



Hivemind

WRAPPING UP A BUSY SPRING

This May, we were (finally) able to host our pandemic-delayed Kentucky Derby Party with Hat-i-tude fundraiser in person at New Sarum Brewing (see pg. 2-3). Thank you to everyone who attended, and to all of our volunteers and sponsors for making the event an exciting evening of hats, hors d’oeuvres, and horsey hobnobbing.

We are also grateful to have received a number of grants so far this year (see pg. 4), and to gather with Communities in Schools staff and volunteers at their appreciation luncheon (see pg. 5). Several Literacy Council volunteers were recognized for their service in Rowan-Salisbury Schools, and we are grateful to all of our volunteers who worked in schools during the 2021-2022 school year.

As always, the tutoring never stops! If you are looking to for a new activity to try with your student, games like Bingo can be a great interactive tool (see pg. 5); or if you are interested in adding a new student or volunteering with us for the first time, please give us a call.

MILESTONES

Completed a workbook level: One of Don Doering’s students.

Entered Employment: One of Don Doering’s students.

Improved employment: One of Jennifer Welch’s students.

Read a book for pleasure: One of Jenny Hubbard’s students.

Conveyed ideas in writing: Deb Chirico’s student.

Read job-related materials: Haley Sloop’s student.



Going Places: Mathias de Comarmond’s student, Marlen Ordenez, **obtained her GED** this spring! She is now continuing her education at the community college level. Congratulations Marlen!



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A NIGHT TO SHOW OFF SOME “HAT-I-TUDE”



Most Creative Hat: Kim McAdams and her literary-inspired hat.



Triple Crown: Tracy McMillan took home the Best Fashion hat award and the Place & Show prizes in the drawing



Honorable mention: Tutor Susan Parker’s hat highlighting the Horse Protection Society of NC.



Winner, Winner: RCLC tutor and board member Dr. Nan Lund took home the top prize, including a gift card to El Patrón Mexican Grill & Cantina!



McAdams’ winning hat: “To learn to read is to light a fire.” -Victor Hugo



Board members (left to right) Davian Ellison, Macon Stewart, Don Doering, Ana Avila, Al Heggins, and Nan Lund enjoying the festivities.



Board member Bonnie Harrell (left) rubs elbows with guests Tracy McMillan and Jennifer Hudson.



Board members Al Heggins and Nan Lund man the check-in table with veteran tutor Jennifer Welch.



RCLC tutors, staff, and board members pitched in to keep things humming. #teamworkmakesthedreamwork



Communities in Schools Director James Davis and Corressia Davis looking sharp.



Guests Samantha Haspel & Rob Ring

Thanks again to our event sponsors:

GOLD

Missie & Greg Alcorn

SILVER

Gildan

BRONZE

Dr. Nan Lund
 Susan & Edward Norvell
 Sharonview Federal Credit Union
 Cold Stone Creamery/Planet Smoothie
 Ting Hao Chinese Restaurant
 Kevin & Laurel Harry



Board members Allison Doby & Davian Ellison

The Buzz

FUNDERS SUPPORT RCLC'S PROGRAMS

This spring, the Rowan County Literacy Council has been awarded several grants to assist with our Youth and/or Adult Programs.

- **The Margaret C. Woodson Foundation** has again generously supported our Youth Literacy program. With their help, we work in concert with Communities in Schools to place trained literacy tutors in various Rowan-Salisbury schools.
- **The Blanche & Julian Robertson Family Foundation** has also again selected RCLC as a 2022 grant recipient. The Robertson Foundation supports both our Youth and Adult literacy programs. We are appreciative of their vision for a strong and vibrant Salisbury.
- **The Dollar General Literacy Foundation** has awarded RCLC an Adult Literacy grant for 2022. Dollar General focuses their philanthropic efforts on literacy, and has given out over \$216 Million dollars to literacy organizations in Dollar General hometown communities over the years. Check out #theyellowglasses project!
- **St. Luke's Episcopal Church Foundation** has also funded our Youth and Adult Programs for 2022, as they align with the foundation's missional priorities of supporting vulnerable communities and promoting relationships across divides.
- **The Bank of America Charitable Foundation** has awarded RCLC a grant in support of our Adult Literacy program. They strive to improve the economic mobility of individuals and families in our area through various means, including workforce development and education.

We appreciate the support of these civic-minded organizations who share our belief that a literate community prospers. Please join us in thanking them for their generosity.

*“Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart.”
—Elizabeth Andrew*

LIBRARY HQ HOURS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
9:00 am - 9:00 pm	9:00 am - 9:00 pm	9:00 am - 9:00 pm	9:00 am - 6:00 pm	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Closed

UPCOMING RPL HOLIDAYS/CLOSURES

May 28–30

Closed—Memorial Day Weekend

July 4

Closed—Independence Day

TUTORS HONORED AT COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS LUNCHEON

The Communities in Schools (CIS) Volunteer Recognition Luncheon was held on May 4 at the Livingstone College Event Center. The luncheon was held to recognize CIS volunteers in Rowan-Salisbury Schools, several of whom are also volunteers with the Literacy Council.

The following RCLC volunteers were named Volunteer of the Year:

- **Diana Banks** for Hanford Dole Elementary School—Diana was recognized as one of the first volunteers to be welcomed back to Hanford Dole this year and was thanked for her dedication.
- **David Roof** for Isenberg Elementary—David was also recognized for earning over 100 volunteer hours with CIS during the school year. He has been essential in creating a Cub Scouts program at Isenberg.
- **Mary Ann Kerr** for North Rowan Middle School—Mary Ann was recognized for her dedication to her students. Anyone who has talked to her about her experience at NRMS, knows that she is very passionate about helping her students learn.
- **Ed Tezlaf** for Overton Elementary— According to Ms. Fran Lescoe at Overton, “Mr. Edward provides love, guidance, and support to all the scholars he works with, all while helping them learn on their own levels.” Ed worked with five students at Overton and four students at North Rowan High School this year.

The Literacy Council was also recognized as community Partner of the Year for North Rowan High School.

A huge thank you to all of our youth volunteers this year! This year has been full of ups and downs and we are so grateful to all of our volunteers for rolling with the changes and promoting student success.



CIS and Literacy Council volunteers from Isenberg Elementary.

BINGO BLENDS

Learning vowels and consonants for reading can be a challenge, and bingo can be a useful tool for practicing difference aspects of language. For example, Bingo can be used to practice consonant blends:

1. Select the consonant blends you want your student to work on, like bl, br, fr, st, fl, etc.
2. Create two bingo cards (five columns across and five columns down).
3. On the first card, mark the “Free” space in the center, then write a different consonant blend in each of the spaces.
4. Write the same blends on the second card, but put them in different spaces. This card will be for yourself.
5. Select words that start with each blend used on the bingo cards. Write these 24 words on separate pieces of paper, and then put them face down in a pile.
6. Ask the student to pick a word from the pile. They should read it aloud and give the sound of the blend.
7. Have the student cover the blend on their card. Whoever gets five blends in a row first, wins!

You can also use bingo with digraphs, vowel sounds, and new vocabulary words.

RCLC WHO'S WHO

2022 Board of Directors:

Don Doering-President
Nan Lund-Vice-President
Macon Stewart-Secretary
KC Scott-Treasurer
Scott Maddox
Davian Ellison
Kelly Freeze-RCCC Rep
Allison Doby
Bonnie Harrell
Ana Avila Araniba
Al Heggins

Staff:

Laurel Harry-Executive Director
Samantha Jones-Program Coordinator
Miguel Bustos-Adult Programs

BY THE NUMBERS...

63%

According to the National Assessment of Educational Progress, **63% of graduating seniors** cannot read at a 12th grade level.

43

Roughly **43 million** Americans ages 16 to 65 scored at or below the lowest levels on literacy.

20

Number of students currently on RCLC's waiting list. Demand for our services continues to grow due to ever-increasing referrals. While we are flattered that our students continue to bring in their friends and neighbors, this means we must keep pace by adding new volunteers. Please contact the office if you or a friend can pitch in 1.5 hours a week to change a life!

Rowan County Literacy Council
201 W. Fisher St.
P.O. Box 95
Salisbury, NC 28145
Phone: 704-216-8266
E-mail: info@rcliteracy.org



PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5