

Students Building Computers for Other Students!!



Sergio Campos, Watsonville resident and a student in Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education's computer, assembly and repair class taught by David Shaw, works on one of the 12 computers the class refurbished from machines donated by area companies. Some of the computers were given to families with children in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District, and the other six were kept by the students. (Kate Falconer/Sentinel)

Fix'em up, give'em out; Class teaches computer building

Sentinel staff REPORT

WATSONVILLE — Seven weeks ago, six students from Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education picked up screwdrivers and set out to build computers.

Thursday night, 12 refurbished computers were ready to go, thanks to the computer assembly and repair class taught by David Shaw.

While each student kept one of the refurbished computers for himself, the others are given to families with children in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District.

"To have something produced that can be of use to someone who needs it is great," said Bob Harper, director of the Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education school.

The families will pay a small fee for Internet connections.

The computers for the course were donated by area companies.

You can find this story online at:

<http://www.santacruzsentinel.com/archive/2005/August/12/local/stories/09local.htm>



From the Santa Cruz Sentinel, August 12, 2005

Sesquicentennial

From this Fall's brochure: This year you'll notice on our cover a spiffy logo that celebrates 150 years of adult education in California. Throughout the state adult schools are planning activities to raise awareness about the great tradition and success of public adult education in California. The celebration is a vehicle to show how adult education has been a key to the unique character and accomplishments of the Golden State. In 1856, in old St. Mary's church in San Francisco, a class for adult immigrants was begun because it was apparent that if these immigrants were going to be full and productive citizens of their new country, they needed to acquire English and literacy as adults. (For more about the history of adult ed. in California, go to www.caehistory.org, which includes an interview with our own John Basor.) In the 30's during the Depression, and from the great social progressive movements that responded, the idea of "night school" grew rapidly. A school offering a universal opportunity for lifelong learning to adults was accompanied by the sense that "it's never too late" to achieve formal education, to make life different and better. Our own school dates its beginning to 1937. Then after World War II returning G.I.'s by the millions hadn't finished high school, yet had the G.I. Bill for college. The GED test was developed for these ex-soldiers to demonstrate their knowledge and prove they were ready for college. Adult ed. since then has adapted itself to the student's and community's needs. It has always been student-centered and focused on the kind of instruction effective for adults, not children. Andragogy not pedagogy. The number of older learners increases and each generation seems to expand the length of life and redefines what it means to be a "senior." Our classes for our older learners have been some of our most popular and valued. And as modern life demands more of us personally and professionally, as parents and citizens, the need for student-centered, short-term learning is ever more important in our current century. That's what adult education still offers its community. From basic literacy to career changes to self improvement through art or service, the more than 300 public adult schools in California still belong to the people, to you. Use us for your purposes. What door do you want to open, what transition do you need, what adventure can we help you with? 150 years old and we've barely begun.



40's



50's



60's



70's



<http://www.caadultedhistory.org/>



WAAE Calendar - Fall, 2005

Sept. 5 - Labor Day Holiday

Sept. 13 - Student Councils at Porter, Noon and 9:00pm

Sept. 14 - Student Councils at GV, Noon and 8:30pm

Sept. 15 - School Council, GV, 4-6pm, Unaudited budget

el·lip·sis

n. pl. el·lip·ses (-s z)

The omission of a word or phrase necessary for a complete syntactical construction but not necessary for understanding.

...at the back to school meeting...Will Hendricks won the annual Back-to-School award for furthest traveled...Saipan...Angelyn Redstone spoke in her new capacity as monitor of the School Improvement Plan...the new and improved website was shown with the handbook, forms, teacher resources, and eClass attendance, email and bulletin boards all ready to use... the Langendorf building construction project is still held up in permitting...one of our teachers mentioned that, while it was nice that classified staff and the School Council were able to "get away" and have a few hours of a retreat, all teachers might like that too... any ideas about alternative ways or places for all-school meetings?... there is a new "teachers' staff room" at Green Valley... although our rent at the Career Center was increased, the amount was much less than it might have been because some of our Office Careers students are doing "internships" as receptionists for the center... this summer many new Lifelong Learning classes were opened at the new Elderday facility next Wasonville Hospital... August birthdays:



Elvia Sepulveda teaches Spanish literacy,
now at La Manzana

- August 5 Bill Jamieson
- August 7 Ruben Sambrano
- August 8 Michael Hillyer
Barbara Miyoshi
- August 14 William Hendricks
Barney Stephens
- August 16 Teresita Marchisello
- August 19 Peter Nichols
- August 21 Diane Silvers
- August 26 Kevin Kraft
- August 27 Don Beeson

"Acquiring literacy does not involve memorizing sentences, words or syllables - lifeless objects unconnected to an existential universe - but rather an attitude of creation and re-creation, a self-transformation producing a stance of intervention in one's context."

- Paulo Freire, Education: The Practice of Freedom