

Congratulations to Matt Knapp and Robert Dowling!

Both Matt and Robert earned their driving permits this summer. So everyone get off the roads (just kidding). Good work guys. Next stop road trip!

Students and tutors, if you have had a success lately, let us know!

708-974-5331or
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New Readers for New Life Conference

The New Readers for New Life student organization is having its annual, state-wide conference November 9-11. The conference will be held in Galesburg, IL, at Carl Sandburg Community College

Please watch your mail for further information.

Pro-Literacy Worldwide Conference

On November 7-10, Pro-Literacy will hold its annual national conference. Megan will be speaking at the conference on the 8th. Wish her luck!

Student/Tutor Award Winners

At the Student/Tutor Recognition Picnic, awards were presented to the following program members:

Tutors **Alice Betz, Joan Barnes, Mary Jo Murphy, and Midway Neurological and Rehabilitation Center** "Literacy tutors who helped students attain the most improvement"

Students **Alice Randle, Diane Wickfelder, Patricia Turner, and Annazette Holmes** "Literacy students who showed the most improvement."

Students **Robert Dowling, Tom Johnson, and Mary Randle** "Literacy students with the most conference/workshop hours."

Tutors **Joan Barnes and Phyllis Bierdz** "Literacy tutors who provided the most tutoring hours."

Tutors **Asker Smith and Joan Barnes** "Literacy tutors with the most conference/workshop hours."

Students **Robert Dowling, Alice Randle, and Pearlie Buchanan** "Literacy students who earned the most tutoring hours."

Thanks to everyone for all their hard work. If you were unable to attend the picnic, your certificates will be mailed to you. Congratulations!

Check Out Our Web Resources!

The Moraine Valley Literacy webpage has some new additions. The *Events* section has current information about upcoming events.

The *Resources* section has a link to a web page with links to various websites that you may find interesting. The websites are separated by subject. There are websites about learning disabilities, ESL, and literacy.

If you know of any websites you think should be added to the list, please let me know!



Comic Book Club

If you are interested in joining a comic book/graphic novel club that will meet at Borders book store in Orland Park, please contact Megan at 708-974-5331.

Fall Tutor Training

The fall new tutor training dates are September 26, October 3, and October 10 from 9-3.

We are always in need of new tutors, so if you have friends or family you think may be interested tell them to give us a call!
708-974-5331



Going Back to School

Megan is going back to school at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She is working towards a Ph.D. in *Literacy, Language, and Culture*. Learning never ends!

Grant Information

As you probably know, our program is grant funded by the Secretary of State. We are still waiting for the state legislature to approve the budget and our grant. Hopefully, everything will be resolved soon.

Good-Bye and Thank You to Dan and Crystal

Dan and Crystal were two college students who tutored with us for the summer. Dan was an Americorps member and Crystal was with the Bonner program.

Dan and Crystal assisted teachers in ESL and GED classes and tutored students in reading and math. We wish them luck in school this fall. They will be missed!

Share Your Ideas and Learn Something New!

Meet with your fellow tutors Saturday, October 13 from 10-12. Be prepared to share an idea that worked for you. Handouts are welcome.

Last year this workshop was well attended and tutors shared some excellent ideas.

BOOK CLUB

If you would be interested in volunteering to lead our book club, please call Megan at 708-974-5331.



Events for September- November

September 26, October 3, and October 10
Fall New Tutor Training 9-3

October 13
Tutor Workshop 10-12
Meet with your fellow tutors and share your favorite lessons or tips.

November 9-11
New Readers for New Life State-wide Conference in Galesburg
Students and tutors are welcome to attend this conference and meet counterparts from around the state.

November 8-10
ProLiteracy Worldwide Conference in Washington D.C.
Megan will be presenting at this conference on November 9.

Student Page

**Lost Twin
By Phil H.**

When we were in Michigan at my aunt's cottage, my kids and I went for a walk and bird watching. When Caitlin got mad because Kyle was holding the binoculars, she started to walk back to the cottage. She got lost and when we got back to the cottage I thought that Caitlin was with her mom. When her mom said no we went looking and screaming for her. We called the police to look for her too. I was so scared when I was driving to each house looking for her. One of the neighbors was driving her from one house to another. When I drove by their truck, they stopped and let her out. My heart felt like it stopped. I cannot say how great I felt when I saw her!



Care Giver

By

Humberto Tapia



By

James G.

Father's Day. I woke up that morning and I got some gifts. My son, Justin, gave me a polo shirt. My daughter Krystina gave me a pair of jeans. My daughter Giavanna made me a card and a necklace and my wife gave me a watch.

Later that day my daughter and my wife went to the store. They got some food for the barbeque. Then we all went in the backyard by the pool and barbequed and made hamburgers and hotdogs.

Then my brother and my cousin called and they came over and the neighbor came over too. We enjoyed the pool and food for the rest of the day.

It was ten years ago when my wife was diagnosed with "MS." Multiple Sclerosis is a very different thing, it comes and goes. Some days are good and some days not, but not so bad. I was a man who would go out with his friends. I would do some housework and take care of my children. My wife would work in a bank in the morning and I would work second shift. So we didn't see each other until the weekend. Here I was in my thirties with small children and a sick wife. Now I have to make sure that I had things in order so my wife would have an easier day. She comes home very tired. My mother-in-law would take the kids for a while. I would go to work and my wife would take a nap.

In the beginning it was hard when she would get sick. Sometimes she would shake and fall to the ground. I would have to hold her until she would stop shaking. Some days she couldn't get out of bed, so I took care of the house and the kids. I would make dinner and get the kids to bed. Now I am the father and the husband. When she gets very sick, she has to go on steroids. I have to mix the meds so I can run an IV. I have to stretch her

Thank you for all your wonderful contributions to the "Student Page"

If you would like to contribute to the student page, please call Megan at 708-974-5331



Look For Us This November!

Please send any contributions, thoughts, or ideas to Megan at 708-974-5331 or email at hughesm58@morainevalley.edu. I hope you find this newsletter informative and share it with each other. Thanks for reading!

"This project was made possible by a grant awarded by the Illinois State Library (ISL), a division of the Office of Secretary of State, using state funds designated for literacy."

Care Giver Cont.

legs so they don't jump or feel tight. There are days when I have to get her dressed and help her to walk. And I have to catheterize her to remove urine from her bladder. Her hands become numb and tighten to where she is unable to open them up. There are times when she shakes and spits, she is having a seizure. The heat makes her slow and tired, so we can't go out when it's hot.

There are good days when she feels fine. We have great days. I give my wife her shot. And it makes me feel like I am doing something to fight. It's hard sometimes with work and home being so stressful, but I find going to the health club is a good way to let go of stress. And it keeps me fit. There are a lot of pills, I try to know them but it's too hard and there are too many, I remind her to take her pills. On a good day, I try to make her go for a walk. She likes it because we get time alone with each other. We talk and she feels good. Now the kids are older and bigger. My son helps me with chores, although he's 16 and it's a bigger chore getting his help sometimes. And my daughter helps with cooking and helping Mom out. The kids know now what to do for their mother when I am not there. They help her out of bed if she needs some help. They

know when she is not feeling good.

At first my mother-in-law, the kids, and me would get scared when she was sick. Now we know what to do for her and it makes it easier for everybody. My family and I go to MS functions and attend a support group. There are good things to learn at these functions. We get to talk to others about MS. I also get to talk to others about care giving. It makes me feel good to help out or give some kind of advice to help them when they are having difficulties taking care of their loved one.

My wife loves to talk to people with MS. She gives hope to people who need a good word. To help them stay positive and to stay strong. As for me I love watching my wife doing her good work, so I'll keep her healthy and strong. That's my way of getting paid for my good work.

That's my MS story,
Humberto Tapia 6/14/07

