



Literacy Council of Carroll County

225 Clifton Blvd. Westminster, MD 21784 410-857-0766 February, 2019 www.literacyccmd.org

Our 40th Anniversary

Where were you in 1979?

Sister Rosalia, the principal of St. John's Catholic School, and **Kathryn Sieverts**, a Lutheran laywoman, were meeting to establish The Literacy Council of Carroll County. They saw a need for adult tutoring in a county that was moving from a mostly agricultural economy to a mixed use economy based on agriculture and manufacturing. Judy Ritchie was the first director and established the model of training volunteers in the community to tutor adults who needed to improve their reading, speaking, writing and math skills to take advantage of the new opportunities growing in Carroll County.

In 1988 The Literacy Council moved into their first office at 30 Carroll St thanks to the generosity of Grace Lutheran Church. Later in 1994 the office was moved to a larger space at 95 Carroll St. Today we are located in the non-profit building and have room for offices and tutoring rooms.

Over the ensuing years The Literacy Council has been blessed with very dedicated directors who have carried on the mission of training community members to be tutors. Programs have expanded to add the use of library facilities, incorporate community partnerships for fund raising and establish tutoring in prison settings.

Thank you to our past directors:

Judy Ritchie, Marian Carr, Dee Hines, Carol Sapora, Janet Garcia and Brenda Lewis.

Sam Greenholtz, the current director, notes that the mission has grown over time. As Carroll County has become a more diverse community the tutoring services have had to grow. Many of the current students were not born and bred in Carroll County. They come from various parts of this country or from other countries. Some are adults lacking basic literacy skills and others are college graduates who happen not to speak English at the moment. The program has expanded to work with veterans, workers who have been laid off, people in need of a GED and inmates in prisons. Always, The Council continues to build on its success of connecting one neighbor with another.



SAVE THE DATE

Annual Spelling Bee

April 25, 2019

5:30 until

John Street Station

NEW TIME OF YEAR

Annual Golf Tournament

July 19, 2019

Quail Valley Golf Club





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Meet Mary Daly

High school dropout and president of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco.
(from an interview on PBS News Hour, Dec. 13, 2018)

Mary Daly: I grew up in Missouri. My father was a postal worker. And when I was 15, he lost his job. My mom, she got some part-time work, but not enough. Then both of them fell on ill health. My siblings moved in with my grandparents, and I moved in with a friend.

Interviewer: And you dropped out of school?

Mary Daly: Dropped out of high school because my family imploded and scattered. So I needed to think about, how do I just make a living? So I cobbled together different part-time jobs, working in a donut shop, working in a deli, working at Target, and living with this family who let me stay with them, only charging me \$5 a month.

It was a way to let me keep my dignity, even though they were completely helping me.

Interviewer: There was a mentor who gently nudged, also.

Mary Daly: She didn't say, Mary, you should go to college. She said, maybe you could get a GED.

Interviewer: When you got your GED, your mentor suggested a semester of college.

Mary Daly: I actually never heard of college.

Interviewer: Never heard that there was such a thing as college?

Mary Daly: I didn't know anything past high school. Everyone in my experience had gone to high school and then went and got a job. You might be a postal worker like my father. You might get a union job as a bus driver or go work on the assembly line for McDonnell Douglas, when it was still in Missouri.

Interviewer: So when your mentor suggests it, what did you say?

Mary Daly: Why? And then she says, well, you know, you're good in school. It's good. You will have a lot more opportunities. I tell her I can't afford it. And she takes her checkbook out, and she just writes me a \$216 check. I give it to the bursar and I start my adventure.

Interviewer: Long story short, you graduated from University of Missouri, earned a Ph.D. in economics at Syracuse University and are now the new president of the San Francisco Federal Reserve Bank, responsible for, among other duties, monitoring the economies of the nine Western states and Pacific territories.

Mary Daly: Quite an adventure for a high school dropout.

Need a GED or know someone who might need one? Call us.