

LITBITS

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Happy 2020 from the Literacy Department

Welcome to the Spring edition of Litbits, which you may be reading in seclusion as the Covid-19 virus is affecting every aspect of our lives right now. I hope that this can bring you a few moments of entertainment and distraction. And also keep an eye out for updates on the Hillsborough Literacy Council blog, [Shared Literacies](#), for more content, such as advice for learning how to read in a new language. Right now, all of our services are on hold, but we will eventually be back to helping those residents of Hillsborough County learn to read, write, and speak English. So hang in there, everyone! And stay safe!



Farewell to Frank Shideler

It is with mixed emotions that the Hillsborough Literacy Council accepted the resignation of long-time board member, Frank Shideler. Frank has worked with



the HLC for over thirty years as both a tutor and board member, including as Board President. He has been featured in news stories about the HLC and has taught numerous Hillsborough County residents to speak English. He has even hosted weddings at his own house for HLC students! Frank will continue to tutor students. Thank you for all your hard work, Frank!

Tutor Quotes

“She is a fast learner. Having conversations with each other works very well in broadening her ability. Her spelling is really good. She wants to be able to **speak better** with her customers at her nail salon.”

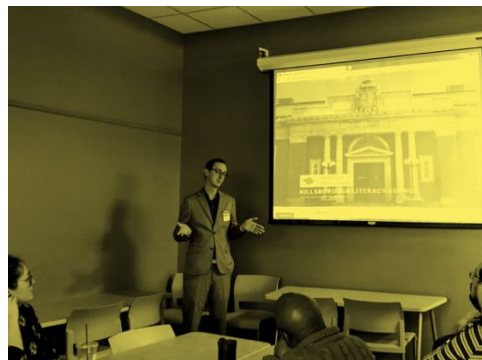
-Tutor Janet

“My peace, it helps me uncover my **creative thoughts and abilities**. It also reminds me who I am and who I'm becoming. My peace allows me time to learn God's word and what he says about me. My peace gives me time along with my thoughts whether they're good or bad. It helps me get back on track and focus on what really matters. My peace helps me bring everything into **perspective**.”

-Tutor June's Student

Leadership Institute

The Literacy coordinator, Eric Hughes, attended a two-day leadership institute in Gainesville hosted by the Florida Literacy Coalition. The institute brings together the directors and leaders of adult literacy and education programs from around the state to share ideas and experiences, as well as to attend workshops and presentations on topics of special interest. The topics covered this year related to program assessment, marketing, and fundraising. Mr. Hughes learned many new and inspiring facts and looks forward to implementing some new ideas in the coming months. Stay tuned!



Citizenship Classes in Progress



The HLC has been offering citizenship classes in conjunction with Caribe, a program operated by the Hillsborough County Public School system. The classes prepare people who are on track to take their citizenship tests. The course covers the questions on the test, how to do the interview, and other aspects related to the citizenship process, such as registration and legal issues. The class is currently running at the Arthenia L. Joyner University Area Community Library. It will also be at Town 'N Country Regional Library (Slated to begin April 6), and at SouthShore Regional Library (begin date is June 9).

Note: at the time of publication, library closing due to the coronavirus are affecting services. The citizenship course is currently on hold at the Arthenia L. Joyner Library, and library services will not resume before the Town 'N Country scheduled start date.

“Her command of the spoken language continues to improve...She informed me today that " Wednesday afternoon is the **best time of the week** for her”

- Tutor Marjorie

Annual Appreciation Event to Be Held at New Location

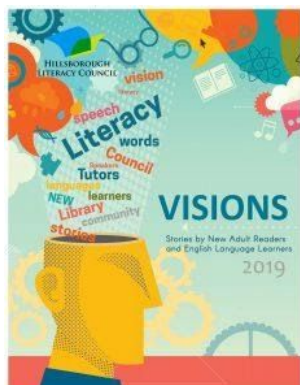
The annual HLC Student and Tutor Appreciation event will be held at a different location this year. It has been held previously at the Italian Club in Ybor, but this year will be held at the Robert W. Saunders Library in Tampa. Please know that any HLC tutor, volunteer, and student is welcome to attend the event, and there is no cost of admission.



Every year students and tutors of the year are given recognition at the event. Tutors are encouraged to nominate their students for Student of The Year for any reason the tutor believes their student is worthy of recognition. For example, the student does not have to achieve rapid learning progress, but simply could be a working parent who also works hard to take advantage of the HLC’s services. Tell us their story! This is enough to have them considered. Likewise, students are always encouraged to nominate their tutors for Tutor of the Year as well. Final determination of award recipients is made by the Board of Directors.

“She continues to display such a **contagious desire** & Joy in her class & homework”

-Tutor Wendy



Encourage Student Submission to Visions 2020

It is not too early to begin working with students to get submissions of student writing for the 2020 edition of Visions. Student submissions are published without editing, and can be anonymous if the student prefers. Furthermore, we have a sample lesson that tutors can use to help students write a submission. Contact the Literacy Department and we will gladly send it to you!

Tutor Jeff's Town 'N Country ESL Group

Happy and hard at work in the Town 'N Country library, where we have the largest number of students and tutors, these students work with the LifePrints series under the leadership of their tutor, Jeff.



“My student is gaining confidence and does very well with sight words. His reading is slow and deliberate, but he is definitely showing slow but steady **progress**. He is also doing well with practice check writing.”

-Tutor Becky

“One of my student’s goals when coming into tutoring was that of ordering a drink at Starbucks **on her own** - she achieved this goal in January 😊”

-Tutor Emily

Board Member Search

We encourage any current tutors or volunteers to consider joining our Board of Directors. Your experience and insights with the program could help guide the HLC. The board currently has seven members, but can be expanded up to twelve, so there is room for more! Anyone interested in joining the board should forward their resume to adulthoodliteracy@hillsboroughcounty.org

Plant City

The Hillsborough Literacy Council is hoping to expand services in the Plant City area. We canvassed the city in March to promote our services, and we encourage anyone in the area to recommend the Hillsborough Literacy Council to either new students or tutors in the area!



Student Achievements

- At least 9 students have completed a book level!
- One student got a social security card and asylum in the USA
- One student passed the citizenship test.
- One tutor is working with poetry with her student.
- One student says she feels that she is better able to communicate with parents at her day care center.
- One student went sight-seeing in another state, toured and understood everything in English.
- A student achieved her goal of ordering a drink at Starbucks on her own.
- 4 students got a library card
- 6 students had job interviews; 4 students got a job.
- 21 students had meaningful conversations in the community or with employers.

Health Word Search

F C L M I V S M F E V E R S D
L Y R C S M I N F E C T I O N
U E X U O O Q F I R S T A I D
D Z X I T N A V B I N D S O T
E E C J N C T K R L G V Z B R
L A C O C D H A B R O K E N O
H J L O U A I H G W P O V N G
A E B L N G P G H I I X D C D
S D A R E G H P E E O A K L I
P I C D U R E U E S X U K I A
I Z A O A I G S I T T Q S N R
R Z C Z L C S Y T C I I B I R
I Y H B P D H E C A J T O C H
N K E H B O N E U S N K E N E
B B A N D A G E T T Z T W H A

decongestant

headache

bandage

cough

cold

dizzy

flu

indigestion

infection

bruise

crutch

bone

cast

contagious

first aid

broken

aspirin

blood

ache

appetite

diarrhea

allergy

fever

clinic

cut