



Hivemind

STAYING COOL IN THE SUMMER HEAT

As temperatures rise outside, tutors and students are hitting the books inside, and we are getting ready for fall. This summer, we held our annual Tutor Appreciation event and honored some of our top tutors (see p. 3). We also partnered with Rufty-Holmes Senior Center to create a new Spanglish Conversation group for any adult interested in learning English or Spanish, and added some new tutors to our ranks (see pgs. 2 and 4). As we look to the fall, we look forward to resuming in-school Youth tutoring, and continuing to work with Communities in Schools as they expand into more schools in the county (see pg. 4). This fall also marks the return of the twice-delayed Scrabble Scramble (see pg. 5). The 17th Annual Scrabble Scramble features some new-and-improved rules to boost competition. Tickets are now available on our website!



MILESTONES

Completed a workbook: Helen Kichefski's student.

Entered Employment: One of Al Heggins' students.

Improved employment: One of Liesa Montag-Siegal's and one of Al Heggins' students.

Completed a CPR course: Toni Teeter's student.

Increased Financial Literacy: One of Stephanie Fermin's students.

Enrolled in Community College: Jenny Hubbard's student.



Earned certificate: Anne Saunders' student, Angelica Caceres, completed a Phlebotomy program early this summer. Congratulations Angelica!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Staying Cool.....	1
Milestones.....	1
Spanglish Conversations	2
Tutor Appreciation	3
The Buzz.....	4
Scrabble Scramble Returns	5
By the Numbers	6

SPANGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP

This July marked the beginning of an exciting, new language-learning group in Salisbury. In partnership with Rufty-Holmes Senior Center, the Rowan County Literacy Council is offering Spanglish Conversations, an informal conversation group for adult individuals interested in learning English or Spanish.

The first meeting was held in early July, with participants including current tutors, students, and some newcomers.

The group meets once a week at Rufty-Holmes Senior Center, with a new topic of conversation each week. Past topics have included introductions, telling time, and holidays.

Spanglish Conversations will meet on Thursdays at 2:00 PM until the end of August. Class time may change due to programming at Rufty-Holmes.

If you would like more information, please give us a call at 704-216-8266. All adults are welcome to join!



The first meeting of the *Spanglish Conversations* group at Rufty-Holmes. RCLC participants included tutors Tony D’Mello, Jennifer Welch, Nan Lund, and a few current students.

— Rufty-Holmes —
Senior Center
“Adding Life to Years”

“One language sets you in a corridor for life. Two languages open every door along the way.”

—Frank Smith

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

September 3 & 5	Closed—Labor Day
November 11	Closed—Veteran’s Day
November 24 & 25	Closed—Thanksgiving

TUTORS HONORED AT 2022 TUTOR APPRECIATION

During 2020 and 2021, tutors at the Rowan County Literacy Council volunteered over 2,800 hours helping fellow Rowan County residents improve their literacy skills. On Wednesday August 3, 2022, RCLC volunteers were honored at a celebratory event in Rowan Public Library's Stanback Auditorium to recognize their many achievements.

The Literacy Council presents plaques to tutors who log their first 100 hours and gives brass plates for each additional set of 100 hours worked. The following tutors were given plaques for having notched their first 100 volunteer hours: Diane Labovitz, Susan Parker (plus 400), Debbie Scott (plus 200), Rita Sims, and Evelyn Uddin-Khan.

Other veteran tutors were honored for additional hours during the 2020 and 2021 calendar years, as follows:

- 100 hours: Deb Chirico, Jenny Hubbard, Thomas Long, Doug McKenzie, Larry Summey
- 200 hours: Gary Rash, Ed Tezlaf
- 300 hours: Char Molrine, Anne Saunders, Jennifer Welch
- 800 hours: Don Doering



Well deserved: Tutor Jennifer Welch was the recipient of the 2021 Catherine Bernhardt Safrit Award.

Each year, the Literacy Council recognizes one or more new tutors who have shown exemplary dedication and spirit. For 2021, tutors Mathias de Co-marmond, Ana Avila Araniba, and Toni Teeter received the "Rookie of the Year" awards.



16 years of service: Tutor Char Molrine and her student Norma Gonzalez.

Jennifer Welch was the recipient of the Catherine Bernhardt Safrit Award for Extraordinary Volunteer Service for 2021. In her nine years with the Literacy Council, Welch has been a reliable and devoted volunteer. She has tutored for almost 1,500 hours and has volunteered countless additional hours at the Literacy Council's programs and events. Welch is a fixture at the library where she can be seen working with her students several days of the week.

Lastly, the Literacy Council recognized long-time tutor Char Molrine for her 16 years of continuous service to the Literacy Council. Char tutored over 2,100 hours. She has won numerous accolades over the years, including the Safrit Award in 2015, and the Elizabeth Duncan Koontz Humanitarian Award in 2020.

If you are a current tutor who was unable to make it to the event, stop by the office to pick up your free RCLC T-shirt!

NEW WEBSITE

If you have been to our website recently, you may have noticed it has a new look. The new website has all of the features you know and love of the old website, with some updated flair.

The link to the Monthly Tutoring Hours form and the online tutor training can be found under the Volunteer Resources tab.

If you would like to make a donation online, you can still find the donation form under the Support Us tab. Donations can now be made directly on our website, without being redirected to PayPal.

Additionally, our website has a new Blog feature. This feature lets us post RCLC news more often, and provide more detailed information about our big events. If you need an RCLC news update in between newsletters, check out the blog!

A big thank you to Todd Rosser at Codist Creative, Inc. for his help with the project.



Find us online at
[rcliteracy.org](http://www.rcliteracy.org).

The Buzz

COMMUNITIES IN SCHOOLS EXPANDS

Students in Rowan-Salisbury Schools returned to school this month, and we're already thinking about our Youth Programs this fall. This year, Communities in Schools is expanding to offer services in Henderson Independent High School and Southeast Middle School, bringing the total number of RSS schools with CIS support up to 10.

Volunteers in our Youth Literacy program go through initial training and background checks before being paired with students. The schools evaluate test scores to identify students who are at risk for falling behind. Volunteers work with students at least once a week to build literacy skills.

If you are interested in tutoring in schools this year, please give us a call at 704-216-8266.

NEW TUTORS

Over the past several months, we have welcomed a number of new tutors into our ranks.

Haley Sloop joined the Literacy Council in early 2022. She is currently a student at Catawba College, where she is on track for a dual-major and dual-licensure in Elementary Education and K-12 Special Education. She is currently working with an Adult Basic Education student.

Melissa Graham completed her tutor training early this summer. Melissa is a new arrival in Salisbury, after living in Spain. After originally working with one ESL student, she is set to begin working with an ESL couple from Honduras and Cuba.

Stephanie Fermin also completed her tutor training early this summer. Stephanie works full time and serves in the U.S. Army Reserves. Spanish is her first language, and she is passionate about helping others. Stephanie immediately took on two ESL students in the "night shift" at the library.

Rachel Eller is a Rowan County native who has recently returned to the area. She has completed her Teaching English as a Second Language certification and is looking to teach English abroad. Until then, we are grateful to have her and will put her to work with our ESL students!

The Literacy Council welcomes Haley, Melissa, Stephanie, and Rachel. We thank them for volunteering their time for the benefit of others.

NEW AND IMPROVED— SCRABBLE SCRAMBLE RETURNS

Maximize— to make as large or great as possible. 78 points (with the 50 point bonus for using all the tiles).

After two years of covid-related postponements, the 17th Annual Scrabble Scramble is set for Thursday, September 29th at 6:00 pm. The Scrabble Scramble is a team endeavor, with each team aiming to build the highest score by using the allotted tiles. This year will contain all of the fun of team Scrabble, with some new rules to keep things competitive.

Notable rule changes include:

- Teams will be limited to up to 6 participants.
- Each table will have an Official who will facilitate play.
- The Official will count out 50 random tiles from the bag for the team to use. Up to 10 additional **RANDOM** tiles from the bag may be purchased for \$5 each from the table Official.
- Peeks at the dictionary (one word per peek) may be purchased for \$2 each from the table Official.

With these new rules, we hope to keep the fun and excitement of Scrabble Scramble going through all three rounds. Tickets are \$30 each (\$20 for tutors) and include gameplay, hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and raffle prizes.

For more information and to register, go to rcliteracy.org. Tickets are limited, so get yours today!



The *Trinity Oaks* team hard at work during the 2019 Scrabble Scramble.

YOUR BRAIN ON LANGUAGES

While speaking multiple languages is definitely an advantage, sometimes things can get mixed up. These mistakes can actually shed light on how our brains work.

Research into how multilingual people juggle more than one language shows that when a multilingual person wants to speak, the languages that they know can be active at the same time, even if they are just trying to use one language. In other words, if an English-Spanish bilingual speaker wants to say, “blue” both the English “blue” and the Spanish “azul” are activated in the brain.

This double-activation can lead to some mix-ups, and cause intrusions in not only vocabulary, but also grammar and accent. It can also make it more difficult for monolingual adults to learn a new language. When trying to speak a new language, the old language can pop up and make it more difficult to use a new language.



For the complete article, check out “*How our brains cope with speaking more than one language*” by Nicole Chang.

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...

17

This year marks the **17th Annual Scrabble Scramble**. Tickets are available now on rcliteracy.org.

8.8%

8.8% of Rowan County residents over the age of 5 speak a language other than English at home. -*U.S. Census Bureau*

2800

RCLC tutors volunteered over 2,800 hours in 2020 and 2021. If you would like to volunteer with us for 2022, please give our office a call.

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