



Show-Me

The "Official" Newsletter of Literacy in Missouri

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Literacy....

Second Quarter Tailgate Party!

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The Independence AEL Program hosted the NW Region 2nd Quarter Tailgate Party on Oct. 1st to kick off the second quarter of the new program year. AEL Teachers from the NW Region were invited to attend and collaborate with one another while enjoying the festivities. Teachers were provided with tailgate party snacks, a motivational speaker, and an exciting workshop on essay writing.

Our motivational speaker, Kenny Ross, was one of the recipients of the \$3,000 GED scholarship award for 2010. Kenny spoke to teachers about how they inspired him to push forward in getting his GED and how his teacher was the driving force behind his motivation. Kenny shared some of his challenges in life and how he was able to overcome many obstacles. Kenny truly appreciates the support that his teacher, Kathleen Stack, provided him throughout the process of obtaining his GED. Mrs. Stack attended Kenny's awards ceremony in St. Louis this summer.

Independence's own George Fithen III presented a workshop to teachers on how to attack and defeat the GED essay. He uses the clever formula $S = E + X$ to demonstrate his strategy. The "S" stands for support, the "E" stands for evidence, and the "X" stands for x-planation. In order for students to support their point on the essay, they must have both evidence and an explanation. Teachers engaged in a lively discussion of strategies they use to teach essay writing and worked in groups to formulate their own topic sentences and to use George's $S=E+X$ formula.

The Independence AEL Program will continue to offer teacher collaboration opportunities each month during our "First Friday PD events". These are open to all AEL teachers, volunteers, and support staff.



The Community

A Newsletter for GED Testing Professionals and Adult Educators

August 2010
Feature Stories

GED Testing Service Answers Your Questions

Are you an adult educator or GED testing professional? If so, make sure to participate in the direct Q&A with GED Testing Service. A series of Q&A pieces in The Community will answer YOUR questions about the GED 21st Century Initiative.

What is the Initiative? What can I expect here in my local community? With whom should I talk locally for more information? We're looking for questions like these and anything else that comes up around the office or around the neighborhood that needs answering. Don't be afraid to ask your questions—we are excited about the Initiative's potential and are committed to keeping you informed.

To submit questions, visit our [online submissions form](#) today. (Only adult educators and GED testing professionals should be submitting questions). We may group some questions together by topic, but will begin featuring the answers to all questions in The Community starting in September. Start your school year off by being directly connected to us and sharing your questions and concerns!

Get Ready for National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week

The field has worked with Congress for the second time to dedicate September 13–19 as National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week. See the [House Resolution](#) proclaiming the event. Organizations across the country are encouraged to hold events, information sessions, and spread the word locally about the benefits of adult education.

Planning to hold some type of activity or event that week? Let us help get the word out by emailing the details of your event to GEDTScommunications@ace.nche.edu. We'll list these activities on our web site, share with the National Coalition for Literacy blog and your event might even be mentioned in our press release.

Also, remember to keep your eye on the NCL [Advocacy Toolkit](#) web site for ideas and resource links that might be helpful during National Adult Education and Family Literacy Week next month.

Spread the Word

As The Community begins to tackle reader questions about the GED 21st Century Initiative, we need you to reach out to examiners/testing professionals and adult educators in your local area who aren't subscribers yet. Send your colleagues to www.GEDtest.org/TheCommunity to sign up.

*GED Testing Service,
Cont. on page 3*

Examiner's Corner

When Are Additional Personnel Needed?

The official GED testing center staffing plan requires the center to have an appropriate number of people available to assist in administering the GED Tests to candidates with disabilities.

Who may be present while the GED Tests are being administered? For testing sessions conducted in correctional facilities, prison guards may be present if they meet the eligibility requirements for GED Proctors and have been trained. For candidates with medical needs or disabilities, appropriate professionals may be assigned and remain present as necessary.

For more information regarding the need for additional personnel at specific testing sessions, refer to the GED Policies and Procedures Manual section 1.9.

About the GED Test

An Equating Refresher

During the fall of 2010, GED Testing Service® (GEDTS) will be conducting an equating study as part of the development of a new set of Official Practice Tests. Have you ever wondered, though, what equating is and why we have to do it?

Equating is a statistical process that "adjusts for differences in difficulty among forms that are built to be similar in difficulty and content" (Kolen & Brennan, 2004, p. 2). The GED Test has many different operational forms within each of five content areas, but because the various forms are equated it does not matter which specific test form a candidate receives. There are many different equating techniques and data collection designs. GEDTS uses "equipercentile equating" to make minor adjustments in test scores.

The following section was taken from the 2002 Technical Manual (GED Testing Service, 2009) and briefly describes our process:

The equipercentile method of equating used to equate test forms may also be illustrated by the following example. Suppose scores on a new hypothetical form "XX" are to be equated to an anchor test form "AA." The raw scores on form XX are equated to the standard scores on form AA by identifying the standard scores on form AA that have percentile ranks equivalent to the percentile ranks observed for the form XX raw scores. For example, if a score of 17 on form XX has a percentile rank of 12 (i.e., 12 percent of the students tested with form XX scored at or below a raw score of 17), the standard score on form AA that corresponded to a percentile rank of 12 on form AA is identified. For the purposes of this example, assume that this form AA standard score is 340. A raw score of 17 on form XX would then be assigned a standard score of 340. The standard score of 340 represents the same level of achievement signified by the particular raw score on either test form (p. 41).

If you have any questions about how GEDTS equates test forms, please contact Carl Setzer at 202-375-7535 or email Carl_Setzer@ace.nche.edu.

Dollar General Funds Grant to Reduce Waiting Lists

Through Sept. 30, 2010, Dollar General Literacy Foundation is accepting applications for its new waiting list reduction grant. The Dollar General Literacy Foundation waiting list reduction grant helps literacy programs find ways to immediately engage potential students in learning activities. Learn more at [Dollar General Funds Grant to Reducing Waiting Lists](#).

For more information go to: http://www.acenet.edu/Content/NavigationMenu/ged/etp/pros/Subscribe_to_GED_New.htm

PDC Monthly Calendar

For more information go to: <http://www.maelpdc.org/>

November 2010

Sunday		Monday		Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	Oct	1	Nov	2	3	4	5	6
						Online-Back to School: Cognitive Abilities 6-8pm		ESL/BTAP and ABE/BTAP @ Parkway 8:30am - 3:30pm Math III @ Bonne Terre 8am to Noon
7	8	9	10	11	12	13		
	ONLINE: Cognitive Abilities, 1-3 p.m.	Shovel Ready Math @ Moberly 5-9pm	PCW/Director Review @ Columbia 8:30am to 5pm	PCW/Director Review @ Columbia 8:30am - 12:30pm Online-Strategic Planning in the Classroom 1-3pm	STAR III @ Kirkwood CASAS @ MCCCKC 8:30am to 3:00pm	STAR III @ Kirkwood		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20		
		Online-Financial Literacy 9-11am	CASAS @ Springfield 2-8:30pm	Online-Blueprint for Change 7-9 pm	Meet & Greet for PCW attendees (optional) 7 p.m.- 8 p.m.	PCW @ Columbia, Day 1 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. ESL/BTAP @ Independence 8:30 - 3:00		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27		
PCW @ Columbia, Day 2 8:30 a.m. - 12:30								
28	29	30	1	Dec	2	3	4	
		Online-Blueprint for Change-9-11am, Financial Literacy 1-3pm, Strategic Planning in the Classroom-6-8pm					BTAP @ Rolla 9am - 4pm	

Scholarship Will Help Students Get GEDs

Reprinted from :Staff Reports [The Moultrie Observer](#) [The Moultrie Observer](#) Sat Oct 16, 2010, 10:52 PM EDT

MOULTRIE — The family of a lifelong educator and mentor in the states of Georgia and Missouri has chosen to keep her memory alive by helping students who aspire to earn their GED credentials through Moultrie Technical College's Adult Education program.

An elementary school teacher with a combined 35 years in the classroom in St. Louis and then at Colquitt County's Okapilco Elementary School, Glendora P. Ryce continued her legacy by joining the instructional staff at Moultrie Tech to assist adult learners primarily in the area of Northwest Moultrie.

One student per quarter will now be the beneficiary of a \$95 GED testing fee scholarship in the name of Ryce, who passed away on Jan. 15.

"Auntie Glen was always giving and finding a way to help someone, especially looking for ways to make it better for her students. This GED fee scholarship, in memoriam, represents a big part of her legacy," said Ryce's nephew-in-law and niece, Miguel and Carla Pearson Alexander.



The Mrs. Glendora P. Ryce GED Fee Scholarship is the first recognized scholarship in memory of a former Moultrie Technical College Adult Education instructor.

To be considered for the scholarship, students will meet certain qualifications: preferably living in the Northwest section of Moultrie or other Moultrie and Colquitt County residents; be enrolled in the Moultrie Technical College Adult Education program; be a first-time GED test taker; complete the Mrs. Glendora P. Ryce GED Fee Scholarship application; have acceptable scores on the Test of Adult Basic Education (TABE) and the Official Practice Test; and be recommended by an instructor and approved by the MTC Adult Education director.

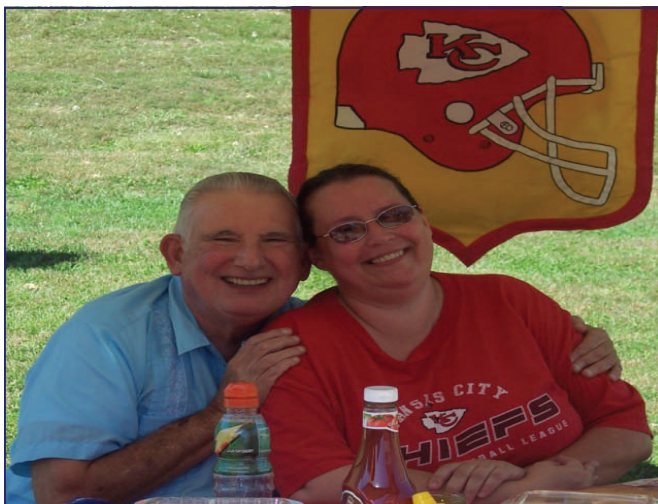
Adult education and family literacy programs serve adult students who need to improve their basic literacy and math skills, improve their oral and written English, practice for the GED test to attain a high school equivalence degree, and prepare for community college or vocational training.

Moultrie Technical College's Adult Education program offers free classes for people ages 16 and over to help them prepare to take the GED exam.

In its four-county service delivery area of Colquitt, Tift, Turner and Worth, Moultrie Tech has served an average of 1,350 students per year over the last four years with an average of 320 students per year obtaining a GED credential after passing the GED test.

For more information about Moultrie Tech's Adult Education program or GED testing dates and procedures, call (229) 217-4181 or log on to www.moultrietech.edu/adulted

Independence AEL Tailgate Party



OVAE Launches LINCS Web Site

With the closing of the National Institute for Literacy (NIFL) on Sept. 30, the Literacy Information and Communication System (LINCS) dissemination and professional development network is moving to OVAE. A [new LINCS website](#) —live Oct. 1— offers publications, subject-oriented online adult education and literacy instructional resources, archives of NIFL webcasts, a calendar of events, news items and discussion lists. Sign up via email to receive information about upcoming professional development opportunities, links to monthly resource collection newsletters, announcements of discussion list guests and webcasts.

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