

## “Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

April, 2023



## Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin



Hi Everyone,

Spring is in the air – you can feel it and see it outside and in the smiles around the Literacy center, and in the May Basket Raffle fundraiser preparation. Bring it on!

## General Information

### May Baskets

They're baaack! May Baskets will be on view in the lobbies at the Framingham Library and Christa McAuliffe Branch Library. The raffle begins April 18<sup>th</sup> and runs through May 31<sup>st</sup>. The drawing will be held at noon on June 5<sup>th</sup>. There is something for everyone, toys, crafts, electric bikes, air fryers, lottery tickets and much more! All proceeds benefit Literacy Unlimited's operational budget. You can buy raffle tickets at the Framingham Main and McAuliffe libraries' circulation desks starting on April 18.

### Volunteer Appreciation Night Thursday, May 18 6-8:00 PM (Note date change)

Planning is underway for a fun, in-person night at the Framingham Library with food, experience sharing, and fun activities. More details will be coming as we get closer to the date. We had to move the date because of scheduling.

### Literacy Unlimited and Library Closings in April

All libraries (Framingham and Natick) will be closed on Sunday, April 9 for Easter and on Sunday, April 16 and on Monday, April 17 for Patriots' Day.

### **Liehua's Farewell**

Thank-you all who stopped by the office on March 22<sup>nd</sup> to say goodbye to Liehua! She was happy to see so much appreciation for her. We all wish her the best and safe travels!



### **Literacy Unlimited - Clerical Assistant**

We are actively looking for a part-time (15 hours per week) clerical assistant. The position's responsibilities include: monthly tutor hours reporting, database updating, and monthly report generation, administering student assessments, entering data in MS Excel, Word, and Publisher, updating the website, and other office tasks. If you know of someone, including a student who might be interested, let us know and we will contact them when the position is officially posted on the City of Framingham website.

## **Good to Know – For Tutors**

### **Tutor Professional Development/Workshop – Tuesday, April 11 1:00 – 3:30 PM Framingham Library – Costin Room**

Dr. Marcel LaVergne will lead an in-person workshop on **“Lesson Planning Made Easy: The Backward Design Process”** Let us know if you plan to attend by responding to this email. [fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:fplmail4@minlib.net)

### **Tutor Professional Development/Workshop – Wednesday, April 26 6:00 PM on Zoom**

We are a proud grantee of the Massachusetts Service Alliance (MSA). We received funding from MSA to host two tutor training sessions in April, professional development workshops in April and May, and a volunteer appreciation night!

Thanks to this initiative, we will have Taryn Ohristo doing an online workshop on teaching ESOL students using storytelling on Wednesday, April 26 at 6 PM. Space is limited so we ask that you RSVP: <https://forms.gle/3dCpiBtxgUCmnL1i9> . We will send the Zoom link to tutors who register for the workshop.



### **Reflections: Stories of Immigration in Framingham**

**Thursday, April 13 at 8:00 PM** at the Framingham Public Library - The Framingham History Center invites the community to listen to three personal experiences of foreign-born residents of Framingham from Italy, Brazil, and Syria. It is free but seating is limited. To find out more and to register, click here [Stories of Immigration in Framingham](#)

### **Student Testing in May and June**

LVM requires us to assess our student's English levels at least once a year and, depending on when a new student is matched with a tutor, twice a year. In the past, scheduling the time to test students has been problematic so this year we would like to schedule the assessment administration through the tutor and not the student. You will get a google form sheet asking you when in May you are going to meet with your student and we will join either your in-person or online meeting to administer the test. We will be sending out more information toward the end of this month.

If you are interested in being certified to administer the BEST Plus test. There is an upcoming training at the end of April. To register, please visit [SABES.ORG](http://SABES.ORG). The training is limited to 24 people and fills quickly.

If you are already certified to administer the test, and would like to help us during May and June, please reach out to us. We can use extra hands to administer more than 100 tests this year. [Fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:Fplmail4@minlib.net)

## **New Conversation Classes**

We are so grateful for our **new in-person Conversation Class Leaders:**

Tim H

Jim M

Peter B

## Good to Know – To Share with Students

The Registry of Motor Vehicles has announced that the Learner's Permit test is now available in more foreign languages. The new foreign languages added are Albanian, Cape Verdean Creole, Hungarian, Kiswahili, Pashto, Turkish and Ukrainian. Please see the link below and share this information with your students.

[RMV Press Release](#)

## Tutor and Student Pair Accomplishments – You Rock!!!!

I hope it is inspiring to hear what our students are accomplishing. If you have reached a milestone, any milestone, with your student please, please let us know. We have added a space on the monthly tutor hours reporting form for you to add your accomplishments. We are looking for all accomplishments no matter how big or small they seem to you.

Thank-you to all the tutors who take the time to share with us - we really appreciate it.

**Lynn and Arben/Mimoza** – Arben and Mimoza are from Albania and have been working with Lynn since last November. We are happy to share that they are both working together in the evenings cleaning at an animal hospital in Waltham. In addition, Arben is working weekdays in the kitchen for the Weston Public Schools." *March 2023*

**Dan and Abelardo** - Abelardo, from Dan's advanced level ESOL conversation group, recently got his U.S. Citizenship. Congratulations, Abelardo! *March 2023*

## Last Word

Thank-you for reading to the end and we hope to see you at one or more of our April events.

Karen, Michelle, Laurie, and Marjie