

On the same page

with St. Peter Community & Family Education

July 2009

Brochure Facts:

- There are 61 in the cast of "Alladin & His Magic Lamp"
- There are 4 different Youth Art Camps this month.



Adult Area Learning Cooperative Provides Range of Services

"Changing lives and breaking the cycle of poverty is what we do," stated Adult Area Learning Cooperative Coordinator, Becki Hawkins. This program offers classes in English as a Second Language (ESL), Basic Skills, General Education Development (GED) diploma preparation, High School Diploma, Work Wise, and Citizenship preparation.

All of the teachers are licensed by the State of Minnesota. "Our teachers become their students cheerleaders, counselors, and friends. They are a very caring group of people who go beyond the call of duty because of their commitment to the students." Hawkins said.

Initially, GED students take practice tests to find out their level of ability and to determine what skills they need to strengthen. In order to obtain their GED, participants must pass a series of five tests in the following areas: math, science, social studies, language arts – reading, and language arts – writing. These tests are fee based and are held in Faribault and Mankato.

The cooperative also provides individuals with the opportunity to receive their high school diploma. This process depends on the number of graduation credits a student has earned. For every graduation credit needed, a program participant is required to spend 50 classroom hours and

130 homework hours. "This takes a lot of independent work," said Hawkins. "You need to be self-motivated in order to succeed."

Those who want to study for their citizenship test can also take advantage of the cooperative. "We don't provide the legal process; those tests are done in the cities. We do help people prepare for the test," Hawkins explained.

The Area Adult Learning Cooperative is a consortium made up of the following school districts: St. Peter, Le Sueur/Henderson, Montgomery/Lonsdale, Le Center, Cleveland, Nicollet, Sibley East, and GFW. The consortium also consists of the Nicollet County Law Enforcement Center, the Le Sueur County Law Enforcement Center and the St. Peter Regional Treatment Center. Classroom sites are located at Montgomery, Le Center, Le Sueur, GFW, Sibley East, St. Peter, both county jails, and the treatment center.



Pictured above are five of the 18 graduates from the 2008-09 GED program.



Take a look at the new summer brochure!

Summer Learning Day

President Barack Obama issued a proclamation declaring July 9, 2009, as Summer Learning Day. His proclamation strongly encourages youth engagement in summer learning activities so that they return to school prepared for academic advancement.

Research consistently shows that summer is a time when all children lose ground academically, and children of low-income families, who don't have opportunities for summer learning, lose the most. These children fall even further behind in reading and math each summer. This gap often determines whether students decide to drop out of high school or go on to college. High-quality summer learning programs help close the achievement gap and promote healthy youth development.

"Even though summer has arrived, student learning needs do not take a vacation," the president said. "On Summer Learning Day, we highlight the need for more young people to be challenged during their time off from school. We also express support for local programs, communities, and families that help children grow through learning initiatives."

Register for classes online at:
www.stpetercommunityedonline.com

