



Literacy Council of Carroll County

225 Clifton Blvd. Westminster, MD 21784 410-857-0766 February, 2018

www.literacyccmd.org

Literacy Council at the Detention Center

For 10 years Paula Monroe-Davidson and Allen Skierski have run the women’s educational program at the Carroll County Detention Center. An educational program for men is run by Carroll Community College. Because of detention center protocols and rules, men and women do not attend classes together. Within this division based on male-female, there are additional divisions of the students in line with detention center rules. The percentage of women at the detention center is far less than the percentage of men so the educational money is used where the largest number of students can be reached. Paula and Allen saw the need and volunteered their time through the Literacy Council to establish this program for women.

Both Paula and Allan come from educational backgrounds. Paula specializes in the language arts while Allen does the math classes. Paula laughingly claims she has learned so much more math listening to Allen teach. Math she never thought she could understand. They both share classes in the social sciences.

Paula and Allen rely on the materials available at the Literacy Council to help motivate their students. Their students’ educational levels can range from late elementary school through college level. A blending of these different levels can be challenging but with Paula and Allen’s dedication it becomes possible.

The mutual respect shown to all people at the Detention Center also makes the blending of educational levels possible. This mutual respect extends through all those associated with the Detention Center and is the result of the leadership of Warden George Hardinger.

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**Reminder: Next English Conversation Class
February 26, 2018
255 Clifton Blvd., Westminster, MD 21157**

Garment Bags Donations Needed

The new Carroll County Veterans Program is in need of approximately 30 garment bags. If you have any that you would like to donate you may bring them to the Literacy Council offices and we will see the Veterans Program gets them.

The Kahlert Matching Donation program was a huge success.

Thank you to everyone who donated.

What a wonderful community Carroll County is!!



**Save the Date
April 19, 2018
Annual Spelling Bee
John Street Quarters**





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(Literacy Council at the Detention Center – continued)

To attend one of these classes a woman needs to sign up a day in advance. Paula and Allen have run classes for as few as 1 person and as many 12 people which was 50% of the women at the Center. Because classes often conflict with court hearings, attorney meetings or other requirements of the Center attendance can be sporadic. At one time, the classes had been moved to the early evening and attendance was much higher. Staffing shortages now mandate that classes be held at 9:00 AM.

What happens to the women with whom Paula and Allen work? Upon release, some continue their education at CCC, some have their names in paper for other crimes or drug related activities and some die. But some like the former student Paula met at the grocery store with her young child are leading very conventional lives and are pledging that they will guide their children away from the mistakes they made.

New Board Member

Lisa Picker

Lisa Picker is the Director of Communications for Carroll County Public Library. She holds an undergraduate degree in Art and a masters degree in Contemporary Communications.

Lisa has over 15 years of experience in communication, including marketing, public relations, graphic design, social media, event management, development and strategic planning.

Her mother, now retired, was a librarian for over 20 years, and she feels she was destined to work with libraries. She served two terms on the Carroll County Farm Museum Board of Governors and is an active member of the Bonds Meadow Rotary Club, where she is President Elect. Her heart and spare time belong to a rescued greyhound named Etta and three cats: Midas, Penny and Alice.

Thank you

Jillian Dittrich

The staff and Board of Directories would like to thank Jillian Dittrich for her service to the Board as Secretary and Chairperson of the Spelling Bee. Her input was always appreciated; her notes and minutes were accurate. She will be missed

We wish her success in her job and hope she will continue to volunteer with the Literacy Council as time permits.

And remember, Jillian, we will have our spy watching you --- right, Gene?

Again thank you from all of us.