



Denver Cherry Creek Rotary Launches 'Ereader For Education'

Thirty-two volunteer students at *Fairmont Academy* in Denver are using digital e-readers, donated by the *Denver Rotary*, to improve reading skills this fall and winter, according to Cherry Creek Chapter President Joel Russman. Working with *Barnes and Noble* representative Martin Baker, the Rotary chapter has donated four *Color Nooks* to establish a new literacy program — "Ereaders for Education" — for first and second graders at the dual immersion



Fairmont Academy Principal Irene Jordan helps a student learn to read on a Color Nook with the aid of Barnes and Noble sales representative Martin Baker. The student is Eli Mateo Leyba-Gallegos.



A student at Fairmont Academy learns to use a Color Nook to read books, aided by Denver Cherry Creek President Joel Russman and Academy Principal Irene Jordan. The student is Emily Molina-Mejia.

school, Russman said.

"We're proud to be the recipients of these wonderful teaching devices," says Irene Jordan, principal at Fairmont Academy at 520 W. Third Ave., 80223, in the Baker neighborhood of Denver. Reading specialist Brenda Lane runs the reading program using resident school teachers as tutors, under the guidance of Tara Boentzel-Schuenaman, founder of *Connect the Dots*, dedicated to helping students whose parents volunteer the children into the program.

"What is exciting about the Color Nook is that a student, using touch, can read and listen to the books, so students can follow the written words as they hear the spoken words," said Ms. Lane. Letters have been sent to parents about the literacy opportunity explaining that eight students each will have access to one of the four color nooks for after school tutoring starting in late November and running through February.

The students' reading levels will be tested in the beginning of the program and at the end to gauge how helpful the e-readers were in improving reading proficiency. Tom Carr, the chairman of the Cherry Creek Rotary Literacy Committee that created the program, said "This is one of our newest initiatives that we hope will grow much bigger with time."

Students will also receive the gift of a printed version of at least one of the books they read on the e-reader. For more information, contact Rotary public relations spokesman Bob Atherton, at 303-770-5157

Mrs. Glendale Final Competition

Mark your calendars for the final competition for Mrs. Colorado. Valentina Anderson, Mrs. Glendale 2012, will be competing for the crown at the Mrs. Colorado pageant, Saturday, February 25, 7 p.m. The event is being held at the *Buell Theatre*. The mission of the Mrs. Colorado Pageant is to inspire women to seek personal excellence through preparation and competition. She also has the full endorse-



Valentina Anderson, Mrs. Glendale 2012 ment of the former Mrs. Glendale Angela Fox, current Glendale Chamber ambassador.

Tickets for the pageant are \$25, purchased by January 10, 2012. Valentina is also encouraging business owners to support her with an ad in the pageant program. The ad deadline is January 6, 2012.

For more information, call Valentina at 720-320-9274 or e-mail valentina@care4kidsworldwide.org.



Gary Sever, Metro Brokers Inc., Valentina Anderson, Mrs. Glendale 2012, and Art Collins, Alphagraphics helping out at the Dan Griffith Feed the Homeless event.

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