



ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

One-on-one English Tutoring at no cost to the Student

Newsletter

January-February 2012

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012

ONE OF OUR AMAZING STUDENTS

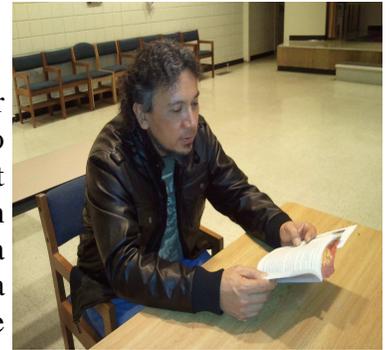
MARIO ARROYO BARRANTES:

An advanced student of Tutor Pamela Gilligan in Reno -

Mario's entire family lives in Costa Rica where he was born. He never married. He came to the U.S. 18 years ago and came to Reno almost 3 years ago relocating with a job he had in Las Vegas. He gets gratification from working out at the gym and fine tuning his English with our program. He is also involved in enhancing his spiritual health and is planning to take some time off to attend a Christian recovery center where he wants to reflect on his life and restart with a new attitude. On his return to Reno he wants to dedicate his life to help people that are in need, one way of which is to become a tutor in our program.

Welcome Mario! Our program needs you.

Following is a letter Mario recently sent to our Director, with minimal help from his tutor "I have been in the U.S. for more than 18 years, originally from Costa Rica. Reasons to move to the U.S. and start a new life were not clear at the time. I was struggling with personal issues and spiritual confusion. Since I arrived in this country I have taken different English classes as a secondary language in big groups at different times and places. The knowledge and understanding of English has helped me find jobs and relate with people. My personal belief is that as human beings we have to keep improving anything we can and communication is an aspect that enriches our souls, lives, and relationships with others. Personally, the English language has allowed me to have resources available and has made me feel useful towards people who do not speak or who are just starting to learn to speak English. On the other hand, English is a universal language and the opportunity to communicate with people from other parts of the world with different cultures and languages would be a great experience. I am very glad and thankful for the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada because I am able to have personal training in pronunciation and conversation which I use every day. My intentions are to take advantage of this program to better myself and then, in turn, in the future help others and give back to others who are in need."



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MORE STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

(1) We congratulate student **Irma Martinez** who became a U.S. Citizen on 10/13/11 with the help of her tutor, Sinclair Hugh of Reno.

(2) We also congratulate student **Romelia Limas** who became a U.S. Citizen on 10/20/11 with the help of her tutor, Lynne Gerard of Carson City.

(3) Tutor Pam Penrose of Carson City reported that because of improvement in English language skills, her student, **Morena Chiquillo** (Book 3) was called back to work.

(4) Tutor Gail Bursill of Fallon reported that her Student, **Elodia Mondragon** was told in a recent parent/teacher conference that she was speaking English so well that she no longer needs to have a translator at future conferences.

(5) Tutor Lasel Metzker of Reno reports that her student, **Angeles Valera** who has been studying only since October, has passed his driver's license and bought a car.

(6) Tutor Greg Brouner of Reno reported that his student, **Pedro Hernandez**, is doing so well with Level 3 that he can himself tutor a beginner. We are now matching him with a student .

(7) A child of Student **Rosa Guidino** of Dayton has received a student-of-month award for Math. Rosa has also been helping a child whose mother (one of our students) died of cancer. This child also received a student-of-month award for being most cooperative..



Happy Students/Tutors

UPDATES

(1) We are pleased to announce the acceptance of a new AmeriCorps/Vista member to our program:

Rosemarie Sherman:

She will start in late January 2012 . Her assignment is to

develop and expand Douglas County.

Rosemarie is originally from Honduras, speaks fluent Spanish and excellent English. She currently is one of our tutors at Community Latino United in Carson City and her 4 students love her.



(2) Carson City **Vista Michael Wakeley** is researching to add a Tutor Forum on our website so that all tutors can give ideas, ask questions, etc. to each other. He is also exploring the possibility of upgrading the website, so it might be down at some point in the month while we move to a new host

(3) Thank you all for distributing and using the **SHARE** cards at Save-Mart which gives us a % of purchases. We have so far this year received a little more than \$40. Call us if you don't have a card,

(4) For those who remember **Emily Yaffee**, a former Vista tutor for Washoe County, here's the latest from her Peace Corps adventures in the Dominican Republic: She's working on a project with some other Peace Corps volunteers that has been getting a lot of support from the Peace Corps headquarters

Check out the article about it and you can see her in the picture. <http://goo.gl/AuLq8> click on Dominican Republic.

STATISTICAL UPDATE

Current Tutors.....110
Current Students.....231

United States Citizens— 75
Currently in Cit. Class— 26

Potential Students Waiting for a tutor:

Carson..... 107
Washoe..... 121
Douglas..... 24
Lyon..... 29
Churchill..... 20

Total Waiting all Counties: 301

Total Tutor hours for Year 2011: 5,812

TUTOR TIPS

We are members of ProLiteracy. They have launched a series of online activities to help adult learners review important vocabulary associated with U.S. customs, laws and behaviors. Topics include using doctor and hospital services, using money, etc. It is free. Go to:

<http://www.proliteracyednet.org> and click on Instructors

For free flashcards, go to : elcivics.com and www.StudyBlue.com

RECIPES (Thanks to Those Who Cook)

From Tutor **Nanette Tracy**, Carson City: **Ukrainian Pierogis** (makes 45)

Dough: 4 C Flour, 2 Eggs;
1/2 C Sour Cream; 1 tsp Salt;
2/3 C Warm Water

Filling:

4 Lg Potatoes, boiled, mashed;
1/2 C Onion, chopped fine;
1/4 C Butter; 2 C Cheddar Cheese, shredded; 1/2-1 jar (to taste) Sauerkraut, drained, squeezed dry.

Sauce: 1 cube Butter; 1 Lg Onion, diced

Mix dough ingredients. Knead until firm and elastic. Cover, rest 15 min. Mix filling ingredients into a bowl. Divide dough into 3 parts. On floured surface, roll dough out thin (about 1/8"). Cut into 3 rounds (I use a can).

Place spoonful of filling in center of each round. Fold and press edges together firmly to seal dough. Drop into large pot of simmering water 6-8 at a time.

Simmer until they float to top. Remove with slotted spoon, drain on paper towels.

Layer them on buttered platter until you're ready to fry and serve. Put plastic wrap between each layer so not to stick together. Fry in skillet in 1/2 oil and 1/2 butter until light brown

For sauce, sauté onion and butter until tender.

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From Student, **Mary Chim** (Tutor Carol Edmund, Carson City)

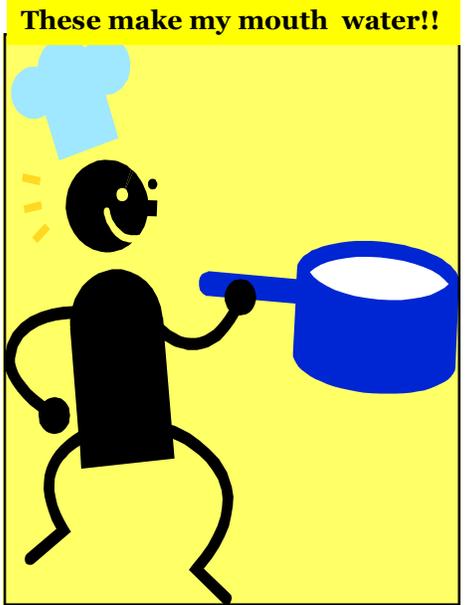
Kung Pao Chicken

8oz diced chicken breast;
4 oz diced celery;
2 oz diced zucchini;
2 oz diced carrot;
2 oz diced water chestnut;
3 pcs dry chili pepper;
1 tsp chili paste;
1-1/2 tsp soy sauce;
1/2 tsp sesame oil;
1/2 tsp cooking wine;
1/4 tsp white pepper;
1 tsp sugar,
1/4 tsp garlic;
1 tsp potato starch.

Put chicken, celery, zucchini, carrot and water chestnut in boiled water for 3 min. Take out, dry. Put 1 T. oil, garlic,

dry chili pepper, chili paste, soy sauce, sesame oil, wine, sugar, white pepper. Add chicken and all vegetables. Stir-fry 3 min. Mix potato starch w/little water. After 3 min, stir fry, sprinkle potato starch in mixture. Garnish with peanuts (roasted or fried)

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DISASTER PREPARENESS

With the recent Caughlin fire in Reno, many of you might be wondering what you should do if something similar happens where you are, or if you were in the affected area, what you should do to be more prepared. In December, VIS-TAs Michael Wakeley and Donna McElroy attended a workshop on this topic. Preparing yourself can take several parts. First, you should prepare yourself with a disaster kit, which includes enough non-perishable food and water for three days in case you are cut off from the world and can't get anywhere. You should also make copies of all your important documents, such as your birth certificate, passport, lease or deed to your house, insurance information, and other essential documents. Store the originals in a fire-resistant or fireproof case, and the copies in a different location, such as your parent's or your friend's house. That way, in case you lose your home, you at least still have all your important documents and you can restart your life easier. Finally, you should make a plan for what to do in case of emergency. Plan your escape routes from each part of your house in case of fire and decide in advance what you want to pack in case you need to leave right away to a shelter. If you have something like a shelter kit with things you need, such as prescription meds or other things that are hard to obtain, then it will be really convenient to grab that on the way out the door and save you the headache of trying to find it all when you are stressed out from not having a home.

The community has many resources to assist you if you are affected by a fire or other emergency. The Fire Department or Red Cross will find you a place to stay until it is safe for you to return home, or in the worst case scenario, until you can find a new one. In cases, such as the Caughlin fire, where there were significant numbers of people affected, Red Cross will likely set up shelters in places like high schools where you can spend the nights until you get back on your feet. We are also blessed in Northern Nevada with many very generous Hotel-Casinos who opened their doors at either reduced cost or free to people affected by the recent fire, and will likely do so again in the case of another emergency of that scale. In case you do go to a shelter, please be aware that the shelter needs an accurate head count for safety reasons, so be sure to sign in and out every time you enter or leave. If you have animals and are worried about bringing them with you, please be aware that while most shelters do not allow pets, emergency workers and shelter staff will have resources for you to house your animals for as long as needed, even horses, so do not leave them at home if you need to evacuate. Remember, it's always better to have a plan and not need it to be stuck without anything.

ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada

*Free one-on-one English
tutoring for adults at no cost*

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We're on the web!
eslinhome.org

If you would like to be taken off our mailing list, please
send an email to eslinhomenv@aol.com

Mission Statement: ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada provides instruction at no cost to adult individuals who wish to learn or improve their English language skills regardless of sex, age, race, religion or national origin. ESL In-Home Program empowers people to become more productive members of their local communities by providing them with the language and cultural skills necessary for life in America.

To make donations to the ESL In-Home Program of Northern Nevada, go to our website and click on the DONATION button—

Invite your friends to become a tutor! Tell them why you enjoy the experience. Invite them to learn more about our program at our website: www.eslinhome.org. It is not necessary for tutors to know a foreign language or have prior teaching experience. We train at no cost. The ESL In-Home Program would like to expand to other counties in Northern Nevada. If you know people in Pershing, Lander and Humboldt please let us know.

From The Executive Director

Dear Tutors: Now that the Holidays are over, I would like to remind each of you of the wonderful gift of language and communication skills that you have given and continue to give to your student(s). Many of you tell me that you feel you get more than you give; and that the experience of helping people achieve their goals and witnessing their lives change is a gift to yourselves. The many “thank you’s” I receive from your students saying they are happy confirms your gift to them.

But, truly, it is to YOU that I give thanks to for your willingness to help another person in your efforts to solve the language barrier.. Your fortitude, patience, and desire to guide your students through the learning process is the fertilizer that makes this program the success it is. When I read the success stories of a student finally passing a driver’s test, or being able to communicate with their child’s teachers or taking a sick child to the hospital and being able to state what is wrong, makes my heart sing .

If you are struggling with something, please ask me for help. I can send you ideas to make tutoring easier.

What a gift each of you are!

Florence G. Phillips



Florence G. Phillips