



September 2019

Newsletter



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Thank you all who supported LVKC by donating time, money and talents

Support Us Online
Spread The Word!



Facebook :
[LiteracyVolunteersKentCounty](https://www.facebook.com/LiteracyVolunteersKentCounty)
Twitter : @lvkc1

LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

It was 5 years ago when I first saw the flyer for one-on-one tutoring from one of the local libraries. I was new to the country and did not know what services were available to help my transition. I confess that I didn't trust what the flyer said. "It's free? What's the catch?" Well, English tutoring is an expensive service in Korea. Unless the recommendation comes from someone you know, it could be difficult for people, especially from different countries or cultures to know and trust who we are and what we do.

That is why I ask all our tutors, students and supporters to go online and leave us reviews. Find LVKC on [Google](#) and [Facebook](#) and share your experience with us. Building credible reviews for our program not only helps our potential literacy students to see our genuineness but also inspires our potential tutors and donors to be a part of our journey.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to make changes in personal lives, in communities, and in the world where we live. How lucky we all are to have each other in this wonderful journey of learning, sharing, and empowering! I look forward to seeing you again through the various events we're planning.

Sincerely,

Yumi Kim

"LET'S TALK"

FREE ENGLISH CONVERSATION CLASS

Our small conversation group, *LET'S TALK*, serves adult students who speak English as a second language. We will talk about American customs as well as vocabulary and dialogs for various topics such as community, emergency, parenting, education, work, holidays, etc.

To register or for more information, call 401-822-9103 or email lvkc@coventrylibrary.org

MONDAY CLASS

11:00am – 12:30pm

East Greenwich
Free Library
Silverman Room

80 Pierce St.
East Greenwich

TUESDAY CLASS

10:00am – 11:30am

Coventry
Public Library
Annex Room

1675 Flat River Rd.
Coventry



Participation is free
but registration is required.



Fall Session
(10 weeks)

September 9
- November 12

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

In-Service: Polish Up Your Grammar!

"How do you teach grammar to language learners when you're a native speaker? It's just nature to me. I don't think about the rules when I speak, and to be honest, I've forgotten a lot of grammar after so many years out of high school."

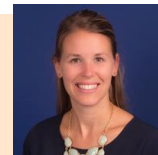
Does this sound familiar? Then our fall In-Service is the right place for you to polish up your grammar skills to better help your English Language Learner student. Even though you're familiar with grammar rules, teaching adult English Language Learners grammar needs a very different approach.

Come join us to learn about ESL grammar in the present rules, use and practice with Amy Correia, an experienced TESOL/Bilingual and Dual Language Educator. Your questions for discussion are more than welcome. We look forward to seeing you all.

- When? **Monday, October 28th from 6 – 8pm**
- Where? **LVKC Annex Room (1675 Flat River Rd, Coventry)**

RSVP to Youmi by Friday, October 18th

Presented by
Amy Correia



Amy is passionate in teaching culturally and linguistically diverse learners. She taught in high school Beginner ELL English, American Literature, and Public Speaking for 10 years where she made many positive changes as the head of the ELL Program.

In 2015, she began to teach in an Alternate Route to Certification for Teachers of English Learners program, which she continues to do today. Through this experience, she learned the value and power of preparing teachers to work with language learners and to become sources of knowledge and advocates for ELL education in their school and district. She is currently a lecturer for URI's School of Education in the Master's in TESOL/Bilingual and Dual Language Immersion program. She also serves as an English Learner Ambassador for RIDE.

October Trunk or Treat



Looking for a safe and fun Trick-or-Treating experience for your children and grandchildren for Halloween?



We met over 700 children and their families last year through the event. In addition to providing good experiences to the children in our community with the members of the library, town, police department and good neighbors, we were able to promote awareness for literacy by distributing flyers and newsletters to adult patrons.

It's a great chance to show your children and grandchildren what fun a organization you're working with. Last year we were the Cat in the Hat, the messy Things and the grumpy fish!

Come and find out how we dress up this year.

And in all seriousness, what can possibly go wrong with candy and literacy?



Friday, October 25th
6 – 8pm
Coventry Park and Recreation Center
(1277 Main St, Coventry)

6th Annual Fundraising Event - Bucket Raffle

All Raffle items will be on display in the glass case at the Coventry Library for the entire month of November. Goodies from Korea, Crocheted Afghan, Gift Card to Bed Bath and Beyond, Rhode Island Monopoly Board Game and so many more items are waiting for you.

By purchasing the ticket, you will be helping us to help all who come to us in need of literacy. If you can't visit the Coventry Library, Youmi can help you purchase tickets with a check or a credit card. Donations for raffle items are tax-deductible and accepted until second week of October. Please contact us for more information to add wonderful items to our raffle!



George Washington gets you 1 ticket



Abraham Lincoln gets you 6 tickets



#2018 Bucket Raffle Display



#2017 Bucket Raffle Display

November Book & Bake Sale

Friday, November 1st

9am - 5pm

Saturday, November 2nd

9am - 1pm



See you at the
Coventry Public Library
(1672 Flat River Rd, Coventry)

Do you know how many people we saved from the Snowy Days Boredom Attack through our Book & Bake Sale? **Countless!**

Books are in great conditions and will be displayed by the theme and the author. Don't miss the sweet baked goods to go along with your new collection of books. Paper books are \$0.50/each, and hard cover books are \$1/each. Prices will be reduced on Saturday.

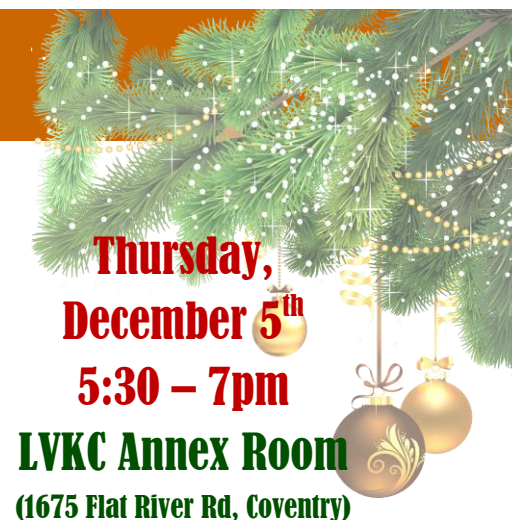
Volunteers needed for presale sorting, setting up, sales day selling and cleaning up. To volunteer or donate baked goods, please contact Youmi.

December Holiday Party

Knock knock, your friendly invitation has arrived!

Winter is the time for cheerful spirits, good food and for a good talk with people who share similar passion and interest.

All LVKC tutors, students, supporters and their families are invited to our December Holiday Party. Light supper, cultural exhibit, bingo, and a door raffle are waiting for you. Come join us for this wonderful holiday event. Please RSVP to Youmi by the end of October.



Thursday,
December 5th
5:30 - 7pm

LVKC Annex Room
(1675 Flat River Rd, Coventry)

PROGRAM/EVENT REVIEWS

Gaspee Days Parade June 8

What fun! 25 LVKC members participated in prepping and marching for the 54th Annual Gaspee Days Parade. The Most Colorful Float was awarded to us, and the Warwick Beacon introduced LVKC on its cover page in July. Presenting who we are and what we do for our community was such a meaningful experience to all our LVKC families and friends.

Congratulations and thanks to all my fellow LVKC'rs for your efforts and for putting us in the Winner's Circle where we belong.
 - Bob H.
 (tutor since 2003)



[Click to Read Warwick Beacon Article](#)



[Click to Watch a Video from the Parade Day](#)



Civics Crossword Puzzle Challenge June - July

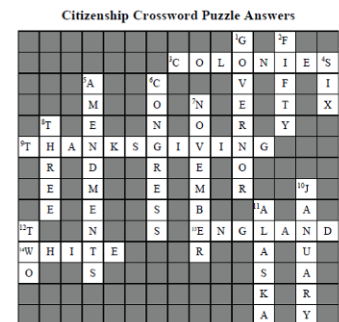
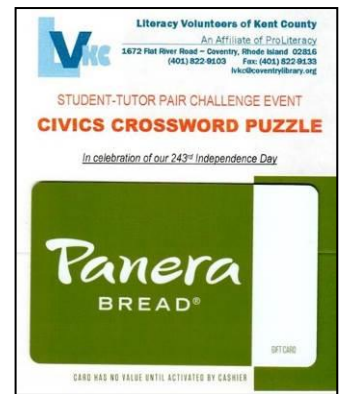


Thank you all who participated in our Civics Crossword Puzzle Challenge!



Barbara and Lilit were the lucky winners of our Civics Crossword Puzzle challenge. Barbara joined our 2019 Spring Tutor Training Workshop and has been working with Lilit for 5 months since they were first matched in April. Lilit, who speaks Armenian and Russian, is dedicated to improving her third language -English- for better employment opportunities. Barbara and Lilit, thank you for sharing your picture with us. Good luck!

"Lunch at Panera Bread was delicious. There is so much to choose from on the menu. The French onion soup is especially good, and if you like chicken salad, they offer a yummy version with almonds and grapes. Thank you, LVKC and Panera Bread, for making our day a little special!" -Barbara & Lilit"



Tutor Training Workshop September 5th - October 17th



Funded by **Walmart Foundation's**
Community Grant Program

Special Thanks to Tammy Anderson,
Our Volunteer Grant Writer!

2019 Fall Tutor Training Workshop was full of fun learning and sharing experiences with 18 new tutors. Kimberly Callahan was once again leading the sessions with our new up-to-date materials. The training workshop consists of 4 sessions to learn about the Principles of Adult Education, Teaching Reading/Phonics/Sight Words/Vocabulary/Writing, Practicing Conversation Skills, Lesson Planning and much more! LVKC is one of a few non-profit literacy organizations in Rhode Island that provide 10 hours of training with an organized curriculum to better equip the tutors ready to help their literacy students.

Tutor Training Workshop is only the beginning of this wonderful journey to be a literacy tutor. Though the tutoring is on a one-on-one basis, our tutors are never alone; on-going support includes material recommendation, post-assessment and communication via phone and emails.

LVKC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Welcome Our New Board Member, JoAnn Hammadou Sullivan

Dr. JoAnn Hammadou Sullivan is professor emeritus of French and Foreign Language Education at the University of Rhode Island where she coordinated the Foreign Language Education Program for future secondary and elementary language teachers. The program included French, Spanish, Italian, Latin, and Chinese as well as English as a Second Language. She has published many research articles on second language comprehension. In addition, she is the founder and original editor of a book series entitled *Research in Second Language Learning* that contains original research studies on selected literacy themes.

She was the recipient of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages 2005 Paul Pimsleur National Award for Outstanding Research in Foreign Language Education. JoAnn brings a lifelong enthusiasm for promoting literacy to her position on the Board of the LVKC.



**KEEP
CALM
AND
JOIN LVKC'S
BOARD OF
DIRECTORS**

**Here're more ways to
be involved in LVKC
as...**

- an Assessor
- a Tutor Trainer
- a Grant Writer
- a Member of
Board of Directors

For more information,
please contact Youmi

TUTOR SUPPORT


Though there are books available at the Literacy Collection at the Coventry Public Library, oftentimes online resources come in handy for your tutoring sessions. Here are some recommendations from our current tutors. Please share with us if you find any of these websites useful, and how you enjoyed it with your student!

PRINT THE READING SKILLS STORIES



This page contains all the Reading Skills for Today's Adults stories in hard copy format. By clicking on the links to the stories below, you can print the 2 page Reading Skills story. The first page is the pre-reading and the story and the second page is the Understanding page with the comprehension questions.

The stories are in Acrobat Reader format (.pdf). You may download Acrobat Reader [FREE HERE](#).

Reading Skills Group 1 - Levels .7 to 4.5

Stories marked with  are recently added Health and Wellness stories.




LEVEL 0.7	A Book for Ted
	A Sick Day


 [An Obese Life](#) 

Click on each title to visit their website

Menu

- Weekly Lesson
- Vocabulary
- Grammar Book
- Verb Tenses
- Articles
- Conditionals
- Modals
- Gerunds
- Prepositions
- Mini-tutorials
- Irregular Verbs
- Reading Room
- Listening Lounge
- Games
- English Schools
- Phrasal Verb Dictionary
- Verb + Prep Dictionary



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Verb Tenses	Vocabulary
The best way to perfect your English is to master the verbs. <i>Go, am going, went, have gone...</i>	Improve your English vocabulary and speak like a native. <i>Cynical, eccentric, ecotistical...</i>
Prepositions	Grammar Book
Dozens of exercises to make learning prepositions easy. <i>Go over, go off, go out, go up...</i>	The perfect resource to help people learn English grammar. <i>Gerunds, modals, yet...</i>
Weekly Lesson	English Forums
Each week, we feature a new grammar or vocabulary lesson.	Ask questions and meet other English learners.

Reading Skills for Today's Adults

This project was designed to create leveled reading selections that are appropriate for and valued by adult learners. The focus of these reading selections will be on topics such as: Civics, Employment, Housing, Health, School, Money, and Government.

English Page

This website offers hundreds of free online English grammar and vocabulary exercises to help you learn English.

English Grammar Online
... the fun way to learn English!

Start

English Grammar Online ... the fun way to learn English online

Test Drive FinancialForce

Calendar 2019

Lingolia Daily

English Grammar Online

In the Grammar and Vocabulary areas, you will find exercises, explanations and word lists. In the Writing area, we tell you how to write English texts and how to work with stylistic devices. Our study tips help you to learn English more effectively and with more fun.

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Sign Up to Newsletter: Our Newsletter is sent out about 6 times a year. Links to new teaching materials, ESL news, special offers on Premium site.

amazon: High quality materials for teaching ESL, grammar, reading, vocabulary, writing and speaking.

esl lesson plans, materials

student site

1000 pages of interactive grammar, listening, vocabulary and reading exercises. English grammar guide and phrasal verbs section, games and more. >>> [see lesson plans](#)

esl Books

The very best books, DVDs, guides, software.

esl lounge

esl-lounge gives free access to hundreds of ESL lesson plans and materials that can be used for communicative English lessons in the classroom. The emphasis on this site is on communication. The majority of resources are geared towards getting students talking. Alongside the printable grammar worksheets, surveys, flashcards, reading comprehension and communication activities for each level, there are also board games and song lyrics for teachers. There is also a section devoted to phonetics and the improvement of pronunciation.

Newcomer's Almanac

Don't forget to visit LVKC's webpage for a new monthly paper "Newcomer's Almanac". It offers a unique collection of information, advice, and cultural interpretation. Those who have moved to the US for work or personal reasons have found the blend of practical tips and thoughtful analysis of American culture during their transition. It comes with an English practice worksheet which gives grammar, vocabulary, conversation, and reading comprehension exercises based on articles in the paper. It'll be a great resource for your tutoring sessions.

NEWCOMER'S ALMANAC

Federal Government: Did You Know?

Commitments of Library Directors of New County

STUDENT SUPPORT

Are you new to America?

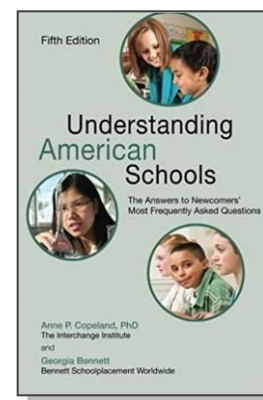
Is your child in an American school where you're not familiar with its system?

Understanding American Schools is a guide for newcomers from around the world to help you navigate the challenges of understanding the US school system from pre-school through high school. You will learn why teachers in the US do what they do; practical information about school lunch, dress codes, graduation requirements, expectations for parents.

It also offers the broader context of education in the US, including the latest efforts by the federal government to improve schools and outcomes; the role of standardized testing; how teachers' values affect how they teach; vocabulary for understanding the school experience.

The copy is available to be checked out at the Coventry Public Library.

Look inside



Sample Articles from *Understanding American Schools* by Anne P. Copeland, PhD and Georgia Bennett

Words to Know in September

Open House: A night when parents come to school (maybe with their children, maybe alone) to meet the teacher, visit the classroom, and hear about the plans for the year.

Field Trip: A class trip away from the school. May cost extra money (for bus travel, admission fees, or snacks).

Permission Slip: A form to be signed by a parent, giving permission to do a special activity and/or go on a field trip.

Excused Absence: Some schools require that parents write a short note to explain why a child missed school (for example, "Dear Ms. Lee, Please excuse Eva's absence from school on Thursday as she was sick. Sincerely, Anke Herzog"). Other schools require parents to call them by telephone to say if their child will be absent that day.

Parent-Teacher Organization: Organization that serves as liaison between school and home. May hold meetings, fund-raisers, lectures.

Show and Tell: In younger grades, there may be a regular time during the week for children to show something (like a picture of a grandparent who visited, or a card from a friend) or tell about something (a trip to the zoo, a recent soccer game) to the class.

Report Card: A written notice about a child's progress in different subject. Report cards are usually sent home 2-4 times a year. Increasingly, grade reports of all kinds are posted online. Parents can establish a password to view their child's grades for homework and tests on a regular basis so they can keep track of how their child is performing.

Recess: A time during the school day for (younger) children to play outside.

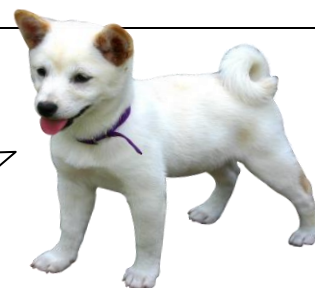
What Happens during a Parent-Teacher Conference?

It is common for elementary school to meet individually with the parents of each child in the class once or twice each year. This meeting is not just for parents or children with problems or complaints. It is for everyone. It is a good time to review your child's education. If you think your child should have some extra services from the school (like more training in English, extra challenges in their strongest subjects, an assessment of special needs, extra help for their weakest subjects, or help in social areas), this is a good time to ask.

You should be respectful of the school's professional judgement. Remember that the school staff must be concerned with the wellbeing of all the children in the school. But it is perfectly acceptable to make your ideas know.

Here are some practical tips, to help your conference go well: (to be continued in the book)

Check out the book
at the library!



OUR STORIES

A Letter from Pam, LVKC Tutor/Assessor Since 2016

The person whom I tutor, Denise Lowell, inspires me. She is a stroke survivor and is currently challenged by aphasia. What does this mean for Denise? She is unable to read fluently. This has had a huge impact on her professionally, financially and personally. Prior to her stroke Denise was a mental health counselor and had earned her master's degree. She had her whole life ahead of her. Then she had a stroke ...was unable to continue in her career and has had to cope with some disabilities to read fluently, to be in loud environments and to communicate with others with ease.

All of this would have been too much for most of us, but Denise isn't most of us. A speech therapist Denise was working with suggested she connect with LVKC so she could have more time practicing and improving her reading. That's how I met Denise. Since then, I have learned sooooo much. She works hard to overcome her challenges and she and I spend time on assignments she has to complete from her various therapies, whether exercising her eyes, filling in blanks, timing her as she reads, whatever is needed. Denise never gives up. But for Denise, it's not enough for her to do things to help herself improve her reading skills. Denise is concerned for others who find themselves in the same situation she is in. She's an advocate for others and works tirelessly to bring the issues of aphasia to others.

On June 8 Denise orchestrated an incredible and inspiring aphasia conference. She didn't do it on her own; she had support. But what she did was this: she connected with others, identified the type of conference she wanted to put together, reached out to speakers, created a support network and tirelessly shared plans about the event to anyone who would listen. More than 70 people showed up; she was hoping for 50! And the event was FREE thanks to generous donations! For those of us who attended and helped that day, it was a truly inspirational event. There were stroke survivors, caregivers, friends, family members, various professionals, all eager to hear from each presenter. And the presenters were wonderful: Dr. Claudia Wheeler, Medical Director, Adult Rehabilitation Services RIH & TMH; Lucia Watson, MS CCC-SLP, Speech Works RI; Briana Bigelli MS CCC-SLP RIH/Hasbro Children's Hospital; Stephen Delatto, Silver Lining Technologies. And to close the conference the audience enjoyed a performance by Hands in Harmony, Inc, Aphasia Clefs-Aphasia & Dysarthria Singing Group.

When you meet Denise you really wouldn't know she had a stroke or is unable to read easily, but she did have a stroke and has faced all the challenges of a stroke survivor. But she doesn't feel sorry for herself, she moves her life forward. Her life isn't easy, but her life is full. It's full of a loving and supportive family, a strong group of friends and a very strong group of professionals who I know she inspires.

When I became a literacy volunteer, I didn't know what to expect. I was worried I wouldn't have the time, I wouldn't do a good job, my student wouldn't think I was effective. What has happened is this: I have the time, I'm good at my job and my student is thankful that I am there for her. I am a better person for knowing her and am thankful that LVKC has given me the opportunity to meet such a wonderful and inspiring individual.



Painting hair

by Dibry Hidalgo
(meeting with an LVKC tutor
since January, 2018)



Picture source:
<https://hairstyly.com/photo/4f8e32e25a2eb9a6017df78e5281e1a5ee353fa3.html>

When I first came to this country, I needed a haircut and coloring. I had a salon a couple of blocks from me. So I went there but I did not know how to ask for what I wanted, so I said I need to paint my hair and dry it instead of saying blow dry and coloring. But she understood, probably because she was from Portugal and spoke Portuguese. I just walked in but she told me that I had to make an appointment. I had to use my phone to help me with the translation of what she meant. It was very difficult for me to explain to her what I wanted. I still go to the hairdresser and now I can understand her or at least I can explain to her what I need.

Celebrating Robin's 10th Year at LVKC

What a pleasure it has been to be of service to Literacy Volunteers of Kent County for the past 10 years. I started as a tutor and had 2 wonderful experiences with 2 very different students. I was able to help one get her Citizenship and the other wanted help getting job skills to be a bus driver. I have been blessed to work with 4 beautiful Women as their Office Assistant over the past 10 years. Thank you LVKC for providing me the opportunity to meet and help so many wonderful tutors, students, volunteers and co-workers!

- Robin Leroux



SPECIAL THANK YOU

We would like to extend our gratitude to all who donated through LVKC Spring Appeal, United Way, National Grid's Matching Gift Program and Community Grant Program:

Amy Chen	Ernest DiMicco	Min Chen	Steven Merolla
Asha Bolar	Esther Labaud	Mirta Pedrazzoli	William Rogers
Ayako Takami	Helen Lambiase	Nancy Abood	Xinglan Li
Barbara Bridge	Howard Goldman	Nancy Nester	Anonymous Donor from AstroNova, Inc
Bernardine DiOrion	Joyce Bryan	Pamela DeMelim	Carpenter-Jenks Funeral Home
Candita Gerzevitz	Judith Wallace	Patricia Beauchaine	Concordia Manufacturing LLC
Carol Mitola	Linda Brennan	Patricia Chaney	Han Palace/Keith Lau
Carolyn Romelczyk	Lori Holta	Sandra Farnum	Rhode Island Study Abroad/Youmi Kim
Cindy Capobianco	Lorna Swanson	Sandy Dupree	Roch Realty & Appraisal Co
Donna Saulino	Lynn Blanchette	Sharon Garland	Walmart Foundation
Dorothy Brindamour	Maria Conoscente	Sinang Roderick	
Dorothy Nicholls	Marjory Myers	Stephanie Eddleston	

Click to visit their website

