

# JANUARY 2017 NEWSLETTER



Literacy Volunteers of Kent County, Inc.  
1672 Flat River Road  
Coventry, RI 02816  
(401) 822-9103 \* [lvkc@coventrylibrary.org](mailto:lvkc@coventrylibrary.org)  
Fax (401) 822-913 [CoventryLibrary.org/lvkc](http://CoventryLibrary.org/lvkc)

## GREETINGS

From the Program Director: Kathy Gray

HAPPY 2017! LET'S MAKE IT A GOOD ONE!

**The really big news** is that LVKC student Jessica Gelsemino passed her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) test in November when she took the state exam. She is working in Cranston as a visiting CNA assisting the elderly with the company Hope Nursing Home Care.

Jessica arrived in the United States from Gong Dong Province, China in 2011. She lived in a small town named Gong Yi, formerly a farming village that has become a shoe factory center. Most of Gong Yi's population now works in the shoe factories.

Jessica came to LVKC in 2013 and joined the Coventry Start Here ELL group conversation class taught by Evelyne Kokolsky and Donna Miller. At that time, she could not drive and spoke little English. After working with the class, she achieved many small goals and larger goals of obtaining a driver's license and citizenship. We at LVKC were so proud.

Full of energy and ambition, Jessica then had a new goal of becoming a CNA. Jessica enjoys working with the elderly and making them feel more comfortable. She has also seen how the trials of aging can depress people and she enjoys talking with them and making them smile. She has made lasting friendships from the group class and we will miss her but we know she is leaving to make the world a better place and we are very proud!





# IN MEMORIAM



## DOROTHY (DOT) HOOK 1921-2016

Dorothy (Dot) Hook passed away on September 24, 2016 at the age of 95. She was a founding member and the first treasurer of Literacy Volunteers of Coventry (LVC), the first Literacy Volunteers of America affiliate in Rhode Island. She served on the Board of Directors, was Chair of the Tutor Advisor Program which she developed, and the recipient of the *2000 UNSUNG HERO AWARD*. Dorothy and her husband of 71 years Richard Bradford Hook resided in Coventry, RI for 41 years. Richard died in 2013. She is survived by her daughter Pamela, son John, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Following her husband's death, Dorothy moved to Goshen, New York to be closer to family. LVKC Secretary and original Board Member Sandy Dupree remembers Dot "as always pleasant and willing to undertake whatever the Board needed from her. She was always very friendly to everyone and Dot always had a great, dry sense of humor! A great asset to the organization, she stayed on the Board for a long time." Dorothy dedicated 24 years to serving on the LVKC Board.



## TUTOR NEWS



### IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST! VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT ON: *LINDA MATHEWSON LVKC TUTOR*

*How long have you been volunteering for LVKC and why is literacy important to you?*

- ❖ *I have been volunteering at least 12 years.\* I'm not exactly sure how long, though. I think literacy is important to help people who come to our country be able to maximize their experiences here, and obtain and understand all which our country has to offer.*

*What has been your most challenging/rewarding experience with LVKC?*

*I have found all my experiences, with all my students very rewarding.*

*Have you learned anything about yourself from volunteering? What would you tell someone who is thinking about volunteering?*

*I am always feeling that I need to thank my students because I learn so much from each and every one of them. It is one of my favorite things to do and I am so happy I discovered this wonderful opportunity. I would share this with anyone who was considering volunteering themselves.*

*What do you do when you are not volunteering?*

*My major activity when I'm not volunteering would probably be spending time with my grandchildren. I have two in New York, two in Massachusetts and four in Connecticut. I have shared a lot of my experiences I've had while tutoring with them and they are always quite interested.*

*I also enjoy traveling and I am beginning to learn to play golf.*

*Do you speak any other languages and did you pick them up at LVKC?*

*I took French in high school and college but have never actually spoken it since. Knowing how hard it is to actually speak a language fluently has helped me appreciate, in a small way, the challenges my students face.*

*What are you reading now?*

*My present novel that I'm reading is **Mister Monkey** by Francine Prose. I have also recently read a book by Wally Lamb, titled **I'll Take you There** and a book by Elena Ferante, **My Brilliant Friend**.*

- ❖ Linda has been volunteering for LVKC for 15 years 😊

# TUTOR TRAINING



Literacy Volunteers of Kent County

An Affiliate of ProLiteracy

1672 Flat River Road ~ Coventry, Rhode Island 02816

(401) 822-9103 Fax: (401) 822-9133

lvkc@coventrylibrary.org



## 2017 SPRING Tutor Training Schedule To register call: 822-9103

**FREE ONLINE** Prerequisite Classes at [www.proliteracyednet.org/](http://www.proliteracyednet.org/)  
*Principles of Adult Learning & Working With Adult Literacy Learners*

Prior to taking the Tutor Training Workshop (TTW), prospective tutors must take 2 required classes on line at [www.proliteracyednet.org/](http://www.proliteracyednet.org/). These free classes are *Principles of Adult Learning* and *Working with Adult Literacy Learners*. Prospective tutors will be provided with certifications upon completion of the classes which they will then submit with their registration to the TTW. Tutor training is then conducted in a series of workshops totaling 15 hours in a classroom setting. Midway through training, volunteers are matched with students so that they may experience the tutoring process and receive guidance as needed. At the conclusion of training, tutors are certified.

Thursday, March 23, 2017 \* 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.  
Coventry Public Library Annex Room

Thursday, March 30, 2017 \* 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Coventry Public Library Annex Room

Thursday, April 6, 2017 \* 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Coventry Public Library Annex Room

Thursday, April 13, 2017 \* 6:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Coventry Public Library Annex Room

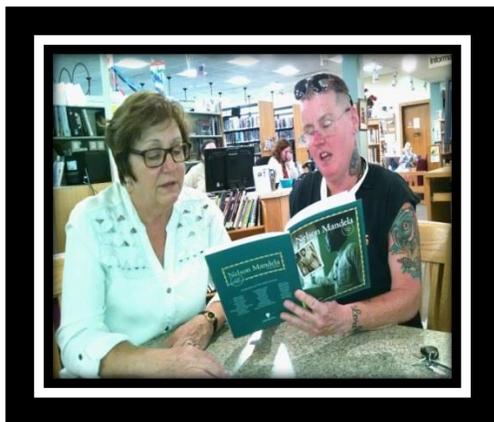
Thursday, May 11, 2017 \* 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
Coventry Public Library Annex Room



# Please Welcome Our New Tutors!



**On January 12, 2017 another class of finely ProLiteracy trained tutors graduated from LVKC Instructor's Lauren Rathbun's Fall 2016 Workshop! The newly certified are Maureen McCarthy, Instructor Lauren Rathbun, Deb Montaquila, Joan Flannagan, and Vivian Velasquez. Missing from the photo are Deborah Lisi and Paula Fish.**



**Lori Vaz brushes up on the history of social activism with her tutor Judy Godwin.**



**It was a full house the evening John Gaydos presented Learning Styles & Listening Skills for our Fall In-Service. John has taught for over 35 years, eventually becoming the Department Head of Language Arts and Curriculum Coordinator. He has presented multiple workshops locally, regionally, and nationally. Seventeen tutors attended and received their recertification. Three students also attended.**

# Thank you to all Contributors of the 2016 Fall Appeal

Barbara Bridge

Annette Carpenter

Jerry Roch ~ Roch Realty & Appraisal Co

Denise Lowell

Pat Manire

Yasuko Fukumoto

Yunhye Ahn

Chieko Teramoto

Yuping Zhen

Ann Byrne

Laurie Grann/Crow's Nest Restaurant

Nancy Abood

Winston Quintero-Moreira

Keith Lau/Han Palace

Jodi Ward/Concordia  
Manufacturing

Steven Merolla

Frank Joseph

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Elisabeth Buell

Priscilla Holt

Dorothy Brindamour

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Bernardine DiOrio

Katherine Patenaude

MaKiko Takashima

Cov/WG Lions Club

Donna Saulino

Craig Carpenter Carpenter-Jenks  
Funeral Home

Pawtucket Credit Union

Cynthia Capobianco

Mary L. Holleran

Lee Crowley

Linda Mathewson

Mark McKenney

Robert Haiken



## FUNDRAISERS & DONATIONS

# FUNNY FOR FUNDS\$



When we last spoke, LVKC was gearing up for its comedy night fundraiser. Everybody had a great time and we exceeded our anticipated goals. As always, our literacy friends and family exhibited wide-ranging support! September 30, 2016 at Club Jogues was a superfun night of great food, friends and lots of laughs! LVKC is fortunate to have such champions of literacy as our tutors, students, and benefactors. Everyone contributed from either baking cupcakes, asking for donations for raffle items, and selling tickets!

Thank you to all our sponsors who made the night such a successful event 😊

**BankRI**

**Swarovski**

  
C A R O L Y N ' S  
SAKONNET VINEYARD

**Doggone Good Pet Grooming**

**Centerville Bank**

**Broker's Service Marketing Group II, LLC**

**Concordia Manufacturing**

**Dunkin Donuts**

**Gary Robichaud, Sr.**

**Georg Sommerer**

**Growing Crazy**

**Joan Giusti**

**Marion Gaydos**

**Joe Schuttert~Dahlia King of Coventry**    **STARBUCKS**

**Dr. Richard & Karen Liner**

**Mirta Pedrazolli**

**Piezoni's~Apponaug~Victor Martinez**    **Royal Nails Spa**

**Sandy Cabral Designs**

**Serena Bates \* Fine Art**

**TACO Bell Coventry**

**Target Warwick**

**The Wholean Women**

**Walgreens**

# FUNDRAISERS & DONATIONS

## November Bucket Raffle

LVKC held its annual November Bucket Raffle auctioning off 13 fabulous prizes to our patrons and supporters. We made over \$350.00!



**Mary & Keith**



**Fun For the Whole Family**

**Lori, Morgan, & Gerard**

*Thanks to  
our winners  
and our  
contributors:*

**WHIMSEY & "WHOA" Maryann Levendusky**

**STARBUCKS**

**Cardi's Furniture**

**Colvintown Kennel**

**Joan Giusti**

**Sandy Cabral designs**

**Trader Joes**

**Gary Robichaud, Sr.**

**RI National Guard**

**Jane Q. Peng Photography**



**Our good friend and former student Mirta Pedrazzoli visited us from West Palm Beach over the summer. Although she could not attend the Funny For Funds fundraiser, she kindly donated \$200 to sponsor the event. Mirta is Argentinian and was an LVA National Student Leader.**

**Thank you Mirta for always giving back 🌸**

# BITS & PIECES

## ELL or GED? AskRI

This is an excellent resource. For ELL students, Mango has a visual display in both relevant languages and audio for pronunciation and listening skills development. Not just for our students, tutors use this to learn new languages as well!

Basic literacy users can go to the Adult Learning Center and practice for the GED or simply work on reading and math skills.

To access either **MANGO** or **Adult Learning Center**

Go to the **Coventry Public Library Website**  
[www.Coventrylibrary.org](http://www.Coventrylibrary.org)

Drop down on **Reading Research & Technology**

Click on **Research**

Click on **Databases**

Scroll down to **AskRI**

Here you can either click on the **MANGO** and set up a profile

OR

for the **Adult Learning Center**

From AskRI scroll to **Learning Express**  
And click on the Adult Learning Center of choice. Set up your **profile**

**Learn and have fun!**

<http://www.starfall.com/>

This site is great for students with learning disabilities and/or no prior schooling. It is geared toward children, so just tell your student beforehand that you mean no insult. Perfect for learning a new alphabet, it is a very effective tool! There are some free samples, but a year subscription costs \$35.

Check it out for yourself 😊

<https://sharemylesson.com/user>

Share my lesson plan. This site is free but you do have to register. It is primarily geared for K-12 but there are adult ed lesson plans, you just have to search a bit 👍

FREE ON  
**Coventry Public Library**  
WEBSITE

# BITS & PIECES

## 2016 FALL CLASSES!

### Learn English! Join our LVKC Group Conversation Class!

Lernen Sie Englisch! Verbinden Sie unsere LVKC-Gruppe-Konversationsunterricht!

學英語！加入我們 LVKC 組談話類！

Apprendre l'anglais! Joignez-vous à nos cours de Conversation de groupe LVKC!

英語を学ぶ！LVKC グループの会話クラスに参加！

Imparare l'inglese! Unire la nostra classe di conversazione di gruppo LVKC!

영어 학습! 우리의 LVKC 그룹 대화 클래스에 가입!

¡Aprenda Inglés en su comunidad!

تعلم اللغة الإنجليزية! الانضمام إلى محادثة الفريق لدينا "تفكك من الدرجة الأولى!"

"Start Here!" is a program of Coventry Public Library and Literacy Volunteers of Kent County. This small-group ELL program serves adult students, 18 or older. The conversational, task-oriented program helps students maximize their English speaking skills and is free to participants. "Start Here!" students meet for one and a half hours per week. Class size is limited to ten. PARTICIPATION IS FREE but REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

## TWO LOCATIONS

### Coventry Public Library

#### Annex Room

Tuesdays 10:00 a.m.

1675 Flat River Road

### East Greenwich Free Library

Mondays 11:00 a.m.

80 Peirce Street

East Greenwich, RI

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For more information or to register call (401) 822-9103

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## The Annual Book & Bake Sale

*Sponsored by: The Coventry*

*Public Library Foundation and*

*Literacy Volunteers of Kent*

*County was its ever popular self  
back in November of 2016.*

*Preparing for the book sale takes  
a dedicated group of volunteers to  
sort the books that people drop off  
throughout the year. We will be  
setting up a sorting schedule in  
the spring once the snows and  
chills have passed. If you would  
like to be participate in these  
sortings, please contact LVKC at  
the Library at 822-9100. *

*Jane Q. Peng presents a couple of her winter wonderland  
photographs taken at Goddard State Park. Just Gorgeous!  
I call them Cooler & Warmer ;)*

