

# » THE LANTERN «

ORLEANS COUNTY ADULT LEARNING SERVICES – "LIGHTING THE WAY TO LEARNING"

Volume 4 Issue 2

DECEMBER 2010



OCALS welcomes its newest AmeriCorps member:  
*Kristine MacDonald.*

AmeriCorps is a network of local, state and national

service programs committed to meeting needs in education, public safety, health and environment. Members serve with non-profits, public agencies, faith-based and community organizations. AmeriCorps and OCALS are currently working together to address the literacy needs of Orleans County. As an AmeriCorps representative Kristine will be tutoring; she will also be introducing our family literacy program at the Albion School System. OCALS goal is to recruit tutors and parents in need of literacy assistance in the Albion school system. Kristine will be promoting OCALS program by sending out flyers, attending PTSA or related meetings in the interest of recruitment, and learning what needs they have that can be assisted by our Family Literacy Program.



Hello, my name is Kristine MacDonald. I am currently enrolled at Genesee Community

College; my major is Liberal Arts and Science: Teacher Education Transfer. I enrolled in college in the summer of 2008, soon after earning my General Education Degree. I enjoyed the American Sign Language class so well that I was hooked on learning! My original goal was to earn my GED and find a job. College changed all of that; I cannot imagine my life without continuing my education satisfying the goals I set for myself. My family is very proud of me; that is additional encouragement to keep moving forward. I will graduate in the summer of 2011 earning my Associates Degree and my Early

Childhood Education Certificate. I have applied to Roberts Wesleyan College for the fall semester. My ultimate goal is to teach Preschool or Kindergarten, Roberts Wesleyan has the just the program.

I joined AmeriCorps when I learned about it though a dear friend of mine, Mrs. Mary Lee Knights. She offered information about the OCALS program; I became interested after learning about the family literacy program OCALS offers. I am currently still in the tutor training phase with Penny Nice. I enjoy the time I spend with Penny; she is teaching me the process of teaching others reading and writing skills. I am looking forward to working with families who are interested in learning to read with their children. I think this opportunity will be very beneficial to my future plans of becoming an early childhood educator.

## Reading Assessment for Adult Learners:

November Tutor Training Workshops were held at Oak Orchard Estates Office on November 9 and 10.

*Tuesday, November 9: Understanding Reading Assessment*  
*Wednesday, November 10: Assessment and Instructional Planning*

All tutor training workshops are FREE. Special in-services and workshops are provided four times per year. OCALS also provides one-to-one training in specific subjects chosen by the tutor. For more information on tutor training please contact Penny Nice at [dpnice.nicefarms@gmail.com](mailto:dpnice.nicefarms@gmail.com).

OCALS currently has two volunteers taking the on-line ProLiteracy America Tutor Training Courses. When their courses are completed these volunteers will be available for tutor training also, under the direction of our lead trainer, Penny Nice.

## ALBION LITERACY ZONE WELCOME CENTER

Orleans County will have a new and exciting service program available soon for qualifying residents.

**Albion Literacy Zone's mission is to promote pathways out of poverty through education, employment, and support services for public assistance applicants.**

A Coalition has been formed between Orleans/Niagara BOCES, Monroe 2-Orleans BOCES, Orleans County Department of Social Services, and Orleans County Job Development Agency. This coalition is working on establishing a comprehensive program for public assistance applicants and recipients that will include an education and career plan. The goal is to provide Pathways out of Poverty for residents living in the Literacy Zone in Albion, NY

OCALS will participate in this program by providing space at their future headquarters in the new Swan Library building in Albion for meetings, tutoring and tutor training services as needed. OCALS is proud to be a partner of the Coalition and its' Albion Literacy Zone Welcome Center. OCALS is committed to providing free literacy services for all those in need in Orleans County.

***If any member of OCALS would like to be specifically involved in this new program with Albion Literacy Zone please contact Rose Ruck at 585-590-1292.***



*Deb Dilker has been dedicated to the literacy cause for many years. She has worked with OCALS in various capacities throughout those years. She has published numerous articles pertaining to literacy. Although she has extensive tutor training experience, she is presently taking ProLiteracy America's on-line tutor training courses.*

**The Key to a Happy Life is Education and Increased Literacy**

I'm convinced of the truth of this statement. The economy will ebb and flow, life will have its ups and downs, we will all grow older, but there is one thing that can never be taken from us: increased learning and education. I've been fortunate to have worked in Higher Education for 30 plus years, and have seen first-hand the truth of what education and learning can do for you.

But what about those who are forgotten? What about those who do not know how to obtain this, or are unsure of themselves and their abilities? Having worked with the caring individuals of *Orleans County Adult Learning Services* for several years, and seeing how they foster and seek education and growth for needy individuals, I can honestly point you in the direction of this organization; whether you are interested in becoming tutor or student.

Currently, I am near completion of the ProLiteracy Trainer Certification program, which will give me the knowledge to help not only learners, but tutors. The experience I am gaining by pursuing this Training Certification

will be a great benefit to OCALS. Together, we can achieve the best possible results. From networking with other agencies, to creating training workshops that will enable our tutors to establish a successful learning environment for their students, to fine tuning their tutor skills to meet the new challenges and expectations of society, I believe we can make a difference.

As an OCALS' tutor trainer I am always striving to become more aware of the changing needs of the residents of Orleans County, to ensure that we can meet or exceed their expectations to give both learner and tutor a sense of pride and accomplishment. I would like to see mini workshops for the public: from home budgeting ideas to job seeking skills to fine tuning your computer skills.

In closing, please send me an email if you have an idea for a workshop, a suggestion, or would simply like to give a comment. I check my email on a regular basis and promise to return all messages.

***"No child left behind. No adult left behind."***

***In literacy for the residents of Orleans County....***

*Deborah Bernstine-Dilker*

[ddilker@brockport.edu](mailto:ddilker@brockport.edu)



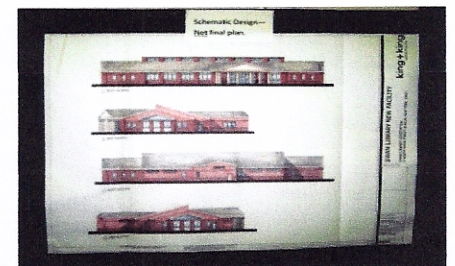
**OCALS ANNUAL DINNER MEETING.....**

was held Sept. 9, 2010 at St Mary/St Mark Social Center in Holley. There was great food and companionship, a short business meeting, and an interesting presentation given by Marjorie Buck on her time spent working with the Amuzgo speaking people of Mexico. Mary Lee Knights led us in a "Sing Along". She was also the winner of our Basket Raffle.



*Dinner is Served*

A schematic design of the new Swan Library was shown by Susan Rudnicki.



The tutoring room at the new library will provide OCALS with security for our literacy program and convenience for our members and the community. Our tutors will have access to the tutoring room whenever needed, and all of our books and materials will be bar coded so they will be available through the library catalog and can be checked out. The cost of OCALS' room is \$25,000, paid over a period of five years. Contributions are being accepted by OCALS to help fund the acquisition of this much-needed tutoring room.

***At this time OCALS would like to express its' gratitude to Jean Gates for her outstanding contribution of \$5000 towards this room at the new Swan Library!***



## Tips for GOAL-DIRECTED Reading Instruction

Presented at the November Training:  
"Reading Assessment and Instructional Planning"

- Encourage adults to identify personal reading-related goals.
- Choose appropriate assessments of reading components to identify individual strengths and needs.
- Work with learners to assess skills, and make sure they understand the assessment results.
- Create individual learning plans based on assessed needs and goals and ensure that the adults understand and are committed to the plans.
- Provide explicit instruction as needed to achieve reading goals.
- Make frequent connections between skills work and goal-related applications, including practice with authentic materials at an appropriate level of challenge.
- Teach adults how to transfer classroom learning to other life contexts and provide tools for continuing to learn outside the classroom.

(Resource: Applying Research in Reading Instruction for Adults: First Steps for Teachers 2005, National Institute for Literacy)

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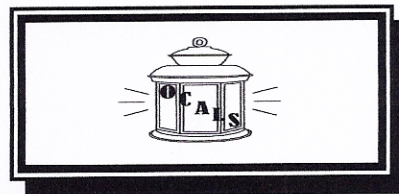
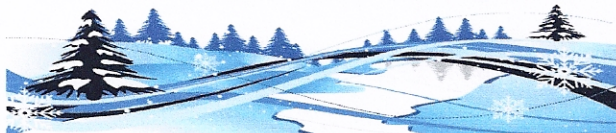


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## **LIBRARY**

### **"LIGHTING THE WAY TO LEARNING"**

**OCALS Library** is located in St. Mary/St Mark Social Center, Holley, NY. Call Jeanne Flow (585 802-4720) or email [jeanneflow@rochester.rr.com](mailto:jeanneflow@rochester.rr.com) to review or sign out library materials.

Attention OCALS' members: All library materials are now listed on our website under the "Library" tab. There are three spreadsheets available:

1. *Reading/Writing/English*  
*Resource Guides/Tutor Training Materials*  
*Family Literacy*
2. *Social Studies/Math/Science*
3. *Self-help/Psychology/Novels*

The spreadsheets show how many copies of books or materials are available. If there is only one copy you will be able to tell if it has already been signed out by someone else. If you haven't already seen our OCALS' website, please use the following web address for access:

***[ocalsfamilyliteracy.com](http://ocalsfamilyliteracy.com)***

Some of the information on our website:

- OCALS' library
- Contact information
- Tutor information
- Student information
- OCALS' brochures
- Past newsletters
- Literacy Links
- OCALS' slideshow
- Upcoming events

And more.....

**OCALS is pleased to have access to another location for tutoring purposes. Carolyn Ricker has recently opened a new book store in Albion and has a room that can be used for the benefit of OCALS' tutors. *Bindings Book Store* is located at 28 West Bank Street, Albion, NY. The store hours are Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday: 10 AM - 6 PM; Friday: 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM; Saturday: 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM. If any tutor would like to use this room please contact Carolyn at 585-283-4498 or email: [carolyn@bindingsbookstore.com](mailto:carolyn@bindingsbookstore.com).**





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## Orleans County Adult Learning Services

St. Mary/St. Mark Parish Office

11 South Main St.

Holley, NY 14470

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

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"THE LANTERN" is a publication of Orleans County Adult Learning Services.

Submissions from Staff, Students and Tutors are invited and encouraged. Please send submissions to:

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