



# READ...SUCCEED

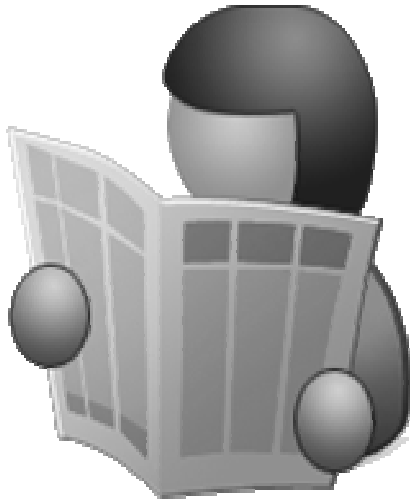
DOMINICAN LITERACY CENTER

A Proliteracy America Affiliate

No. 25 Spring 2008

*"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."*

**Mahatma Gandhi**



Spring brings with it the hope of new life, new growth, and new insights. In order for spring's beauty to burst forth, there must be change. In order for our own potential to burst forth, there must also be change. The blessing at the DLC is that we witness this change for the better every day. The fact that 47% of Detroit's adult population is functionally illiterate (*National Center for Education*) is being changed every day here at Dominican Literacy Center, and for good reasons:

- On average, a functionally illiterate adult earns 42% less than a high school graduate. (*U.S. Department of Education*)
- Persons with limited literacy skills have poorer health status than the rest of the population. (*American Medical Association*)
- The education of the parent is the single greatest predictor of whether a child will be raised in poverty. (*U.S. Dept of Health and Human Services*)
- Youngsters whose parents are functionally illiterate are twice as likely as their peers to be functionally illiterate themselves. (*National Assessment of Education Progress*)

The collaboration of so many who are involved in choosing a brighter tomorrow is inspirational. These awesome folks include the 360 adults who came to the Dominican Literacy Center last year; they made a choice to improve their lives by improving their basic reading, writing, math and computer skills. The 280+ volunteers joined the effort, giving of their time and talent, along with many, many partners and donors who have showed their support through monetary and in-kind gifts.

Change is inevitable, necessary and exciting! As we face the future, we can help steer those changes in a way that lifts up our community. We can choose to be one of those life-long learners, even when it means starting at the beginning. We can choose to invest in another person by volunteering to tutor, or by giving monetarily. Thank you for making a difference and being part of a very positive change.

## Inside This Issue...

Director's Letter.....1

Coordinator's Corner .....2

Resources.....3

One Person's Story .....3

Write...Succeed .....4-6

Heartfelt Thanks .....7

New Tutors .....7

New Citizens.....8

Important Dates .....8

In Remembrance .....8

Board Members & Staff .....8

Sincerely,  
*Sister Janice*

Director

# COORDINATOR'S

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## **Dominican Literacy Center: We're all about our students!**

DLC continues to be a place where adults come to increase their reading, English, basic math, and computer skills. Students come to us with different goals and we continue to look for ways to help them meet those goals. Recently, to reduce the waiting list, we developed an English as a Second Language class. This class meets every Wednesday and was developed for ESL students who are more advanced than our newer English speakers. Another way we service our students is by providing a forum for them to share their ideas and become published authors. Check out the "Write...Succeed" pages in this newsletter to find out what our students think the next President of the United States should address after taking office in November, 2008.



## **DLC says "Thank You" to Our Volunteers, Tutors and Donors**

On February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008 tutors, volunteers, donors and friends came together for our annual Tutor Appreciation Dinner. Detroit Mayor Kilpatrick's representative Anika Goss-Foster and Detroit City Council member, Brenda Jones were in attendance. We heard inspirational words of wisdom from the Skillman Foundation's Carol Goss. The staff was pleased to surprise co-founders Srs. Marie Schoenlein, OP and Marlene Lieder, OP with special plaques honoring their 20 years of service to this community. Also honored for 10 years of volunteering service were Dorothy Kurrie, Mary Anne Pilette, and Sr. Judith Lieder, OP.



## **DLC Continues to Train Volunteers to Become Excellent Tutors**

January 25<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, DLC staff trained volunteers how to successfully teach adults to read during a 12-hour Tutor Training Workshop. All volunteers who completed the workshop earned a ProLiteracy Tutor certificate. DLC certified 33 tutors this January.



## **A Special Thank You**

DLC would like to acknowledge Bea Hall and Adolph Arendt for being photographers at the Tutor Appreciation Dinner. We would also like to acknowledge Sr. Mary Catherine Quick, IHM, Antoinette Rodgers, Sylvia Kaminski, Marvin Rieli, Geri Grieves and Sr. Agnes Peplinski, OP for their help in putting on this gala event.

# Check This Out!

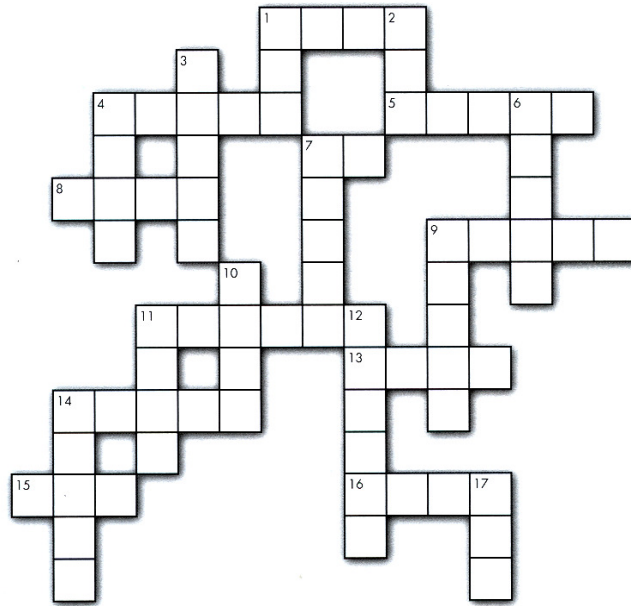
The Dominican Literacy Center provides a variety of resource material that can add to the tutoring session. To the right is an example of a word puzzle based on rhyming that is provided to affiliates such as the Center by ProLiteracy America. In addition to crossword puzzles, there are over 35 computer software programs for English grammar and vocabulary, math, computer skills, pre-GED prep, and citizenship. The computer lab is open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm, Monday through Thursday. Special skill development programs are also offered, such as *Financial Literacy*, *Computer Basics*, *Microsoft Word*, and *Excel*. Would you like some help with math? Staff member, Mary Olczak is available to assist you with math tutoring. Stop in to make an appointment with Mary.

Check out other items such as flash cards, maps, life-skills resources, library resources, and much more! Ask any staff member for suggestions!

## Rhyme Time Crossword

by Emma Tulo

Every answer rhymes with its underlined clue word, but the same sounds in the word pairs are spelled differently. (Example: *ride/cried*.)



### Across

- The office staff has been cut in \_\_\_\_.
- "Never hurry and never \_\_\_\_!"
- The little boys made a lot of \_\_\_\_.
- Is the auto show where you want to \_\_\_\_?
- Don't say a word, or you'll scare the \_\_\_\_.
- Juan was our host on the Oregon \_\_\_\_.
- Joy wished she could spend more time with her \_\_\_\_.
- Vince is seldom home because he likes to \_\_\_\_.
- I now own a new cell \_\_\_\_.
- The miner let out a roar when he found the \_\_\_\_.
- Does your hand fit this baseball \_\_\_\_?

### Down

- The farmer will weigh the bale of \_\_\_\_.
- Our chores are done. Let's have some \_\_\_\_.
- "I'll be your guide," she said with \_\_\_\_.
- Don't be late. The train won't \_\_\_\_.
- Let's ask Jake to grill the \_\_\_\_.
- Why did Jean paint the kitchen \_\_\_\_?
- I have never seen this room so \_\_\_\_!
- We hope to climb to the top this \_\_\_\_.
- She said to Joe, "Let the river \_\_\_\_!"
- Every night, it seems, I have scary \_\_\_\_.
- What would be worse than to lose your \_\_\_\_?
- Wait up, Sue. I'm coming \_\_\_\_.

12

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Answers to this word puzzle can be found in *Notebook—Resources for the Adult Learner, Winter 2008*. A copy of this publication is onsite at the Center.



Do you know someone who would love to make a difference?! Volunteering at the DLC is easy, give us a call and we'll get them or you started.

(313) 882-4853

Share what you know, you'll be surprised at what you learn!

# Write...Succeed



*A new president will be elected this November.*

*What is the most important issue that the new president should address?*

## Education

I think the new president should address our failing educational system in our country. Our educational system is outdated and needs to be totally overhauled. Other countries like China, India and Australia have surpassed the USA in all educational scores. This could be devastating to the economical future of our country. Mr. President, our children's future is in your hands. Please help! **D. C.**



## Healthcare

Healthcare is the most important issue that I think the new president should address. A lot of people cannot afford the cost of insurance and medicine when they need it the most. A lot of people who work would use their whole paycheck to cover the cost of insurance. **C.W.**

## Different Opinions

I am new in this country so I don't understand a lot about American politics. I work in a beauty shop. I hear lots of talk about politics. People with many different opinions come to the shop. I hear them talk about many issues such as health insurance, jobs, religion and other things. I want to know more and I'm learning, but I don't have time to watch TV because I come home from work late and I'm tired. **T.M.**

## My Opinion

In my opinion there are two most important issues which the newly elected president should address. First, he should finish the Operation Freedom in Iraq. Secondly, he should repair the bad economy in the United States. **W. R.**

## Honesty, Integrity

The most important issue facing the new president should be moving the country toward more honesty and integrity. **G. W.**



## Homeland Security

Whoever the new president is I feel should address more homeland security to protect the citizens of the United States, with even more homeland technology to make sure all Americans are in a safe place. I also feel the new president should have new improvements for health care and more shelters for the homeless. **B.S.**

## End the War

I think the most important issue that the new president should address is the war. The war is costing our taxpayers millions of needed dollars each month. Our soldiers are fighting a meaningless war. There are no weapons of mass destruction that were recovered or reported. Our men and women are losing their lives or having to take lives daily. Due to this war families are being broken up mentally and physically. This is one of the most important issues the next elected president should address first: Ending the War. **Unknown**

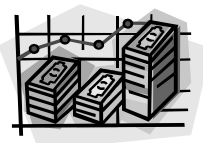
## The New President's Most Important Issue

For me the most important issue that the new president should address is the economy. If the economy runs good the country will have enough money for a lot of things: health insurance, school education, culture programs, sports, and war (if it's necessary).

The new president has to make good economic programs to open new jobs so that everyone can have health insurance, because when a lot of people lose their jobs they lose their health insurance. **M.C.**

## War and Economy

I would like the president to address the war and the state of the economy and I would like to hear about the state of the auto industry in Detroit. Plus the president should fight for health insurance for all, working or not. **G. P.**



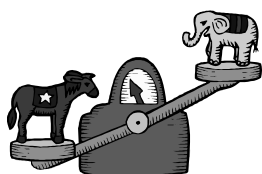
## Not Enough Jobs

The most important issue is the economy. There are not enough jobs. People are losing their homes to foreclosure. Many people don't have health insurance either. **G. J.**

# Write...Succeed continued

Additional writings can be found on the website [www.dlcliteracy.org](http://www.dlcliteracy.org) or the Center bulletin board

## An Important Year for the U.S.



This year is very important for the U.S. In this year Americans will elect the new president. Many people are running for this office. There are two large political parties: The Democrats and the Republicans. Each party chooses its own candidate for president and vice president. Each state has its primary election at different times. The official election will be on November 5. The new president will make an inaugural address.

In my opinion there are a few very important issues that the new president should address. Now, the U.S. economy is bad; the people don't have jobs, many poor people don't have medical care. Therefore they can't pay their debts.

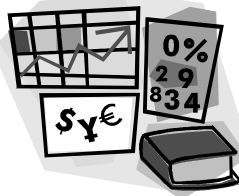
The new president should address the following:

- Jobs for everybody
- Medical care for poor people, especially for children
- How to end the war in Iraq
- How to protect Americans against terrorist attacks
- Climate Change

There are very many problems that the new president will have to solve. I hope that Americans will elect a smart and good person! I'm sorry that I can't vote! **H. M.**

## Many Things to Address

The newly elected president should address the state of our economy. We are in need of careful management of our money. Job security no longer exists and because of that, homes and families are being misplaced. I believe the next president will have many things to address once elected. **D. K.**



## EBT

The president should address EBT (Bridge) cards for people because the people that are getting EBT are going to the store and getting \$100 worth of candy. I think the people that do not get food on the EBT card should have their EBT privilege cut. I see too many kids in the store with the card getting candy. The mothers are having kids to keep the cards. **N. W.**

## Lower Taxes

Lower high taxes for the poor because it would help them more financially. The extra money will buy food, clothes, pay bills, and save some money to move up in life. Lower taxes will help build the poor to push forward to achieve their goals. They will be able to buy a house, save for college and feel good about themselves. **M. L.**



## Makes Our Country Safer

The most important issue that the president should address is to stop the war in Iraq. If the war would stop, then fewer soldiers would die. Another thing the president should address is there should be more jobs. If people would have more jobs, they would not lose money and houses. Life is very poor when there is no money and people become very nervous. Last, but not least, the president's job is to make our country safer. This is very important for our country. **A. B.**

## Troops, Healthcare, and Education

I think that the new president will have a lot of issues to deal with. I would like the troops to come home so we can stop sending money to Iraq. With that money the president could give health care to people that need it. There would be more money for education for more children and more jobs. Another issue is to stop the tax cut that helps the rich and give to the poor. The new president will have a lot of issues to deal with. **D. P.**

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# Write...Succeed continued

*Additional writings can be found on the website [www.dlcliteracy.org](http://www.dlcliteracy.org) or the Center bulletin board*

## Peace

A new president will be elected this year in November. We are hoping he or she will be opening many jobs. We hope the economy will get better and many new companies will open. We hope that many people will be hired. Also, we hope for lower prices on gas, and most important, peace on earth. **R. J.**



## Fight Crime

The most important issue that the new president should address is crime. Criminals should have harsher punishment. I don't like my tax dollars being spent supporting them in jail. **S.L.**

## Generate Jobs

I think the new president should care first of all about the economy of the nation and find a way to generate jobs for everybody. Another thing I consider that the new president should talk about is to do everything possible to avoid war. We all deserve to have a peaceful life. I also think the new president should consider people who leave their countries to come to work honestly in this nation, so they have an opportunity to live and work legally in this country. **E. C.**

## Make the World Better

What I think the new President should address is making the world a better place such as having better health insurance and more jobs, especially in Michigan. **S. L.**

## Important Things for Life

The most important issue that the new president should address is the war. If the president ends the war, he will not spend money for the war. He can put that money for fixing the economy. If the economy is better, then we have more jobs. If we have good jobs, then we have good health insurance. I think it is the most important for everybody in life. **S. S.**

## Get the Economy Together

If the next president could get the economy together and in order, everything else would come or fall in place. No matter who is elected, he or she will have to deal with special interests that don't work on behalf of ordinary citizens. **B. H.**

## Change in the Economy

I'm hoping that the president addresses the economy. From my point of view as a single parent, I worry about the depression we seem to be in. I had dreams of buying my first home, but in the health care that I'm in, the money is not that great. I wish he could lower the house taxes so that people in a lower income bracket could purchase a home. I want to see a change in the economy. **D. J.**

## More Jobs

To stop the war and make more jobs for people. If he would stop the war you would have more money for jobs. It would be good for the country. **T. S.**

## Bring Our Young People Home



The incoming president's first objective should be to deal with America's economy and to bring our young people home from Iraq. Secondly, the president should secure and keep our borders safe as well as the country, and to regain respect of the world.

That's my opinion. Thank you. **A. F.**

## Address the Violence

I think he/she should address the violence on our streets and in the schools. He/She should address the drug abuse in the country. The president should try to get rid of Bin Laden. He/She should address the needs of the homeless and the hungry, and the need to keep kids in school. He/She should thank the military in Iraq for all of us. **A.H.**

*The Dominican Literacy Center maintains a quality program through the generosity of many. Listed below are those who have made contributions since our winter 2007 newsletter.*

**Heartfelt thanks to one and all who responded to this "Opportunity for Giving."**

Adrian Dominican Sisters  
 In Memory of  
 Meg Andrezik, O.P.  
 Adriana Aredes  
 Rosemary Asaro, O.P.  
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 Jean Auch  
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 Halyna Yalovenko  
 John & Marlene York

**January 25-26, 2008 Tutor Training Workshop Participants**

Barbara Berry	Gail Elam	Eunice Gregory	Dorothy Manty	Tremaine Radcliff	Khylla Weir Anderson
James Berry	Latifa Farkas	Gail Hafner	Gladys Maxwell	LaVonn Robinson	Spencer Whitelow
Sandra Bialic	Roger Feldman	Kenneth Hardrick	Joseph Michaels	Jerry Schoof	Mary Wisgerhof
Darlene Bridges	Ronald Ford, Jr.	Eric Henley	Carolyn Moore	Suzette Stasiewicz	
Sarah Cavanaugh, O.P.	Herta Fuchs	Cynthia Huebner	Bessie Nash	Glo Steiger	
Ryan Chayka	ADonna Fuller	Marilyn Jones	Quentin Neal	Teresa Varani	
Alex Doria	Marie Graham	Dorothea Krieg	Marlene Oden	Iran Wasson	

## Students Succeed! The USA Celebrates!

*Congratulations to DLC's New Citizens!*



J. Hamolli    N. Hamolli  
J. Litwin     K. Litwin  
S. Murawski

## Dates to Remember!

April 27 -May 3, 2008 National Volunteer Week  
May 2-3, 2008 Tutor Training Workshop  
July 1, 2008 New Term Begins  
July 4, 2008 Independence Day  
July 7, 2008 No Class

## In Remembrance

*The seeds you plant today bear fruit in the lives you have touched along the way.*

*We fondly remember those who have been with us and are now with God.*



Meg Andrezik, O.P.- tutor from June 2003 through March 2005  
Charlie Barlow - learner from February 2007 through July 2007  
Carol Ekvall - tutor from June 2005 through June 2006



### DOMINICAN LITERACY CENTER

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**Celebrating 19 Years of  
Literacy Service to  
Metro Detroit Adult Learners**