



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Greater New Haven | Meriden / Wallingford | The Valley

LITERACY LINK E-NEWSLETTER Issue 5, May 2015

IN THIS ISSUE...

[Tutor Talk](#)

[Save the Date for End-of-Year Celebrations](#)

[Expanding Our Reach](#)

[New Haven Scrabble Results](#)

SCRABBLE SNAPSHOTS

New Haven Event



The vivacious Veronica Douglas-Givan kept the energy high as the evening's MC.

THE GREATEST GIVE OF ALL



Literacy Volunteers' Great Give 2015 campaign was a HUGE success thanks to those who donated and spread the word about our organization. If you were following the leader board, it was a tense 36-hours as non-profits from all over New Haven and the Valley jockeyed for the top spot! So how did we do?

We received gifts ranging from \$25 to \$400 from 52 different donors. We also won a \$500 Golden Ticket Prize on the first day of the campaign! In total (with matching funds) we expect to receive over \$4,000 from the event, 100% online.

So THANK YOU for putting up with all of our silly



Bassarou, a LV student originally from Togo, talked about his reasons for taking classes. His tutor, Ian Alsgaard looks on.



Board member Joyce Ghiroli's team, Mad (Wo)Men, contemplates their first move.

Want to see more pictures from the event?

Visit the Literacy Volunteer's Facebook page [HERE!](#)

TUTOR TALK

Why did you decide to join Literacy Volunteers?

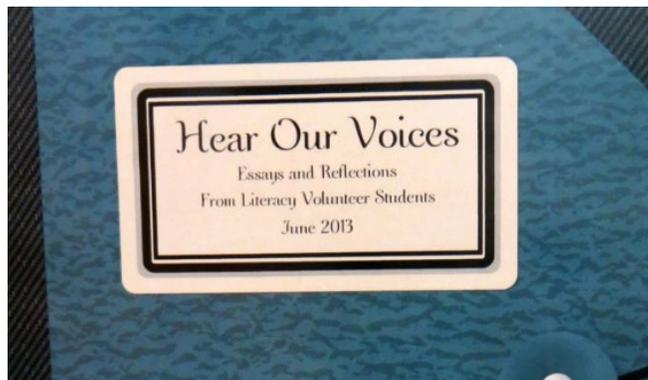
I decided to volunteer because I love to read and learn new things. I feel that everyone should



e-mails, responding with encouraging messages, and those Facebook shares!

You can find out more about the results of the 2015 Great Give campaign in this [PRESS RELEASE](#).

CELEBRATE GOOD TIMES AT THE END-OF-YEAR CELEBRATIONS



As the end of the 2014-2015 school year approaches, we would like to celebrate and recognize the achievements made by students and volunteers during the past year. We invite all volunteers, students, and staff to attend the End-of-Year Celebration in ***your region*** for light refreshments and student readings from the 2015 edition of *Hear Our Voices*.

Meriden-Wallingford End-of-Year Celebration

When: Wednesday, June 3rd from 5:30-7:00 PM

Where: Meriden Library, 105 Miller Street, Meriden

Valley End-of-Year Celebration

When: Wednesday, June 10th from 5:30-7:00 PM

Where: Derby Public Library, 313 Elizabeth Street, Derby

New Haven End-of-Year Celebration

When: Wednesday, June 17th from 5:30-7:00 PM

Where: New Haven Public Library, 133 Elm Street, New Haven

have the ability to learn to read because it opens your mind and helps you explore new areas and change the way you see the world... If you want to keep your freedom you better know how to read and ask questions. This is why I feel so strongly about reading and helping people understand what is happening around them.

Yolanda, Basic Literacy Tutor, New Haven

If you would like to be a tutor with Literacy Volunteers, visit our website and complete the New Tutor Application!

[CLICK HERE TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER](#)

WHAT'S COOKING AT LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Each month, this section features a recipe written and submitted by a Literacy Volunteers student.

May's LV Celebrity Chef is Carmelo Disanto, from Portugal. Carmelo attends the ESL class at the Plumb Library in Shelton with her tutor Linda Brower.

Recipe: Eggplant Rollatini
Country of Origin: Portugal

Ingredients:
2 eggplants

Please let us know if you plan to attend one of these events. Call 203-776-5899 or e-mail Denise at denisecodianne@lvaghn.org.

BETTER TOGETHER: NEW COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Non-profit organizations often partner together to amplify their reach. This past year, the new Valley Program Manager, Lindsey Hutter, established partnerships with BHcare, Salvation Army and ADP to provide literacy services to even more adults in our community!

BHcare is a behavioral health care provider serving the Lower Naugatuck Valley, Greater New Haven, and Shoreline communities. Their mission is similar to Literacy Volunteers' in that they hope to improve the lives of individuals, families and communities they serve through social services. In the fall of 2014, LV's Executive Director, Donna Violante, secured a meeting with Trudy Higgins, Vice President of Community Services. Since then, BHcare has referred and registered seven new students, both clients and employees of theirs, in the Valley program. As the majority of BHcare clients do not have transportation, Literacy Volunteers registers and pre-tests students at the BHcare office in Ansonia and holds classes at an affiliate of theirs, the Valley Social Club. Plans to start classes at BHcare's Branford location are currently underway.

Another organization which shares Literacy Volunteers' demographic is The Salvation Army. The Salvation Army in Ansonia provides basic

2 eggs
½ cup parmesan cheese
Breadcrumbs
Mix of salt, pepper, and parsley
16 oz ricotta cheese
Red sauce
Other supplies: Cooking oil, parchment paper

Cooking or Baking

Instructions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Cut the 2 eggplants into thin slices. Soak eggplant slices in eggs and then dip them in bread crumbs. Fry eggplant then put on a plate with parchment paper to absorb the oil. Mix 16 oz ricotta cheese with ½ cup parmesan cheese, salt, pepper, and parsley. Scoop mixture and place in middle of eggplant slice, then roll the slice closed. Top with red sauce and bake for 30 minutes. BUON APPETTITO!



For complete details about the AmazonSmile program, please visit [Program Details](#).

Literacy Volunteers Offices

4 Science Park
New Haven, CT 06511
P: (203) 776-5899
14 West Main St
Meriden, CT 06451

needs assistance and food banks for the marginalized populations in the Valley. Back in December, Literacy Volunteers attended a food bank event to meet Salvation Army clients while they waited to be served. Interested students then traveled to the Valley office for registration and testing, and are currently being tutored in the area.

Oftentimes, the individuals who need our services the most are those least likely to reach out to us. A Different Perspective (ADP), Inc. is a human services after-care agency that provides community re-entry services to individuals who have recently been released from prison. Through a partnership with ADP, the Valley office has been able to provide basic literacy tutoring for several new students.

By working together, we can achieve more! If you would like to refer a client or colleague to one of our literacy services, please contact a program manager at 203-776-5899.

TRIPLE WORD SCORE: SCRABBLE BY THE NUMBERS

P: (203) 235-1714
415 Howe Ave
Shelton, CT 06484
P: (203) 924-6651

20 Church St
New Haven, CT 06511
P: (203) 285-2621



SCRABBLE

New Haven
April 30, 2015

Take a look at this year's Scrabble Challenge by the numbers!

31 TEAMS played in the 2015 New Haven Scrabble Tournament

TOTAL FUNDS RAISED
\$20,900*
*\$900 over our goal!

10 donated raffle prizes, including the Grand Prize raffle.

17 donated raffle prizes, including the Grand Prize raffle.

10 Acrotive supported all literacy services in New Haven and The Valley.

7 student-volunteers and 2 college interns assisted the Committee.

THE WINNERS

Corporate Cup
Yale New Haven Hospital

FRIENDS & FAMILY
Team Koniuta

STUDENT TRACK
Team UNH

Guest Speaker
Mayor Toni Harp got the event started with her inspiring words.

We would like to thank all of our generous 2015 sponsors!

With your support, we can continue to offer literacy services to adult students in New Haven and The Valley, while expanding our programs in West Haven, East Haven, and Branford.

- AT&T
- Beers, Haimeman, Cohen & Burger
- Community Foundation of Greater New Haven
- Connex
- Gateway Community College
- Knights of Columbus
- McKesson Medical
- New Alliance Foundation
- New Haven Register
- Peoples United Bank
- Start Bank
- UJL Holdings
- United Way of Greater New Haven
- Valley Community Foundation
- Workforce Alliance
- Yale New Haven Hospital

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