

## UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 Literacy Luncheon

June 14, 2018

Student & Volunteer Ice Cream Social

July 13, 2018

33rd Annual Gala

November 17, 2018

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*"My student went up more than 6 grade-levels on his math test! He's worked so hard, and I'm so proud of him. He said he hated math in school and could never concentrate in class. One-on-one help made his learning possible."*

**-Neil, Volunteer Math Tutor**

*Dear Friends of Literacy,*

A few months ago I met a prospective student; he was a young, bright, frustrated high school drop-out. "Paul" (name changed for confidentiality) admitted to having a bad attitude about school, saying he was wired differently than others and, more than anything, math didn't make sense to him. When I met this young man, I knew that he needed the Literacy Council. However, I was equally convinced that he wouldn't follow through – he is from a generation that prefers instant gratification, and CFLC's process takes time and dedication. In this case it seemed he had come to the appointment just to placate his mother.

But he went through the necessary steps to enroll and Nancy Woolley, the Adult Literacy Program Director, matched him with a kind volunteer tutor, Neil. They met at an off-site location so we didn't see them regularly, but Neil turned in monthly tutoring reports and, it turns out, the young student was following through despite my predictions. We recently got an incredible update: Paul passed the Math section of his GED, the final component to earning his high school equivalency. Additionally, he advanced six (!) grade levels after five months of instruction at CFLC. He said, "I learned more math from my tutor than the whole time I was in school." Personalized instruction works.

These dramatic testing results are not typical... but there is no "typical" student at the Literacy Council. Whether a student engages in instruction for a few months or has goals that may take years, what is required is **perseverance**, which is defined as "*continued effort to do or achieve something despite difficulties, failure, or opposition*" (Merriam-Webster). Paul proved that, with a mentor and the right tools, he could persevere to overcome his math challenges.

The CFLC model works; dedicated volunteers who are properly equipped and supported are able to share their knowledge and gifts to help other adults achieve their dreams. It's rarely easy, but it is always worth it. Just ask Paul and Neil!

**Our Literacy Luncheon on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup>** (*more info inside*) will focus on the theme of *Perseverance* – I hope you'll be able to join us to learn more about the good work that Cape Fear Literacy Council does.

Many thanks,

*Yasmin*

CFLC Executive Director

# ADULT LITERACY PROGRAM

DIRECTOR: NANCY WOOLLEY  
nwoolley@cfliteracy.org

PROGRAM ASSISTANT: JODI COUNCIL  
jcouncil@cfliteracy.org

One reason the **Adult Literacy (AL) program** is successful is that we can individually work with a student's real-life goals to produce real-world results, whether that is getting a diploma, getting a job, reading aloud in church, or learning to vote. It can take time for adult learners to build a trusting relationship with their tutors and start showing progress, but when a student reports a fundamental change in his/her life as a result of increased educational skills, it is an amazingly rewarding moment for everyone involved. These quotes from tutor progress reports highlight some of the wonderful "firsts" our students and tutors have experienced this year (*student names have been changed to protect their privacy*):

*"For the past 6 months, we have practiced spelling numbers and writing checks, as well as budgeting and basic financial literacy. I am proud to announce that **my 64-year-old student has opened his very first checking account!** He no longer needs a caretaker to handle his basic day-to-day bills and money transactions."*

*"My student has a learning disability. Even though she has a successful career, she is afraid to have a baby because she struggles with literacy. It breaks my heart. Every time she reads a recipe or a children's book, and **I see her confidence grow**, I want to cheer. Her husband says he feels like their whole lives are changing for the better."*

*"We're about halfway through To Kill a Mockingbird. It's challenging, but we're making it. Of course **everything we read brings up some sort of discussion**, and the other day he said, 'It's amazing how much you can learn about life from reading a book.'"*

*"**My student's goal is to vote for the first time.** We have filled out the voter registration form, studied a sample ballot, and are working on vocabulary including candidates' names and names of offices."*

## 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER CONGRATULATIONS!

- 2 students passed their GED
- 1 student passed the ASVAB and was accepted in the Navy
- 1 student got his driver's license
- 7 students reported a new or better job

## AL NEW TUTOR TRAININGS

JULY 16, 18, 23 • 6-9 PM  
SEPTEMBER 17, 19, 24 • 1-4 PM

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# ESL PROGRAM

DIRECTOR: MELANIE NELSON  
mnelson@cfliteracy.org

PROGRAM ASSISTANT: LAUREN ROGERS  
lrogers@cfliteracy.org

The **English as a Second Language (ESL) program** was busy during program year 2017-2018:

- A new curriculum was implemented to help our students meet the national English Language Proficiency Standards. The curriculum has been made available for purchase to other ESL programs in the state. Our students studied, among other topics, architecture and city planning; workplace communications; health and beauty; food and culture; natural disasters; and travel.
- The Citizenship program has experienced amazing success: 4 students have become naturalized citizens; 12 have submitted their applications for citizenship; and 25 have studied Civics while waiting to become eligible to apply for citizenship.
- During our Spring 2 class cycle, ESL students studied Food and Culture. As their capstone writing project, they submitted their favorite family recipes to be included in the CFLC Cookbook Fundraiser (look for purchasing information in the Fall newsletter!).
- We expanded our course offerings to include a class taught by a former student; Lana Buecker led 20 ESL students in HeartMath, a resiliency program.

"I need this! I need it all—  
the grammar, the listening..."

—ESL Student

"The community we have here is really amazing."

—ESL Tutor

"You make me see that I can be more."

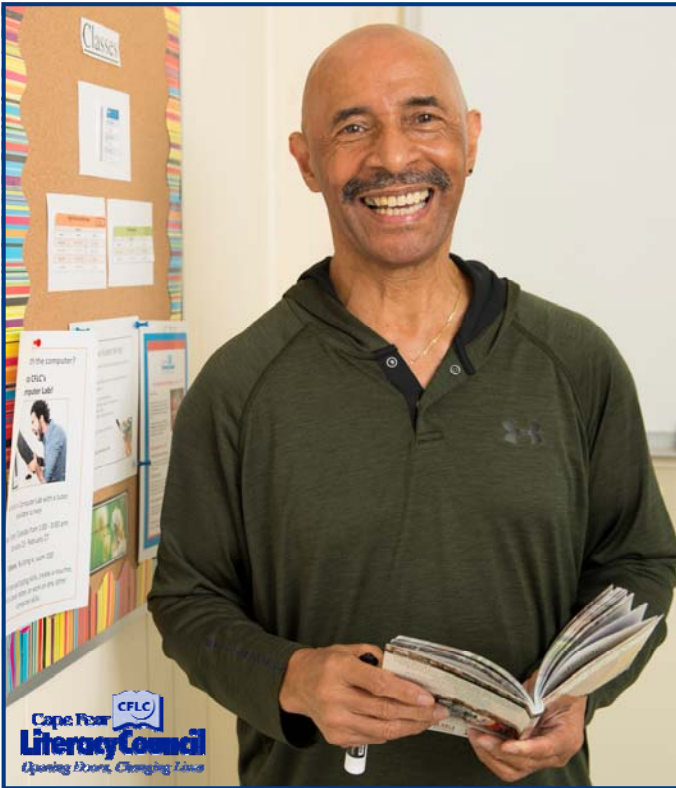
—ESL Student

## ESL NEW TUTOR TRAINING SEPTEMBER 11, 12, 13 • 1-4 PM

- Students from more than 40 countries study ESL at CFLC.
- You do NOT need to speak another language to tutor ESL.
  - You DO need to commit a few hours a week to tutor one-on-one or teach a class.

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# CFLC VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: RUPERTE HAMILTON



Ruperte Hamilton is one of our Literacy Council super-volunteers. During his time spent as a police officer in Washington D.C., Ruperte saw how low literacy skills can influence other social issues such as crime and poverty.

In 2014 he began tutoring one-on-one for the Adult Literacy Program, and has demonstrated exceptional patience and dedication to each of his students. Ruperte also serves as an evening receptionist when needed, during which time he helps with building coverage and small fix-it projects. Ruperte volunteers at many of the Literacy Council's events, assisting with set-up and clean-up, as well as working on our bulk mail and outreach projects.

The staff members of Cape Fear Literacy Council are deeply grateful for Ruperte. He is not only dedicated to helping with every aspect of our organization, but he's truly a member of our CFLC family.

## VOLUNTEERS: GET INVOLVED

### We Can, Because YOU Do

We ask a lot of our volunteers ... and you always come through. Our volunteers work with us to produce several major events, represent us throughout our community to raise awareness, help complete multiple mailing campaigns ... and so much more! We could not be more appreciative of our incredible volunteers. Each moment you spend giving hands-on support to our organization helps the adults we serve move one step closer to their goals. As our partners in literacy, YOU are a great part of helping our students say, "Now, I can."

### CORPORATE SERVICE PROJECTS

Co-workers who serve and volunteer together for CFLC projects and events have a great team-building experience. We rely on crews of volunteers to support our three major events, to organize work days to improve our campus and grounds, and to facilitate outreach efforts to increase visibility in the community. **Are you ready to find a service partnership opportunity for your corporate group?** Contact us today to become a CFLC Partner in Literacy.

### SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER!

Contact us TODAY at  
[info@cfliteracy.org](mailto:info@cfliteracy.org) or 910-251-0911



### FREE ORIENTATION: CFLC 101

We depend on many volunteers in both of our programs and to provide administrative support. Learn more about getting involved by attending one of our free, monthly volunteer orientation sessions, "CFLC 101," in which we describe who we serve and how we do it. Meet our program staff and tour our campus. Call us at 910-251-0911 or visit us online at [cfliteracy.org](http://cfliteracy.org) to register for CFLC 101 today!

JUNE 6 (W)	NIGHT 6 PM
JULY	—
AUGUST 7 (T)	MORNING 11 AM
SEPTEMBER 10 (M)	AFTERNOON 1 PM



# EVENT UPDATE: 30TH SPELLING BEE



Congratulations to **Cape Fear Rotary Club**, the winners of our 30th Spelling Bee for Adults! We couldn't have done it without announcer Zach Hanner of TheatreNow, Emcees Si Cantwell of the StarNews and Frances Weller of WECT, a fantastic panel of judges, and all of our volunteers!

Thank you to all of our sponsors and teams, including crowd favorite for best costumes: *The Spellage People* of Greater Wilmington Business Journal! See their awesome costumes and additional Bee photos on the web at [starnewsonline.com](http://starnewsonline.com)



IF YOU HAVE NEVER ATTENDED THIS AWESOME EVENT,  
YOU MAY BE WONDERING ... WHAT'S THE BUZZZ WITH THE BEE?

## IT'S FUN WITH A PURPOSE!

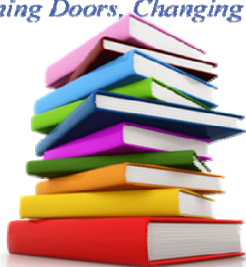
The Literacy Council's Spelling Bee supports programs for adults throughout the Cape Fear region. Our services are helping people to obtain their GEDs, become US Citizens, and get better jobs. Success in literacy truly changes lives—we see this every day!

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

Registered teams of 4 adults come together and spell in this fun competition. Teams are not eliminated in the regular rounds; scores are kept, and teams with the highest scores go to the final round. There are several prizes and special awards for teams to win and audience participation games for our guests to play.

## BEE THERE!

Gather your team, watch for our 2019 Spelling Bee Save The Date, and get ready for an evening of great fun for a great cause.



# Please Join Us!

## 2017 LITERACY LUNCHEON

**THURSDAY, JUNE 14, 2018**

*11:30 AM - 1:00 PM, Pine Valley United Methodist Church*

### LIMITED TICKETS REMAIN

FOR THIS FUNDRAISER TO SUPPORT ADULT EDUCATION

[www.cfliteracy.org](http://www.cfliteracy.org)

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*Suggested Donation \$100 per person*

*Featuring our keynote speaker,  
best-selling local author*

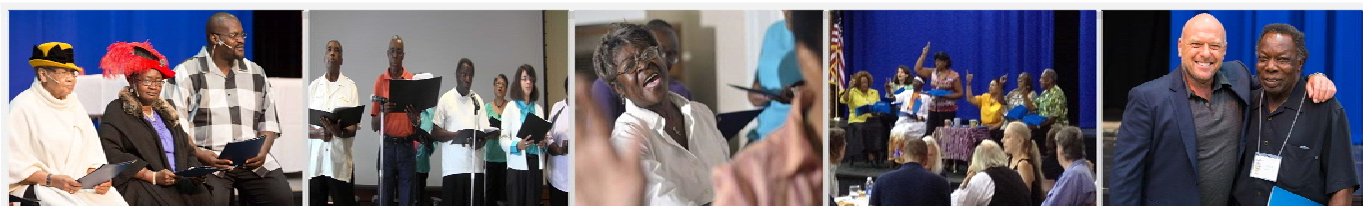
**WILEY CASH!**

Our 2018 keynote speaker, author Wiley Cash, is the New York Times best-selling author of the novels **The Last Ballard**, **A Land More Kind Than Home**, and **This Dark Road to Mercy**.



### DON'T MISS THE NINTH SEASON OF READERS' THEATER!

Guests will be entertained and inspired by this year's presentation, an original performance of "From Wilmington to Wimbledon," highlighting the life and achievements of tennis great Althea Gibson. Ms. Gibson became the first black athlete to cross the color line of international tennis, and became a legend in both tennis and golf.





# 2017 CFLC HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

*We goofed! The Donor List printed in our Annual Report was incomplete.  
We apologize, and sincerely thank ALL of our 2017 donors, listed here.*

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# SAVE THE DATE

## WINTER IS COMING

THE CAPE FEAR LITERACY COUNCIL'S  
33<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL GALA



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2018  
6:30PM

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