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Learning English

Wounded Warriors



May 2008

Springs seems to be tempting us. While we are still get the occasional snow flurry and the snowpack up high is mostly intact, the rivers are picking up and starting to run. We are all hoping for a gradual thaw and big bright green June!

→ Learning English as a Second Language

I have often talked about the Telluride Foundation's immigrant integration efforts for the community. Nothing speaks louder than pictures.



Please welcome our new class of immigrant English Language Learners - all 64 of them! This photo represents one of the four classes learning at five different proficiency levels. This new ESL effort, created by our immigrant integration initiative - OneTelluride, has been a huge success. Prior to our OneTelluride efforts, there were only six participants in ESL classes.

We do three critical things at the Foundation: make cash grants to regional nonprofits and community groups; work with nonprofits to improve their efficiency and build their capacity; and develop and manage initiatives that address unmet and emerging needs. We do this with one thing in mind - maximizing the impact of our donors' gifts to serve our mission of "improving the quality of life for residents, guests and the workforce of Telluride."

We know there is great demand, and we are starting to meet it. Immigrants know that the best way to participate in the community, make friends, and progress financially in this country, is to learn English. However it is not easy. It is difficult for those who work fulltime to attend classes so, we are working with employers to support their employees efforts to learn English. We are getting there.

Wounded Warriors

This spring, the Telluride Foundation had the honor to assist the Telluride Adaptive Sports Program, Glades Foundation and the Dalton Family in hosting a special ski outing for wounded veterans from the recent military conflicts. While General Schwarzkopf had already headed back to Florida, he did send along a personal note that I read to the group. I wanted to share his note and express my gratitude for what a terrific job TASP and the entire community did to welcome and support these proud men and women and their significant others through this difficult transition from the military to living with life-long disabilities.

Greetings,

I regret I am unable to join you today for the First Tracks Skiing event, but my family and I have already departed Telluride and returned to Tampa.

First, let me thank each and every one of you for your service to our country. This is a turbulent time for our nation and the demands on our military are greater than ever. Each of you responded when called upon to leave your homes and families and travel to far-away lands to fight tyranny and aggression. We as a nation are eternally grateful to you for the personal sacrifices you have made in order to preserve our freedom for future generations. In all of my speeches and travels across the country, I never miss an opportunity to remind everyone that they should never take our freedom for granted nor should they ever forget that freedom is not cost free. It is paid for with the blood, limbs, guts and lives our service members. You are indeed warriors and I salute you.

Good luck on the slopes today and best wishes for a wonderful event.

Sincerely,

H. Norman Schwarzkopf
General, U.S. Army, Retired

Our intern made a short video of the outing and posted it in YouTube.

[Check this out.](#)

Please don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or comments. I am happy to address specific issues within these emails. I welcome any input.

Your support makes all this and much more possible. Thank you and I hope to see you again soon.

With Warm Regards,



Paul Major
Telluride Foundation

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