



Visalia CVTC

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Volume 2 Issue 2

CVTC Consumers Gain Valuable Vocational Experience

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Mountains of laundry, piles of dirty dishes and dozens of mouths to feed may sound like a burden to some, not to the Consumers of CVTC. David and his peers at the training center take great pride in the relationship that has grown with the Tulare County Animal Shelter.

Tulare county has welcomed the consumers to volunteer at its' animal shelter . Their relationship is very unique for a number of reasons. The economy 's woes have found a surge of animals being surrendered to the county and this has greatly increased the workload of the paid staff at the shelter. The opportunity to volunteer and gain invaluable work skills could not have come a better time for the County . With more animals and less funds available to provide care volunteers are greatly appreciated.

A typical volunteer session may start out emptying and cleaning portable crates that were used to transport adoptee pets at offsite adoption events. Meeting our crew of volunteers is always mountains of bedding used at these events and hundreds of feeding dishes to be washed and sanitized in the commercial cleaning areas. Sorting folding and stacking the bedding for 50-75 kennels is a task the motivated consumers of CVTC complete to make the wait for a puppy or kitten to find a new



Consumer David Pimentel gives back to the community at the Tulare County Animal Shelter

home a little more comfortable. While the cleaning crew are engaged in their efforts the nutrition crew are busily re-filling the feed bins and unloading delivery trucks filled with feed for every kind of dog, cat and yes, even horses. The animal shelter is a rescue site for any thing on four legs that might be without a home in Tulare County.

Regular hours, commercial dish washers and laundry services staffed by consumers who really care about the shelter have been rewarded with invaluable real world work experience and skills.

Special points of interest:

- Animal shelter going strong
- Luck of the Irish comes to CVTC
- Special Olympics competition heats up.

CVTC consumers have a great ST. Patrick's Day



March 17th is always a lot of fun at CVTC, Visalia.

Consumers had a great time celebrating St. Patrick's day by dressing the part not to be out done by anyone Sidney (left)

donned a Leprechaun hat and

green polo shirt. Is that a wig or green hair dye on Lucy ? (below right) letting her hair down for St. Patty's day. Instructor Jamie Piedra-Arellano and her team members of instructor planned a great day of games and the highlight of the day, was going to Sizzler for a luncheon.



Special Olympics Going Forward for CVTC's Consumer Athletes

Special Olympics provides some great opportunities to learn a new sport that they may have never participated in or practice skill they may have been doing for some time. Timothy Gumbiner is practicing his form in putting the shot in the below picture. Timothy has been working hard in the months of March and April to get ready for the upcoming



Spring classic at Bob Mathias Stadium. Javier

Chavez is one of the Track Coaches at CVTC. Below he is demonstrating the correct form for Shot Put at the College of the Sequoias' Track and Field complex. Javier has several years



experience as a competitor in Track and Field when he was in School and is in the process of becoming a certified Special Olympic Track and Field Coach. Jeremy



Marquez and Raymond Stroup practice handling the Shot getting ready for the Tulare County Track Meet. Athletes who do well at the April 30, County meet have a chance if nominated in going on to the State Games later in the Summer in Davis, California. Jeremy, Raymond and Tim are all great prospects for state.

Special Olympics is founded on the principle that people with intellectual disabilities can, with the proper instruction, encouragement, learn, enjoy and benefit in participation in individual and team sports.

Every one gets in the spirit

Special Olympics has a sport or an event for everyone. Pictured to the right, Program Director, Rick Leland, also works with a group of athletes from CVTC at the Visalia Sports Park. Rick is



demonstrating the shot put while other athletes are preparing to practice the softball throw.

CVTC will also enter athletes in the 25, 50 and 100 meter walk and run competitions.

2010 Will be Visalia

CVTC's first year of participation in Special Olympics.

Special Olympics isn't just limited to Track and Field the goal of Visalia CVTC is to have activities in such sports as bowling, basketball and swimming.

Mass transit is a key to greater independence.

Personal independence and mobility provides a quality of life that cannot be adequately summed up in a short article. William



Abraugh in below left is with instructor Christina practicing good transportation skills learned in the classroom.

Planning activities, selecting the best routes for efficiency and affordability to get there are all part of CVTC's community integration component.

The consumers at CVTC



goals become reality when they take the hands on approach to selecting activities, planning activities, budgeting. Whatever their goals are how to travel is always important.

New opportunities at CVTC

The up coming month of May will bring new employment opportunities to the consumers of CVTC.

A local internet provider has entered into a business relationship with Visalia CVTC to distribute fliers for their company. We have a great product at a great price boasts, Jeremy Gill of GCOMM. I am excited to be able to employ a group of motivated people who will be enthusiastic and work hard.

Regional Operations Director Susan Akbiyikian, was quoted as saying we

are happy to be able to find opportunities in this market that we can pay our trainees a fair wage for their work.

Program Director, Rick Leland is working closely with Mr. Gill coordinating grid maps and cities to be



Raymond ,Wayne and William working on Applications.

Canvassed.

In the mean time consumers are busy getting ready to service the contract with GCOMM by filling out applications and doing task analysis of the duties necessary to count out fliers, strategically canvass every neighborhood in the Visalia Service area and the immediately surrounding areas.

Mock interviews, Job applications and social skills needed on the job are all part of the training process that supports employment education at CVTC.

CVTC Welcomes New Faces to the Day Program



• Diane Rodriguez and Maria Madrigal joined the CVTC crew in January and March of this year.

Diane enjoys outings to the 99 cent store and activities with her

group Maria likes listening to music and talking to staff during the drive to program. Allan Harris came to CVTC in Mid March because, " I wanted to work with animals and be



involved in lots of activities."

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The most significant thing in the Olympic Games is

not to win but to take part.

Just as the most important thing in life is not the triumph but the struggle.

The essential thing is not to have conquered but to have fought well.

Baron Pierre de Coubertin.

Consumer Spot Light

Edson Cruz (at right) has been with CVTC for two and half years. He has been working on self advocacy and community integration Edson Loves to go to Plaza Park in Visalia. He is getting to know his instructor Richard Ybarra (not pictured) who is new to CVTC. Richard wasn't sure he would like the work at CVTC in January when he



started , Edson helped him feel part of the team and valued.

Brittany, (seated on right) just came to CVTC. She loves to dance and meet new people. She is working every day to meet the goals she has set for herself and likes to go to program at CVTC.

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We're on the web
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Mission

We support people in achieving their potential.

Vision

CVTC, as an industry leader, creates experiences that support people in pursuing their ambitions and life dreams. We foster environments where people participate in experiences that enhance their learning and enjoyment.

Purpose

Central Valley Training Center strives to integrate our services for people with developmental disabilities into a customer-focused, quality-driven organization. Our purpose is to promote the rights of the people we serve to live with dignity and responsibility and to support individuals in the acquisition of skills needed to achieve her/his personal goals.