



# Literacy Connection

Literally Changing Lives

## Tutor Communication

### July 10, 2014

*A semi-monthly electronic newsletter for adult literacy tutors*

We hope you're having a great week! Here's the latest news from The Literacy Connection!

Are you connecting with us on Facebook?

Like us on Facebook

View our videos on YouTube

### Amazon Smile

Eligible purchases at smile.amazon.com earn The Literacy Connection

0.5% of the purchase price.

[Visit our website](#)

Have a general question?

[Email The Literacy Connection](mailto:info@elginliteracy.org)

Have a question about your learner?

[info@elginliteracy.org](mailto:info@elginliteracy.org)

Can you share our Tutor Training Schedule?

[Email Carolyn](#)

Share a helpful website or tutoring tip with other tutors!

[Email Tutor Tools](#)

Forward this issue

[Visit ProLiteracy Website](#)



Save the date!

August 6, 2014 Tutor in-service to get your learner's year-end test results.

There will be a morning session at 10am and an evening session at 5:30pm.

Please register in advance so that we will have your learner's test results available for review.

Coming up: FREE Adult Education Conference at Elgin Community College on Saturday, September 6, 8am-noon.

Call Literacy Connection to rsvp.

847-742-6565

The Literacy Connection will be starting a new Citizenship Conversation Group for ESL Learners to practice for the citizenship test. We are looking for tutors to help with this drop-in group that will be held twice a month beginning in September. Training will be provided. Contact [Tine](#) if interested.

### Summer Office Hours

Our office will be closed Fridays, July 11- September 5.

### 16th annual New Citizenship Recognition Program

The City of Elgin's the 16th annual New Citizenship Recognition Program was held on June 25th. About 30 new citizens were honored, including two who worked with Literacy Connection tutors. Honorees came from: Mexico, Peru, Honduras, Columbia, Guatemala, Macedonia, India, Laos, The Philippines and Thailand.

Each honoree receives a personalized certificate with the city seal, and signed by the mayor. They got to shake the hand of the mayor, council members and other dignitaries.



Pictured are Karen Oswald, Literacy Connection's Executive Director; Marisol Moreno, new citizen; Vikki LaRocco, Literacy Connection Board Member and tutor; and Yurby Gasca, new citizen.

<http://couriernews.suntimes.com/2014/06/26/elgin-holds-16th-annual-new-citizenship-recognition-program/>

### Tine's Tip

Tutor Tip by Alina Lukaczyk-ESL Golfview Instructor:

Often students mention how they like to listen to songs. This is an excellent way to learn and practice their English listening, speaking, reading and writing skills. Many ESL workshops have recommended that students listen to songs by British groups such as the Beatles who have written simple yet beautiful English songs. Also, when British groups sing, they articulate the English language very clearly and succinctly-another good reason to listen to them. But don't ask students to listen to English band members speak because they won't understand them. Other excellent and more modern British singers include Adele with her soulful clear expressions of love ballads.

In order to listen to these British groups and others, and get good reading practice -a student can go online to YouTube.com and find a favorite band and/or song and then watch its video but also read the lyrics to the song as well. Just type in the band/song and the words "lyrics" next to title and then a video will appear that includes words to that particular song. Then, he or she can listen and read along with every song and practice more than one English language skill.

If an ESL student is more computer savvy, then we recommend they go online and enter the Internet world of LyricsTraining.com. This program follows the same concept as the YouTube suggestion above but carries it one step further. Once they get into LyricsTraining.com, again they can watch as many videos as they want -- good listening practice. After watching a particular video, then a student can play the game mode attached to this site. They need to choose a level where they as -Beginners-will fill in 10 random words out of 101 (10%), or Intermediate -fill in 25 words out of 101 or 25%, or Advanced -fill in 51 words of 101 or 50 % and for those who want to give it a crazy try -Expert -where they fill in all 101 words or 100% of a song as the video plays. As the student watches and listens to the video, the game will stop at random points and ask the student to fill in the word or words they just heard. If the student does so successfully, the video continues playing. If the student cannot fill in the correct word, the video remains on hold until they listen to that part again and try and try again. Students enjoy this new way of listening, reading and writing English using songs.

Finally, if your students want to practice their speaking skills using songs-have them record their voice by using their Smartphones. They can then play back their recordings.



The Literacy Connection will be sharing information on becoming an adult literacy tutor and other volunteer opportunities during this season's Harvest Market in downtown Elgin. The Market is held at 200 N. Grove Avenue, in the parking lot directly across from the Gail Borden Public Library.

Watch for us on Thursday, July 17 and Thursday, September 25. Please note the market has several new offerings and the hours of the market are from 9 a.m.-2 p.m.

Visit [www.elginharvestmarket.com](http://www.elginharvestmarket.com)

We are looking for a few volunteers to staff our table this season. Consider helping **WITH** your learner. What a great way for them to practice English with the public with you beside them for support.

Please email [Carolyn](mailto:Carolyn) or call 847-742-6565 if you can assist with one. Thank you.

### Share Your Love for Tutoring

Tell a friend, family member, neighbor, or work colleague about becoming a tutor

We need more good volunteers like you!

### Tutor Training Schedule July 2014

#### July 2014

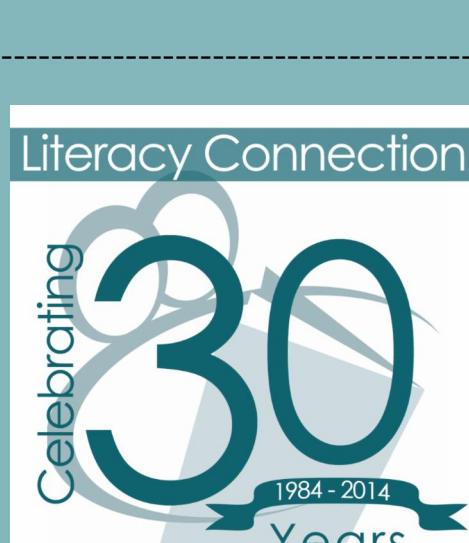
- Session 1: Monday, July 14
- Session 2: Wednesday, July 16
- Session 3: Wednesday, July 21
- Session 4: Wednesday, July 23  
6 - 9 p.m.

Poplar Creek Public Library  
1405 S Park Ave  
Streamwood, IL 60107

[Map](#)

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### Adults Remain On Our Wait List



The Literacy Connection is excited to celebrate its 30th anniversary in 2014. A celebration will take place later this year to commemorate this proud milestone. Help us make this event special for all our literacy friends and community supporters. We are looking for a Committee Chair and Committee Members to plan our 30-year celebration. If you're interested, please email [Karen Oswald](mailto:Karen Oswald) or call her at 847-742-6565.