



LVeoc

Newburgh Free Library
124 Grand St.
Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: 845-563-3627

Fax: 845-563-3602

E-mail: info@lveoc.org

www.lveoc.org

Executive Director

Roanne Patterson

Program Coordinator

Paula M. Cancro

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

President

Judith McAfee

Vice President

Frank Lanava

Treasurer

Anne DeRienzo

Board Members:

Mary Elin K. Carnes
Anne M. Coon
Nancy Gross
Deborah Hill
Susan K. Levy
Cynthia McCollie-Lewis
Camille Moriello
Hattie Peterson
Leslie Riley
Ellen Ronos
Richard Smith
Priscilla Velez

Our Big News!

From the Merger Chair...

Hello to all Friends of Literacy! Many of you have heard the news that LVWOC, Inc. (Literacy Volunteers of Western Orange County) and LVeoc, Inc. (Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County) are merging. What does this mean for you?

What it means.

It means we are forming a new organizational structure with the same basic program goals. It will be stronger and more responsive to the tutors and to the adults who need our services. It means there will be a concerted effort on the part of Board and staff to project the program into every corner of Orange County.

It means a larger, inclusive staff that is well trained to support tutors and their students. It means more accountability and more documentation of our successes. We hope it also means that more financial support will be forthcoming to accomplish these goals.

What will change?

- The name – *Literacy Partners of Orange County NY, Inc.* “...Improving lives through adult literacy.” Doing business as “Literacy Orange.”
- The websites – From two sites to one web site for literacy programs for Orange County.
- The executive representation of the organization will be one combined Board and one Executive Director.

What will not change.

- All three literacy offices (Middletown, Newburgh and Port Jervis) will remain in place to serve those communities.
- The phone numbers will remain the same with voice mail, as always.
- The program staff will probably not change.



Linda Aumick, Merger Chair from LVWestern Orange County, and Judith McAfee, LVEastern Orange County Chair, sign merger document.

Most of the change revolves around Board structure, policy manuals, and the selection of a full time Executive Director. A joint committee of nine has had its first meeting and some progress has been made.

The members for the new Merger Board will include Board members from LVWOC, Inc.: **Linda Aumick**, Pres., **Paul Rafanello**, Vice Pres., **Mary Ellen Theodore**, Secretary and **June Franzel**. The committee members from LVeoc, Inc. include: **Anne M. Coon**, **Frank Lanava**, **Susan Levy** and **Dr. Cynthia McCollie-Lewis**. The Member-at-Large is **John D'Ambrosio** from the **Orange County Chamber of Commerce**. I was elected chair at the first meeting. Please feel free to contact me with your questions and ideas on our new venture.

We will need you now more than ever as we collectively tackle the critical literacy needs of Orange County.

Linda

Linda Aumick, Chairperson
845-856-3896
seaumick@warwick.net



Roanne Patterson, LVeoc Executive Director, accepts gift from The Empire State Bank NA Endowment Fund's Anthony P. Costa (r) and Philip Guarnieri (l).



Our Programs

Tutor Training

Do you have friends with free time? Please send them our way! We desperately need tutors to be trained so that our waiting list of students can be matched.

Call Paula Cancro at: 845-563-3627 for trainings dates, for information and to discuss your current situation and preferences.

Open Books, Open Doors!

Profound thanks to our gracious host, Newburgh Free Library for enabling us to have "Open Doors."

If someone offered me a million dollars to go back to the way I was before I could read, I'd turn them down."

— Earl Mills

From the Program Coordinator by Paula Cancro

First, as I look out from a mountain of papers and folders and phone messages and struggle to stay afloat.... I know I am working here with you to make a difference in the community. And that is why I am really happy to be here with Literacy Volunteers.

In case we haven't met, I'm Paula Cancro, the (fairly new) Program Coordinator here in the Literacy Office in the back (go toward stairs and make a right) of the Newburgh Free Library.

I've had the opportunity to meet some of you during this past year in Tutor Training workshops or when you've had a chance to drop by or call the office since I started in September. The reality is that I get to meet a lot of great people, both tutors and students, and do my best to get you together – and that's just part of it.

Dear Tutors and Students, There is no typical day, but please call me at 845-563-3627 or stop by if you:

- Need help getting in touch with your current student or need to change students
- Are looking for ideas for your tutoring (I have many of the answers, and can get in touch with others for those questions I can't answer on the spot)



At a tutoring session here is a student choosing books for her children with the help of her tutor.

- Have more time and want to tutor more
- Know people who want to become tutors or students who are looking for a safe non-judgmental place to learn to read
- Just want to say hi or have some suggestions. I am always open to new ideas

I will be getting in touch with you:

- To see how you're doing
- Let you know about upcoming tutor workshops and Tutor Dialogue sessions
- Nudge you for your monthly tutoring hours, which are so important to the government funding that we receive
- Or just to say "hi" – And anything else we can think of together...

Watch for upcoming sessions for tutors and students on lessons in using the computer wisely for your lesson plans and a SPECIAL opportunity to join in

a "tutor tips session online". It may be in the coldest of winter, but you can participate without leaving home! Keep in touch with us on our website: www.lveoc.org.

I look forward to continuing this important work. Please know that the work you do with your students makes such a difference in their lives. My admiration for tutors and students who come to the program is enormous. Your precious contribution makes an important difference in many lives.

I wish you and your families the best of this holiday season and into the New Year.

Together for Literacy!

Warmly,
Paula Cancro



Builders Association of the Hudson Valley present donated new books to encourage the children of Literacy students to read and be read to by their parents. From the Times Herald Record, Friday, December 21, 2007.

Your Commitment



How much is being able to read worth?

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Newburgh Free Library • 124 Grand Street • Newburgh, NY • 12550

Commitment to Literacy

(LVEoc is a 501 C3)

Your name: _____ is proud to help our neighbors read.

Sponsor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25–\$100	\$ _____
Teacher	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100–\$250	\$ _____
Professor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$250–\$500	\$ _____
Advisor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$500–\$1000	\$ _____
Mentor	<input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000–\$5,000	\$ _____
Orange County Literacy Leader	<input type="checkbox"/> \$5000–\$10,000	\$ _____
Other (please specify)		\$ _____
Total Donation		\$ _____

Yes, link us to the LVEoc website (minimum donation \$100)

Web address: _____

Donor Name: _____

Donor Address: _____

Phone(s): _____

Email: _____

To honor your friends and family, please circle one designation, below.

This donation is in honor, memory or name(s) of:

I (we) would like to receive a tax deductible form as a receipt for this donation.



Send your check made out to: "LVEoc" or
"Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County, Inc."



Thanks To Our Sponsors

Dr. Burton Allyn, MD
 Bingo Baskets Fundraiser
 Builders Association
 of the Hudson Valley
 Cornwall Yarn Shop, Ltd. "Cruise
 Fundraiser"
 Empire State Bank, NA –
 Endowment Fund
 Friends of the Cornwall Library
 The Kaplan Family
 Senator Bill Larkin
 The Lanza Family
 Michael and Judith McAfee
 Mid-Hudson Valley
 Federal Credit Union
 Newburgh Free Library
 Richard and Hattie Peterson
 State Department of Education
 The Reader's Digest Foundation
 Union Presbyterian Church

Special Thanks To

Dollar General/ProLiteracy
 Performance Accountability Initiative

Every Bit Helps.

Why not share your pride and joy?

The Friends of the Cornwall Public Library have recognized two of our Board members with a gift to LVEoc in honor of their active work with literacy. **Leslie Riley** and **Carol Krafft** have given generously of their time to the Friends of the Cornwall Library and Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County, Inc. We salute you both!

Jackie Hey, tutor trainer/tutor extraordinaire was honored with a donation to LVEoc by her choir, the **Moulton Memorial Baptist Church Choir**. Hey's tireless efforts on behalf of literacy are appreciated by her church community and the LVEoc program. Cheers Jackie!

A member of the LVEoc Board donated a **Barnes and Noble gift certificate** to honor **Sister Eleanor Piat** for her fine and dedicated work with the Newburgh Free Library literacy students. She has interviewed and tutored them for years through various staff and program incarnations. Sr. Eleanor still tutors, but has retired from the administrative side of her volunteer contribution. Thanks for the blessing of your presence Sister!

Walden United Methodist Church donated to LVEoc in honor of their special concert series and to thank **Roanne Patterson** for speaking at the event.

Earl Mills Read His First Book at the Age of 48...

and has since joined a book club. He has used his new reading skills to compile a report on contractors, to read to his grandchildren, and to write poetry. Earl looks forward to the day he can take his first college course. "You can't put a price tag on that," he says.



For Earl Mills, There is No Price Tag

Before he entered an adult literacy program, Earl was one of the 30 million adults in America who can read just well enough to sign a form or total a bank deposit slip, but not much more. Another 63 million read only slightly better.

Adults who struggle with reading want the same things as those who read, write and speak English well-to support themselves and their families. But low-literate adults are more likely to be on welfare or have low-paying jobs. They have four times the health care costs but are less likely to have health insurance. There is a price tag attached to low literacy and the cost to you is much higher than you think.



Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County, Inc. (Lveoc)

Newburgh Free Library
124 Grand St.
Newburgh, NY 12550

Phone: 845-563-3627
Fax: 845-563-3602
E-mail: info@lveoc.org
www.lveoc.org

Open Books Open Doors!

We're on the web!

*Check us out at:
www.lveoc.org*

Illiteracy has become an epidemic

By Roanne Patterson

Kudos to the Sunday Record for its perceptive "Literacy lost" cover story Sept. 23. As executive director of Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County, I need to share an even more frightening statistic with you and your readers: Almost one-third of all adults in the Greater Newburgh area are functionally illiterate. That means they cannot decipher a prescription bottle, fill out a job application, complete a bank deposit slip or read their children a bedtime story.

There are more than 40 million functionally illiterate adults in the United States. Illiteracy is not a problem for just a select portion of our population: Nonreaders are both

native-born and immigrants. To hide their humiliating secret, they wear reading glasses they don't need, carry pens they cannot use and clutch unread newspapers like a shield.

We all pay the price for this epidemic of illiteracy! Functional illiteracy deprives this nation of the participation of all our citizens in American democracy; functional illiteracy costs American business hundreds of millions of dollars each year through low productivity, accidents and errors caused by employees' inability to read. Sixty percent of all prison inmates are illiterate and 85 percent of all juvenile offenders have reading problems. And taxpayers pay the price!

But there is an even more

tragic cost, confirmed by study after study: The majority of children with illiterate parents become illiterate themselves.

Conversely, preschool children whose parents have read to them consistently do better in school. Shouldn't every child be guaranteed an even start?

The mission of Literacy Volunteers is to teach adults – your neighbors and friends and the parents of our future generations – to read. We always welcome volunteers to tutor one of our students who eagerly await help and donations to support our programs. Only then will we honestly be able to say, "No child left behind!"

Roanne Patterson is the executive director of Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County Inc. in Newburgh.

*An article from the
Times Herald Record,
Friday, October
12, 2007*

You're So Lucky by Chuck Frey

You are fortunate to be able to comprehend this – not because I wrote it – but you have the blessing of literacy – you can read! At least thirty percent of Newburgh's residents cannot.

I am a literacy volunteer at the Newburgh Free Library. As a seventy-seven year old retired businessman, I am having the time of my life with so many beautiful experiences: the glow on the face of my mid-twenties

woman student when a concept suddenly takes hold; or the time my 'tough guy' student waited for me to park in the handicapped zone to hold an umbrella over me, carry my bag – so caring; Or how about the time my eighteen year old young man approached me after another student left to say how wonderful he thought it was that I was teaching her, and could I possibly help him? I am, with great joy!

The beauty of feeling their dedication, watching the slow, faltering steps they take with such commitment. Deliberate and beautiful.

If you are still reading this, I feel that we are half-way home. Interested? Please come meet with us and while you are opening a door in their life, just see how the gates swing wide in your own. Call 845-563-3627 and ask for Paula Cancro.

Thanks to Newburgh Free Library Staff

During this wonderful, yet challenging, time of our merger with Literacy Volunteers of Western Orange County, we are fortunate to have the invaluable support of the Library's Board and Staff. It is impossible to thank them for their fine support and our work together in the September

is Literacy Month program and the Trim a Tree for Habitat contest at the Newburgh Mall among others, is a powerful collaboration for both of us and our community.

About Lveoc . . .

Literacy Volunteers of Eastern Orange County, Inc. is a non-profit organization dedicated to significantly raising the literacy rate in our community through free, one-to-one, adult training. Located in the Newburgh Free Library, Lveoc trains adult volunteers to tutor adult learners from the community and matches them for one-on-one sessions. We teach basic literacy, GED preparation and English as a Second Language (ESL) for anyone who wants to improve their overall or specific literacy skills. Financial contributions, volunteers & tutors are always needed. Contact Roanne Patterson at 845-563-3627. Learn more about us at our website: www.lveoc.org.