



LITERACY VOLUNTEERS

Greater New Haven | Meriden / Wallingford | The Valley

LITERACY LINK E-NEWSLETTER Issue 10, Nov. 2015

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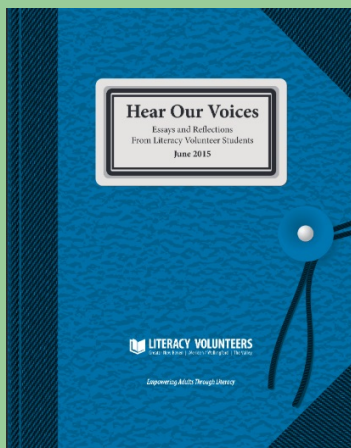
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HEAR OUR VOICES

2015 Edition Now

Available for Download



Each year, Literacy Volunteers asks students from both programs (ESOL and Basic

CHECK YOUR COUCH CUSHIONS FOR LITERACY VOLUNTEERS



Gracie Peruso (left) and Gia Iwanec (right) of North Haven happily cash in their coins at Connex, 412 Washington Avenue, North Haven. Gia is the daughter of Literacy Volunteers Board Treasurer, Nicholas Iwanec.

Connex Credit Union has selected Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven to be in their

Literacy) to contribute pieces of writing to our student publication, *Hear Our Voices*.

Visit the Literacy Volunteers website to download your PDF copy of *Hear Our Voices* TODAY!

[Click HERE to go to the Literacy Volunteers Website](#)

THE TOP 5 THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ANNUAL APPEAL

5. If you are a **past donor from Greater New Haven or the Valley**, you should receive a Literacy Volunteers **Annual Appeal letter** (including great photos of some of our tutors and students) **within the next two weeks**.

4. **Meriden/Wallingford past donors** will receive their Annual Appeal letters after **12/1**, following the close of the United Way annual giving campaign.

3. Consider **making your gift by 12/31/15** so that you can claim the charitable deduction on your **2015 taxes**.

ConnexCares program. October 1 through December 31, Connex's Coins-for-Change initiative will donate their standard collection fees from their coin counting machine at the North Haven branch located on Route 5 to the adult literacy non-profit organization.

When you use the coin counting machines, Literacy Volunteers will receive 5% of the coins counted from Connex members and 7% of the coins counted for non-members who participate.

Literacy is a problem for as many as 30% of adults in the New Haven County, doubling the state average. Last year, 241 Literacy Volunteer tutors worked with 1,396 adult students; 63% of those student made significant progress over the course of the year. The financial support that Literacy Volunteers receives will make a difference in the lives of thousands of adults in the community.

Connex Credit Union has been active in the community since 1940, but officially became a community-based charter in December 2002. They serve anyone in New Haven, Hartford, or Middlesex Counties. ConnexCares' Coins-for-Change has helped raise \$10,000 to various local organizations. The coin counting machines at Connex donate 100% of the collected fees to these organizations, which makes their machines unlike any other. Coins-for-Change invites everyone to support a great cause.

BOSCOV'S SUPPORTS MERIDEN COMMUNITY NON- PROFITS

2. All amounts are appreciated and donors can **specify the program area** they would like their contribution to support.

1. NEW DONORS ARE

WELCOME! If you have a friend, co-worker, or family member who would like to contribute to our Annual Appeal, please have them contact us or go to www.lvagnh.org Donate Now!

Thanks to all who continue to provide the financial support we need to keep serving our communities.



Literacy Volunteers of Greater New Haven would like to thank the United Way of Meriden & Wallingford for another year of financial support. A grant of \$18,000 has been awarded to Literacy Volunteers for their literacy programs in Meriden and Wallingford. These funds will provide support for tutors and students, tutor training and workshops, as well as books and resource materials for the 2015-16 fiscal year.

**HELP US EARN \$
EVERY TIME YOU**



Executive Director Donna Violante (left) poses with Boscov's CEO Albert Boscov, and Meriden Program Manager Rosemary Pilch (right).

Make sure you visit the beautiful new Boscov's department store at the Westfield Mall in Meriden this holiday season. The family-run department store chain plans to continue making good on their promises to the community.

Following their Gala Preview for a Great Cause on October 8th, Boscov's held their grand opening on Friday, October 9th.

As a United Way of Meriden-Wallingford partner agency, Literacy Volunteers took part in Boscov's Grand Opening ribbon cutting ceremony and received a \$100 donation from the department store.

The first Boscov's store opened in 1918. Boscov's current owner and CEO, Albert Boscov, expressed his appreciation for organizations like Literacy Volunteers which offer ESOL classes and free adult education services. Boscov is the son of Russian Jewish immigrants and a first generation American. He told Violante that when his father, Soloman Boscov, first came to the United States as a Russian immigrant, he worked during the day and attended night school to learn English. Like many of our adult students, Soloman Boscov juggled work and family life because he understood the connection between literacy and success in our country.

MAKE AN AMAZON PURCHASE



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

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



Save the Date

Thursday, November 19, 5:30-7 p.m

Forum on

Early Literacy Experiences, the Brain, and Child Development

featuring:

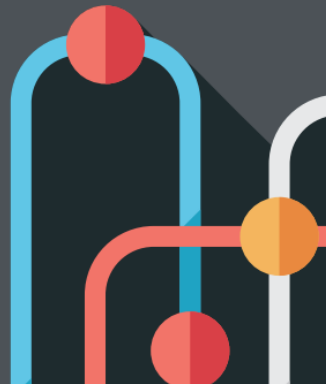
Perri Klass, M.D.
National Medical Director of
Reach Out and Read; Columnist,
New York Times

Myra Jones-Taylor, Ph.D.
Commissioner of Early Childhood,
State of Connecticut

Julia Irwin, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology,
SCSU; Senior Scientist,
Haskins Laboratories

Hosted by the **SCSU Psychology
Department and its Journal of
Student Psychological Research**
More details on the location/parking
to be announced

**Free and open to the public;
registration requested**



KNEADING & READING AT THE BAKERY: CHABASO SERVES UP CONVERSATION AND LITERACY

Timing is everything when it comes to serving up a new slice of literacy. In the middle of September, Madeline Wright, Operations Manager at Chabaso Bakery, contacted Literacy Volunteers to request an English conversation class for Chabaso employees.

With the guidance, initiative, and support of Chabaso staff, Literacy Volunteers was able to start a new class site at the bakery, making attending classes more convenient for student employees. Many of Chabaso's employees come from Central America. Twenty-four students signed up for classes; the first group that started is at the high beginning/low intermediate level. Feedback on class groupings and scheduling also came from the line supervisors at Chabaso. The class meets on Wednesday evenings from 5:30-7:00pm.

Ken Crilly, an Associate University Librarian at Yale University, is the volunteer tutor for this class.

Crilly's other interests include music and TESOL. He also co-tutors a Music and Conversation class on Monday evenings at Gateway Community College. We are extremely lucky to have Ken on board and cannot thank him enough for generously sharing his time and talents at Chabaso!

If you are a manager or supervisor with employees who might benefit from English conversation or Basic Literacy classes, please contact us to find out how we might partner together.