhood & Education Pathways (check-in at 1pm)
- Rehearsal: Friday, May 12, 5pm (check-in at 4pm)

PADRES CONFERENCE

RC held its annual Padres Como Companeros Conference February 25. The conference is a campus community event where parents are invited to attend workshops related to higher education and/or personal care. This year's theme was "Conectando Familias Para Un Futuro Mejor"/"Connecting Families for a Better Future." Workshops were held in English and Spanish: "Money Wise-Basic Personal Finance Information," "An Education in STEM," "Self-Care Matters!" and "Future College Decisions." Interpreting was provided by our Health Care Interpreter Program students. The event was sponsored by eight categorical programs on campus: STEM, Ensenamos en el Valle Central, The Office of Hispanic Serving Institution Initiatives, Upward Bound, Student Support Services, TRiO, College Assistance Migrant Program, and THE Dinuba & Parlier Educational Talent Search. About 80 parents attended.



ACCCA CONFERENCE

RC gave a presentation at the 47th Annual Association of California Community College Administrators Conference in Rancho Mirage February 22-24. Dr. Natalie Culver-Dockins, Stephanie Curry, Melanie Highfill and Rebecca Snyder hosted a session, "Enrollment Recovery Through Student Centered Scheduling." It focused on RC's efforts to change scheduling from the micro (program/department only) to macro (holistic student). Over 60 people attended the session. The ACCCA is the foremost member-supported professional organization for administrators and managers of California's community college campuses.



HSI EDUCATORS CONFERENCE

The RC Office of HSI Initiatives will be presenting at the 15th Annual Alliance of Hispanic Serving Institution Educators Conference, which will be held in San Francisco, March 12-15. More information about the conference can be found at ahsieconference.org. Sessions to be presented by RC staff are:

- Investing in a Culture of Financial Literacy and Building Early Awareness: A Holistic Approach (Sue Vang, Sarah Maokosy & Kimberly Mullins-Herrera)
- How Two Title V's Established an Office of HSI Initiatives (Adelfa Lorenzano & Gurpreet Bhogal)
- Building bridges through contextualized learning opportunities, from College to the Real-World (Gurpreet Bhogal & Adelfa Lorenzano)
- Preparing Students for the Workforce and Meeting their Basic Needs (Kimberly Mullins-Herrera & Sarah Maokosy)

FARMERS MARKET RETURNING TO RC

The Reedley College Fall Farmer's Market was such a success that we're bringing it back for the spring! Our first event of the season will be Thursday, April 13 from 4pm-8pm, and will happen every Thursday through June 15. Please join us in supporting local businesses and their fresh produce, food trucks, specialty items and more!

ACTIVITIES RECAP

- The Student Athlete Advisory Council hosted a Tigers canned food drive at the men's and women's basketball games February 8.
- The annual Blossom Trail kickoff event was held on campus February 10, hosted by the Reedley Chamber of Commerce.
- The Central California Bloodmobile was back at RC February 13 for a blood drive.
- On Valentine's Day, a representative from the Marjaree Mason Center talked about healthy relationships to our students.
- February 20-24 was CalFresh Awareness Week. As part of our efforts to better meet students' basic needs, RC hosted an advocate from the Central California Food Bank throughout the week to provide information about CalFresh benefits to all RC students and assist students eligible to apply.



MUSIC TO OUR EARS



Five of our music majors took the initiative to apply for scholarships to attend CASMEC (California All State Music Educators Conference) in downtown Fresno February 16-19. They attended various workshops, concerts, and the exhibition hall to meet with various vendors and college booths. Each of our students had a great experience and are thinking more clearly about their career paths as music teachers.



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

It was another wonderful cultural experience for students and staff February 23, as Brendel James of Fresno African Drumming returned to campus for a hands-on demonstration as part of our Black History Month activities. Libóta Mbonda, translates to 'generation and family of the drum.' Their performance group established Fresno African Drumming, a community outreach program which focuses on using drum circle facilitation as a way to bring people together. The group aims to use drumming to preserve African heritage through drum circles, classes, workshops, and performances. Their mission: to uplift and unify all people, heal families and communities, and spread joy and culture through African Drumming. The event was held in the cafeteria.

RC IN THE NEWS

ENROLLMENT RECOVERY & NEXT STEPS

Organization: Business Journal • Reporter: Alex Scott

Publish Date: February 10, 2023

Link: <https://thebusinessjournal.com/community-colleges-enjoy-enrollment-rebound-still-look-for-men-of-color/>

MATT DAMON TO PLAY RC ALUM VACCARO IN NEW MOVIE

Organization: ABC 30 • Reporter: Stephen Hicks

Airdate: February 10, 2023

Link: <https://abc30.com/matt-damon-sonny-vaccaro-reedley-college-valley-ties/12794593/>

RC TO PAY TRIBUTE TO FALLEN OFFICER GONZALO CARRASCO

Organization: CBS 47 • Reporter: Ben Morris

Airdate: February 15, 2023

Link: <https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/selma-police-shooting/what-to-know-for-fallen-selma-police-officers-thursday-funeral/>

RC LINES REED AVENUE TO HONOR HOMETOWN HERO GONZALO CARRASCO

Organization: CBS 47 • Reporter: Ben Morris

Airdate: February 16, 2023

Link: <https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/news/selma-police-shooting/mass-supporters-in-reedley-to-say-one-final-goodbye-to-officer-gonzalo-carrasco/>

MATH BRIDGE PROJECT (JIM GILMORE INTERVIEWED)

Organization: KSEE 24 • Reporter: Emily Erwin

Airdate: February 21, 2023

Link: <https://www.yourcentralvalley.com/cvt/valley-community-colleges-and-high-schools-bridge-the-two-together/>

