

# TUTOR TALK NEWSLETTER

Laura Gross, Executive Director | (301) 739-4208 | [office@literacyofwcmd.org](mailto:office@literacyofwcmd.org)

## UPFRONT WITH LAURA GROSS ●●●●●●●●

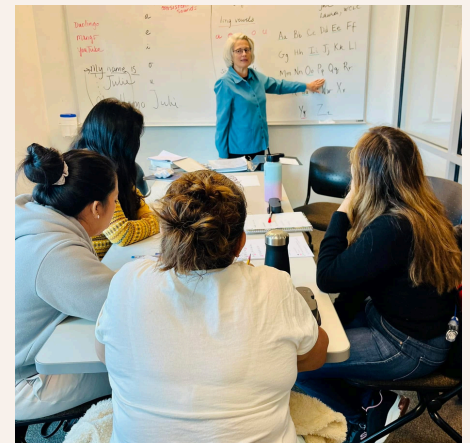
Come one, come all: Let's boost the community's awareness of what LCWC does! On Sunday April the 27 from 2-4pm the Literacy Council will be hosting a "Let's Get Literate!" Open House in TLC's Fellowship Hall to advertise our services, recruit tutors, and provide a welcome environment for current students and tutors to bring their families and celebrate their learning progress together! There will be 6-8 stations to be manned (or wo-manned) by volunteers. (Hint, hint!) We will also have a "Free Book Bazaar" for children and adults, so that each Open House attendee can leave with a book. Now through April 15th, I will be accepting donations to stock this table. No old moldy dictionaries, stained cookbooks, dated non-fiction or overly worn tiles. I will wear my librarian hat of discretion putting together this station, but want to include a variety of books in good shape. (Please feel free to leave donations that fit this bill on the gray table in the LCWC office.) Last, there will be a Student and Tutor Bake Sale table as a small fundraising opportunity for the day. For this table, we are looking for donations of high-quality and specialty baked items. Think pies, loaves of bread, cake pops, homemade candies, iced or dipped cookies. LCWC's FaceBook account will share pictures of prepared foods ahead of time to garner extra interest! Start thinking today about how you'd like to help for the Open House. Talk to your students to gauge their interest in contributing to the bake sale and attending the event. As always, email me at [office@literacyofwcmd.org](mailto:office@literacyofwcmd.org) with any burning questions or desires to volunteer for the day. Let's get literate!!!



**LCWC OPEN HOUSE**  
**APRIL 27**  
**2pm-4pm**

## TUTOR SPOTLIGHT ●●●●●●●●

"After I started to learn some Spanish, I thought that a great way for me to improve my own language skills would be to interact with people who wanted to learn English. Although I am not a professional teacher, I felt that if I could share what I knew about my own language that, in return, I would learn something new and vibrant from another culture that is a significant influence on my everyday life in Maryland. I was not disappointed. The people who come to my tutoring sessions ask probing questions and challenge me to communicate more precisely during every interaction. I have to delve into my memory, sharpen my definitions and expand my understanding of the way that language works. It is a joy to engage with other people who are learning a new language and who are discovering new strengths within themselves by developing new skill sets, just as I hope to do. Every time we meet, we celebrate the enormous power of language to connect our hearts, our imaginations and our humanity." - Julie Adkins



*Julie Adkins, LCWC Tutor leading the Wednesday ESL Class*

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## ●●● LCWC CALENDAR - SAVE THE DATE! ●●●



### Pop by, No Fooling Tutor Meet-up

Monday, March 31, 2025

12:00pm-2:00pm

Literacy Council Office



Stop by the Literacy Council study rooms on the day  
BEFORE April fools to enjoy a sweet and savory  
popcorn buffet among friends. We'll have lemonade to  
quench your thirst and will NOT require you to bring  
your own bowl! (Although our Chilling with Chili  
attendees all remembered to bring theirs!)

### Maryland TESOL

Saturday, April 26, 2025

8:30am-12:30pm

Hagerstown Community College

Join Maryland TESOL at Hagerstown Community College for a morning of learning about the needs of Multilingual Learners of English and their families in our region, as well as strategies to foster success in English acquisition, content area learning, and success beyond the classroom.

**Free registration and CEU hours available!**

Registration link: <https://www.mdtesol.org/event-6040211/Registration>

### Let's Get Literate: Open House

Saturday, April 27, 2025

2-4 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church's Fellowship Hall

15 Randolph Ave, Hagerstown, MD

Join us to talk to LCWC volunteer tutors, learn about our adult services, tour the resource library, purchase bake sale goods, and explore the free book bazaar! Snacks and games will be available.



The Literacy Council of Washington County

presents

## LET'S GET LITERATE Open House

April 27th from 2-4pm

15 Randolph Avenue, Hagerstown MD  
In the Fellowship Hall of Trinity Lutheran Church,  
Randolph Ave. Parking Lot Entrance

**JOIN US TO:**

- Talk to LCWC volunteer tutors
- Tour resource library
- Learn about our adult services
- Explore the free book bazaar
- Enjoy snacks & games
- Purchase bake sale goods

**See you THERE!**

For more information visit:  
[literacyofwcmd.org](http://literacyofwcmd.org) or call our office at 301-739-4208

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## ●●●●●●●●●● DEAR TUTOR TALK

**LAST MONTH'S QUESTION:** I have been tutoring my student for awhile; I believe we have reached the pinnacle of what can be achieved academically from this relationship. However, we have grown close during our learning sessions and I don't want to cause hurt feelings. How can I conclude things in a way that doesn't ruin our relationship?

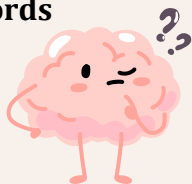
### **YOUR ANSWERS (THANKS):**

- Help your student appreciate his progress. "When we first met, what did you hope to accomplish?" Give concrete examples of how he has achieved those goals.
- Talk about next steps. "How will you continue to use your reading/speaking skills"?
- Celebrate your student's success! Arrange a final lesson after you've talked this over – and bring cookies, take pictures (for Tutor Talk), maybe present him with a new book to work in on his own, courtesy of the Literacy Council. And celebrate your own success while you're at it.

**NEW QUESTION:** My ESL student can't make the "th" sound. He gets frustrated when I gently try to correct his pronunciation- and so do I. How important is it for him to be able to pronounce words correctly?

**Help Tutor Talk answer this question!**

**Send us your suggestions and we'll publish them in our next newsletter.**



## RESOURCE CENTER ●●●●●●●●●●

Bilingual books are wonderful, especially for students with small children. If your student reads the book to her child in her native language, she will soon get the idea of the English from repeated readings - because who reads a book to a toddler just once? The most popular, at least in our community, are English/Spanish. In addition to the library's collection in the Children's Section, there may still be a few at the Literacy Council office, and you can find them in stores like 2nd & Charles.

IDEAS OR SUGGESTIONS? EMAIL JUDY CHAMBERS AT [JANDSCHAMBERS@OUTLOOK.COM](mailto:JANDSCHAMBERS@OUTLOOK.COM)  
OR LAURA GROSS AT [OFFICE@LITERACYOFCMD.ORG](mailto:OFFICE@LITERACYOFCMD.ORG)