

KEWANEE HORIZONS **COMMUNITY DAY**

IN

KEWANEE

SPECIAL EDITION

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KEWANEE'S 1st ANNUAL COMMUNITY DAY EVENT

I'M PART OF THE
COMMUNITY
TOO.....



RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

KEWANEE LSRC has agreed to allow us to engage in more *Restorative Practices*. In the Horizons newsletter you will see the terms *RESTORATIVE JUSTICE* and *RESTORATIVE PRACTICES* very often.

The aim of *Restorative Practices* is to develop community and to manage conflict and tensions by repairing harm and building relationships. *Restorative Justice* in general, is a process involving the primary stakeholders in determining how best to repair the harm done by an offense. The three primary stakeholders in *Restorative Justice* are: the victims, the offenders, and their communities of care; their needs are respectively: obtaining reparation, taking responsibility, and achieving reconciliation.

The *Kewanee Horizons* team believes creating a better community here is *Restorative*. By indirectly repairing damages and by giving back to our current community and with greater communities at large, we are engaging in *Restorative Practices*.

**Community: A group of people with a common characteristic
Or interest living together with in a larger society.**

MISSION STATEMENT

Kewanee Horizons has adopted the **Restorative Justice** and community theme. Partly because this has been the fight of our lives, those of us who have sought not only freedom in its many forms, but, also a way to give back, rebuild, and uplift our communities.

We give back because of what we have been given. We rebuild, by restoring back to a state of before our offenses. We uplift, by a conscious and consistent effort to better ourselves as well as those around us.

Kewanee Horizons will work to highlight the achievements of our community both on campus and off, inside facilities and outside. Whether individually or collectively and no matter the uniform we wear. We're going to look into the daily lives on our campus and across the state to other facilities on a regular basis. We are hoping to open the eyes to the limitless potential there is in our population, to advocate for more participation in programming, and to give recognition to those who succeed. We want to remain as interactive as possible so **Kewanee Horizons** will be picking your brains for ideas and accepting submissions to make this as interactive as possible. This publication is put together for the purpose of uplifting mind, body and spirit.

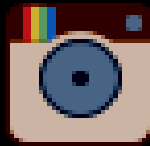
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KEWANEE HORIZONS NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN EMAIL ADDRESS!

kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov

**TELL YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS TO SCREENSHOT THIS PAGE
AND SHARE IT TO THEIR SOCIAL MEDIA WITH THE HASHTAG:**

#KEWANEEHORIZONS



AND DON'T FORGET TO CHECK US OUT ON THE IDOC WEBSITE!

IDOC HOME PAGE

CLICK "ABOUT"

CLICK "NEWS"

THEN SELECT "KEWANEE HORIZONS NEWSLETTER"

COMMUNITY DAY...

By: Chris Carson @ K.L.S.R.C.

Peace and Blessings to the IDOC conglomerates this is your man Chris Carson Aka Skully and you already know that I'm heavy on the production all day everyday!

1st and foremost I would like to give a shout out to the Kewanee Horizons crew for working diligently to keep this platform up and running. I see you (Mr. King). Next I would like to thank everyone who came out to support the community day event, it was truly a success. I have the up-most respect and gratitude for everyone who extended a helping hand in order for my vision of what a community day event (and Video) is supposed to look like. I got to give a special thanks to Mrs. E out of Kewanee Fades Barber Shop for allowing me to incorporate the talented barbers as part of the showcase. All of the barbers that participated in the competition showed up and showed out, salute. Next, I have to give a big thanks to Mrs. Draper for granting me the liberty to utilize the art work from out of the Art room, for those of you who allowed me to display your art work in the gym, just know that it was us who had the west gym looking like an art show setting the ambience of success and greatness. Thank you soooo much to Ms. Rowan! If it was not for her game plan



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with trivia and heads or tails it would not have been a total success. She's the best! I am also appreciative for the assistance from Ms. Arch and Ms. Roth, collectively everyone played a role with the result of things running smoothly which was the desired goal and vibe. Shout out to Joe and everybody else who dropped items in the donation box. Last but never the least I have to acknowledge, thank and commemorate AJ Tarantino, if you was to ask me, I would say that this man needs a Oscar for his creativity and over all production on the community day video and for all the other things that he is doing around here. I shared a concept with AJ about constructing a video about the Kewanee Community and he put his sauce on it and brought it to life! That's a true talent, and for that I'm honored to have had AJ Tarantino to help me successfully pull off Community Day! Big Salute! Peace and blessing to you all out there and until next time stay heavy on the production.



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COMMUNITY DAYS

By: Jerome "Justice" Jones @ K.L.S.R.C.

When you thinking of community what comes to mind? A group of persons together in one place, or a group of nations having common interest. How about a group of interdependent organisms inhabiting the same region and interacting with each other. **We** might consider community to be a place where individuals coexist, foster growth, assist when needed and protect the things we deem sacred. Many versions exist of such a complex word. Kewanee has managed to capture the quintessence of them all, producing a variation that fits the occasion.

"Community Day" at Kewanee was a first for me, and **indeed** was an mixture of the above definitions. Obviously there's an element of interdependence, a general common interest that makes this day even possible. On this day we inhabited the same region and had meaningful interactions, all while cultivating oneness. Community day began as an experiment with potential, and in thee spirit of positive energy it has transformed into an experience for all to remember in a carceral setting, one word exciting.

Upon entering the gym you are instantly transported to a community center. Picture this, an in-house D.J. blazing music over loud speakers, tables neatly spread out, original works from local artist on display, flicks of haircuts by Kewanee barbers they are surgical



with trimmers, movie projector gearing up for a short docu-munity written, produced and directed by Kewanee's very own self-taught filmmaker, cinematographer, life's moments. In attendance you have your doers, builders, busy bodies, thinkers, and planners engaged in casual conversation enjoying the festivities. There's some mental stretching going on for those reading for the trivia. Teams were a blend of staff and individuals in custody (community), all competing for bragging rights and the prize bags made possible through commissary items donated by the populace. Congrats to team #5 for the win, victory is always a bonus.

Kewanee is a diverse community and includes people from many walks experience similar challenges. Community day synthesizes that uniqueness to demonstrate and offer ways to combat the stigma around the incarcerated. Furthermore community day answers the questions about how we can help members of these communities be seen, heard and understood.

I am always inspired by witnessing life's movements transform into harmonic displays of cohesiveness and unity. In life you must always find your gratitude and for many reasons I am grateful for this opportunity and for many more to come.

Thanks to the Wardens for allowing this day, the staff who crossed t's, dotted I's and participated in the main event. Thanks to the host for providing those intense thought-provoking trivia questions and for keeping things fair, fun and orderly. Lets not forget the score keepers who kept us on track due to their swift calculations, nice work. Major shout out to those who continuously breathe life into what has become an established Kewanee tradition.

"Excellence is to do a common thing in an uncommon way"

-Booker T. Washington

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COMMUNITY DAY

By: Dante Turner Sr. @ K.L.S.R.C.

We may have different backgrounds and different issues, but we as a community come to recognize certain traits in ourselves and each other. Our purpose in this Community Building is to examine these common threads of thoughts and behavior that are interwoven into this ONE COMMUNITY. This day was a day that was desired for Healthy and Loving relationships.

We simply shared our own experiences, strengths, and hopes. We saw ourselves not being flawed, judged, laughed at, nor being ignored. We got to know other people with this community building event. We had no problem with interacting with others. Being here at Kewanee, for me was a transformative journey, I'm glad I got the chance to experience this. I've met with leaders, students, coaches and volunteers as they embraced me as FAMILY, #REAL TALK.

P.S. I would like to thank the Individuals in Custody as-well as the Staff here at Kewanee Life Skills Re-entry Center

#Community Bonding And Building!





COMMUNITY DAY EVENT

By: Deshaune Childs @ K.L.S.R.C.

What's up everybody my name is Deshaune Childs also known as Kane, I would like to share with you all one of my many great experiences that I have partaken in since my arrival here at Kewanee. A few days of being here I was asked to donate to community day, what's that you ask? Well it goes like this, for like 2 or 3 weeks in advance it's a big box placed inside of commissary with the words please donate to community day and not only do it gets filled up, but at least 3 or 4 of the boxes are taken out for donations with food items or items that you want to donate. The items that are donated will be used to make the prize bags for community day. Community Day was held in the West Gym on Oct 30, 2025, it consisted of everyone coming together and having fun, even the staff was involved with this day. We all played Trivia with 9 man teams and which ever team won everyone on the team got a prize bag, there was a lot of food in those bags but really made the day special to me was how the staff interacted with us, not only were they there, but they sat at the tables with us and out of my 30 years of being incarcerated it took something like community day to make me feel like I'm apart of something and that made me feel good. So that's one of my many great experiences at KLSRC, Oh by the way, I won the first community day event. Peace everybody!

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COMMUNITY DAY EVENT AT KEWANEE

By: DeAngelo Ogden @ K.L.S.R.C.

Welcome everyone, first off I want to say that being in Kewanee is a wonderful experience, everyone here is like family. It is very respectful from staff to the individuals that are incarcerated here. When I got transferred to Kewanee I noticed that they have so many opportunities here that they did not have in other facilities. I feel like every place you go in life, it has something, but being in Kewanee you have a variety of stuff. This place remind me of a vending machine, you have program after program, event after event, its always something to do to stay busy. The staff here is amazing, you can ask them anything and if they don't know the answer, they will go and find out for you. The food, oh my God, I don't miss a chow, everything that they serve is well done and seasoned, my best meal is the fried chicken and the grilled tacos, they really know what they are doing on that grill. Now the gym, I be feeling like I am in a planet fitness, I never knew I could do so many workouts. I went from one thing to the next, I loved it. Since I've been here in Kewanee these last couple of months, I have learned a lot already, from interpersonal skills to communications but a lot of people was telling me about Community Day, I'm telling myself I got to see what that is about. So when I get there its packed, I'm like yeah I came to right place. As I'm walking to a seat one guy stopped me and was like hey do you wanna join our group, we playing trivia? I'm said yes, when I said I had a great time, I really felt involved, and the video that they showed at the event was very inspiring . The winners won a gift bag, my team did not win but it was not winning that mattered, it was about coming together as a team and having fun. I'm so blessed to have these moments and this wonderful experience with the Kewanee family, I wanna thank the staff, the teachers and volunteers that take there time to show us a better way.



COMMUNITY DAY EXPERIENCE

By: Maurice C. Williams @ K.L.S.R.C.

For the first time in my life I've seen a body of people who enjoyed each others company where the spirit of competition was high. Community day was a place where like minded individuals showed their willingness to be vulnerable yet showed their strengths in every other aspects of the day. But to me the best part of community day was the will power it took to step outside of own comfort zone and be open to communicate with people you wouldn't normally interact with, yet we all share a common goal and to me that is what a community supposed to look like and I am proud to be part of it.

Thank you!



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COMMUNITY DAY

By: Alexander Barker @ K.L.S.R.C.

Community Day to me was about building and bonding letting go of the stress that comes with being in prisons since coming to Kewanee a few months ago I've participated in many events but I liked this one the most thus far. The event helped to bring people out of their shell, the day consisted of playing trivia and the art work amazed me also. Them guys have great talent growing up my community showed me all the bad I could do in life. Now I'm blessed enough to be in a community that makes me want to a better father, son, brother, uncle and man altogether. So this is why this specific event is impactful on the community, it brings us together more than we already.



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KEWANEE FADES



BARBERSHOP WINNERS





Everyone here at Horizons would like to take the time to express our sincerest gratitude for all of the viewers, supporters, and participants of Kewanee Horizons. Our approach is different from other material that has been of benefit to us all, especially in regards to highlighting the successes of our fellow peer's, as well as highlighting the fact that we have an outstanding amount of friends, family, and loved ones that contribute to our overall success. Horizons is more than just a platform for us to use to spread content throughout I.D.O.C., it's also valuable to us all to show that we are indeed a community made up of "real" people, striving to make it through this journey. With Horizons, we are experiencing amazing things. Things that weren't the norm just a few years ago, and that's the evolution of "US", (the incarcerated individuals), and our desire to spark an already contagious thing, which is a change in the utmost positive direction. Change begins with us, and that's exactly what's been shown, as well as proven.





Being able to see some of the Peer led groups is something that is a blessing for us all. For so long, some of us didn't have the courage to teach what we knew, and quite possibly, the issue was that we didn't know what we knew would help anyone. Kewanee doesn't make Horizons, we "ALL" make Horizons. It's about all of us. The things we do during this incarceration not only impacts us, but our community as well. If we want people to believe in us, we first have to believe in ourselves. The entire Horizons team is honored to be able to be a voice for some of those that feel that you don't have one. Our focus is on positivity and how any occurrence that you've encountered since being incarcerated has impacted you in a positive way. Our driving force is positivity with a Restorative Justice mind-set. We don't look to focus on anything negative, we don't want anyone dwelling on yesterday's bad decisions, we want everyone focusing on tomorrow's goal of productivity, positivity, and finding ways to help one another in the best way possible. Please don't shy away from submitting your article to Horizons. **WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

