

Cooperative Times

January 2011

Building Connections Through Communications

Everyone Can Give

The 2nd Annual CSEC Transition Program Fit as a Fiddle Turkey Run/Walk for United Way was held on November 23rd, 2010. The Transition students trained for the Run/Walk during fitness class each day since September. Prior to the event, students collected pledges from their families and friends. They also learned about the United Way; and when asked what they were raising money for, students offered answers such as, “for people that don’t have enough food” or “for someone who needs a winter coat.” The Run/Walk was held at the Chaska Community Center on the walking track. Kathleen Zimmerman directed the event and the students and staff each had their choice of walking, running, rolling, or completing their laps with a combination of running and walking for the duration of one hour. As they completed each lap of the track, participants were handed a bead to place on a string to keep track of their laps. Awards for the Turkey Run/Walk were presented at a ceremony. There were 5 one mile walkers; 18 two mile walkers; 16 three mile walkers; 2 four mile walkers; and 3 five mile walkers. An award for most pledges went to Samantha for her total of \$120.00. The most laps female category went to Shannon for 43 laps. The most laps male category went to Alex K. for his total of 52 laps. The total donations for this event were \$504.00. Recognition went out to Jill W, Phillip, and Cayla for handing out beads for each lap. The students in the transition program showed noticeable pride when they learned the total amount of money that they raised (a lot!) and also were proud to be in the position of providing help to others.

One Mile Club: Steffon, Patti, Peter, Malinda and James

Two Mile Club: Alex, Felix, Heather, Ben, Peggy, Kris, Maddie, Tiffany, Calvin, Jacob, Trina, Robin, Iliana, Ashley, Claire, Megan, Nick and Kari

Three Mile Club: Blake, Deidra, Susan, Sam, Tanner, Derrick, Kody, Kathy, Brennen, Adam, Robert, Phillip, Andrea, Chris, Alex and Eric

Four Mile Club: Luke and Shannon

Five Mile Club: Alex K, Mykel and Kathleen

Fearless Leader: Kathleen



Kathleen, Mykel and Alex—The Five Mile Club



*Luke and Shannon—
The Four Mile Club*



The Three Mile Club

CSEC Students Attend Leadership Conference

By: Cindy Walters

In October, three students representing the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative attended the Minnesota Leadership conference in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

The students were put to the test of working with other high school and college students from across the state to accomplish a years worth of activities in four days. The Minnesota Leadership conference helps build leadership, responsibility and cooperation through hands-on activities, formal business meetings and public speaking.

Attending on behalf of CSEC were: Brett Koster (Graphics-Shakopee), Brittany Schwartzbauer (Graphics-Shakopee), and Julian Ellison (Auto-Chaska).

All three students plan on attending the Minnesota SkillsUSA Delegate Assembly in November.



Brett Koster, Brittany Schwartzbauer and Julian Ellison attended the MN Leadership Conference.



Technology Update

By: Brian Lewandowski

I love spam. No really, I can eat spam daily. I almost do. I especially enjoy garlic spam. You have to be a true garlic lover to appreciate it. Sometimes the after affects can really be disruptive to those around you.

On the other hand, I do have to say that I REALLY hate e-mail spam. Probably the biggest and most often heard complaint we receive in the IT world is about spam. Yes, it's annoying. Yes, it's quite often inappropriate. Trust me, we work hard to try and prevent it. Our spam filter blocks approximately 80% to 90% of ALL the e-mail messages we get DAILY. For example, on Monday, December 14, 2010, only 1,369 e-mail messages were delivered and 9,993 were blocked. That's a fairly typical report that illustrates the extent of the problem.

So what can we do on a personal level to prevent spam? The best thing a computer user can do is to protect their e-mail address! Use two or three or four e-mail accounts. Create one primary e-mail address to use for your communication. Then create as many alternate accounts as you like for use when you sign up for things. This will prevent your e-mail address from ending up on a spam list. This goes for your work e-mail address as well. Never use your "@cseced.org" e-mail address to sign up for anything online or on paper (i.e. free drawings, free coupons, free anything). It is also good to check for a privacy statement when giving out your address and look for check boxes that ask your permission to receive unsolicited mail.

Unfortunately for us, some of the damage may already be done. We will be targeted and some spam will get through, yet we still have some tools at our disposal. Outlook allows you to block senders and have messages automatically sent to your "junk" e-mail folder. To do this you can right-click on the message, go to JUNK E-MAIL and choose ADD SENDER TO BLOCKED SENDERS LIST. Any messages from the sender will "automagically" go to your junk e-mail folder. Of course, as with everything, you may want to check your junk e-mail folder occasionally to make sure there aren't any legitimate messages there. Also, do not open any e-mail when you do not know who the sender is. Right click on the message and delete it instead of opening it. This will protect your e-mail and ultimately the Cooperative e-mail as well.

And for those of you who may like spam and garlic, I highly recommend giving garlic spam a try!



Our Staff At CSEC...

Ann Rodning
Paraprofessional

Ann has worked at CSEC for 19 years as a paraprofessional. She explains that the best part of her job is the people she works with. She also says the job is never boring and the students keep her young!

Ann has a lot of good memories of growing up on a farm near Arlington with her 3 brothers and 3 sisters. The farm has been in her family for over 100 years. Her parents now live in the town of Arlington and her brother runs the farm.

Ann has lived in Chanhassen for the past 20 years. She has one daughter, Amanda, who lives in Rochester and works as a laboratory scientist at the Mayo Clinic.

When not at work, Ann enjoys spending time with her family and friends, going to Irish Festivals, shopping and movies.

Ann says, "Even after almost 20 years here, I feel like I learn something new everyday."

LIVING SKILLS OPEN HOUSE

By: Denise Fedie

On November 4th, the CSEC auditorium was alive with music and dancing as the Living Skills students performed *Footloose* for a full house. The students had a great time showing their dance moves to their family and friends.

After the performance, there was a social time and craft sale. The students sold hand-made items that they had been working on for the past few months. The students raised \$430

from the sale. They will use the money to buy toys for *Toys for Tots* in December. It was a great way for the students to show off their talents and raise money for a worthy cause.



Student Receives Lucille Fischer Award for Outstanding ABE Learner

By: Ellen Allen

Sam Chuob of Shakopee, MN has been awarded the Lucille Fischer Award for Outstanding ABE Learner which is given to four outstanding ABE learners per year for outstanding achievement. The award is given at the Minnesota Association for Continuing Adult Education (MACAE) Fall Conference. Each learner receives a \$50.00 stipend.

Sam is a model student in our ABE/ELL program. He realizes the value of education. As a young man, he taught the Khmer language to primary students in his native Cambodia. During the years of extremely volatile political climate, he lived in the forest. He states his family hid for 3 years, 8 months, and 20 days. After coming to safety, he became a police officer, serving for 24 years. His daughter sponsored him in August 2007 to come to the USA.

Sam immediately enrolled in English classes, starting in our beginner class. His work ethic and determination brought him to intermediate class after only six months of instruction. Sam was diligent in attending class five days a week, three hours a day. He was an excellent listener. He quickly became comfortable with the English language. His diligence paid off for him in communicating with his classmates. They, in turn, looked to him for support and extra help with their English. Sam decided also to attend evening English class for three hours, three nights a week. He participated in English classes 24 hours per week. In addition to school every day and more, Sam reviewed and retyped each day's lessons for reinforcement. After only eleven months, Sam was promoted to our advanced class. He chose to continue attending his morning intermediate class along with the advanced class for evenings. At this point, Sam composed extra worksheets for himself and his classmates to review their lessons one more time.

In our experience, there has rarely been a student so dedicated. His hard work and determination continue to help him improve his English skills. He is modest, kind, caring, and always willing to help classmates and teachers. Sam exemplifies the best qualities in an adult continuing education learner. He is well deserving of the recognition of the Fischer Award.



Sam with his teacher, Diana Hoffman,
at the awards banquet



From The Executive Director...

Dr. Randall Zitterkopf

Holiday season is a tough time of the year for my mid-section. Starting about a week before Thanksgiving and running until a week after New Year's Day, as the old adage goes, I'm on a seafood diet. When I see food, I eat it. I eventually wind up like all of the other great pretenders who show up at the recreation center immediately after the new year begins. I'm thinking that all of the calories I consumed during the holiday season will suddenly disappear after a half-hour on the elliptical machine. I know...at times, I can be rather delusionary.

There is one thing that I don't have any delusions about. That is, to see our students at the Carver-Scott Educational Cooperative (CSEC) involved and productive when given the opportunity. And, to realize the educational value of these opportunities.

The day before Thanksgiving, I was invited to several dinners which were held at various sites. I attended activities at the Spring Lake Alternative Learning Center and the Juvenile Alternative Facility at Jordan. In both instances, I saw students who were involved in preparing food and making other arrangements to create a festive atmosphere for the occasion. And, I know that similar student involvement took place at other CSEC sites as well.

During the past month, a United Way fund drive has been taking place at CSEC. And, sure enough, students have once again stepped up to the plate in terms of initiating and carrying out plans which generated money that was donated to the United Way.

CSEC students, like all others, need to develop academic skills to prepare them for their future. The development of these skills is a focus of the organization. However, involving students in real-life activities provides them with skills that are also critical to their future. And, there is additional value when the service that the students provide results in helping others.

My gratitude is extended to CSEC staff members, parents, volunteers, and others for making various types of service-learning opportunities available to our students. I appreciate your belief in our students and your continued dedication in serving them.



Halloween at East Creek Family Center

By: Denise Hedtke

Students, children and staff from New Beginnings and East Creek Child Care at East Creek Family Center participated in their annual costume parade on Friday, October 29th. Thanks to everyone at CSEC-401 who participated in trick or treating. The whole group was also invited to parade through Auburn Manor on the return trip. Some costumes were handmade by the parents, some were borrowed from the dramatic play bins and some were donated by Blessed Bee Thrift Store. Such cute goblins! Such a great neighborhood!



*Building Connections
Through Communications*

***Enriching Lives
Through Education***

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Please e-mail me any program/student/staff news you come across and I will do my best to get it in the next *Cooperative Times*.

Thank you.
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