



LITERACY COUNCIL FREDERICK COUNTY, MD

EMPOWERING ADULTS THROUGH ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS

Literacy Council of Frederick County Newsletter

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NEW OFFICE HOURS:

Monday - Friday:
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Closed Saturdays &
Sundays

If you can't get to the office on weekdays, please contact the office to make arrangements to pick up your tutor materials at a local library branch.
staff@frederickliteracy.org

June 2016

Executive Director's Corner - Laurie Fisher



"The single greatest indicator of a child's future success is the literacy level of the parents."
ProLiteracy

This simple, yet powerful, statement from our national affiliate organization *ProLiteracy* is one that we have been recently citing in our public communication. In order to better understand the impact of our own local literacy programs, we have begun tracking how many of the adults we serve have children. While we are still gathering data, preliminary results indicate that our current clients are parents of over 185 children ages 0-21!

ProLiteracy's Spring 2016 issue of *Voices* talks about the 30 Million Word Gap from a landmark research study *Meaningful Differences in the Everyday Experience of Young American Children* by Betty Hart and Todd Risley that uncovered a "word gap" between children from low-income homes and their more economically advantaged peers.

The study showed that indicators of accomplishment for children at age 3 were highly indicative of performance when older on vocabulary, language development and reading comprehension. Therefore the foundation built at 3 was critical for achieving future progress. The authors noted: "By giving children interactions and experiences with adults who take the time to teach vocabulary, oral language concepts, and emergent literacy concepts, children should have a better chance to succeed at school and in the workplace."

The significance of these findings highlights the importance in reaching vulnerable members of our community during this critical time in their lives, and the lives of their children. Literacy programs are an investment in the future of our community.

We owe a sincere thank you to the many individuals and organizations that make our work possible!

86% to 98% of the words used by each child by the age of 3 were derived from their parents' vocabularies.

Denise Dertzbaugh Honored as
Elizabeth H. Seligmann Award Recipient

At the Literacy Council's 3rd Annual

LITERACY COUNCIL Office Staff & Volunteers

Laurie Fisher
Executive Director

Diana Halleman, Office
Manager/Vol. Coord.
Elizabeth Derr
Sarah Matthews

Volunteer Coordinators:

Linda Crough
Catherine Coundjeris
Freida Pryor

SAVE THE DATE:
Sunday, 1-4 p.m.
September 25, 2016

Unity Campaign Olympiad

Frederick Indoor
Sports Center



Frederick Indoor
Sports Center

Contact: Laurie Fisher
(301) 600-2066

Join our Literacy Council
team!!

Sponsorship Opportunities
Available!!



Celebration of Achievements, volunteer tutor Denise Dertzbaugh was the Council's eighth Elizabeth H. Seligmann Award recipient. Established in honor of Betty Seligmann, the award is to be given to volunteers who demonstrate a similar exceptional dedication to literacy that Betty fulfilled for 33 years. It is to be awarded for sustained and significant contributions furthering the goals and objectives of the Literacy Council, consisting of outreach to others and reflecting distinctive qualities.



Volunteer Denise Dertzbaugh recognized for exceptional dedication to literacy.

Denise has volunteered for the Council since completing tutor training in March, 2007. Since that time, she has tutored one or more students continuously, was a regular office staffer for several years, served on the Board of Directors and several committees for three years, has designed and conducted weekly conversation and pronunciation classes for several years, has conducted in-service training, has assisted the tutor/student coordinators, has helped with outreach to potential students, and in the last year has taken the lead in developing curriculum for and conducting restaurant workplace classes. Most recently, she has volunteered to work with our training team to train new tutors.

Denise's work has contributed significantly to furthering the goals of the Council. She has worked with over 50 students in individual tutoring and multiple conversation and pronunciation classes over the years, encouraging them toward their goals and helping to bring in more, always with a kind and welcoming attitude. Denise is always the first one to step up and offer a helping hand to both new tutors and students alike. Her guidance and advice are often invaluable and her enthusiasm is contagious. The joy in what she does and how much she appreciates and cares for her students simply radiates from her.

Denise's hard work and dedication to the Council for so many years more than fulfill both the criteria and spirit of this award, and the Literacy Council presents this award with great pleasure and many thanks.

3rd Annual Celebration of Achievements Adult Learners & Volunteers Recognized



On May 3rd the Literacy Council of Frederick County celebrated the many accomplishments of adult learners and volunteers.

Over 100 students, family members and volunteers joined the celebration to honor multiple achievements, including obtaining U.S. citizenship, getting a Maryland Driver's license, taking classes and graduating from Frederick Community College, purchasing a first home or car and improving English language skills in order to obtain a better job are some of the evening's highlights.

Guest speaker Nezih Pistar, owner of Ayse Meze Lounge & Pistarro's Ristorante Pizzeria Napoletana, spoke about "Building a Stronger Community Through Literacy". *"Learning how to speak English not only helps employees on the job, but opens the doors to education and economic opportunity, benefiting the entire community."* Manager, Lisa Wheelock spoke about the positive impact of the class on the employees. Mr. Pistar was honored with the *Literacy Council's Business & Industry Partners in Literacy Certificate of Appreciation* for his leadership and support.



Nezih Pistar,
Ayse Meze
Lounge.

Adult learner Jacqueline, a physician who left Syria because of the war, eloquently described examples of the challenges and triumphs she has experience learning English and becoming part of the Frederick community. After 1 1/2 years with support from the Literacy Council and her tutor Denise Dertzbaugh, she shared:

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY
& CONGRATULATIONS!**

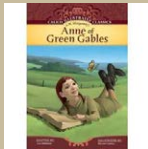
Diana Halleman is celebrating five years with the Literacy Council this year as Office Manager & Volunteer Coordinator!

Since Diana began as the Council's first employee between 2010-2015, the number of adults served has increased by 87%!!

Thank you, Diana, for all you do to help our community!



New Student Reading Series Available:



Come see our newest reading series for students on display!

Colorfully-illustrated and beautifully-written books from the *Calico Illustrated Classics* collection are now available for loan to your students.

We heard back from one of our students who recalls reading these classic works in her native language and is now enjoying the English editions!

Come check out our [newest resources](#) in the Council's



*"My spoken English has improved,
I can speak on my behalf,
I can manage most of my needs and I am closer
to my Frederick community. I even feel I am a part of it.
I do weekly community care volunteering at nursing homes.
I also think I will have more opportunities for a job
and for economic independence.
I believe the Literacy Council is one of the best gates for a better future,
for a more productive life and for a stronger community."*

During the evening 40 Literacy Council volunteers were recognized for service ranging from 100-6,000 hours, up to 41 years!



Last year the Council's more than 120 volunteers contributed over 14,000 hours of service!!

100 Hours

Pat Cochran
Michael Cohen
Tana Flanagan
Valerie Jean
Jean Judd
Scott Kiser
Sarah Matthews
Nicholas Monnet
Barbara Prescott
Patricia Siedling
Patricia Wynne

200 Hours

George Conly
Renee Ferretti
Patricia Hanberry
Medha Joshi
Patrick Kennedy
Robert Ladner
Beth Lowe
Eleanor Monnet
Brian Stalker

300 Hours

Joan Brandt
Linda Crough
Maria Kummerfeldt
Veronica Poklemba
John Tisdale

400 Hours

Jeff Trewhitt
500 Hours
Sherry DeFrancisci
Rita McGowan

600 Hours

Sr. Alice Matthews

700 Hours

Dorinda Shepley

900 Hours

Lisa Myers

1000 Hours

Catherine Coundjeris
Catherine Cox
Kathy Fay

1100 Hours

Doris Vierbuchen

1200 Hours

Martin Cole

3300 Hours

Sandy Doggett

4500 Hours

Denise Dertzbaugh

6800 Hours

Freida Pryor

18 Years

Kate Bufter

27 Years

Elizabeth Derr

32 Years

Elizabeth Brady

41 Years

Caroline Gaver

*Thank you to our Annual Celebration of Achievements sponsors:
Frederick County Bank and Leidos Biomedical Research, Inc.*



*Special thanks also go to Grove Public Relations, LLC
and the Delaplaine Visual Arts Education Center*

Library!



ProLiteracy Launches
New Website:
www.proliteracy.org

For our tutors and adult
learners - check out the
latest resources and
literacy facts!

ProLiteracy's Spring 2016
[Voices](#) newsletter
available

ProLiteracy's Spring 2016
[Notebook](#) available -
Resources for the Adult
Educator

Literacy Council's Annual Report

July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015
[Available online!](#)

Your Contribution is
Our Community's Future

Consider supporting a
cause that is important
to you with
a planned gift.



Create your legacy by
giving the Gift of
Literacy.

The Community
Foundation of Frederick
County can help you with
[planned giving](#) resources.

*In grateful appreciation to our generous in-kind sponsors: Common
Market, Uncle Ralph's Cookies and Wegmans Frederick*

Know someone who is interested in learning more about becoming a Literacy Council volunteer tutor?

Upcoming Dates:

Tutor Information Sessions:
(Literacy Council Office, 110 E. Patrick St.
Frederick)

- Thursday, July 14, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- ~~Saturday, July 23, 10 - 11:15 a.m.~~
- Thursday, August 11, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- Saturday, August 27, 10 - 11:15 a.m.
- Thursday, September 8, 10 - 11:15 a.m.



**Congratulations to
our newest tutors!**

Tutor Training Workshop:

- Saturdays, September 17 & 24, 9:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.,
Frederick*
- Saturdays, October 15 & 22, 9:00 a.m. - 3:45 p.m. Hagerstown*

* Completion of an orientation and a two-session workshop are
required for Tutor Certification.

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!

Congratulations to kitchen staff from Fountain Rock Management restaurants
who participated in a seven-week workplace English class taught at Ayse
Meze Lounge this spring.

Business owner Nezih Pistar joins Literacy Council instructors Denise
Dertzbaugh and Marianne Dacey and Executive Director Laurie Fisher to
recognize their accomplishments.



This class is the second restaurant workplace literacy pilot organized by the
Literacy Council as part of a new initiative to work with local business
owners to help provide literacy programs that benefit employees and
businesses.

Summer & Fall Conversation & Writing Class Schedule

SUMMER

Student-Led Conversation Class:

Consider a gift to the Literacy Council's [Betty Seligmann Literacy Endowment Fund](#).



CFC & Frederick County Campaigns

CFC: 42954
MCC: 1471

The Literacy Council participates in the Frederick County & FCPS Combined Charities & Chesapeake Bay Area CFC Charity Campaigns.

Please use these codes for donors who wish to designate their contribution to our organization.



THANK YOU FOR MAKING A TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TODAY!

DONATION

Donations can be made online by clicking the DONATION button or mailed to:

Literacy Council of Frederick County
110 East Patrick Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Matching funds are also available for new donors thanks to a grant from the Ausherman Family Foundation.



Your generous contribution enables people who are eager to learn to read or to speak English have the help they need to become an integral part of our community.

LITERACY FACTS

New members are invited to join us on the first and third Tuesdays of the month from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. for informal chats, student presentations as well as short grammar and idiom lessons. Students are invited to give presentations on their first year in the United States, their culture, customs, and history, or book reports on books they may be reading in English. Although at times students will share a taste of their cuisine with us, we ask that you bring your lunch.

Basic Writing Class 2, is underway for eight weeks through July 13th for students who attended the first class in the spring. The class focuses on writing strong paragraphs and correct grammar usage.

FALL

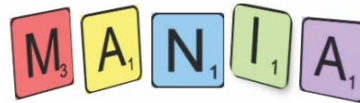
Basic Writing Class 1 will again be offered in the fall, beginning on September 7th through November 23rd on Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. The class will concentrate on developing strong sentences and clear and precise paragraphs. Basic grammar and sentence structure will be reviewed. Tutors are asked to recommend students who are advancing in their conversational English and who would like to improve their written communication skills.

Basic Writing Class 3 will also be offered September 7 - November 23 on Wednesdays from 9:45 - 11:15 a.m.

For more information: contact the Literacy Council office or Catherine Coundjeris at cactopaz@gmail.com.

First SCRABBLE Mania for Literacy a big SUCCESS!

SCRABBLE®



A lively event to benefit the LITERACY COUNCIL of Frederick County

March 6, 2016

Let's Celebrate ...

20 Teams

21 Silent Auction items

12 Sponsors

\$7,000 raised for literacy programs!!

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS!!

DOUBLE WORD SPONSORS



The Frederick News-Post



SHOCKLEY Honda

Triple Letter Sponsors

Jean Joyce
Plamondon Companies, Inc.
S&P Tree Care
Woodsboro Bank

72 % Children of parents with low literacy skills have a 72 percent chance of being at the lowest reading levels themselves.

43% Of adults with the lowest literacy levels, 43 percent live in poverty.

One in Six

Every year, one in six young adults—more than 1.2 million—drop out of high school.

\$230 Billion

An excess of \$230 billion a year in health care costs is linked to low adult literacy.

\$225 Billion

Individuals at the lowest literacy and numeracy levels have a higher rate of unemployment and earn lower wages than the national average.

75% Seventy-five percent of state prison inmates did not complete high school or can be classified as low literate.

Two Thirds

Adult education is in critical need for services. A decline in federal and state funding in the past 10 years has resulted in programs serving only a fraction of the adults in need.

Currently, two-thirds of adult education programs are struggling with long student waiting lists.

**ADULT LITERACY
CAN CHANGE
EVERYTHING**

Double Letter Sponsors

Brunswick H&R Block
First United Bank & Trust
Morgan-Keller, Inc.

Table Sponsors

Curious Iguana Booksellers
PNC Bank
Catherine Cox, Board Member
Lisa Myers, Board Member
Hamp Tisdale, Board Member

In-Kind Sponsors

Allegra Print & Imaging
Food Provided by Ayse Meze Lounge
Grove Public Relations, LLC
Sandy Doggett, Board Member
Starbucks Coffee Company - Frederick

Sincere thanks to the Ausherman Family Foundation for providing matching funds.



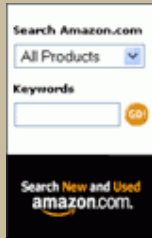
Interested players, sponsors and Silent Auction donors for next year's 2017 Scrabble MANIA for Literacy:

Contact Diana Halleman, (301) 600-2066, staff@frederickliteracy.org

DID YOU KNOW?

Grants Awarded This Past Year *Thank you!!*

Did you know that there is an easy way to help the Literacy Council and do your online shopping at the same time? Amazon.com has a program to help nonprofits where a portion of your monies will go back to the organization designated. To help the Literacy Council, you need only use this link



to get to the Council's Amazon page when you want to do your online shopping. The rest is automatic and painless! Thanks for supporting us!

Ausherman Family Foundation
Delaplaine Foundation
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Community Foundation of Frederick County
Helen J. Serini Foundation
Nora Roberts Foundation
ProLiteracy - National Book Fund Grant
Rotary of Carroll Creek
Staples Foundation
State Farm Companies Foundation Good Neighbor Grant
United Way of Frederick County
Unity Campaign for Frederick County
William E. Cross Foundation
Women's Giving Circle
Yelp Foundation

Endow Maryland: Maryland Tax Incentives

Help build the Literacy Council's endowment fund while taking advantage of tax incentives!

Beginning January 1, 2016, donors making gifts through The Community Foundation of Frederick County will receive a 25 percent Maryland tax credit for gifts of \$1,000 and up to \$5,000 in addition to the Federal charitable deductions allowed for the gift. To learn more, call the [Community Foundation](#) at (301) 695-7660.



The Literacy Council's [Betty Seligmann Literacy Endowment Fund](#) is an eligible fund for this tax break. While the Council is always in need of current funding, if you are interested in also ensuring needed funds in the future, you can do so by contributing to this fund.