

Coming Soon—e-Learning Connection

Starting with the March/April issue of the Learning Connection, we will offer an electronic version of the newsletter that can be e-mailed directly to you.

There are obvious cost-effective benefits of reducing the amount of paper and ink we use, but in addition, we think you will find many other benefits to having the newsletter available on-line.

The Learning Connection will:

- be available anywhere you have e-mail
- be easier to find; no more searching for that paper copy
- contain links to useful information you can access immediately by simply clicking the links

We will continue to provide some printed copies of the newsletter and they will be available by the Help Desk in the same area as the other newspapers. Please feel free to take a copy at any time.



The most recent edition will also be available on the Literacy page of the Carlsbad City Library website.

We would like to add you to the distribution list for the e-Learning Connection. Please fill in the form below and give it to any member of the staff. You will receive your first e-newsletter with the March-April issue.



Yes! I would like to receive the Learning Connection by e-mail.

Please print the following:

Name _____

E-mail _____

Return this form to a staff member, or stop at the Help Desk where we can add your e-mail address to the distribution list.



Writer to Writer Challenge

Dear Mr. Pausch,

I heard about your book *The Last Lecture* and I decided to listen to the CDs while driving back and forth to work. What I learned from listening to your CDs was that it was hard for you to think about leaving your family. As I was listening, your stories were touching me in such a way. My mother was unable to speak after suffering a stroke, and when she died it made me wish that she had thought to leave us at least one picture of herself so we could see her face. It will be so nice for your kids to be able to see your face and hear your voice any time they want.

Mr. Pausch, even though cancer took your life way too early, how lucky you were to be able to plan for your passing by writing this book and making a DVD so that your kids would later know what kind of person you were. Your story raised a lot of emotion in me. Since my mother's illness came so quickly, she could not prepare for her death the way that you did. In the end she could not express her love for us the way that you were able to do for your family during your last days. Now at 49 years old while listening to your CDs, I wish she could have prepared us better for life without her.

When you spoke about reaching certain goals in your life and making certain choices, you made some important decisions. You moved your family to Virginia so that they could be close to family and friends. I related to this because my father moved us in with my grandparents, which was ok, however, my father just left us there. We were all sad after losing my mother and it felt like we had lost both parents because we didn't see him very often.

The chapter named, "Winning Big" also made me think of my own childhood. Reading about the fun things you did when you were young made me feel sad. We were poor and never had the chance to do fun things as a family. When you were a kid, your parents took you to the circus and other interesting places. I understand that having money doesn't always make life happy, but my father could have spent more time with us. I believe that would have helped to ease our pain. The closeness you had with your family before you died will help them later in their life.

—Ramon G.

Congratulations to our learners and their tutors who participated in the Southern California Library Literacy Network's (SCLLN) Writer to Writer Challenge! Learners from all over Southern California submitted 46 letters written to authors describing how their books affected their lives. Carlsbad Library Literacy Services submitted the largest number of letters from one library—13! Way to go! The top three letter writers in each of the 4 categories (emerging, beginning, intermediate, and advanced) will be announced in early February. The winners will be honored at a luncheon at the SCLLN's annual conference on February 25. Last year, Carlsbad had several winners, including Ramon G. Above is his letter that he submitted for this year's challenge.


Attendance Really Does Make a Difference

The adult learners in Literacy Services are a diverse group. But they all come to Literacy Services with the same goal: to improve their skills as workers, community members, life-long learners, and family members in order to live up to their full potential.

It has been documented that adult learners need 100-150 hours of instruction in order to show substantial improvement in skill level (Sticht, 1982, as cited in Porter, Cuban, Cummings, and Chase, 2005). Here in our program, our learners received an **average** of 59 hours of instruction during the past **year**.

We'd like to see every pair reach at least 100 hours of instruction, and that's why we'd like to make 2012 the Year of 100 Hours. We're extending a challenge for all of our learners and tutors to do the four items shown on the Attendance Chart:

The Literacy Services staff are proud of the accomplishments of each and every one of our

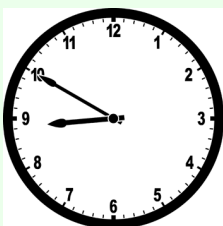


Attendance Chart

- Make it a priority to attend all of your scheduled sessions.**
- Schedule make-up sessions if you miss a session.**
- At the end of each month, review and discuss your attendance as a pair.**
- Attend small group classes and workshops on special topics offered by Literacy Services.**

76 pairs and would like to extend our support and encouragement throughout the Year of 100 Hours. We are here to help you succeed!

Reference: Porter, K.E., Cuban, S., Comings, J.P., & Chase, V. (2005). One day I will make it: A study of adult student persistence in library literacy programs. Retrieved from <http://www.mdrc.org/publications/401/execsum.html>



With the cold weather here, we want to remind you that the earliest we can admit you into the building for a 9 am appointment is 8:50 am. Staff need time in the morning to start up the building and the computers. We don't want you to be standing outside in the cold waiting for us to open!



Sandy Z. – green tea

Sherrie L. – candy

Lee R. – magazine, calendars, homemade fudge

Elmer R. – magazines, homemade fudge

Diane H. – candy

Phyllis J. – candy

Anthony R. – DMV Handbooks, game

Bev L. – candy, magazine

Mary Lou S. –calendars, holiday cookies

Claudia J. – variety of chips

Nieves M. – hot chocolate

Betty G. – calendars, cookies, magazine subscription, cookies

Nahid P. – chocolate

Bob P. – candy

Joanna & Rosanna T. – donuts

Aurelia D. – homemade cookies and coffee cake

Bill L. – coffee, homemade cookies

Nyla and Floyd H. – caramel popcorn

Linda T. – chocolates

Mary Lou S. – cookies

Leslie R. – cookies

Harriet N. – candy, assorted tea

Mel K. – chocolates

Fatima E. – chocolates

Sue L. – candy

Phyllis K.—book

Mariana R. – homemade tamales

Hui G. – tabletop Christmas tree

Joyce F. – cookies

Miguel P. – cookies

Claudia J. – popcorn

Nieves M.— popcorn

Alberto A. – plants

Lisa F. – snacks

