

# LVWC Student and Tutor News



LVWC  
7 Elm Street, Westerly

*Literacy Volunteers of  
Washington County*

7 Elm Street  
P.O. Box 245  
Westerly, RI 02891

401-596-9411

[www.literacywashingtoncounty.org](http://www.literacywashingtoncounty.org)

Join us!

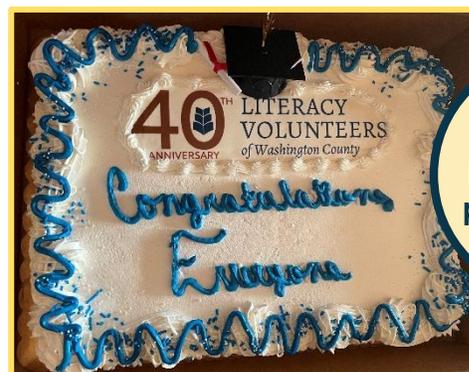


## Congratulations everyone!

We had a great time at our International Potluck & Awards Ceremony on Thursday, June 16. Thank you to everyone who came out and celebrated with us. There was plenty of delicious food, laughter, and applause. It is nice to be together again.



A special thank you to Christ Church for the use of the hall, providing coffee and tea, and clean up help. Thank you to Danny Zeng of Lucky House for the donation of delicious food and the handy to-go containers. Also, thank you to McQuade's for the fabulous cake; it was delicious and looked great. Also, a special shout out to Ling Springer for all her help coordinating the donations.



More  
pictures on  
pages 6 & 7

Thanks to everyone who joined us celebrating the hard work our students and tutors put in all year long.





**LVWC Summer Hours**  
 Starting June 27  
 Tuesday, Wednesday,  
 Thursday  
 9:00am-12:00pm



## Summer Classes



### FREE CONVERSATION CLASS

For adult English language learners at the  
 URI Graduate Village Community Center

Learn English  
 and  
 make friends!



Access by  
 Zoom, too.

Join us!



#### When:

Monday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

#### Where:

URI Graduate Village Community Center  
 2900 Kingstown Road  
 Kingston, RI 02881  
 or on Zoom

Email Barbara to register at  
 oberlejj@verizon.net



### ESL & CITIZENSHIP

Jones Library

Conversation Circles are offered by the ESL  
 Center located at Jones Library in Amherst,  
 MA. These online conversation classes are for  
 intermediate and advanced English language  
 learners.



### Conversation Circle Times

**Wednesday**  
 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

**Thursday**  
 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.

**Friday**  
 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Click here for more information:  
[www.joneslibrary.org/258/Conversation-Circles](http://www.joneslibrary.org/258/Conversation-Circles)

Visit our Classes & Gatherings page for up-to-date information  
<https://www.literacywashingtoncounty.org/classes-gatherings>

## Tutor Tips

“We are all in the process of becoming.” Audre Lorde

Whoooo-eeeeeee! Where did this year go? Hope you have enjoyed your tutoring, through masks and mistakes, laughter and much learning. We thank you for your patience, resilience and good-natured flexibility!

As mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter, LVWC recently received a book grant through ProLiteracy, the international umbrella organization for tutoring adults. As we unpacked the lovely updated readers, dictionaries, GED and math materials, we came across a chronology of trends in teaching English to adults. I thought you might find this evolution in best practices interesting and reassuring. There is a reason why we encourage a practical, applicable, relevant, contextual approach.

Who knew? The seemingly informal approach we encourage at LVWC is called the Communicative Approach or CLT for Communicative Language Teaching (love those acronyms!). Emerging in the late 1960's, this approach emphasizes PRACTICAL language use and “integration of four language skills - listening, speaking, reading and writing - through natural, authentic, real-life activities and experiences. The students take an ACTIVE role in the learning situation so that the acquisition of English will be part of their daily lives.”

This CLT approach acknowledges that adults usually learn differently from children. They have a history of experiences on which to draw and hook new learning. They also have developed coping skills and habits to handle adult responsibilities like a job and/or family. This approach appreciates how, when and where adults learn. Recognition that adults want to, can and DO learn throughout their lifetimes underlies this approach. “Life-long learning” is a relatively modern phrase in a field that prioritizes K - 12 education.

A key component of CLT is the active role the learner takes. This is not a passive enterprise as you well know. We know that the only way our students will become better communicators is to practice, practice, practice speaking and reading and writing and listening (not in that order, of course, and many times not all at once!) You provide the safe and trusting environment for them to grow as you strive for that balance between supporting AND challenging your student(s).

This CLT strategy evolved from two earlier approaches. You may be familiar with these from your own language learning. An emphasis on learning grammatical rules, vocabulary and literature (Grammar Translation Approach) was popular after World War II. Although still used, but not in isolation from other methods, here “little connection is made between language practice and real-life communication. Emphasis is on

written translation rather than speaking and understanding.” The later Audiolingual approach in the 1950's and '60's shifted language learning to speaking and listening using repetition and oral drills.

In earlier columns this past year, I've stressed specific techniques for tutoring your student(s). Before you head off for the beach (hah!), I thought you'd appreciate being reminded that you are participating in an informed evolution in adult language learning. You have a wealth of information available. As always, if you have questions or comments, please let us know.

Hope you have a refreshing summer!

Barbara Heuer 😊



**We are here to help!**

**Theresa, Barbara and  
Mary Carol**

# 2021-2022 Highlights



Tammy Lussier, Student of the Year 2022 with Mary Carol Kendzia, Executive Director



Barbara Oberle  
Tutor of the Year 2022



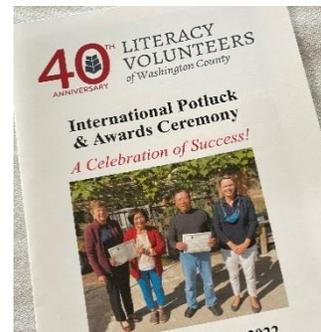
Our LVWC tutor Kathy Busse's students Manar Alakad and Rasha Sahloul were included in the project The Ships in the Night. A sneak of this project was included in the event Four Beacons at the La Grua Center on May 19.



New U.S. Citizens  
Fenny Liu, Yau Mui Yeung, Yan Zhu



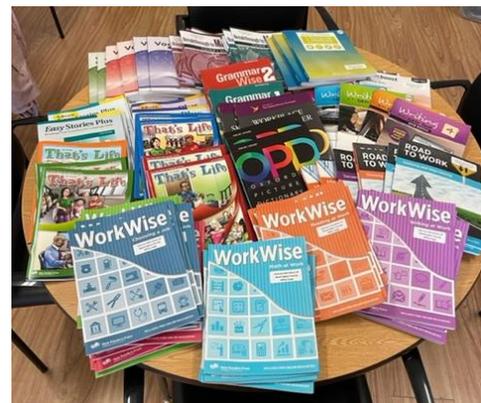
Happy to be back in our office



International Potluck & Awards Ceremony back in person.



Maggie Zeng and Tudy Lopez  
Bob Richins Scholarship Winners 2022



Over \$1,000 of new materials was awarded to LVWC from ProLiteracy.

## Tutor Gatherings Coming Up 2022-2023

September 26  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at LVWC

October 31  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at Kingston Free  
Library

November 28  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at the LVWC

January 30  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at LVWC

February 27  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at the Kingston Free  
Library

March 27  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at LVWC

April 24  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at the Kingston Free  
Library

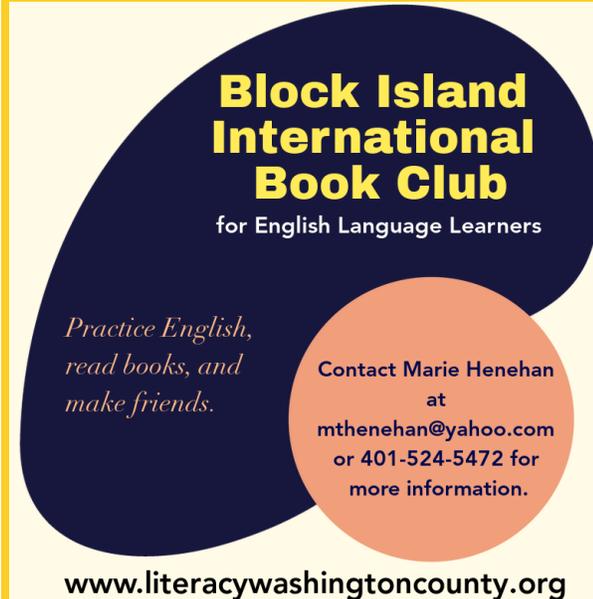
May 22  
11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.  
at LVWC

[www.literacywashingtoncounty.org/connect-with-tutors](http://www.literacywashingtoncounty.org/connect-with-tutors)

## The Block Island Beat

Marie Henehan  
mthenehan@yahoo.com  
401-524-5472

Marie plans to continue throughout the summer helping English language learners on Block Island on Tuesday evenings. She hopes to recruit some tutors to help out as the need for help is growing. She is also continuing with the book club as well.



**Block Island International Book Club**  
for English Language Learners

*Practice English, read books, and make friends.*

Contact Marie Henehan at [mthenehan@yahoo.com](mailto:mthenehan@yahoo.com) or 401-524-5472 for more information.

[www.literacywashingtoncounty.org](http://www.literacywashingtoncounty.org)



## Free English as a Second Language Class



Information also available at the Island Free Library

Instructor: Marie Henehan, MA in teaching ESL  
For more information: [mthenehan@yahoo.com](mailto:mthenehan@yahoo.com)  
401-524-5472

Tuesdays  
5:30-6:30pm Beginners  
6:40-7:50pm Intermediate/Advanced

Island Library  
9 Dodge Street, Block Island

Other times are possible depending on need and demand

**Block Island**

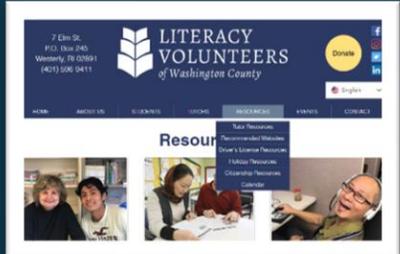
# More awards' night photos...





Our website has a new look.  
Check it out.

[www.literacywashingtoncounty.org](http://www.literacywashingtoncounty.org)



### Literacy Specialist Contact Information

Barbara Heuer  
[lwcbhstaff@gmail.com](mailto:lwcbhstaff@gmail.com)

Theresa Gregal  
[lwctgstaff@gmail.com](mailto:lwctgstaff@gmail.com)

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Mary Carol Kendzia



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