

From the Back of the Boat

Bob Garfinkel

Where did the summer go? For many of us, time was spent trying to keep cool. Even the fish spent a lot of time under shade trees, air conditioned weed beds, and sipped cold spring water at the bottom of lakes and rivers. The heat did not deter our tutors and supporters from volunteering and supporting our fundraiser brat fry (next one is September 8th at Stodola's IGA), pig roast and back to school event. There was no shortage of help this summer making all events huge successes. What struck me the most was the enthusiasm, and great cooperation between the volunteers. The pig roast with HCE was a lot of work, yet fun. We had two shifts of 11 with some going all day. Food was great and customer service outstanding. Set up was fast, efficient, and self directed since this was our second event year. Our co-organization pig roast committee spent an entire session after the last roast going over problems and concerns. The only problem we had this year was the faulty electric wiring in the shelter. I worked all events this summer and can honestly say that I enjoyed the company and help of our volunteers. Fundraising is a necessary part of all non-profit organizations that often takes our attention and energy away from our mission—what we are trying to accomplish. I feel that our experiences this summer gave us the glue to accomplish our goals, make us a stronger organization, and to get to the next step in our development.

THE STAR

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News at a glance:

Successful Fund Raising
Coming events – Fund raising
Recognition Day

Features:

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Back of the Boat (continued)

Our present fundraiser is the new and improved Advantage Card. Check out the sample inside this issue if you haven't seen it. Fundraisers take a lot of work, thought, and effort. Many hear the word fundraiser and disappear or get a bad taste in their mouth. But let's face it. Fundraisers, grants, and donations pay the bills. Presently, we are planning a small computer lab at Hillcrest School, looking at a new textbook series, and we have materials on our “wish list” to help our students learn. Fundraising is a necessary evil, but I'd rather do it with you, our fellow tutors and board, than with anyone in the world!!

Thank you, thank you, and thank you to the following volunteers!!

Brat Fry—Festival Foods East

Anne Laurent, Mary Anne Albert, Nancy Lamack,
Sue Hingst, Kathy and Bob Garfinkel.

Back of the Boat (continued)

Pig Roast—Kewaunee

Mary Novak, Bob Novak, Maureen Kinnard, Kate Phillips, Jackie Yon, Barb Porath, Jerry Waara, Ingrid Weitzel, Jan Zenner, Julie Thoreson, Bonnie Johnson, Judy Delain, Bob and Kathy Garfinkel, and Mary Anne Albert. Thanks to all who donated the wonderful pies! Thanks also to the HCE crew!!

Back to School Day

This event was fantastic thanks to Renee Koenig, Jan Zenner, Maureen Kinnard, Denise Nemetz, Ingrid Weitzel, Joan Dalebroux, Barb Baldwin, Anne Laurent, Mary Novak, Sue Weisser, Marietta Kenzik, Sue Hingst, Mary Gotstein and Bob.

Brat Fry – Luxemburg (September 8th)

This will include Mary Anne Albert, Anne Laurent, Sue Hingst, Kathy and Bob Garfinkel, Sandy Ehren and Joan Dalebroux.

Recognition Day

Saturday, September 29

Anne Laurent

Our yearly celebration is upon us! Recognition Day is on Saturday, September 29 at 4 pm! (Note: Saturday instead of Sunday, as in the past – per student and tutor survey results.) The event will once again be held at the Kewaunee Grade School in the cafeteria. This is a very special event—and we urge you and your student to attend. It is a wonderful sight to see everyone interacting and having fun over good food and tremendous accomplishments. We have made adjustments to the program to try and cut time off, so it does not become so lengthy, as in the past.

Please fill out and return your post card to Bob as soon as possible so we can plan for the number of people attending. As always, there will be books for students and tutors, and a raffle sponsored by Dominion for all tutors present!

HELP WANTED

[The following article was published in last week's County Tribute and Kewaunee County Star. The need for tutors is great with over 20 potential students on our waiting list. If you know someone who'd be a great tutor, please send their contact information to Bob.]

There is a movement spreading across the U.S. that will strengthen our economy, increase people's employability, strengthen families, reduce crime, and reduce serious accidents. The movement is centered on teaching adults how to read, write and improve English speaking skills.

Literacy Partners of Kewaunee County, Inc. is part of this movement and is now inviting volunteer tutors to join, according to Bob Garfinkel, president of the group. Contact Garfinkel at 845-2516 before September 29, 2012 for information about orientation, tutor training, and other details.

"Teaching a person English skills benefit both the student and the volunteer. Many of our wonderful volunteers benefit as much from the experience as our students" says Garfinkel. He offers ten reasons to become a volunteer tutor:

10. Get involved and meet new people.
9. Challenge yourself to learn new skills.
8. Share your love of reading.
7. Give in to your secret desire to be a teacher.
6. Make a difference to an entire family by helping a parent learn to read.
5. Help someone get their G.E.D. and change their life.
4. Help a person gain U.S. citizenship.
3. Make Kewaunee County an even better place to live.
2. Give back to your community
1. Give the gift of literacy that lasts a lifetime and beyond!

"Being a tutor is the best decision I have ever made," says Garfinkel.

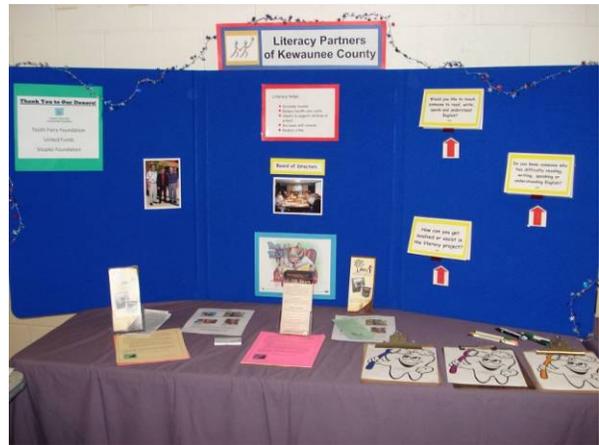
Tutor Orientation and Training Classes

Place: Hillcrest School, Kewaunee.

Orientation:	October 1	6:00 pm – 7:30 pm
Class #1	October 8	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Class #2	October 15	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Class #3	October 17	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm
Class #4	October 22	6:00 pm – 9:30 pm

Health Literacy - Back to School Program

On August 9, the Health Literacy committee got together to help once again with the Kewaunee County Back to School program. This program focuses on helping struggling families in our county get their children ready for the upcoming school year. Our focus is primarily on dental health-informing, educating, and providing families-children and their parents-with new dental supplies to keep them excited about oral health. It is our hope that if we can excite and educate families, their dental health will improve, thus improving their overall health program.



Our booth at the County Back to School Day

This year, we had almost 300 students and over 150 adults come through our station. Each child and parent received a “goodie bag” filled with a new toothbrush, toothpaste, floss, timer for 2 minutes to monitor teeth brushing times, pamphlets on technique, and a tooth shaped necklace (to put fallen out teeth in until the tooth fairy comes to take it away!).

In addition to the dental aspect of our donations, we were also able to secure a new pair of shoes for almost every child that came. The shoes were donated by an anonymous source, and were all new. Most shoes even came in a box. They were mostly Converse high tops, but we also had some miscellaneous Nike, Adidas, Columbia, etc, shoes to hand out.



Mary Gotstein helped students try on the shoes.



Stacks of new shoes for students.

The program was a fantastic success. Children and adults were smiling, and very thankful that we were there. It was an amazing experience to see the children’s faces light up both with the shoes, as well as with the dental supplies. This program fits in well with our organization because a lot of our students qualify for these services. This program is just another example of Literacy Partners extending our helping hand out into the community. It gives us a sense of presence in the county, as well as helps out not only our students’ families, but also future students, as well.

Fundraising 2012

Anne Laurent

You may have seen an article about this in one of the local newspapers. Or, maybe you saw the KCEDC promoting it via Facebook or other social media outlets. I KNOW you have heard about it from either Bob Garfinkel or me. So-*have you bought your 2012 Kewaunee County Advantage Card yet?*

This Advantage Card is about so many things. In a struggling economy, it is helping us do our job to promote local businesses; many have supported Literacy Partners for the third year in a row. It also brings us together working cooperatively with another Kewaunee County group, the Buy Local Initiative. This card helps us get our name out into the community, helps us form new bonds, recruit new tutors and students, and, most importantly, helps us raise much needed funds to continue providing our exceptional services to the adult residents of Kewaunee County.

By donating your \$10, you receive this *amazing* card, chucked full with 28 deals that can be used UNLIMITED times throughout the next year. In addition to that, there are 4 ONE TIME use coupons to local grocery stores- totaling \$19! That means, if you use the coupons, you actually come out ahead—even before you start to actually use the card!

Do you know someone who has school aged children in Kewaunee County? Does \$10 off any purchase of \$30 at Quali T, Inc sound good? I bet it does to anyone looking for Spartan, Wolves or Thunder apparel!

Do you like to enjoy a meal out? How about trying Augie’s Bar & Grill, Caffe Tlazo, Kunkel’s Korner, Rendezvous of Luxemburg, Subway or the Fishmonger? They ALL have deals on our card!

Need a car wash? Take \$1 off at G&K’s car wash in south Luxemburg! After you are done, head on over to Rocks of Ages and create a new necklace or bracelet for yourself and save 10%!

The list goes on and on. Most people save over \$10 in the first couple uses. And, if you don't think you will remember to use it, buy one and give it as a gift. They would make *great* stocking stuffers this year—and since they are good until **September 1, 2013**, they will have plenty of time to use them.

Please help support Literacy Partners by buying a card. They are available at Union State Bank in Kewaunee, Baylake Bank in Algoma, and the Bank of Luxemburg. Or-contact Anne or Bob and we will send one to you if you send us the money.

KEWAUNEE COUNTY ADVANTAGE CARD
2012-2013
 Literacy Partners
 of Kewaunee County
BE YOCAL BUY LOCAL
 SHOP KEWAUNEE COUNTY
\$10
 PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT LITERACY PARTNERS.
www.buylocalkewaunecounty.org

DENNY'S SUPERVALU FOODS PLU 136 \$2 off 12pc broasted chicken <i>one time use</i>	Stodola's IGA \$2 off a rotisserie chicken <i>one time use</i>
piggly wiggly Kewaunee \$10 off any grocery purchase over \$100 <i>one time use</i>	Craig's piggly wiggly Algoma \$5 off any purchase over \$50 <i>one time use</i>

Augie's Bar & Grill-L	\$5 off any purchase over \$25 - dine in only
Aunt Nette's Flower Farm-NF	10% off any purchase over \$25 (open May & June 2013)
Bonnie Kratz Photography, Ltd.-L	\$10 off any photo session
Caffe' Tlazo-A	10% off any purchase over \$5
CJ's Restaurant & Banquet Hall-K	10% off any food purchase
G&K's Car Wash-L	\$1 off any car wash (pick up coupon at Simonar's Shell)
Harmann Studios-L	One complimentary child session - \$80 value
Kewaunee Custard-K	10% off any purchase
Krohn Dairy Store-Agropur-L	10% off any purchase over \$25
Kunkel's Komer-K	10% off meal - cardholder only - dine in only
Off the Hook Coffee House-A	Free coffee with breakfast / \$0.50 off custard cone (in season)
Parallel 44 Vineyard & Winery-K	10% off any purchase over \$25
Premier Travel-L	One free manicure w/purchase of 4 night vacation
Quali T Inc.-L	\$10 off any retail purchase over \$30
Rendezvous of Luxemburg-L	\$3 off any 14 inch Homemade Pizza
Rocks of Ages-L	10% off any merchandise purchase
Ron's Wisconsin Cheese, Inc.-L	\$5 off any purchase over \$50
Shannon's Yoga & Fitness-A	\$5 off any purchase over \$40
Simonar Sports Inc.-L	10% off any Ski Doo Clothing
Simonar's Tire Service-L	Receive \$1 (over and above sale price) off per Michelin Tire purchased
Simonar's Towing-L	10% off any purchase
Subway-A	\$0.50 off 6" sub; \$1 off footlong (not valid on \$5 footlong)
Subway-K	\$0.50 off 6" or \$1 off 12" sub
Subway-L	\$0.50 off 6" or \$1 off 12" sub
The Fishmonger-K	10% off any purchase - dine in only
Verizon Store-L	20% off any phone accessory
von Stiehl Winery-A	Two free tours per visit value of \$8
Wiz Tech LLC-L	15% off any in-store computer purchase

A=Algoma, C=Casco, K=Kewaunee, L=Luxemburg, NF=New Franken
 Valid 8/1/12 - 9/1/13. Not valid with any other offer. One use per visit; can only be used by cardholder.

www.buylocalkewaunecounty.org

Just check out the many places

YOU are able to benefit from this Advantage Card WHILE benefitting LITERACY.

Luxemburg Brat Fry @ IGA

Don't forget to come out and see us at Stodola's IGA on Saturday, September 8 for our last fall fundraiser—a brat fry! The food will be great--- the laughs will be many – and maybe we can even get Bob into an apron cooking the brats for us! You'll have to come to see for yourself! Come around noon. The stand will be open from 11 – 2.

Student Successes

Guillermina (Mina) Sotelo, U.S. Citizen

The stage was set on Thursday August 23, 2012 in the US Federal Court Building in Milwaukee to honor 76 new US Citizens including our student, Mina Sotelo. Nelly Otradovec, Mina's daughter, JoAnn Werner, Mina's tutor, Kate Phillips, a close family friend and Literacy Board Member/tutor, and Bob Garfinkel witnessed the event with others in a standing room only courtroom. You could feel the excitement of the new citizens, friends, and guests while the beautiful 100 year old ornate courtroom added to the atmosphere that this event was special and important.

Kate's reaction to this special day was, "What an honor to be able to attend Guillermina's final step to citizenship. We got there an hour early and many people came pouring in after us lining up all the way down the long balcony where you could stare up at the glass ceiling and down at the huge open indoor courtyard. It was thrilling to see everyone's eager face as they filed into their seats in a special wood paneled courtroom and then hear their voices as they became citizens of our country. Welcome, welcome, welcome! Thank you, thank you!"



Bob and Kate with Mina and her new certificate

The federal judge was emotionally involved in the process as his parents were naturalized when he was a youngster. He also was a few minutes late for the oath since he administered the Oath of

Citizenship to a pregnant women in the hall whose water was about to break. She joked that, "We get two citizens for the price of one!"



Tutor JoAnn Werner and Mina after the ceremony

Mina is our seventh student to study for and pass the U.S. Citizenship Test. I am proud of her accomplishments and it's been an honor to know her.

JoAnn Werner, Mina's tutor, was also pleased and proud. She says:

"Mina is always so gracious and thankful! She would come to class with her homemade tamales and home grown eggplant, onions and tomatoes for me. We have class at my husband's office and Mina brightened the whole office with her smile and conversations! "

"Once she set citizenship as a goal, she worked as hard as she could to attain it! She studied the 100 questions with a determination that was amazing! She didn't want to chance missing a single question. I was worried she would wear out those flash cards! The reading and written parts of the test were the same. The spelling was especially difficult for Mina, but she just worked harder! I am so proud of Mina. She is an inspiration to all of us that any goal is possible if you work hard! We were all so happy for her accomplishment!"

Of This and That

1. Our election of board members takes place at the November Board Meeting. Those interested in running for a board seat contact Bob by October 1, 2102.



Mike Repinski (right) of CenturyLink renews the company's commitment to literacy with a donation to Literacy Partners' Mary Gotstein and Bob Garfinkel

2. A BIG "THANK YOU" to Centurylink for their recent donation to our computer fund.
3. The four Little Free Libraries continues to be a hit. The library in Fireman's Park, Luxemburg leads the way with about 500 exchanges of books!
4. The Strategic Plan Committee's work (5 Year Plan) is about half completed. Thanks to Mary Novak, Jerry Waara, Sue Hingst, Bob Garfinkel, Anne Laurent and facilitator, Claire Thompson, UW- Extension, for their hard work and dedication.
5. The Textbook Committee has narrowed the selection to two series. We have four tutors piloting each book with their students until the end of this year. Pilots began this past spring. If you are interested in more information, call Bob at 920-676-2061.
6. If your student is 31 years of age or younger and would like to apply for Deferred Action (get a 2 year work permit that is renewable with an initial cost of \$465.00) call Bob to see if he/she qualifies.
7. Join our Facebook page!

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Barb Baldwin, Sandy Ehren, Mary Gotstein, Marietta Kenzik, Sue Hingst, Kate Phillips, Jerry Waara, Jackie Yon, Jan Zenner.

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Stephanie Vincent, Legal Advisor; Elaine Holmes, Bookkeeper;

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