



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: February 24, 2008

Contact:

Christine Bloczynski, Civic Engagement Center, Central Washington University, 509.963.1643, bloczync@cwu.edu

Rotary Club of Ellensburg – Morning

Nancy Leahy, Circle of Success; 509.469.9888 or 509.307-8561 nleahycofs@charter.net

Feb. 27: Special Program for Preschool Literacy Presented at Central Washington University

CWU's Don & Verna Duncan Civic Engagement Center and the Rotary Club of Ellensburg~Morning Host "An Evening of Literacy" for Kittitas Valley Let's Read Scholarships

THE GOAL OF THE EVENT IS TO HAVE AN EVENING OF LITERACY BECOME A LIFETIME OF LITERACY FOR KITTITAS VALLEY CHILDREN!

The Don and Verna Duncan Civic Engagement Center at Central Washington University and the Rotary Club of Ellensburg –Morning invite students, parents and guardians with their preschool children to an **"An Evening of Literacy"** Wednesday February 27, from 6:30-7:30 PM in the CWU Student Union Ballroom. The event is a fundraiser for the Circle of Success *Let's Read* program for scholarships for Kittitas Valley preschool children. The event features colorful and terrific activities for kids. There will be a reading corner and a delicious variety of ice cream desserts. Circle of Success staff members and CWU students will present a lively musical skit titled, *"Please Mr. Postman."* The cost of the event is \$5.00 for adults and the children 12 and under are free.

The event begins at 6:30 PM and ends at 7:30 PM. The *"Please Mr. Postman"* presentation and skit begins at 6:45. Parents are encouraged to bring their camera. **An Evening of Literacy** is a special event for Kittitas Valley preschool-aged children and their families.

The literacy evening is coordinated by Central Washington University's Civic Engagement Center and the Rotary Club of Ellensburg – Morning service club in order to increase the number scholarships available for Kittitas Valley children. There are currently 53 Kittitas children enrolled in

the *Let's Read* program with the *Imagination Library* and the goal of supporters is to double this number. There will be opportunities to contribute support to the Kittitas Valley Scholarship fund throughout the evening. Each \$60 contribution sponsors a new child enrollment into the *Let's Read* early literacy program. Every enrolled child receives a book every month (12 books per year) and the parents receive four *Let's Read* Newsletters per year. There is no cost to families for this service. Support funds arrive from generous contributors, businesses and community members.

There are currently 2,840 Yakima Valley and Kittitas Valley children enrolled in the *Let's Read ~ Imagination Library* program and there have been over 3,500 children enrolled in the program since it began in July, 2005. Circle of Success early learning materials are structured to foster a child's social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth for later success in school and life.

For more information on **An Evening of Literacy** contact Christine Bloczynski at CWU (509.9631643) or Nancy Leahy (Circle of Success) at 469.9888 or toll free at 1.800.973.7323.

AN EVENING OF LITERACY

At Central Washington University
Adult - \$5 Children 12 and Under - Free

Date: Wed. February 27, 2008
Time: 6:30 – 7:30 PM
Location: Central Washington University, Student Union Ballroom, Second Floor

#

Circle of Success, Inc is a private, nonprofit 501-c-3 partnership of community organizations that empowers parents to prepare their children to enter school ready to learn. Circle of Success provides home based learning support in order to connect parents to community resources and learning experiences throughout Yakima and Kittitas Valley.