

Literacy News

*Making a Difference in our Community
One Reader at a Time*

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Tenth Annual Recognition Dinner & Annual Meeting 2009

**Celebrate Student and Tutor
Achievements at our Annual
Literacy Banquet**

Date: Thursday, April 30

Time: 5:30 to 7:30 pm

**Place: Knights of Columbus Hall
47 High Street, Sanford, ME**



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**Keynote Speaker: Dr. Charles Lyons, President
York County Community College**



Dr. Charles M. Lyons was appointed the fourth president of York County Community College in August of 2006. Prior to his appointment, Dr. Lyons served the University of Maine System for twenty years as a tenured professor at the University of Southern Maine, as president of the University of Maine at Fort Kent for five years, and as president of the University of Maine at Augusta for five years. He also served three years as Vice

Chancellor of the University of Maine System and is Professor Emeritus at the University of Southern Maine.

Dr. Lyons serves on the United Way of York County Board. He recently completed a term on the Board of Directors of the Maine Development Foundation. Dr. Lyons is married to Barbara D. Lyons, a teacher at Sanford Junior High School. They have three adult children who are established in their own careers and thirteen year old and seventeen year old daughters.

Second Annual Literacy Walk-a-thon

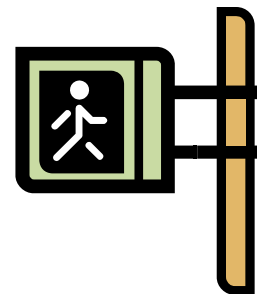
Spring is finally here and our student group, the Learner Advisory Committee (LAC) is planning the Second Annual Literacy Walk-a-thon on Saturday, May 16. Anyone can sponsor a walker on a per mile basis, or for the entire walk.

The three-mile walk will start and end at the Townhouse Mall in Sanford (where the Literacy Volunteers office is located) in the parking lot. There will be a map of the route for walkers to follow, including a loop around Number One Pond. Two water stations will be set up along the walk to ensure walkers stay hydrated.

Date: Saturday, May 16, 2009

Place: Townhouse Parking Lot
883 Main St., Sanford

Time: 8:30 am Registration
9:00 am Walk



“This is a great way for students and tutors to join together in a fundraising event for the benefit of our literacy program,” says Bruce Couture, LAC Chairperson. The funds raised from last year’s walk raised scholarship money for students to attend the 2009 Literacy Volunteers National Conference in Washington DC.

Spring Book Club

Please join us for
**final Spring Book
Club Meeting:**
Wed., May 13
6:00–7:30 p.m.
at LVGS



For the second year, York County Community College (YCCC) is offering any Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford (LVGS) student a full one year scholarship beginning in the fall 2009 academic year.

Second YCCC Scholarship

This is a wonderful opportunity for an LVGS student. All are encouraged to submit an application if they meet the following requirements:

- Must have their GED or High School Diploma
- Be able to attend classes on a Full-Time Basis for one year starting September 2009
- Are a current student of LVGS and have completed at least 12 hours of tutoring since July 2008

Scholarship Application deadline has been extended to May 15, 2009. To request an application, please call the office at 324-2486 or send an e-mail to asafford@sanfordliteracy.org.

First Scholarship Winner a Success Story

Our first York County Community College (YCCC) Literacy Scholarship Winner, Cheryl Ruel, is close to finishing up her first year as a full-time student. According to Cheryl, she worked diligently on Math and English during her first challenging year, but she has managed to pass her courses with a B average.

Working toward an Associates degree in Business Administration, Cheryl plans to work in a business office when she graduates from YCCC. The first year scholarship will make her student loans more manageable when she is a graduate looking for a position in a professional office. During 2006-2008, Cheryl volunteered in the LVGS office.

Cheryl lives in North Berwick with her mother and nine-year-old son. She is a 1995 graduate of Noble High School, and was a student at LVGS for three years, working with her tutor, Ann St. Cyr, on reading comprehension and math. She is also a former Sanford Community Adult Ed student and received her Clerical, Medical Secretary, and Administrative Assistant Certificates in 2006-07.



Cheryl Ruel (right) with her LVGS Tutor Ann St. Cyr (left).

Nonprofit Day at the State House

Representing Literacy Volunteers of Greater Sanford, Executive Director, Amy Safford, and Office Manager, Michele Lawrence, joined the Literacy Volunteers of Maine table to exhibit during Nonprofit Day at the State House on Thursday, Feb. 5, 2009. This was a great opportunity to meet local congressmen, who stopped by on their way to legislative sessions.



From left to right: Michele Lawrence and Amy Safford, Sarah Robinson (Dir., LV Maine) and Kathy Kilrain del Rio (Dir., LV Saco-Biddeford)

The event provided the opportunity for non-profit organizations, including Literacy Volunteers, to advocate for financial support at the State House. Governor Baldacci spoke at the Nonprofit Day press conference and addressed the vital programs agencies provide and the thousands of hours of community service given to the people of Maine.



Governor John Baldacci with Amy Safford and Sarah Robinson



Maine Nonprofits at the State House during Press Conference

8th Annual Beat the Winter Blues is Olympic Success!

Over 200 people attended this year's Eighth Annual Beat the Winter Blues Olympic Games event at the Knights of Columbus Hall in February. Children competed in math and reading games, and all the teams attended a story time in the reading corner.

Jim Gulnac presided as Master of Ceremonies and guided the children from the reading corner to face painting and relay races by the Key Club, and Project Joy games by the YMCA. Other organizations providing learning activities for children included York County Saves, Springvale Library, Goodall Library, Safe Schools Healthy Students, Families READ, and Head Start.

The Sanford-Springvale Rotary donated \$1,000 for the Team Shirts and Kennebunk Savings Bank donated \$1,000 in free books for all children who attended. "We couldn't host this event to build literacy in the community without the generous support of Rotary and Kennebunk Savings," said LVGS Board Vice President, Jeanne Mahoney.

Tremendous support also came from Sanford Adult Ed for scanning children's books for our reading corner, Altrusa for organizing the book table, and Great Beginnings Catering for setting up the event tables and providing the pasta bar.





Literacy Volunteers
of **Greater Sanford**

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Spring 2009

Welcome New Tutors . . .

We have several new certified adult literacy tutors who completed the last Tutor Training sessions at Sanford Community Adult Ed in January and Massabesic Adult Ed in April: **Grace Faylor, Lisa Flanders, Marilyn Kelly, MaryAnne Wasileski, Justine Stadler, Dan Blickensderfer, Margaret Casey, Terence O'Neil, Bonnie Pollard, Nancy Lincourt, Donald Giancola, Marie Herdan, and Michael Colpoys.** Please join me in welcoming our newest recruits to LVGS!

KSB Community Reinvestment Ballot

Kennebunk Savings Bank opened a new office in downtown Sanford and, to celebrate the expanded presence in the community, customers were asked to vote for their favorite nonprofit in a special Community Investment Ballot. LVGS was one of the recipients of this additional funding. A donation of \$275.00 will fund new instructional material for students.



Susan Morgan, KSB's VP (right) presenting a check to Amy Safford

Supporting Agencies

We would not be able to offer our various literacy programs and outreach events without the generous support of the following agencies and foundations:

**Sanford Community Adult Ed.
Town of Sanford**

United Way of York County

Maine Community Foundation

Stephen and Tabitha King Found.

Virginia Hodgkins Somers Found.

Sanford-Springvale Rotary

Maine Humanities Council

Kids and Transportation

UNUM

*Thank you for your
support!*

