



Tutor Talk

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Dear Tutors,

Thanksgiving is now a memory; however the thanks that LVSC has for each of you is continuous! We as well as your students appreciate the time you give and your creativity in preparing appropriate learning activities.

As you may know, we are moving across the street. Our new office is a bright, inviting space for our many activities. Give us a few weeks and then call so we can be there when you visit to see it.

Each of you understands the economic challenges facing all of us, including LVSC. Our generous funding sources from the past are not able to provide as they once did. We have had to increase our fund raising activities. Because of lots of hard work and volunteer hours, we have held 5 events: two Scrabble Scrimmages, a wine tasting with cookie sale, Good Stuff sale and Antique Alley appraisal with a bake sale. We will have to continue our fund raising events so welcome any ideas you may have and, of course, your help and financial support with the events.

Feel free to e-mail me at waynejoy@ptd.net or call me at 908 852 4747 to share your ideas to help us make LVSC a strong organization that can continue to provide for students needing literacy help.

May you and your family have a joyous holiday season!

Joy Weis Daniel
LVSC Board President

The Literacy Volunteer office will be moving at the end of December across High Street to the First Presbyterian Church of Newton 54 High Street. We would like to thank Rev. Heather Morrison-Yaden and the First Presbyterian Church of Newton for hosting our organization in these tough economic conditions. Enter by ringing the buzzer by the door on the left of the church on High Street. Tutoring space and parking is available. If you intend to use the office for tutoring after 4 pm please contact the office to make arrangements. **We also have a new e-mail address: literacyforyou@gmail.com**



Running out of holiday gift ideas for the person who has everything?

Last year a tutor and her family exchanged names and made a donation to that person's charity of choice. What a wonderful way to celebrate the spirit of giving. Many of our students call their tutors their angels. You can be an angel too this holiday season by making a tax-deductible contribution in a loved one's name. Your contribution can make a life-changing difference in someone's life. Your charitable contribution is tax-deductible.



Pronunciation Inservice Recap

On November 5^h, ten tutors participated in the inservice session learned about why learners have trouble producing clear understandable English, and about the help they can provide. Here's a sampling from the inservice.

Did you know that ...

1. Speech is a neuro-muscular activity that is learned early in life. To change speaking patterns, one must first train the ear to hear new sounds and patterns, and then retrain the muscles to produce these elements. It takes time and lots of practice.
2. All languages have their own patterns of stress, rhythm, and intonation. Learners are used to the patterns of their native language. Even when learners pronounce the individual sounds correctly, their English can sound foreign – or even intelligible – if they use incorrect (non-English) stress, rhythm, or intonation patterns.
3. People learning English as another language have trouble with certain speech sounds because those sounds may not exist in their native language, and/or are similar to ones that do.

To help learners change speech, tutors can ...

1. Learn about the possible problem sounds and patterns of the learner's native language, and diagnose the learner's needs through listening and/or taping a natural conversation and listening to the recording.
2. Model (demonstrate) specific sounds and patterns for learners to imitate.
3. Describe and demonstrate what's happening in the mouth when making the sound. Have the learner watch in a mirror.
4. Guide the learner through exercises focusing first on hearing, and then on production of a new or problem sound or language pattern (stress, rhythm, intonation).
5. Use minimal/contrasting pairs exercises to help the learner discriminate (auditory) between problem sound pairs, and then produce each sound versus the other.

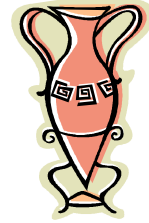
Important points to remember ...

1. Wait until the learner is beyond a beginner level. Learners need to have a sizable amount of English words in their spoken language, and to be speaking in sentences before working on pronunciation areas.
2. Any sounds of language/pronunciation are work has to begin with auditory recognition and discrimination activities. Learners have to hear sounds and other elements correctly before producing them.
3. Don't overemphasize the area of pronunciation. If you do, you can stifle the learner's speech.

For those who were unable to attend, look for a repeat of this inservice in the future. Contact Karen about any questions or concerns.

Thanks

Thank you to Susan Anderson for organizing another successful Scrabble tournament and ALSO for organizing our first Antique Alley Appraisal event. These fundraisers are crucial to the survival of Literacy Volunteers and are lots of fun! We appreciate any support you can give at future events.



Welcome New Tutors

Congratulations to our newly trained tutors! We hope they each “meet their match” soon and begin making a difference.



Standing left to right - Alyse DiBlasio, Barbara Worden, Cathy Parker, Mary Donegan, Marie Smith, Hulda Engels, Kristin McGroarty.
Seated left to right – Sue Burke, Cheryl Roth, Marvin Feil
Not pictured – Ammon Roth, Tricia McGuire

Want to be an archivist—keep a scrapbook for LVSC?

We, at LVSC, work hard to get coverage of our events, our tutor training, and so forth. After a newspaper article appears, we're on to the next assignment. It would be good to maintain a systematic file of these articles, for several reasons including certain aspects of fund-raising. If someone is interested, we could supply you with our stash—maybe 30 or so articles right now. You would locate an appropriate scrapbook and enter the clippings accumulated so far. You would then keep the scrapbook up to date by adding new clippings. If you receive the New Jersey Herald and/or the Straus publications (like Advertiser News) then you'd be in well-supplied with our major sources of clippings. If not, we'd get new clippings to you from those—and of course other-- publications.



If this appeals to you, please get in touch with Marguerite Gadel, at msgadel@goes.com.

Literacy Volunteers of Sussex County
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Literacy Changes Lives.....

LVSC : Making a Difference

LVSC trained 36 new tutors during our fiscal year of 2010-2011.
In all, 145 students were tutored a total of 3,500 hours during
this year.

Do You Know the Facts about Literacy?

According to the National Adult Literacy Survey,
approximately 44 million people in the United States
cannot read well enough to fill out an application, read a
food label, or read a simple story to a child.

\$5 billion a year in taxes goes to support people receiving
public assistance who are unemployable due to illiteracy.

According to the most recent U.S. Census Bureau Data
available, nearly 15,000 residents over the age of 25 in
both Sussex County and in Warren County do not have a
high school diploma.

Among the growing immigrant population in Sussex
County,

approximately 3,000 residents in each feel isolated or
limited by language communications problems.

"Literacy - It's not just about reading anymore."

The purpose of Literacy Volunteers of Sussex
County is to promote and foster increased literacy
in Sussex County and contiguous areas through
free, student-centered volunteer teaching and aid
to low-literate and non-English speaking adults. It
also encourages and aids individuals, groups or
organizations who desire to increase literacy
through voluntary programs.

*For over 25 years, Literacy Volunteers of Sussex County has
provided free, confidential, one-on-one tutoring in basic
literacy and ESOL to adults in Sussex County and contiguous
areas.*

Board of Directors

Joy Daniel, President
Marguerite Gadel, Vice President
Peter Struble Treasurer
Carol Wilson, Secretary
Members At Large:
Susan Anderson
Mary Carroll
Dan Leary
Barbara Wortmann
Terence Wynne

Calendar of Events

Tuesday Dec. 6 6:30-8:30 Tutor
Chat Inservice at Sparta United
Methodist Church

