



Hivemind

DIVING INTO SUMMER

As Summer 2019 got started, the elementary tutoring program wrapped up in the schools, and we ramped up a new elementary school tutoring program in the library. Our adult students achieved new milestones, and our periodic CASAS reassessments for our adult ESL and ABE students continue to show measurable gains in students' reading skills. We have been busier than ever, but not too busy to pause and thank our hardworking tutors for their generosity of time and spirit at our annual Tutor Appreciation Event, held in June at Pancho Villa's Mexican Bar & Grill (see pages 2-3 for details). Viva la colmena! (Long Live the hive!)



Lots to cheer about: Tutor Ray Costello was one of many tutors honored for volunteer service during 2018 (full story, p. 2-3).

MILESTONES

Completed workbook level: Larry Summey's student, Chris Kepley's student, one of Don Doering's students

Read a book for pleasure: Deb Chirico's student, Joel Scott's student

Completed a course of study: One of Don Doering's students successfully completed all coursework to become a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN)

Received an academic award: One of Don Doering's students was inducted into the Adult Education Honor Society at RCCC.

Obtained a library card: Joel Scott's student

Increased community/volunteer involvement: Winnie Mikkelsen's student

Conveyed ideas in writing: One of Nan Lund's students



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TUTOR APPRECIATION EVENT WITH A LATIN TWIST

Every year, we gather to recognize our tutors and celebrate their achievements during the previous year. This year we met at Pancho Villa's to enjoy some south of the border snacks during the presentation of the 2018 honors.

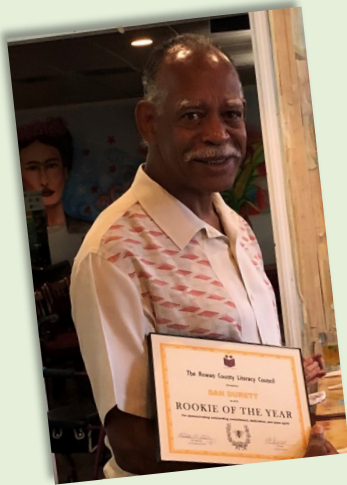


Above: Outgoing Board Member Carolyn Myers was presented with a lifetime achievement for 35 years of visionary leadership to RCLC.



Above: (Front to back) Board member Davian Ellison, and tutors Willi Beilfuss, Flo Peck, Carolyn Myers, Larry Summey, and Sarah Clifton listen to the presentation of awards.

Below: Liesa Montag-Siegel shows off her new hardware.



Above: Dan Durett was honored along with Rita Sims as Rookie of the Year.



APPRECIATION CONTINUED...



Left: Board Member Don Doering received the Catherine Saffrit Award for Exemplary Volunteer Service.

Right: Tutor Joel Scott was one of nine tutors who earned plaques for their first 100 hours.



Left: Board Member Vance Meek racks up another 100 hours.

Above: Carolyn Myers and Flo Peck each have 4000+ hours.



Right: Kid-whisperer Kathy Vestal



Above: Not a dry eye as late tutor Barry Whenal's stepson, Jason Groth, and widow Barb Whenal accept his plaque.



Above: Jennifer Doering displays her plaque, as tutor Whitney Peckman and others look on.

WWF TOURNAMENT CONTESTANTS DISPLAY MAD SKILLS

To be perfectly honest, we weren't exactly sure what to expect when we decided to host our first-ever online Words with Friends Tournament. If you are not familiar with Words with Friends, it is an online Scrabble-style game that you play against an assigned opponent using your smartphone. We had 30 intrepid players sign up to participate, many of whom had never played the game before. Did that stop them from being total bosses? NO, IT DID NOT.

The competition was feisty from the very start, with several games coming down to the last few tiles before the outcome was clear. Tutor Debbie Scott and Board Member Kelly Freeze both put in strong showings, as did several out of state players who may or may not all be related to our persuasive Executive Director (motto: "Participate or Else"). Round after round, the intensity rose as the number of players fell. Finally, there was one player left standing: hometown hero John Cowan.

The top four finishers won t-shirts and the top two also won cash prizes. If you didn't finish in the limelight, or missed the boat entirely, never fear. We plan to hold another online WWF tournament early next year, so start practicing now. If you can't wait that long to dazzle your friends and acquaintances with your Lit Council swag, you can buy a t-shirt now while supplies last. \$15 for tutors, \$20 for general public.



“Many people fail not so much because of their mistakes; they fail because they are afraid to try.”

— George Foreman

LIBRARY HOURS

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
HQ	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
East	9:00 am - 8:00 pm	9:00 am - 8:00 pm	9:00 am - 8:00 pm	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	9:00 am - 5:00 pm	10:00 am - 1:00 pm	Closed
South	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 HOLIDAYS

Aug 12—Aug 16 Note! Library closed all week for repairs to HVAC system, watch email for updates

Aug 31 and Sept 2 Library closed, Labor Day Holiday

Nov 11 Library closed, Veterans' Day Holiday

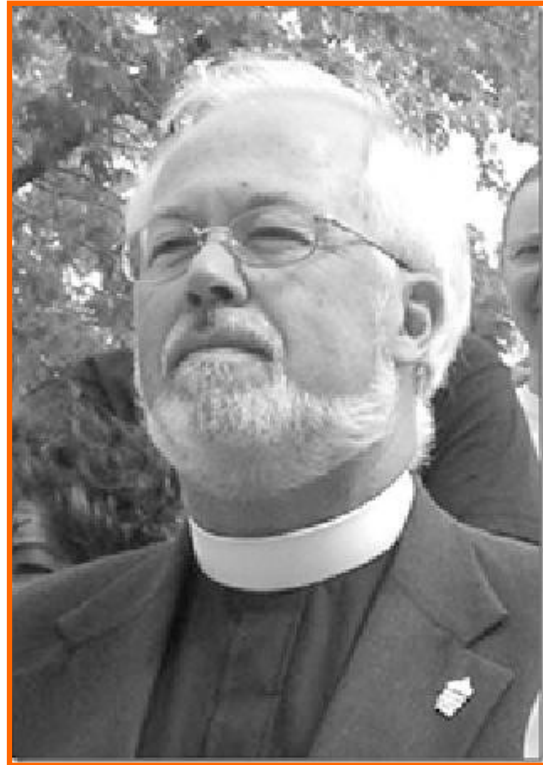
IN MEMORIAM: WHENAL & STELLUTE LEAVE LEGACY OF CARING

The Literacy Council has suffered two tremendous losses in a short period of time. Tutor Barry Whenal and Tutor and former Board Member Pasquale “Pat” Stellute have both recently passed away.

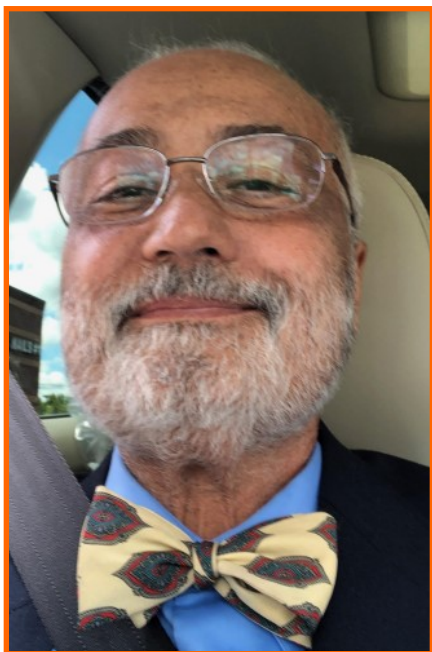
Barry passed away on May 29. He had been a tutor since 2016 and had worked with 15 students during his time with the Literacy Council. He typically tutored multiple students at a time and was tutoring *five* ESL students at the time of his passing.

Barry was a consummate linguist and enjoyed learning new languages himself and helping others learn. He employed a creative approach to his tutoring which kept his students engaged and excited about learning. His students will miss him terribly and so will we.

Pat Stellute passed away on June 18. He had been a tutor since 2010 and had joined the board of directors in 2015. He worked with several students over the years, most notably with one student for over four years. This student spoke movingly at the memorial service about the profound impact Pat’s tutoring and mentorship had had on his life.



Tutor Barry Whenal



Board Member Pat Stellute

The Literacy Council has received numerous donations on behalf of Pat and Barry. It is a fitting legacy that the programs that they volunteered their time so generously to support will continue on with the help of their friends and loved ones.



Tutor Barry Whenal (in green) with several fellow-tutors

RCLC WHO'S WHO

Board of Directors:

Melody Moxley-President

Helen Peacock-Vice-President

Vance Meek-Treasurer

Maggie Blackwell

Don Doering

Davian Ellison

Nan Lund

Scott Maddox

Gary Rash

Wen Ye

Kelly Freeze-RCCC Representative

Staff:

KC Scott-Executive Director

Laurel Harry-Program Coordinator

BY THE NUMBERS...

13%

Only 13% of people in a recent nationwide survey were aware of the Adult Literacy organization in their community. We need to **increase awareness** of our program in order to continue to attract volunteers and adult learners.

—Source: ProLiteracy's *Voices* magazine, Fall 2018 issue.

80%

More than 80% of children from economically disadvantaged communities **lose reading skills** over the summer because they lack access to books and other learning resources.

—Source: *Reading is Fundamental* (rif.org)

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Number of students currently on RCLC's waiting list. The waiting list has grown in recent weeks. We have a few new tutors in training, but more volunteers are needed! Please help spread the word to anyone who might be interesting in lending a hand.

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Mailing Address Line 5