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# The Reader Leader

The Literacy Newsletter of Burke County  
March 31, 2000

## Spelling Bee for Literacy

The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Spelling Bee for Literacy, sponsored by the Morganton Rotary Club, was held February 17 at First United Methodist Church. It was a honey of an evening as the bee teams attempted to out spell each other. The competition built to an exciting climax as the First Presbyterian Church team and the Blue Ridge Radiology team battled it out in a showdown for several rounds and then went to a spell off. Both teams were such excellent spellers that a tie had to be called. A total of \$2,400 was donated for council projects.

Heartfelt appreciation to all contestants and contributors! They were great sports and made the evening fun for all. Other teams competing this year were:

- American Red Cross sponsored by Wachovia -
- East Burke High School -
- First Presbyterian Church - .
- First United Methodist Church -
- Grace Healthcare -
- Morganton Service League -
- SAFT America -
- Southern Devices -
- United Way sponsored by Weir, Smith, Jones, Miller & Elliott -

Thanks also to the following for contributing to the Spelling Bee:

Thank you to all the people that came to support the teams and our efforts to fund our literacy programs.

## New Volunteers Welcomed

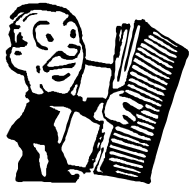
One-to-one tutoring

Heather Brown, Kim Hovis, Debbie Painter

REACH OUT and READ

Nicole Atkins, Hope Attaway, Catherine Corn, Mary Foster, Briana Gregory, Kim Hovis, Marti Hughes, Penny Jenkins, Amanda McGee, Kelly Messenheimer, Barbara Nieters, Dana Wilson





## Program News

### Volunteer Appreciation

April is Volunteer Appreciation Month. The Literacy Council is having an Appreciation Tea on Thursday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 4 to 6 p.m. in the First Union National Bank board room. Volunteers are one of the most important parts of our literacy program. We greatly appreciate the hours of service and the dedication of our volunteers.

### Family Literacy Conference

Pat Irwin, Kathy Garrou, and Mary Marcia Salsbury attended the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Conference on Family Literacy in Orlando, Florida. Over 1,500 family literacy practitioners and administrators participated in more than 75 concurrent sessions and seven interactive sessions that covered various family literacy subjects.

The theme for this year's conference was *Family Literacy: New Challenges in the New Century*. Former first lady Barbara Bush was the keynote speaker.

### Masked Ball for Literacy

The Morganton Junior Woman's Club held its annual Masked Ball on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at the Morganton Elks Lodge. This year's theme was "Unmasking Illiteracy: A Prescription for Life-Long Learning." Proceeds from the event will benefit the Literacy Council's REACH OUT and READ (ROR) program.

Thank you Morganton Junior Woman's Club for supporting the Literacy Council and the ROR program. Your support will help us put new, developmentally appropriate books into the homes of children.

### ESL Project

Kathy Garrou is a participant in the Literacy South Curriculum Project which addresses the Adult English as a Second Language Framework Inquiry Project. Literacy South is a non-profit organization based in Durham, NC which seeks to improve the quality of adult literacy services in the Southeast. Participants were selected from North Carolina Community Colleges and Literacy Councils.

### Literacy Intern

Kim Hovis, a senior at Gardner-Webb University, is interning with the Literacy Council. She is working closely with Mayra Moore and Kathy Garrou with Project Flower as well as other Literacy Council programs. Kim is doing a fine job, and we're glad she is with us.

### Reach Out and Read Expansion

Our REACH OUT and READ project has been expanded to include the Burke County Health Department. The Smart Start funded pediatric early literacy program provides books to pediatricians and nurse practitioners who give the books to their patients, ages 6 months to 5 years, at well-check visits. In addition, the health professionals counsel parents about the importance of reading with young children and offer age-appropriate tips and encouragement.

The ROR program is also in place at Grace Pediatrics and downstairs of Mountain View Pediatrics.

### We Want You!

Volunteers are needed for our one-to-one tutoring program, as well as volunteer readers for the REACH OUT and READ program. Please call (437-7477) for information on how you can help!

One-to-one tutor training will be held on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> and Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. in the First Union National Bank board room. Instructor for the training will be Sharon Bares from Asheville, North Carolina.

### Council Wish List

The Literacy Council is in need of the following items:

- Children's books (gently used)
- Encyclopedias (gently used)
- Reader's Digest condensed books
- School supplies for Project FLOWER
- Juice boxes and vanilla wafers  
for children of mothers at Project FLOWER
- Office chairs

### Contact Us

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Kathy Garrou	bclckathy@hci.net
Sherry Houser	bclsherry@hci.net
Mayra Moore	bclc@hci.net



Volunteers please remember to submit your hours monthly to Sherry. Thank you!

## Council Receives Donations

The Literacy Council is sincerely grateful to the following organizations and individuals for their donations given between December 11, 2000 and March 30, 2000.

Dr. Ray Antley  
Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Avery  
Mr. and Mrs. Ellis Aycok  
Mrs. Evelyn Berry  
Mr. John Bleynt  
Mrs. Jewell Bounous  
Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Bowen  
Mrs. Viola Brandon  
Mr. and Mrs. John Branstrom  
Mr. and Mrs. Horace Brown  
Mrs. Charlyne Bugg  
Mrs. Ruth Carr  
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cash  
Ms. Karen Causby  
Mrs. Ruby Chapman  
Mrs. Margaret Collett  
Mr. and Mrs. Sterling Collett, III  
Mr. William Connelly  
Mrs. Bashie C. Crutchfield  
Ms. Marilyn Davis  
Ms. Caroline Ervin  
Mr. Robert Ervin  
Mrs. Betty Erwin  
Mrs. Doris Fullwood  
Mr. and Mrs. John D. Greene, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Charles Hinson  
Mrs. Margaret Hoyle  
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Mrs. Maureen Johnson  
Mrs. Susie Kearns  
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Kirksey  
Mrs. Pat Kokoszka  
Dr. John Lafferty  
Mr. Robert Lathan  
Dr. and Mrs. William T. Link  
Mrs. Elisabeth Loftis  
Mrs. Merle Martin  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert McGimsey  
Mrs. Elinora Miller  
Mr. Edward Phifer, III  
Mr. and Mrs. Philip Pitts  
Dr. and Mrs. Ed Plyler  
Mr. and Mrs. Edward G. Redman  
Ms. Madge Reynolds  
Mrs. Sally Best Riddle  
Mrs. Billie Rose Robertson  
Rev. and Mrs. Feild Russell  
Mr. and Mrs. James Salisbury  
Mrs. Mary Marcia Salsbury  
Mr. and Mrs. Sherrod Salsbury  
Mrs. Juanita Sigmon

Mrs. Laura Ervin Smith  
Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Stephens  
Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin Succop  
Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Tate  
Ms. Nancy Taylor and Mr. John Ervin, Jr.  
Mr. and Mrs. Harper Thayer  
Mrs. Gladys Tillman  
Rev. and Mrs. Paul Thompson  
Ms. Donna J. Walton  
Mrs. Evelyn Watson  
Mrs. Doris Wilson  
Mr. and Mrs. Otto Woerner  
First United Methodist Church  
Morganton Kiwanis Foundation

### Grants

Burke County United Way  
Burke Partnership for Children  
Huffman-Cornwell Foundation  
North Carolina Community College

### Spelling Bee

Edward D. Jones  
First Baptist Church  
First Citizen's Bank  
First Methodist Church  
First Presbyterian Church  
Grace Healthcare System  
McDonald's  
Morganton Rotary Club  
Perk Place/Pleazers  
SAFT America  
Southern Devices  
*The News Herald*  
Valdese Rotary Club  
Wachovia  
Weir, Smith, & Jones, Miller & Elliott

### In-Kind Contributions

Mrs. Charlyne Bugg  
Mrs. Carol Cochran  
Mrs. Betty Ervin  
Ms. Kim Hovis  
Mrs. Pat Irwin  
Mrs. Laurie Miller  
Mrs. Sandra Weathers  
Morganton Service League

Burke County Literacy Council  
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## Board of Directors News

Welcome Aboard!

The Council is pleased to announce the addition of a new member to the Board of Directors. **John Shade** is a student from Eastern Burke County who is self-employed in the textile business. John is a wonderful example of a motivated adult who works very hard to improve himself.

Returning...

We appreciate our returning Board Members commitment to another three year term:

**Virginia Davis**, Director of Adult Basic Skills at WPCC.

**Doris Fullwood**, retired administrator for Burke County Schools.

**Lee Kirksey**, community leader and Board Chairperson.

**Carol Ware**, WPCC Basic Skills instructor.

Departure...

Many thanks to **Chuck McDade**, **Laura Ervin Smith**, and **Reverend Feild Russell** for their dedicated service during their term on the Board of Directors. Their time and support were greatly appreciated, and we miss them.

Sympathy to...

**Pat Irwin and Kim Hovis** on the loss of their fathers. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and their families in this time of sorrow.