

# Watsonville/Aptos Adult Education News and Views



*"We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community - and this nation."*

Cesar E. Chavez

Vol. 5 No. 22

Cesar Chavez Issue

March 27, 2006

## Over Seven Hundred Attend 150th Anniversary Celebration!!



Mayor Antonio Rivas presents  
Proclamation from the City of Watsonville



Nan Beltran Paints One of Many Faces



Grupo Alegria Dance Group from the  
Watsonville Senior Center

## Spring Semester Extended Two Weeks until June 17

School Council discussed ADA patterns, what happened last June, and approved an "experiment" to extend some classes two more weeks until the middle of June. It is crucial that we increase our attendance and try to hit our CAP. If we do not hit CAP we will lose the ability to claim the lost units of ADA forever. June is key and problematic. Last year we had the biggest June attendance in our history because we ran many, many classes through the month. Unfortunately many of the classes were very small. When we ended the semester and tried to open new classes, and begin summer school, we lost many students. The idea this year is that we will hold on to students in classes they already have for these two extended weeks. Even now, of course, we are closing or combining some classes with small attendance, and small classes will not be extended. Some instructors have already made plans, and in adult ed.'s inimitable fashion, that will be accommodated of course. Please encourage you students to keep coming. Remind them that we receive about \$4.50 for every hour of their learning. **2006-2007**  
**Calendar was emailed to all staff this week.**

## *Coaches' Corner* with Cathy Jo and Molly

### **Greetings, Teachers!**

Teachers at our February PDRT shared many excellent ideas. We wanted to make sure you all got a chance to benefit from your fellow teachers' ingeniousness.

Here's a quick summary of each activity that was presented, but as usual, if you have questions, please contact that teacher (or another who made it to that particular PDRT) and get clarification. As we've said before, one of our biggest goals this year as coaches is to improve communication between teachers so that we don't all work in our own private little bubbles. We all have so much to share; it's been really fun to see all the individual strengths we bring to WAAE.

### **Emelyn Buskirk (Freedom School) - Double your Money (and your copies)**

Emelyn had a very simple and clever CBET strategy that she uses frequently in her class to encourage parents to work with their children at home. When making a copy of a handout, Emelyn simply makes a double-sided copy with the same exact information on both sides. That way, after the students have completed one side in class, they can take it with them, and use it with their children at home. For students without children, they have another opportunity to practice at home or test themselves on the skill being taught in class. **What a great way to make every activity a CBET activity (without more prep time)!!!**

### **Will Hendricks (BL1 - Pajaro Middle School) - Cash Cards**

Will shared his newest card wizardry with his set for practicing money. Students hold up cards with pictures of money and have a conversation about the denominations they have and those they need. For examples of Will's cool cards, contact him or Molly and we'd be happy to show you and/or get you copies. **Thanks again, Will!**

### **Tiffen Shirey (BL2 - GV) - Sparkle!**

Tiffen shared a game called "Sparkle" that she uses to practice spelling with her class. To set up for the game, have the students stand in a circle with a chair behind them. The teacher is in the middle of the circle. The teacher chooses a word to spell and decides who will begin. Tiffen used the example of teaching days of the week. She might start with "Monday". The first student must say "Capital M". The next student says, "o". The next student says, "n". The following student says, "d", etc. until the word has been spelled. If a mistake is made, that student must sit, and the word begins again. After the word has been spelled successfully

and completely, the next student in the circle says, "Sparkle!" to indicate the end of the word. The next student in the circle (after the Sparkle person) must sit. The game continues until there is only one remaining student standing. That student receives a small prize, everybody stands up, a new word is chosen, and the game begins again.

Tiffen points out some advantages of this game are that the students here the word spelled over and over. Thus, even if they are sitting and "out" of the game, they are still learning. Also, though it seems ruthless, having the student who gets "sparkled" sit down even though they have not made a mistake, helps to give a chance to those students who aren't as good of spellers.

This game also works great for practicing the alphabet, says Tiffen.

### **Molly Rose (Teacher Coach) – Sentence Spinners**

I shared an idea for practicing verb tenses in a fun and interesting way. If you need any copies of or instructions for Sentence Spinners, let me know and I'll put them in your box.

Thanks to all those teachers who attended our most recent PDRT. It was great to see you all sharing ideas together and talking about how to make ourselves better teachers.

### **Our next PDRT dates are:**

**PM Teacher – Tuesday, March 28, 8:30-9:30 p.m. Green Valley**

**AM Teachers – Thursday, March 30, 11:45 a.m.–12:45 p.m. Green Valley**

### **Here's how to contact your friendly, neighborhood teacher coaches:**

CathyJo Diaz 786-2100 #633 message, 728-6330 office, 750-7648 cell, cathyjo\_diaz@pvusd.net Molly Rose 786-9068 home, molly\_rose@pvusd.net

## **District Offers Permanent Teachers "Golden Handshake"**

1. Employee must be a K-12, Adult Education, Early Childhood Education Programs, Tenured/ Permanent Certificated, Certificated Management, or Classified Management employee of the District
2. Employee must be at least 55 years of age by June 30, 2006.
  - <sup>a0%</sup> Employee must have at least 5 years of continuous service with the District by date of retirement to receive the 4.75% SERP benefit with no *health care* benefits.
  - <sup>a0%</sup> Employee must have at least 10 years of continuous service with the District by date of retirement to receive the 4.75% SERP benefit with *health care* benefits. <sup>a0%</sup> Employee must have at least 10 years of continuous service with the District by date of retirement to receive the 5.75% SERP benefit with no *health care* benefits.
  - <sup>a0%</sup> Employees over age 65 with 10 years of continuous service will qualify for the 5.75% SERP benefit.
3. Employee must submit a Letter of Resignation and SERP Application Package by May 9, 2006
4. Employee must be eligible to retire from STRS or PERS
5. Employee must retire from the District by June 30, 2006

Informational meeting at E.A. Hall Auditorium, Thursday, March 23, 2006, 4:00pm

California has established an official state holiday to honor Latino labor leader Cesar Chavez.

**Cesar Chavez Day** is intended to promote service to the community in honor of Chavez's life and work. This day will be celebrated on **March 31st**, in honor of Chavez's birthday, or the appropriate Monday or Friday nearest that date. Here are some links for teachers to build lessons for the day:

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

<http://www.sdcoe.k12.ca.us/chavez/>

[http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score\\_lessons/chavez/](http://score.rims.k12.ca.us/score_lessons/chavez/)



## WAAE Calendar

*PDRT*

*March 23, 11:45-12:45*

*Green Valley*

*School Council*

*April 12, 4:00-6:00, Porter*

*Spring Break*

*April 14 - 22*

***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.

...welcome back to Angelyn Redstone who looks fit as a fiddle, we missed her...with all the walkouts and demonstrations this week, what an opportunity, a "teachable moment" to create opportunities to reflect critically on these important issues of justice... Jack Carrol has taken over the job of Career Technical Education Chair, welcome to School Council Jack and thanks to Kim Iwasko for good work accomplished...a celebration of life for Bill Sendell is scheduled for Seascapes Resort, April 2, 1:00-4:00pm....