COMING EVENTS

Sept. 8 - New Employee Orientation
Sept. 9 & 11 - Faculty In-Service
Sept. 12 - First League game, Women’s Soccer v. Clark College, Noon
Sept. 12-13 - Volleyball, Walla Walla Invitational Tournament
Sept. 18 - “Education: The Road to Justice & Power,” features Christine Chavez, granddaughter of Cesar Chavez, 7 p.m., Dome (see separate article this page)
Sept. 22 - FALL QUARTER BEGINS
Sept. 26 - First League home game, Men’s Soccer, 4 p.m.

The President’s Corner

Although I don’t know how the summer could have flown by so rapidly, we’re just a month away from Fall Quarter 2008!

As we gear up for the new school year, we can feel confident that our students will return to a campus of competent, caring instructors, staff and administrators. That confidence is the foundation for the future successes of thousands of students. It is our responsibility to provide them with the resources to accomplish their goals. It is their responsibility to embrace those resources and apply themselves as they move toward their goals.

Our encouragement, positive attitude and understanding are important skills to assist students. It’s challenging. It’s exciting. It’s frustrating. It’s rewarding. And we’re good at it!

So for now, enjoy the rest of your summer, the nearly empty parking lot and the quiet classrooms. That will soon change and we’ll be back in the business of providing opportunities for our students that will last them a lifetime.

Event to Feature Christine Chavez

Christine Chavez, the granddaughter of Cesar Chevaz, will be the featured speaker at “Education: The Road to Justice and Power,” a presentation scheduled on Thursday, September 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the Dome.

Chavez has made a lifetime commitment to public service, civil rights and the labor movement. Today she is an outspoken advocate of marriage equality and has also worked with animal rights groups.

Her interests developed at an early age where she was surrounded by the farm worker movement. She and members of her family were arrested in Detroit when she was four years old as they boycotted a store that was selling grapes during the grape boycott.

Chavez’ work is based on the values passed down to her from her grandfather. Born in Delano, CA, she now lives in East Los Angeles with her husband, Oscar Gonzales. She is the District Director for State Senate Majority Leader, Gloria Romero. She has also worked with the United Farm Workers Union, the organization co-founded by her grandfather 40 years ago.

Chavez has been named one of the top Latinas by Latina Magazine.

Nominations Needed

The 12th annual Community Service Award Banquet sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce is scheduled Wednesday, November 5, at the Marcus Whitman Hotel & Convention Center. As in the past, an e-mail will be sent with a nomination form attached for your WWCC nominee.

Submit forms to the Marketing & Communications department with a description of the nominee’s community service by Wednesday, September 10.

Rodeo to Recruitment

A Natural for Harrison

If you see a clown on campus, don’t worry, he belongs here. JJ Harrison has joined WWCC in a part time capacity doing outreach and multi-media for the Marketing Department.

A well known Walla Walla resident and teacher, JJ is on a leave of absence from the Walla Walla School District to further pursue his career as a rodeo clown. “His part-time schedule at the college will enable JJ to have the flexibility and time he needs for rodeo,” said Director of Marketing and Communications Kathy Thornton, “and it will allow the college to be able to participate in even more events and recruitment activities.”

Wallia Walla Community College . . . your best choice
Spotlight...
...from Professional to Personal!!

My boss hinted last week that since I didn’t have a response for the Spotlight, I should interview myself. In an effort to make a few brownie points, I decided I should try it.

Note to Clint Gabbard and anyone who doesn’t want to fill out questionnaire: You’re right--this is not a fun task!

Cathy Nelson, Marketing & Communications

Born in Vancouver, WA, I am the first of three children (and it shows, doesn’t it?). I also have a sister in Yakima and a brother in Vancouver. We grew up in Woodland (on I-5 between Vancouver and Longview) where both sets of grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews also lived. Holidays were huge and I still miss that today. I attended Woodland schools and graduated from WHS in the Top Ten of my class (but it wasn’t a very big class--only about 79 students!).

We had a wonderful family life and did a lot of boating and fishing on the Lewis and Columbia Rivers (when they were clean enough to swim in), camping, picnics at Merwin Dam, barbecues, gardening, summer vacations to Seaside, Girl Scouts and so much more.

And I’ve always wanted to be a writer. When I was five, my mom showed me how to type correctly on a very old manual Underwood typewriter. Her story is that in about 30 minutes, she heard the keys clicking away and came out to see why I wasn’t practicing what she showed me. I was!! My first newspaper was born and I was editor of a family newspaper published bi-weekly and sold to family members for two cents per copy (usually double sided using carbon paper)!! The rest is history--I was editor of the grade school and high school papers, and while attending Lower Columbia College, I worked for The Daily News in Longview. I later worked for The Lewis River News as writer, ad sales, ad layout, bookkeeper, proofreader and anything else that needed done.

I married my high school sweetheart and had two great children--Kimberley and Christopher. That marriage, however, was short-lived and I was a single mom for a few years before meeting my current husband, Denny (my first husband was a Denny also!!!). We moved from Bremerton to Walla Walla in 1991. We had two super children, Kendall and Kirsten and now have five absolutely awesome grandchildren--three grandsons and two granddaughters. Being a mom is wonderful and being a grandmother is the best thing ever! Denny and I have been married 32 years now and look forward to many more years together.

We took a trip recently to the Washington, DC area and I think that is probably my most favorite place to have gone. We’ve also really enjoyed an Alaskan cruise and a vacation in Cabo. Haven’t been to the ocean in several years so that’s where I want to go soon.

I have way too many ways to relax and leave the cares of the college behind. My favorite hobby and best stress reliever is gardening, followed closely by writing, reading, cooking, knitting and sewing. I’m currently teaching myself how to quilt and would love to get back into golf.

As far as something at the top of my list yet to do, I’m in the process of learning how to publish a children’s book--agent, editor and all the other steps in between (including getting on “Oprah!!!”). Almost six years ago, we raised our granddaughter Haleigh for a year while her mom rehabbed from meth (she’s over five years clean now!!). Although raising Haleigh was a wonderful experience, the traumatic event that led to taking care of Haleigh was difficult. And seeing a three-year-old go through this gave me the idea to write a book for other young children in the same situation. “Through Haleigh’s Eyes” has been written now and my sister has illustrated it. If it helps one child, it will be worth it—even if we have to make our own copies. The other positive that came out of this experience is that I’m able to talk with others who might be in the same position. It always helps to know you’re not alone.

Another goal, if I didn’t need to buy food or pay bills, would be to own a weekly newspaper. But being less than four years from retirement (May 1, 2012), an income, medical insurance and time at home sound best.

I’m relatively shy although some might question that statement. Being 61 isn’t quite what I thought it would be--some parts are better than anticipated and others are a side of life that none of us expect. It’s that sandwich generation thing--we’ll always be a daughter or son, parent and grandparent to family but we really haven’t been prepared well to parent our parents. Love is an amazing emotion and it enables us to accomplish more than we ever imagined.

So now you know a little about me.

How about letting me send you a questionnaire so you can be the next issue’s spotlight? E-mail me. PLEASE.

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From Cathy’s Kitchen to Yours . . .

Sweet & Sour Chicken

2 lbs. chicken breast
2 eggs, beaten
1 c. flour

Sauce: 1/3 c. sugar 1/3 c. vinegar
1/4 c. pineapple juice 4 T. ketchup
1 t. Accent 1 t. soy sauce
1 t. salt

Heat all sauce ingredients together. Cut chicken into bite sized pieces. Sprinkle with garlic salt and let stand for 30 minutes. Dip chicken in egg and then flour. Brown in hot oil and place in baking dish. Cover with sauce and bake 30 minutes at 350 degrees.

You can add crushed pineapple to sauce if desired.

Great served with homemade fried rice (and I happen to have a great recipe for that, too, if you’d like).
**Wellness at Work**

**Losers Just Keep Losing!**

If you are interested in joining Weight Watchers at Work, a new program will begin the end of September. Call Doreen at 4239 for information.

Three people have reached their goals and have learned how to cook and eat in healthy ways.

**AUTUMN ALLERGIES**

Fall allergies may start as early as August and last into October so rather than suffer through the itchy eyes, runny nose, sneezing and wheezing, here are several ways to find relief:

- **Skip yard work.** Raking leaves stirs up mold spores.
- **Plan ahead.** Use medications such as antihistamines or decongestants before heading out to an autumn activity.
- **Beat the heat.** A warm fall day can mean higher allergen levels in the air. Take allergy medication before you go outside or stay inside with the A/C on and windows closed to help keep pollens out (ragweed in particular—the all-star of allergens).
- **Roll up the windows.** Roll up your car windows and use the air conditioning. Windows down is like riding in an allergy infested tunnel.
- **Go away.** When the weather turns wet and cold, head to the southwest if you can. No humidity means less pollen. But don’t move just yet. Experts say you can develop allergies in the new locale.

**Outdoor Power Equipment Format Changes**

Outdoor Power Equipment is back at WWCC with a new format to better meet the needs of students and industry. The newly formatted Outdoor Power Equipment program combines web-based instruction with hands-on experience in an outdoor power equipment shop. Course materials and assignments are delivered on-line with the sequence and timing of materials directed by OPE instructor George Klein. Students may interact with each other and the instructor via the Discussion Board element of web-based classrooms.

Students choose either on- or off-campus participation. On-campus students have access to campus computers and will complete their shop experience component of the course in WWCC’s Outdoor Power Equipment Shop.

Off-campus students need access to an internet-connected computer, ideally at home, and will need an approved mentor at their workplace to supervise the shop experience. Students who are employed in industry while participating in the program will need to work with their employers to ensure sufficient time to complete coursework.

Web-based instruction provides scheduling flexibility, allows students to enroll in courses that originate in other areas of the country and provides easy interaction with students at all locations. Students can continue earning wages at work while learning increased skills and they can fill the gap in their knowledge base at their own pace.

**Culinary Arts** received its three-year accreditation for its AAS degree from the American Culinary Federation Foundation Accrediting Commission (ACFFAC) this summer. According to Chef and instructor Steve Walk, the accreditation assures that the program is meeting standards and competencies set for faculty, curriculum and student services.

**Maury Fortney,** Civil Engineering Technology instructor, completed Technology Accreditation Commission (TAC) training as a program evaluator this summer in Pittsburg. Fortney noted that “currently, WWCC’s CET program is the only two-year school program accredited by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technologies (ABET). He has been selected to be an observer as part of an American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) accreditation team in October at Southwest Tennessee Community College in Memphis. November will see him traveling to Ferris State University in Big Rapids, Michigan for a new welding program accreditation.

Good news from **Lisa Rasmussen!** Crucial number counts continue to decrease for Lisa’s mom/former drama instructor, **Jo Anne.** She has been able to attend several art events over the summer months and at the performance of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream” at the amphitheatre, a woman sitting in front of Jo Anne was a former student of hers from St. Paul’s School for Girls where Jo Anne had directed an all-girl cast of “A Midsummer Night’s Dream!” Her fourth chemo treatment is August 22.