

Fall 2007



Since 1982

# The Connection

Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy Council Newsletter



## Crusty's Chili and Cheese Bread

**Date:** Thursday, January 24, 2008

**Time:** 12 - 2 pm

**Cost:** \$5 per person **includes chili and a slice of cheese bread**

**Who:** Chili lovers everywhere!

**Call to pre-order lunch today! 519-428-0064**

- Pick up at Simcoe Adult Learning Centre (see page 6 for address)
- Delivery to downtown Simcoe - minimum 5 orders

Thanks to Crusty's for preparing their signature chili!



## Sweetheart Radio Auction

Live with Gerry & Kate on CD 98.9 FM

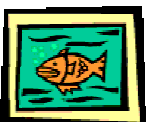
**Date:** Monday, February 12 - Friday, February 16, 2008

- Tune in to CD 98.9 FM or listen live at [www.cd989.com](http://www.cd989.com)
- Bidding begins at 6:00 am & ends at 8:55 am
- Place your bid as often as you like - it makes it more fun!!
- **Place your bids by calling 519-426-7700 or 1-888-273-1067**
- Packages are awarded to the highest bidder each morning
- Highest bidder will be announced on the radio at 9:00 am

Every morning an amazing package will be auctioned off to the highest bidder with net proceeds going to the Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy Council. To view this year's auction items watch for our ads in local newspapers January, 2008.

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## D & D Fish Fry

**Date:** June, 2008 **Where:** Jarvis

Gather family and friends of all ages to **savour the flavour of D & D's famous fish dinner** and support literacy in your community! Dine in or take out. More details to follow.

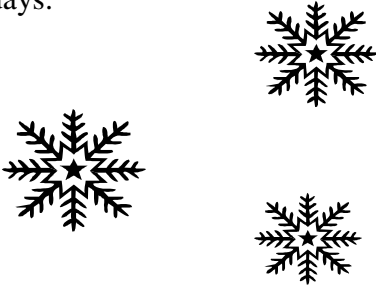
# Tutors

**Holidays:**  
 Classes and most one-on-one matches break for Christmas holidays.

**Dunnville:** December 21, 2007 - last day of classes  
**January 7, 2008 - first day back to class**

**Simcoe:** December 22, 2007 - last day of classes  
**January 7, 2008 – first day back to class**

**Have a great holiday!**



## Tutor Upgrading Workshop and Volunteer Appreciation

**When:** Thursday, April 10, 2008  
**Time:** 1:00- 4:00 pm  
**Where:** Simcoe Adult Learning Centre  
**Topic:** to be announced  
**For all certified tutors and volunteers**

Fun, food and lifelong learning! Let us show you how much we appreciate all that you do for our learners!

## Student Evening

**When:** Tuesday, April 29, 2008  
**Time:** 7:00 - 9:00 pm  
**Where:** Dunnville Library

All learners are encouraged to attend this fun, informational event. It's for you! Come with another learner, bring your tutor or a friend.

- **Questions? Call Dunnville 905-774-9141**

## Tutor Support Meeting

Tutors, you should be very proud! This has been an outstanding year for learners in small group classes and one-to-one matches. On October 25th we met to celebrate successes, provide extra support to tutors and build on these successes.

### Learner Outcomes/Successes:

- Passed Driver Test/Immigration Test
- Transitioned to small group class
- Attending College Adult Upgrading Class
- Found jobs
- Found better jobs
- Helping their children with homework
- Written reports to employers
- Better able to handle workplace materials
- Obtained grade 12
- Entered post secondary education
- Improved self confidence
- Volunteering in our community
- Tutoring other literacy council students

**Next Tutor Support Meeting - October 2008**

**Tutors, please share this newsletter with your learner.**

## Executive Director's Report

**Books for Learners Fund** Help us open books so we can open minds!

We would like to supply workbooks for learners who cannot afford to purchase them and who do not qualify for assistance from another agency. Our learners tell us that opening the pages of their book, for the first time, gives them a feeling of ownership and helps them continue on their pathway to success.

**Can you help with this project?** Contact Anne 519-428-0064 [hnliteracy@kwic.com](mailto:hnliteracy@kwic.com).

A charitable tax receipt will be issued. We would also like to post your contribution in our next newsletter (April 2008) and in our Annual Report (available at the Annual General Meeting - May 2008).

### 2007 Update:

Roberta & John Chapman- \$100.00  
 Rosalie & Mark Ward- \$100.00  
 Sherry Black-Shrubb - \$50.00  
 Anne Davidson - \$50.00  
 Jody Orr- \$50.00  
 Joyce Flexman- \$25.00  
 Eleanor Proctor - \$25.00  
 Doreen Lavigne - \$20.00  
 Larry Cyr - \$20.00 in honour of the birth of Jacob Smith  
 Bill Van Nort - \$20.00  
 Anonymous - \$19.00  
**Total- \$479.00 Thank you for your support!**



**Ontario Works** has done a stupendous job of providing books for clients enrolled in our program. Thank you!

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### 2008 Fundraising Events:

- Tuesday, January 22, 2008 - Crusty's Chili and Cheese Bread Day - more info page 1
- February 11-15, 2008 - 5th Sweetheart Radio Auction - live on CD 98.9 - more info page 1
- June, 2008 - Fish Fry

We are funded by the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, United Way of H-N and through sales of Nevada tickets. In order to keep up with the demand for our programming we must also actively fundraise. **You can help make our events successful by attending or participating.** Our goal is to continue to improve adult literacy levels in Haldimand and Norfolk.

**Help us accomplish our goal! Volunteer , buy a ticket , tell your friends and family**  
**Call Simcoe 519-428-0064 Dunnville 905-774-9141**

Monday, May 26, 2008 - Annual General Meeting & Dinner (AGM) - Jarvis, Ebenezer Church Hall



- Norfolk learners will be featured in our next Newsletter.
- **Email your short stories or poems to [sherry@hnliteracy.com](mailto:sherry@hnliteracy.com) by April 1, 2007.**
- Submissions must be 50 words or less.

## Starting Over at 42 Years Old

I worked as a Crossing Guard for about six years to help my daughter while she was in University. Then my younger daughter went to College two years ago, so I decided to go back to school and do something for myself. I came to school to work on getting my GED. Someday, I may write my biography.

*Julia*

## Alternate Methods to Completing School

My reflections towards the adult learning program are really positive. I feel that an adolescent or adult with comprehension problems could benefit greatly from this program. The small classroom environment is ideal for A.D.D. or attention-needing individuals. If you cannot focus in a seventeen-pupil class, maybe your Gr. 12 could be reached by this alternate method.

*Kyle*

## The Lazy Brain

Math is something I struggle with. If I don't do it every day I forget what I've learned. Actually, I can forget over the period of a smoke break. You can tell when my class is doing Math because we're all rubbing our temples and talking to ourselves. If this sounds like you, don't give up. "YOU CAN DO IT!!!!"

*Denise C.*

## Learning from The Past

Growing up I thought life sucked, and no one loved me. As a teenager, I had so many problems that I became suicidal. I got help and years later became better. Alas, for the next three years came friends with drugs and partying. Finally, I decided to ditch this suicidal high-risk game. I just did it. I then joined the Adult Learning Centre to work toward my GED and am already halfway there. I have built some great friendships in this program. I wouldn't change the past. I learned too much from it to go back now.

Thanks Susan, Marie, Sarah and other fellow pupils for supporting and believing me.

*Ashley M.*

## My Best Friend Tess

My best friend is my puppy Tess. She knows everything about me. She knows my thoughts, dreams, and fears. She shows me love and care. We go for long walks and play ball together. She is a black and white Boston Terrier. She means the world to me even though she eats my shoes and hogs the bed. She will always be my best friend. When we go for car rides, she sits in the front with me. When we go to Tim Horton's, she must have four plain timbits. She is the best dog I could ever ask for.

*Sarah*

## Learners in Dunnville

### Ashes in the Alley

She was a girl  
And she had a plan  
Ashes in the alley  
Babies in the attic



Leave them on the brow with a  
Bloodstain on her hand  
No legs left for walking  
No head left for talking  
Ashes in the alley  
Babies in the attic

In those days she went to Loretto  
In a lovely dress  
With the money her dad stole  
Tried so hard to impress

Crazy brown eyes

Babies in the attic  
Ashes in the alley

Does she feel safe in her mommy's  
Bed, while the one that she wed  
Sleeps on the brow  
Where did she go? Who is she now?  
Ashes in the alley. Babies in the attic.

*Anon*



### Reach for the Stars

I started at the Haldimand Literacy Council in November 2006. Since then, I've learned so much. I have built my self-confidence and self-esteem so much so that I enrolled in a course at Mohawk College. I have completed course 1 of 6 and am excited about going into course 2. Anything is possible!

*Bev*

### My Plan

My plan is to get my GED, then complete additional computer courses. Then, I want to get a job that I can do from home, either in accounting or bookkeeping. My hope is to complete this within 2 years.

*Teresa*

### My Greatest Hopes

To be able to succeed in life's struggles.  
To be able to gain my sense of well-being.  
To become self-confident.  
To get somewhere in life again.

*Jodie*

### My School

When I first started school, I couldn't even spell basic words. Now I can spell all sorts of words; all I have to do is sound them out, and I can spell them. Math was also hard for me, but now I'm on GED Math, and it's not that hard. I really like coming to school. It's fun to be here and meet all sorts of people.

*Joleen*

### What Learning Means to Me

Being in this learning program is the most wonderful decision I have ever made. It's changed my way of thinking, and the way I look at life. The possibilities are endless; my future is an open book. I welcome new ideas every day. Without the Haldimand-Norfolk Literacy program, I would still have a closed mind. Many thanks to Marie and Susan for always being there.

*Beverly*

## Contact Us

### Simcoe Head Office and Adult Learning Centre:

**Location/Mailing Address:**  
39 Kent Street, North, Unit 6  
Simcoe, ON, N3Y 3S1  
Website: www.hnliteracy.com

**Contact:**

Anne Davidson: hnliteracy@kwic.com  
Sherry Black-Shrubb: sherry@hnliteracy.com

**Phone: 519 - 428 - 0064**

Fax: 519 - 428 - 4172

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Thursday  
9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 3:30



### Dunnville Office and Adult Learning Centre:

**Location:** Dunnville Optimist Club Building  
101 Main St., East, Dunnville, ON, N1A 3C8  
Website: www.hnliteracy.com

**Mailing Address:** Box 162, Dunnville, ON, N1A 2X5

**Contact:**

Susan Dolan: susan@hnliteracy.com

**Phone: 905 - 774 - 9141**

Fax: 905 - 774 - 6464

**Office Hours:**

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:00 - 12:00 & 1:00 - 3:30

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## Our Dedicated Team:

### Board of Directors:

#### Officers:

President: Marlene Smith  
Vice President: Jody Orr  
Treasurer: Debbie van Grieken

#### Directors:

Roberta Chapman  
Larry Cyr  
Steven Thomson  
Bill Van Nort  
Rosalie Ward



### Small Group Instructors:

Heather Adams: Literacy Simcoe  
Marie Brown: Literacy Dunnville  
Marg Crozier: ESL Frogmore  
Christine Kennedy: Frogmore  
Mary Loewen: Literacy Frogmore  
Suzie Mabee: Literacy Frogmore  
Andrea Purchase: Literacy Simcoe  
Catherine Payne: ESL Simcoe  
**Tutor Trainer:** Anne Davidson  
**Apprentice Trainer:** Andrea Purchase



### Office Staff:

Executive Director: Anne Davidson  
Norfolk Coordinator/Administrative Assistant: Sherry Black-Shrubb  
Haldimand Coordinator-Susan Dolan  
Doreen Lavigne-Bookkeeper

Please recycle  
this newsletter.



### Our Mission:

Working with adults in Haldimand-Norfolk to improve their quality of life through increased literacy and numeracy.

### Our Values:

Respect, caring, sensitivity  
and lifelong learning.