



4 Words Frederick

Each One Teach One

Volume 50, Issue 1

April 25, 2012

Literacy Council of Frederick County

110 E. Patrick St.

Frederick, MD 21701

301-600-2066

www.frederickliteracy.org

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Hours:

Mon. - Fri. 10am - 4pm

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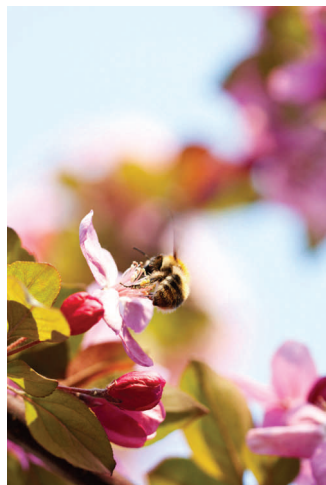
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Annual Meeting

Tuesday May 8th
6:30pm – social,
7pm – meeting and
awards

Guest Speaker: Dr. Jorge Ribas, Mid-Atlantic Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Location:
Bernard Brown Center,
629 N. Market St.,
Frederick – 2nd floor
There is an elevator. Park on the street or in the lot across the street at the Habitat for Humanity's ReStore.
info@frederickliteracy.org



**The Literacy Council
of
Frederick County is
growing and
our students are
blossoming.**

Thank you, tutors and volunteers. We would not exist without you!

Happy Spring

Basic Adult Program

By Keri Ann Henson

As the blossoms of Frederick begin to bloom, my thoughts turn toward our annual meeting that will take place in May (please see details in newsletter). This event brings together the LCFC Board of Directors as well as volunteers, tutors, students and community members to celebrate the hard work that has gone into making the council successful and to look towards our future and how we plan to continue our mission. One moment that always humbles me is when I read the number of volunteer hours that have been performed. This number signifies the commitment that our tutors have to their students as well as the commitment our students have to their individual literacy goals. Often you will hear a tutor exclaim that the hard work is done by the student, and then the student will say that he or she wouldn't be able to do the work without his or her tutor. I am here to say that it takes two to Tango and I am so thankful for the effort and time that is put in by both parties.

The Basic Adult program is currently serving 21 adults. Many of our Basic Students want to remain anonymous, but their stories are touching, inspiring and ones that should be celebrated (even if it is just between the tutor and student). I ask all tutors to take a moment during your lesson and congratulate your student on his/her hard work and extend an invitation to our annual meeting where I hope you, and hopefully your student, will join us so that we can celebrate all of the hard work that is involved in making a student blossom.



Thank you!

Local author Barbara Mertz (aka Elizabeth Peters, Barbara Michaels) won a library association award and directed them to send the money to us!

ESL Happenings -

Tutor in-service training sessions are happening soon.

More conversation classes are coming as well.

Congratulations to Our Newly Trained Tutors

We are grateful that these individuals have taken the plunge to volunteer their time and teach others to read. They have completed the training we offer for free and are now certified and ready to help!

Jocelyn Foote, James French, Kelsey Holmes, Kevin Kusmider, Samantha Lalley, Joseph Parker, Frank Patterson, Nancy Sell, Nancy Silliman, Lloyd Thompson-Taylor, Michelle Weathers, and Amber Williams.

Two volunteers attended the workshop in Hagerstown: Ann Menard and Lourdes Francisco. By the time of this newsletter's printing they were not officially certified, but plan to be.



New Volunteer Tutors at the C. Burr Artz Library

Write a Review for GuideStar

By Sandy Doggett, Board of Directors

GuideStar is a website that gathers and publicizes information about nonprofit charities. The Literacy Council of Frederick County has a page on this site. Potential donors, funders, researchers, educators and professional service providers may view our page to verify that we are a legitimate nonprofit. There is a place on our page where people with first hand experience with The Literacy Council can write a review. I wrote a review of The Literacy Council on GuideStar. You can check it out at the bottom of the page under *Personal Reviews* on the GuideStar website. I hope you will write a review yourself—The Literacy Council of Frederick County needs your feedback to continue our good work and improve our programs! <http://www.GuideStar.org>

Office Update

By Diana Halleman

Office volunteer needed: one day per week for a three hour shift to do data entry. Training will be provided.

Other items: In the first quarter of the year, we applied for grants from United Way (declined), the Wish You Well Foundation, Dollar General Foundation and the Women's Giving Circle. The February Read-a-Thon was a great success and raised almost \$3,500 for the Council.

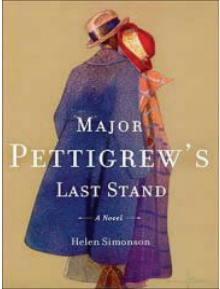
LCFC will be participating in the Convoy of Hope on June 2nd at the fairgrounds.

Board Books -

Board members Keri Ann Henson and Melanie Gettier recommend this book.

Synopsis from www.bookbrowse.com/reviews

You are about to travel to Edgcombe St. Mary, a small village in the English countryside filled with rolling hills, thatched cottages, and a cast of characters both hilariously original and as familiar as the members of your own family. Among them is Major Ernest Pettigrew (retired), who leads a quiet life valuing the proper things that Englishmen have lived by for generations: honor, duty, decorum, and a properly brewed cup of tea. But then his brother's death sparks



an unexpected friendship with a Pakistani shopkeeper from the village. Drawn together by their shared love of literature and the loss of their respective spouses, they soon find their friendship blossoming into something more. But village society insists on embracing him as the quintessential local and her as the permanent foreigner. Can their relationship survive the risks one takes when pursuing happiness in the face of culture and tradition?



Interview with Pouy Judd

How and when did you find out about the Literacy Council of Frederick County?

I came to this county in 2003 and at that time I was afraid of speaking English so my mother-in-law had a teacher friend who was retired from high school teaching help me. Her name is Patrica Custer and she was my first tutor. I went to do the tests at the Literacy Council with her and my mother-in-law. We started our lessons at the library twice a week until we moved to Takoma Park in mid 2004.

Tell us about your experience with tutors.

After I moved back here in 2007 and was living in Frederick downtown, I met with Pat again until she was too busy helping with her son's business. While I learned with Pat I also went to the Adult Ed program too. Later on I got another tutor through the Literacy Council. Her name is Christine Ryan. It was in 2008 and 2009 during my FCC language courses. Our schedules didn't match and I got Sara Kroske to help me. She is a student at Hood College. I also joined a group conversation class through a Japanese friend, Miki. This was also from the Literacy Council program. Beth Mitchell was my tutor this year. I'm so grateful that we have this program to help the adults who came to this country and want to learn the language. I have learned with this program from the very beginning through the present. I'm not afraid of speaking English anymore. Thank you to all the Literacy Council's staff, tutors, and board for having this program.

How has it helped you?

It's very helpful to me. I learned a lot of new vocabulary, improved my reading skills, writing, listening and speaking, etc.

Can you tell our readers where are you from? I'm from Cambodia, and live in Frederick, Maryland for almost five years with my husband and two children.

How do your kids like reading?

My kids like to read almost all kinds of books but they are crazy about mystery books. I mostly read books to them in English at home. They are great readers and when they are busy reading, they'll ignore everything. Don't ask them anything!

Tell us about Cambodia Reads.

I'm a Cambodia Reads founder with ten other

moms based in Frederick, MD. We have organized this non-profit to help Cambodian children in my hometown to encourage them to focus on learning and have adequate education for the future. We rented a place with a teacher including the educational materials as such, art supplies, books, puzzles, games, soccer balls, etc. The children in Cambodia in the rural areas don't have books to read at home and their parents don't read books to their kids either. We have built this program to fill the gap but we can't be successful without Frederick's support.

Pouy Judd is the founder of Cambodian Reads. Here are excerpts from the history she tells. You can read the full version at <http://www.cambodiareads.org>.

I grew up in Poum Me'an in Kompong Cham province along the Mekong River in Cambodia. I have two sisters and one brother. I'm the baby in my family as my father passed away when I was eight months old. The year I was born—1970—a war was started and my mother had four little kids to raise. During the war with the Khmer Rouge, we had no school so I started first grade after the end of the war, at age nine. There were no books at school for students, and only a few books for the teachers. Our school was built mostly from bamboo and wooden slats, and had no walls. Even though I had to quit school in 1986, I was full of passion for learning. Year by year I worked in the village, the same as the others did, farming or selling fruits, vegetables and grains to support my family. In 1996, there was an economic downturn and we couldn't make any income so I decided to find a job in Phnom Penh and became an organizer against sweatshops. In 2001, I met my husband and we were married in 2002. We have two children in public schools and have lived in Maryland in the U.S. since 2004. Knowing that now I'm a fortunate person with a wonderful family and lots of good friends, I have had the opportunity to pursue the education I missed. But I'm worrying about the futures of Cambodian children in my village and all over the country. Every time I visit my country, I see Cambodian children who still have no books to study at school and a lot of them drop out in middle school. Most of them start working—including several of my nephews—and some of the girls are sold to the sex trade. This is heartbreaking. One way to help them stay in school and prevent them from being illiterate is to create a place that has a lot of educational materials and rooms to read. That is why we have created Cambodia Reads.



“I have learned with this program from the very beginning through the present. I'm not afraid of speaking English anymore. Thank you to all the Literacy Council's staff, tutors, and board for having this program.”

- Pouy Judd—ESL Student



- Children in Cambodia

**Return Service
Requested**



Literacy Council of
Frederick County
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Frederick, MD 21701

Phone: 301-600-2066

Email: info@frederickliteracy.org

June 16th!
Keys Fundraiser



We're on the web
www.frederickliteracy.org

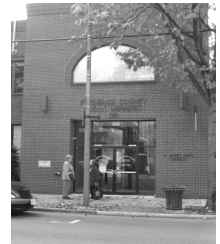
 **PROLITERACY**

Non-profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Permit #49
Frederick, MD

Proposed Amendment

The following amendment to our constitution will be voted on at the annual meeting.
The addition will be under Article VI – The Executive Board

Board members who fail to attend 2 board meetings in a fiscal year may be removed from the board at the discretion of the majority of the officers. The reason for absences and the board member's contributions, other than meeting attendance, will be taken into consideration.



Literacy Council
of Frederick County
110 E. Patrick St.

Hit a Home Run for Literacy!



The Literacy Council is participating with the Frederick Keys' FUN-raiser. Tickets are for sale in the office now at a discounted price of \$8.00 per ticket. The tickets are for fireworks night on Sat., June 16th at 6 p.m. when the team will take on Lynchburg. For more information call 301-600-2066. Proceeds will benefit us! Get your tickets today!!