

June/July, 2024



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

Hi Everyone,

It’s official. Literacy will be **in our new space** on the upper floor in the Framingham Public Library the first week of July. We can’t wait to share with you the new beautiful and multifunctional space. We will be packing everything up the last week in June.

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony with Karen Spilka, President of the Massachusetts State Senate, to celebrate our new space. We are still in the process of scheduling the ceremony, but we will provide more information when it becomes available. We are looking for musicians who might like to provide festive entertainment during the celebration. If you or your student might be interested, please let us know. [Fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:Fplmail4@minlib.net)

## General Information

### Jack’s Abby Summer Social – Eat Up. Drink Up. Show Up for Literacy Unlimited

Martha, our new interim coordinator has been at Literacy for only 2 months and she is doing a fantastic job of taking over the reins from Michelle. And now she says it is time for a social celebration of our wonderful community! On **Wednesday, July 31** from 12:00pm to 9:00pm stop in at Jack’s Abby for a meal and/or a drink, and tell them you are there to support Literacy Unlimited. Jack’s Abby will donate 20% of the proceeds from participating orders that day to our program.

Literacy Unlimited staff and board members will be at Jack’s Abby from 5:30pm to 7:30pm. We will have a dedicated table and hope to rock the place with tutors, students, potential tutors, friends, and interested community members. Bring your family, friends, student(s) and/or conversation class! It will be a great time to meet other tutors and for students to practice English. You can find information about the event on our website here [Summer Social Event](#), and we will be sending out reminders closer to July 31<sup>st</sup>.

### May Baskets Raffle Update

Thank you to everyone who supported May Baskets by buying raffle tickets. We raised over \$5,400. You can see pictures of some of the winners on our website here [May Basket Winners](#)

as well as a sneak preview of the mural (in process) that will be in our new Literacy space on the library's upper floor.

### **July Library and Literacy Closings**

**The Framingham libraries** will be closed starting at 5:00 pm on Wednesday July 3 and on Thursday, July 4 in observance of Independence Day. The Morse Institute Library in Natick will be closed on July 4.

## **Good to Know – For Tutors**

### **Professional Development – Miniseries on art, creativity, and literacy coming soon!**

In light of our upcoming move, we have decided to take a break during June and July from professional development programming. We will be coming back strong in the fall, though, with a 2-workshop miniseries on art, creativity and literacy. More information on exact dates and times to come soon!

### **Assessment Season – We are almost at the finish line**

We have tested over 100 students and we are almost done. Thank-you to our testing volunteers, Liehua and Rebecca, who helped us administer some of the assessments.

### **Are interested in becoming a BEST Plus Administrator?**

Many of you sat in on the Best Plus assessment of your student. If you are interested in volunteering to assess students, let us know. We may have space this summer for one person to be trained on administering the assessment.

### **Congratulations to Our New Tutors**

We have 9 new tutors who completed their tutor training in May. We have matched almost all of them with an English learner!

Peter C

Pranav K

Barbara L

Megan T

Rick G

Jacqueline B

Rosamaria G

Lee Ann F

Jo-Ann D

### **ESOL Tutor Training – Information Session on July 24th**

We are always looking for new tutors like you. We will be holding an information session for potential tutors on Wednesday, July 24<sup>th</sup> at 6pm. Following this information session, we will have multiple tutor training courses available in the fall. If you know of someone who you think might be interested in becoming a tutor, please have them contact us at [fplmail4@minlib.net](mailto:fplmail4@minlib.net) or 508 532 5574.

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

Please remember to let us celebrate you and your student's accomplishments by sending us an email or including a comment when you report your monthly hours. We think the updates below are remarkable and we know you will enjoy reading them. We are so grateful to our tutors for taking the time to share with us. Thank-you.

**Maisi and Lucette** – Maisi and Lucette have been working together since December of 2019. Maisi recently prepared a presentation on Renaissance Art for the Art History Club at Approach International Language Center in Marlborough. Wow...that's impressive. Well-done Maisi and Lucette. *(April 2024)*

**Daniel and Lucy** – Daniel and Lucy have been meeting since September 2023. Daniel recently got a second job helping a teacher translate between English and Portuguese for his class. Great work – congratulations to you both. *(April 2024)*

**Mina and Sheryl** – Mina and Sheryl have been working together since October 2023. One of Mina's goals when he joined the program was to improve his English so he could communicate with clients and other contractors involved in his construction business. Mina now feels comfortable negotiating in business. That is a huge step – congratulations to you both. *(April 2024)*

**Jose and Jennifer** – Jose and Jennifer have been meeting since February of 2024. Jose just got a new job. Congratulations to you both. *(May 2024)*

**Patricia and Richard** – Patricia and Richard have been working together since March of 2023. Patricia has moved up to the intermediate level from the low intermediate level in the lessons used from ellii. You two are rocking it – keep up the great work. *(May 2024)*

**Valentyna and Janis** – Valentyna and Janis have been meeting since February 2024. Valentyna loves to read and had been reading the Penguin Readers series books with simplified story text. She recently got a library card and started reading a YA (young adult) book this month! What a great milestone – congratulations to you both. *(May 2024)*

**Linsey and Lorri** – Linsey and Lorri have been working together since November 2023. Linsey passed her driver's test and is now a licensed driver. This is a huge accomplishment – congratulations to you both. *(May 2024)*

**Donna and Howy** – Howy is an ESOL tutor who now works exclusively with students who are preparing for the US citizenship interview. We are pleased to announce that his most recent student, Donna, just passed her test and that he and Donna are both going to go register Donna to vote next week. Congratulations to Donna and thank-you Howy. *(June 2024)*

## Last Word

Bonnie Mitchell, one of our tutors and conversation class leaders, was recently honored as a 2024 Commonwealth Heroine. You can read about her impressive contributions here: [Bonnie Mitchell Honored as 2024 Commonwealth Heroine](#) The Literacy staff is so grateful for the opportunity to work with such a talented and dedicated group of volunteers like Bonnie and you. You are all terrific!

Thank-you for reading to the end,

Karen, Martha, Laurie, and Marjie