



Providing adults who live in or near Ottawa County with an opportunity to improve and transform their lives by strengthening their reading and language fluency.

September 2024 Newsletter

Change a Life! Give Today!



A Sweet Pairing

Michelle McArthur and Aytan Suleymanova have been a tutor-learner pair for about 8 months and to say that the pair is working well together would be a huge understatement. Michelle says, "We laugh a lot. It's one of my favorite things about Aytan. She has an easy, infectious laugh." She goes on to state that one of Aytan's greatest strengths as a learner is her ability to find humor in the normal misinterpretations that are always a part of learning a new language. Aytan is thankful for Michelle and the opportunity for tutoring through READ Ottawa. She asserts that their discussions help improve her English every time. "Michelle is an amazing person and an intelligent teacher," Aytan remarks.

The dynamic duo have come up with a plan to help Aytan achieve her ambitious long-term goals. In Azerbaijan Aytan was an incredibly talented baker and an experienced midwife. She would love to employ both those skill sets here in the United States. As she is pursuing licensure for midwifery, Aytan, with the help of Michelle, has set up an impressive website for selling her beautiful Eastern pastries and desserts. She has even begun the process to obtain certifications to expand this business.

In true tutor form, Michelle is proud and hopeful. "I have no doubt that Aytan will achieve whatever goals she sets for herself, and I consider it a privilege to be part of her journey," she says. Visit the website! The photos will simply make your mouth water!



The Eastern Pastry

**Find delicious
desserts and beautiful
pastries at The
Eastern Pastry:**

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61560404304247>

Welcome New Board Members!



READ Ottawa recently welcomed three new board members:
Hannah Everett, Tina Zellman, and Nathan Slauer.

We're deeply grateful for their commitment to our organization's continued success.



Meet Hannah Everett!

Hannah was a former Executive Director of READ Ottawa from 2018-2020.

She has a Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in nonprofit leadership.

For the last 10 years, she's been serving nonprofit organizations in Ottawa County.

Currently, she's a stay at home mom of two girls (3 years old and 15 months).

After being away from READ for a few years, she is thrilled to return and help READ reach its full potential.

PLEASE JOIN US!



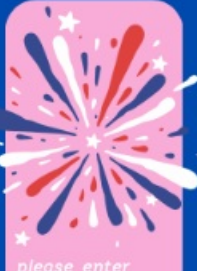
READ OTTAWA

8TH ANNUAL SCRABBLE TOURNAMENT

Thursday, November 7 at The Overisel Emporium

MORE DETAILS TO COME!
All proceeds will support READ's efforts to strengthen of reading and language skills of adults in Ottawa County!

We're eager to add this Holland/Zeeland area Scrabble Tournament event to our fall calendar! We're making plans to be back in Grand Haven for a Scrabble Tournament in the spring.



please enter through the north door of the church building

the intersection ministries

FREE CITIZENSHIP CLASS

Intersection Ministries
945 136th Ave.
Holland, 49424
616.399.1872
www.intersectionministries.org

Class Highlights - Students will:

- Receive study materials
- learn and practice the 100 Civic questions
- receive help with filling out the USCIS N-400 Application for Naturalization
- prepare an attorney packet with copies of required documents
- receive a free prescreening with an immigration attorney and a referral

SEPTEMBER 18 - NOVEMBER 13
6:30 TO 8:00 PM
9 Wednesdays

REGISTER ONLINE
Use the QR code to register or go to bit.ly/citizenshipclass free
Last day to register is September 25.



PLEASE CONTACT BEV STEPHENSON AT 616-953-2051 OR BJSTEP02@GMAIL.COM; OLIVIA KUIPHOFF AT 303-434-3209 FOR SPANISH

Fall Tutor Trainings

Holland: September 24 & 26

Grand Haven: October 1 & 3

Allegan: October 8 & 10

Interested in becoming a tutor? RSVP through one of the following:
Filling out the form at <https://readottawa.org/volunteer>
Email Lynn Groothuis at lynn@readottawa.org
Call Lynn at 616-414-0295

"The only person who is educated is the one who has learned how to learn...and change." Carl Rogers



Website: www.readottawa.org
Email: info@readottawa.org

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