

PALMETTO LITERACY COUNCIL

BUILDING A STRONGER COMMUNITY THROUGH LITERACY



1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC 29577 [Google Map](#)



NEW A Message From The Director

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

The first St. Patrick's Day parade in the Americas was in New York City in the year 1762, while Savannah, Georgia, claims to have the oldest St. Patrick's Day parade. Chicago has a well-known tradition of dyeing the Chicago River green. So much fun!

Our first Adult Team Spelling Bee was a success, and we will do it again! I heard from every team and many of the audience members about how much fun they had! Scroll down to read more about it and see some photos of the event.

We want to congratulate Daniel Cohen on graduating from Palmetto Literacy Council as our second graduate of the year! Daniel graduated from our reading program a while ago and now he is a graduate of our Writing program. Daniel knows the writing process and he learned how to write opinions, narratives, and information articles. We're proud of him and thankful for Ms. Sandra Wendland for being a stellar tutor!

Every month we are so grateful and excited to see our students' progress and as a result learning to love reading, writing, or math. Your giving of time and donations helps us make this happen!

I'll be out of the office starting March 12, 2025, until, hopefully, tentatively back on March 26, 2025. I'm having knee replacement surgery on March 12 at MUSC. The doctors believe I need a couple of weeks to recuperate after surgery and realistically probably 4-6 weeks. I'm tough and our volunteers will be gentle with me!

Stay safe and healthy!

Dodi

Remember, our new address is: **1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC 29577**
([Click here](#) for a Google Map of this address)

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Jhenicia Pinnock has received her certificate for completing Level F of the Grade I Level Book. Jhenicia is a very enthusiastic student who approaches her work with such willingness. We look forward to all the success that Jhenecia will have in this program.



Madison Fletcher is with her tutor Arant Odriozola. Madison shows her certificate for completing Mammoth Math, Level 4, Chapter 7 at the Surfside Beach Library.



London Selwa is with her tutor Kathy Coulom at the Surfside Library. London completed the Read Closely section in her 2nd grade binder. London has been working hard learning new skills.

Donations

We are a nonprofit 501(c)(3). We use grants and donations to provide free tutoring for our children and adults in Horry County who struggle with basic reading, writing, and/or math. Thank you to all who have donated to our organization. Your donations have provided materials for our Volunteer Tutors to use and helped our students learn!

Due to our growth, we need funding to purchase computers, desks, and supplies. If you can, we would appreciate any help you could give us to continue to provide Horry County with high-quality, free tutoring. We are grateful for any donations. You can donate on the PLC website by [clicking here](#), or by clicking on the **Walmart Spark Good** website below.



We are registered for the Walmart SparkGood donation hub. Donors can purchase gift cards or other items we have listed to donate to our organization. This is the donation link on the Walmart website:

<https://www.walmart.com/registry/RR/36fa7082-9cde-489a-a5e8-4d31844ea9a1>

Daniel Cohen Graduated!



Daniel Cohen's graduation 2/6/25! Daniel graduated from our Reading program and today from our writing program! Sandra Wendland, his Tutor, is so proud of his accomplishments! He has done an amazing job! Daniel speaks two languages fluently!

This is the Cohen family and all of the tutors who have worked with them. Sandra Wendland, Daniel's tutor; Be'eri Cohen, who is being tutored with his tutor Nora Perron-Jones, Sue Walters, who was Haleli Cohen's Tutor (Haleli graduated in 2024), Lee O'Hana, Mom, and their little sister.



The Results Are In!



ADULT SPELLING BEE COMPETITION

We had so much FUN! The Adult Team Spelling Bee is like Team Trivia, only you are spelling as a team! We'll see you next year! Click the link to see many more photos of the Spelling Bee action in our [online photo album](#).

The official **Horry County Spelling Bee Champions for 2025** were the **B-Team: Martin Ryan, Mary Marini, and Ellen Hayward!** They also won the plaque for Most Creative Team Attire or Table Decoration!





Our emcee for the night was **Dr. Preston McKeever-Floyd**, the Chair of our Board of Directors. Mayor Bellamy, Conway, was ill and could not attend as one of our judges. We hope Mayor Bellamy feels better soon! We had two lovely judges, **Morgan Elvis**, otherwise known as Miss Myrtle Beach, and **Ms. Tonya Robinson**, a member of the PLC Board of Directors.

We are grateful to everyone who volunteered to help us and make this happen. We want to thank **Lori Regan**, Event Planner for **Bluewater Resorts!** She made us look especially good! We also need to thank **Owen Regan**, Lori's husband, for his help before, during and after the event. Bill Woodward put together a beautiful video about PLC for everyone and we may get a couple of volunteers as a result!



Thank you to **Yahnis Distributing** for donating 10 cases of beer and hard seltzer! Thank you to the **Maguire Law Firm** for their sponsorship of the delicious desserts. Thank you to **Michelle Frith**, our Fabulous Bartender! We had dozens of businesses donate items for auction to help us make it happen. We were given private donations to PLC to be put toward the event.

The words were relatively easy at the beginning (kind of lulled everyone into a false sense of spelling expertise), then escalated slowly to some more difficult words. There was lots of laughter and banter for all!

Thank you to everyone who pitched in and to everyone who played! We will do this again!



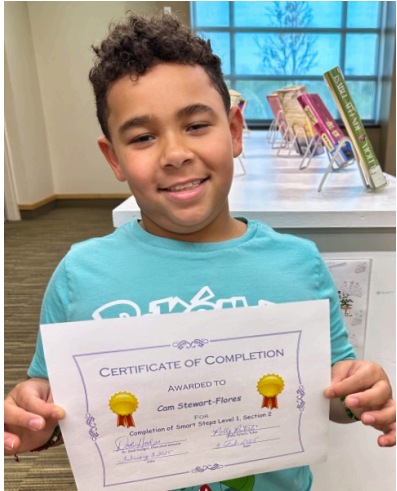
Plaques Awarded:

- **Most Likely to Need a Tutor** – DeCicco Sponsors, Surprise Bees: Katie Minehan, Mary Beth Topczynski, Polly Putorti
- **Best Team Name** – WMBF News, Alpha Bits: George Hansen, Teagan Brown, Sandy Shackelford, and Anne Reiter
- **Most Creative Team Attire or Table Decoration** – B-Team: Mary Marini, Martin Ryan, Ellen Hayward
- **Biggest Swarm** – Winslow Law Firm, Winslow Wizards: Michelle Griffin, Tom

Winslow, Jackie Gonzalez, and Lauren Winslow.

- **Buzzing with Brilliance** – Axelrod Law Firm, Beyond Reasonable Doubt: Campbell Curles, Kate O'Hara, Kelly Kersey, and Tatiana Berkey

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Cam Stewart-Flores is moving right along in his reading. He is improving in his fluency, comprehension, & word work. Keep reading & improving, Cam! Polly Putorti is his Tutor.



Gabby Vizcarra is a quick learner and has completed her entire binder (Passages to Comprehension). Congratulations Gabby for a job well done! Gabby is with her Mom, Anel. Her tutor is Bonnie Kelley.

First Friday Socials

Look for emails announcing the location of the **First Friday Socials** for Palmetto Literacy Council. This is a time for you to meet and get to know other PLC folks. We're talking about PLC, our focus here is to get to know each other! Oh...it's happy hour too! So, **SAVE THE DATE for FRIDAY, April 4, 2025.**

It is the hope of PLC that you can attend some of these happy hours, and share some apps and cocktails while getting to know one another. All tutoring and no play make for a dull day!

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



This is Barb Rothfork, Tutor, and **Willie Scott**, Student. Willie completed Passages to Comprehension, Level 2.



Jace Webb completed Smart Steps, Level 1, Section 3.



Donna Martin, tutor, with student **Kayden Martinez** and mom. First certificate received and so happy!

Volunteers

Want to give back to your community? It only takes 2 hours each week to tutor a child or adult who struggle with basic reading, writing, and/or math. We provide materials and training which are designed to meet the individual student's needs. We also provide training and opportunities to learn from other tutors (Tutor Talks).

If you can help, please attend one of our **Volunteer Orientation and Training** sessions or give the office a call (843) 945-9278. You can check when the Volunteer Orientation and Training sessions are scheduled on our [Calendar](#) on our website. We welcome you to bring friends to these sessions.

Our Kids Are Making Progress!



Kalinana Borjas has improved immensely! She can sound out more complex and irregular words. She has improved on her sentence structure- including capitalization and



punctuation. She has gotten better at drawing parallels/making connections between the stories and her own life.

Ziana Beauford received her certificate for completing Math Chapter 2, M4-07. She takes pride in learning and works hard to expand her math skills. Ziana's tutor is Vickie Osborne.

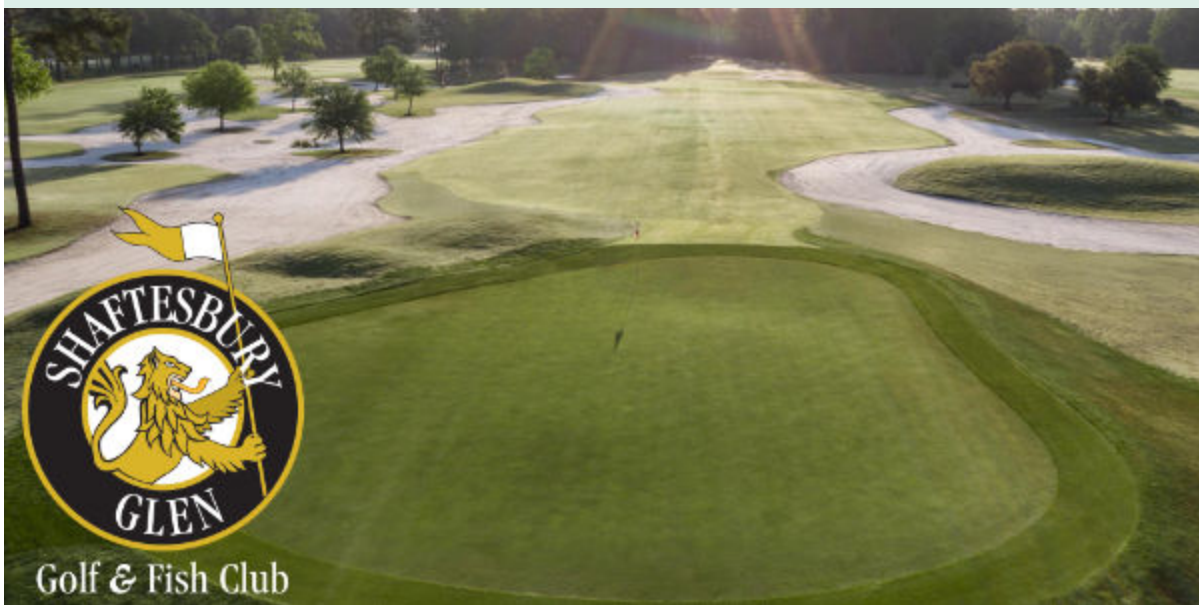
Speaking Engagements

If you have a service organization and need speakers, we would be happy to provide your organization with information about the Palmetto Literacy Council. Contact us here:

Email: info@palmettoliteracy.org

Office Phone: [\(843\) 945-9278](tel:(843)945-9278)

2025 Golf Scramble Announcement!



The **2025 PLC Golf Scramble** will take place at **Shaftesbury Glen Golf & Fish Club** on **June 14**. The course is located at 951 Shaftesbury Ln, Conway, SC. ([Google Map](#))

More information to come! Lots of competition and just plain old fun! Raffles, games, and more! We have sponsorships available for holes, the event, and even more.

Yes, we're putting together a **committee** for this event. We'll meet tentatively on **Wednesday, March 26, at 1:00 pm**. Check with the PLC office first.

Much more information will be coming over the next few months. Visit Shaftesburyglen.com for more course photos.

Dates to Note

You can always check the Calendar on the PLC website. [Click Here](#).

These events take place at the office,
1435 Cannon Road, #101, Myrtle Beach SC. ([Google Map](#))

Our sign is above our entrance door. If you find yourself in front of a yellow building, that is the wrong building. We are in the brick and stucco building next door.

Tutor Talks

Tutors share ideas, ask for ideas, and get to know each other! Light refreshments. The Tutor Talks are typically at the end of the month, so we will schedule two for April once we see how Dodi recovers.

Always a lot to learn and you get to meet fellow Tutors!

Volunteer Orientations and Training

If you know anyone interested in volunteering to tutor, please let them know about the Volunteer Orientations and Training (VOT). The first March meeting was on March 5. A second VOT may be scheduled later in March. If so, you'll get a short email about it.

Our Mission:

The Palmetto Literacy Council's mission is to improve the literacy of youth and adults in our community by tutoring literacy skills for those who struggle with basic Reading, Writing and/or Math.

Donate Now!

If you've read this far, you're obviously interested in what we do. Your donation helps pay for student binders, office space, copy machines, paper, and much more. Please donate what you can today!

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2024

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Newsletter Editor -
Newsletter Layout - Bill Woodward
Palmetto Literacy Council
1435 Cannon Road
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
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