



# Adult Learning Center News

Winter 2017

Volume XIV, Issue 1



Giving adults in Strafford County a second chance, a fresh start or a new opportunity.

## Director's Message - Democracy in Action!

*Deanna Strand*

### Letters to the Governor

This December, adult students in every class, academic skills; high school diploma; ESOL; and HiSET prep gathered to write letters to the new Governor congratulating him on his election, expressing appreciation for adult education and asking for his support.

Students wrote about why they came to



adult ed, what they had accomplished while here and what they hope to do afterward.

Students practiced digital literacy skills as well as advocacy skills.

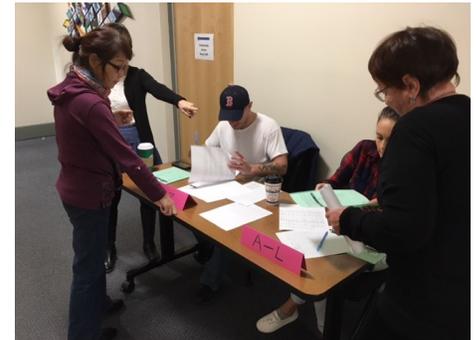


Mock Election

In November, as a part of the New England VERA (Voter Education and Registration Action) campaign, a mock election was held. Every aspect of it was realistic, from the check-in process, where voters had to show an ID and

verify their name on the list of "registered" voters, to the actual ballot and the voting carrels borrowed from Dover City Hall.

Voters even got a flag sticker with the words, "I voted!" on it. In the weeks leading up to the election, students studied the issues and the positions of each candidate on them.



Now, when it comes time to vote for real (and many did for the first time!) or to write to an elected official, they will all feel more comfortable and familiar with the experience.

### Be a part of our success:

- ◆ Serve on a committee
- ◆ Become a volunteer tutor
- ◆ Join our Board of Directors
- ◆ Take an enrichment class
- ◆ Teach an enrichment class
- ◆ Become a Friend of the Center by making a donation
- ◆ Include DALC in your estate planning and become a member of the Helen Phipps Heritage Society
- ◆ Become a corporate or event sponsor



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### Our Board

Tyler Parkhurst - President  
 Michael Kupfer - Vice President  
 Martha Caswell - Secretary  
 Shauna Brown - Treasurer  
 Christine Albert  
 Christopher Burns  
 Morton Cherim  
 Maria Faskianos  
 Felicia LaBranche  
 Diane Lambert  
 Vincent McGroary  
 Dennis Munson  
 Don Nary  
 Bob Renshaw  
 Patricia Silberblatt  
 David Watters  
 Ellen Westbrook  
 Rosemary Zurawel

### In Their Own Words...

#### Differences between the U.S.A. and Nepal - by Sita Nepali

In America, people close the door all the time, but Nepalis close the door sometimes when they are going outside. American people drink coffee, Nepali people like tea. American people go out for dinner and lunch most of the time. Nepali people sometimes go out for lunch, but not all the time because they like all of the family to stay home. We make food for each other. American people do not walk. In Nepal, people walk because they use the public bus. The American constitution is stronger than the Nepali constitution. Most Americans have their own vehicles, and Nepali people have their own land and homes. Nepal is a small country, and America is a bigger country. America is politically and financially more powerful than Nepal.

#### In the US and Thailand by Pupae Ricciotti

In the US when the mother and father are older, they take care of themselves. But in Thailand when parents are older, the children always take care of their parents. In the US each family member has a car. In Thailand one family has 1 or 2 cars. In the US people don't eat rice every meal. In Thailand the people eat rice at every meal. In the US there are different seasons and there is snow. In Thailand there is one season. The weather is always hot. We don't have snow.

*In Our Own Words...* is a collection of original writings. In poetry, personal reflection and artwork, students reveal their diversity, as well as their commonality as learners.

## 2017 Friends of the Center

#### Founder's Circle (\$500+)

Patrick & Karen Duffy  
 Art & Debbie Tasker  
 Peggy Kieschnick & Philip Hatcher  
 Rosemary Zurawel Jahnke  
 Jim Verschueren & Carlo Nittoli  
 John & Julia Verploeg  
 David Watters

#### Advocate (\$250+)

Denise L. Adams  
 Michelle Baussmann  
 Tiffany & Stephen Brand  
 Abraham Burtman Charity Trust  
 Maria Faskianos  
 Thomas R. Jost  
 C. Valerie Leavitt  
 Joe & Maggie Moore  
 Riverstone Resources LLC  
 Pamela Shaw & Doug Webb  
 Patricia Silberblatt  
 Cathy & Leonard Small  
 David & Maureen Staples  
 Ellen Westbrook  
 David & Belinda White

#### Benefactor (\$100+)

John E. Ballard  
 Karen Bowker  
 Bryan Campbell  
 Paul & Martha Cox and Family  
 Jerry & Trish Daley  
 Andrea L. Dupere  
 Marsha Foster

Robert & Marjorie Goldberg

Sam U. Haddain  
 William & Jean Irvine  
 Matthew Lahr  
 Holly Littlefield  
 Susan Long  
 Kathy MacDonald  
 Mary Jo Mahoney  
 Jack & Judy Mettee  
 Donna & Bruce McAdam  
 James McNamara  
 Lucy & Charles Putnam  
 Pamela Raley  
 Jenny Sheehan  
 Anne & Bruce Smith  
 Martin & Patricia Sorensen  
 Deanna & Paul Strand  
 Tasker Funeral Home  
 Diane J. Thayer  
 Douglas K. Wyckoff

#### Friend (\$50+)

Christine Albert  
 Cathleen Beaudoin  
 Shari A. Brinson  
 Burns, Bryant, Cox, Rockefeller & Durkin P.A.  
 William & Janet Caddle  
 Mort & Nancy Cherim.  
 Matthew Costanzo  
 Judith Custer  
 Elsie & Baldwin Domingo  
 Joseph & Paula Dubois

William & Mary Jo Dudley

Dupont's Service Center  
 Tom & Aline Goss  
 Vera & Jeffrey Haus  
 Leigh & Lynn Ivey, Jr.  
 Dr. Lawrence Kane  
 Betty Lathrop  
 Robert McCabe & Elizabeth Fischer  
 Donna Melillo  
 Don & Debora Nary  
 Bev O'Brien  
 Leslie Pasternack  
 Sandie Phipps & Tom Casey  
 John & Pamela Shore  
 Gail & Roy Tanner  
 Stephen Varney  
 Yifeng Xiong

#### Other Supporters

Active Retirement Association  
 Lucie Callahan  
 Joseph & Kelli Cicirelli  
 Cathleen Coakley  
 Stephen Goren  
 Denise Hart  
 Hanna Jacoby  
 Aimee M. Jones  
 James & Frances Kageleiry  
 Felicia LaBranche  
 Laurie Legard  
 McEaney Survey Assoc., Inc.  
 Jessica & Evan Stowell

**Helen Phipps Heritage Society:**  
 (members have remembered DALC in their estate planning)

Ann Schultz  
 Martin and Pat Sorenson  
 Deanna Strand  
 Jim Verschueren

#### Donations Received

**In Memory Of:**  
 John Charron

#### Donations Received

**In Honor Of:**  
 Cameron Dupere



#### Being a Friend Means:

- Students realize their dreams
- Children receive care
- Books/materials are plentiful
- Non-readers have a tutor
- Inmates develop job skills
- Immigrants learn English
- Teen dropouts have a second chance

**Denise Reddington**, one of the Adult Basic Education teachers at DALC, gave a presentation to adult educators from around the country at the annual National HiSET Conference in San Francisco in December, where she shared her secrets for math success.



Denise Reddington

HiSET replaced the GED as the test used to determine high school equivalency in New Hampshire, Maine and Massachusetts.

Reddington's presentation was called "Meeting the Needs of HiSET Math Educators and Test Takers."

Over the past two years, Denise and several other New Hampshire teachers have written a math guidebook based on the adult education college and career readiness standards (CCRS).

The guidebook contains more than 250 pages of definitions, teaching topics, and illustrations. At the conference, Reddington shared this book with teachers nationwide. She also talked about how New Hampshire has provided staff development to its HiSET teachers. HiSET math scores in New Hampshire have been some of the highest in the country.

Reddington has been with DALC for more than 20 years; she is a mentor teacher and a staff development consultant for the N.H. Bureau of Adult Education.

Staying with the math theme, our own **Kim Hanson** is now the State of New Hampshire "Train the Trainer" instructor for mathematics. Kim went to Tennessee last



Kim Hanson

April to participate in a national conference concerning College and Career Readiness Standards for Mathematics.

Hanson is very familiar with math standards that start in kindergarten and increase in complexity all the way through college. With Hanson behind the scenes, adult education teachers and students are becoming proficient in mathematics standards for life.

## A Donor's Tale: DALC Board approves NHCF agency fund

A decade ago, just as the Dover Adult Learning Center prepared to move to the McConnell Center, the board of directors launched a campaign called *Come Help Us Grow*. Your support of this major gift campaign helped ensure long term sustainability and future growth of DALC.

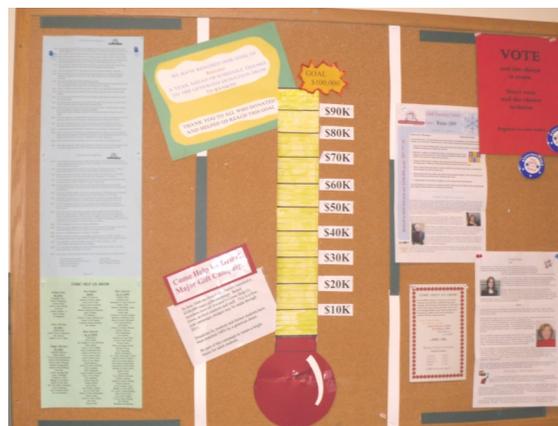
The five-year campaign successfully reached its \$100,000 goal six months ahead of schedule. About half of the funds raised in the *Come Help Us Grow!* campaign were used to renovate our space and make the move to a secure home in the McConnell Community Center. The remainder of the campaign and additional funds accrued over the years, now totaling \$100,000, have become seed money for a new fund that will be a permanent investment that will generate revenue for adult education in Strafford County long into the future.

In December, the DALC Board of Directors approved the creation of an agency fund to be administered by the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation.

NHCF agency funds help ensure that nonprofits will be able to fulfill their mission now and well into the future. NHCF manages all aspects of the fund including investing the assets in a diversified portfolio and distributing grants to the organization on an annual basis.

The unrestricted revenue generated by the fund will allow us flexibility to try new things and to grow the organization. Any excess growth gets reinvested, and the annual distribution grows.

Another measure the board is considering is whether to dedicate bequests received through the Helen Phipps Heritage Society to the agency fund. Helen became the Director of Dover Adult Basic Education in the 1970's and went on to found Dover Adult Learning Center. The Heritage Society was founded in her memory and accepts bequests through wills, insurance policies, trusts, annuities, IRAs or retirement plans. <http://www.doveradultlearning.org/support/heritage-society>



The *Come Help Us Grow* campaign raised \$100,000 in under five years.



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www.doveradultlearning.org  
603-742-1030



# Red's Shoe Barn

## Race for a Better Community **April 9th 2017**



Save the date Sunday, April 9!

Race starts at 10 a.m. at

Dover City Hall

Register or pledge at

[www.doveradultlearningcenter.org](http://www.doveradultlearningcenter.org) &

<http://www.reds-race.com/>

*Located in the McConnell Community Center, Dover Adult Learning Center of Strafford County helps adults in the Strafford County area enhance their life-coping skills and improve their lives through basic education, job training, high school completion and enrichment classes. We help our students become more effective lifelong learners, family members, workers and citizens.*