

“Newsy” the ESOL Tutor Newsletter

December, 2025



Welcome to “NEWSY” the Literacy Unlimited Tutor Bulletin



2025 Potluck Dinner

Hi Everyone,

Our potluck dinner last Thursday night was a huge success, even though it had to be rescheduled due to the weather on Tuesday. This annual event never disappoints. The dishes and desserts with origins from around the world were varied and delicious. The spontaneous testimonials by several students were amazing. And everyone had a great time playing “Ways to Practice English” bingo. This community certainly knows how to party.

Important Information

Literacy Unlimited Annual Appeal

We are in the midst of our annual appeal. So far, we have raised \$14,480. Thank-you to everyone who has so generously donated.

Contributions from individual donors provide about 25% of the funding for our program every year, and we are truly grateful. We hope you will support the program in any amount that you

can. Our goal is to raise \$25,000 by December 31. If you would like to contribute now, you can visit the [Support Us](#) page of our website for instructions on how to give via check or online.

December Library and Literacy Unlimited Closings

The **Framingham libraries** will be closed from **Wednesday, December 24 at 12:00 pm until Friday, December 26 at 9:00 am** for the Christmas holiday. And they will be closed from **Wednesday, December 31 at 5:00 pm until Friday, January 2 at 9:00 am** for the New Year's holiday.

The **Morse Institute Library in Natick** will be closed on Thursday, December 25 and on Thursday, January 1. If you plan to visit the Natick library on December 24 or 31, check with the library for their hours on those days.

Additionally, **Literacy Unlimited** will be closed for two weeks from **December 22 through January 2**. On January 5th, the office will be open 9am-2pm, and we will be back to our regular Monday-Thursday, 9am-5pm office hours starting Tuesday, January 6th. When the library is open but Literacy is closed, tutors and class leaders can access the Literacy space by signing in at the Circulation Desk, getting a Literacy Volunteer badge, and asking for assistance from Reference staff upstairs.

Tutor Workshops

Tutor Time - Tuesday, January 13 at 6:00pm Online - Do you want to learn more about Ellii, our subscription database of ESOL lesson plans and other resources? Martha will show you how to navigate the service and how to utilize it with your ESOL learners. The session will be on Zoom and will last for about an hour. We will send out reminders and the Zoom link in January.

For Students

Citizenship Seminar, February 3-March 10th, Meets Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7:00 – 8:30 at the Framingham Library

If your student is eligible or close to becoming eligible for citizenship and speaks English at an intermediate or higher level, this might be just the seminar for them. Please have them contact us if they are interested in attending.

New Tutors

Be sure to welcome our new tutors if you see them at a volunteer event or feel free to introduce yourself to an unfamiliar face around the Literacy space. It may or may not be a new tutor but it can be fun to meet another tutor.

Alison C	Karen S
Zelia E	Jane R
Sydney B	Catherine V
Ligia P	Michael C

And if you know someone who you think would be a great tutor, please refer them to us. There is a new tutor information session online on Wednesday, January 7 at 6:00 pm. The next tutor training will be online at night starting on Wednesday, January 21. More information and registration forms for upcoming information sessions and trainings can be found [here](#).

Tutor and Student Accomplishments/Activities – Take the Win!!!

Here are some fantastic milestones our students are reaching with the help of their tutors. To the tutors who took the time to share these accomplishments, we are truly grateful. Congratulations to all our silent heroes whose achievements, big and small, inspire us all.

Wayne and Marcio – “While reading NEWSY, I realized that this coming week, Marcio and I will be celebrating 16 years together! While the last three years have been 100% online due to my move to Arizona in 2022, he's still making great progress, and we meet once a week.” I asked Wayne why he thought the two have been together so long, and he believes it is because of the “great chemistry” the two of them have with each other. This is a great example of the impact of the student - teacher relationship on learning.

Sheryl and Jaime – “Jaime just got a wonderful job in his field. In Venezuela, Jaime was a mechanical engineer. He had an extensive English vocabulary when he came to America, but he wasn't able to pronounce words clearly enough to get a job in his field. So, he's been working at an Amazon warehouse to help support his family. Over the past year, Jaime's pronunciation has improved so much that he just landed a mechanical engineering job. He's very excited, and I'm so very proud of him. “



Jaime and Sheryl

Janis and Valentyna – Valentyna is reading short stories and summarizing them in their meetings.

Megan and Dan – Dan is doing better with pronunciation and comprehension and is feeling more comfortable talking/asking about pronunciation. Dan said she might like to get a job next year.

Suzanne and Jeonghee - Jeonghee is now enrolled in a Pre-Requisite Dental Hygiene program at Quinsigamond Community College.

Pete and Yong - Yong has started working as a pilot for Cape Air, and has been undergoing training in Hyannis, MA.

Alissa and Jianny – Jianny learned the 100 citizenship interview questions and answers.

Vincent and Pedro – both of them are getting much more comfortable using Zoom for their lessons.

Jim and Soufi - Soufi finished reading another book by Alexander McCall Smith, *The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency*, which is 235 pages long and not so easy. She enjoyed it and is looking forward to more books in the same series.

Safura and Odulis – Odulis is getting her driver's license which will help in seeking better job opportunities.

Radhika and Camila – Focusing on conversational English, Camila has gained confidence for job interviews and has started a new job.

Maria and Aura – Aura has been attending Maria's conversation class. Aura just recently passed the U.S. citizenship interview.



Martha and Aura

Don't forget to let us know about you and your student's accomplishments by sending us an email or including a comment when you report your monthly hours.

Last Word

Whew....it has been a busy fall and all of us have accomplished a lot. As the temperatures fall and the daylight dwindles, we can feel the pace slowing just a bit for tutors and English learners. This gives us a few minutes to catch our breath and start thinking about next year with many activities in the planning stage. We can't wait to tell you about them. But for now, we wish you Happy Holidays and warm wishes for a healthy and happy New Year!

See you all next year!

Martha, Karen, Marjie, and Kyara