



OUR EAST SIDE TOWN

EAST SIDE

VOLUNTEER HONORED—Because of **Robin Adam**, the number of adult New Yorkers reading below a 5th grade level is slowly dropping.

Adam, an Upper East Sider, was recently named the “Clare R. Gregorian Volunteer of the Year” by Literacy Partners for her work as a volunteer tutor at the organization’s annual Student and Volunteer Recognition Celebration.

She teaches English as a Second Language classes once a week and also hosts “Chat-n-Chew” lunches, where she and her students use what they have learned in casual conversations.

“They were all anxious to get more practice speaking in just conversational language,” Adam said.

Teaching communication skills is not new to Adam—she recently retired from the Department of Education where she worked as a speech teacher.

“For most of our students, our programs are often their last opportunity to gain basic skills essential for day to day living,” said **Susan A. McLean**, executive director of Literacy Partners.

Literacy Partners teaches basic literacy skills to almost 2,000 adults a year. Currently, more than 3.7 million adults in New York cannot read beyond the 5th grade level.