

Hello,

We hope you enjoy this, our first e-bulletin for Oakland Literacy Council. Our intent is to keep you informed on a bi-monthly basis with this bulletin. The Oakland Literacy Board of Directors is well aware that we must make every important dollar we have stretch even further than it ever did before. We are doing our part by suspending our quarterly newsletter (at least for the time being) and providing you instead with these electronic updates. Our savings, of around \$10,000 annually from the newsletter, translates into three more tutor training sessions and some of the supplemental materials. As most of you know, our mission is to provide basic literacy and English language instruction to adults in order to facilitate lifelong learning, employment skills and personal well-being. We take immense pride in the fact that for over 26 years we have followed our mission to a tee and have helped well over 7500 adult learners. These accomplishments could happen only with the contributions of time, effort, money and support from our large circle of friends, tutors, volunteers, students, and, of course, the business community. We do all this with little fanfare--it truly is a labor of love. We have had to make some tough decisions these past two years in order to continue offering the same services tutors and students have come to expect. With Michigan's current economic downturn, the Oakland Literacy Board felt we needed someone more versed in grant writing and fund raising in order to ensure the longevity of the Council. It is therefore with sadness we asked our Executive Director, Carol Moraniec to step down from her position. She has been affiliated with the Council for many years and we wish her the very best. We will be posting the job for an Executive Director in the coming months. In the meantime, it is business as usual. The office will be staffed with long time volunteers well versed in the daily operations of the Council. Our employees play an integral role and as always are willing to step up and assist. Please feel free to contact us with any concerns, questions or comments you may have regarding the Literacy Council.

*Julie Hoensheid and Pat Ojala conducted another successful Tutor Training in June. Our thanks and warm welcome to our new tutors. They include (since January 2010) Farida Ali, Judith Allen, Shahida Archer, Lawrence Banko, Matthew Beaumont, Thomas Besemer, Beryl Bradick, Martha Brawner, Christian Busch, Joanne Chapman, Lori Cheshure, Dennis Courtright, Coleen Currin, Carol Diebold, Dennis Dixon, Roslyn Duffy, Diane Durecka, Pamela Durk, Dawn Egginberger, Sharon Mullin Fox, Peggy Gaabo, Andrea Ghose, Sandra Gilbert, Dino Grecu, Millie Ham, Rodney Harper, Nancy Heider, David Hennes, Charles Hodges, Carol Hoffman, Barbara Jackson, Eloise Kester, Joyce Kornbluh, Mary Kroneman, Joan Lang-Hirst, Gillian Lee, Ellen Letourneau, Dana Letvin, Melva

Lopez, Margaret Mac Tavish, Keith Makarski, Patricia Masten, Tim Monck, Pamela Moore, Anne Morrison, Indira Morlidhar, Colleen Osak, Mary Osak, Jenny Pedersen, Ulysses Pinciro, David Plant, Martha Puskas, Sherley Raitzsch, Sam Ray, Stacy Recca, Ethyl Rivera, Debbie Robotniek, Janice Rowe, Patricia Rowley, Leona Russik, Kendra Saidens, Joan Smith, Theresa Tanin, Delores Thibodeaux, Elise Toeniskoecter, Susan Volz, Kathy Walsh, Terri Waraniak, Nan Wilbeding, Gene Williams, Kathleen Wittenberg, Carol Young.

*We were delighted to receive a check in the amount of \$1,000 from Christ Church Cranbrook. If your place of worship has a development committee, please let us know as we would be happy to talk with them about Oakland Literacy Council.

*It looks as if we are on the road to culinary success, thanks in no small part to your tasty recipe contributions. Almost 300 recipes have been received. Our publication date is mid October--just in time for holiday shopping. More details in future newsletters.

*If you use the Bloomfield Township Library as your place to tutor train, we have good news for you. Please call the office to get the newest update on how to secure a study room.

*We are now part of the Kroger Community Rewards Program. If you register, for every dollar you spend at Kroger a percentage will come back to the Literacy Council. It is simple to register--please go to http://www.kroger.com/mykroger/Pages/community_rewards.aspx Select Michigan as your location and then follow the directions. Our web site www.oaklandliteracy.net provides step by step instructions. Spread the word, this program is available to anyone.

*Our wish list continues to grow. Our most pressing needs are the following: Web designer, Graphic Designer, Volunteers to work in the office, on our PR Team and in our Outreach areas. Please call the office for more details or better yet, just say "yes".

*Plans for our annual Ex Libris event are underway. This year is special as it celebrates our 20th year arranging this successful night of great food, wonderful company and entertaining speakers all in the name of Literacy. Something new for us, is selling advertisement space in our program book. If you frequent a business or would like to share ideas on who to solicit please let us know.

*Share this e-bulletin with students, family, and friends--anyone. Send us your ideas, suggestions and bits of news.

*Our first ever “**Rolling for Readers**” night of bowling on Thursday, July 15th, has been cancelled until further notice.

*Our office hours have changed. We are now open Monday through Friday from 8:30 to 4:30. We are closed from 12:30 to 1:30 for lunch. You are more than welcome to use the office as your tutoring “home”, view our material selection or just come by to say “hi”. If you can, please give us a call to let us know you will be dropping by just in case, a rare occasion, the office is closed.

Judy Lindstrom
Oakland Literacy Council President