

Teton Literacy Center

Happy New Year!

In this issue:

- Register now for adult language classes!
- TLC receives Small Miracles Grant
- Student achieves U.S. citizenship
- Save the Date – Laps for Literacy



January 2011 Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Jan. 10-Mar. 31 Adult Language Classes
Feb. 1-Mar. 15 Kid's Laps For Literacy
Mar. 20 Adult Laps For Literacy

Thank You!

TLC would like to thank everyone who donated books to us at Main Event, JH Book Traders and Valley Books. We appreciate your support!

We are still accepting used book credit donations at JH Book Traders. These credits will be used in our youth program, in order to give youths we tutor the ability to buy books of their own.

Contact Us

1715 High School Rd., #260
P.O. Box 465, Jackson, WY 83001
307-733-9242
info@tetonliteracy.org
www.tetonliteracy.org



Adult Language Classes Start January 10

Spanish Classes: January 10 - March 31

Level 1 Spanish Class: Monday 9:30 - 11:30 am or Monday 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Level 1 Language Exchange: Wednesday 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Level 2 Spanish Class: Tuesday 9:30 - 11:30 am or Tuesday 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Level 2 Language Exchange: Thursday 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Level 3 Spanish Class: Tuesday 9:30 - 11:30 am or Tuesday 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Level 3 Language Exchange: Thursday 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Conversation Class: Wednesday 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Clases de Inglés: 10 de enero - 31 de marzo

Nivel 1 Clase de Inglés: Lunes 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Nivel 1 Intercambio: Miércoles 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Nivel 2 & 3 Clase de Inglés: Martes 6:00 - 8:00 pm
Nivel 2 & 3 Intercambio: Jueves 6:00 - 7:30 pm

To register for classes, please email Breezy at breezy@tetonliteracy.org, or call 733-9242. We hope to see you in class soon. We make learning easy and fun!

TLC Awarded Small Miracles Grant

Teton Literacy Center was recently awarded a Small Miracles Grant of \$1500 from The Episcopal Church of Jackson Hole. The grants are awarded to organizations that "support essential human needs and help build healthy communities in Teton County." The grant will be used for the youth program to give students "credits" to purchase books of their own, based on the number of TLC tutoring sessions they attend.

"We are thrilled to receive this grant," said Kelsey Ripple, Youth Program Director. "We look forward to partnering with St. John's and look forward to the opportunity to provide students with books that they choose and get to keep."

Laps for Literacy Registration

Get your board waxed and your skis sharpened! The 3rd Annual Laps for Literacy will take place on Sunday, **March 20**.

The youth portion of Laps for Literacy will occur from Feb. 1 – Mar. 15.

Youth registration begins **January 10th**. Prizes will be awarded for Most Days Skied, Most Sponsors, Most Money Raised and a Best Essay Contest.

Thanks to TCSR, we are able to waive all registration fees for the youth division.

For more details, contact Jana at 733-9242 or laps@tetonliteracy.org.



U.S. Citizenship Test Questions

Do you think you have what it takes to become a U.S. citizen? Below is a sampling of the questions asked on a U.S. citizenship test.

1. How many amendments does the Constitution have?
2. Who is the Chief Justice of the United States right now?
3. When was the Constitution written?
4. Who was President during World War I?
5. Name one of the two longest rivers in the United States.

Answers: 1. 27 2. John G. Roberts, Jr. 3. 1787
4. Woodrow Wilson 5. Mississippi River, Missouri River

Student Achieves U.S. Citizenship

Teton Literacy Center is proud to announce that one of our students, **Cassie Liu**, has passed the United States citizenship test and become a U.S. citizen.

Cassie (or Li Hua Liu) is originally from China. She moved to the U.S. Oct. 1, 2001, and to Jackson a year later. In China, Cassie was an accountant. She now owns Hong Kong Buffet with friend Susan Liu.

Mandarin Chinese, Cassie's native language, doesn't include the same sounds or characters as any language in the Western hemisphere. When Cassie first came to TLC in 2007, she started with the basics: sounds, numbers and the alphabet. She progressed to menu items, then to vocabulary. Cassie has worked diligently to learn English and become a citizen.

Cassie loves the U.S. and the freedoms allowed here. Plus, Cassie said, "American people are very nice."

TLC board member Lindy Sayers began working with Cassie at the end of September 2010. They met twice a week for one hour each session. The majority of the time they worked on what questions would be on the citizenship test and how to answer them. They also practiced English so Cassie would feel comfortable with the questions being asked.

"She had already done so much work," said Lindy. "Cassie worked harder for her citizenship than most people work in a lifetime."

In the two months leading up to Cassie's test date, it became helpful to add predictability to the testing process. Cassie and Lindy acted out scenarios about what the testers would look and act like. "It was a joy watching her become more confident in what she already knew," said Lindy.

For those that do not know, the U.S. citizenship test is comprised of two parts. The first is on speaking, reading, and writing English. The second portion is U.S. history and government. There are 100 questions on the second portion, 10 of which are asked by the testers. An individual must answer at least six correctly to pass the second portion of the test.

Cassie took her citizenship test on December 2. She was very nervous and scared. After the test, she was immediately told that she passed. Now she is waiting for her official letter.

"Cassie is the kind of citizen we need," said Lindy.

Not only did Cassie learn from this experience, but Lindy did as well. Lindy says that it was an eye-opening experience, and she didn't know what the standards were for the citizenship test. It also made Lindy realize the importance of her own citizenship.

Next, Cassie is getting a U.S. passport and then she will travel to China in March or April to see her husband and children, whom she has not seen in nine years.

"I am happy to be a citizen," said Cassie, "because I love America."

