

Improving the quality of life in our community and expanding individual potential by teaching adults to read, write, speak and understand the English language.



#### **Office Closed**

Monday, September 5 (Labor Day)

Consider what a student said this summer:

By learning one on one, it is easy to concentrate. Here, you can learn to read without having someone looking down on you because of your age.

Her experience warms my heart. We teach adults to read up to a 5th-grade level, but our efforts go beyond proficiency. Learning to read gives affirmation and builds confidence.

Adults with low literacy skills have few choices in jobs, education and housing. Our instruction helps both English and non-English speakers engage in their children's education, interact with healthcare providers, improve job performance, and, ideally, achieve the GED and further study.

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Committing to the success of our students, we create opportunity. Thank you for all you do to support our programs and improve quality of life for all.

- Kelly Helms Norton Executive Director

# LIFELINE

LITERACY IS FOR EVERYONE — LEARNING IS NEVER ENDING
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2011

# Literacy Leads to Citizenship!

This summer a student from Mexico and a student from Eritrea became U.S. citizens. For most of a year, their tutors helped each navigate the immigration process and study for the test. Just as importantly, the tutors offered kindness to the young women as they continued to construct productive lives in their new home community.

"My tutor told me that I was very smart for answering 100 questions. I told her, 'no, together we are very smart'."

# What Makes Us So Unique?

We offer free one-on-one tutoring and small group instruction to adults in Union County who are beginner readers. And, we use learner-centered approach. We focus on each student's specific English literacy needs. Students create an individualized *Student Learning Plan*—it's a reference for matching curriculum with personal goals.

On the outset, students may seek to learn how to use a calendar and tell time. Often long-term goals include learning to use a computer, obtaining a driver's license, participating in parent-teacher conferences and transitioning to South Piedmont Community College.

Drop in to the Adult Literacy Center. (We're in downtown Monroe.) Bring a friend. We'll give you a tour and let you see firsthand how Literacy Council of Union County makes a difference to students, to volunteers and to our community's quality of life!

#### **Each One Teach One**

Because you read, write and speak English, you have the capacity to teach another adult.

### Be a tutor! Or, suggest tutoring to a friend.

101 & both training sessions (required) ready tutors with books, lesson plans and resources.

Literacy Council 101 Mon., August 15 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Literacy Council 101 Mon., October 3 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
<b>Tutor Training</b> <i>Part</i> 1 Fri., August 19 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM	<b>Tutor Training</b> <i>Part 1</i> Fri., October 7 6:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Tutor Training Part 2 Sat., August 20 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM	<b>Tutor Training</b> <i>Part 2</i> Sat., October 8 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

In-Service Workshop: **Meeting the Need**Saturday, September 10
9:30 am-11:30 am

Learn how to perfect "learner-centered" tutoring.
Get tips on lesson planning, achieving goals, and general reading instruction. Swap ideas with other tutors.

Invitations arriving by email in August.

# **Tutor Honors**

As of June 30, 2011

Hats off to volunteers who've provided significant instruction time and, like all of our tutors, continue to help students succeed.

# **500 Hours**

Mary Billman Vicki Fink Margo Lehnhardt Todd Platt

#### 250 Hours

Dorothy Chevalier Margaret Storck

# **100 Hours**

Caroline Cate Nan Helms Susan Stermer

## MAKE FOOD SHOPPING A WAY TO SUPPORT LITERACY

Grocery stores will donate to non-profits designated by their customers—at not cost to the customer! Specifically, each store will make a direct donation based on your purchase. Now is the time to sign up. Here's how:



At Harris Teeter, ask the cashier to link your **VIC Card** to non-profit **#5181.** Or, give your VIC Card number to Janey at our office and she will enroll you. Or, visit our website and follow the link.



Before you go to **Bi-Lo**, print a screen image of the barcode on our website and take it to the store. The cashier will scan the barcode, linking it to your **BONUSCARD**. Or, pick up a barcode at our office.

Note: You may link your card to multiple non-profits and schools.

# YOUR GIFT IS A LIFE LINE

Charitable gifts help us to recruit, train, and support volunteer tutors; provide standardized curriculum for adult students; and offer a variety of books and software for beginning adult readers. *Thank you for considering a gift!* 

☑ Yes, I will help adults in Union County lea	arn to read, write, speak	and understand the Englis	sh language!
Enclosed is my check for \$			
Donor Name(s)			
Street	City	State	Zip
(Optional) My gift is in Honor of	M	y gift is <b>in Memory of</b> _	
Please notify my honoree or family of my mo	emorialized friend by ser	nding a note to:	
Notification Name			
Street	City	State 2	Zip
We appreciate gifts of all amounts and will apply them Unless specified otherwise, the Council will all acknow			
Please make checks payable to and send to: Literacy Council of Union County 105-A East Lefferson Street		ormation about Literacy Counci	il of Union County and a copy of



Monroe, NC 28112

105-A East Jefferson Street Monroe, NC 28112 704-226-1425 info@literacyunion.org www.LiteracyUnion.org PRSRT STD
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**Return Service Requested** 





#### THANK YOU FOR THE GIFT OF READING

In honor of *Rose Giacchetta* for her birthday from Gary and Judy Jewell

In honor of *Ted and Marieanne Crossman* for their 60th wedding anniversary from Jim and Linda Moyer

In honor of *Linda Moyer* from Dr. Bill and Nell McLeod

In honor of *Kelly Norton* from Dr. Bill and Nell McLeod

In memory of *Carmen Bernal* from Carmen Wolf

In memory of *Michael Vena*, *Sr.* from Michael and Katherine Vena

In memory of *Merle Tomlinson* from Jim and Linda Moyer

In memory of *Alma Orenbach* from Jim and Linda Moyer

In memory of *Dick Ford* from Jim and Linda Moyer

In memory of *Dick Ford* from John and Kelly Norton

#### Corporate and Foundation Gifts Support our Language Lab

Call 1-888-830-4989. The license is not an endorsement by the State.

A Foundation for the Carolinas grant recently enabled us to purchase software with lessons on pronunciation, writing, grammar, listening, reading and speaking. Last year, IBM provided a server to link our 10 computers. A gift from Lend Lease funded our News for You subscription, which provides literacy-level news articles. With this language lab support, students are using self-guided software to learn the alphabet, build vocabulary and become proficient at using a computer.

You can help provide corporate gifts! Many employers will match employees' charitable giving. Some companies have foundations that support community projects. If you know of a grant opportunity or would like to ask your employer to support our mission, please contact us at info@literacyunion.org. Thanks!

#### Computer Practice for ESL Learners

Some newly enrolled students learning English as a second language learn the alphabet, the calendar and greetings in our new *Literacy Basics* small group. Volunteer Ron Aldrich, who has led the group, created a supplemental computer program. Maria, a copious note-taker, enthusiastically shares her endorsement:

"I learned in Mr. Ronaldo's class!
Thank you for helping Spanish speakers!"