



# IT'S ALL ABOUT YOU!

**"If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change."**

Newsletter for the Clearview Adult Education Center Students

March 2025

Volume 11, Issue 7

## 2024-25 Clearview Adult Education Center Student Calendar

4/18/25	Non-Student Day – No Classes
4/21/25	Non-Student Day – No Classes
5/26/25	Memorial Day Holiday – Schools Closed – No Classes
6/2/25	New Term Starts – Students must fill out 4-page registration form and pay \$45 tuition

**6/2/25 - 7/25/25**

**4-Day School Week – School and office closed on Fridays – No classes on Fridays**

March brings Spring which means flowers, warmer weather, and Spring Break. I hope yours was wonderful. In March we celebrate Women's History Month as well as International Women's Day. Be sure to check out all the posters in the downstairs hallway to learn a little about some amazing women who made significant contributions to the world. March 17<sup>th</sup> is St. Patrick's Day, and everyone likes to be a little Irish on this day. Don't forget to wear your green or you might get a pinch. According to fun folklore, you get pinched on St. Patrick's Day for not wearing green because green makes you invisible to leprechauns. Leprechauns are mischievous creatures, and according to legend, they like to pinch people (because they can!). Teacher Paige and I were talking about how this is one of our favorite months here in Florida because the weather is beautiful, the days get longer, and you get a sense of a fresh start. So, no matter what is happening, let's all try to focus on the beauty that surrounds us. Take a walk, ride a bike, hang out at the beach, or do whatever brings you joy! Happy Spring!



## March Graduate of the Month from Clearview

### SAUL CABRERA

“SAUL CABRERA! Saul came to us as an experienced and accomplished student from his home country of Mexico. Due to the difficulty and expense of having out of country transcripts verified and translated, he opted to get his GED here. Saul was very focused and maximized his time reviewing and taking his GED tests. We teased him about his consistency, scoring nearly the same on each individual GED test. Saul Cabrera is a fantastic young man, intelligent, polite, and genuinely nice. His future plans include getting his HVAC certification at Pinellas Technical College which is an excellent career choice to pursue here in the Sunshine State.” Submitted by CVAEC ABE/GED Teacher Ms. Allison



## March AHS Student of the Month from Clearview

### LINNEA HENRY

“Linnea just started AHS classes with me in February and has already shown she's motivated to move forward. She is working hard to pass her upcoming ACT test while finishing up a course in Edmentum. Linnea has done all I have asked of her in a short period of time, and I know with her hard work and effort she will be successful this April. Congrats to Linnea on a job well done and putting in the time to earn her diploma!” Submitted by CVAEC ABE/GED/AHS Teacher Ms. Jet.

## March GED Student of the Month from Clearview

### GISELLE PEREZ

“Giselle Perez is one of our newer students in the GED program. She came to us, as many do, because her employer made a change now requiring a high school diploma. She travels quite a distance for her job but still comes in several days a week, putting in the work for her diploma. She passed her first GED test and was diligently working toward the next. Then, rumor had it that after she began her educational journey, her employer reversed the requirement for a high school diploma. Giselle decided to earn her diploma anyway to pave the way for future career options. She is very determined, and we are very proud she made the decision to continue.” Submitted by CVAEC ABE/GED Teacher Ms. Allison



## March ESOL Student of the Month from Clearview

### TUYEN THI NGOC NGUYEN

"Tuyen Thi Ngoc Nguyen is an exemplary student. She has a brilliant mind which helps her to analyze complicated material, understand every detail, and explain everything to others in a way that helps them learn. Tuyen is the best peer tutor in the group and students ask her for assistance when they are struggling with some concepts. When she is offered an opportunity to be a teacher in front of the group, she manages everything expertly and knows how to ask interesting questions and manage student responses. Tuyen is consistent in everything she does; she puts in the work and is proud of the result. She also works as an office assistant and takes care of her two-year-old son. Tuyen is planning to study software engineering when her son is a bit older. I am truly proud to nominate Tuyen as Clearview's March ESOL Student of the Month." Submitted by CVAEC ESOL Teacher Ms. Inguna



## March ESOL Student of the Month from Clearview

### LAZARO ORTEGA HERNANDEZ

"Lazaro Ortega Hernandez is a wonderful person whose sincerity, genuine care for everyone, and beautiful smile are the first things people notice about him. The Clearview Family is truly grateful to know and appreciate Lazaro; everyone knows him. When interviewed, Lazaro said he is thankful to be around good people and that he was born to be of service. He feels loved by everyone, and lives to help humanity. When he was a young boy, Lazaro started saving animals and birds and helping people as much as he could because he lives for the joy this gives him. He accepts things as they come, and his dream is to live a rewarding life with the joy of service. I am truly proud to nominate Lazaro as Clearview's March Student of the Month." Submitted by CVAEC ESOL Teacher Ms. Inguna



## March ESOL Students of the Month from Largo Library

### MYRIAM AND OVIDIO ALZATE

"Myriam and Ovidio Alzate love learning English! They are both retired and come to class consistently, rarely missing class, to improve their English. Attending class is a priority as is practicing English at home. Myriam and Ovidio have been married for 55 years and do everything together. They help each other with projects at home and in class and also help other students in class. Their warm, bright smiles welcome all students, and their hard work and dedication deserve recognition! Both Myriam and Ovidio practiced their English writing skills and submitted essays to the Florida Coalition last year. Both essays were chosen and published in the book. They have also written and submitted essays this year that will hopefully be chosen as well. Congratulations to Largo Library's March ESOL Students of the Month Myriam and Ovidio Alzate!" Submitted by CVAEC Largo Library ESOL Teachers Ms. Naki, Ms. Mildred, and Ms. Jodi.





Every year, the Florida Literacy Coalition publishes a book of essays written by Florida Adult Learners. The Clearview Adult Education Center ESOL Students love to write so each year we submit some of their essays. Reading the student stories is a truly emotional experience. A few of them put a smile on my face and all of them make me think and help me understand the writer's lives much more deeply. Several of the most emotional and heartfelt essays bring tears to my eyes. We will feature those essays in our Clearview Newsletters each month. Please enjoy!!



#### A Sudden Parent by Nada Ibrahim

"Imagine suddenly becoming parents for four children, ages 7-16! My family were eating dinner when suddenly the phone rang. My husband answered in a sad voice. He said, "Did she die?" So, I got up and asked, "Who died?" It was Nadjut, an Eritrean lady who came from Egypt as a refugee. She was a single mother with four children. I met her only once. My husband called me to tell me that Nadjut died in a traffic accident in front of the factory where she worked. She was crossing the street to get to the bus stop to return home. Her beautiful children were all waiting for their mom at home, but she didn't come home like every day. I was thinking about what happened; sadness filled my heart. My husband was in shock. He had left the accident site and gone to Nadjut's house to check on the children. He found the police there and the Gulf Coast Organization which was responsible for Nadjut and her kids. My husband decided to take the kids home because the police asked the kids if they have any relatives, and the answer was that they had no one in the U.S. and they didn't know anyone, just their mom. With love, I said they are welcome, and I asked my husband how the police allowed him to take the kids. He said, "Because they have no one, and the law doesn't allow them to stay home alone, we'll take care of them until the next step." The most difficult moment was when all of them entered, their sad faces full of questions and tears. I hugged them and said, "Don't be afraid; I will be like your mom. I know that no one can replace a mother." I asked them to feel at home. I haven't told you yet how I felt in those moments. I need more pages for that. They stayed with us for two weeks. During this time, my life stopped, all my children's activities were cancelled, and our home became a battlefield between organizations, charities, DCF, and everyone who heard about this incident. I didn't know what to do, and I was confused because I didn't know the children and their culture because they are Eritrean, and we are Sudanese. This was another challenge. With the support of my husband, I got through the difficult days. We worked like one family, my Sudanese family, and our neighbors, until Nadjut was buried. A few days later, the Gulf Coast Organization came and said the children would return to their home and another lady would take care of them until their relatives are found. I learned a lot from this incident. I learned how important are love and community."



#### Someone I Admire by Victor Medina

"My dad was my greatest role model. His strength, kindness and unwavering support shaped me into who I am today. Losing him during the pandemic was an indescribable pain, a reminder of how fragile life is. However, through the grief, I carry his lessons and love with me every day, striving to honor his memories in everything I do. One day, I was running in the park and suddenly I received a call from my sister. She was very scared and told me the bad news. My dad tested positive for COVID 19, and, at that moment, I felt how my body started to feel paralyzed. Unfortunately, I was not in Mexico, and I couldn't fly because it was not allowed. After two weeks of my dad being in the hospital, I received the call that nobody wants to have. Sadly, my dad had passed away. It was the worst day of my life when it happened. I felt frustrated because I couldn't be with him for the last time. However, I remembered the time when we talked about death. This conversation helped me cope with my loss. I admired him because he had prepared us for this difficult situation. I know this is a part of life, and I'm so thankful to God for the dad that I had. He taught me to be perseverant, disciplined, educated, and everything I am now is thanks to him because he was my role model. That's why I will always admire him.



### 26 Letters for Infinite Possibilities to Communicate by Maria Irene Segrera

"It is how life is. We must handle every day with daily challenges. I live in St. Petersburg, FL, and I could confirm it when I started to work in a beautiful place where we help autistic people to communicate. A lot of people think autistic people are different from others because they cannot communicate their needs, feelings, worries, and dreams with their voices. Well, thank God, it ends with a helpful method of communication called S2C (Spelling to Communicate). Through a letter board and a communication partner, people with this spectrum can express all their hearts have within. The partner can be their parent, sibling, friend, relative, or a person who wants to help them. It is amazing how we can learn from autistic people and how they can communicate between themselves. They really talk with their hearts, and the most beautiful thing is they are conscious that we cannot understand them. But when we can understand that, even though they cannot communicate through speaking, they can do it through a letter board, we can see that their world is amazing, and we have a lot to learn about them. Personally, for me, it has been the most beautiful experience, and it has confirmed to me that while the human beings are together in community helping each other we can do great things. It is important to be patient and humble to understand their behavior. The way autistic people can feel and perceive the world it is completely different. They can be as successful as any person who speaks. When an autistic person is quiet, reserved, looking, it is a way how they express themselves. We need to learn a lot to help. I am grateful to God, because living in the United States has allowed me to meet beautiful people and let me know that we are all connected, and we can do great things. Recently, on Netflix, I saw a documentary about an autistic girl called "Makayla's Voice: A letter to the World." It shows how she and her family learned how to communicate, and how their lives changed. Everybody has different challenges, but we are together helping each other and understanding there are voices that cannot be heard but can be felt. For the autistic community, called Neurodiverse Community, it is important people who can speak (Neurotypical Community) understand that they want to be heard. It is very important to me to be part of the community helping these beautiful people to be as great as they are. They are pure people with big hearts who are here to teach us to be better and the limits of our dreams are in our limited beliefs."



### My Trip to America by Khoi Ho

"I came to America with my wife and two children. We departed from Saigon to America by Philippine airlines. Before arriving in America, we transited in Manila Airport. During the flight we were served food and soft drinks. My children and I liked the foods so much, but my wife ate a little food because she only likes Vietnamese foods, so she was so tired. Our flight arrived at Los Angeles Airport at midnight on September 20, 2023. After we got off the plane, we went to the check-in area. At that time there weren't many people, so it took us around 30 minutes to meet a U.S. Customs and Border Protection Officer. He saluted us with a smile and asked us to give him our passports and documents. He checked them carefully and asked us some questions. He spoke English so fast, and I didn't understand clearly because my English wasn't good enough to understand at all what he said. I told him my English wasn't good and asked him to speak slowly and then he spoke to us slowly and clearly. That helped me to understand what he said. It took him an hour to check our cases. I knew he was very patient with our family because he was so busy and worked hard all day. Our family passed the check point, and he stamped our passports. After he returned the passports to our family, he stood at attention, stated his name, his position, and welcomed our family to America. I was surprised about what he did for our family. We thanked him and said goodbye to him. Now our family are very happy here."





The 49<sup>th</sup> Annual St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SPIFFS) Festival was held Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup> through Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at England Brothers Park in Pinellas Park. Clearview Adult participated in the event and thanks to all our amazing volunteers, the festival was a wonderful experience and a rousing success. The addition of the student school days on Thursday and Friday and the games and prizes at our booth were a huge hit and brought a lot of attention to our table. The students were wonderful and, I hope, seemed to really enjoy the experience. Special kudos to Manuel Carralero, Maria Perez Estrada, Paige Grigun, Jennifer Hawley, James Kostka, Olesya Kuzmina, Brenda Livingston, Scott Melton, Magen Przybylski, and Tanja Vurunic for helping with set-up and running our table and games. Also, a huge thank you to our wonderful students Natalia Danylenko, Ariane Bonato Delesderrier, and Nalva Soares Green for sharing their time and helping.







On the Friday before Spring Break, Clearview hosted its annual Spring Carnival. During this event students were invited to play fun and educational games. Students practiced vocabulary, and speaking and reading skills while also having a great time. Thank you to all the teachers who made this day possible! It was a great way to send the students off to Spring Break.





# Congratulations

to Clearview's newest United States Citizens. I am truly proud of you, Toan, Thao and Vu! I know you worked very hard on your journey to citizenship, and new opportunities and a sense of belonging are very important to you. I wish you all the best! Your teacher, Ms. Inguna



Each month we will include programs from various non-profit and charitable organizations in our community offering free food and services to anyone in need. Make sure to check out this new section every month.



**King of Peace**  
Metropolitan Community Church  
6085 Park Blvd, Pinellas Park, FL 33781

## GOOD SAMARITAN FOOD PANTRY

### What are your hours?

Our pantry is open on Mondays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to noon. It is in the small white building across the parking lot from King of Peace Sanctuary.

### What Do I Need to Bring? If possible...

No photo ID or proof of residence is needed.

### How Often May I Come?

Guests may come once a month. We recognize the extra strain many families and individuals are under, and are attempting to meet the need.

### How do I donate or volunteer at the pantry?

We accept donations of all kinds of non-perishable food. Each month we have a specific need that we request, which you can see in the image below. If you would prefer to donate financially to the food pantry or if you would like to volunteer, please email [melanie@churchstpetersburg.org](mailto:melanie@churchstpetersburg.org) or call the church office at 727.323.5857.





Clearview United Methodist Church  
4515 38th Ave. North  
St. Petersburg, FL 33713,  
727-522-4673  
<https://clearviewumc.org/>

Offers free dinner every 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday from 5:00 pm – 6:30 pm. Other programs offered are Amend - Pregnancy Loss Support Group, Ostomy Clinic & Angel's Closet, AA Groups, and a Scouting America Troop #334.



## **CENA COMUNITARIA GRATUITA**

**5-6:30 p.m.**

**Cada cuarto domingo**

**DISFRUTA DE BUENA COMIDA, AIRE FRESCO Y UNA GRAN CONVERSACIÓN**

Iglesia Metodista Unida de Clearview  
4515 38th Ave N, San Petersburgo, FL 33713  
*Salón de la Comunidad en 39th Ave N*

### **Próximas cenas en 2025**

26 de enero, 23 de febrero, 23 de marzo, 27 de abril, 25 de mayo, 22 de junio, 27 de julio,  
24 de agosto, 28 de septiembre, 26 de octubre, 23 de noviembre, 28 de diciembre

**VEN TAL COMO ERES • TODOS SON BIENVENIDOS**



## **FREE COMMUNITY DINNER**

**5-6:30 PM**

**Every 4th Sunday**

**ENJOY GOOD FOOD, COOL AIR, AND GREAT CONVERSATION**

Clearview United Methodist Church  
4515 38th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33713  
*Fellowship Hall on 39th Ave N*

### **Upcoming Dinners in 2025**

Jan 26, Feb 23, Mar 23, Apr 27, May 25, Jun 22,  
Jul 27, Aug 24, Sept 28, Oct 26, Nov 23, Dec 28

**COME AS YOU ARE • ALL ARE WELCOME**



## Onsite Services

Bringing services and support directly into the heart of Pinellas County.

### Trinity Cafe

**M - F 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

Trinity Cafe is our free, full service restaurant for those in need of a healthy meal. Enjoy a 3-course, chef prepared meal with us on site.

### Food Pantry

**T TH & F 1:30 - 4:30 PM**

Our free on-site grocery store where you can shop for essential fresh, frozen, and shelf-stable items. Guests can shop on a first-come-first-served basis.

#### things to know:

- Guests may shop one time per week.
- Shopping is by household.
- Doors open / ticket lottery begins at 12:45 PM.

### Help Beyond Food

#### Adult Education

ESOL: M W F 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

M - TH 5:30 – 8:30 PM

GED: T & TH 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM

For class questions call 727.221.5395 or 727.450.9746.

#### Additional Services

Provided on an occasional basis by community partners during the food pantry or Trinity Cafe meal service.



### Food Pantry

**Tues, Thurs & Fri 1:30 - 4:30 PM**

### Trinity Cafe

**Mon - Fri 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM**

6330 54th Ave N, St. Petersburg, FL 33709

**find out more at [feedingtampabay.org](http://feedingtampabay.org)**





**THE RIGHT SERVICE AT THE RIGHT TIME**

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
EDUCATION  
fldoe.org

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
HUMAN SERVICES  
fldhs.gov

SafeLink  
SHELTER FOR VIOLENCE

Florida  
KidCare

FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF  
REVENUE  
flda.com

FLORIDA HOUSING  
FLORIDA HOUSING FINANCIAL SERVICES

FLORIDA R-CARE  
FLORIDA REENTRY CARE PROGRAM

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

The Right Service at the Right Time is an online tool used by librarians and library users throughout Florida to find necessary social services and government assistance. Services and government assistance types include:

### Daily Needs

Clothing, Elderly, Food, New Mothers

### Family Assistance

Children, Counseling, Elderly, Group Homes, Teens

### Financial

Debt Counseling, Foreclosure, Other Financial

### Healthcare

Dental, Health, Medical, Mental, Prescription

### Jobs

Finding a Job, Job Training, Resume Assistance, Unemployment

For more information go to their website at:  
<https://www.rightservicefl.org/servicetypes/pinellas>



**Build A  
Future  
You Control.**  
*Training Makes It Work.*

**ENROLL NOW!**  
727.893.2500 X 2326

St. Petersburg Campus-  
Clearview Adult Education Center

**myptc.edu**

Refer to [www.myptc.edu](http://www.myptc.edu) for specifics  
on admission requirements, program  
costs,  
course content and term starts.

Certificate of Completion awarded  
once state requirements for program  
are met.

\* O-NET Online Occupational  
Information Network Data, FL

#### Mission

Provide students the opportunity to develop  
national workplace competencies to fill the  
needs of business and industry.



Pinellas County Schools | [www.pcsb.org](http://www.pcsb.org) | The School Board of Pinellas County, Florida, prohibits  
any and all forms of discrimination on and harassment based on race, color, sex, religion, national origin,  
marital status, age, sexual orientation or disability in any of its programs, services or activities.

Accreditation: Council on Occupational Education (COE) | [www.coe.org](http://www.coe.org) | 1.800.942.2081

Cognia Global Commission | [www.cognia.org](http://www.cognia.org) | 1.888.443.3669 (US) | 1.678.392.2285 (intl)

## PHLEBOTOMY - IET



- This program is an Integrated Education and Training Program which combines career training with ESOL and/or GED acquisition.
- Prepares students to perform duties of a professional Phlebotomist
- This blended online program is a combination of distance learning, live classroom/lab activities and clinical experiences
- Program content covers Theory & Application of Phlebotomy
- Core topics include: Basic Anatomy, Infection Control & Isolation Techniques, Principles/Methods of Specimen Collection (Capillary or Venipuncture), Labeling Specimens & Sample Distribution, Tool Preparation, Basic Health Care & Safety Procedures, Employability, Communications, Interpersonal Skills, Basic Mathematics, Science & Computer Literacy
- Graduates are qualified to sit for the American Medical Technologist's exam to become a Registered Phlebotomy Technician— a national certification
- Registered Phlebotomy Technicians earn an average of \$17.48 per hour\*

### DETAILS

- 165 HRS (120 hrs Theoretical Classwork, 45 hrs Clinical)
- TUITION – \$481.80
- BOOKS, SUPPLIES, FEES – \$564 (Estimated)

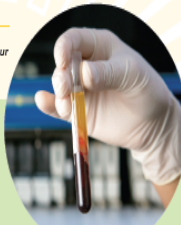
### SCHEDULE

#### ST. PETERSBURG CAMPUS AT CLEARVIEW ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

3815 43rd St. N, St. Petersburg, FL 33714  
Tuesday and Thursday 5:30 pm – 8:30 pm Phlebotomy class  
Monday and Wednesday 5:30pm – 8:30pm ESOL or GED class

#### Clearview Adult Education Center Mission

The mission of Clearview Adult Education Center (CVAEC) is to provide a learning environment for our diverse adult population which will empower them to reach personal, career and economic goals



## LEARN ACCOUNTING AND ENGLISH TOGETHER IN OUR IET PROGRAM

## ACCOUNTING OPERATIONS



### WHY CHOOSE THIS PROGRAM?

- Taught by an industry expert with real-world experience
- Covers accounts receivable, accounts payable, financial reporting, bookkeeping, and payroll
- Includes GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) to meet industry standards
- Learn English
- Offered both on-campus and online for flexibility

### EARN INDUSTRY-RECOGNIZED CERTIFICATIONS

- Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook
- QuickBooks
- NOCTI Accounting Basic

### PROGRAM BENEFITS

- Designed for entry-level positions or career advancement
- Job placement assistance, interview coaching, and resume preparation
- Opportunities in small, medium, and large companies, as well as remote work
- High demand for professionals in bookkeeping, accounting, finance, auditing, and purchasing

\*The Accounting Operations program at Pinellas Technical College – Clearwater Campus is available in a hybrid format, allowing students to complete coursework remotely.

\*Adult Education is provided at the Clearwater Adult Education Center, which is currently undergoing renovations. Once these renovations are finished, the Clearwater Adult Education Center will apply to officially become an Instructional Service Center of Pinellas Technical College – Clearwater Campus.

### PROGRAM DETAILS

- Duration:** 900 hours (approximately 9 months)
- Tuition:** \$2,628
- Books, Supplies, and Fees:** Estimated at \$1,081
- Financial aid available for qualified students
- Average wage for Bookkeeping, Accounting, and Auditing Clerks: \$18.54 per hour\*

### LOCATION

#### CLEARWATER ADULT EDUCATION CENTER

1895 Gulf to Bay Blvd., Clearwater, FL 33765

For more information, call 727-469-5817

