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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.

## May 2025 Newsletter

Change a Life! Give Today!



The 7th Annual Scrabble Tournament proved not only to be a fun event but a terrific fundraiser as well. The night at the Fraternal Order of the Eagles #925 yielded over \$5,000.00 to benefit adult literacy. The highest amount of any tournament year to date, these funds will go directly to materials and the operation of the READ Ottawa program.

Coming in first place was team Carter Consonants with 612 points. Team Active Adjectives trailed by only 48 points.

The highest scoring word of the night was "steering" by team JQZ. This word scored 90 points and benefitted from using all the tiles and buying a letter as well as creating some words on the side.

Many raffle prizes were distributed including a grand prize of Detroit Tigers tickets that will be enjoyed by Hazel Redman and family.

A night of great food, drinks and lots of letters made for a wonderful event!



## Hudsonville Area Expansion



The Georgetown Township Public Library opened its doors to READ Ottawa last month with much excitement and solid support. The library leadership is thrilled to have the program in this region and has partnered with READ in creating space for the curriculum, posting training events and promoting the program through flyers.

Jacque Karr, pair coordinator for the Hudsonville area (includes south Zeeland, Jenison and Allendale) reports 11 matched pairs.



#### **Tutor Training at Georgetown**

READ Ottawa's new library site was the setting for May's tutor training. 5 new ladies were added to READ Ottawa's tutoring force. 2 tutors will be specifically for the new Hudsonville region while Grand Haven and Holland will split the rest.

We continue to be delighted to meet wonderful people with big hearts! All 3 areas, Hudsonville, Holland and Grand Haven, will quickly match these tutors with learners who are waiting.

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## Hats off to our Graduates!



In partnership with their READ Ottawa tutors, 5 learners graduate from Zeeland Adult Education's ESL program:  
**Yujin Choi, Jorge Flores Hernandez,  
Miriam Jimenez, Sara Dalboni  
Carolina Juarez, Arlen Laguna Silva**

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READ Ottawa is once again the proud recipient of the Dollar General Grant for Adult Literacy. Established over 30 years ago by Dollar General's founding family, this foundation helps adults achieve their educational goals by investing in programs that help students learn to read, prepare for the GED and learn English.

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](mailto:lynn@readottawa.org)  
Call Lynn at 616-414-0295

*"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world." Nelson Mandela*



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