

# LITERALLY SPEAKING

May 2021

A publication of Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy, a program of the Newport Beach Public Library

Stay connected!



Developing the literacy skills of adults to empower them to achieve greater success in their lives

## Marla Jo Brings the Fun to Happy Hour

NMPL welcomed columnist and author Marla Jo Fisher on April 24th to Virtual Happy Hour. Her book, *Frumpy Middle-Aged Mom*, is



a hilarious compilation from her wildly popular OC Register column.

Fans of Marla Jo

are familiar with her wicked sense of humor and practical parenting views, and the stories and thoughts she shared did not disappoint.

From proudly showing her tattoo (when asked if she had one by an attendee), to sharing about her health challenges and her daughter's upcoming wedding, Marla Jo kept us all laughing, inspired and wondering where the conversation would go next.

Marla Jo's message is one of comradery and encouragement,

allowing moms everywhere to take it a bit easier on themselves in a world of impossible parenting standards.

Traveling is one of Marla Jo's priorities in life, and attendees enjoyed her travel advice and strong message to get out there!

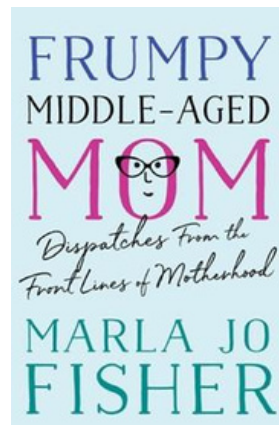
If you haven't already picked up Marla Jo's book, she recommends [purchasing it here](#). Bookshop.org supports local bookshops by

allowing you to choose to support your favorite shop.

Donations from Happy Hour raised much-needed funds for NMPL. If you missed it,

[click here to watch the interview online.](#)

Thank you to our fabulous events committee, "The Literati."



## Dates to Remember

June 16 - Tutor Connection

June 23 - New Learner Orientation

July 7 & 14 - Tutor Training

July 15 - Roles & Goals Due

July 30 - Last Day for In Our Own Words

## Roles & Goals

(Tutors - [click here](#) to download)

2021 ROLES & GOALS

Learner Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Tutor Name: \_\_\_\_\_

The Roles & Goals form is not a checklist. Instead, use it to begin a conversation with the adult learner concerning what they would like to accomplish through their adult literacy program.

- Use this sheet to set learner goals initially, to update the status of previously set goals, or to set new goals to be worked on over the next few months.
- When setting previously set goals, use the three indicators whether the learner is making progress, has met, or is no longer interested in a particular goal.
- When setting new goals, use the three indicators whether the learner is making progress, has met, or is no longer interested in a particular goal.
- Use this sheet to track learner goals over time or to update the status of previously set goals by updating the "Status Making Progress" column.
- Use the Roles & Goals form to track learner goals over time or to update the status of previously set goals by updating the "Status Making Progress" column.
- For additional information, please see Roles & Goals Instructions and FAQs.

My Goals as a Tutor	Goal Set	Making Progress	Goal Met	My Goals as a Learner	Goal Set	Making Progress	Goal Met
Learn to read				Learn to read			
Read a book				Read a book			
Read a more difficult book				Read a more difficult book			
Read more or a magazine				Read more or a magazine			
Write a note, message, or text				Write a note, message, or text			
Find out a name or a telephone number				Find out a name or a telephone number			
Use new technology skills				Use new technology skills			
Use the library				Use the library			
Get a diploma				Get a diploma			
Other Goals in the Tutoring Program				Other Goals in the Tutoring Program			

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My Goals as a Tutor	Goal Set	Making Progress	Goal Met	My Goals as a Community Member and Citizen	Goal Set	Making Progress	Goal Met
Learn to read				Learn to read			
Read a book				Read a book			
Read a more difficult book				Read a more difficult book			
Read more or a magazine				Read more or a magazine			
Write a note, message, or text				Write a note, message, or text			
Find out a name or a telephone number				Find out a name or a telephone number			
Use new technology skills				Use new technology skills			
Use the library				Use the library			
Get a diploma				Get a diploma			
Other Goals in the Tutoring Program				Other Goals in the Tutoring Program			

Roles & Goals report forms will help us paint a picture of all that tutor/learner pairs accomplished together during the year. Reaching our goals, large and small, is what makes all of us successful.

Join Tutor Connection on June 16 for ideas and support.

**Due July 15**

Newport Beach Public Library has Helpful Online Resources to Offer. All you need is a library card!



Art & Literature  
Business & Investments  
Genealogy  
Job Seekers

Legal References  
Lifelong Learning Tools  
Magazines & Newspapers  
Student Resources

[Click Here to Browse and Learn More](#)

We're here to help. Email [literacy@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:literacy@newportbeachca.gov) or call 949.717.3874

# LEARNERS, ARE YOU READY TO BECOME PUBLISHED AUTHORS?

We encourage all NMPL learners to submit original stories, articles, essays, poems and more for the next edition of *In Our Own Words*.

All writings should be under 500 words, and all submissions are DUE by July 30, 2021

You can do a six word memoir, a poem, a letter or short essay. Submit completed writing by email to [literacy@newportbeachca.gov](mailto:literacy@newportbeachca.gov)



## A Tutor and Learner Interview Meet Tutor Carolyn and Learner Il Jeong

Carolyn Cosgrove spent 40+ years in advertising when she and her business partner decided to sell their agency and retire. She wanted to volunteer with an organization that was close to her heart with reading and writing. After 10+ years of tutoring, NMPL still holds that place. When a friend recommended the program to Il Jeong Choi, she registered for New Learner Orientation and got an assessment. From there she participated in several classes before being matched with Carolyn for one on one tutoring.

*Il Jeong, did you feel nervous about the program when you started?*

*IJ:* Yes, I was very nervous because my English was not perfect then, and my writing and speaking were horrible. Thus, I didn't know how to communicate and explain my goals. The one thing only I had then was passionate and brave about learning English.

*Carolyn, how do you get ideas for what to work on during sessions?*

*C:* Various. Great support from the Literacy Office and their many resources, current events/articles I think my Learner would enjoy discussing and writing about, etc. Each session is different.

*Question for both of you...how did COVID change the way you did your sessions, and how did you stay motivated?*

*IJ:* After COVID we've had class at the Zoom. Personally, I prefer in-person class, but online classes are also worth taking. Carolyn is enthusiastic and pleasant, and her qualifications are outstanding. Therefore, she still teaches me on my weak parts intensively even the online sessions. Actually, we meet more often than before COVID and I am happy to have her as my tutor. I appreciate all volunteers and literacy coordinators. *C:* I think we've done well, but I miss the one-on-one. Even on Zoom, she motivates me every time I see her smile and dedication.

*Il Jeong, has your life changed in any way since you started in the program? How?*

*IJ:* Yes, my life has become plentiful since I participated in the program. I've learned English and diversity culture through my tutor and literacy program. I am enrolled in college now, and I've participated in the library's annual party regularly. I couldn't forget the events and I was happy to see many valuable dedicated volunteers.

*Can you share a memory of an interesting or particularly helpful session you've had with Il Jeong?*

*C:* Last year, with almost every session, we drilled the citizenship test questions. So proud that she became a US citizen last year. (It was all her!)



## Donations Welcome

Donations can be made online:  
<http://bit.ly/NMPLDonate>

Donations through the mail:  
Newport/Mesa ProLiteracy  
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Newport Beach, CA 92660

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