



The cafe's menu features special popcorn blends and a "Director's Choice" candy along with its regular menu.



Classic Movie Café & Concessions director Steven Cisneros, center, chooses music to play and hands out popcorn samples during his business' grand opening celebration at Dallas' Walnut Plaza on Friday afternoon.

A new twist on movie concessions

Entrepreneur serves up creative popcorn, classic favorites of cinema stands

By Jolene Guzman
The Itemizer-Observer

DALLAS — Last weekend was "lights, camera, action" for Steven Cisneros' longtime dream. Cisneros, 23, is director of the newly opened Classic Movie Café & Concessions, a film-themed food cart located at Walnut Plaza in Dallas. He celebrated with friends and family Friday afternoon during his grand opening weekend, but it was a few weeks earlier when his parents, Cheryl and Anthony Cisneros, knew the venture was going to be all they were hoping for. Steven has autism, which affects his communication abilities and other life skills, so two weeks before his grand opening he was practicing handing out samples of popcorn when his mother

saw it: a smile on his face. Cheryl said she wasn't sure how Steven would handle the customer service side of owning a small business, especially when dealing with strangers. That question was answered as Steven confidently stood up, smiled and handed a customer a small box of popcorn. "That's the day we knew that after all the hard work and all the years of practice he's had, that it would be a dream come true for him," said a beaming Cheryl. "That it was possible for him to enjoy that was exciting." It has been years of dedication to learning the skills he needed to run his business, but the passion behind it — movies — began when Steven was a baby. Cheryl said she has a picture of Steven watching a movie when he wasn't yet a year old. She said his love grew

from there. When he was older, he began looking up movie facts online. Now he's a savant when it comes to movie facts. Steven remembers the year, format, director, studio and many other details about an endless list of films. "He knows all sorts of movie trivia," said Steven's grandfather, Steven Ahrendt. "That's his thing, movies, especially classic movies." It's probably no accident that his concession stand features movie munchie favorites such as hot dogs, nachos, candy and popcorn. The food cart's VIP Room in Walnut Plaza also displays classic film memorabilia and plays film documentaries for customers. On opening weekend, the selection was American Film Institute's "100 years ... 100 movies." See MUNCHIES, Page 15A

New system should be easier for school district

Power School promises to put more information for teachers, students, parents at fingertips and on demand

By Emily Mentzer
The Itemizer-Observer

INDEPENDENCE — A new computer system at the

Central School District should make getting information about students easier and faster. The district is moving

from eSchool to Power School, a new student information system that will allow teachers, parents, administrators and staff access to records in minutes rather than weeks, Superintendent Buzz Brazeau said. "There are a couple things that are beneficial to us (in the new system)," Brazeau said. "Instead of having information stored in different places, it will all be in one place." With the old system, it was difficult to hold people accountable about how students were performing because information was stored in many different places, Brazeau said. "Part of the information was here, part was there," he said. "All of that is something

you need to be able to look at." Power School also has better parent access, Brazeau said. "If I'm a parent and have a student in elementary, middle and at the high school, I can log on and see all three students at one time," he said. "It can translate some things in 19 different languages." The new program will cost more initially, but after five years it will be less expensive than eSchool, Brazeau said. "That initial cost, transition and training are one-time costs," he said. With the new program, which will be managed locally rather than through the Willamette Education Serv-

ice District, the gradebook will be standards-based, Brazeau said. "As you see more and more working toward a standard or proving that I met a standard, gradebooks are becoming more and more based on standards," he said. "So we needed a gradebook that was more friendly, based on standards." The system also will make it easier for teachers to access individual educational plans (IEP), Brazeau said. "With our current system, if I'm a special education teacher and you're teaching one of my kids, I have to get you a copy of the IEP," Brazeau said. At the elementary level, that isn't so difficult. But as students move to the high school, it can get more time consuming, he said. With Power School, the IEP electronically follows the student, Brazeau said. "A single sign-in gives you

access to all the information," he said. In addition to an IEP, any medical notes or other information about the student — such as a peanut allergy or a restraining order — is all accessible for teachers. Power School also gives the district a way to help provide details to the Central Health and Wellness Center. Nurses and staff at the medical clinic will be able to easily identify students whose parents have opted them out of getting care, Brazeau said. "I think there's some real benefit to us to be able to get the information (quickly), package it in a way that we want to package it, and have it available to us at request," Brazeau said. Teachers, administrators and classified staff will train on the new system throughout the month of August. It should be ready to go before school starts, Brazeau said.



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White's Collision to open new location

Itemizer-Observer staff report
DALLAS — White's Collision Service of Dallas announced it is opening a new location in Silverton at Holland Collision Service. White's purchased the business on June 1 from Mark Holland, who has owned and operated it since 2001. The location is White's Collision Service's fourth. A grand opening celebration at the new shop will take place Aug. 5 from 4 to 8 p.m. For more information: 503-559-6943.

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