

From the Back of the Boat

By: Bob Garfinkel

The demand for our services, including English as a Second Language (ESL), GED 509, US Citizenship instruction, basic education, remedial reading, and accomplishing student specific personal goals, is greater than anyone had ever imagined. Currently, we are working with almost 70 students with a waiting list of over 20. To shorten our “wait list”, the logical solution, we thought, was to run a class of 10-12 students. Barb Baldwin would be the lead instructor, while Sister Mary Anne and I would back her up. We brought in Anne Laurent, our Coordinator, to write grants and the farm owner put in his share, purchasing books for 17 students. Yes, 17 students for our first class ever!

I cannot be specific at this time, since a final review is three months away. At this point, I will say that there have been many challenges along the way. Learning how to run a beginning ESL class has been a complete learning experience for us all. I will say, at this point, I’m glad we are running this pilot and am proud to be on the team. We showed extreme flexibility, insight, and a never quit attitude. This team has decades of teaching experience, with a combined adult literacy (ESL) experience of over 25 years. Working and planning together, along with the help of the farm owner and his manager, this program will prove to be a success. The class is much smaller now due to terminations on the job and workers moving on to new positions.



Pictured are some of the students in our Dairy Dreams (farm) class. When asked “How do you like class?”, they gave a thumbs up! The class started with 17 students. Currently, we are working with 9.

THE STAR

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Supporting: Literacy Partners Of Kewaunee County Inc

About your charitable organization

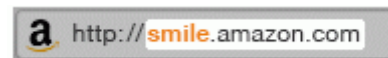
Literacy Partners Of Kewaunee County Inc

Location: Luxemburg, WI

Categories: Educational Services and Schools - Other

Change your charity

Recently, I was placing an order on Amazon when a window popped up. It prompted me to pick a national charity to donate a percentage of my purchases to. I was about to click on any random one, when I noticed "Search for a different charity" underneath the box. I thought to myself, "It's not likely, but never say never...", and sure enough--- Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County was an option!



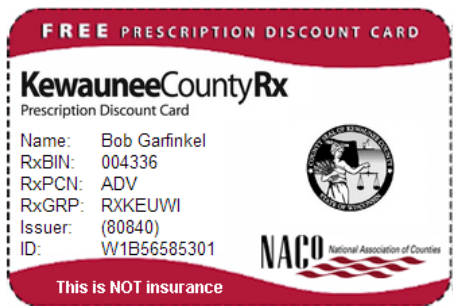
The only catch is that you have to start at <http://smile.amazon.com> instead of the normal <http://www.amazon.com>. It's a small change that can make a big difference. If you need help finding our organization or run into any problems, please let me know.

With the approaching holiday season, people you know may be doing a lot of online shopping as well. These funds add up quickly, and are a huge help to us. Encourage them to select Literacy Partners as a charity of their choice as well. Please join me in continuing to help Literacy Partners grow and expand!

Kewaunee County Rx Savings Card

“The first time I used the prescription card, I saved \$20!”
-Kate Phillips, Tutor & Board Member

Visit www.nacorx.org to look up a participating pharmacy, a price estimate for your prescription, check drug interactions, or read news articles from leading health journals.



Writing Project for 2015

Bob Garfinkel

It's time to work on our next writing project (Literacy Partners Student Writing Book). If the book is as good as I think it will be, we'd like to professionally bind it and not only have a copy in our Resource Center, but approach each public library to take a copy and put it on their shelf! We have received a grant from CenturyLink for that purpose. Once again, everyone attending Recognition Day will receive a copy. Authors unable to attend will receive a book.

The format for the book will be a little different. Students will have two choices. The book will be called, "Where is Home?" Students may write about their current home or their home that may be in another country. Another option is to write about any topic they wish. Once again, there is no length requirement. Students may write a couple of sentences or write many pages. The final date for accepting student writing will be February 28, 2015. If we receive only a fair amount of writing, we may bind the book ourselves as we did this year.

Let's all get behind this project. It is not an experiment as it was this year. Our students proved they could do it, learned a lot, and felt good about what they had accomplished. Please contact me with questions. I will accept stories when they are completed.

Of This and That....

1. Congratulations to Barb Chosa, Chris Hanneman, Mary Anne Albert, Sister Lorraine Aspenleiter and all of their students for completing a level in their studies!

2. Thank you to the tutors and students who returned the prescription drug survey. The result will be a Health Literacy program in Spring 2015.

3. Literacy Partners has one Board of Directors position open for the November election. If you want to get involved in this dynamic and vital organization, call or email Bob before October 25, 2014 (920-676-2061, garfinkel.bob@gmail.com)

4. The "Senior Scene" is an online and hard copy newsletter for seniors about seniors. A free subscription can be obtained by emailing Jessica Purdy at Purdyj@kewauneeco.org or by calling Jessica at 920-388-0626. Many senior health related topics are discussed along with opportunities to attend classes. Senior Scene" is sponsored by the ADRC of the Lakeshore.

5. Several students have turned in their essays for our Recognition Day book entitled "Where is Home?" Deadline is end of February 2015. Please see previous article for more info!

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“It will never catch on. You can't train a puppy on an electronic newspaper!”

Tutor of the Season

Peggy Sankey
Tutor, Traveller

I grew up in Illinois - my husband, Rich and I retired in 2000 and moved to Door County. He passed away in 2008. We have 2 children and 3 grandchildren - 2 grandchildren in college (hard to believe!!) and 1 just beginning high school.

My husband and I had vacationed in Mexico for many years, and after his death, I began seriously studying Spanish - spending months in Mexico - attending schools and living with families. I slowly realized just how difficult it can be to learn a second language-especially for adults. A few years ago, I joined Conversation

Partners at Hope United Church of Christ in Sturgeon Bay. This group was formed to provide English tutoring to immigrants, but the tutors received only minimal training. Since my work background was not in education, I



really felt that I needed some training --- and when Betsy Rossberg offered to attend the tutor training classes in Kewaunee with me, I willingly signed up. I now have 3 students that I tutor, and I love every minute of it. My students are learning English and acquiring a better understanding of U.S. culture, and I am learning a lot about the challenges that immigrants face when they move here.

With mentoring from Bob Garfinkel, we are now in the early stages of forming a literacy council in Door County. I am attending classes at Literacy Green Bay to become a certified tutor trainer, and there are some other very dedicated people up north who believe that Door County has a need for services similar to those provided in Kewaunee County. Except for Native Americans, we are all descended from immigrants. Each of us has our own story and

each story is interesting. I believe that diversity is not only a good thing, I believe that it is vital to our growth and understanding - of ourselves and of the rest of the world. Education is the answer to so many problems - and education begins with speaking, reading and writing!

Student News

Ricardo Sierra
Tutor: Peggy Sankey

Hello my name is Ricardo Sierra, I am from Mexico, I am 24 years old, I finished college last year. I want to share with you my experience in the Literacy Partners program which has been a great way for me to improve my skills in the English language. I had the opportunity to meet wonderful people. They were my tutors during my trip in Sturgeon Bay. They are Betsy Rossberg and Peggy Sankey, They were with me every single moment. I am very grateful for all your support, from the first day until now that I am in my country.

This excellent program provides one-on-one tutoring for adults who wish to improve their English language skills: speaking, reading, listening and writing, I must say I am very grateful to the President of this foundation Bob Garfinkel, an altruistic person who has given me his full support to go ahead.

Currently, I am studying hard for my certification exam in the English language called TOEFL. It has been a little hard but I can do it. Hope to see you soon everyone and I send you greetings. THANKS FOR ALL!

Ricardo Sierra



Taste of the County

An event **AND** fundraiser for Literacy Partners

Wednesday, October 22, 2014 from 5:30-8 pm, people will be gathering at the Kewaukee County fairgrounds for a night filled with laughter, fun, great company and *even better food!* 2014 marks the 6th year this event has taken place. With 27 vendors, *Taste of the County 2014* is the largest one yet!

To add to the great food, attendees will have the opportunity to vote for their favorite dishes and beverages with the new Tasting Challenge. There will also be a culinary demonstration by Chris Wiltfang of Skaliwags, which is located in Algoma.

Literacy Partners has been chosen by the Kewaukee County Buy Local Initiative to help sell tickets. Tickets cost \$35/each, and Literacy Partners will receive \$10 for each ticket we sell. If you are planning on attending the event, please email or call Bob Garfinkel or Anne Laurent for a ticket (contact info always on first page of newsletter). We do not receive a donation from tickets that are sold at the banks, etc. Bob has tickets at his house that can either be picked up or mailed out to you once a check is received.

Tickets will be on sale until October 20, 2014. Checks can be made payable to KCEDC. A full poster with info will be inserted at the end of this newsletter.

Obituary: The Death of Junkyard Dan

Bob Garfinkel

Junkyard Dan, age 48, died unexpectedly July 4, 2014 at Elise Leonard's home in Tampa, Florida. He was born in 2002 in the creative mind of Mrs. Leonard, in her den in rural Tampa. Dan passed away when Elise Loenard "pulled the pen" on the fourth of July.

Dan was a financial genius engulfed in the hustle and bustle of fast-paced Wall Street life. After his wife had an affair with their roofer (he left a bill on the kitchen table for Dan), Dan got in his car and drove aimlessly for days before winding up in a small town where he eventually bought a junkyard. Before his demise, Dan had a thrilling life meeting all kinds of interesting and exciting people.

A private service was conducted by Mrs. Leonard in her office where he was born. A living memorial has been restored at Hillcrest School, Kewaunee, where 16 volumes of Junkyard Dan can be found in multiple copies.

Bob Garfinkel, President of Literacy Partners, was not able to attend the service. He was saddened and mentioned that even though the series has ended, Dan will live on forever on our shelves.

Bilingual Books

Anne Laurent

Does your student have children? Do you encourage them to read with them, to them or listen to the children read? Having that special one-on-one time with their child cannot only be satisfying for the soul, but can also aid in your student's reading ability.

At our Hillcrest Resource Center, we have a great selection of bilingual children's books. You and your student are welcome to go and check them out for use! Take advantage of them! If there are titles that you do not see, but your student would like, don't hesitate to contact Bob or Anne and let us know. We are always on the lookout for new resources that will keep your student engaged and excited about learning!



Back to School Day-A Success Again!

Anne Laurent

On August 13 and 14, a great group of volunteers came together to make Literacy Partners participation in the Kewaunee County *Back to School* event better than ever!

As in the past, Literacy Partners prepared and distributed dental supplies (toothbrushes, donated by the Toothfairy Foundation, floss, toothpaste, timers, stickers and tooth necklaces to hold lost teeth), as well as bilingual educational dental information. Information was also available at our table for local free/reduced dental care and clinics.

Bob, our President, sat with his model mouth (not *his mouth*, an actual model of a mouth—removable tongue and all!) and delivered multiple short 2-3 minute demonstrations on proper brushing techniques.

Inside the gymnasium, the Soles4Souls area group helped children pick out and try on a new pair of shoes. Almost every child left with a new pair of shoes for the upcoming school year. I am always so overjoyed to see the happy faces *both on the parents, as well as the children!*

Finally, the last stop in the Literacy Partners section of the event was the Macy's winter coat distribution. Literacy Partners obtained 225 brand new winter coats for distribution in Kewaunee County. After the event, we had some left over. These coats were delivered to local schools for children who come to school without proper winter wear. Some coats were also given to Kewaunee County Human Services, as well as VIP, the Violence Intervention Project, located in Algoma.

Thank you so very much to everyone who helped. Over the course of the two days, the following people were part of the amazing team that helped us pull this event off: Maureen Kinnard, Mary West, Suzanne Luft, Renee Koenig, Bob Garfinkel, Jan Zenner, Marietta Kenzik, Judy Delain, Betsy Rossberg, Sue Hingst, Marge Weichelt, Jerry Waara, Sandy Ehren, Diane Hausman, Jackie Yon and myself. **If I forgot anyone, I am very sorry!!** We appreciate you volunteering for these events so very much. All

the hard work the Health Literacy Committee does would *not* be possible without the support of our tutors, who already volunteer so much time with their students. Thank you all for being exceptional individuals!

Also, a big "Thank You" to the Health Literacy Committee, for all of their hard work and planning: Bob Garfinkel, Maureen Kinnard, Sue Hingst, Judy Delain, Anne Laurent, Cindy Kinnard and Renee Koenig.

Last, but CERTAINLY not least, thank you to the supporting organizations and businesses who financially made these event possible or us:

Greater Green Bay Community Foundation

Shopko Foundation

United Fund of Kewaunee County

Tooth Fairy Foundation

Soles4Souls, Inc.



THANKS!



The Future Belongs to Those Who Prepare for It!

Bob Garfinkel

NWTC has hit a home run with a new program that will help a population that has been ignored for years. The opportunity includes low achieving high school students (learning disabilities and low skills), English as a Second Language adults, and adults with low reading, writing, or math skills. The program is career directed and students succeed where other programs have failed. Instead of spending months or years trying to raise basic skills scores, students spend the first part of class working on reading, math, and writing skills directly related to the lesson in the second half of the class. In short, all skills work is related to the course of study. Two instructors guide the students in each class. One instructor is the program instructor and one is the basic skills instructor. The basic ed. instructor is also an English Language Learner (ESL) teacher.

At this time, the only offering at NWTC Luxemburg is Medical Assistant. If this program takes off it will grow and will include other offerings. Other programs of study at the NWTC campus on the west side of Green Bay include, Personal Care Worker, Nursing Assistant, Medical Assistant, Health Care Business Services, Welding, Electrical Systems, Office Professional, Accounting, and Human Services.

The college has student payment plans and offers scholarships that do not have to be paid back. There is also financial aid available and Pell Grants that are free! Many of the classes are at night and welding (\$22.00/hr starting pay) is on Sundays. 60% of the students are expected to get financial assistance.

If your student is interested in this fantastic, opportunity, please contact me. High school students qualify for this program while in school, since instruction is after school (evenings). Please pass the word. I will provide information sheets upon request to anyone. There will be an informational meeting at NWTC Luxemburg on October 28th from 5:00-7:30 pm. No registration is needed. Just walk in!

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100% of the proceeds for this event will
go directly to the Buy Local Initiative!
buylocalkewaunee.org



Tickets available for purchase at your local bank:
Baylake Bank, Union State Bank, and Bank of Luxemburg.

October 22nd, 2014 • 5:30 pm-8:00 pm

Featuring a Culinary Demonstration by Chris Wiltfang of Skaliwags, Algoma

Kewaunee County Fair Grounds, 625 3rd St, Luxemburg

For additional information or to purchase tickets, contact
Jennifer Brown at 920-255-1661 or e-mail at brownjk@kcedc.org