



Literacy of Northern New York Newsletter, November 2018



Upcoming Tutor In-service

We are conducting a tutor in-service on Tuesday, December 4, from 1 – 3 p.m. at the Key Bank Conference Room, 200 Washington Street in Watertown. This is the conference room on the third floor and it is down the hall from our office.

You will have an opportunity to meet other tutors, share your ideas and experiences about tutoring, and participate in the workshop.

The workshop will include several presentations. Deborah Tate will discuss “Using Graphic Organizers in Instruction.” She will conduct an activity to show tutors how to use a graphic organizer geared at teaching students how to write paragraphs with a topic sentence, supporting details, and a conclusion. This activity is suitable for tutors who teach either ESL or basic reading skills, and can be adjusted to work with students at different levels. Reading students who want to pass the high school equivalency test must write an essay as part of the exam.

Does your student often answer questions incorrectly after reading a story? Cecilia Brock will discuss how to improve a student’s ability to answer reading comprehension questions, using the Question Answer Relationship strategy.

For math tutors, we will have materials available that will help students who are studying to pass the high school equivalency test. Cecilia will discuss the types of math questions that are typically on the test.

Please email program.manager.literacynny@gmail.com or call 315-782-4270 to register. We will be serving refreshments but feel free to bring something to share.

Fort Drum ESL Classes Enjoy a Trip to the Burrville Cider Mill

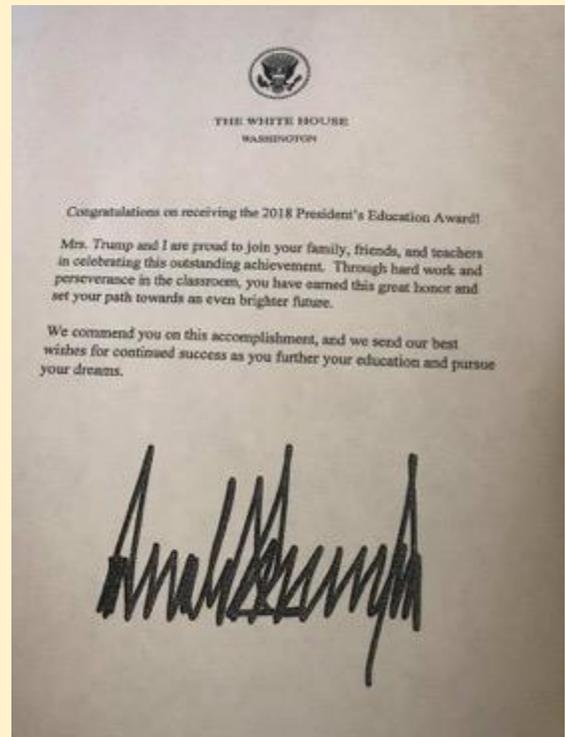
On Oct. 17, both of our ESL classes at Fort Drum traveled to Burrville to visit the cider mill. Many of the students had never been there before. LNNY Program Assistant Amy Christofferson, Tutor Katherine Crofton, and Tutor Caroline Booker took both the beginner and intermediate classes, along with their preschool children. Everyone enjoyed the freshly made donuts and cider. At right, Cem, Clara, Magda, and Nadia pose in front of the water falls that is behind the mill.



Besides learning to speak and understand English better, our teachers help our students learn about the community and enjoy the local attractions, restaurants, and festivals.

Congratulations to Grace Nebie!

Grace is the daughter of Edith Nebie, one of our ESL students. Board member and tutor, Carla Haas, has been helping Edith with her English for several years. Edith and her husband are very active in their daughters' education and we can see the results - Grace received the President's Education Award.



Board Member and Tutor Carla Haas Volunteers at the Southern Appalachian Labor School

This past summer, Carla travelled to West Virginia coal country to support young classroom teachers. Carla assisted the teachers to help the elementary students maintain the academic gains achieved during the previous school year.

Through the international service program, Global Volunteers, Carla and a team of fellow volunteers from across the United States spent a week with the Southern Appalachian Labor School, a BOCES-type training program. Through the efforts of the volunteers and the school program, they hope to ameliorate poverty in this very economically depressed area.



Carla provided some photos of the school



Our Watertown ESL Classes Love to Celebrate

Students in our ESL classes just love to celebrate and bring traditional food from their countries to share with the rest of the class. It had been some time since the last celebration and, as it turned out, five of the students have birthdays this time of year. So ... this was a reason to celebrate!



Top Clockwise ~ Kyle & Niki; Peter, Anna, & Ping; Amy & King; Hector; Marisol & Maira; NY Style Cheesecake; Helen; Miguel, Ioana, & Constantin

New Beginner ESL Class

Deborah has had a large number of new students in her Monday/Thursday ESL class and some were lower level so she has begun a new beginner level class at 8 a.m. Monday and Thursday. Many of the beginners have to go to work mid-morning so the early start time works well for them. The beginning and intermediate classes overlap from 9 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. so the two groups have a chance to interact.

Student Wants to Tutor Math to Give Back to the Program

Matthew has studied math, writing, grammar, and social studies at LNNY since July 2017. He has really ramped up his efforts and now works with his tutor about five hours per week, plus does a ton of homework. He plans to take the high school equivalency test in December and then he wants to start tutoring others who need help with math.

Sarah Byers, Utica College Occupational Therapy Graduate Program Student

Sarah has been helping out in Deborah’s ESL classes to obtain the required 20 hours of community work in an ESL environment. On October 17, she presented an informative PowerPoint lesson about seasons to the class. The students were quite engaged in the presentation; many come from tropical climates so the traditions of apple picking, hay rides, Halloween, and fall leaf peeping were new to them. Sarah even brought apple cider from Burrville Cider and apple cider donuts. All of us wish she could stay longer.

Every year LNNY is asked to help college students like Sarah obtain teaching hours to fulfill college requirements. It’s another community service that we offer to people trying to further their education.

