

English Express

November 2018



Bonita comes to us from the Philippines. There she went to high school and one year of college before it became necessary to get a job to help the family. And what a job! Bonita went to Japan and performed in "Cultural Dance" for 10 years. After that, Bonita came to the U.S. and Florida's West Coast. Her English was limited when she arrived, and she knew very little about our culture.

It was Bonita's daughter who encouraged her to go to the North Port Library to get advice on how to study English. Now Bonita is paired with LVSSC volunteer tutor, Nancy Nasser. Bonita also studies English in group classes.

Because Bonita is learning vocabulary, tenses, and pronunciation in her classes, Nancy decided to focus on American culture. To do this, the two take frequent field trips. And they discuss everything around them in detail. For example, an immigrant may have the funds for a down payment on a house and has calculated the payments but knows nothing about closing and interest costs. She may have cash to put in a bank account but no idea how to open an account and make deposits and withdrawals. At the bank, with prompting from Nancy, Bonita opened an account and made a bank deposit. In another situation, Bonita didn't understand what the term 'tip' meant on a restaurant bill. Even lunch is a learning experience!

On the day LVSSC interviewed Bonita for this article, she had just finished giving a short talk



about her American experience and her relationship with "Ms. Nancy". The audience, The Woman's Club of Venice, was delighted with Bonita. Her presentation was well arranged and well delivered.

Bonita has goals, including getting:

- A driver's license
- A Green Card
- Certification as CNA
- American Citizenship

She and Nancy have been to Motor Vehicles Administration and the Agency for Immigration. They are such good friends and plan to work through this list together. Literacy does change lives, and not just for the student! Let's hear a Shout Out for Bonita and Nancy!

Literacy Changes Lives!

Literacy Volunteers forms its LVSSC Foundation for Planned Giving

Do you ever wonder where the funds come from to operate the Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County?

With three part-time coordinators and a very engaged board of directors, efforts are continually underway to obtain funds to pay our operating costs, as we serve an expanding client base of 350 with 180 volunteer tutors and class instructors. From card parties, to United Way support, miscellaneous grants and a new Author Literacy Event, the Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County are in a constant fund-raising state.....but what about the long-range support?

With this in mind, we have formed a 501(c)3 Foundation with the hope of attracting some planned giving legacy gifts from committed individuals who see the need to support our ongoing costs. Gifts of cash, stocks, bonds, real estate/land, life insurance and other substantial gifts may be given with a tax deduction benefit for the donor.

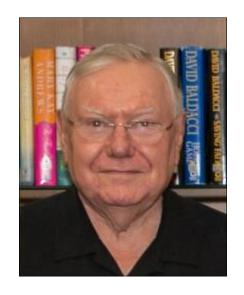
Over the next months you will hear more about the opportunity to help make a legacy gift to our organization.

For more information, please contact Jim Patterson at <u>jcpatterson46@gmail.com</u> or Joe Pokorney at <u>Joe@lancastermcginty.com</u> or speak with any board member.

President's Comments

Following a rather quiet summer, the pace of English Tutoring is speeding up and we have a few changes in the air. After 5 years as the Venice Coordinator, Sharon Betterton has left us to spend more time with her family. In addition, Debi Hoefer, one of our board members who was very involved in our database conversion to the ProLit LACES database has moved to the east coast. We have been successful in recruiting a new Venice Coordinator and two new board members over the past few weeks. Peter Norrman, one of our experienced tutors, started as the Venice coordinator in early November.

I want to welcome our two newest board members, Lisa Hart and Helen Russette, who bring added skills and enthusiasm to our board.



With the return of snowbirds and vacationing students, we are again busy with tutor training, continuing education workshops, one-on-one tutoring and numerous study groups. Thanks to the Plantation Community Foundation, our new Computer English Learning Lab is attracting tutors and students.

Save These Dates!

Thu. 2/27 6:30-7:30 pm	An Evening With Randy White	Venice Yacht Club
Wed., 3/27 1:00 pm	Annual Card & Game Party	Jacaranda Trace, Venice
Late Mar. or Early Apr.	United Way Community Walk	Atlanta Braves Stadium

Welcome to our New Venice Coordinator



We are sorry to have lost our beloved Venice coordinator, Sharon Betterton. Sharon left us in October to devote more time to her family. Sharon was a delightful colleague and will be missed.

The search committee for our new coordinator was led by Nancy Pike. Several excellent candidates expressed interest, making it a tough decision. Peter Norrman, who is one of our tutors, has agreed to take the Venice position; and we are all pleased. Peter has had a very interesting career; three actually. He worked as an engineer on the Lunar Module for Grumman and his name is actually on the Moon! Later he worked in real estate and insurance. Before retiring, Peter was the director of a non-profit, Swedish Home for the Aged. It seems he can fit in just about anywhere. Once Peter moves to the new Venice library office on Dec 15th, please stop in and welcome him. Pictured with Peter is Kim Pike, our project manager for StartNow. Kim has been filling in at the Venice office and was there to greet Peter and provide some orientation.

Nancy Pike led the search for the new coordinator with assistance from board members Penny Corell and Judith McGinty

Continuing Education for Tutors

Last year we had some short workshops and a few coffee klatches for our tutors. These were very well received as they brought like-minded volunteers together to learn and share ideas. And that was the intention. Now we are offering even more opportunities, and we urge our tutors to attend 2 or 3 this year. There is a schedule of all activities on pages 9 and 10 As others are added the tutors will be notified

Welcome our Two New Board Members

Helen Russette

Helen earned a PharmD, and then practiced clinical and consulting pharmacy at Mayo Clinic in Jacksonville. After retiring, she volunteered with US Coast Guard Auxiliary and Clay County Literacy Coalition where she also served on the Board. Today she lives with her husband in IslandWalk and continues literacy tutoring at the North Port Library. Helen looks forward to serving on our board.



Lisa Hart

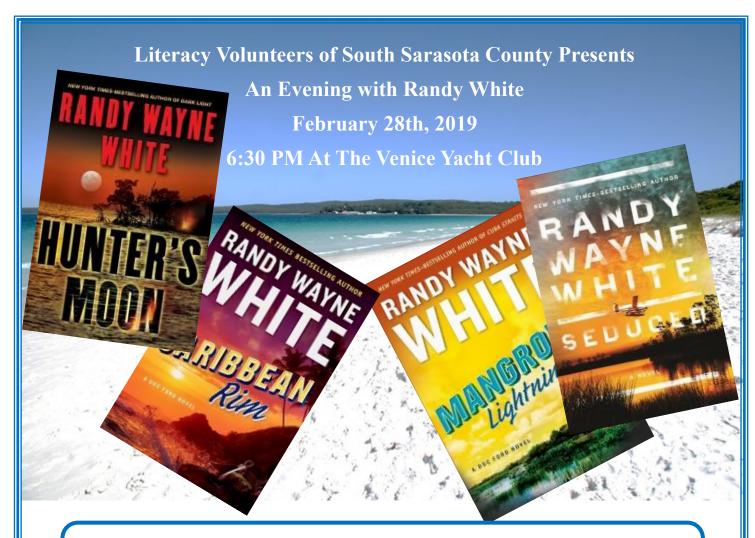
Lisa is currently Director of Finance and Operations for Crossref (crossref.org) and on the Audit Committee for Open Research Contributor ID and Audit Committee for the Society for Scholarly Publishing. She was on the Boards of the New England Society of Association Executives and the American Society of Association Executives. She also served on the Boards of Mass. Families Organizing for Change, Department of Developmental Service Family Support Council, and DDS Transportation Task Force, Massachusetts State.

Lisa moved to Venice 2017 with husband Sean and son Erik, who resides at Loveland Village. She became a LVSSC Tutor in 2018.



Randy White Night

Wow! We are thrilled by the community's response to our first major fundraiser. We have nearly met our goal for sponsorship with a major contribution from the Gulf Coast Community Foundation and very generous contributions from Bayfront Venice Regional Medical Center, PGT, and Coach House. There are limited number of individual tickets available.



To purchase tickets contact a Board member or go to our website http://www.literacychangeslives.org

We want to thank all of our generous event sponsors

GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION





INVENT. BUILD. DELIVER.



Welcome New Tutors

Pictured below are the new tutors trained at Denise Gastineau's Tutor Training Workshops for LVSSC at Jacaranda Library ,West Villages, and VABI.

June 30th Nadine Baker, Jeanne Birrane, Linda Gesek, Charles Haberstroh, Patricia Haberstroh, Marc Hapke, Lisa Hart, Debra Hild, Brian McMenamin, Mary Jane Morris, Elizabeth Rainey, Savannah Ruiz, Tim Saltonstall

Photo not available



August 23rd

From left to right: Betsy Muzzicato, Jennifer Tedeschi, Janet Felps, Deb Polizzi, Linda Komondy, Joanne Garelick, and Betsy Simmons.



October 15th

Laura Sweiss, Roz Bowman, Faith Knabber, John Finnigan

Debi's Baby

The new LVSSC TeamUp calendar's list of events and tutor continuing education courses is found on pages 9 and 10. At our web site www.literacychangeslives.org, you can find the entire calendar. This is an extensive list of activities that, until recently, was kept in our heads and pockets. Each of us often knew just enough to accomplish our tasks.

We had the good fortune to have Debi Hoefer on our board to advise us about uses of newer computer technology. Debi implemented TeamUp, a Web-based calendar to keep all us up-to-date on all of our numerous and various activities. The calendar has allowed us to be more efficient and more informed about all that's happening in this growing volunteer organization. This is only one of many technology related contributions Debi made to LVSSC. We will miss her energy, ability and enthusiasm now that she has moved to the other coast. But she's only a phone call away!

Tutor Training for New Volunteers - Please tell your friends!

2-day tutor trainings at West Villages Office Park by Lavonne Radonovich

Mondays, December 3 and 10 Saturdays, January 12 and 19 Wednesdays, February 20 and 27 Thursdays, March 19 and 26 Thursdays, April 11 and 18

Reserve for North Port workshops by contacting Karen Bridegam at north.port.literacy@gmail.com or 941-861-1320.

A Big Shout Out!

For many years LVSSC have enjoyed the privilege of using space at Sarasota County Libraries. We have office space in both the Venice and North Port libraries. We use conference and study rooms for training and tutoring in those facilities as well as rooms in the Jacaranda Library. When the Venice Library was closed and demolished, LVSSC was brought along with them to the temporary space. And now we are relocating in the brand-new, gorgeous Venice Library on the Cultural Campus on Nokomis Avenue South. The hospitality of the Sarasota Library System knows no bounds.

More recently, LVSSC found the open doors of two other organizations. **Venice Area Beautification** (VABI.com) has a lovely facility

which is made available to us for training and orientation sessions. Visit the VABI web site to learn more about the awesome projects they support to make the city so attractive.

And West Villages Office Park

(mywestvillages.com), located on U.S. 41 between Venice and North Port, has been more than generous with their very comfortable and attractive training spaces. Their location is ideal for populations in both areas. We are again so fortunate and thankful.

Without these organizations supporting us, we would not be able to provide the much-needed literacy services to residents of South Sarasota County. Thank you one and all!

The Move is On!

Our Venice Library and office will close on November 18th to allow the volunteers to move our office equipment and books to the LVSSC Office in the new **William H. Jervey Jr. Library** at 300 Nokomis Avenue South, Venice. The last day to collect any needed materials is November 17th. The Grand Opening of the new Venice Library is December 15th at 9:00 AM. LVSSC will occupy a new office and two study rooms in the new Library.

A Study Room



The New Office





Tutor Training & Education Schedule

		Location	Title
November			
Tue, Nov 13, 2018	1:00 PM - 4:00 PM	Venice Area Beautification, Inc. Office (VABI) Behind Venice Little Theater, Under the Bridge	Video Chat Tutoring Workshop
Thu, Nov 15, 2018	10:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Venice Area Beautification, Inc. Office (VABI), behind Venice Little Theater, Under the Bridge	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Sat, Nov 17, 2018	10:15 AM - 4:30 PM	North Port Library, Juliano Room	Reading Opens Doors Phonemic Awareness Workshop 1
Wed, Nov 21, 2018	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
Tue, Nov 27, 2018	10:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Venice Area Beautification, Inc. Office (VABI), behind Venice Little Theater, Under the Bridge	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
Tue, Nov 27, 2018	11:00 AM - 12:00 PM	North Port Family Service Center/ Start Now! Office, Suite B	New Tutor Orientation
Dec	ember		
Mon, Dec 3, 2018	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Mon, Dec 10, 2018	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
Wed, Dec 12, 2018	1:0010:00 AM – Noon	Computer English Learning Lab North Port Family Service Center, Suite B	Computer English Learning Tools
Wed, Dec 19, 2018	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
January			
Sat, Jan 12, 2019 - 1	0:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Wed, Jan 16, 2019	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
Sat, Jan 19, 2019 4:00 PM	10:00 AM -	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy. Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
Tue, Jan 22, 2019	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Computer English Learning Lab North Port Family Service Center, Suite B	Computer English Learning Tools
Thu, Jan 31, 2019	10:15 AM - 4:30 PM	North Port Library, Juliano Room	Reading Opens Doors Phonemic Awareness Workshop 2

Tutor Training & Education Schedule, (Continued)

Fel	bruary		
Sat, Feb 16, 2019	10:00 AM – Noon	Computer English Learning Lab North Port Family Service Center, Suite B	Computer English Learning Tools
Wed, Feb 20, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy. Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Wed, Feb 20, 2019	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
Wed, Feb 27, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
Thu, Feb 28, 2019	6:30 PM - 9:00 PM	Venice Yacht Club, 1330 Tarpon Center Drive, Venice, FL 34285	Author Event: Randy Wayne White
M	arch		
Fri, Mar 15, 2019	1:00 PM – 3:00 PM	Computer English Learning Lab North Port Family Service Center, Suite B	Computer English Learning Tools
Tue, Mar 19, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Wed, Mar 20, 2019	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
Tue, Mar 26, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
April			
Thu, Apr 11, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 1
Wed, Apr 17, 2019	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting
Thu, Apr 18, 2019	10:00 AM - 4:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room, 19503 S. West Villages Pkwy, Venice, FL 34293	Tutor Training Workshop Day 2
Tue, Apr 23, 2019	10:00 AM – Noon	Computer English Learning Lab North Port Family Service Center, Suite B	Computer English Learning Tools
May			
Wed, May 15, 2019	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	West Villages Office Park - Conference Room	LVSSC Monthly Board Meeting

Grand Opening of Our Computer English Learning Lab



On November 9th, the ribbon was officially cut on our new lab; purchased through another generous gift from the Plantation Community Foundation. While we have been using the lab to teach our tutors how to orient students to its uses for awhile; now it is officially open. Representatives from both Plantation and LVSSC joined to admire this state-of-the-art portable computer lab and all the new language software including Rosetta Stone and Rocket English.

Once a student knows how to use all the components, s(he) can make appointments to come to the StartNow office in North Port or the Venice Library office to practice their language skills and learn new ones. There are at least 3 language programs to explore and icons for many online language sites. An additional benefit of the lab is that the users will become more proficient is the general use of computers and the internet.

Our lab has 8 MacBook computers, headsets and microphones for practice and feedback. Both offices provide access to the internet. There are study carrels in the North Port office.

This lab is not meant as a substitute for a tutor or group class but, it is an excellent adjunct learning method. In our next issue of English Express, you will see an update and the reactions of the students.

We thank Plantation Community Foundation for this generous gift and pledge to put it to good use in teaching our numerous students.

Photos by Rob Christy





Photo by David Williams

Orientation is The Key

Several months ago we began to conduct an orientation for those who were interested in becoming LVSSC tutors. It was very well received and now has been become prerequisite for the 2-day tutor training course. This one-hour session answers many questions for the new volunteers. With this in-depth information, the potential tutor can make an informed decision about going further. The orientations are scheduled during the week before tutor training. They are held in both North Port and Venice. Call either of the Coordinators to register for Orientation.

Thank you to our Grantors!

We are sincerely grateful for the generosity of these organization who awarded grant support to Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County (listed alphabetically)

Arline Smyth Quinn Charitable Foundation: StartNow! North Port project, including coordina-

tor salary.

Dollar General Literacy Foundation: StartNow! North Port project, including rent.

Gulf Coast Community Foundation: Support for February Author Event

Heron Creek Community Foundation: Computer, desk, brochures, books, software for

North Port office.

The Plantation Community Foundation: Computer Lab, including equipment, software,

and furniture.

Venice Golf and Country Club Foundation: Study and promotional materials.

United Way of South Sarasota County: Program expenses

Women's Sertoma: Tutor training materials

Women of the Moose: Program expenses

Michael Saunders Foundation:

Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club and Sunrise Rotary Club.

Southwest County Alliance of Homeowners Association

Golden Beach Homeowners Association

Venice Yacht Club

Newcomer Day

LVSSC recently participated in the North Port Newcomer Day. This is a great venue for our organization to present our volunteer activities to people new to the community. As many of these are recent retirees we are delighted to meet and greet them as they look for meaningful retirement activities. Thank you, Jean Smuckler and Ann Magliacano for representing us.



The Island Walk Volunteer Event



Island Walk held a Volunteers Fair on November 8th. Kim Pike and Paddy Padmanabhan represented us. This event provides a venue for volunteer organizations to present their causes to potential new recruits. Several people signed our guest list and will be contacted soon.

Speakers Bureau

Paddy Padmanabhan is the Director of LVSSC Speakers Bureau. This small group of volunteers looks for speaking opportunities at all types of organizations, from garden clubs to church groups. We have a well-organized presentation and on occasion, one of our students assists by telling their stories of goals accomplished and the journey. If you would like to become one of our speakers or know of an organization that would be interested in presentation, please contact Paddy Padmanabhan at: paddy0206@gmail.com

Thank You for Your Financial Support! July 2017- June 2018

\$19,271 Impact Grant for English Literacy Learning Lab

Plantation Community Foundation

\$8,000

Dollar General Literacy Grant Elizabeth, Polly, and Ernest Skinner United Way of South Sarasota County

Special Thanks for Adult Literacy support

Marjorie Sager Estate

\$1,000 - \$5,000

Arline Smyth Quinn Charitable Foundation

Janet Gallas

Heron Creek Community Foundation

Edward Miranda

MSC Foundation (Michael Saunders & Co.)

Lindy Smith

Venice Golf & Country Club Comm. Fndn.

Venice-Nokomis Rotary Club Venice Sunrise Rotary Charities

Women of the Moose, Venice Chapter

Women's Sertoma of Venice

\$500 - \$999

Esther Bird

Betty Black

Elizabeth Bruckman

Sandy & Chuck McIntyre

Nancy & David Pike

Judith McGinty & Joe Pokorney

Vernon Wiersma

\$250 - \$499

George Carpenter Mary & Floyd Juday

Carl McIntyre

James Patterson

Lavonne Radonovich

Jean West-Walker

\$100-\$249

Irma Arroyo

Sharon Betterton

Robin Blair

Kathleen Cellura

Charlotte State Bank & Trust

Rob Christy

Richard Coleman

Carolyn Conte

George Cooper

Elliott Corn

Anne Currin

Paula Dulski

Charles & Carolyn Francis

Barbara & Dennis Gahry

Debra Hoefer

Anne Hollenbeck

Frank & Margaret Kaprive

King's Gate Club Round Table

Joseph LaDu

Sheila McClintock-Fraser

Lori-Nan Mihaley

Robert & Margaret Miller

Judith Pike

Meredith Pike

\$100 - \$249 Continued

Helen Russette

Mary Seyler

Donald Volk

Judith Wolf

Margaret & John Woods III

Leslie and Rick Yard

\$50 - \$99

Sergio Beruffi

Troy & Mary Ann Dillahunty

Susan Farstrup

Beth Ferris

Stephen Fox

Krishen Greenwell

Maria Hallabrin

Marc Hapke

Chris Hastings

Joan Jennewein

Robert & Sara Knower

Jeanne Madden

Helen Markopoulos

Nikki McGowan

Nancy Moore

Paula Nelson

Kimberly Pike

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Robert Rainer

James Sager

Kim Schroeder

Donna Wanvig

Nan & David Winans

Janita Wisch

Nancy Zarowin

We also want to thank the many volunteers and donors who contributed smaller amounts and hours of time.

Revenue, Expenses, and Net Assets for the Year Ended June 30, 2018

Revenue	
Contributions - Unrestricted	\$15,870
Fundraising Events	\$4,525
Grants - Temporarily Restricted	\$53,931
United Way of South Sarasota County	\$7,917
Total Revenue	\$82,243
Use of Sarasota County Libraries in Venice and North Port	
and the skilled services provided by our wonderful voluntee	PRICELESS!
Expenses	
Annual Meeting and Volunteer Appreciation	\$713
Community Outreach and Recruitment	\$476
Conference - Florida Literacy Coalition	\$464
Copier Maintenance and Copies	\$2,437
Direct Mailing	\$3,000
English Literacy Computer Lab	\$9,787
Equipment purchases and repairs	\$2,139
Florida State Nonprofit Corporation registrations	\$145
Insurance - Directors and Officers	\$775
Literacy Pro Database	\$4,845
National, State, and Local Memberships	\$374
Office Supplies and Software	\$1 <i>,</i> 372
Printing, publications, and postage	\$1 <i>,</i> 257
Start Now! North Port Rent, Phone, Internet, Insurance	\$6,517
Training Materials	\$4 <i>,</i> 979
Wages and Payroll Taxes	\$41,351
Website and Domain Names	\$200
Total Expenses	\$80,830
Net Assets	
Excess or (Deficit) for 2017-2018 year	\$1,413
Net Assets - Beginning of the Year	\$63,798
Net Assets - End of the Year	\$65,211

Sandy McIntyre, Treasurer

Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County

300 Nokomis Ave S Venice, FL 34285

Literacy Changes Lives



FIRST CLASS

Literacy Volunteers of South Sarasota County

www.LiteracyChangesLives.org

Mailing Address and Venice Literacy Office: 300 Nokomis Ave S Venice, FL 34285 Phone: 941-861-1352 venice.literacy@gmail.com

North Port Literacy Office, 13800 S. Tamiami Trail North Port, FL 34287 Phone: 941-861-1320 north.port.literacy@gmail.com

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Peter Norrman, Venice Karen Bridegam, North Port

Start Now! North Port

Kim Pike

Tutor Trainers

Denise Gastineau, Venice Lavonne Radonovich, North Port

Newsletter

Judith McGinty, Editor Charlie Ruppert, Layout

Speaker's Bureau

Paddy Padmanabhan

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