



Tutor-in-Touch



2019 HAPPY NEW YEAR 2019

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Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram



LVR Founder Ruth Colvin

Follow us on Social Media

DENISE SMITH

Now you can keep up to date with us on three social media platforms;

- **Follow us on Twitter** <Literacy Volunteers@LVofRochester>
- **Like us on Facebook** <Literacy Volunteers of Rochester>
- **Follow us on Instagram** <#literacyvolunteersofrochester>

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester social media pages are updated daily, weekly, and monthly. We may post unscheduled closing, new events, calendar update, new offerings, success stories, Literacy news, tutor information and tips. And of course, loads of memorable pictures. You can also message us on any one of these platforms.



Become a fan of Literacy!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Years to Family & Friends

RUTH COLVIN

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to Family and Friends. The years do fly by. Believe it or not, I'm now 102 – it's been a good year. We had two neighborhood social get-togethers, giving us opportunities to get to know each other better good friends and neighbors. A good golf year – only nine holes but played three times a week, but even with my shorter ball, with my higher handicap, I work to hold my own. Spent March in California with Lindy and Doug, swimming every morning we were at Sea Ranch. READ Santa Clara and Vision literacy in San Francisco co-sponsored a fun evening where those working in literacy in several nearby cities joined together, giving me an opportunity to be inspired by them and to give my own talk. I'm still going to the gym twice a week, working on twenty machines (20 reps on each), still teaching in two book clubs, still writing (my next book, My Travels Through Life, Love and Literacy – a Memoir, A Journey Taking Over 100 Years in the Making – will be published next year).

Never thought of it, but yes, experiences in your earlier life do make a difference in the person you are and what you do – and it did in my life. In June, I was honored to be invited to be the Commencement speaker for LeMoyne College – over 2000 there sitting in downpour rain and no one left, even a standing ovation. I was pleased to see these wonderful young people, prepared for the next step in their lives. One of my Girl Scouts back in the early 1950's Susan Todd Hodges, has set up a scholarship at the University of Alabama, honoring Bob and me – what an honor for us, and what a thoughtful thing for Susan to do, helping change one life at a time. Still travel – went to Nashville, TN for our ProLiteracy board meeting – dedicated, capable members, and all sharing their talents – And a great opportunity to get to know each other better. I'm so proud of their listening, their sharing, their having seen my vision and continue to do the impossible. Will be flying to DC for Christmas to be with my eastern family. A real joy for me. I count my blessings. With wishes for a happy holiday season to all

Love, Ruth Colvin

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WHAT'S NEW

New Learning Center is now Open

LVR awarded Spectrum Grant

BOB MAHAR

More than 3,200 people received help in English, math and reading and Digital Literacy last year from at Literacy Volunteers of Rochester. Charter Communications /Spectrum has provided grant funding to allow that number to grow.

On November 29th dignitaries were on hand to cut the ribbon for the new LVR Learning Center powered by Spectrum. This new Learning Center, located at LVR offices on the corner of South and Elmwood Avenues will help expand assistance with tutoring, computer assistance and English language. The Spectrum Digital Education grant will help LVR serve even more people.

We've historically been a one-to-one tutoring program having done some small group instruction, so, what this will allow us to do is offer more group instruction and opportunity for our students to get immediate assistance because often we have a waiting list."

"This is really about getting more people able to be literate enough, quite frankly, where they can not only be able to take care of their own bills, their own household, but certainly be much more marketable in the workforce and create a better lifestyle for them, their family and really make our whole community a little bit stronger," said state Senator Joe Robach (R-Greece).

Literacy Volunteers says it always needs more volunteers. If you'd like to learn more, call the agency at 585-473-3030.



Learning Center Signage



New Learning Center



LVR LEARNING CENTER RIBBON CUTTING
Sen. Joe Robach, Robert Mahar, Director of LVR, Lauren Kelly Director of Government Affairs Spectrum, Cedric Alexander Deputy Mayor City of Rochester.

FROM THE LIBRARIANS

Library Updates

BONNIE MARTIN

The Library needs a volunteer to type text from new books we have acquired to determine their reading level. This can be done in the library, or the volunteer can work from home. An hour or two a week would be appreciated, but we are flexible.

Look for two display racks at the foyer entrance to the library. One is for books that have been newly acquired and are available for borrowing. The other is for math, science, and social studies worksheets free for the taking. They are geared to subjects that learners will eventually encounter in the TASC but written at a lower reading level.

Tutors: if your learner is at a low reading level, but the eventual goal is to pass the TASC (formerly GED), please communicate your needs with the librarians. In addition to Reading and Math, learners will have to pass TASC tests on Social Studies and Science. The library is acquiring Social Studies and Science books written at lower reading levels, so you can start instruction in those two areas now

As always, please communicate your needs to the Librarians: librarian@literacyrochester.org. We are grateful for your service to LVR learners and strive to support you in any way we can.

Bonnie, Barbara, Cathy, Jacki

HELP WANTED

Night Receptionist

DENISE SMITH

Volunteer position – Night receptionist. Job description: perform administrative and office tasks such as answering phones and signing in and receiving visitors, learners and tutors, while providing general information about location of classes, restrooms, bus schedule, etc. The receptionist will interface with English as Second Language (ESL) learners daily. Start date ASAP

Monday 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday 4:30 p.m. -6:30 pm

If you are interested in volunteering for this pivotal position, please call the LVR office 585-473-3030 and ask for Denise

LITERACY VOLUNTEERS of Rochester **Spectrum**
Visit the Drop-in Learning Center
1600 South Avenue, Rochester, New York 14620, 585-473-3030

Wednesdays 4:00 pm – 7:00 pm and Thursdays 10:00 am – 2:00 pm



If you think your learner could benefit from receiving extra help from our on-site tutors with; Math, Reading, Writing, Resume, Computer assistance, or a Research project.

PLEASE SHARE THIS INFORMATION WITH THEM

INSTRUCTIONAL



The Industry-leading online assessment system delivering assessments to over half of the U.S.

LEARNER ASSESSMENTS

TABE Test

New Version

DENISE SMITH

As the Adult Education landscape continues to change, putting pressure on students and education across the country, this new version of TABE meets those challenges by providing; Contemporary and Relevant Content which will fit today's needs. It offers Technical Excellence and research to accommodate the highest standards of validity and reliability. This new version motivates students to succeed while matching the examinees functional levels making the test interesting and engaging. And communicates results clearly with accurate scale scores. We will be administering this new version sometime later this year.

TUTOR TIPS

Spelling: wun tuff thing two due

JEN EATON

English can be a perplexing and challenging language, especially when it comes to spelling. Many of our native English-speaking students state that their biggest challenge is spelling, and as you can see by the way the title of this article is spelled, the sounds of English can be represented by various letters and in various patterns. So how do we help our students develop the skills to become a better speller? The Traditional method of spelling instruction usually entails a list of random words that the student is instructed to memorize. A new approach to teaching spelling skill is called "Word Study". It is an alternative to traditional spelling instruction and is based on learning word patterns rather than memorizing unconnected words. **What is Word Study?** Word study provides students with opportunities to investigate and understand the patterns in words. Knowledge of these patterns means that students needn't learn to spell one word at a time. Take, for example, the difference between "hard c" (as in *cat*) and "soft c" (as in *cell*). After collecting many words containing the letter "c," students discover that "c" is usually hard when followed by consonants (as in *clue* and *crayon*) and the vowels "a," "o," and "u" (as in *cat*, *cot*, and *cut*). In contrast, "c" is usually soft when followed by "i," "e," and "y" (as in *circus*, *celery*, and *cycle*). Of course, for every rule there are exceptions that threaten the rule. Students learn, though, that spelling patterns exist and that these patterns help to explain how to spell, read, and write words. **Teaching strategies**

In word study, teachers encourage students to compare and contrast features in words. One common method for doing so is by having students sort words. When sorting, students use their word knowledge to separate examples that go together from those that don't.

In addition to sorting, students may hunt for words in their reading and writing that fit the pattern being studied, may construct a word wall illustrating examples of the different patterns studied, may keep a word study notebook to record the known patterns and their new understandings about words, or may play games and activities to apply their word knowledge (Bear et al., 2000).

A cycle of instruction for word study might include the following:

- introduce the spelling pattern by choosing words for students to sort
 - encourage students to discover the pattern in their reading and writing
 - use reinforcement activities to help students relate this pattern to previously acquired word knowledge
- Teachers then test students' pattern knowledge rather than their ability to memorize single words. For example, a teacher might have students work with twenty words during a word study cycle and then randomly test students on ten of those words. For students studying the *-at* family, a teacher might include the word *"vat"* on the spelling test even though it wasn't on the initial spelling list – this allows the teacher to see if students are able to transfer their knowledge of the "at" chunk to a new word they haven't seen before.



"Tell me and I forget, teach me and I may remember, involve me and I learn." - Benjamin Franklin

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Up Coming Events

DENISE SMITH

Learning

Rosetta Stone Introduction

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, Inc., with Support of the Hoekelman Center at U of R, has 4 donated computers provided with Rosetta Stone language software.

January 16 @ 10:00 am - 11:00 am EST

February 7 @ 5:00 pm – 6:00 pm EST

To register click on the

link; <https://literacyrochester.org/learning-events/>

Drop-In Computer Support

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, Inc

Mondays 2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.

Starting on Monday, February 4, 2019

To register click on this link;

<https://literacyrochester.org/learning-events/>

Email Security Training

Literacy Volunteers of Rochester, Inc

February 6, 2019 @ 12:00 noon

February 19, 2019 @ 4:00 p.m.

To register click on this link;

<https://literacyrochester.org/learning-events/>

English Language Lessons & Citizenship Classes

Fairport Public Library

Tuesdays

10:00 am – 11:00 am ELL

1 Village Landing, Fairport NY 14450

www.fairportlibrary.org

ESL Conversation Groups

Starting January 7,8,9, 2019

Medium Level Learners – Mondays @ 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

Low Level Learners – Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m.-3:00 p.m.

High Level Learners – Wednesday @ 5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m.

If your learner is interested, please call our office to RSVP



The flyer features the title "English Conversation Groups" in a large, black, serif font. To the right of the title is a graphic of several overlapping, colorful speech bubbles. One bubble contains the text "We are", another "Speaking English", and a third "Together". Below the speech bubbles is a group of stylized blue human figures. The main text of the flyer is on a yellow background. It lists the start date "Starting January 7,8, 9, 2019" and provides schedules for three levels of learners: Medium Level Learners (Mondays @ 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.), Low Level Learners (Tuesdays @ 2:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.), and High Level Learners (Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.). At the bottom, it identifies the organization as "Literacy Volunteers of Rochester" and provides the address "1600 South Avenue, Rochester New York 14620" and phone number "585-473-3030". To the right of the yellow box, there is a call to action: "If you think your learner would benefit from our new conversation group. Please share this information with them. Thank You".

MEET LUCY THE LLAMA



Inspiration

**The man who can make hard things easy is the educator
~Ralph Waldo Emerson**

12/15/2018
Barnes and Nobel Book Fair - Greece Mall
Llama – Amanda Smith – Denise Smith’s niece
Llama Escort- LVR Board Member Brian Jacek
Thanks to Christine Lupiani for naming the LVR Llama