

Local group offers free citizenship classes

By Amanda Casanova | Posted: Monday, April 16, 2012 12:00 am

GALVESTON — Men and women who take citizenship classes and the naturalization test have the same question once they earn their citizenship a partner with the citizenship classes said.

”They want to know ‘Where do I register to vote?’” Joe Compian of Gulf Coast Interfaith said.

Saturday 55 graduates celebrated the end of the class at a ceremony at the Wright Cuney Community Center.

The group was the second class to finish the free 12-week program. The inaugural class in 2011 had about 35 participants Magdalena Alvarado director of the Ser y Hacer Galveston program said.

”We don’t just get them through the class” she said. ”We’re helping them become good useful responsible citizens.”

After the course participants are eligible to take the U.S. Naturalization test Alvarado said.

If the participant passes the test they are eligible to obtain government employment register to vote and petition for other family members to become U.S. citizens.

”Thirty-five graduated from the class in our first class” Alvarado said. ”Thirty-five sat for the exam and 35 became American citizens.

”I’m so proud of the volunteers because their goal is to serve. I’m very grateful for their time and effort.”

Another class will start soon Alvarado said. Applicants must speak English and be a legal resident.

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Enrollment

WHAT: Citizenship information forum

WHEN: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday

WHERE: Alamo Elementary 5200 Ave. N Galveston

DETAILS: Gulf Coast Interfaith (409) 939-8017