

## Internships offer learning experience

Rep. Devin Nunes is looking for college students with the right stuff to be interns in his Visalia, Clovis and Capitol offices.

The selected candidates will join a busy team of professionals working on issues vital to the Central Valley. Job duties will include handling mail, answering phones, attending meetings and assisting staff members on projects, among other tasks.

"Interns play an important role in the operation of any Congressional office, and we play an important role in



their education and professional development," Mr. Nunes said. "We get the extra hands and minds we need to represent our constituents and the interns get

practical experience in dealing with the public and learning the government system from the inside out."

Applicants must be currently enrolled in college with at least a 3.0 grade point average. To apply, send a cover letter and resume to the district office at 113 N. Church St., Visalia CA, 93291. The deadline to apply is April 30. Summer internships begin June 2.

For more information, applicants can call (559) 733-3861. Or submit questions online by logging on to [www.nunes.house.gov](http://www.nunes.house.gov).

## Roundup—cont.'d from page 6

John P. Walters, Director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) to express their support for increasing the level of funding for the Central Valley High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) in Fresno. Mr. Nunes asked that ONDCP provide the Central Valley HIDTA with a funding increase of \$1.5 million for Fiscal Year 2003.

### Tax

Congressman Nunes, along with a number of his colleagues on the Congressional Wine Caucus, is seeking to repeal the special occupational tax on alcohol (SOT). Mr. Nunes and others sent a letter to Ways and Means Committee Chairman, Bill Thomas, expressing their support for the repeal. The tax, which was originally established to generate revenue for the Civil War, hits small business the hardest - many of whom pay more than producers and

distillers. Retailers must pay \$250 per location; wholesalers pay \$500; and vintners and distillers pay \$1,000. Thus, a family business operating five retail outlets pays more than the country's largest distiller.

### Trade

Congressman Nunes was asked by the House of Representatives leadership to participate in the House Trade Group. This group is a task force designed to assist the House of Representatives leadership on the best way to address the many trade agreements that are currently under negotiation.

### Transportation

#### Visalia Municipal Airport

Rep. Nunes asked Transportation Secretary Norm Mineta to investigate whether United Airlines is violating the Essential Air Services Order for Visalia by requiring passengers en-

route to Los Angeles to change planes in Fresno.

While appreciating the challenges airlines face in today's economy, including the need to operate as efficiently as possible, non-stop service to Los Angeles should not involve changing planes in Fresno, Mr. Nunes said.

Currently, United is operating two separate flights; one out of Visalia and another out of Fresno. The airline apparently packages these flights for Visalia customers and labels them non-stop service. This may violate the Essential Air Service Order, which mandates non-stop service from Visalia to a major hub.



## Nunes hosts high school art competition

Rep. Devin Nunes is hosting a high school art competition to seek out the best artistic talent in the 21<sup>st</sup> Congressional District.

The winning entry will be put on display for a year in Washington, D.C.'s Cannon Tunnel - a pedestrian walkway leading to the U.S. Capitol. There the artwork will also be judged against that of other high school students from around the nation as part of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Congressional Art Competition.

Since the first competition in 1982, legislators have held nearly 5,000 local contests involving more than 650,000 high school students.

All artwork and signed release forms must be received in Mr. Nunes' Visalia or Clovis offices no later than Monday, April 21. After judging takes place by a distinguished panel of local art experts, the winner and runners up will be announced at a reception and press conference in Visalia.

Each winning student will receive an invitation to attend a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the new Cannon Tunnel display on June 24, 2003. Southwest Airlines has offered 10 percent off of their lowest fare to Baltimore-Washington International Airport for the event from any destination between June 17-July 1.

For more information, contact Melanie Swager in Mr. Nunes' office, 733-3861.