

SPICE SPEAKS

NEWSLETTER

Winter 2019

NOVEMBER IS NATIONAL LITERACY MONTH



Whether it's your toddler mesmerized by the pictures and activities of "The Very Hungry Caterpillar" or his Grandpa getting lost in the mysteries of a John Grisham novel, a love for books is timeless and shared across all generations. Nothing beats curling up with a good book and exploring the countless possibilities of worlds both real and imagined.

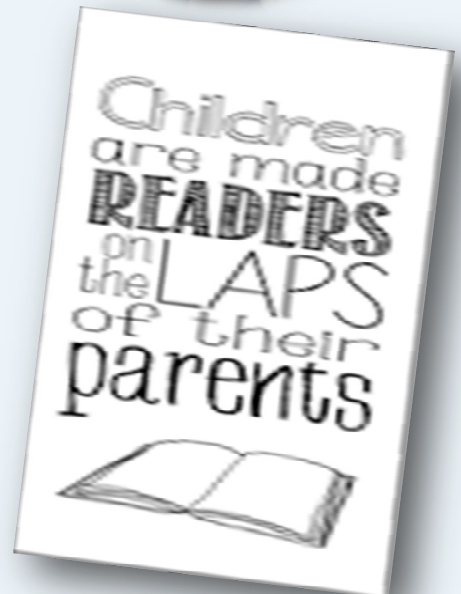
National Family Literacy Day is celebrated on November 1st each year and is a kickoff to National Family Literacy Month. This November, the celebration of National Family Literacy Month brings about a great opportunity for families to get back into the tradition of reading as a family.

Here are ways you can promote family literacy at home:

1. Set aside time each day for reading.
2. Keep books visible around the house.
3. Make regular visits to the library
4. Read the book version of your child's favorite movie.
5. Organize a children's book club with friends in the neighborhood.

"Children are made readers on the laps of their parents." - Emilie Buchwald

<https://www.kumon.com/resources/5-tips-to-celebrate-national-family-literacy-month/>





Washington, D.C. (July 30, 2019) — The Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy announced today it will host two events – the **National Celebration of Reading** and **National Summit on Adult Literacy** – at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. this fall. The events, to be held November 12-13, 2019, will bring together members of the Bush family, best-selling authors and entertainers, philanthropists, education and business leaders and others to advance Barbara Bush’s literacy legacy.

“Thirty-six million adults in this country have unmet literacy needs, which impacts all aspects of their lives—from work to their health, their kids and even their ability to vote,” said British A. Robinson, president and CEO of the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy. “The National Celebration of Reading and Summit on Adult Literacy will bring together the nation’s top leaders and literacy advocates to find new solutions to this complex challenge and to continue Mrs. Bush’s commitment to ensuring everyone has an opportunity to learn to read.”

In addition to the National Celebration of Reading, the Foundation will host its inaugural National Summit on Adult Literacy on Wednesday, November 13. Special guest Ali Velshi of MSNBC will serve as emcee of the summit, which is being presented in sponsorship by the Dollar General Literacy Foundation.

The summit will convene 200-300 adult and family literacy advocates, including: practitioners; researchers; policy makers; edtech experts; community-based organizations; corporate, foundation and philanthropic partners; and professional organizations, among others. These experts will gather with leaders from across related sectors and fields of civil liberties, corrections, finance, healthcare, social services, innovation and technology, and workforce development, providing the opportunity to share perspectives and discuss approaches to solving our nation’s literacy crisis. By bringing together this diverse audience, the Barbara Bush Foundation aims to create a framework for addressing unmet literacy needs by meeting adult learners where they live, work, play and pray.

<https://www.barbarabush.org/news/press-releases/barbara-bush-foundation-to-host-national-celebration-of-reading-and-national-summit-on-adult-literacy-in-washington-d-c/>

Pat is honored to be invited to this National Summit, and will be attending on November 13, 2019.



Bob's "SPICE of Life"...

My name is Bob Nichols, and I want to introduce myself as the new SPICE/Family Literacy Instructor for RSU3. I am very happy to carry on the work of this unique and valuable home-based and homegrown program, which began right here in Thorndike in the year 2000.

I grew up on a small family dairy farm in Alaska, but have lived in rural Maine since 1973. I now live in Jackson with my wife Amy, four small dogs, and two long-suffering cats. I think these rural experiences, my several itinerant teaching jobs, and my love of words and literacy, have all led me to this exciting new opportunity.

I truly admire and appreciate the parent-students who work with me to pursue their educational goals. In the midst of their busy and often challenging circumstances, they model for their children the values of motivation, persistence, and lifelong learning, for developing successful and fulfilling lives.

I'll close this introduction with an image from my new position. I visit one local family to assist a parent with high school equivalency preparation, and while the parent is taking practice tests, I sit with their active sixteen-month-old boy. I attempt to read some of his beginner books to him, for the few moments he is able to focus. My usual slight irritation was eased when I arrived recently, and the boy came toddling up with a big smile, clutching little board books in his fists and waving his arms to be picked up.

Happy trails and happy literacy!



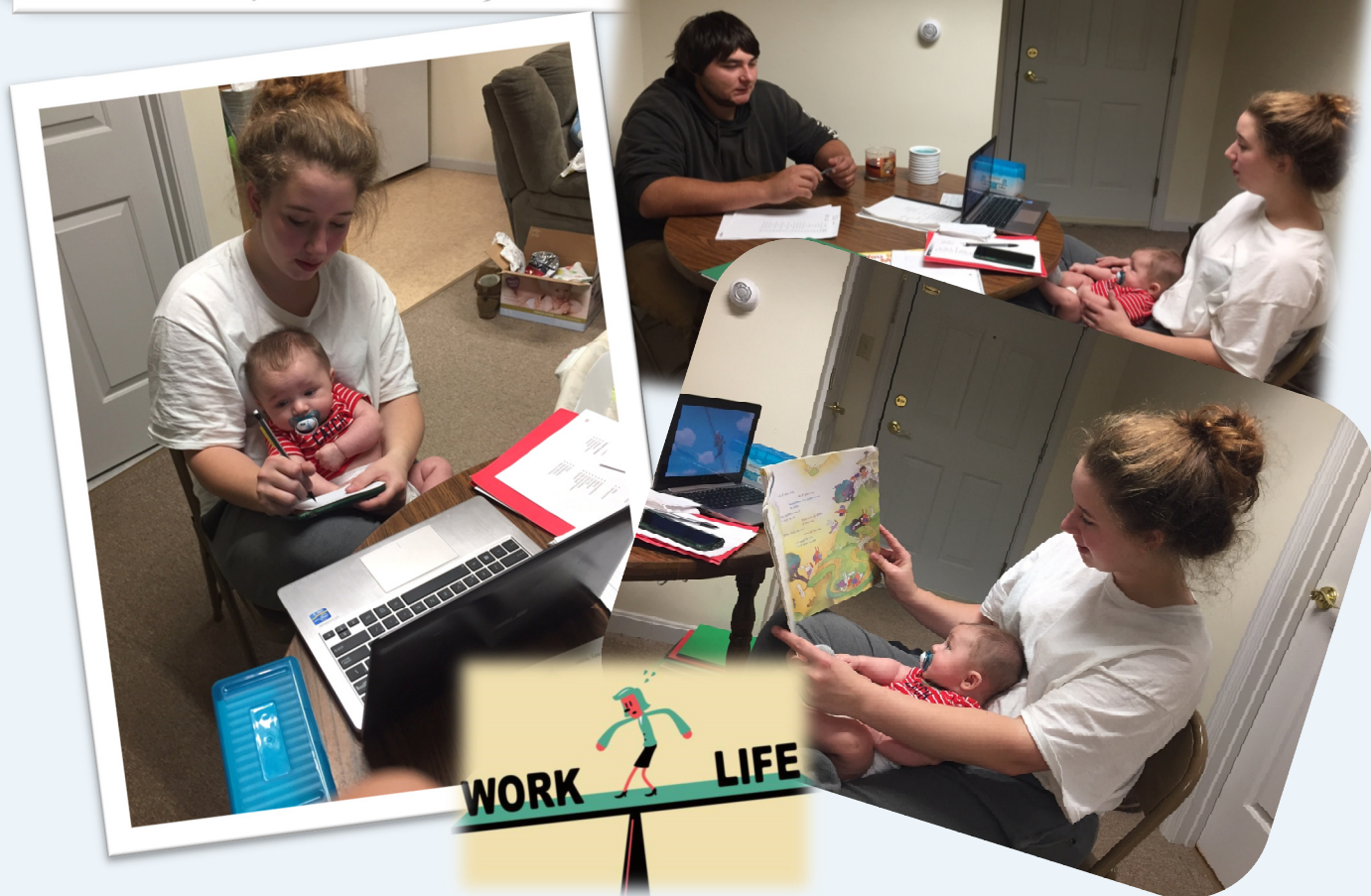


SPICE FAMILY



In the Spotlight

Emma, Dale & Ryder



Dale and Emma are both working on their HiSET (High School Equivalency Diploma). Kudos to these two...trying to balance home life, work, a new baby and then finding time to work on their studies. It takes perseverance and dedication to stay on track and continue to stay focused on the goals that they've set for themselves.

You Rock!





SPICE STUDENT



In the Spotlight

Nicholas Bayer



“SPICE is a good program for me because I stay home with the kids and don’t have transportation. I’ve wanted to do this for years now. I can see I’m already making progress, and I know it will give me a great feeling of accomplishment when I’m done.”

~Nick Bayer, *SPICE student*





Staff Fall FY20



In the Spotlight

Tammie Leach, Administrative Assistant

Our own Adult Ed Administrative Assistant was recently recognized by the administrative team as one of the staff members who go “above and beyond” and are making a difference at RSU#3.

Tammie Leach-Adult Ed

“Tammie has been working in this district for over 10 years. Over the past year, we have had multiple changes in staff and Tammie has been the person who has supported and helped all the new staff learn about the Adult Education world. Since the director is only in district once a week, Tammie is always on the front line for Adult Education. She handles all challenges, issues, and problems with a sense of competence and professionalism. RSU3 is lucky to have her and she is an invaluable asset to the Adult Education Program.”





Updates from the COABE Leadership

Barbara Bush Summit

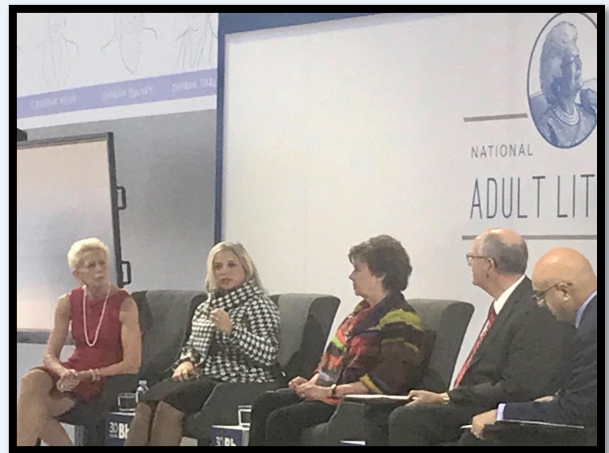
The Coalition on Adult Basic Education was pleased to play a leading role in the Barbara Bush Summit on Adult Literacy. The Summit brought together more than 200 leaders and innovators from across the country. CEO Sharon Bonney participated in the opening panel which focused on the state of adult education and the barriers and potential solutions for our field.

Sharon focused on equity issues around funding for adult education, pay for adult education teachers, and the need for a massive public awareness campaign to ensure all who need adult education services receive them.



US Chamber Think Tank

COABE leadership, President Elect Jody Angelone and Sharon, also participated in a think tank led by the US Chamber of Commerce Foundation at the Citizen's Award event the following day.



COABE

COALITION ON ADULT BASIC EDUCATION



FAB FRIDAY FEATURE: MAGGIE & AJ

Even though learning has not always come easily to AJ & Maggie, they have never given up.

With no diploma, Maggie and AJ struggled to get by on an almost non-existent income, while caring for their daughter, Zophia. Both have learning differences which made it difficult to learn in a traditional setting. After starting in a family literacy program, they got their driver's licenses. AJ is working full time and Maggie is getting ready to return to her job. Zophia now has a baby brother and is learning many new things in school. Maggie and AJ have learned how to read stories with their children, do art activities and feed them healthy meals and snacks. Best of all, they have persevered and earned their high school equivalency diplomas.

2018 RSU3 Adult & Community Education Graduates

2018 RSU3 Adult & Community Education Graduates

WELCOME THE NEW HiSET™ EXAMINER FOR RSU₃ ADULT & COMMUNITY EDUCATION, CHRIS RIVERA



"This 2019 school year will be my first full calendar year with RSU3 and Adult Ed. My wife and I moved here from Texas in January of this year and I completed the first successful semester in June. I grew up in Edinburg, Texas and graduated from Edinburg North High School in 2009. I moved on to post secondary education that same year and went through a number of major changes before I settled on English. I received my bachelors degree in English, with minors in Philosophy and Women's Studies in 2015. I have a passion for reading, writing and video games. At least a quarter of my life has been immersed in RPG video games with their expansive worlds and interactive stories, and reading within the genres of horror, mythology and sci-fi fantasy. I ultimately want to be a published author and a world champion within the competitive scene for Magic: The Gathering card game.

I fast fell in love with Maine, with its vast, and at times, eerie backdrops of forests, hills and wildlife. The area has been unbelievably welcoming, and the friends I have made in my short time here will undoubtedly last the rest of my life (winking you, Greenbergs.) The winters are a stark contrast to the Texas heat (nothing is really bigger there) and the people here believe in individual liberty that I thought had long since vanished in our country. I look forward to the work that lies ahead of me within this community, and all the life that will unfold from it."





Watch your mailbox...

For the RSU₃ ADULT & COMMUNITY
EDUCATION 2020 WINTER/SPRING BROCHURE

What's new

Beginner Beekeeper
Advanced Beekeeper
Daily Lane Clipboard
Learn to Curl
Photography I
Photography II
Portraiture
Polymer Clay Jewelry
Yaymaker Paint Nite



SPICE Family Literacy

DO YOU NEED A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA?

Students and Parents In Cooperative Education Family
Literacy program can help you work on your career and
educational goals

Eligibility requirements:

Have a child 10 years old or younger; be willing to meet with
instructor in your home; to reach your job and educational goals
as quickly as possible; and actively participate in all parts of the
program.

Call Today

(207) 568-3431

****2020 ADULT EDUCATION GRADUATION MAY 14th**

