

From the Back of the Boat

Bob Garfinkel

2010 was quite a year for our students and Literacy Partners as a whole. Two of our students passed the US Citizenship Test and one more student enrolled in our GED program bringing the total GED students to five. Furthermore, five students gained first-time employment, a book was dedicated to Literacy Partners, we had our first successful fundraiser, and many students accomplished short and long-term goals. With financial help from the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation, several local businesses and some board members and tutors digging deep in their own pockets, we were able to hire a part-time coordinator, Anne Laurent. Anne has proven to be an invaluable fundraiser, idea person, committee member and advisor.

Our wonderful tutors continue to help people help themselves and in turn provide better lives for their families. Unselfish tutors and board members complied almost 5,000 volunteer hours in 2010 which equates to a donation of service to Kewaunee County residents of about \$89,000 (volunteer time in Wisconsin is calculated at \$17.70/hr).

There is no reason not to be optimistic about 2011. Three students are studying for the citizenship test and we may have our first GED graduate! Anne is working on three possible fundraisers and we will soon be sending information to tutors about our new Health Literacy Program. I look forward to an exciting 2011 and all of the challenges it will bring.

On behalf of our board of directors, I would like to wish all of our "friends of literacy," and our tutors and their families, a healthy, happy, and prosperous New Year!

THE STAR

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News at a glance:

Congratulations Bob
Fund raising
Workshop—Learning Styles

Features:

"From the Back of the Boat"
Our tutor of the Season
The Trainer's Corner
Of This and That
Supporters
Advisors –
Board members

A BIG Thank You

Anne Laurent

2010 has been an exciting year for Literacy Partners in all aspects.-- Awards, recognition, new citizens—and our first ever fundraiser! Right now, I want to take a minute to personally thank all board members, tutors and students who helped make the Kewaunee County Advantage Card a huge success.

The 2010-2011 Buy Local/Literacy Partners Advantage Card has been a tremendous experience. With over 250 cards sold, this fundraiser has been proven a great asset in assuring Literacy Partners will have secure funding to operate in 2011. Thank you to everyone who bought, sold, and encouraged other Kewaunee County residents to support literacy through this fundraiser.

In partnering with the Buy Local group, not only did we raise money for literacy, but we also gained exposure to our community. So many people now know who we are, and more importantly what we are doing in Kewaunee County. What a great "advantage"!!!!

January 1, 2011 the advantage cards were taken out of the 4 county banks. Their cooperation was awesome, and we appreciate everything they have done to help us (Baylake Bank-Algoma, Union State Bank-Kewaunee, Bank of Luxemburg and M&I

Thanks continued.

Bank-Casco). Even though the cards are not being sold in the banks anymore, you can still purchase one by calling Bob at 920-845-2516 or Anne at 920-406-9162 or email either of us at Garfinkel.bob@gmail.com or Anniemlaurent@gmail.com. The cards are valid UNLIMITED times through September 1, 2011, so there is still plenty of time to take advantage!



Coordinator Anne Laurent (left) discusses Literacy Partners and the Advantage Card with Tricia Spencer at the Christkringmarkt.

Recognition for Bob -- Congratulations

Mary Anne Albert

Literacy Partners President Bob Garfinkel has been selected as a recipient of the Green Bay Packers Community Quarterback Award. The Green Bay Packers Community Quarterback award is designed to honor volunteers who exemplify leadership, dedication, creativity, and a commitment to improving the communities in which they live through volunteerism. There were many entries from across the state. Bob will be honored on February 2, 2011 along with 19 other outstanding volunteers at Lambeau Field. Literacy Partners will also receive a grant/donation from the Green Bay Packers.

There will be a more complete description of this event at Lambeau Field in the next issue of THE **STAR**. For now we continue to congratulate Bob and to recognize the leadership he exemplifies.

Fundraising for the Future

Anne Laurent

As we look forward to 2011, I would like to expand the Literacy Partners fundraising efforts. Now, I am not suggesting door to door pizza sales or anything of that nature. We are all too busy to be selling things year round for every cause we support. We are looking towards a couple one day events.

Hosting a golf event in August or September:

We need to know if any board members or tutors would like to be part of this even before any talks or planning begins. We would need committee

members (3-4) as well as people to just show up early that day and help launch the event. This would most likely start out on the smaller side this year, and hopefully grow into an annual event. We would need to contact golf leagues, and entice people to come and spend a day on the course to support Kewaunee County literacy. Being a golfer is not a pre-requisite for volunteering!

If you'd like to plan and or help out at golf event, please call Anne at 920-406-9162 or email anniemlaurent@gmail.com. We will not plan an event unless we have the help.

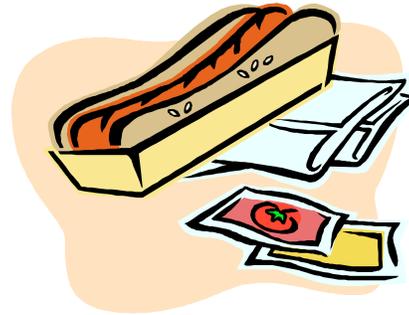
Staffing a Festival Brat sale (East Green Bay)

this would be in the summer of 2011. We need 3-4 people there at a time. I would like to see if anyone would be interested in coming with us and serving food to raise money. To get the station, we are told it is somewhat of a raffle, so we are not guaranteed anything at this point. However, we want to make sure we have people that would be interested in helping before we commit to anything. If you would like to help, you certainly don't have to be there all day. A few hours are all we ask!

We do not have a date at this time for the cookout since it will be determined by Festival Foods. The potential profits of a Festival cookout are about three times what we could generate in the same amount of time of a cookout in Kewaunee County. All food is purchased from them and we settle up after about 4 hours. All we do is cook, serve, and collect the money. We would need about 6 volunteers before we would feel comfortable in getting in the raffle. You may feel awkward to volunteer for an unknown date and time. At this point, all we want to do is see if we have the support to go ahead with the raffle. If

you volunteer and cannot make it, that's life. Please contact Anne (920-406-9162 / annielaurent@gmail.com) if you think you might be able to help. (If we can get several people signed up, I am sure we can get a couple of students to help us out.)

Thank you!



Tutors Needed

Tutors are needed in all parts of Kewaunee County. Please talk to friends, neighbors, and relatives you think would be willing to donate a couple of hours a week to help a Kewaunee County resident improve his/her literacy skills. Our next tutor orientation and class schedule is below. Thanks you for your help.

Tutor orientation and all classes will be in Room 110 at Hillcrest School, Kewaunee. Please direct all potential tutors to Bob at 920-845-2516 or [garfinkel.bob@gmail.com/](mailto:garfinkel.bob@gmail.com)

Orientation March 1, 2011 from 6-7:30pm. (Information session to see if you are interested.)

Class #1	March 8 th 6:00—9:30pm
Class #2	March 15 th 6:00—9:30pm
Class #3	March 22 nd 6:00—9:30pm
Class #4	March 24 th 6:00—9:30pm

Learning Styles Workshop

DATE: February 22
PLACE: Luxemburg-Casco Middle School, Casco, Home Economics Room. (Go in main entrance, take the first left and it is on your left hand side.)
TIME: 6:30 pm
RSVP: Bob (845-2516) or by email (garfinkel.bob@gmail.com) by **February 16, 2011.**

Basing instruction on the best learning style for a student is one of the most important, yet most ignored concepts in American Education. Does it seem reasonable to use a child's hammer to drive a large spike into a board? Does it make sense to teach a child or adult by lecturing when they work best visually or by manipulating objects?

Finding the right presenters for a learning styles workshop was not easy. The committee turned over a lot of stones looking for the right people. We have spared no expense for this presentation, looking for two presenters well known throughout the state of Wisconsin, only to find them in our own backyard. The leaders of the learning styles workshop will be our very own Mary Novak and Bob Garfinkel!

Mary, the Kewaunee County Extension Family Living Educator, has a BS in home economics, MS in curriculum instruction, is an advisor for our board of directors, and is a certified tutor. Mary has worked with people of all ages and abilities and is well aware of learners' individual differences.

Bob is a former elementary school teacher, and also has a MS degree. He taught at LC for 13 years, specializing in individualized education, and set up the school's first gifted and talented program. Bob taught fishing for 22 years and capitalized on using student's learning styles to teach fly tying and various outdoor skills.

This workshop will provide information concerning the different learning styles, how to address each learning style as far as your instruction is concerned, and, as an active participant in this workshop, you will take a learning style inventory and learn how to interpret the results.

Please RSVP by calling Bob (845-2516) or by email (garfinkel.bob@gmail.com) by **February 15, 2011**.

The Trainer's Corner

Barb Baldwin

Everyone in our program with computer access has at their fingertips printable worksheets available through our program's membership in the Great Start 5 Training Program® (thanks to our membership in Wisconsin Literacy). Our program tutors need only to contact me and I will provide the information needed to get started. (920-255-3345) Module 10, pages 17—46 you might find the most helpful. Topics: Cursive Writing, Common Words Sight List, Consonant Blends/Digraphs and Spelling Tips and Rules. I'm going to explore with you how to begin to introduce spelling using the "Vowels-Pattern" worksheet on page 42 and the word family lists, pages 30-38.

One of the shortfalls of our core curriculum is that it doesn't introduce students to spelling soon enough. To compensate for this, I use the "Vowel-Pattern" worksheet. I start using this as soon as the student completes Level I, Lesson 3—all the consonants, except q, x, and z, have been introduced. The student builds word families based on the key words and sight vocabulary that has been introduced. By lesson 3, the student has been

introduced to the following words: cup, dish, and, an, jump, kick, neck, snake, leg, tent, and yell. From this list the student begins to build word families. I allow proper names, but not nonsense words. The goal is to connect letters with sounds to help the students see relationships. I dictate the words the student writes, starting with the familiar word. This is not a vocabulary exercise. Some students use an online dictionary to check for meaning, but that is up to them. (Some students would find the added vocabulary overwhelming—others run with it.) At the end of each lesson, the word lists are revisited. New words are added to the families and new families introduced. Do not start adding consonant blends until the student has an example of that sound. For instance, in lesson 5, the words "shop" and "thank" are introduced. Now you may introduce the "sh" and "th" blend. Pages 30—38 provide quick reference to word families and would allow you to check off each word as it is introduced.

Introducing Our Tutor of the Season

Physical Therapist, tutor, board member

Sue was born in Phillips, Wisconsin, one of six children. They lived in the same block as the public library, which enabled her love of reading. After attending UW-Madison, she worked as a physical therapist in Anchorage, Chicago, and Elyria, Ohio before moving to Algoma in 1996. Sue worked in the Door County Birth to Three program and at several schools in Door Co, then retired in 2006.



Sue Hingst, tutor of the season

Her husband is a retired NASA aeronautical engineer. They have two daughters, both single and well educated. Amanda is a technical writer for Epic Systems in Madison with a PhD in Medieval History from U of C, Berkeley, and Rachel is an occupational therapist, currently in a Master of Public Health program in Baltimore. For several years, Rachel worked as a volunteer in Malawi, Africa where Sue had the opportunity to visit. What a wonderful learning experience!

Sue took tutor training with the Brown Co. Literacy Program about nine years ago. She tutored a family in Algoma for some time. The parents and daughter have since moved back to Mexico while the two boys have both graduated from Algoma High. Sue makes a point of saying, "We stay in touch!" That says so much of what the tutoring meant to that family, and how relationships develop through learning. Sue has also helped students use the English learning computer programs at St. Mary's School. Because of transportation difficulties, the program ended. The student she has now is outstanding.

Sue was on the committee to form Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County and is on the Board of Directors. She also is on the Stewardship Committee at St. Mary's Church and an active member of the Kewaunee Co. Garden Club. She loves to read, work outside in the garden, take their dog, Willow, for her daily walk and keeps active.

Of This and That

- Thanks go to Barb Baldwin, Anne Laurent, Sue Weisser, Barb Wellenstein, and Kathy and Bob Garfinkel for helping with our booth at Christkringlmarkt this past December selling Advantage Cards, Seroogy candy and giving information to the public about Literacy Partners.
- Please remember to drop off your Denny's (in Algoma) receipts in the Kewaunee Literacy slot in the exit of the store (bottom right corner).
- Thanks to Mary Novak, Kewaunee Lions and the Kewaunee Rotary for their financial support of Literacy Partners!
- A special "THANK YOU" to the Greater Green Bay Community Foundation for a grant that will enable us to start our Health Literacy Program.
- Wisconsin Literacy will feature Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County in a special interview in their Winter Newsletter. You will get a copy!
- If you or your student did not receive a book bag at Recognition Day, call Bob and we will get them to you.
- Thanks to everyone who filled out the health questionnaire.
- We haven't received any family recipes from our students since our last issue. There was quite a bit of interest and excitement over Oksana's Beet Salad recipe. Please send your student's recipe and we'll share them in the next newsletter. Please contact Bob if you would like to get involved in sharing sessions discussing tutoring topics you are interested in.

- “Beat the Winter Blues” will be presented by Shmuel Mendelbaum, MD at the Kewaunee Public Library, January 20, 2011 at 6:15pm. This is a free presentation, but registration is required at 1-800-99HFMMC ext 2519.
- If you have a student success story to share, please email, write, or call Bob.
- Have a good idea for a workshop or newsletter story? Please contact Bob.



Literacy Partners' student Svetlana gave Santa her Christmas list at Chriskringlemarkt last December

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