



# Volunteers in Tutoring Adult Learners NEWS Summer 2010

Please take our  
VITAL Survey

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Monroe County Public Library  
303 East Kirkwood Avenue  
Bloomington, IN 47408-3534



### Staff

Sue Murphy, Coordinator  
Jacqueline Lovings,  
VITAL Assistant  
Roxane Saidah, Clerk

### VITAL Advisory Council

Amal Altoma  
Sara Bowman  
John Cash, Chair  
Susan Catt  
Sherry Dick  
Brad Hoggatt  
Peggy Nelson  
Anabel Newman

### VITAL Service Hours

Open all hours that the library is open

### Contacting VITAL

v. 812.349.3173  
e. vital@mcpl.info  
[www.mcpl.info/vital](http://www.mcpl.info/vital)

VITAL (second floor)  
Monroe County Public Library  
303 E Kirkwood Avenue  
Bloomington, IN 47408



El Centro, housed at the library, offers services to Spanish speakers.

## Dollar General Literacy Grant



Tutors, do you sometimes feel like a ship without a compass? There's help on the way. VITAL has received a **\$5,400 grant** from the Dollar General Literacy Foundation for a tutor mentor, who will help tutor-learner pairs establish realistic goals and tutoring objectives, and provide guidance in techniques and materials. The mentoring project also will help VITAL establish an ongoing process for measuring outcomes. We are looking forward to using this grant to help tutors help learners more effectively.

## Come see our renovated VITAL space



The finishing touches of our renovated space on the library's second floor are coming together. If you have missed all the commotion, please come by and see VITAL's refurbished space featuring larger tutoring rooms, new carpet, and light switches *right inside* the tutoring rooms. The library will have a celebration early this fall.

## A Learner's Success, a Tutor's Pride

Ruth Jobito, a VITAL learner from Uganda, is working hard with tutor Jackie Leach to meet her goals. She recently passed her U.S. citizenship test. Next up is her GED.

"The tutoring helped me pass my citizenship test," said Ruth. "Jackie explained everything to me with lots of examples. It made sense. She is so friendly and she encourages me."

"It's so wonderful to work with Ruth, who is eager to learn and so easy to teach," responded Jackie. "I am grateful to VITAL for bringing us together and giving me this opportunity."

*Tutors: Has your learner reached a milestone? Let us know. We love to hear about and share learners' accomplishments.*



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## THANKS TO ALL OUR TUTORS AND VOLUNTEERS!

Our learners, their families, and our community benefit from your generosity.

### New Tutors (since January 2010)

Joan Bowden  
Amity Brown  
Loyce Burns  
Tracy Cheun  
Amanda Fisher  
Jill Griffin  
Darci Hawxhurst  
John Heubi  
Ronda Heubi  
Christopher Hoak  
Emily Jackson  
Jeff Kramb  
Jackie Leach  
James Lively  
Elizabeth Morin  
Aleksandrina Pratt  
Mary Kathryn Ryan  
Paul VanGogh  
Mary Anne Ward  
Sarah Warfield  
Dennis Wilson

### Continuing Tutors and Office Volunteers

Esther May Ang  
John Cash  
Alexander Costakis  
Paul Craig  
Jacqueline Danner  
Gerrick De Vane  
Charles Fischer  
Barbara Fisher  
Bieneke Haitjema  
Sara Hoskinson Frommer  
Dawn Jacquard  
Sheri Jordan  
Safina Khanani  
Matt Kinghorn  
Bob Klausmeier  
Karen Laucella  
John Lawson  
Consuelo Lopez-Morillas  
Phyllis Martin  
David Masterson  
Gregory May

Vincent McCall-Neary  
Sally Messing  
Jeanette Miller  
William Morris  
Byron Naum  
Edith Overlease  
Fiona Patin  
Randy Paul  
Joe Paurazas  
Spring Ryding  
Nancy Schmidt  
Valerie Sommer  
Susan Sommerfeld  
Chris Tillman  
L'Abri Tipton  
Carol Tomasic  
Vit Vanicek  
Alexandra Villarreal  
Susan Welsand  
John "Basil" Wentworth  
Marian Young

### Thanks to Our Donors!

VITAL Quiz Bowl raised \$5,025 from team fees and additional support from:  
Perry Township Trustees  
Arthur Murray Dance Studio  
Sara Frommer  
Keith Klein  
Edith Overlease

### Other Gifts

(since January 2010)  
Susan Thrasher  
Memorial gifts in memory of Harry Murphy from:  
Janice Maberry Cox  
Sara Laughlin  
Janet Rash  
Carol Sizer  
As always, special thanks to the Friends of the Library



Please join us in supporting the Friends' campaign to raise \$25,000 to help the library sustain excellence. Library circulation and visits are increasing, but tax support is not. You can donate online at [www.mcpl.info](http://www.mcpl.info).

We also thank you for considering VITAL in your 2010 charitable giving. Donations are tax deductible.

## 2010 VITAL Quiz Bowl raises \$5,025



Thirty-two teams competed in the 27th annual Quiz Bowl April 19-22. Many long-time supporters of VITAL participated, as did some new teams. Congratulations to this year's winning team, **VITAL Statistics**, captained by VITAL volunteer Barbara Fisher. The champions were followed closely by the second-place team, WFHB Community Radio. Our thanks to all of this year's teams for their vast trivia knowledge, artistic flair, imaginative costumes and adorable mascots:

Advice Squad (IU University Division), Arthur Murray, Bloomfield State Bank, Bloomingfoods, Bolivian Eggheads #17, Boston Scientific, CFC Incorporated, E-ville Edge-U-Cators, Fazed Arrays TSC, Harmony School Staff, Harmony School Students, IVY Tech, Jeff's Crew (4H Junior Leaders), Mother Bear's, North Side Story, Perry and the Masons (IU Law Library), Rambunctious Disjunction, Rights Stuff, Rotary Rounders, SCCAP/Head Start, Southern Indiana Scuba Parrot Heads, Stoneys, Team Furniture Exchange, Team Sandwich, Technophiles, The Brew Crew (The Bloomington Brewing Co.), WFHB, Wisers Advisors (IU University Division), Wizards of Oz, WorkOne, and WTIU Super Grovers,

## "Little ABE" Online Reading Program Comes to VITAL

VITAL is an introductory site for the *Little ABE* online reading course designed in cooperation with VITAL Advisory Council member Anabel Newman. Created for basic readers, these 92 very short stories provide users with a mastery of over 2,300 words. The *Little ABE* program can read the text aloud and quiz the learner on new vocabulary. It also offers an online illustrated dictionary.

The program takes only a few minutes to learn and then tutors can use it with their learners. Also, learners can work on their own between tutoring sessions. Because the program tracks the user's progress, tutors can easily follow their learner's improvement over time.

Let us know if you are interested in being trained on *Little ABE*.

## Free Materials

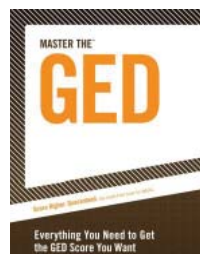
VITAL has a small collection of materials that may be given away to learners and tutors.

Items available include:

- booklets on buying used cars, saving money at home, and health and safety
- *Welcome to the United States: A Guide for New Immigrants* (U.S. Dept. of Citizenship and Immigration)
- publications from the National Institute for Literacy: statistical information and information on the teaching of reading
- workbooks
- fiction and nonfiction paperbacks

Stop by the VITAL Office to look at these and other free tutoring materials.

## New in the VITAL Collection



*Cracking the GED and GED* by Caren Vay Slyke and *Peterson's Master the GED 2010*

*Ready for Adult Phonics* (Levels 1 and 2 on DVD)

Colorful, musical, fast moving way to teach adults English while taking a light-hearted look at the difficulties of the English language. Level 1: The Alphabet, Letter Sounds, Word Families, Sight Words, Diphthongs, Digraphs, Silent Letters, and more. Level 2: Capitalization, Punctuation, Plurals, Contractions, Possessives, Abbreviations, Homonyms, Context, Compound Words, Suffixes and Prefixes, Syllables, Accent, 110 of the Most Common Words, Rule Busters, Reading Comprehension, and more. (Worksheets included on CD)

**SmartReader Series:** Includes audio CDs with recordings of included text read at two different speeds, a normal reading speed for comprehension, and a slow word-by-word speed to help non-native speakers distinguish individual words. (Teacher's guides with learning activities included) *The Curse of the Werewolf*, *Emma's Nightmare the Voyage of the Titanic*, *The Tell-Tale Heart*, *Twister*, and *The Christmas Eve Caper* are a few of the fiction titles available. Nonfiction titles include *Malcolm X*, *My Baby from Birth to Six Months*, and *Applying for a Job*. Search under "SmartReader" in the library catalog.

*City Dreams*, *In a Tight Spot*, *Holding the Bag*, *Rooms with a View* by Ann Gianola  
Intended to help ESL learners build basic language and reading skills. (Teacher's guides)

**Get Together Series:** Presents English as a foreign language using stories and exercises geared to young adults. (4 books and CDs)

Do you have suggestions of materials to add to the VITAL collection? Let us know.

We welcome your comments and ideas for improvement.

## Remembering the VITAL Quiz Bowl

Thanks to our moderators: Keith Klein and Steve Volan; our question editor, Steve Volan; and to all our judges, scorekeepers, monitors, timekeepers and backstage helpers. Special thanks to Altrusa International of Bloomington for hosting our reception and to our reception donors: One World-Pizza X; Avers Pizza; Kroger; Marsh; Altrusa; and the Friends of the Library. Our feedback on this year's Quiz Bowl was overwhelmingly positive. There was overall support for the simplified scorekeeping, and the questions were considered "about right."



WFHB Community Radio, second-place winners



Artistic flair of the E-ville Edge-U-Cators on display



WorkOne hopes the elephant will help their trivia memory.



And what team but WTIU would have Grover as a mascot?



A very happy member of the Rotary Rounders



The very serious contenders of SCCAP Head Start



Arthur Murray, tango and trivia specialists



The Wizards of Oz, long-time Quiz Bowl players



A VITAL advisor and Altrusa volunteer enjoying reception

*NOTE: All rounds of the 2010 Quiz Bowl were filmed by CATS (Community Access Television Services) to be aired throughout the year on Comcast Cable Channel 3, The Library Channel. For dates and time, check the CATS schedule online at [catstv.net](http://catstv.net), or call CATS at 349-3111.*