

# September 2024 Board Highlights

## CTE Chino Valley, Division 1

- YC Chino Valley Commercial Driver's Training (CDT) Program Hits the Road—And the Headlines! YC is thrilled to share that our CDT program at Yavapai College's Chino Valley campus was recently featured in the *Chino Valley Review*! On August 20, 2024, the newspaper highlighted our innovative truck wrap initiative, transforming our CDT vehicles into mobile billboards. As these trucks travel across the region, they spread the word about the opportunities available at YC Chino Valley.

YC's CDT program has expanded significantly over the past three years, now boasting three fully wrapped trucks. This program is a gateway to the workforce. As these trucks gain attention, more local companies are connecting with our students, creating job opportunities right after graduation. This is more than just training—it's a direct path to a successful career.



## Yavapai College Drives Awareness with New CDL Program Truck Wraps

- [By JESSE BERTEL, Chino Valley Review](#)
- Aug 20, 2024

Yavapai College's Chino Valley campus has launched an innovative initiative to promote its educational programs by wrapping its Commercial Driver's License (CDL) program trucks with vibrant graphics showcasing the campus's diverse offerings.

This effort aims to increase awareness of the Chino Valley center's unique educational opportunities, which include programs in agriculture technology, aquaculture, linework and equine studies.

The CDL program at Yavapai College is one of the few community college-based truck driving programs in Arizona. Over the past three years, the program has expanded from a single truck to three, with the goal of using these vehicles as mobile billboards to promote the campus and its specialized training options.

"It's been about a three-year process," said **Steven Josh Hoover**, the CDL program instructor who spearheaded the initiative. "When I took over the program three years ago, I had just one truck, and it wasn't wrapped. Nobody really knows there's a campus out here in Chino Valley."

The project, which was finally realized with the support of college leadership, took time to gain momentum.

"It was just a matter of trying to find the funds to do it," Hoover explained. "It was a combination of people getting together saying, 'Hey, this is a good thing to do,' and once you got up the chain of command, they realized, 'Yes, this is a good thing,' and they managed to get the funding to get it done."

The wrapped trucks, which are 40 feet long and 10 feet tall, now travel extensively across the region, serving as moving advertisements for the college. The decision to wrap the trucks rather than use stationary billboards was strategic.

"Billboards are stationary, but if you've got a wrapped truck, and that truck is going from Chino Valley to Dewey, Chino Valley to Prescott, Chino Valley up to Ash Fork, the truck is mobile so it's a mobile billboard," Hoover said.

The wraps were completed by Auto Trim Plus in Prescott, with each trailer taking about four days to finish. The project was completed in July.

Hoover hopes this initiative will not only increase the visibility of the Chino Valley campus but also boost enrollment across all its programs.

"We've had great growth in our campus out here," Hoover said. "That's why I have three trucks now, because I've had the demand, so we had to get more trucks. As the demand grows and if it gets too much, then we will take the next step forward and get a fourth truck."

The CDL program itself plays a crucial role in the local economy, providing drivers for various regional companies.

“My students are actually able to graduate here and then go into the workforce,” Hoover said. “I’m in contact with several companies that if they need drivers, they let me know and I send them their way. So, that’s always a good feeling when a student can get a job right out of the gate.”

The public response to the wrapped trucks has been overwhelmingly positive.

“I’ve had a couple of people tell me that, ‘Hey, I’ve seen your trucks around town,’ so that makes me feel good,” Hoover said. “I actually had somebody send a picture of me driving down the freeway.”

As Yavapai College continues to innovate in its outreach efforts, the CDL truck wraps represent a creative and effective way to connect with the community and highlight the educational opportunities available at the Chino Valley campus.

“It’s an integral part of the infrastructure of the United States, I mean, without truckers, nothing gets delivered,” Hoover emphasized. “So, I’m always trying to promote the program and the programs out here for what YC offers.”

This project exemplifies our commitment to innovative outreach and community engagement. **Josh Hoover**, Commercial Driving Professor, shared his excitement about the visibility this initiative has brought to our Chino Valley campus. *“The CDL program itself plays a crucial role in the local economy, providing drivers for various regional companies. I’ve had a couple of people tell me that, ‘Hey, I’ve seen your trucks around town,’ so that makes me feel good. I actually had somebody send a picture of me driving down the freeway.”*



Josh Hoover, CDT Professor

As we continue to roll forward, we’re looking forward to seeing even more of our students shine, both in the classroom and on the road.

CTE Chino Valley extends heartfelt thanks to **Dr. Marylou Mercado** for her leadership and support in bringing this project to life. Let’s keep driving forward, YC!

## CTE Verde Valley, Division 1

- **Carpentry**

CBT 102 Framing I students prepared for a job interview with a local contractor by building sawhorses. Students followed the design plan, used a variety of tools and their projects were evaluated by their instructor, **Paul Grasso**. Special thank you

to Paul Grasso, retired building inspector with a lifetime of construction experience, for stepping in to meet instructional needs.



VV CBT 102 – Student Building Sawhorse



VV CBT 102 – Instructor Paul Grasso and Student

- **Culinary**

Culinary classes are back in session. VACTE students are learning knife skills and preparing for the ServSafe Manager Certification exam. Community members continue to enjoy our recreational cooking classes with a schedule that focuses on regional and international menus this fall.



- **Viticulture & Enology**



*Students and Volunteers, Harvest Picking at the Vineyard*

The practicum students began their classes in the first week of August, aligning with the start of the grape harvest. As of now, about 29 tons of grapes have been harvested, marking approximately two-thirds completion of this season's harvest.

On August 31st, chefs from the American Culinary Federation prepared a special breakfast for over 35 volunteer pickers at our vineyard. This marks the third consecutive year of their generous contribution, enhancing the community spirit during the harvest.

The Southwest Wine Center has begun selling its first batch of student-produced distilled spirits, including a three-year barrel-aged Brandy, a rum, and two varieties of gin.

VEN instructor, **Paula Woolsey**, was honored as the 2024 Arizona Governor's Tourism Award, Hall of Fame Winner. This prestigious recognition was awarded at the Arizona Office of Tourism Annual Conference in Scottsdale. This is a well-deserved award recognizing the many years of Paula's impact on the wine industry. Sedona Biz - Paula Woolsey.

The Southwest Wine Center will be at the Sedona Winefest on September 28th and 29th. Concurrently, our first-semester students will participate in a grape camp lab at the college vineyard, providing hands-on learning aligned with the VEN 100 course.

Planning for the upcoming Wine and Dine event on October 19th is progressing smoothly, with the Friends of the Southwest Wine Center securing over \$40,000 in sponsorships. The event is already sold out, with a waiting list managed by the YC Foundation in case additional spots become available.

**Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs** visited the Southwest Wine Center, where she was welcomed by members of Yavapai College's executive leadership team and **Deb McCasland**, the chair of the District Governing Board. During her tour, the Governor explored the vineyard adjacent to the winery and toured the facilities of the wine center. She heard about our educational program and engaged in discussions about the students' experiences and achievements at the Southwest Wine Center.

- **Spanish ServSafe Manager Certification Training**

Nineteen individuals participated in the Spanish ServSafe Manager Certification Training at the Sedona Center. All participants are professionals currently working in the food and beverage industry. We are delighted with the strong turnout for this first-time offering. In fact, one local restaurant has already reached out to **Carl Miller**, Culinary Faculty Program Director, and plans to close its doors next month to bring their entire staff in for the same training.

A special thank you to the following individuals for their contributions to the success of this training:

- **Lisa Raygoza**, Enrollment Management Director, Outreach Programs for translating and sharing flyers with her network.
- **Vince Redgrave**, REDC Executive Director for promoting the training through REDC contacts and social media.
- **Carl Miller** for leveraging his connections to secure two Spanish-speaking instructors from the Phoenix area to lead the class.

A few areas were identified for improvement to better serve our audience and to continue the success with this industry training in the Sedona community.

## CTEC, Division 1

Fall enrollment is up 7.7% in headcount and 9.4% in student credit hours. CTED enrollment is up 80 students which is an increase of 34% from last year. Plus, 111 additional students were added from the CTED's high-demand enrollment.

Construction faculty **Brian Magarrell** and some of his students made good progress on the 3D concrete printed house this summer. Division 1 was fortunate to have grant money available to pay for these folks' hard work. See the attached pictures.

The welding program received a new robotic welder over the summer and will be setting up soon. This welder uses dropdown menus, so students no longer need to learn g-code to program the machine.

Electrical & instrumentation is starting to replace its aging cohort of Fanuc robots with new ones from Kuka. They are also working to reproduce their lab in a digital format to test fidelity and quality of instruction and to see if they can reach a wider audience while still maintaining their standards. Finally, to reinforce safe practices, they are creating high-resolution, slow-motion videos of exploding electronics to demonstrate possible issues in the lab and the field.



*Construction student working on 3D Concrete Printed House*

## Adult Basic Education (ABE)

- This year, in partnership with Yavapai College's Commercial Driver's Training program at the Chino Valley campus, the Workforce Education program under the Adult Basic Education Department has made significant strides in workforce education with the launch of a unique and innovative pilot program—the *Vocational ESL Commercial Driver's License (VESL CDL)* program. This initiative helps non-native English speakers in Arizona gain employment as licensed commercial drivers. The VESL CDL's first student, **Candelario Mesa Cosio**, who had limited English skills, achieved remarkable success, recently earning his Commercial Driver's License on July 2, 2024.



CDT Instructor Alex Barber, Ph.D. (left) and Candelario Mesa Cosio (right) with his Commercial Driver's License

**Candelario Mesa Cosio**, the first graduate of the VESL CDL program, exemplifies the dedication and perseverance that Yavapai College seeks to instill in its students. Candelario diligently worked to enhance his vocational English, prepare for CDL exams, improve his communication skills, and master the practical aspects of operating commercial trucks. His journey culminated in passing the ADOT Road Test and Pre-Trip Inspection in English, a testament to his determination and hard work. His success has not only opened up new career opportunities but has also provided economic benefits for his family. Candelario serves as an inspiration to his peers and instructors alike, demonstrating the true potential of the VESL CDL program.

- The 22 months of planning, developing, and refining the VESL CDL program have yielded significant results, setting the stage for future VESL initiatives at Yavapai College. The success of the VESL CDL program can be attributed to the dedication of **Dawnette Polland**, ABE Workforce Education Coordinator, and **Dr. Alexander Barber**, CDT Instructor. Their efforts in creating a vocational curriculum tailored for non-native English speakers, developing specialized English/Spanish study materials, and providing one-on-one support have been instrumental in the achievements of both the students and the program.



Dawnette Polland, MBA

The VESL CDL team is proud of this success and envisions how the program's model can be applied to other workforce programs at the college, benefiting our community, county, and students. As our students' economic status improves, it will enhance their families' financial stability. Looking ahead, the VESL CDL team is eager to welcome more students into the program this fall.

## REDC & SBDC 1

- The REDC continues fostering collaborations and connecting businesses and organizations that stimulate growth. **Katherine Anderson & Corey Carlson** from REDC presented updates on workforce trends at the Prescott Area Human Resources Association.



The SBDC at Yavapai College extended their outreach in 2024 to Yavapai's rural communities, supporting small business owners get access to affordable working capital congruent with smart business plans. The SBDC displayed their extensive knowledge by supporting the Moonshot competition winner, Puzzle Rides.

## Nursing, Health Sciences, Division 2

- The Nursing Department continues to excel in student success and program innovation. The May 2024 cohort achieved a 94% pass rate for first-time testers, and 63.8% of respondents have already secured positions in the healthcare field. This Fall, the department made strategic changes to the curriculum, moving Pediatric and Obstetric content to the second semester to better align with industry standards and support smoother transitions for LPN-RN Advanced Placement students.

The BSN program has seen robust growth, with 190 students enrolled this Fall and 87 new students accepted. Thirteen students are on track to graduate in December 2024, marking another successful year for the program. The RN-BSN program has also made significant strides, being accepted as a candidate for accreditation. A self-study report is due in January 2025, with a site visit scheduled for March 2025. This candidacy is a crucial step forward in our mission to provide comprehensive, high-quality nursing education.

Significant milestones were also achieved in grant funding, with the HB2691 grant enabling a 24% increase in enrollment, reaching full capacity with 62

students in Fall 2024. Enrollment remains strong across the AAS program, with a total of 223 students this Fall.

Accreditation is a key focus, with the AAS program fully accredited through 2029 and the RN-BSN program progressing toward full accreditation.

### **Perseverance in the Face of Adversity: Laura Prokopec's Journey to Becoming a Nurse**

My name is **Laura Prokopec**, and since I was a child, I have always dreamed of becoming a nurse. However, as life would have it, I didn't get to start my career until later in life. In 2020, my husband passed away unexpectedly, leaving me a single mom of three teenagers. It was at this time that I made the decision to move my kids and I up to Prescott from the Phoenix area. With my parents' support, I was able to return to school full-time and was accepted into YC's nursing program in the Fall of 2023.

I completed my first semester, but as I have become all too familiar with life's unexpected challenges, another bump was placed in my path. In January, I was diagnosed with DCIS breast cancer. I made the decision to opt for a double mastectomy, and according to my oncologists, they believed I would be cancer-free after the procedure. I had my surgery in early May and was well on my way to a full recovery. It was surprisingly easier than I had expected, and I was thrilled to be cancer-free. But once again, nothing is ever certain.

Two weeks prior to the upcoming Fall semester, a follow-up with the oncology team resulted in another devastating diagnosis: the cancer had returned, this time as triple-negative and extremely aggressive. At my age, there was no time to wait. I began my first round of chemo the same week I started the



*Laura Prokopec, YC Nursing Student*

semester. As difficult as this news was, and knowing how challenging it would be to complete school while undergoing treatment, I also knew that school would be my motivation to keep moving forward and not delay my dream any further.

I am incredibly thankful for Yavapai's amazing professors and administration, who have been so supportive and helpful! After all, we are all nurses, and compassion runs in our blood. Through all this turmoil, I know it will make me a better, more well-rounded nurse since I've experienced so much firsthand. I will be more equipped to empathize with my future patients.

Thank you for allowing me to tell my story, and I hope the rest of the semester treats you all well ~Laura.

## Allied Health, Health Sciences, Division 2

- Behavioral Health Technician (BHT): Strong enrollment, leading to an increase in course caps to accommodate up to 40 students per class.
- Nursing Assistant (NA): Continues to grow, offering 3-week and 16-week options and will expand to Verde every summer starting in 2025. State pass rates for 2024 are strong, with 81% passing the knowledge exam and 90% passing the skills exam. A new full-time faculty member has been added to support this growth.



*YC students from the Practical Nursing Certificate program engaging in a firsthand clinical simulation*

- The new LPN Fast Track Program launched in Fall 2024 and is fully enrolled with 20 students and has an alternate list. Funded by a Department of Labor grant, the program includes two new full-time instructors, a simulation lab in Prescott Valley, and \$25,000 in tuition support per cohort through 2028. The application cycle is open for Spring 2025.



*LPN instructors, Joe Varela (left) and Nicole Goldberger, YC Alumna (right)*

- The LPN Step Out is scheduled to resume in Spring 2025, with an updated curriculum that aligns with recent updates in the Nursing program. This option allows third-semester RN students to step out and take a 1.5-credit scope and NCLEX prep class, enabling them to work during the remainder of the RN program or to exit with a living wage career. The last cohort from Spring 2024 achieved a 100% pass rate on the NCLEX-PN, underscoring the effectiveness of this pathway.

- The Phlebotomy program continues to have strong enrollment and is the only one in Northern Arizona approved by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety for the Phlebotomy for Law initiative. The inaugural summer class pictured below was a success, supported by 47 community agencies.



- Allied Health now offers an online Medical Records/Medical Office program as a transition pathway for students not pursuing direct patient care but providing skills for immediate employment. The department also provides Basic Life Support (BLS) courses for students and the community. Partnerships with local Career and Technical Education Districts (CTED) support dual and concurrent enrollment opportunities for high school students in key programs. A new clinical coordinator started on September 2<sup>nd</sup> and will play a key role in supporting future growth.

## Radiology, Health Sciences, Division 2

- The Radiology Department has seen increased enrollment across all programs, with 13 students in the current cohort and 15 new students starting. The MRI certificate program has 1 student enrolled, and the CT certificate program has 4 students enrolled. Our students achieved an 80% pass rate on their first attempt, within our accreditation limits, with one more student scheduled to take the test this month.

Additionally, we have submitted the Limited X-Ray Machine Operator Certificate curriculum and reviewed the Radiologic Technology AAS to ensure a seamless transition for advanced placement students. Barriers have been reduced by decreasing the program's total credit hours from 76 to 64.

Roentgen Ray Student Organization recently hosted a cornhole tournament, raising \$450 in profit towards their upcoming February 2025 ACERT Education Conference (*Association of Collegiate Educators in Radiology Technology*).

Additionally, they attended the L.E.A.D. Conference – Day of Leadership hosted by **Janice Soutee**, further enriching their experience.



Roentgen Ray Student Organization was successful in fundraising for its February 2024 ACERT Education Conference, having raised \$1,900 of its \$2,500 goal with several more fundraisers planned. They also participated in the “College Classes for Kids” program on the Verde campus, which was highly successful. Approximately five middle-school students regularly participated in the program and visited the Radiology lab on their final day. It was an extremely fun and inspiring experience for the middle schoolers, giving them a healthcare profession to strive for.



*“College Classes for Kids” program*



*Roentgen Ray Student Organization*

*Hosting a cornhole tournament to raise funds towards the February 2024 ACERT Education Conference*

## Health, Physical Education and Recreation (HPER)

- The HPER Department is experiencing significant growth, with the addition of Nutrition to our Exercise, Physical Education, and Recreation classes. They are expanding their offerings in Spring 2025 to include new classes such as Climbing at Gripstone Climbing Gym, Dance Fitness and Yoga, and additional Aqua Fit classes, our most popular offering.
- This Fall 2024, they added a Face-to-Face Nutrition class for our student-athletes at the request of the ELT. The summer semester was also very successful, with all classes filled and no cancellations. Swim School ran again this summer, serving 257 individuals aged 3 to 15 across three sessions, generating \$15,420 in revenue.

Additionally, all full-time faculty and staff can use their tuition waiver to enroll in activity classes or purchase a discounted pass to access the pool and Fitness Center.

### Resilience and Community: The Healing Power of Fitness and Friendship

A dedicated student who has been attending aqua aerobics classes for many years tragically lost her husband in a car accident last month. Despite this profound loss, she asked her instructor not to withdraw her from the class, expressing her intention to return after a period of mourning. Once she was ready, she rejoined her aqua aerobics class. This emphasizes the importance that HPER physical activity classes, along with the friendships and connections built within them, can have during challenging times. The continued popularity of the instructors, the supportive community, and the welcoming atmosphere at Yavapai College are evident as many choose to return year after year.



*Aqua Aerobics at YC*

## EMS, Public Services, Division 2

- **Kevin Wallace**, a recent graduate of the Yavapai College Paramedic Program Cohort 16, has achieved the position of Engineer at the Cottonwood Fire Department. While completing the paramedic program and obtaining the National Registry certification as a Paramedic, Kevin demonstrated exceptional dedication and perseverance. His success reflects the outstanding work ethic and commitment displayed by many students in our paramedic program. Kevin's achievement is just one example of the numerous successes of YC Paramedic Program students, with many more expected in the future.



- Class 18 of the YC Paramedic Program has officially begun! This new cohort of 18 dedicated students has arrived, ready to fully immerse themselves in the rigorous, two-semester journey ahead. We are thrilled to welcome them to the program and look forward to their growth and success as they embark on this critical step toward becoming skilled paramedics. Let's wish them all the best as they enthusiastically commit to this challenge!



*Class 18 Paramedic Program*

- Paramedic Class 17 students have successfully finished all clinical rotations and two out of three program semesters. As they move into the final stages, they have commenced their Field Internship and are getting ready to begin the Capstone Ride Phase in mid-September. We are highly pleased with their progress and eagerly anticipate their graduation as skilled paramedics. Their commitment and development have been exemplary, and we eagerly anticipate their future field accomplishments.



*EMS Paramedic Program*

## Fire Science, Public Services, Division 2

- The Fire Science program continues to thrive, with our fire academy consistently filling to capacity and maintaining a high graduation rate of over 95%. We are proud to be the first fire academy in the U.S. to implement physiological monitoring devices for our students, in partnership with Slate Safety Company. Additionally, our academy is the only one in the nation using BOS training for mental health and resiliency, setting a new standard in fire service education.



- Fire Science completed a significant overhaul of our online courses, aligning them with the Quality Matters (QM) initiative, and updated our fire academy program to reflect the latest best practices. Their non-credit offerings are also leading the way, as we became the first college in Arizona to host Fire Instructor I and II classes online, achieving a 99% passing rate on Arizona State Certification Testing.



The Fire Science program's influence continues to grow, with invitations to serve as subject matter experts (SMEs) on state-held training classes and active involvement with Prescott and Cottonwood Fire in developing succession planning and promotional programs. The Fire Science program is gaining increasing recognition and support from both the community and our area stakeholders.

## NARTA & AJS. Public Services, Division 2

- The Northern Arizona Regional Training Academy (NARTA) began its latest session in July 2024 with 37 recruits, including 10 living in the new Prescott Pines Camp, representing 12 different agencies. As we approach NARTA's 30th Anniversary in 2026, early planning for this milestone celebration is underway.
- The AJS program has seen a 9.9% increase in Fall 2024 enrollment. We are also developing a new 15-credit Victim Advocacy certificate, which will include five courses. AJS-101 Introduction to the Administration of Justice launched as the latest OER course in the AJS program on August 17th, with AJS-123 Ethics in Criminal Justice following in Spring 2025.
- There are now two Yavapai College Students serving as AmeriCorps Interns, each providing 8 hours a week in projects serving both the Yavapai College Justice Institute and the Yavapai College Respect Campaign. These students will provide 300 hours of service from August to May next year, earning a stipend and a scholarship from Arizona Serves. We are also working to add dual enrollment for AJS courses at Bradshaw Mountain High School, starting in Fall 2025.
- Several Justice Institute events are planned for the week of October 7th, including an international conference hosted by the ASU Family Violence Center on October 14-15, 2024, focused on Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team development.
- **Jerald Monahan** (right), Program Director, was recently appointed to the Arizona Department of Child Safety's Healthy Families Advisory Board.



- The Law and Justice Club participated in Club Rush this week, attracting 18 new members. Their first club meeting took place Tuesday, September 10th, followed by their first field trip to the Arizona Department of Public Safety Crime Lab in Phoenix on Friday, September 20th. Upcoming trips will be to the FBI Phoenix Headquarters and the Yavapai County Juvenile Justice Center. Pictured below is **Cornelia Belknap**, Club Rush Student Treasurer.



- The Respect Campaign, chaired by **Brandelyn Andres**, has been promoting equality, cultural intelligence, multiculturalism, and social justice at Yavapai College since 2016. The campaign focuses on fostering open dialogue and modeling respect as a core value essential for democratic civil society. Key activities include celebrating International Peace Day, World Adoption Day, Sexual Assault Awareness, and Martin Luther King Jr. Day. The campaign also addresses how to engage in political conversations focused on issues rather than candidates.

## Paralegal, Public Services, Division 2

The Paralegal program continues to expand, offering an AAS degree and two certificates: Legal Office Clerk, with six high school students enrolled this fall through MICTD!

Legal Paraprofessional is a one-year program regulated by the Arizona Judicial Branch with five areas of endorsement, including a new Juvenile Dependency endorsement starting this fall.

Enrollment is strong, with a 70% fill rate for Fall 2024 classes and a 21% increase in headcount from last year. LAW100, which runs every Fall and Spring, has the highest number of students since August 2022. This year, we plan to seek American Bar Association (ABA) accreditation, which YC previously held but discontinued due to the ABA's stance on online classes. With the ABA's revised position post-COVID-19, it is an ideal time to pursue reaccreditation.



*Tiffany Kragnes, Paralegal  
Studies Program Director*

**Tiffany Kragnes**, Paralegal Studies Program Director, recently joined the Yavapai County Bar Association, and the Paralegal Program is a Bronze Sponsor for the Arizona Paralegal Association's annual meeting on September 20th, strengthening our outreach within the legal community.

Additionally, new coursework is being developed in Mediation and Alternative Dispute Resolution to enhance the employability of paralegals, providing them with additional income opportunities and making them more valuable to law firms.

## Visual Arts, Division 3

- The Prescott Empty Bowls event takes place on the square to raise money for the local food banks. The event is open to the public, who stand in long lines to buy a handmade bowl and fill it with delicious locally made soup. All the making of the bowls, clay, soup ingredients and cooking is donated and all the proceeds from the event are donated to the local food banks.

<https://prescott-empty-bowls.square.site/>

Ceramics Lead Faculty **Laura Bloomenstein** opened the YC Ceramics Lab to experienced clay workers to make, glaze and fire bowls for this event.

Earlier this year, members of the Prescott Area Woodturners (PAW), of whom Wood Turning instructor **Dean Humphrey** is a member, approached Dean showing interest in adopting the YC Woodturning program. The club's interest was to assist in adding tools and supplies and build enrollment in our college classes as well as increase membership in PAW.

PAW has for several years donated wood bowls to the Prescott Empty Bowls event held on the county square each fall. The Empty Bowls event raises approximately \$20,000 yearly with proceeds going to local food banks. Dean felt that contributing wood bowls might be a good event for our enrolled students, and in March he asked students if they thought donating their time to make bowls was of interest to them. Many of the Spring semester students, some of whom are PAW members as well, said yes and over the next several months, including students enrolled in the summer session, volunteered and turned bowls for the event.

On Sunday September 8th, YC Woodturning Art students and the Prescott Area Woodturners contributed 250 wood bowls to Empty Bowls. Students along with PAW members also set up a demonstration and display booth on Gurley Street in Prescott. Attendees to the event lined up several hours prior to the event to obtain two bowls of soup donated from local restaurants. Along with their \$20 donation, attendees were given their choice of an artist made ceramic or wood bowl. The wood bowls went extremely fast.

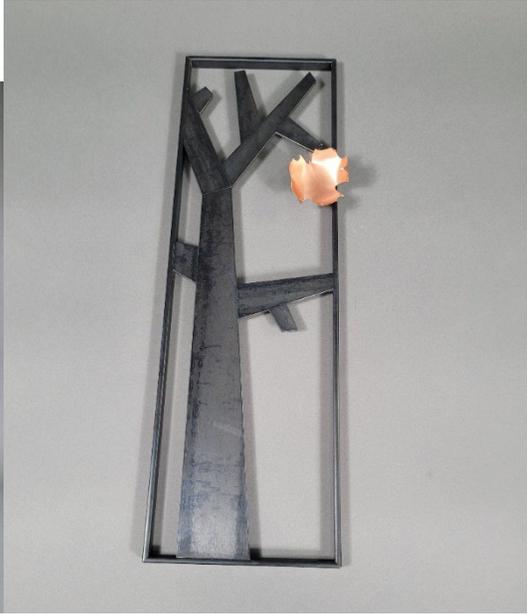
"I feel the event was a huge success for PAW and our college program. I personally talked with dozens of attendees who were not aware of our program and showed strong interest in enrolling in a future class. Three visitors from Phoenix asked if there was a course like ours in the Valley and I told them no, they needed to come to Prescott." says Dean.

Our community can be proud to have such programs available as proven by the adoption of our classes by the Prescott Area Woodturners.



- Visual Arts, Welded Metal Sculpture Instructor, **Rita Toikka** states, "We have had an impressive few months in the Welded Metal Sculpture classes as you can see by some of the work students are completing. With support from our new Dean, **Bryan Robertson**, my lab techs and I have worked diligently to implement higher safety standards and protocols in our shop with innovative strategies while increasing accessibility to better meet the needs of the variety of students we have in Welded Metal Sculpture. Our YC Faculty show was fantastic and my large-scale, interactive installation, "#EndTrafficking," was successful in spreading awareness about the issue of Human Trafficking due to extensive press coverage thanks to **Michael Grady**, YC Marketing and Communications Specialist. We raised about \$300 with pin sales to donate to The Launch Pad Teen Center. The Arizona Anti-Trafficking Network previously had no hub in Yavapai County, but they are now in connection with The Launch Pad Teen Center. My classes are packed with excited students who travel from as far as Sedona to take advantage of the only Metal Sculpture program in Northern Arizona.





## Lifelong Learning/OLLI/Community Education, Division 4



- OLLI at Yavapai College students participated in YC Summer Institute. Prescott members took advantage of the session Integrating Extended Reality (XR) Activities into Your Classroom.



- Fall Term 1 2024 classes began August 26 in Prescott, Sedona, and the Verde Valley. OLLI membership allows students to enjoy classes at all locations without paying an additional fee.



- Sedona OLLI hosted their Fall Launch featuring Yavapai College Nursing Professor Gillian Troxel and an informative program about health practices for older adults.

**Health and Wellness at 50+**  
 with Gillian Troxel MSN, RN,  
 Professor of Nursing at Yavapai College

~ ~ ~  
 A discussion on common health issues and  
 improving physical and mental wellness in people over 50

at the OLLI Sedona•Verde Valley  
 Fall Launch

Tuesday, August 20, 2:00 pm  
 Sedona Center, Room 34  
 Registration Requested 928-649-4275, [www.yc.edu/olli](http://www.yc.edu/olli)

**THE FOUR F'S**

**FAITH**  
 Start your day with a quiet time alone. reflect.  
 journal/diary. prayer. reading. being thankful

**FITNESS**  
 Eat balanced meals, do not over indulge, but treat  
 yourself occasionally.  
 Set realistic exercise goals

**FRIENDSHIP**  
 Stay connected with others  
 Try to have at least one very close friend

**FUN**  
 Maintain a sense of humor and fun  
 Find activities that bring you joy and a sense of  
 purpose

- Artist of the Month at the Sedona Center spotlighted the works of Marilyn Bealafeld.

**OLLI at Yavapai College  
 Sedona Center**

features the Art Exhibition of:

*Marilyn  
 Bealafeld*

Join us Wednesday, September  
 11th from 1pm-3pm for  
 Reception and Exhibit  
 Opening!

4215 Arts Village Dr. Sedona  
 Exhibit continues through October 31  
 Mon-Thurs 8am-5pm

OLLI  
 AT YAVAPAI COLLEGE  
 PRESCOTT | SEDONA | VERDE VALLEY

- OLLI at Yavapai College and Sedona Red Rockettes 99's International Organization of Women honored Amelia Earhart at a reception July 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## Amelia Earhart Exhibition

Reception: Monday, July 22, 2024, from 1:30-3:30pm with light refreshments



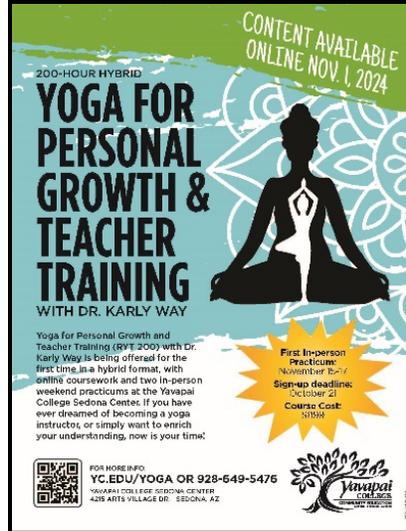
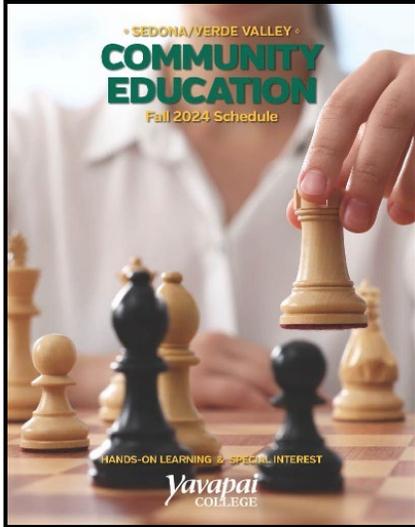
ollisv@yc.edu | 928.649.4275

Location: 4215 Arts Village Dr, Sedona for the entirety of July and August 2024  
Mon-Thurs from 8am - 5pm

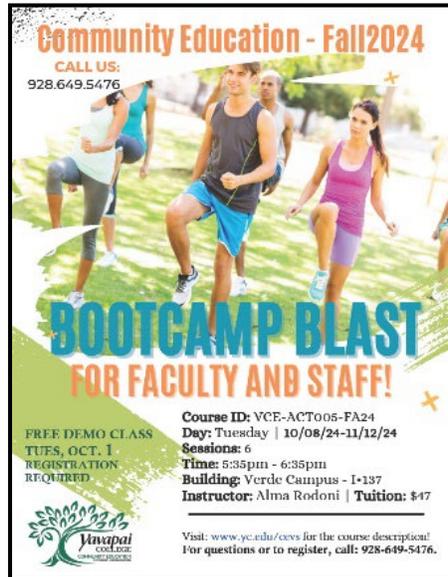
Join OLLI at Yavapai College and Sedona Red Rockettes 99's, International Organization of Women Pilots to honor Amelia Earhart, the renowned aviator.



- Verde/Sedona Community Education / Experiential Learning Fall 2024 registration is open!
- 10,000 Community Ed catalogs were mailed to residents in the Verde Valley and Sedona.
- Registration opened August 5 and Fall courses started September 30.
- Community Ed (transitioning to Experiential Learning) offered new classes, such as:
  - American Sign Language |
  - Chess for Beginners
  - Intro to Mountain Biking
  - Yoga for Personal Growth & Teacher Training



- Community Ed Verde is offering a Bootcamp Fitness class for YC faculty and staff, starting October 8, and with a free demo course on October 1.



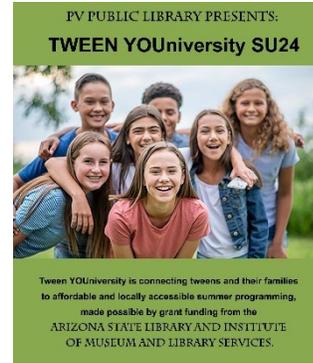
- The Wine, Easels, and Eats event was a collaboration with Community Ed and the Sedona School of Culinary.



- Registration for Fall '24 EDventure/Experiential Learning trips is now open!  
Fall trips include:
  - Canyon de Chelly
  - The Northern Bradshaws
  - Sycamore Canyon Headwaters



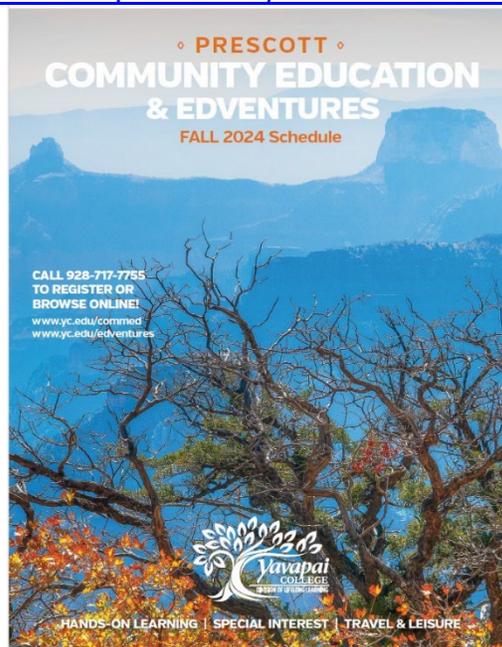
- Prescott College for Kids (C4K) finished another successful summer!
  - 248 registrations for 32 dynamic classes
  - Scholarships were offered through a generous donation from the JW Kieckhefer Foundation.

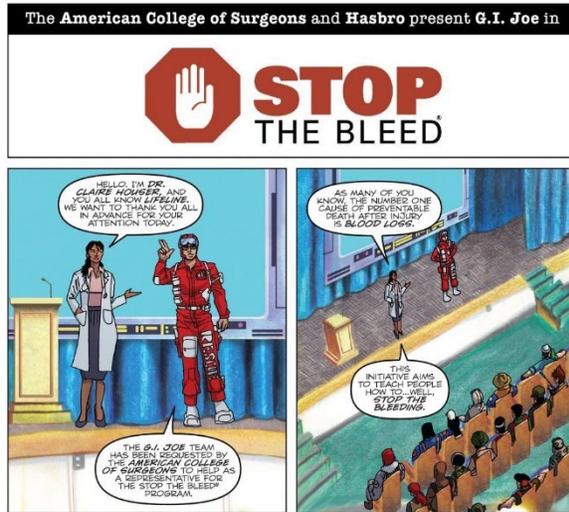


- Prescott College for Kids (C4K) partnered with the Town of Prescott Valley Youth Library to offer 11 classes at the PV Public Library’s *Tween YOUiversity* program. This program was made possible by grant funding from the Arizona State Library and Institute of Museum and Library Services designed to benefit low-income, home-school, and under-served/ marginalized families and tweens in the tri-city area.

### Prescott Community Education

- Adult CommEd registration is now open!
  - CommEd schedule is viewable here [www.yc.edu/commed](http://www.yc.edu/commed)
  - We are offering many new courses this fall:
    - Basic Life Support for Pets
    - Indoor Rock Climbing
    - Kitchen Wisdom: Mediterranean Bread & Foods That Go with Them
  - Faculty and Staff receive a 50% discount on tuition. Call 928-717-7755 to register.
  - We are still offering FREE Stop The Bleed training. For dates and times visit here: <https://www.campusce.net/yc/course/course.aspx?catId=2914>





- Long-time leader Community Education Coordinator **Nancy Ostapuk** retired in August. Her position is currently posted, and we are eager to find her replacement.



- Lifelong Learning students participated in Yavapai College events. All participants highly enjoyed the Verde Valley Campus Wine and Wags Event!






**THURS, AUG 8, 2024 | 4PM-6PM**

*Wine, Food & Live Music!*

- Dog related activities
- Campus Tours with YC Advising staff on site

**Yavapai COLLEGE**  
 VERDE VALLEY CAMPUS  
 601 W Black Hills Dr  
 Clarkdale, AZ 86324

PRE-PURCHASE WINE/CONCERT TICKET PACKAGE REQUIRED:



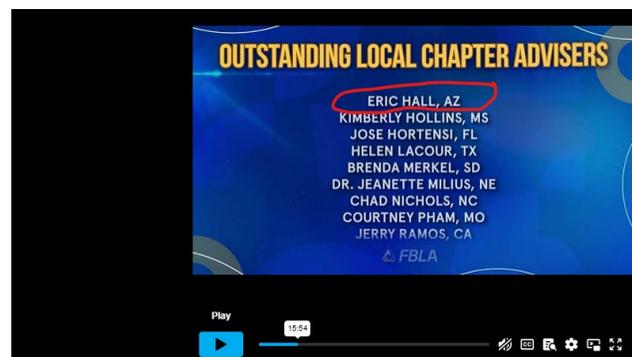
**YC.EDU/WINEWAGS**

## Business and Computer Systems, Division 5

- Phi Theta Kappa, Beta Gamma Pi was notified that their Honors in Action Hallmark Award entry, “Discovering Play in Powwows: How Nostalgia in Native American Cultures Strengthens Multigenerational Bonds,” was selected from among 422 entries to be included as one of 20 articles in the 2024 edition of *Civic Scholar: Phi Theta Kappa Journal of Undergraduate Research*. Being published as an undergraduate is a significant achievement for community college students. It offers valuable recognition and enhances their academic and professional prospects.
- This year marked Business Instructor, **Eric Hall's**, first year as the Local Chapter Adviser for the Yavapai College chapter of FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America) Collegiate. Eric has done an outstanding job bringing local, regional, and national recognition to Yavapai College and our exceptional students and programs.

The National FBLA Collegiate Conference was held in Orlando, FL, in June. Once again, Eric demonstrated his passion and dedication. As part of the conference's recognition and awards program, each state may nominate one local adviser who will be recognized at the National Leadership Conference for ***"exemplary leadership, significant contributions to the development of FBLA members, and belief in the goals of FBLA and business education."***

Although he was unable to attend, Eric received the Arizona Outstanding Local Chapter Adviser award and was recognized during the conference's Opening Awards Session.



FBLA 2024 NLC - Collegiate Opening Session LIVE NOT YET RATED



FBLA 2024 NLC - Collegiate Opening

Session LIVE NOT YET RATED

This event ended at 8:24 PM on June 24, 2024 | More

- As we move into the 2024-25 school year, **Deanna Mooney**, will take over as FBLA Advisor. Her 5 years of CTE/CTSO experience before coming to Yavapai College will contribute to Yavapai College's FBLA Organization. She is excited to announce YC's FBLA President, **Jadyn Ferris**, is the State Executive Vice President. Lastly, Yavapai College will host the Arizona State Leadership Conference on April 11-12<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
- The School of Business is thrilled to share the impressive growth of our Bachelor of Science in Business degree, launched just last Fall. As of August 22, 2024, an incredible 714 students have declared the B.S. in Business as their primary academic program, far surpassing our initial 5-year enrollment estimate of 161 FTE. This fall, 414 of these students are actively registered and ready to embark on their educational journey.

Our innovative degree program, which began with three concentrations—Accounting, Entrepreneurship, and Organizational Management & Leadership—has expanded this Fall with the addition of a highly anticipated fourth concentration in Digital Marketing. The breakdown of our declared students across these dynamic concentrations is as follows: 152 in Accounting, 174 in Entrepreneurship, 33 in Digital Marketing, 351 in Organizational Management & Leadership, and 4 who have not chosen a concentration yet.

This remarkable growth underscores the demand for relevant, high-quality business education that prepares students for leadership in today's evolving marketplace. We are excited to continue building on this momentum as we support our students in achieving their academic and professional goals.

## Verde Valley Campus

- The Chuck Mabery Pavilion has just undergone a major transformation with the completion of advanced sound and lighting upgrades! After careful adjustments to the placement of new, state-of-the-art speakers for optimal acoustics, the Pavilion now boasts incredible sound quality. We are also excited to announce the seamless integration of Bluetooth connectivity and wireless microphones, taking our event capabilities to the next level. With these cutting-edge improvements, the Verde Valley Campus is eagerly anticipating an exciting lineup of events in the coming months!



- The August 8<sup>th</sup> Wine & Wags/Open House event was the first to highlight the student wine and culinary programs, local small businesses, and our neighboring Verde Valley Humane Society. The goal was to draw in the community during our Fall Campus Open House event by hosting the Wine & Wags event at the same time. Turnout was great with a total of 111 attendees for the Wine & Wags event alone!

Dog related activities included: adoptable dogs, free pet photography, agility course, 2 groomers, pet food truck, dog accessories booth and puppy pools.

With the post event input and suggestions, plans are underway to have an even grander event next year.



- Proceeds from the Wine & Wags event were donated to the Verde Valley Humane Society. They were thrilled to accept a generous \$2,000 donation! YC Verde Valley Campus Dean, **Irina Del Genio**, proudly presented the check to VVHS President Maxine Belcher, Vice President Alice Klies, and Mary Clark.

In the lead-up to this paws-itively amazing event, YC information monitors across all campuses showcased adorable, adoptable dogs, making sure they got the spotlight ahead of their big debut at Wine & Wags. The event was a tail-wagging success, and this donation will go a long way in supporting the VVHS mission!



- AUGUST 8<sup>TH</sup> Yavapai College Verde Valley campus hosted **Arizona Governor Katie Hobbs** at VVREO roundtable in the new Center for Learning and Innovation building.
- Yavapai College inaugurated its new Center for Learning & Innovation at the Verde Valley Campus in Clarkdale, Arizona with a ribbon cutting grand opening event on August 13th. The 11,000-square-foot facility features cutting-edge technology and versatile learning spaces, including AI-assisted tutoring, interactive labs, and media production rooms. Designed by Smith Group and constructed by Hayley Construction, the center merges traditional library functions with advanced digital tools, supporting diverse learning methods and modern educational needs. Open to students August 19, 2024, it replaces the former library and resource spaces, reflecting the college's commitment to innovative and adaptable education.



- Enrollment has increased for Fall 2024 among East County residents at Yavapai College and has shown a steady rise over the past three Fall semesters.

<b>HEADCOUNT TOTALS</b>		Column ▾			
<b>Row Labels</b>	▾	<b>Fall 2022</b>	<b>Fall 2023</b>	<b>Fall 2024</b>	<b>Grand Total</b>
Activity Based		18	28	21	67
Apprenticeship		0	1	0	1
Classroom & Web (Hybrid)		153	91	116	360
Classroom Based		655	679	690	2024
Competency-Based		0	0	1	1
Computer Based In-Classroom		2	0	0	2
Directed Research		7	0	4	11
Individually Paced		93	89	104	286
Internship		8	14	11	33
Online		629	695	678	2002
Private Lesson		2	1	3	6
WebLIVE		46	33	23	102
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1613</b>	<b>1631</b>	<b>1651</b>	<b>4895</b>