



NEWSLETTER

☎ Central (925) 927-3250 ☎ East (925) 754-8317
☎ West (510) 307-9937 ☎ FAX (925) 646-6040
ccclib.org/psc

March/April 2019

A Message from Megan

It is with great pleasure that I write my final “Message from Megan” and announce that Project Second Chance (PSC) has a new program manager! Thank you to everyone—PSC friends, tutors, and students—for your support, encouragement, and patience over the past seven months while I served as PSC’s program manager.

Elaine Kociolek will be joining the library as Adult Literacy Program Manager on Monday, March 4th. She comes to us with a great deal of experience. She has a Bachelor’s degree in English and a Master’s degree in education. For the past four years, she has been the associate director of a tutoring center at a local California State University campus. Elaine has also been an English teacher and a coordinator of an assessment and community engagement program. One of her colleagues wrote, “Elaine Kociolek is a tireless supporter of students and student success. She has an ability to move from ground level and pop up to 30,000 feet. An excellent writer, Elaine and I collaborated on several projects...as well as a number of grant proposals. Elaine is a natural team leader and go-getter. If given a project, she brings it home! A great speaker and presenter, Elaine is the type of representative you hope to send to meet community partners. And best of all, Elaine is just plain nice.” With an endorsement like that, I have no doubt that Elaine is going to be fantastic!

PSC will be hosting a “Coffee and Donuts” reception for Elaine on Thursday, March 14th, and I hope you will all be able to join us. For more details, please read the announcement on the right.

- *Megan*



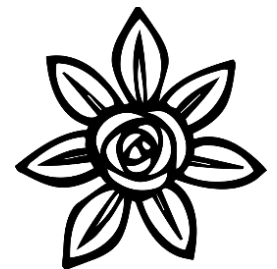
Coffee and Donuts Welcome Reception

Thursday, March 14
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Pleasant Hill Library

Let’s give Elaine, our newest program manager, a big PSC welcome! Join us for a morning of cheerful introductions, lively conversation, warm coffee...and, yes, donuts! Drop in anytime; there is no need to RSVP. When you arrive, be sure to ring the door at the Pleasant Hill PSC office’s back entrance, or if you park in the front of the Pleasant Hill Library, call us at 925-927-3250 so that we can let you in. See you there!

ESL Tutor Support Meeting (for tutors only)

Wednesday, April 17
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Pleasant Hill Library
RSVP by Monday, April 15



Bring your questions, concerns, tales of tutoring successes or struggles, or simply your curiosity to this annual meeting with staff and fellow ESL tutors. Before an open discussion on whatever tutoring issues are on your minds, staff will offer information on:

- *Journey to Success*, a new text book series
- five formulas for non-poets to write short poems
- using *Easy English Times* to teach “W” questions
- Adult Learner Leadership Institute, a free weekend leadership course for adult literacy students
- book recommendations for the Library’s “Read to 2020” challenge
- PSC’s BINGO challenge

Student Achievements

Success Stories -

Students are reading:



Ferozan M. – *A Thousand Splendid Suns*

Velia R. – *The Secret Garden*

Pleasant Hill Book Club – *Who Moved My Cheese?*

Leslie Satin tells us that **Ferozan M.** read a summary of *A Christmas Carol*, went to see the play live (her first play), and then wrote an essay on the experience. Wow!

Judy H. and her tutor Bev Farrell just finished the Timeless Classics version of *A Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens. Bev says Judy really enjoyed it but now they are ready for something with “not so much blood.” Look forward to hearing what’s next, Judy!

Way to go, **Parvin M.**! Tutor Jane Copps and PSC staff were excited to see that the letter Parvin wrote to the *Easy English Times* was published. Awesome!

Work completed:

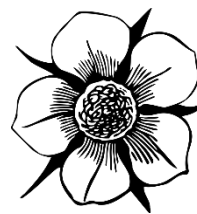
Corey L.	with Susan Iwamoto – <i>Wilson Step 1</i>
Fawzia A.	with Susan Rosenberg – <i>Challenger 4</i>
Leslie K.	with Fran Sticha – <i>Endeavor 4</i>
Ju C.	with Carleen Goeckel – <i>Endeavor 5</i>
Alan P.	with Megan Brown – <i>Wilson Step 8</i>

Celebrate National Poetry Month in April

Here are a few of the many ways you can celebrate April as national poetry month:

1. Read a poem by Maya Angelou or Rupi Kaur or a book in verse like *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Make sure to record what you’ve read in the *Read to 2020* library challenge.
2. Sign up to receive one previously unpublished poem a day. Visit poets.org/poetsorg/poem-day, enter your email address, and enjoy.
3. Begin drafting a poem for *In Our Words*. If you want templates or ideas for form poems, talk to Project Second Chance staff.

WANTED: Student Writings for *In Our Words*



- ❖ 1–3 submissions per student
- ❖ 1–400 words each submission
- ❖ personal essay, poem, recipe, letter, journal entry...whatever you want to share
- ❖ Due Friday, May 17
- ❖ Book released at the Annual Recognition Event



High-Five Bingo Tips!

If your learner is playing High-Five Bingo, you may have come across some items on the bingo card that are unfamiliar. Here are some tips to help:

Discover & Go is a library service to get FREE tickets to many Bay Area museums. See cclib.org and find more information under the “Museum Passes” link on the left side of the homepage.

Libby is a free app that can be downloaded from the Google/Apple store or similar. Enter your CCC library card to begin downloading audiobooks (or eBooks).

News for You is a literacy-friendly newspaper with exercises that you can find at the PSC office or use our online subscription. Ask staff for the online password.

Podcasts are like radio programs on just about every topic you can think of. See how to get started at: www.wired.com/story/podcasts-beginners-guide/

Rapid Reads are high-interest adult novels written with low-literacy-friendly language. Type “Rapid Reads” into the library’s catalog and you will see a list of titles. They are good!

Rosetta Stone is the famous language learning software. Visit cclib.org and find a link under Research>Articles & Databases on the left side of the homepage. Be sure to watch the helpful short video to understand how to setup and sign in.

Timeless Classics are famous English novels written at a 4th–6th grade reading level. The series includes exercise booklets and audio CDs. Ask PSC for a list of titles.

Tutor Tips



MedlinePlus: A Health Literacy Resource

by Megan

If your student set the goal of reading health education information, be sure to check out this great resource.

MedlinePlus (www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus), a National Institutes of Health website, provides free information on different diseases and other health conditions and concerns. Produced by the National Library of Medicine, the world's largest medical library, the articles are intentionally written in "language you can understand."

In the bottom left-hand corner of the website, there is a link to "Easy-to-Read (ETR) Materials." This alphabetical listing of articles covers everything from acne to mesothelioma to women's health. Some of these articles are PDFs and some are links to websites. A small number of the articles, including those on anatomy, asthma, and dental health, are actually interactive tutorials. All articles are written in simple language (at or below an eighth grade level). Some articles are accompanied by diagrams and illustrations, and some have suggestions for questions to ask a doctor.

MedlinePlus also has a "Videos & Tools" area of their website. It includes videos of surgeries and animated videos on various health topics. There are also two tutorials: one to learn how medical terms are made up of abbreviations and word parts (roots, prefixes, and suffixes) and one to understand whether health information found on the internet is reliable. It also provides a listing of self-tests and calculators that can be used in evaluating one's own health. Finally, there are games, lesson plans, and activity sheets on a few health topics; some of the games may be childish, so preview them before using them in a lesson with your student.

Here are some additional ETR health resources:

National Institute of Mental Health:

<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/easy-to-read.shtml>

The Plain Language Thesaurus for Health Communications:

https://www.plainlanguage.gov/media/Thesaurus_V-10.doc

The University of Michigan's Plain Language Medical Dictionary:

<https://www.lib.umich.edu/taubman-health-sciences-library/plain-language-medical-dictionary>



Welcome New Tutors!

Alan Kaplan	Cindie Levine
David Marton	Elaine Hannah
Fred Vierra	Laura Huie
Louise Weiler	Sylvia Bustos
Lynn Donoghue	Maye-Lynn Gon-Soneda
Pam MacCallister	Priscila Anaya
Sally Schroers	Sherry Ashley
Stacey Rosales	

East County Corner

With the variety of times and locations that students and tutors can meet, it might be helpful to know alternatives to the Brentwood and main Antioch libraries.



One such "hidden gem" is Prewett Library at 4703 Lone Tree Way in Antioch. Though small, it's a great place to meet midway between the Brentwood and Antioch Libraries. Prewett, also known as the GenOn Gateway Center for Learning, is in the Antioch Community Center across from Deer Valley High School. It only has a few tables, but the lobby has five tables. When the weather is nice, an outdoor sitting area with ten tables might be a fun place to meet. There are also computers, so if your student has a library card you can tap into websites that can help with phonics, vocabulary, and reading.

Hours are Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday, 12 to 8 p.m.; and Friday and Saturday, 12 to 5 p.m. However, Prewett might not be ideal if you meet around after-school hours as both the library and lobby are crowded. Please ask Leslie for a tour and introduction to the highly supportive staff!