

# LITERACY LEGACY

*Leading Through Reading*

LITERACY COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY



January 2011

## Celebrity Chef Curtis Aikens Addresses Literacy Luncheon

Celebrity chef, television personality, best-selling author and former adult literacy student Curtis Aikens will be the featured speaker at the 20th annual Love of Literacy Luncheon at the Raymond F. Kravis Center for the Performing Arts-Cohen Pavilion in West Palm Beach on **Friday, March 11**. Aikens did not learn to read until he was 26 years old and is an avid advocate for adult learners and volunteer tutors.

He has been with the Food Network since its inception, but before his media acclaim, he succeeded as an entrepreneur who hid his lack of literacy skills. He never felt good about his business accomplishments because he never learned to read. Now he is a college graduate and an

acclaimed chef. His good-natured charm and unaffected charisma helped Curtis land featured spots on *Good Morning America*, *Oprah* and *Entertainment Tonight*. He has also cooked for the Dalai Lama. *NBC Nightly News* covered his remarkable struggle with illiteracy and his devotion to helping adults with the same issue. As an author of five popular books, Aikens keeps the fire for literacy burning among delicious down-home cooking ideas.

The Love of Literacy Luncheon raises awareness of our county's significant literacy needs and provides crucial support for literacy programs serving approximately 30,000 individuals each year. We are pleased to announce that the luncheon is made possible



for the tenth year by support from Bank of America. The law firm of Haile, Shaw & Pfaffenberger, P.A. is again supporting the luncheon as our Platinum Sponsor.

To purchase luncheon tickets, sponsor a table or a program ad or to donate a door prize, call **800-273-1030**, e-mail [kmatczak@literacypbc.org](mailto:kmatczak@literacypbc.org) or visit [www.literacypbc.org](http://www.literacypbc.org).



**March 11 at 11:30 am**

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Florida Literacy Coalition and ProLiteracy Member

# Mark Your 2011 Calendars

## January 29

### Tutor Training

Palm Beach State College

Lake Worth

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## February 10

Adult Learner Leadership Board

Norton Museum

West Palm Beach

6:00 p.m.

## February 11

Adult Essay Contest Deadline

## March 11

### Love of Literacy Luncheon

Kravis Center for the Performing Arts

West Palm Beach

11:30 a.m.

## March 26

### Tutor Training

Palm Beach State College

Lake Worth

9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

## April 2

### Loop the Lake for Literacy

Lake Okeechobee

## April 5

### Reach Out and Read Training Dinner

Benvenuto

6:30 p.m.

## April 14

### Essay Contest Reception

Palm Beach Airport Hilton

West Palm Beach

5:30 p.m.

# Village Readers Program Assists Students in Securing Employment



It comes as no surprise to the faculty of the Coalition's Village Readers Family Education program that one of our most diligent and personable students, Mr. Chanel Norde, has secured a food service position for himself at the prestigious Marcello's Restaurant in Deerfield Beach, Florida.

Mr. Norde arrived in Florida a mere one year and ten months ago to

reside with his relatives in Delray Beach for the purpose of mastering English and continuing his educational and career goals. In addition to pursuing his GED, Chanel would like to pursue a career as a Physician's Assistant.

Chanel has a deep appreciation for music, in particular the mellow tones of the trombone which he hopes to study one day. He attends Bethel Evangelical Baptist Church on a regular basis and enjoys listening to and accompanying the talented choir of that house of worship.

Mr. Norde says that his tenure in the Village Readers Program has given him the skills to communicate effectively on job interviews. Chanel's instructor, Michael J. Krantz, is very proud of this young man's achievement.

# LOOP THE LAKE FOR LITERACY

Loop the Lake for Literacy is a cycling event benefiting the programs of the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County, which ensure that adults, children, youth and families gain the literacy skills necessary to succeed in life.

In this fun, adventurous outdoor event, cyclists will ride 25, 50 or 120 mile routes around the shores of Lake Okeechobee.

Save the date and join us for this exciting event. Let's Loop the Lake together and promote literacy in Palm Beach County.

For literacy information, contact:



at (800) 273-1030 or visit  
[www.literacyabc.org](http://www.literacyabc.org)

For more event information  
and to register, visit:

[www.LoopTheLakeForLiteracy.com](http://www.LoopTheLakeForLiteracy.com)



Receive  
a special  
Loop the Lake  
cycling jersey!\*

## WHAT:

Cycling event  
to benefit the  
Literacy Coalition of  
Palm Beach County

## WHEN:

Saturday, April 2

## WHERE:

Lake Okeechobee, FL

## EARLY

## REGISTRATION:

25 miles – \$75

50 miles – \$75

120 miles – \$120

*\*By fundraising a minimum  
of \$300, you will receive a  
custom inaugural Loop the  
Lake for Literacy cycling  
jersey.*

**Register today! [www.LoopTheLakeForLiteracy.com](http://www.LoopTheLakeForLiteracy.com)**



# The 2010 Spelling Bee Winners are...

WINNING WORD:

murrain

FIRST PLACE:

Greenberg Traurig, P.A.

SECOND PLACE:

Florida Crystals Corporation

THIRD PLACE:

LaBovick & LaBovick, P.A.

SPIRIT AWARD:

Northern Trust and  
Florida Crystals Corporation



On Thursday, September 16, Great Grown-Up Spelling Bee sponsors helped raise more than \$33,000 to support literacy programs.

## 2010 BEE TEAMS:

Akerman Senterfitt  
Cheney Brothers  
Comcast  
Cusano's Italian Bakery  
Discount Debt Solutions  
Duffy's Sports Grill  
Edwards Angell Palmer & Dodge LLP  
Florida Crystals Corporation  
Florida Power & Light  
Friends of the Palm Beach County Library System  
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Palm Beach County Bar Association  
Palm Beach State College  
Park Avenue BBQ & Grille  
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SV Microwave  
The Private Client Reserve at U.S. Bank  
WPBF 25 News

## 2010 LETTER SPONSORS:

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## SPECIAL THANKS:

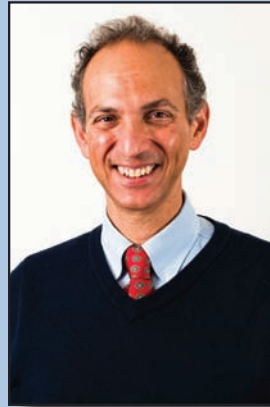
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WPTV NewsChannel 5

# Author of Dr. Spock's Baby Basics Trains Local Pediatricians

Dr. Robert Needlman will be the featured speaker at the annual training dinner on Tuesday, April 5, for the Coalition's Reach Out and Read program made possible through funding from the Children's Services Council. Pediatricians and staff members from the program's participating medical sites will attend the training event.

Needlman was the lead pediatrician in the Reach Out and Read pilot project at Boston City Hospital in 1989 and directed the program for its first four years. He is the author of *Dr. Spock's Baby Basics* and co-author of the eighth and ninth editions of *Baby and Child Care*, Dr.

Benjamin Spock's classic parenting manual. He has been a columnist for Scholastic's *Parent and Child Magazine* and has written for parents on-line at [www.Drspock.com](http://www.Drspock.com) and as a Yahoo health expert. His published academic work includes studies on pediatric literacy promotion, prenatal cocaine exposure, iron deficiency, maternal depression and resident training. Dr. Needlman practices and teaches Developmental and



Behavioral Pediatrics at MetroHealth Medical Center in Cleveland and is Associate Professor of Pediatrics at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine.

The Coalition's Reach Out and Read program provides emergent literacy guidance through the power of local pediatricians at 28 sites and provides new children's books to more than 28,000 families each year impacting a large percentage of the families in poverty in our area.

## AmeriCorps Builds Confidence in Palm Beach County Students

Young adults from 22 states and from as far away as Oregon, California and Idaho travelled to Palm Beach County in August to serve their country by tutoring and teaching with the Coalition in Literacy AmeriCorps for a year. These members receive a small stipend and are serving at 27 different service sites as graduation coaches with high school students, teachers for family literacy programs, reading instructors with children and adults and educational mentors for youth.

One member, Tiffany Hendrix, shared her experience serving at Gulfstream Goodwill: Transition to Life Academy. "I work with one student two days a week who has a much harder time reading out loud than his classmates. I selected him as a student to work with one-to-one because his peers always would feed him words and interrupt his reading, and I wanted him to gain skills and confidence. During our third meeting together, he asked me, 'Ms. Tiffany, did you ask me to work with you



because I'm not as smart as the other students?' I asked him how he felt about reading out loud, and he explained his embarrassment and struggles to me. I told him my goal is to help him with that, and it had nothing to do with his intelligence, because I know he's a very smart young man who will work hard and has tons of confidence to build and things to learn. He looked very embarrassed, but had a huge grin on his face and said, 'When my mom comes for the open house in a couple weeks, can you tell her that, Miss? I don't think anyone's said that about me before.'"



# Coalition Addresses Bullying through Reading Strategies



Because of its great success delivering quality training to after school staff members, the Coalition's After School Reads (ASR) program was recently selected by Prime Time Palm Beach County to deliver an anti-bullying program. With large group and personalized on-site trainings, ASR will provide after school staff with proven strategies and materials to help children and their parents deal with bullying. ASR will train after school staff to utilize quality literature-based activities, dynamic discussion outlines and energizing activity plans to inspire effective behavioral changes in bullies, targeted victims and bystanders throughout Palm Beach County.

ASR will continue to provide the very popular KidzLit reading enrichment program that teaches after school staff members how to use quality literature in helping children increase their reading skills and enjoyment of reading. This year, ASR will also implement KidzMath, which is aligned with the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics Standards, in five pilot sites. This new program uses literature to help children develop mathematical skills, gain confidence in their mathematical abilities, increase their enjoyment of mathematics and improve their ability to work with others.

## The Literacy Coalition Announces the

### Adult Literacy Student Essay Contest 2011



Adult learners throughout Palm Beach County are invited to submit essays on the topic,

***"The most important thing I've learned about life is..."***

Essays are to be written in INK and must be between 150-200 words.

Essays need to be mailed by

**Friday, February 11 to:**

The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County  
551 SE 8th Street, Suite 505  
Delray Beach, FL 33483

For more information, contact:

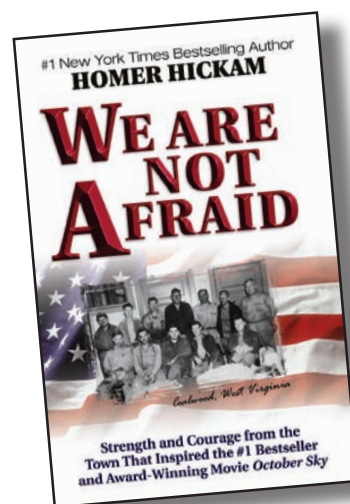
Dianne Maddox  
Outreach Coordinator  
(800) 273-1030 or  
[dmaddox@literacypbc.org](mailto:dmaddox@literacypbc.org)



ID Charitable Foundation

## Luncheon Guests Receive *We Are Not Afraid*

HCI, *The Life Issues Publisher*, has delighted guests at the Literacy Luncheon for many years with a personal copy of a current book. This year's selection that will be given to each guest is a special favorite. In *We Are Not Afraid*, Homer Hickam writes about the town that inspired his #1 bestseller *Rocket Boys* and the award-winning film *October Sky*. In this inspirational guide to overcoming fear, written shortly after the September 11 attacks, Hickam shares anecdotes from his life, particularly the values he learned in the small, humble town of Coalwood, West Virginia. His words of courage help lead the reader beyond fear to find the strength to live more happily and look toward the future with optimism.





# Child Care Centers Celebrate A Snowy Day

Thousands of parents, caregivers and other adults across the nation joined together in October to read *The Snowy Day* by author Ezra Jack Keats. This was part of the national effort led by Jumpstart's Read for the Record campaign to ensure that all children enter kindergarten prepared to succeed.

This year's campaign was the most successful to date, with more than 2 million children being read to worldwide. In Palm Beach County, 2,200 adults read to 28,000 children!

The local campaign was coordinated by the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County in partnership with the Children's Services Council, PNC, Family Central, WXEL, *The Palm Beach Post* and WXEL Television and Radio. The PNC Foundation awarded the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County a grant to assist the Coalition's early literacy program in Palm Beach County.

Adults from local businesses, municipalities and services organizations such as Palm Beach County Fire Rescue, Family Central, Florida Power & Light, Lynn University, Jarden Consumer Solutions, Kiwanis Club of Jupiter-Tequesta, Office Depot Foundation, Palm Beach Atlantic University, Palm Beach Flagler Rotary



Rob Whitney, President-Elect, Kiwanis Club Jupiter-Tequesta, reads *The Snowy Day* to children at the Thelma B. Pittman Jupiter Pre-School.

Club and Velocity Community Credit Union participated in the event.

The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County also held a focal event at Palm Beach Ice Works on October 7. Children from Academy of Little Learners, All About Kids, Glades Family Education Program and Hispanic Human Resources listened to *The Snowy Day* read by Tania Rogers from WPTV NewsChannel 5. The children heard other winter stories read by Craig Grant, PNC Regional President; Leslie Streeter, *The Palm Beach Post*; Stefan Holt, WPBF 25 News and John Favole, WPTV NewsChannel 5. The children were also treated to an ice skating show as well as snow cones.

# Your gift provides...

brighter futures \$250	magical adventures \$100	expanded opportunities \$70	employment possibilities \$50
			

Any gift will help our neighbors improve their literacy skills and is greatly appreciated.

Name	Donation Amount		
Address			
City	State	Zip	
Phone	E-mail		

Thank you!

To make a tax-deductible donation, please visit [www.literacyabc.org/donate](http://www.literacyabc.org/donate) or send a check payable to:  
**Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County • 551 SE 8th Street, Suite 505 • Delray Beach, FL 33483**



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