

12 Years and More than 6,000 Dictionaries Provided to Lee County 3rd Grade Students

For the twelfth consecutive year, the Lee County Certified Literate Community Program (CLCP) and our local Dictionary Project sponsors have collaborated to provide a new dictionary to every 3rd grade student in the Lee County School System. This is always an exciting day for the students and for the sponsors.

“I always enjoy sharing with the students all the wonderful things they will discover inside their dictionary, besides how to spell words and finding definitions of words. I think they get most excited when I show them the longest word in the English language, which is only 1,909 letters” stated Patsy Shirley, Executive Director of Lee County Family Connection.

The 540 page dictionary contains all the elements of the Best Dictionary for Students; it also includes over 150 pages of supplemental information in the back. Key features include the Constitution of the U.S., the Declaration of Independence, brief biographies of all U. S. presidents, world maps, and information about all 50 states, countries of the world, and the planets in our solar system. It also includes the longest word in the English language.

A project such as this can only be accomplished through the collaborative efforts of our community. The Lee County CLCP would like to thank their sponsors; Lee County Family Connection, Bishop Clean Care, Inc., DOCO Credit Union, First State Bank of Leesburg, Ameris Bank, Colony Bank, Kiwanis Club of Lee County, Flint Community Bank, Finnicum Motors, South GA Heating and A/C, Friends of the Library and Lee County Chamber of Commerce. Because of their generosity, the Lee County CLCP is able to continue this worthwhile project.

The CLCP promotes literacy in Georgia by involving the entire community – local businesses, educators, government agencies and community groups. The Dictionary Project is a non-profit organization aimed at helping students become good writers, active readers and creative thinkers. “Educators see third grade as the dividing line between learning to read and reading to learn” (The Dictionary Project, <http://www.dictionaryproject.org/>). Since the inception of The Dictionary Project, over 27,792,789 dictionaries have been presented to children throughout the United States. So far this year, 1,365,616 dictionaries have been donated to students with more than 9,590 organizations sponsoring a dictionary project in their community.

For more information, please contact Patsy Shirley at Lee County Family Connection at (229) 903-3993.

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Lee County Elementary Students and Sponsors



Front Row (L to R); Kaitlyn Dydell, Keilani Farias, JD Kelley, Caleb Evans. Michael Harris – Colony Bank

Second Row: Addie Goode, Jordan Taylor, Haden Banner, Nathan Piercy, Grady Mills, LaKeisha Sherman – Ameris Bank

Third Row: Frank Griffin – Flint Community Bank, Thomas Baker, Rita Zhang, Kaylee Gattie, Alex Brunson Kendal Lawson, Patsy Shirley – Lee County Family Connection

Top Row: Eric Hyslop – Colony Bank, Rebecca Fulford, Bennett Nelson, Bridget Gay, Madison Steward, Kaylee Clanton, Aliyah Coleman, Jazmyne Green, Becky Belcher - DOCO Credit Union

Twin Oaks Elementary School Students and Sponsors



Front Row (L to R) LaKeisha Sherman – Ameris Bank, Linsey McMickle, Logan Jackson, Parker Lawson, Ryan Laing, Parker Singletary, Colton Robinson, Michael Harris – Colony Bank

Second Row – Laney Ginter, B.B. Corley, Ava Hix, Ivey Taylor, Zoety Etheredge

Back Row – Eric Hyslop – Colony Bank, Scott Tomlinson – Flint Community Bank, Patsy Shirley – Lee County Family Connection, Becky Belcher – DOCO Credit Union