



LITERACY HI-LIGHTS

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Fall 2019

"Eating and reading are two pleasures that combine admirably."
C.S. Lewis

Board Members
Steve Doan-President
Philip Wilson, VP
Karen Morris-Sec'y
Lakesha Gummesson
Peggy Keating
Diane King

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EASTERN SHORE RESTAURANT WEEK

TO BENEFIT EASTERN SHORE LITERACY COUNCIL

10/7/19-10/13/19



This year we introduce a new event, "Eastern Shore Restaurant Week" during which local restaurants will offer special meals and make a donation to the Eastern Shore Literacy Council based on their sales. Follow us on Easternshorerestaurantweek.com, Facebook and Instagram (ESLiteracy) as new information is added daily. We even have a QR code shown below left so smartphone users can scan to access the website for this event.

The Eastern Shore has a very diverse restaurant culture that has spawned numerous articles extolling the seafood, meat and desserts available along the length of this 70 mile long peninsula. Start in Cape Charles with StingRays's which has been featured in Southern Living Magazine and has been serving fresh seafood, steaks, ribs and more since 1950. Travel slightly north to Eastville and try the monster chicken wings at Yuk Yuk and Joe's, where both locals and visitors are one of the "gang".

The Island House, with a beautiful setting on the water, has been featured on the Food Network, and has a menu that is enjoyed by both seafood lovers and steak lovers. You can't make a wrong choice— and you'll love the sweet potato biscuits. In the middle of the Shore, sample authentic and delicious Mexican food at Don Valerio's restaurant in Onley and enjoy one of their specialty drinks.

And, as the Virginia Pilot said of Onancock, "This is a surprisingly food-rich town". Mallards at the Wharf offers wonderful meat and seafood choices overlooking the wharf or you can enjoy a casual night out at the Blarney Stone Pub which often has live music. DaVinci's Italian Kitchen offers Italian comfort food and made-to-order pizza. For a few days away, check out the Inn and Garden with their new restaurant, Maurice, offering a fusion menu in a charming setting. The Charlotte Hotel, with a 5-star rating on Trip Advisor, has been providing luxury accommodations and gourmet food for years and is within walking distance to all that Onancock has to offer. The Market Street Grill serves up Italian, Greek, and Turkish specialties along with American favorites and has a full bar offering. Bizzotto's Gallery Café is known for their Mediterranean approach to pasta, seafood, and meat entrees.

Close to Chincoteague in Greenbackville, the Marina Restaurant at Captain's Cove offers a varied menu for any taste in a recreational community built around the water.

In Chincoteague enjoy the waterview at Ropewalk for a meal or sample the appetizers with a drink and then visit The Island Creamery which has been churning small-batch ice cream since 1957. It is worth a special visit to try one of the over 30 flavors offered.

Many thanks to Bob Wessel for upgrading and modernizing our website for this event.

Executive Director Message



The Eastern Shore Literacy Council has received several grants this year that will allow us to continue providing free tutoring for adults. Dollar General supported the organization with a gift of \$5000 that will be used to recruit Adult Basic Education (ABE) learners through the development of new

brochures and outreach activities as well as providing tutor training. It will also cover the cost of membership for Pro Literacy. Nora Roberts' Foundation's gift of \$5000 is designated to upgrade our website and to develop, translate and print new brochures for the ESOL program. The Virginia Literacy Foundation Grant of \$5000 will be used to increase participation in the monthly Family Literacy activities and recruit parents of Una Familia to the Eastern Shore Community College ESOL classes. It will also provide the funding for the cost of childcare during the Tuesday/Thursday classes at Metompkin Elementary. In addition, United Way of the Eastern Shore's award of \$5700 will be used for the cost of Donor Perfect, a data base that maintains donations, as well as cover-

ing child care at Pungoteague Elementary for ESOL classes.

The Eastern Shore Community College Foundation has awarded a grant to the Literacy Council, ESCC Adult Education and the Book Bin which will allow coffee service in the Work Force Development Building Monday through Friday mornings. This will provide another venue for the Eastern Shore Literacy Council, the fiscal agent, to advertise the services offered by the organization as well as being the recipient of the profits. ESCC students will serve as baristas as part of the workforce training initiative. The Book Bin will provide supplies at cost, as well as training the workers. This is another example of the increased collaboration between local, private and public organizations.

The Eastern Shore Literacy Council is looking to build its Adult Basic Education program and is actively seeking adults who need assistance in learning to read or to enhance their reading skills. Please help us spread the word of the literacy services that we provide which include ESOL, citizenship class assistance and basic literacy.

Annual Meeting



The Eastern Shore Literacy Council's Annual Meeting was held at Metompkin Elementary School on June 3, 2018. This celebration of adult learners and tutors recognized fourteen dedicated individuals who have attended classes for over fifty hours of instruction. Eighteen learners were recognized for their attendance of twenty-five hours. These thirty-two learners received Dollar General Gift Certificates for their efforts.

Shown top right is ABE Learner of the Year, Ruby Beckett, with tutor Susan Weir.

Retiring Board members, Kitty Croke, Jackie Davis and Betty Mariner were recognized for their service on the Board.

Highlights of fiscal year 2018 were provided by Diane Gladstone.

Awards were presented to the following individuals.

ESOL Learner of the Year..... Ulku Kortmaz
ABE Learner of the Year..... Ruby Beckett
Most Improved Learner..... Margarita Gomez
ABE Tutor of the Year..... John Campbell
ESOL Tutor of the Year..... Karen Morris
Volunteer of the Year..... Betty Mariner
Business Supporter of the Year..... PW Davis Disposal

Three students Dalila Hernandez, Asuman Kahyaoglu and Flordalma Martinez shared the stories/poems which they had written with the group.

New Partnership with Una Familia

*"No culture can live,
if it attempts to be
exclusive."
Mohandas K.
Gandhi*



The Virginia Literacy Foundation awarded the Eastern Shore Literacy Council a \$5000 grant that will lead to changes in the ESOL classes previously available at Metompkin Elementary School.

through leveled ESOL classes held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. The Eastern Shore Literacy Council will provide the childcare as well as a monthly Family Literacy activity that will introduce families to the variety of services that are available in the community.

The Literacy Council has collaborated with the Eastern Shore Community College and Una Familia in an endeavor to provide services to the ESOL community that do not duplicate one another. The Eastern Shore Community College will provide the instructional part of the program

Una Familia will provide an additional audience for recruitment of ESOL students for the instructional program. Benefits of the restructuring include a unified effort to provide ESOL instruction to those adults who need assistance in becoming proficient in the English language and a greater audience for the Family Literacy activities.

\$10,000 Perdue Grant Received

A very generous \$10,000 grant was received from the Franklin P. and Arthur W. Perdue Foundation under their Building Family Partnership category in August. This grant will cover the cost of our Family Literacy Program in Pungoteague Elementary School, a Title 1 School. English for Speakers of Other Languages is taught two nights weekly and childcare is provided.

*An individual has not
started living until he
can rise above the
narrow confines of his
individualistic concerns
to the broader concerns
of all humanity.
Martin Luther King*

New Board Members



With three board members completing their terms in 2019, we were thrilled to welcome two new board members in the second quarter.

Diane King (top left), Assistant Principal at Accawmacke Elementary School, has a long career in education. She is a resident of Onancock and began her college education at Eastern Shore Community College.



worked with both children and adults who struggled with literacy skills.

Peggy Keating (second left), relocated to Chincoteague with her husband, Kevin, in 2013 after a career as a legal secretary in Washington DC. She completed an Associate in Arts degree from Prince Georges Community College.

Her love of reading led her to the Literacy Council and she recently tutored a Vietnamese learner to his successful citizenship test. Her other interests include serving on the board of the YMCA and taking classes there which have included exercise, learning Spanish, and volunteering at her church.

Earlier in her career as a reading specialist, Diane

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Want to stay up to date on with all the latest news and events of the Eastern Shore Literacy Council, find us on Facebook and like our page on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/easternshore.literacycouncil



Change a life. Volunteer to be a tutor. Call 757-789-1761 or email esliteracy@gmail.com



Yes, I would like to support FREE English lessons on the Shore

Send this form with your check to the address above. Check for total of \$_____ is enclosed.

PAYPAL may be used for donations to the Eastern Shore Literacy Council.

Name: _____ Phone _____

Mailing address: _____

Street/PO Box

City & State

Zip

Email: _____ *Yes, send me this newsletter by email in 2019* _____

Eastern Shore Literacy Council is a 501 (c) 3 organization

