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Transforming Lives, One Person, One Family, One Job & One Community at a Time.

The Chalkboard

A monthly update brought to you by Literacy Volunteers - Chippewa Valley

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New Tutors:

- Deb Adams
- Natalie Carlsten
- Jackie Hagenbucher
- Stuart Johnson
- Ramona Lacy
- Bill Manning
- Claudia Manning (staff)
- Claudia Niemuth
- Dustin Olson
- Rebekah Palmer
- Ashley Tindal

April 2014

From the Desk of...

MaryJo VanGompel
Executive Director



Recently I had the opportunity to travel to Madison for the 10th Annual Wisconsin Literacy Celebration. Two women I admire were selected for very prestigious awards.

Dorothy Sorlie, co-founder of

LVCV was selected for "Literacy Advocate of the Year" Honorable Mention. Sister Diane Boehm was selected as "Tutor of the Year." A number of other awards were given out to programs and learners.

The keynote speaker was award-winning Wisconsin author David Rhodes. Rhodes, paralyzed from a motorcycle accident in 1976, spoke about courage... what it is and what it is not. Author Ambose Redmoon said that "courage is not the absence of fear, but rather the judgment that

These tutors completed the February Online Tutor Training in Menomonie. Thank you and congratulations!



Wish List:

Literacy Volunteers Chippewa Valley has a wishlist on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com).



something else is more important than fear.” According to the dictionary, courage is “the ability to confront fear, pain, difficulty or the unknown “ or “to act in accordance with one’s beliefs especially in spite of criticism”.

My thoughts immediately returned to our student speakers for our Literacy Luncheon. Several students and tutors shared their stories; each of them demonstrated courage. For example, it took an incredible amount of courage for LVCV student Hannah to come into our office, to admit she had a problem with reading, and then to share it with another human being. Would she be judged? Would she be humiliated? Would she feel dumb? Could she succeed? She took a big step and was matched with her tutor Linda Aaseng. Hannah demonstrated courage by sharing her story publicly with a group of over 125 members of the community at Literacy Speaks.

Several weeks ago, Hannah and her tutor Linda sat down to talk with WQOW news reporter Emily Valerio.



Hannah graduated from high school two years ago. Yet, when she came to LVCV, she was reading at a 4th grade reading level. Today, she is reading at a 9th grade level. Her new confidence has given her the courage to dream big. She is currently working as a certified nursing assistant with goals of going on for a degree in nursing. I hope that other adults will hear her story, find the courage to acknowledge their problem and call or stop by to get help with reading, writing, computer and math skills.

Thanks to Linda and all the other tutors who provide the tutoring assistance to our students!

If you missed the story on WQOW, you can see the full story here....

<http://www.wqow.com/category/136730/video?>

SCRABBLE BEE Countdown!

The final countdown is here! On Thursday, April 24th our 13th Annual
Scrabble Bee



Fundraiser hits the Chippewa Valley with registration beginning at 5:15 p.m. at 29 Pines, Sleep Inn & Suites Conference Center, Eau Claire.

We still have room for three more teams if you would like to join us for this light-hearted evening of pizza, soda, a cash bar, raffles and the opportunity to play Scrabble with a twist. Additional team information can be found at <http://www.lvcv.org/scrabble-bee>.

Fun-filled baskets of raffle items for the event are arriving and brightening our office. We could still use more baskets or prizes if you would like to help us out. Featured raffle items include a Kindle Fire HD and a 2013 Green Bay Packer autographed football. “Bee” a part of promoting literacy in the Chippewa Valley. You will walk away knowing you have made a difference and you could “Bee” a big winner too.

Louise Bentley Joins LVCV Staff

We are pleased to announce that Louise Bentley has joined the staff as the Corrections Instructor for Eau Claire County. Louise is responsible for delivering GED and adult basic education programming at the Eau Claire County Jail and at the Transition Center at Lutheran Social Services.



Prior to working at LVCV, Louise taught at Chippewa Valley Technical College and at Lakeland College. She also has many years of experience working for nonprofit economic development

agencies including Momentum West, Chippewa County Economic Development Corporation and Chippewa Falls Main Street in the areas of marketing, public relations, event planning and fund raising. Louise's bachelor's degree is in English and writing, and she has a master's degree in business administration.

"I am very excited to be part of the LVCV team," Louise said. "I have the opportunity to continue to teach as well as use my skills in working for an outstanding non-profit organization. This is a perfect fit for me and extremely rewarding."

Please join us in welcoming Louise to the LVCV team!

Celebrate Writing Deadline Extended

Happiness is a deadline extension! There is still time to get a student's writing into the Celebrate Writing Book.

Submissions will be accepted until Wednesday, April 23 @ 5:00 p.m. Email the story to lreisinger@lvcv.org or fax it to 715-834-2546.

GED Tutor Training

LVCV had about 12 tutors and staff attend each of the first two GED tutor trainings. If you have not signed up, there is still time to get in on the Science and Mathematics GED tutor trainings. Science will be presented on Tuesday, **April 22 from 1-3 p.m.** in the computer lab at our Banbury Place office; Math will be at the same time on Tuesday, **May 6**. Trainings will offer information and materials for each test, as well as hands on practice for you. Please call 715-834-0222 to reserve your spot. Seating is limited.

Make Plans to Celebrate

Our year-end student and tutor celebration event is fast approaching. Mark your calendar and coordinate plans with your student to attend the Celebration of the Stars on Tuesday, **May 20 from 11:00 to 12:15 p.m.** at the Lake Street United Methodist Church. Stay tuned for more

details...

Chippewa Falls Open Learning

In an effort to reach more students, LVCV recently changed the time of our Chippewa Falls Open Learning. It is still on Mondays, but now from **5:30 – 7:30 p.m.** in the community room at the Chippewa Falls Public Library. The number of students has ranged from 13 to 7. Three tutors have stepped up to help – our thanks go out to Dane, Mary and Robb.

Bridges to Healthcare (B2HC) Course

The final Bridges2 Healthcare (B2HC) Geriatric Nursing Assistant course will be offered June 2014 in Chippewa Falls. Applicants must first apply online at www.workforceresource.org



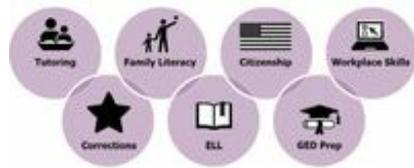
> Job Seekers Application > B2HC.

Potential students must also complete the Careerscope and EPSS prior to enrollment in the class. A background check (\$10 fee through B2HC) is also required. Cost is approximately \$600 for tuition, books and parking permit. Resources for funding assistance may be available – check with the local Job Center and community agencies. The deadline for the B2HC Geriatric CNA application and complete background check form is May 9. Submit the \$10 fee to Brenda Scheurer at CVTC. Classes begin on June 2, and the goal for this course is 16 students.

Contact Sue Lane at West Central WI Workforce Resource at 715-720-2840 ext. 128 for more information.

Need Help?

We have a variety of programs to help you acquire the necessary skills to achieve economic self-sufficiency. [Click Here](#) to see services that we provide.



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