



Backside News

JULY 2010

JULY EVENTS:

JULY 4TH— SUNDAY SOCCER CANCELLED FOR INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 5TH—

INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED ~ ESL CLASSES CANCELLED

JULY 7TH— LEARNING CENTER LEGAL CLINIC 6-8PM

JULY 8TH—

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PARTY! 5-7PM

JULY 20TH—

VOLUNTEER MEETING 7-8PM

JULY 27TH— TRIP TO ATLANTIS WATER-PARK! 11:30am-4:00pm

UPCOMING EVENTS:

AUGUST 12TH— STUDENT/VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PARTY!

JULY CENTER-HOURS:

MONDAY-FRIDAY CHURCHILL
11:30 AM-8PM
6:00PM-8PM

2010 Groom Elite Graduation

Written by: Kevin Oberhausen

The Learning Center once again hosted Groom Elite 101 classes for the backside workers here at Churchill Downs. Out of the 19 students that were originally enrolled in the course, 10 of those became graduates! Those students were: Byron Cardona, Daniel Orantes, Daniel Queenan, Edwin Rivas, Gerardo Gonzalez, Jonathan Valenzuela, Juan Chacón, Juan Juarez, Kenneth Maier, and Luis Chiari.



Groom Elite Lunch Donation

Acknowledgment

Help support these businesses that donated lunches for our Groom Elite course!

Bearno's by the Bridge: May 10
Hardee's on Taylor Blvd: May 11
Rally's on Taylor Blvd: May 17
Little Caesar's Pizza at Central Station: May 18 & 24

Clement's Catering and the Derby Café: May 25
Levy Restaurants at Churchill Downs: June 1, 2 & 3

J Gumbo's at Central Station: June 8

Texas Roadhouse: June 14
Los Aztecas on Main Street: June 15



JULY CLASS SCHEDULE:

MONDAYS:

11:30AM: LATINA WOMEN AT CHURCHILL DOWNS
1 PM: ENGLISH TUTORING HOUR
5PM: ENGLISH CLASS

TUESDAYS:

11:30AM: BEGINNING & INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH PRACTICE
1PM: ADVANCED ENGLISH PRACTICE
5PM: ENGLISH CLASS

WEDNESDAYS:

11:30AM: BEGINNING & INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH PRACTICE
1PM: ART CLASS
1PM: ADVANCED ENGLISH PRACTICE
5:30PM: SPANISH CLASS
6PM: COMPUTER CLASS

THURSDAYS:

11:30AM: BEGINNING & INTERMEDIATE ENGLISH PRACTICE
1PM: ADVANCED ENGLISH PRACTICE
5:30PM: BILINGUAL CONVERSATION TABLES
7PM: GUITAR CLASS

FRIDAYS:

1PM: ADVANCED ENGLISH PRACTICE
5:30PM: MOVIE NIGHT

Student & Volunteer Recognition

Volunteer of the Month



Jack Cox took home the award for May Volunteer of the Month by leading the Basic English Practice Tuesday-Thursday, Learning Center soccer outings every Sunday, and a variety of other extracurricular activities. Jack's dedication and consistency as a volunteer at the Learning Center has helped him to become our first 3-time Volunteer of the Month award winner!

Student of the Month



Special thanks to the Outrider's Society, the Kentucky Derby Museum's volunteer organization, for donating gift cards for the second straight year! These Wal-Mart gift cards will be given to every Student of the Month award winner in 2010. This is a great incentive for our students to achieve, and we are most appreciative of the Outrider's support.

English Student of the Month

Carlos Navas won the May Student of the Month award for English. Carlos has been studying a lot at the Learning Center this year in our Advanced English Practice. His efforts have been paying off and his English is much improved. Congratulations Carlos and keep up the good work!



Participation Student of the Month



Daniel Orantes took home the May Student of the Month Award for Participation by attending a multitude of classes and programs. Morning English Practice, evening ESL classes, Groom Elite 101, Soccer Sunday and Art account for five different things Daniel did in May! We hope Daniel's enthusiasm grows as the year goes on, but the level he is at right now is outstanding. Make sure to stay active Señor Orantes! The year is only just beginning...



Team Notes

Written by: Jessica Lizotte

Greetings! Saludos! My name is Jessica. I am the newest Americorps VISTA here at the Backside Learning Center. I was born and raised in New Hampshire which is also where I attended college. I fell in love with the Spanish language in the 7th grade and it was my major. My junior year in college I spent studying in Costa Rica I also volunteered teaching English at an elementary school in San Jose which was a very rewarding experience for me. After that year I discovered a love for teaching and helping people change their lives in a positive way. After graduation I returned to Costa Rica and taught ESL for a year



Jessica Lizotte will be the coordinator for the Plazas Comunitarias program here at the Learning Center.

and a half. When I returned to the United States I applied for Americorps VISTA positions and when I saw the job here at Churchill Downs I knew where I wanted to go.

I have been here for a

few weeks now and I have gotten to know many people students, staff, and volunteers on the backside and I am certain that I am in the right place. The Plaza Comunitaria I am starting will be a wonderful addition to the current programs offered here. The Plaza will provide people with the opportunity to become literate, get their primary and secondary education, help them transition to ESL and even prepare them for the GED. Everyone here has been very welcoming and helpful. I look forward to meeting many more people and learning about the world of horses and horse racing while improving the quality of life of those who work so hard behind the scenes.