

On the MARC

Midland Area Reading Council Newsletter

November 2010

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Upcoming events

November 18
**Grand Opening
 Used Book Store**
Midland Public Library
 4 to 6 p.m.

December 10
**MARC Christmas
 Open House**
 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

January 27
Family Literacy Day

February 5
**3rd Annual
 Spelling Bee**
 9 a.m.

February 28
**Literacy
 Awareness Day**
Queen's Park

Funded by



Ministry of Training,
Colleges and Universities

Ontario
Trillium Foundation



Fondation Trillium
de l'Ontario

MARC awarded special grant



The Midland Area Reading Council is honoured to be the recipient of the Huronia Community Foundation's 10th Anniversary Grant. Jill St. Amant (left) of the Huronia Community Foundation granting committee presents Sue Bannon, executive director of MARC with the \$5,000 grant which will be used to launch the Literacy Partnership. The project will include the Midland and Penetanguishene Public libraries as partners. Watch for details on the exciting upcoming projects.

Second Used Book Store Opened

There is now another location where people can purchase used books in North Simcoe.

The Midland Public Library and the Midland Area Reading Council have partnered in opening a used book store located in the library.

MARC's first used book store opened in June of this year and has done extremely well thanks to the support of the community and the dedication of our volunteers.

The library book store opened on Nov. 2 in the newly renovated building. Proceeds from this location will be shared equally between both organizations.

Both stores are staffed completely by volunteers allowing all profits realized to be generated back

into each organization.

The grand opening of the book store located in the library will take place on Nov. 18 from 4 to 6 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us for this celebration.

Both stores are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Donations of books are accepted at both locations, however, if you have quite a few books to donate, please call ahead. The Yonge St. book store may be reached at 527-1522.

If you are interested in volunteering in either store, please call Karen Mealing at 527-1522.



Midland Area Reading Council

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Newsletter deadlines: August 1,
November 1, February 1, May 1

Newsletter Editor - Karen Mealing
e-mail newsletter submissions to
kmealing@csolve.net

Message from the board president

As the Midland Area Reading Council enters into another year of providing literacy services needed by our community, I cannot help but become very excited and honoured to be a part of such a vibrant organization.

I would like to welcome the new members of our Board of Directors, Leigh Gate and Gunter Kuch, and wish them all the joy and success I have been so privileged to experience.

I also would like to express my sincere gratitude to those members who leave the Board this year, Garry McPhail, Lin Sullivan and Barb Porth. Thank you for all of your dedicated service to this organization.

As with every new year, we begin 2010-2011 with the annual anticipation of whether or not MARC will be able to continue to serve our community with the same resources as last year. At this time we do not know if the increase to funding granted from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities will be the same as what was presented last fiscal year.

To help augment the required funding needed to keep our level of service, we have taken the leap and ventured into two new enterprises. The MARC Used Book Store and the New Skills North Simcoe.

MARC's Used Book Store has been quite busy and it is run solely by volunteers. We have also partnered with the Midland Library and we have opened a second Used Book Store at their location. Anyone interested in volunteering at any of the two book store locations are asked to contact Karen Mealing at the MARC office 527-1522.

Of course none of this would have been possible without the perseverance and dedication of our supporters, volunteers, sponsors, staff and our Board of Directors.

Maria Coston
President

Two-day used book sale a success



Barb Porth (left) and Sarah Carey were among the volunteers who helped staff the MARC Used Book Sale at the Village Square Mall in Penetanguishene on Nov. 5 and 6. A total of \$891 was raised during the two-day sale.

Thank you to the Village Square Mall for allowing MARC the opportunity to hold the sale in the mall. Thank you to the TD Canada Trust branch in Penetanguishene for being a drop point for anyone wishing to donate books.

Thank you to Diane Edwards, Diane Dann, Bailey Murray, Valarie Greer, Anne Zoschke, Judith Green, Isabel Glynn and Bev Rashleigh who volunteered at the sale and thank you to Bob and Jackie Sture for transporting books from the store to the mall.

Donate to MARC through Boston Pizza

The next time you dine out at the Midland Boston Pizza, write "Midland Area Reading Council" on the back of your receipt and place the receipt in the box on the front counter of the restaurant. Boston Pizza will donate 5% of the food total to MARC.



Education News

Tutor Training Workshop



Thirteen people attended the tutor training workshop which was held on Saturday, November 6 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in the Community Living Huronia board room on Olive Street in Midland.

One exciting aspect of this session was that some of the trainers came from other literacy organizations.

If you or someone you know, are interested in becoming a tutor please contact Anne Ritzmann at 527-1522, or e-mail aritzman@csolve.net to get information on the next tutor training opportunity.

Student Small Groups

Please share this information with your students.

Student small groups consist of employability skills, math, grammar, GED and G1 licence prep.

The small group schedule until September 23 is as follows:

Monday	9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday	9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Wednesday	9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.
Thursday	9:30 to 11:30 a.m. 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Open computer lab for students and/or tutors is Mondays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

For more information and to join a group, please call Anne at 527-1522.

Partnership with the Adult Learning Centre

Anne Ritzmann will be at the Adult Learning Centre on King Street in Midland on Tuesday afternoons from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. to assist students who need homework help.

Breaking the Barriers

While the rate of low literacy skills in the general population is around 40%, the rate in the prison population is closer to 65%.

In response, correctional facilities offer education opportunities to the inmates, improving the possibility for a more productive life in the community.

The Midland Area Reading Council has partnered with the Central North Correctional Centre in Penetanguishene to run a tutoring program on Tuesday evenings.

This program is known as “**Breaking the Barriers**”. It has been in operation for about two years.

Tutors involved in this program receive additional security training from Volunteer Services at the Correctional Centre.

If anyone is interested in working in **Breaking the Barriers**, please contact Anne Ritzmann at 527-1522 or e-mail aritzman@csolve.net.

Building Bonds – A Pilot Program

Building Bonds, a cooperative effort of Ontario Early Years (OEY), the Canadian Action Program for Children (CAP-C), the Central North Correctional Centre (CNCC) and the Midland Area Reading Council (MARC), teaches an inmate to read a book to his child, 0-6 years of age. The reading is then recorded and sent, with a copy of the book and some activities, to the child’s caregiver, for the child to listen to and enjoy.

With the help of Barb Porth of MARC and Liz Cascagnette, Coordinator of Volunteers at CNCC, the first four participants completed the program in three sessions in July.

The participants enjoyed recording the story for their children. Included in the packages going home were cards that the children could use to send a note back to their father. One child wrote (or had written for them) that they “enjoyed hearing your voice”. A mother indicated that she was not aware of the services of Ontario Early Years, and she was glad they were available.

We will keep you posted on the status of this program.

In the community

Ninth Annual Books for Brunch



The 9th Annual Books for Brunch took place on Sept. 18 in Little Lake Park. Despite the cool temperatures, it was a fun-filled family-oriented day. From left, the Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre brought along some live friends for their presentation on turtles, Stellula Music in Schools organized and awesome drumming workshops, Clifford traveled in style in a Ridgeline provided by Midland Honda and Sparky joined the children for a presentation and story-time with the Midland Fire Department. Thank you to the following for supporting Books for Brunch: TD Waterhouse, the Midland Mirror, Lorraine Jordan - Royal LePage, Ontario Early Years, Midland Printers, McDonald's, Midland Fire Department, Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre, Johnstones Music Land, Paws to Read, Tim Hortons, Scholastic Canada, Kids Can Press, Stellula Music in Schools, Midland Honda, Penetanguishene Foodland, Bayfield House Retirement Lodge and Minds Alive. And a special thank you to all the volunteers who helped make this day possible.



Adrienne Gardner (left) and Karen Mealing, along with Yvonne Beeney staffed the MARC booth at the Southern Georgian Bay Chamber of Commerce's Business Tradeshow Oct. 16. Information was passed out about MARC's programs, volunteering opportunities, the book store and New Skills North Simcoe.

Third Annual Spelling Bee

The Midland Area Reading Council's annual Spelling Bee will be taking place on Saturday, February 5. The bee will be held in conjunction with the Town of Midland's WinterFest activities. The Spelling Bee is open to children in Grades 3 to 8 who reside in North Simcoe. The entry fee is \$5 and the winners will receive cash prizes. Those who do not place in the top three in each category also have the chance to win some great doorprizes. Please watch our website at www.nald.ca/marc for updates about and the registration form for the Spelling Bee. The registration deadline is January 31 at 4 p.m.

MARC Christmas Open House

The Midland Area Reading Council will be hosting their Annual Christmas Open House on Friday, December 10 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please RSVP to Karen Mealing at kmealing@csolve.net or 527-1522.



Books for Brunch 2010 – List of Raffle winners

- | | |
|---|-------------------|
| Item 1 – Treat Bag donated by Little Monkey's Treehouse | Emily Mealing |
| Item 2 – \$30 gift card donated by Bella Bump | Kristie Quesnelle |
| Item 3 – Franklin book donated by Kids Can Press | Angela J |
| Item 4 – \$25 gift certificate donated by Quest | Katie Moreau |
| Item 5 – gift certificate for a free Honda oil change | Jane Stevenson |
| Item 6 – Sandylon Sticker set | Sunny Wadge |
| Item 7 – Toronto Maple Leaf shirt | Jane Stevenson |
| Item 8 – Flashlight | Tracy Griffin |
| Item 9 – Smoke detector | Angela J |
| Item 10 – Star Wars Lego set | Kyle |
| Item 11 – Photo album | Ann Thomas |
| Item 12 – Photo album | Pat Bush |
| Item 13 – Photo album | Candice |
| Item 14 – "Victoria" gift box set | Sarah McGaughey |
| Item 15 – Design Your Own Football | Kyle |

- | | |
|--|--|
| Item 16 – Color Fillz | |
| Item 17 – Insta Worms | |
| Item 18 – Model Magic Fusion | |
| Item 19 – Webkinz donated by Minds Alive | |
| Item 20 – Chocolate Fondue Set | |
| Item 21 – 2 prints of Midland donated by the BIA | |
| Item 22 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 23 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 24 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 25 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 26 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 27 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 28 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 29 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 30 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 31 – Collection of books Scholastic Canada | |
| Item 32 – Kinder Surprise | |

- | |
|----------------------|
| Katie Moreau |
| Jayden Stevenson |
| Shirley Brown |
| Owen Mealing |
| Sierra Mulroy |
| Ann Thomas |
| Glenda Kingsbury |
| Ryley G |
| Cher Cunningham |
| Greg & Denise Zolner |
| Shirley Brown |
| Greg & Denise Zolner |
| Candice L |
| Jane Stevenson |
| Alex Laflamme |
| Jane Stevenson |
| Alise deWinter |

Our students' words

My Learning Experience in MARC

I am a Chinese lady. I have lived in Midland since 2008. I never expected to move to Canada, where English and French are the official languages. This means there are a lot of challenges for me because I am not young anymore. By chance, I saw a little advertisement for the MARC learning centre about ten months ago, I went there immediately.

MARC is a good place because there are volunteers to help people improve their language skills. Learning English has made my life in Canada much easier. Now, I have more confidence writing and speaking English because I have less accent, also people can understand what I say because I have improved my pronunciation. Finally, I got a temporary job. I really appreciate MARC for they helped me to improve my English literacy.

My tutor Karen, who just retired and used to be a high school teacher helps me every week.

She always has plenty of patience with me and corrects me. In order to increase my vocabulary, we play Scrabble together. We have a great fun when I am learning. She also encourages me to spell words correctly. MARC has not only helped me to learn, but has also been an exciting learning experience.

Jennifer

Winter Prediction

It was early spring and the leaves were just sprouting. Unlike other years, my service tree had not flowered. When it did slowly flower and turned to berries, they fell on my deck. They were a mushy brown wine colour. They should have been a firm bright red. I felt something was wrong.

A week or so later, there on the deck hundreds of small acorns that had fallen, caps and all. It is very unnatural for acorns to fall so soon. In the summertime it was very dangerous to sit on the deck. Now that fall is here, just the caps are falling.

It's not just the service tree and the oaks that are acting strange. My big white pines turned yellow. The pine needles were falling like I have never seen. They do this so a lot of snow does not gather on the branches and break them.

It looks like we are going to have a lot of snow this winter. I hope I'm wrong!

Bernard

Latest additions to resources - Good Reads

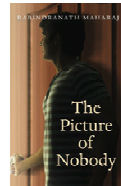
Short books. Easy Reading. Great Canadian Authors.

In From the Cold

A homeless mother and her teenage daughter live on the streets of a big city. Their lives are hard—they look for food in garbage dumpsters, they bathe in donut shop washrooms, and they hide from the police. The daughter is getting angry--she doesn't want this awful new life. She wants her other life back, the life with her friends and school. The mother keeps trying to do the right thing, but everything is going so wrong.



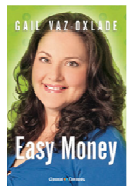
new place that his family has moved to, but he feels like he doesn't belong. His mother tells him to try harder, his father talks about life in the old country, and his sister changes her look from Goth to headscarf. He wants to get away from his family, but it's hard to make friends. The worst part is that when some people see his brown face, they think he might be a terrorist.



woman with a newborn baby—and a terrible secret. With the help of the priest, young Will discovers the truth.

Easy Money

At last—a money book for people with no money! For people with small incomes who could use some help, this book has advice that is useful, honest and even sometimes funny. Get help with the basics of budgeting, saving, credit, and getting out of debt.



The Stalker

Mike runs his own sea kayak tour business on Canada's wild west coast. He has just hired a pretty new tour cook, and can't stop thinking about her. While Mike is getting ready to take some pushy new customers on a weekend kayak tour, he gets some strange and scary calls on his cell phone. Someone is watching and someone doesn't want them out on the water. When Mike, his new customers, and his cook are deep in the wilderness, it becomes clear that the stalker is there too.



The Hangman

A dead man hangs from a tree in the cold November woods of the Quebec village of Three Pines. It appears that the man has committed suicide. But when Chief Inspector Armand Gamache takes a closer look, all the clues point to murder. No one knows who the dead man really is. And who is the hangman?



Reading guides are available for these books, with information on the authors, and suggested activities to do with your student.

The Picture of Nobody

The son of immigrants tries to fit in to the

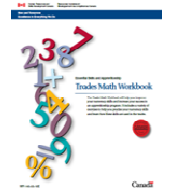
Shipwreck

In 1873, a storm wrecks a ship on the rocks near a tiny fishing village in Nova Scotia. The people in the village, including the parish priest and young Will Murdoch, bravely work to save the ship's crew. Found in the shipwreck is a rich young



Trades Math Workbook

Would your student benefit from some more "practical" math? Is your student interested in entering an apprenticeship program? We now have copies of the Trades Math Workbook in our resource library, a tool provided by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC).



Literacy Awareness Day Update

The Laubach Literacy Ontario Literacy Awareness Day at Queen's Park has been changed to Monday, Feb. 28, 2011.

The day will focus on: thanking the Provincial Government for recent funding, to remind decision-makers that community-based programs need ongoing funding to help an increasing number of students and to request annual cost of living increases for our community-based programs.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Sue Bannon at sbannon@csolve.net or 527-1522.

Used book stores offer great gift ideas for holiday season

The Used Book Stores have a variety of gift given possibilities for the upcoming holiday season.

Gift certificates are available in denominations of \$5, \$10 and \$20 and make perfect stocking stuffers. The gift certificates are perfect for babysitters and to include in holiday cards for employees.

The stores carry books which are new or in new condition. They can make the idea gift for the avid reader without spending over-budget.

The store at 756 Yonge Street carries Wye Write - A Collection which is an anthology of short stories written by local authors. The book sells for \$15 and we keep a portion of the proceeds when the book is purchased through the MARC Used Book Store.

There is also a selection of older, rare or hard-to-find books available. Ask the book store volunteers to see a copy of the list and they will happily show you any book you may be interested in.

When you do your holiday shopping at our Used Book Store you not only buy for everyone on your list, but you are also supporting community literacy programs in our area.

Both Used Book Stores are open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. With winter weather approaching, you may wish to call ahead to the book store to confirm that they are open. The Yonge St. location may be reached at 526-1718 and the library location may be reached through the Midland Public Library at 526-4216.

The Midland Area Reading Council is now on

[facebook](#)

Purchase Bubble Bath and support the Midland Area Reading Council

AVON



Set of 3
50ml bottles for
\$10

taxes included
(reg. \$4 per bottle)

A portion of all sales will be
donated to the Midland Area
Reading Council by Avon and Avon
Representative
Bailey Murray

Order by
Monday, December 13

Orders will be received
Friday, December 17

Please pay for bubble bath
at time of order

To place an order, contact Avon Representative
Bailey Murray at 526-8356 or Karen Mealing at 527-1522.

MARC newsletter given new name

The Midland newsletter now has a new name.

The August newsletter announced the newsletter naming contest and many great suggestions were submitted. After an e-mail vote, the new name of On the MARC was announced at the Annual General Meeting on September 22.

The name was submitted by both Zoe Hilton and Fred Hibbs and they each received a Wal-Mart gift card.

Thank you to everyone who took the time to submit names and who participated in the vote.

Smart Serve Trained Volunteers Needed

The Midland Area Reading Council has a couple of events planned during the next six to 12 months and we are looking for volunteers who have their Smart Serve training.

Please contact Karen Mealing at kmealing@csolve.net or 527-1522 if you might be able to help at an event or two.

Please support the Midland Area Reading Council

Although the Midland Area Reading Council receives some government funding, we are always in need of financial support to assist us in running our free programs to the community. All financial donations of \$10 or more will received a charitable tax receipt. Any amount you can give is greatly appreciated.

My donation is: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____

Postal Code: _____ Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Donations may be mailed or delivered to:
Midland Area Reading Council
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Midland, ON L4R 3S9