



Literacy Council for Josephine County

“Changing lives through learning since 1986”

FALL/WINTER, 2022-2023

106 N.W. F St. #18, Grants Pass, OR

OSU student dedicates his summer break to tutoring



Yahir Gonzalez stands outside the Literacy Council office, where he volunteered a few months this summer.

When Oregon State University computer sciences major and Ford Foundation scholar Yahir Gonzalez landed in Grants Pass this summer, he wanted to do something to fill his down time.

Bilingual in English and Spanish, with a smattering of Mandarin, he called the Literacy Council and volunteered to be an ESL tutor.

His work with us lasted only a few months before he had to return to school.

But it's not the length of his service that matters.

What matters is that Yahir had the desire to dedicate his summer break to helping others. What matters is that he made a commitment to do something to change lives.

That is the kind of generous mindset, the kind of dedication that drives the Literacy Council and that has kept this all-volunteer, nonprofit service organization thriving for more than 35 years.

Three years of a pandemic has slowed down the Literacy Council's energy and momentum. It has reigned in our work, preventing our tutors and students from working together face to face.

It's no surprise that getting back to normal has been slow. Volunteering is what people do when they're comfortable and they have extra time to fill. Right now, most people are still trying to get comfortable.

Our pool of active tutors and students is diminished to an all-time low. Our office is a ghost town of workbooks and

teaching materials. Our phone is mostly silent.

But who we are as an organization, our mission and our values, have not been compromised. The Literacy Council remains a place of potential and promise.

The coming new year is also a place of potential and promise and new opportunities. The opportunity to move forward. The opportunity to find new ways to connect with people. The opportunity to positively impact our community.

Follow Yahir's example, and help the Literacy Council move forward, start a new chapter, secure its future.

Resolve to become a volunteer tutor. Volunteer tutors transform lives.

Resolve to make a tax-deductible donation. Your support is a gift that helps make our community a better place.

Resolve to refer us to someone you know who needs our help. Open up someone's world.

Help the Literacy Council get back to what it does best.

The Literacy Council Board of Directors

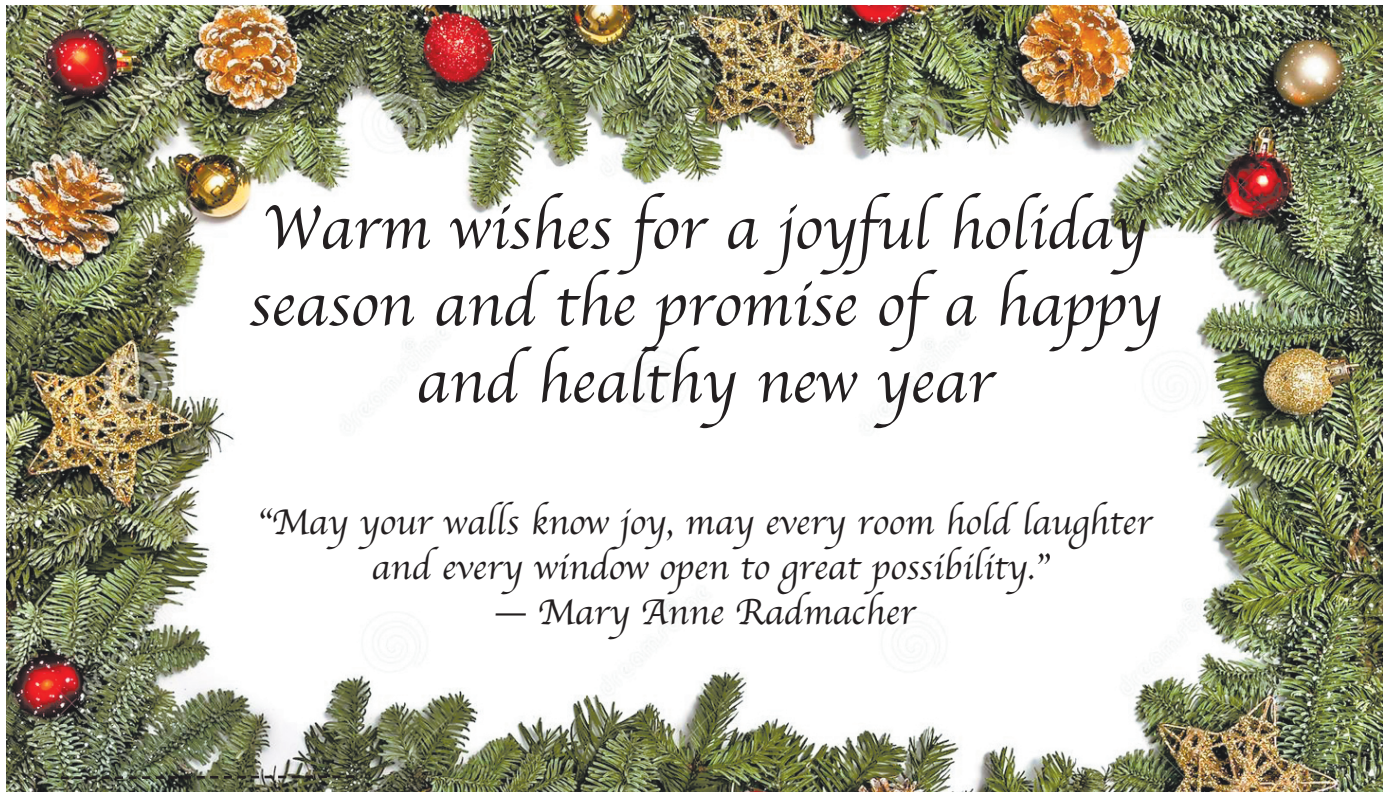


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Page 2 FALL/WINTER, 2021-2022

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*Warm wishes for a joyful holiday
season and the promise of a happy
and healthy new year*

*"May your walls know joy, may every room hold laughter
and every window open to great possibility."
— Mary Anne Radmacher*

• **Dee Pierce, vice chair**
phone: 541-291-0004
email: pierceda@q.com

• **Patricia Johnson, treasurer**
phone: 541-660-7701
email: pjinja123@gmail.com

Literacy Council Board Members

• **Robert Moore**
phone: 541-660-9701
email: robert@oregonbooks.com

• **Kathleen Alaks, publicity**
phone: 541-955-5371
email: kalaks@thedailycourier.com

• **Rebecca Stoltz, library liaison**
phone: 541-476-0571, ext. 108
email: rstoltz@JosephineLibrary.org

The Literacy Council for Josephine County
106 N.W. F St. #18
Grants Pass, OR, 97526