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Worker

The Reader Leader



The Literacy Newsletter of Burke County
December 7, 2007



*Warmest Wishes to all
our Supporters and
Volunteers for a sea-
son filled with LOVE
and PEACE and JOY.
Thank you for giving
the gift of READING!*

A Note from the Director

Merry Christmas to you! We appreciate everything that you have done for the Literacy Council. We count you as one of our many blessings this year.

Newest Additions

New Volunteers Welcomed

One-to-One Tutoring

Helen Hilston and Camille Welch

New Board Members

Brenda Brackett, John Caldwell and Wes Hawn– Welcome to the BCLC Board!

New Intern

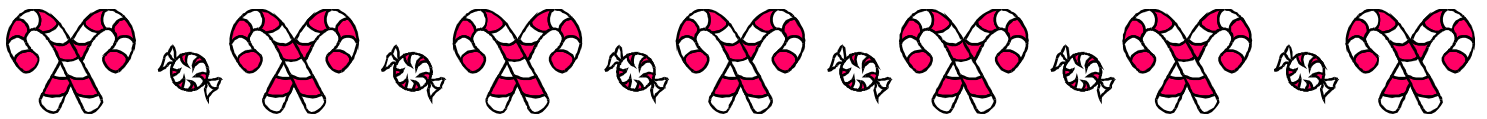
The Literacy Council staff and board would like to welcome our WPCC intern, Gwen Rose. Gwen joins us as our new webmaster and computer lab assistant. She has been in Morganton with her daughter Alexandra for a year studying for her computer degree at WPCC.

New Staff

The Literacy Council staff and board would like to welcome our new staff member, Liz Pearson. Liz joins our team as the Child Care Instructor for Project FLOWER. She is a full-time student at Lees-McRae College program at WPCC. Liz grew up in Morganton and believes this is a great place to live and raise her family. She has four children: Chris, Katelyn, Lauren, and Brenna. Liz loves children and the children at Project FLOWER hold a special place in her heart. This year in Project FLOWER they will be working on colors, letters, increasing their English vocabulary, and how to greet people in English. They will do this through stories, art projects, and lots of fun.



Liz Pearson reading Ferdinand to the children in Project FLOWER



Fundraising News

Belk Charity Day

On November 10, 2007 Belk stores nationwide held their semi-annual Charity Day. Belk allowed non-profit agencies to sell tickets for \$5 that entitled the purchaser to \$5 off their first purchase as well as an additional 20-50% off from 6 a.m.-10 a.m. The Literacy Council sold 53 tickets which raised \$265 to support programs and services. Thanks to all who sold or purchased tickets!

Council Receives Donations

The Literacy Council is sincerely grateful to the following for their donations given between August 9, 2007 and December 7, 2007.

Individuals

- Anonymous
- Ms. Barbara Bliss
- Mr. and Mrs. Richard Claus
- Dr. and Mrs. James Collett
- Mr. William Connelly
- Mrs. Doris Wilson

Grants/Private Foundations

- Beatrice Cobb Trust
- Burke County Smart Start
- Burke County United Way
- Community Foundation of Burke County
- Huffman-Cornwell Foundation
- North Carolina Community College
- Sam's Club
- Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

In honor of:

- Mr. William Connelly
- By Ms. Rosalind Connelly
- By Ms. Irene Connelly

In-Kind

- Mrs. Barbara Birchfield
- Burke County Chamber of Commerce
- The Muses
- Ms. Gwendolyn Rose
- Mr. Scot Rose
- Ms. Carol Ware

Community/Service Organizations

- First Presbyterian Church
- New Dimensions School

Program News

Project FLOWER

Project FLOWER is off to a great start this fiscal year. Most of our students at FLOWER are parents and the new activities we have added for the preschool aged children are making a difference, both in the parents' attendance and in our retention rates. This is great news for our program!

We have also had extra help from Western Piedmont Community College service learning students. Service learning combines community service with classroom instruction, focusing on critical, reflective thinking as well as personal and civic responsibility. The students helping in FLOWER are part of the Early Childhood program at WPCC, so this is hands-on experience for them and a big help for us.



The pre-school aged children of Project FLOWER and their instructor, Liz Pearson, take a break on Engine 1 from MDPS.



Program News Continued...

One-to-One

One-to-One tutoring is slowly growing and we seem to gain one new student and lose one to bigger and better things. We had one student pass his GED, Josh Benfield! We are so proud of him. We are still in need of tutors for two students in the Hildebran area. These ladies need afternoon classes. If you can help, please let me know. We are grateful for all of our tutors and our students!

Project Citizenship

Project Citizenship is a very busy class. There are currently 19 students enrolled. They meet at North Morganton Methodist Church on Tuesday nights from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Carol Ware is our instructor and she has been with the program since the beginning. She has assisted 63 immigrants in becoming US Citizens! Shirley Brown is an assistant in the class. Both of these ladies do an excellent job helping these special students prepare for the INS exam.

New Format Available

The Reader Leader is now available for delivery to your email address and available on our website at <http://www.burkeliteracy.org/TheReaderLeader.html> in Adobe Reader format (PDF). Adobe Reader is available online at www.adobe.com and is free. If you would like to receive this in your inbox please email Ariel Wallace at Literacysupport@bellsouth.net with the subject line of NEWSLETTER. If you sign up for the electronic version of the newsletter please specify if you would like to continue to receive a printed version of the Reader Leader.

Website Makeover

The Burke County Literacy Council has had an extreme makeover by our new webmaster, Gwen Rose. Please take a look at our newly made over website at www.burkeliteracy.org

My Cause Extension

SunTrust is extending their My Cause enrollment until December 31, 2007. To have SunTrust donate \$100 to the Literacy Council you must sign up for a new checking account and get a free check card. This card must be used once by December 31, 2007. Keep your account open and in good standing until incentives are paid. All incentives will be paid March 31, 2008. For more details call the Literacy Council at 828-437-7477.

Give Your Rewards Points to BCLC

When you sign up for the SunTrust Rewards Program, you receive one point for every dollar you spend when using your check card as credit (not debit). Once you've accumulated 3,000 points you can donate \$25 to the Literacy Council. Call the Literacy Council for more information at 828-437-7477.

BCLC Want Ads

Help Wanted

One-to-One Tutors Needed (2)

Meet at the Hildebran Library with a student once a week for 2 hours to help learn to read or to improve their reading skills. Free training and materials for the tutor and the student. To learn more call the Literacy Council at 828-437-7477.

Wanted

Gently Used Books Needed

Books needed for children of all ages. Please contact Delores Wall at Burke County DSS at 828-439-2000.



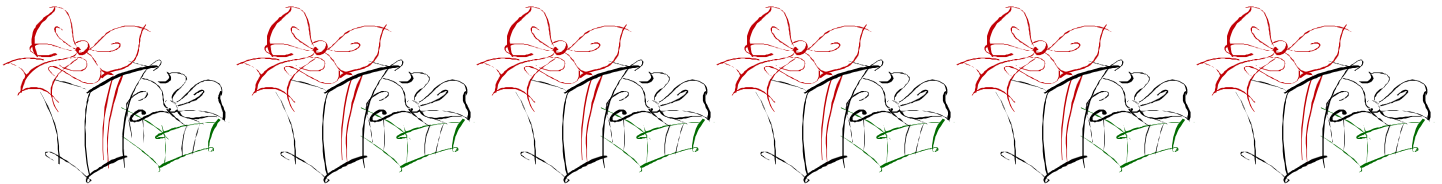
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*Give the gift of LITERACY
for Christmas!*



Your tax deductible donation will help someone in Burke County improve their reading skills.