

# The Lamplighter too

A newsletter by and for the students of the  
Literacy Council of Bonita Springs

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## Angels

Hi, my name is Jorge and today I want to tell you something. When I was a little boy, my Mother told me that everybody has an angel, but she never told me that my angel speaks English. Fortunately, I came to the Literacy Council and I found him. Thank you, Literacy Council.

If you come to the Literacy Council, you can get an angel like I did. If you don't, it's no matter; you can have good friends. They can help you to learn English or just have a nice time.

*Jorge Reyes*

*Amilcar Santos and Tom Manuel, tutors*

*Jorge often volunteers in the evening, helping new students register and doing assessments with them. He also helps students to learn English in the computer lab.*

## Jocelyn's Story

My name is Daysi Jocelyn Martinez de Rivera, but I prefer for people to call me Jocelyn. I'm from the Dominican Republic and came here in December '04, with my husband and our two children because we think we have more opportunities here in the United States than in our own country. Our goal is to work very hard in order to build a better future for us. I've studied English in my country for two years, but I have to learn more. That is the reason I came to the Literacy Council, hoping to increase my vocabulary and improve my pronunciation. I have had four classes with an excellent tutor. I feel comfortable with his method, and I'm sure I'll speak fluently in a few months.

*Jocelyn Rivera*

*Walter Buhrman, tutor*



## Why I like to study English—

I like to study English because I like to talk to people. I like to study English because I need it in my job. My boss speaks English. When he speaks to me, I know what to do.

Sometimes when someone asks me a question, I can help if I speak English. If I don't understand, I can't help!

*Jose Manuel*

1. I am happy because of the students who study English at the Literacy Council. They are beautiful.
2. Thank you very much for your help, Ms. Ann Tabrizchi.
3. English is very important in my work.
4. I like my teacher.
5. The school is beautiful.

*Reynaldo Pérez Costillo, 100% Chapin hecho en Guatemala.*

I want to learn English. When I go to work, I need to speak when I ask about my job. Thank you.

*Miguel Alonzo, from Guatemala*

To me, it is very important to learn English because I will have a good job. My life is better. So if I learn English, I will help everybody else learn English too. Thanks to the Literacy Council. Now, day by day, I am getting closer to my dreams. God bless all people who help me.

*Maria Franco, from Colombia*

*Maureen Lorenz, tutor*

*Jose, Reynaldo, Miguel and Maria are students of Ann Tabrizchi.*

### OFFICE SCHEDULE

Katie Verna, Program Director  
Kerty Reiterer Crespo, Office Assistant  
Monday to Friday: 9:00 to 5:00 pm

Jeanne Sachs, Student/Tutor Coordinator  
Nora Martinez, Lab Coordinator  
Monday to Friday: 6:00 to 9:00 pm  
website: [www.bonitaliteracy.org](http://www.bonitaliteracy.org)  
email: [bonitaliteracy@comcast.net](mailto:bonitaliteracy@comcast.net)

### STUDENT COMPUTER LAB

Monday to Friday, 9am to 9pm

### CONTACT INFORMATION

Address: 27308 Old 41 Road  
Bonita Springs, FL 34135

Phone: (239) 495-0999  
Fax: (239) 495-0071

# Ana's Story

Hello! My name is Ana. I'm from the Dominican Republic. When I left my country in 1995, I went to Puerto Rico and met with my sister. There I took my license for Medical Technology the next year. It was very difficult but I passed it. Then I worked in my career for 6 years. In Puerto Rico I took my U.S. Citizenship test. Then in 2000 I met a wonderful man and today he is my husband. We get married in 2001 and 2002 our baby was born. His name is Peter.

Before our baby was born, my husband relocated to Naples in a job transfer and I stayed in Puerto Rico. After my son was born, My son and I came to live in Naples and two months later we all went to Chicago for six months. When we came back from Chicago, we moved to the East Coast. We were living in Boca Raton for two years, more or less. Now we are living here in Naples since December 2004. I began to learn English but I felt like I was wasting my time. One day my friend Isabel talked to me about the Literacy Council and I went to the office and took the exam and began the class with my tutor, Mr. Bonner. I'm very, very happy because now I can communicate much better with other people. Finally I began a new job. It is not in my career but it is my first job in U.S. and since my son was born.

Now I'm working with caregivers and I'm very happy. I think I'll go ahead and study to take my license for medical technology. Thanks also for permitting me to bring my son with me to class.

*Ana Garcia – son, Pepe, 3 yrs*

*Bert Bonner, tutor*

# BBC Sponsors Interactive Soap Opera

The international British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), which conducts a Website "Learning English", now has begun to present a soap opera called "Flatmates". The show includes an audio file of an episode, a written script of the episode, and links to exercises around the script. The interactive Website allows readers to vote on why events happen in the program and to decide what will occur in the next show. Participants can also sign up for an e-mail reminder of the date of the next scheduled show.

The "Learning English" program may be reached at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/index.shtml>. "Flatmates" can be reached at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/worldservice/learningenglish/flatmates/>

"Flatmates" is just one program offered on the site. The news is also a prime feature for helping students learn English.

Included are units on News English, Business English, Watch and Listen, Grammar and Vocabulary and Quizzes. Students can listen to newscasts by radio and download support material. Also, there are units for teachers.

# My Goal

My name is Nora Girón. I am from Honduras. I live in Bonita Springs, FL. One of my goals was to help my son with his homework. This was my plan. I asked myself these questions, and I saw the results.

- 1) What? – Help my child with homework.
- 2) Why? – Because sometimes he needs help.
- 3) How? – Giving him examples, using the dictionary.
- 4) When? - Every day or afternoon, or during the weekend, we work together.

*Nora Girón*

*Joan McDowell – Tutor for multiple pupils*

*Ft. Myers Christian Center at Bonita Springs*

# What Did You Say?

Before the Literacy Council, it was really hard for me to go to the store and ask for something because I was afraid they were not going to understand me. I remember one time I went to the hardware store and I said to the salesperson, "I went to buy this," and he said, "What did you say?" and I repeated again the same question. "I went to buy this." And he said, "I want, not I went." This was a very embarrassing situation.

Then I started to go to the Literacy Council. They sent me to a new class with my current tutor, Judith Anderson. She really helped me to improve my English. Now I can understand and speak more English. And I got a better job! Thank you so much, Judith Anderson, and thank you so much, Literacy Council.

*Carlos Orta*

*Judith Anderson, tutor*

*Pat Geiser, tutor*

# Self-Confidence

I came to the USA seven years ago. I had studied English in Cuba, but I hadn't the oral practice that I needed. At the beginning in the USA, I lived in Miami, and in the jobs that I had I didn't have to use English so much. I was "blocked." It was like I went deaf.

I have a diploma in chemistry. I taught chemistry to teachers. I taught chemistry for 25 years from middle school to college. Now I can't teach because of my language. I felt like a good-for-nothing person.

I want to say that I studied English in the USA three times before, but I never felt like I'm feeling right now. The Literacy Council and the teachers are applying the correct way for speaking better and improving our writing. Now I'm feeling self-confident, and I know that I can be useful to others.

My goal is to improve my English in order to get a better job so I can apply my knowledge and be useful to this country that gave me welcome seven years ago.

*Alfredo Martel*

*Judith Anderson, tutor*