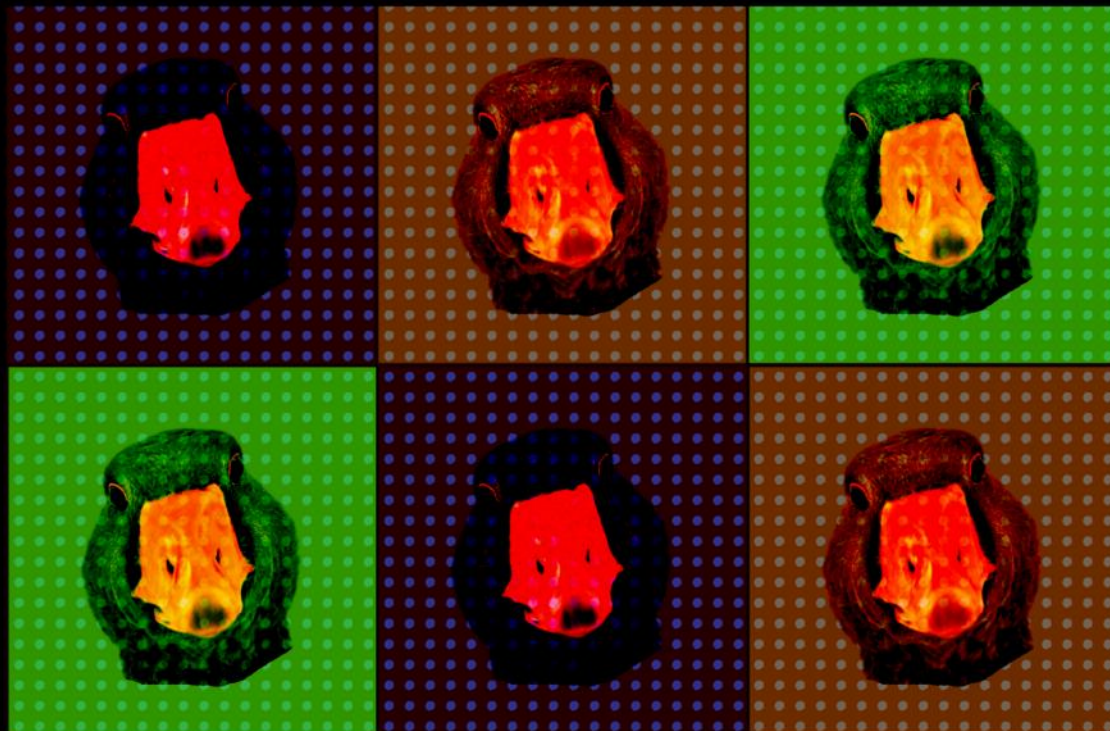


KEWANEE



HORIZONS

VOLUME 46



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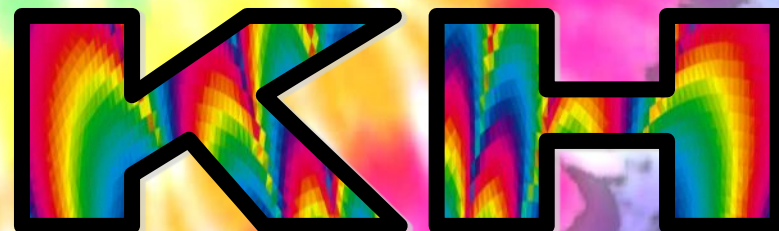
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RESTORATIVE JUSTICE

KEWANEE LSRC has agreed to allow us, consistent with COVID protocols, 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 within a larger society.**

Merriam-Webster's Collegiate Dictionary Eleventh Edition





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.





WBEZ CHICAGO



WANTS TO HEAR FROM YOU!



WBEZ Chicago & Illinois Public Radio present ***Prisoncast!***, a live radio broadcast serving people in Illinois prisons & their loved ones outside. Listen **Sunday Sept. 17th from 2 to 4pm** on your local public radio station or your tablet's FM app! It's an afternoon of songs, sounds and dedications to share with folks outside—even when you're apart. It also includes news & information **specifically for people in Illinois prisons, your families and outside connections.**

And we want your requests to drive our show! Write your answers to the survey below and mail them to: **Alex Keefe, c/o WBEZ, 848 E. Grand Ave., Chicago, IL 60611-3509.**

******Must be received no later than Aug. 4! We'll play as many requests as possible but will not get to them all.******

1. Tell us your name, nickname (if applicable), pronouns and whether we have permission to say your name on the air.
2. *Prisoncast!* Seeks to serve you & your loved ones outside with accurate news & practical information. Is there a question you have for our journalists, an issue we can explore or explain, or a topic you think we should discuss?
3. What is a sound from outside prison walls you'd like us to record and broadcast? Why do you want to hear that sound? (Previous examples: Lake Michigan waves, a basketball game,





a roller coaster, rain on a tin roof.) *If the sound occurs at a specific location or requires us to be in contact with someone, please provide details.*

4. Is there a song you'd like us to play during the show? Why do you want to hear it? Feel free to include a short dedication.
5. What's something you want people on the outside to know about you or your life on the inside?
6. How did you get this survey and learn about *Prisoncast!*
7. Do you have a special recipe you'd like to share that uses food available from commissary? Don't forget to give us the ingredients & step-by-step instructions. Tell us what it tastes like and why you like it!
8. WBEZ & Illinois Public Radio are planning ***Prisoncast! Holiday special to air Dec. 17, 2023*** on public radio stations across the state. What was your favorite holiday tradition or activity with LO's outside prison? We may record some to air on the show. *If the sound occurs at a specific location or requires us to be in contact with someone, please provide details.*

Your Loved Ones outside can also make requests & record dedications that we'll play on the radio! Leave a message at 312-893-2931 or send a voice memo to prisoncast@wbez.org. Also, email to find out more about WBEZ's September event in Chicago for families & children of people in Illinois pris-

produced by

WBEZCHICAGO

Your NPR news source





G_E_D_ ACCOMPLISHMENT

By: Rafael Padilla @ Danville C.C.

My name is Rafael Padilla. I am housed at Danville C.C. I just graduated (May 11th) receiving my G.E.D., which felt amazing. Adding that G.E.D. to the rest of my certificates that I also received in Danville felt great.

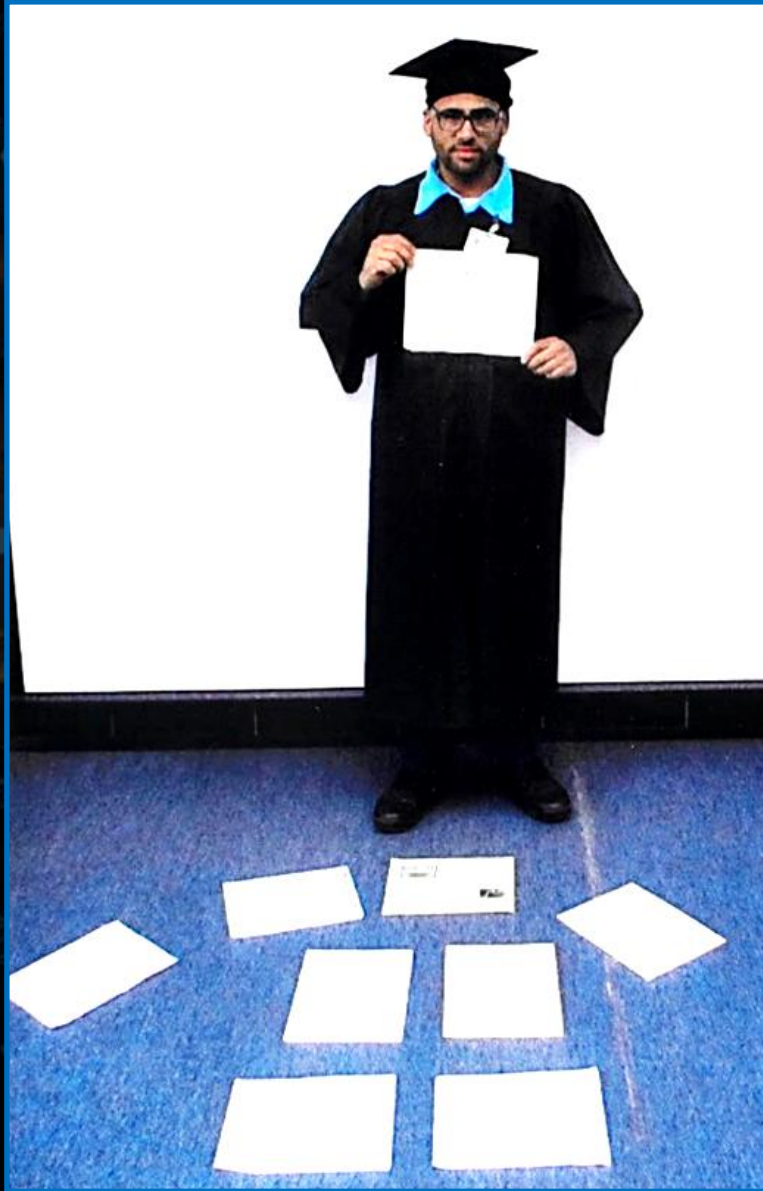
A lot of people in my situation know how hard it is to get in school, or classes, let alone remain in them. We are faced with obstacles every day that can cost us at the end. So remaining humble, setting forth a goal, on receiving my G.E.D., not letting anyone or anything get in the way of that, because my mission which ended as an accomplishment.

When my Principal Mrs. Miller told my “You passed” I can’t explain the emotions I felt. I was happy, excited, and teary eyed, lost for words, and sad at the same time. Sad because I was not able to share this one in a lifetime experience, memory with my family and loved ones, but the fact that I did it, I passed, I got my G.E.D. finally. Proving people wrong. Brought back that excitement, happy, relief feeling.





I hope and pray that the students enrolled in school do not let anyone get in the way of receiving something of this high value in life later. (Don't let anyone or anything.) Push the TV. to the side for at least 45 minutes, 3-4 times a week. (To just study.) You may not pass on the first try. That doesn't mean quit, that doesn't mean throw it all away, give up. See what you need help on, and don't be afraid to ask for help. Doesn't make you dumb or weak and attack it, study it, and keep faith alive because you got it down packed. Don't doubt yourselves.



My goal now is my Masters. Therefore, this isn't the last you heard from me. My mission is to become a Youth Counselor. Someone who has been on both sides of these gates and can relate in pretty much all angles. So I have a goal and a mission I have to accomplish. Appreciate Y'all taking your time out to read this. Blessings in all you have going on.

“The greatest discovery of any generation is that a human being can alter his life by altering his attitude.”

William James





FOR THE BETTER



By: Nick Ogden
@ East Moline C.C.

I would like to congratulate the guys at East Moline C.C., that just completed the Houses of Healing class. These guys attended a program that helped better themselves even though it doesn't get good time. They attended this program because they wanted to learn and grow as men. They didn't say; oh forget it, it doesn't get good time I'll lift weights. They gave up yard to better themselves.

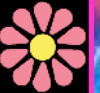
This is the true sigh of rehabilitation. These individuals see the benefit of the program offered regardless of what is or is not given. All if these brothers know who they are and I hope you are smiling. Proud of what was learned and what you've accomplished as a man.

Don't get caught up on good time, invest in yourself. The things you do here will prepare you for the free world. Do all, put in for every program, every bit of schooling and education and show out. Be more than an IDOC#. All of you have the capacity to learn and grow.

So to all Individuals in Custody that attend programs, I tip my hat to you, respect. For those who don't get their goodtime and do it anyway chin up and chest out, be proud and know that we see you and what you do.

Love and respect to all of you. Sincerely, Irish





NYU RESUME EVENT

On June 7th A student from New York University (NYU) along with IDOC Administrators from Springfield visited KLSRC to give a presentation about a new program that the Department has been working on in conjunction with NYU. The program is focused on bringing together Employers looking to hire returning citizens and people in the custody of the Department who are looking for ways to put themselves in the best position to succeed upon release, namely to have employment set up and ready to go as soon as possible when they get out. NYU has been building out a computer algorithm and website that will help make this connection between these two parties. One of the more interesting features of their system was the verification of employers credentials and ability to hire, think of it as a system that holds employers accountable and verifies that they are equipped to employ “us” rather than placing that weight on the returning citizens. There are 20,000 people in IL leaving prison expecting to start a new life, we all want the best possible opportunity to make it after release and this program is a huge advantage to reach the goal of never returning to prison.

The reason you may not have yet heard about this program is because it is still in its infancy with regard to how the website will function. At their presentation the NYU group gave KLSRC Administrators, staff and individuals in custody a thorough





demonstration about their ideas on how best to make this connection not only possible, but probable, leading to more successful employment opportunities tailored specifically to the needs of the employers on one hand and the skills and training that individuals in custody have learned, earned, or are otherwise in possession of on the other hand. The presentation was very informative and well done. There was a good discussion after the presentation that allowed for a robust question and answer involving everyone in attendance.

Something that **K.H.** was appreciative of was how important the feedback from individuals in custody seemed to be for the presenters. It is important to us that the buy-in from individuals in custody is an important part of any programs that have to do with the end goal of making more successful transitions for us. The more input that individuals in custody have the easier it should be for administrators to understand the unique needs and abilities these returning citizen have. As always we are grateful for the opportunity to view and discuss the details of this new program and are appreciative of the administrative officials for providing this as well as many more new opportunities down the road.





PEER LED SHOWCASE

The Lady and Gentlemen that you see pictured above are the very people that help make our vision come to life. These individuals dedicate their time and effort to help teach our fellow peers things that are much needed in their personal development in life, which we anticipate will inspire us all to step up and do the same. We are beyond appreciative for the submissions we've received from other facilities, and other peer educators, and it's truly a wonderful thing to see. We all lead by example, and the example that we've set with these peer-led classes show that we are more than determined to prove our worth. We are all leaving behind a roadmap to success, and for all of those that are involved, to everyone that makes this possible, our gratitude cannot be expressed in simple words. However, thank you to **Everyone**, and please, keep up the good work!

Trust me, it's not going unnoticed.





BIG ROB'S ROOFING GROUP

INTERESTING ROOFS

By: Big Robs Roofing

Welcome back to “Big Robs Roofing,” group lesson #11.

Well first off I want to start by saying thank you to my supporters and all who read “Big Robs Roofing Lessons” and for all the extremely talented Kewanee Horizons guys who make this possible. This will be my last lesson and hopefully I’ll be “on” a roof, not writing about them! Big Robs Roofing will still go on thanks to Jesse & Chad. Okay, let us get started.

An intersecting roof, also known as a combination roof, consists of two or more roof sections sloping in different directions. A valley is formed where the different sloping sections are joined.



Structural Insulated Panel Association

An intersecting roof consists of two or more roof sections sloping in different directions.





The two sections of an intersecting roof may or may not be the same width. If the two sections are the same width, the roof is said to have equal spans. If the two sections are not the same width, the roof is said to have unequal spans.

Traditionally, the framing square has been used to lay out angled cuts and lengths on raffles for intersecting roofs. The speed square is now also being used to lay out these rafters. Valley and valley jack rafter layout using the framing square are both discussed in this unit.

INTERESTING ROOFS WITH EQUAL SPANS

In a roof with equal spans, the total rise (Height) is the same for the two ridges. where the slopes of the roof meet to form a valley between the two sections, a pair of valley rafters are placed. Valley rafters extend from the inside corners formed by the two sections of the building to the corners formed by the intersecting ridges. Valley jack rafters run from the valley rafters to the ridges. Hip-valley cripple jack rafters are placed between the valley rafter and hip rafter.

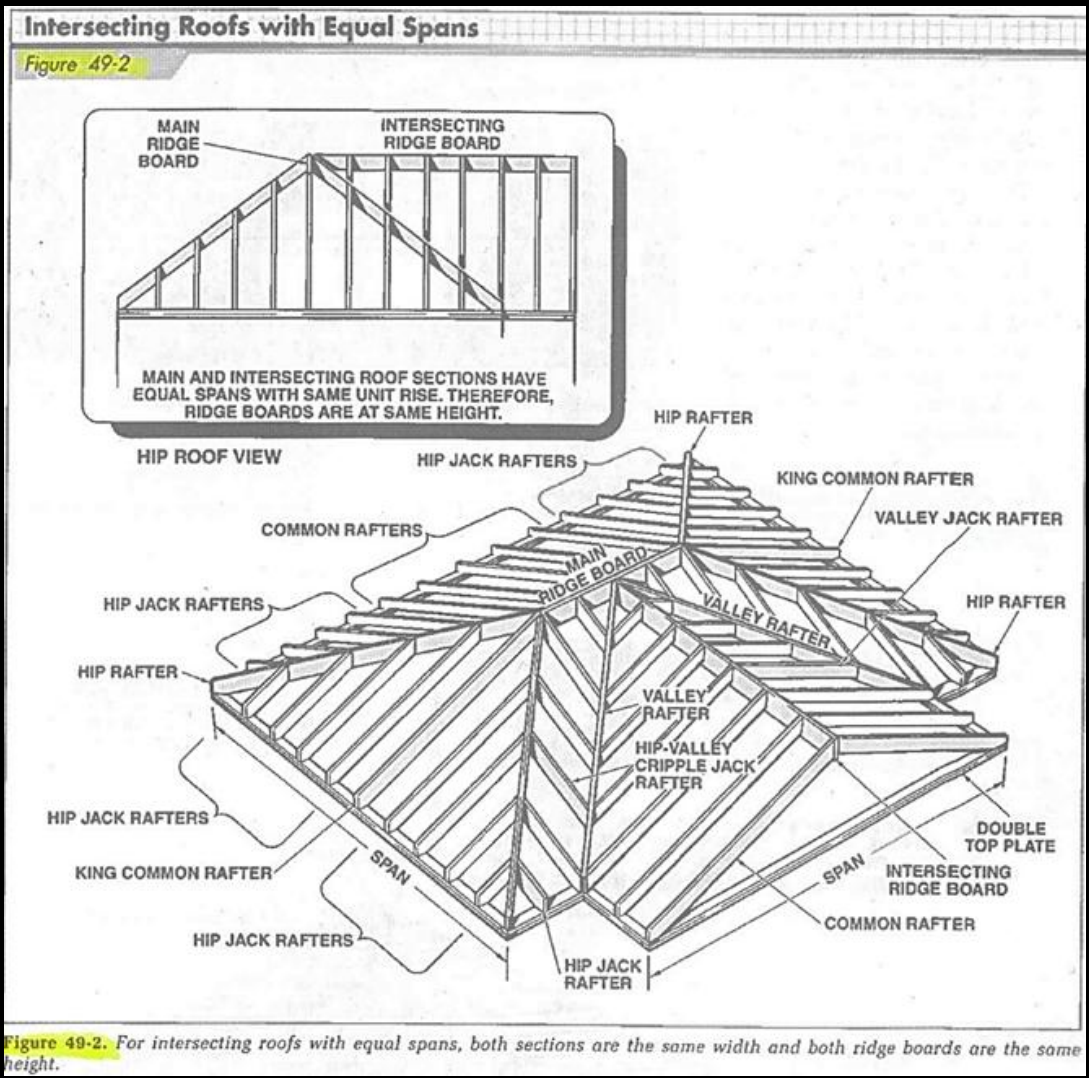


Figure 49-2. For intersecting roofs with equal spans, both sections are the same width and both ridge boards are the same height.



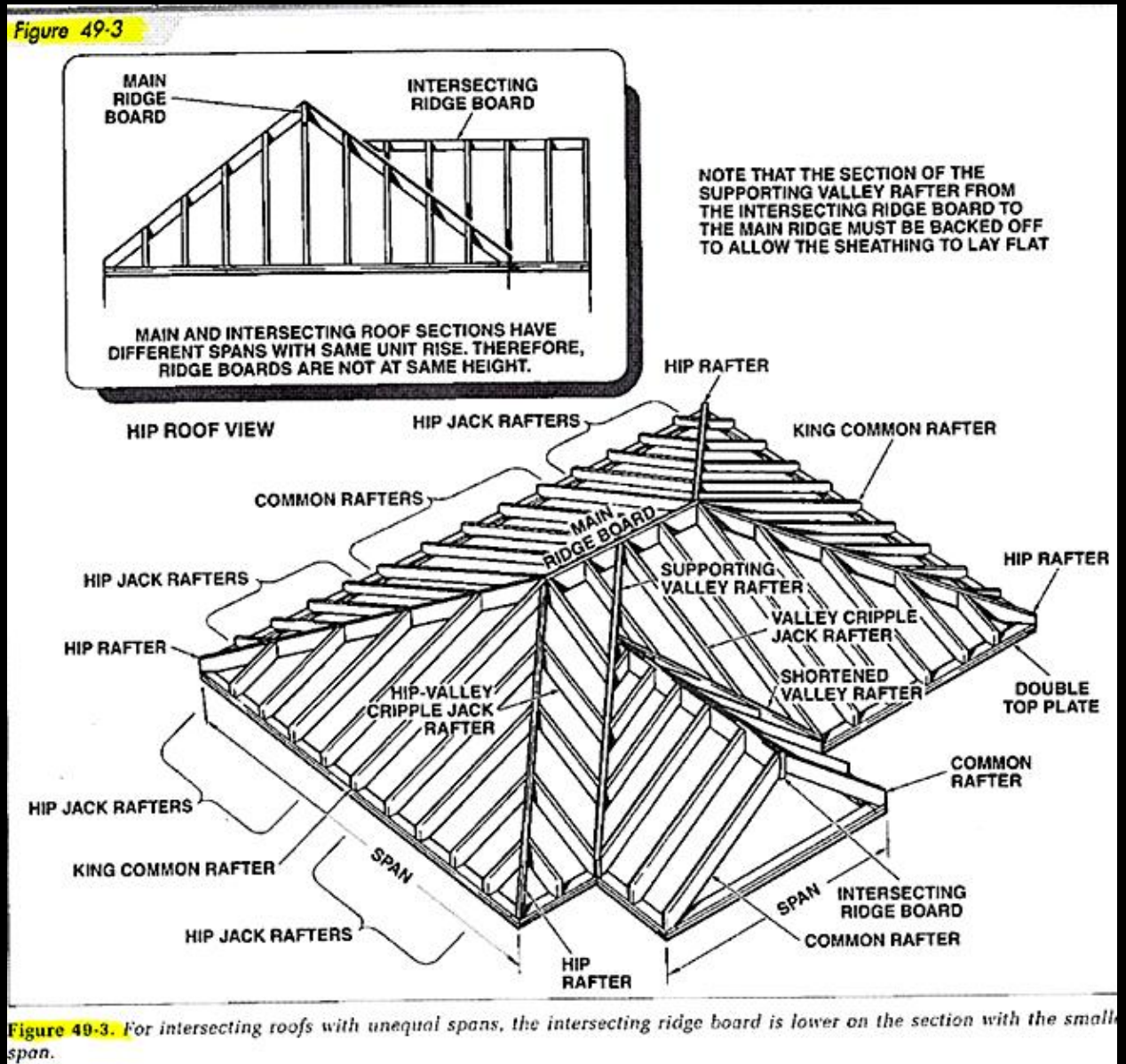


INTERSECTING ROOFS WITH UNEQUAL SPANS

An intersecting roof with unequal spans requires a supporting valley rafter to run from the inside corner formed by the two sections of the building to the main ridge. A shortened valley rafter runs from the other inside corner of the building to the supporting valley rafter. Similar to an intersecting roof with equal spans, on intersecting roof with unequal spans, also requires valley jack rafters and hip-valley cripple jack rafters. In addition, a valley cripple jack rafter is placed between the supporting valley rafter and shortened valley rafter.

VALLEY RAFTER

In intersecting roofs with equal spans, valley rafters run at a 45-degree angle to the exterior walls of a building and are parallel to hip rafters. Therefore, valley rafters are the same length as hip rafters.



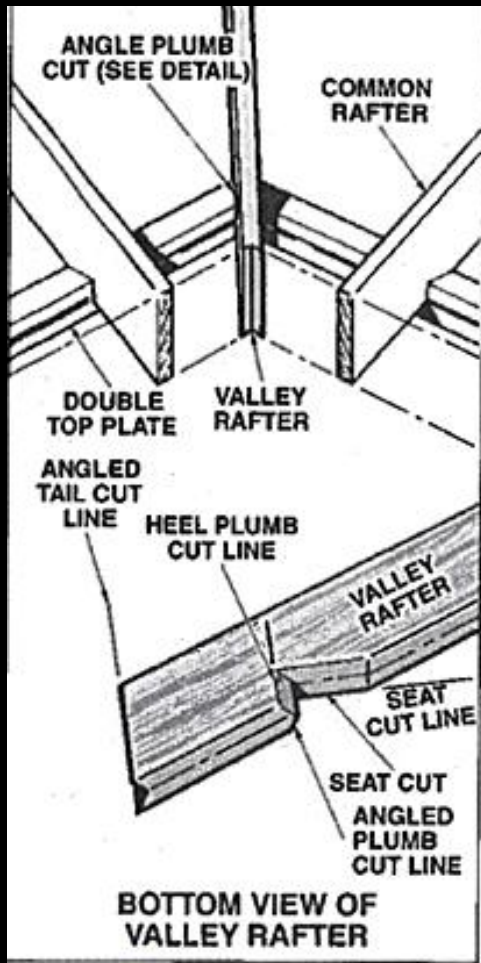


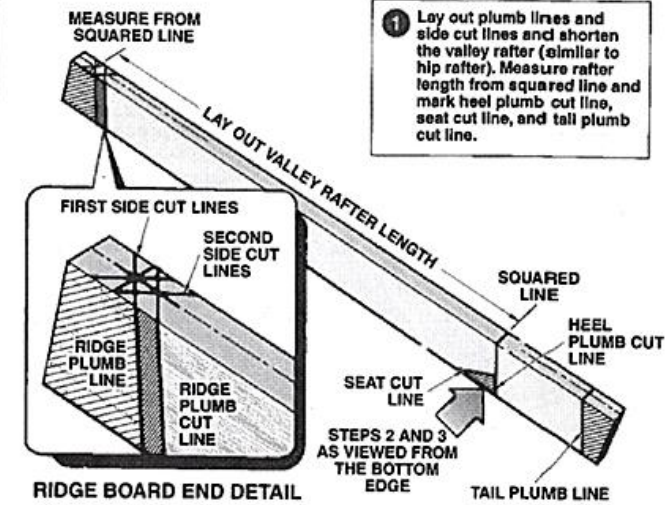
Figure 49-4. Side cuts at the seat of a valley rafter must be angled back at the heel plumb cut line to allow the rafter to drop down into the inside corner of the building.

LAYING OUT VALLEY RAFTERS

The layout of a valley rafter is almost identical to the layout of a hip rafter. The unit rise measurement and 17" measurement on a framing square provide the angles for the plumb and seat cuts. The side cut angles for valley rafters are the same as the angles for hip rafters. The only different in layout occurs at the seat and tail of the valley rafter. Side cuts must be angled back at the heel plumb cut line to allow the valley rafter to drop down into the inside corner of the building. Side cuts are also required at the tail of the overhang so that the corner formed by the valley will align with the rest of the roofing overhang.

Note that, unlike hip rafters, valley rafters do not require backing or dropping in an equal span roof, but they may require dropping in an unequal span roof.

Figure 49-6



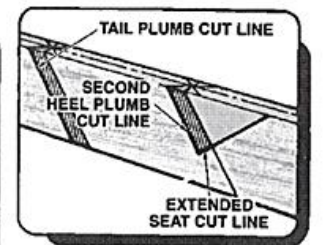
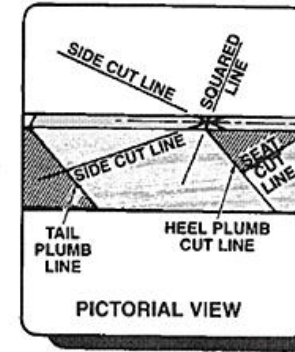
1 Lay out plumb lines and side cut lines and shorten the valley rafter (similar to hip rafter). Measure rafter length from squared line and mark heel plumb cut line, seat cut line, and tail plumb cut line.



2 On bottom edge of rafter, square a line from heel plumb cut line. Draw side cut lines that angle back from center of squared line.



3 Draw second plumb cut line. Extend seat cut line until it meets second plumb cut line.



4 At tail plumb line, square a line across edge of rafter. Draw side cuts that angle back from center of squared line. Draw second tail plumb line.

Figure 49-6. Valley rafters require angled side cuts at the ridge, heel, and tail.





SUPPORTING AND SHORTENED VALLEY RAFTERS

An intersecting roof with unequal spans requires two types of valley rafters supporting and shortened. A supporting valley rafter extends from the wall plate to the main ridge board and has a single side cut where it fits against the ridge board. A shortened valley rafter runs at a 90-degree angle to the supporting valley rafter. Shortened valley rafters have a square cut where they butt against the supporting valley rafter. The length of a shortened valley rafter is based on the run of the narrower roof. The layout procedure for a shortened valley rafter is shown here. (Figure 49-4)

Thank you again my roofing community! Here are your roofing tips: #1, Don't walk on algae, unless the roof is completely dry. #2, Always

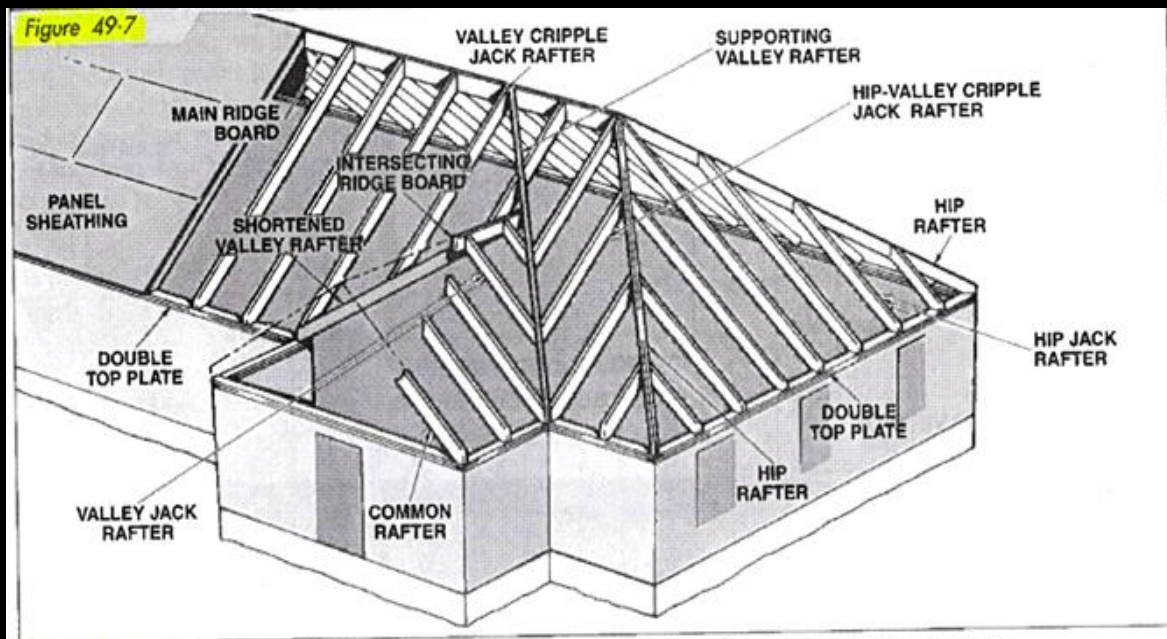


Figure 49-7. An intersecting roof with unequal spans has a supporting valley rafter and a shortened valley rafter.

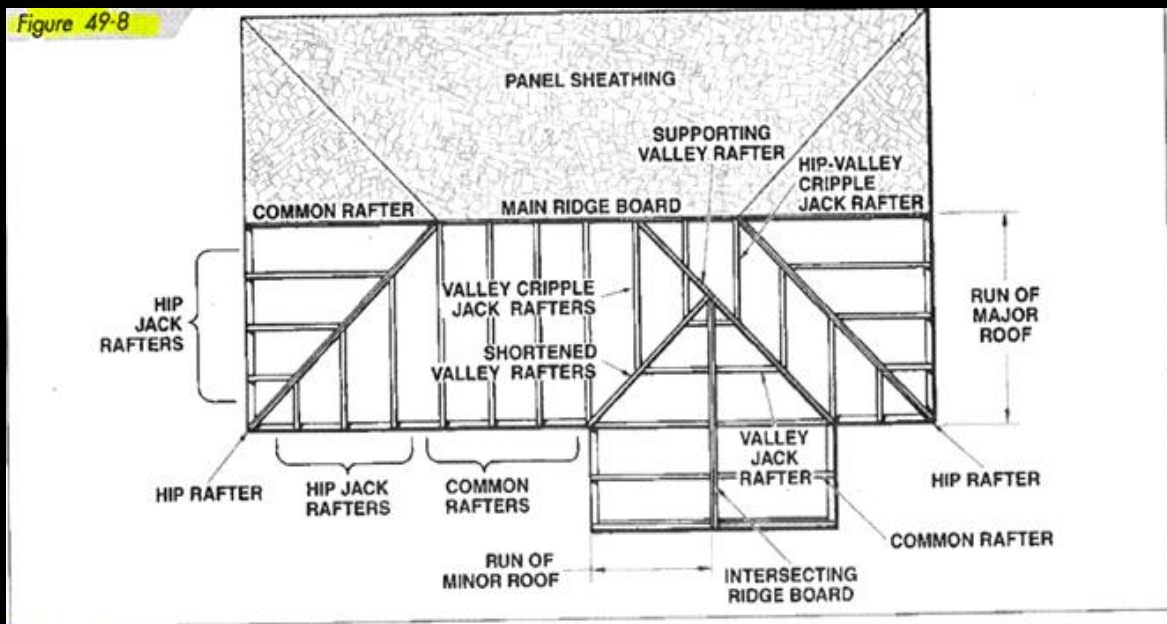


Figure 49-8. A shortened valley rafter runs at a 90° angle to the supporting valley rafter. Shortened valley rafter length is based on the run of the minor roof section.





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order one extra square of material per job in case some of the material becomes damaged due to rough transportation or rough handling on the job during loading or unloading.

Until next time, be safe and smart on your worksites. The most important thing on the roof is safety, and then is the quality of your work. You cannot do quality work in an unsafe job site.

Thank you again Kewanee Horizons and my readers.

God bless you all and

Bang Bang Bang lets git R done!



A DIFFERENT EXPERIENCE

By: Richard Bryant



On June 3rd I experienced something that I never thought existed in prison. I was able to participate in the Day with Dads program. This allowed me to spend time with 3 special growing young men named Charles, Jalen and Jahleel.

I played a one-on-one game of Basketball with Charles, who has an amazing game at the age of 12. We played to 5 and I let him shoot all his shots from behind the arch, from which he scored 4 points. (Of course I won) (Smiley face with the tongue)

I was able to play checkers with Jalen, who has such a sharp mind at the age of 10. He almost beat me. We sat in the sun and battled it out.

I spent most of my time with Jahleel, not because I favor him but because he chose to spend his time with me. Charles and Jalen roamed about the facility exploring the grounds & mingling with the other children.

Together we played Jinga as a family and Jahleel lost by pulling a plank from the bottom on

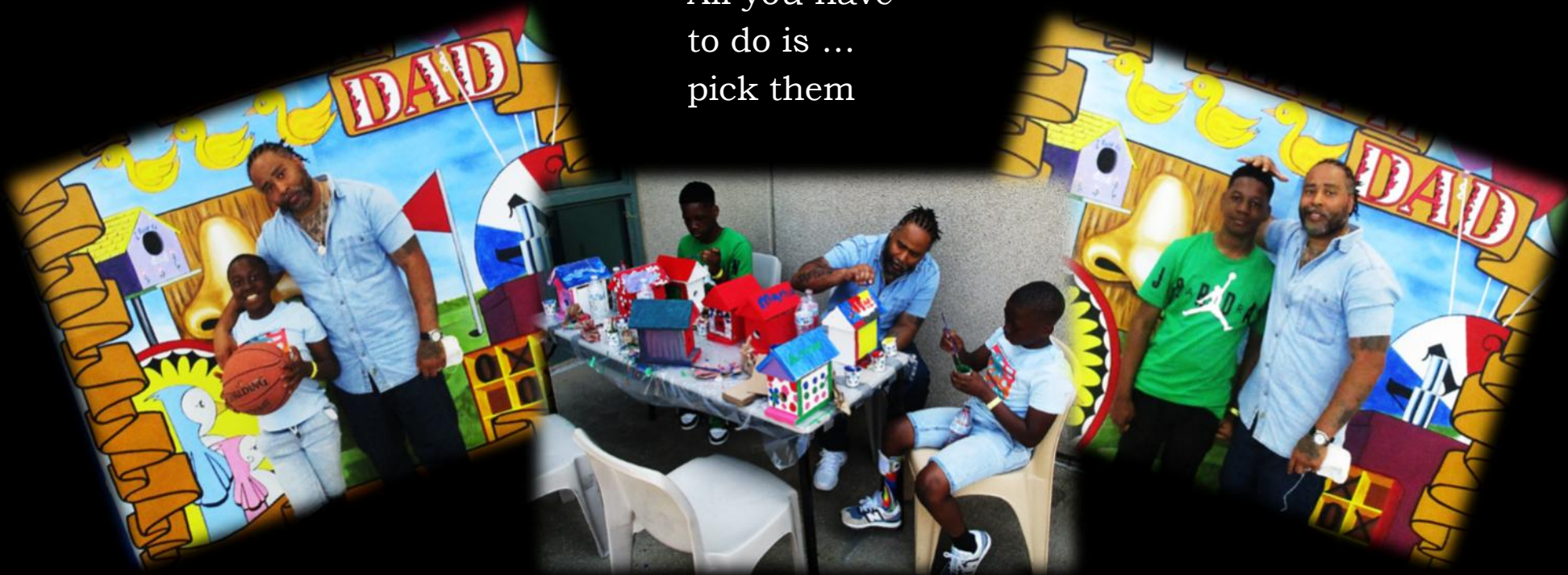




his second round. We also played miniature golf as a family, a game that was not so easy. We were all winners there. Even more, we were even allowed to explore an artistic side together, as we painted bird houses in which they were allowed to take home. Honestly, I am so proud to call these young men my sons.

Kewanee is a place of unlimited surprises of community. We all get the opportunity to enjoy the anticipation of release. There are so many things here to prepare you to go home & become a positive man. Kewanee has a lot programs that can be used as tools to better (You)...

All you have
to do is ...
pick them



EVERY CHANCE I GET

By: Nic Mobley



This Day with Dads was better than the last one. I think having more movement with my daughter made it a success. Those who were involved did an excellent job with the games and activities for the kids, especially the mini golf course. My daughter loved it. This was the first time I actually got the chance to play and run around with my kid without having an officer hovering over my shoulders. I think, for guys in my situation who haven't been in their child's life since before or after birth, this would be an experience of a lifetime. Just seeing that big smile on my daughter's face made all the pain of not being there for her in the past fade momentarily. I honestly think everyone with kids should be

able to experience these types of events and programs. This could mend relationships and give guys a taste of what's at stake when we're put in these predicaments. I just hope that in the future, guys who haven't participated in this get a chance so that they could feel that amazing feeling of fatherhood.





an unforgettable moment

By: Ralph Gray



I know June 3rd wasn't my birthday and I know that it definitely wasn't Christmas, but yet here at KLSRC on June 3rd I received the best present any parent could ever get. I got to experience Day with Dads with my son! I'm still in disbelief that I got to spend the day with him and get the opportunity to see him smile from ear to ear while we spent quality one on one time together. It was by far the best day of my life.

I've been incarcerated since my son was one years old so up until this point in his life the only memories he's had with me was in one of the many prison visiting rooms we've frequented. Now he can finally say he's played basketball, Mini golf, played catch, tossed the football around and even got to sit down and eat food off the grill with his Dad. It was truly an amazing experience for the both of us. For the entire time we spent together I literally forgot I was locked up and even more amazing, he did too.





As the day started to wrap up I was wondering what it was going to be like when all our kids exited from Day with Dads, because as every parent knows, it can be difficult for our kids to leave a regular visit. So what would this exit look like I wondered? What spoke volumes was when the kids knew they had to leave, not a single child cried and everyone got to walk out with a smile on their face. THANK YOU to the Wardens, Chaplain, Volunteers and the countless staff that played any role in making this amazing experience possible. You not only made the day for a lot of fathers but you gave our kids great memories they will never forget!.





UNSPEAKABLE WORTH

By: Milton Jones



Have you ever thought about how a meeting, introduction or something of that nature may go and it ends up being better than any thing that you could've imagined? Today was that day for me and because of today's events June 3rd will be a significant day to me for the rest of my life.

As the days and weeks passed leading up to today, I was filled with anticipation. See Kewanee held "Day With Dads" today and as the time approached for the event begin my mind raced. See when I first arrived at Kewanee I just missed registration for the "Daddy/Daughter Dance." I promised myself that I would do everything in my power to attend the next event of this nature that would take place here. It came, I did, and this is what has led us to today. I thought about today be-

ing the day that I meet four of my grandchild children. See I have fourteen grandchildren in total but prior to today I'd never met any of them because my incarceration came before any one





of them were born. I haven't had the privilege to interact with all of my grandchildren—some I've spoken to on the phone and others I haven't. The four that I anticipated meeting today were among the latter group, so there was no “practice run” to indicate how receptive they'd be to me. As you could imagine, I was a ball of nerves, yet at the same time, more excited than I've been in a very long time.

Unfortunately, all four of my grandchildren didn't show up but three of them did and I was grateful for that. Tavaris (TJ), Tavarion, and Tavion were escorted by their mother, Toya. I lit up like a Christmas Tree when my daughter and her sons walked in. My grandsons are ages 10, eight and five, respectively. It surprised me how quickly the bond developed between me and my grandsons...it felt like I've known them for the entirety of their lives. Foolishly, I didn't take my daughter seriously when she told me, “Be ready.” This was her warning to me about how active the boys were and that their activeness was going to wear me out. I didn't tell my daughter that day or since that day, however, I humbly admit it to you guys (the readers) and to my daughter right now, **MY GRANDSONS KICKED MY BUTT!** When I made it back to the unit, it was over with, I went right to sleep.

The setup (i.e. games, food, etc.) provided by KLSRC was family friendly and ab-





solutely amazing. According to my 8 year old grandson, Tavarion, “This is better than home.” Hearing is comment I thought, “No, no, not prison!” Ms. Scott, who’s our Clinical Services Supervisor, told me, “Take it as a compliment.” After a second I realized I did probably looked too deeply into Tavarion’s comment.

The fact that my daughter dressed all of my grandchildren alike was extremely helpful. It allowed me to keep an eye on them regardless of where I was positioned inside of the gym...despite how much Tavion had me running in circles, I could still see Tavaris and Tavarion. I wouldn’t trade this day or those moments for anything in the world...June 3rd, damn, what a day!

**A GLORIOUS
DAY....**



PRICELESS MOMENTS

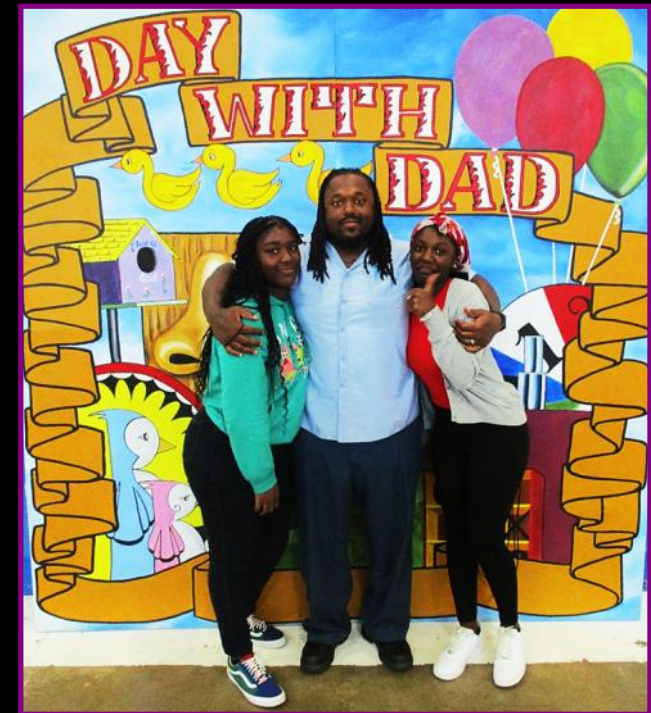
By: Keith Green

First and foremost I want to thank God who is the head of my life because without him nothing is possible and with that being said I would also like to take this time to thank the staff and administration for putting on a Day with Dads event, along side Hill Church located in Kewanee, IL and Galva Church located in Galva, IL.

As I sit here writing this article I'm smiling from ear to ear replaying these fresh memories that will never fade away, from playing Golf, basketball, football and many more games with my girls. For a brief moment, I was able to escape these prison walls and experience being a father again and it felt great.

Filled with happiness, joy and excitement, my girls and I enjoyed hotdogs, freeze pops, chips and candy while we painted bird houses and took pictures. Those moments are forever priceless to me.

During my entire stint in prison I've been blessed to have my wife and kids here with me every step of the way, but this





time our visit was different. This time was amazing. Going from visits in which staff were overly aggressive and going out of their way to make every aspect of our visit uncomfortable to now being at Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry Center where we are allowed to be fathers and enjoy our time with our kids is just amazing. It felt like I took my kids to the Carnival for the day and they wore me out and I enjoyed every moment of it. This one day has erased years of HURT and PAIN I've experienced since being incarcerated. I literally felt all the stress fading away while I was playing golf with my girls. The smiles on their faces and the laughter from their mouth's was the medicine I needed and from what my girls told me they needed it just as much as me. I really enjoyed myself and I can't wait until the next chance I have to spend that type of time with my girls. Again, I want to thank all staff members and individuals in custody involved with making this day possible and I really appreciate all your hard work . God Bless !



DAY WITH DADS

By: Arron Givens



What's up y'all? If it's okay, I would like to share the experience I had on the Day with Dads visit. I really can't put the feelings I had today into words, but I'm hoping to encourage all Fathers to try their best to get closer with their kids.

First, I would like to start by saying I have been incarcerated for the last 22 years and today was the first day I was able to spend some on-on-one time with my daughter who recently turned 22 years old. Guys I know that y'all can agree with me on this one; we all love to have that one-on-one with our kids. I mean, the feeling of it being just you and your kids without the mom being there giving them that look as to say, "you bet not tell em' my business," when you ask your kid a question. Come on fellas, y'all know what I'm talking about. Ladies, if you are reading this,

we love y'all but sometimes we as men just want and need that little time with the kids. You





can understand that right?

Today I got that time with my baby girl and it was amazing. Before we played corn hole I had to check her temperature by asking her if she would still love me after I won, which I did by the way. But yeah, it was all love. I know y'all might be thinking, "why didn't you let her win Arron?" Really? I feel like, no kid of mine is going to beat me at any game. Ha, Ha.

But on a more serious note, I got a chance to learn a little more about my daughter. I had learned that she's just like me in that she doesn't have much to say. I guess we're listener oppose to talkers. Overall, Day with Dads gave me a chance to enjoy what being a dad is really like; it was an experience I have never felt in my life. Remember, I've been incarcerated the same amount of years my daughter has been on the planet earth, which means I never spent a day on the outside with her. So, to understand what I was feeling on this particular day all you have to do is just imagine the trill and excitement you experience when you and your child do or go wherever it is you go to have a good time. Yeah, it was all that and more. This is why I encourage everyone who have children, or someone you look at as your child, to take the time to get to know them. I promise you it's a beautiful feeling.

In closing, I want to say thank you to everyone including the Wardens, the church and Chaplain York for putting together the Day with Dads event. My daughter and I had a blast!





APPLE OF MY EYE

By: Evigan “Happy” Marcos

It’s June 4th 2023, 5 a.m. One day after the most fun, exciting and wonderful days of my life. The Day with Dad event. I’m here once again at one of my favorite spots in Kewanee, the multi media room. I’m here sitting in the side corner of the room next to my favorite window trying to gather my thoughts as I stare out of my window to catch a glimpse of the sunrise as it bring its beautiful colors across the dark blue sky. This is always a reminder of how fortunate I am to have life and to be here in KLSRC while at the end of my long journey behind these walls. It’s also a reminder of how fortunate I am to be a Dad whom is blessed with some amazing children.



As I sit here, the aroma of my coffee brings a smile to my face causing me to wonder how awesome it will be to be at home with my children making them breakfast and preparing my coffee as I wait for them to awake and prepare for school.





The Day with Dads was a hit . I can honestly say the bond between my beautiful daughter and I has become stronger than ever. As we patiently waited for our children to walk through the threshold of the West Gym everyone was excited, some anxious and others nervous. The set up was something similar to a small local fair. There was all sorts of games i.e miniature golf, bean bag corn hole and more. My favorite was the bird houses that we were able to assemble and paint with our kids.

The clock was ticking and the sun shining at its highest while a slight breeze of wind pushed the smell of the the grilled hotdogs through the air. Thanks to the company of volunteers that made this day happen along with the administration and staff.

At last, a loud crowd of children stormed through the entrance screaming, “Daddy...Daddy...Daddy!” It was as if a concert had opened its doors and let the crowd in. The children were of all ages and heights. One thing for sure is that a father always recognize his children’s voices. I then heard a voice say, “Here Daddy!” My heart was overwhelmed with joy as memories of me holding my daughter when she was just a baby ran through my mind, but before I could say a word her arms were wrapped around me holding me in a tight , warm hug of love. I said “I love you!”, and she replied, I love you too daddy!” Nothing is more powerful than the love of a child and parent.

I then took her hand and asked her “ what would you like to do first mami?” We walked towards a game that seems to be tick-tack-toe but after a while we both realize that this game wasn't it, you see my daughter is 17 years of age so we needed something more fulfilling. I told her, “I know exactly what we should do mami”. What’s that daddy? She says, would you like to paint a bird house together? Yes! Yes! Yes! She replies. See my daughter gets paid to paint murals for the summer in the Pilsen community in Chicago, so this was her cup of coffee. We





then headed towards the tables and picked out a bird house some paint brushes, paints and plastic pallet and began painting. We made it fun. We agreed that I would paint one side, she would paint the other and once we finished we would flip the house around to surprise each other. It was a special moment for me no doubt, but it was also a bitter sweet day as well.

I was missing two of my children at this event, my two baby boys. One who is 15 year of age who's named after me, Evigan J. Marcos Jr., and my 12 year old, named Elizyn Angel. As I sat there observing my beautiful, intelligent, tall, talented daughter I couldn't help but to wonder how awesome it would have been to have my son's with me, how much I missed them. My oldest was supposed to come but didn't make it due to his own agenda. My baby boy couldn't be here either because his mother has never given me the opportunity to meet him...I got locked up as he'd just turned three years old. One thing I now know is, I'm more mature and I have a clear understanding of how important a dad and mom are in the lives of their children.

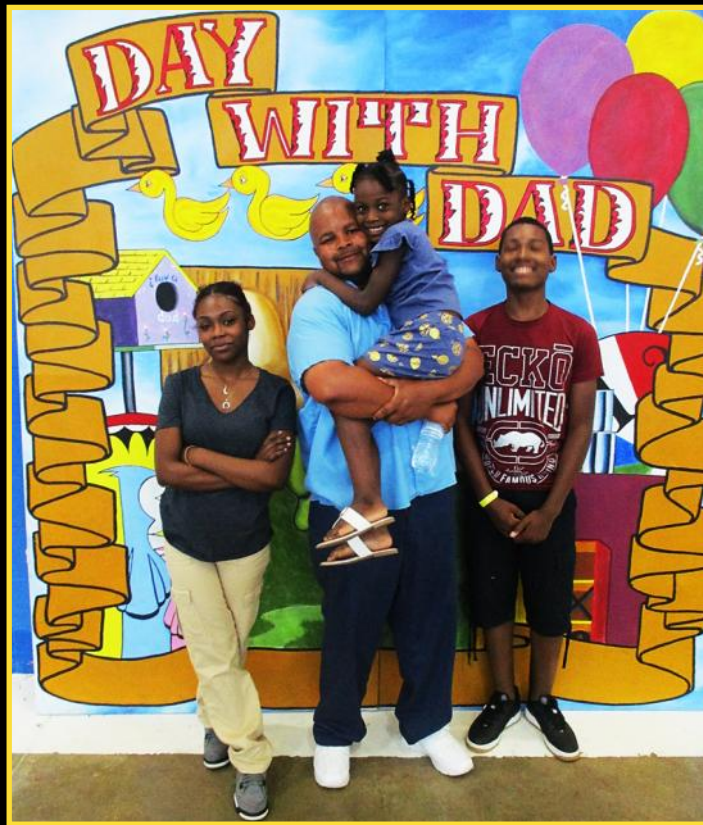
The Administration here at Kewanee (LSRC) along with its staff as well as both churches (Hill and Galva) that supported this event are to be commended for making a day like this possible. Thank you all, I salute you! These types of events truly help the mind, heart, soul and spirit. It helps men like myself really think of what's important in life. My prayer is that it helps men and women in IDOC make the right choices upon release. Hopefully, it will make them cherish moments spent with their children, very similar to what we've experienced here. These experiences replay over and over because it reminds us that our actions leave a wide and deep impact in the lives of others , mostly our children.

I close with a thankful and grateful heart. May God bless everyone.



Enough I's Enough

By: Darryl Nelson



First and foremost , let me start off by letting everyone know how great Kewanee LSRC is in its entirety. You'll never find another place in IDOC that'll let you assist in making this an all around better institution for years to come. I've had one good experience after another since my arrival but June 3rd has been the best one yet, in my opinion. This was the day I was blessed to experience the Day With Dads event. You guys can't imagine the tremendous amount of joy and happiness I experienced being able to engage in the many activities there with four of my six children.

The events of the day included painting bird houses and playing the following games: Jenga, basketball, football, Frisbee, and miniature golf. It was an awesome afternoon. We even ate real hotdogs off of the grill! Not the ones we're accustomed to...you know the ones we have to peel. Lol. Everything was put together perfectly. You felt nothing but genuine love. From my fellow individuals-in-custody spending





quality time with their children to the Kewanee staff watching our happiness, it was a beautiful atmosphere. Thanks to Chaplain York, all of the staff, and every individual-in-custody that helped organize and orchestrate tis event.

It's time to stop the foolishness y'all, our kids need us. When my baby girl heard that it was over and it was time to go, she hugged me so tight. After I minute, I told her that she had to let me go so they could leave and her exact response was, "Aww man, I don't wanna leave you here because I miss you and I love you so, so much." It struck me hard resulting in a tear falling from my eye. Thank you again to KLSRC and all of those involved for such a wonderful event for us and our children. This has been an experience of a lifetime.





By: Walter Makowski

Good morning my fellow IICs, and of course a special shout out to all of you supporters of the Kewanee Horizons and all the work the members do in bringing the e-magazine to us, your support in keeping your finger on the pulse of the growth we are making as individuals is truly priceless and encouraging. Oh, I almost forgot...yes indeed, I am here, 5:00 am, in the television room and of course, I am most certainly enjoying my first cup of coffee of the day...wait, or is it koolade?

Koolade, you might ask?! Well, I'm sorry if I just upset the norm, so please allow me to explain.

Most recently I received a bit of feedback from a sect of our prison population that I have always had a great deal of love and respect for. Apparently, they had read one or more of the articles that ran in the Kewanee Horizons and suggested that I stop drinking the koolade. Now, for most of us, we understand this reference, but for those of us that do not, it basically means that someone has been brainwashed, most likely in some occult fashion. So I dug





deep to try to figure out how men that I revere would come to such a conclusion. I figured it out. Their scene hadn't changed.

Years ago, when I first entered IDOC, it was truly a “dog eat dog”, only the strong survive. The environment was governed by a set of unwritten rules and codes of conduct that were gravely followed. During that time you had to create a persona that everyone would respect, which meant doing things to not only create a reputation that told everyone that you “weren’t the one”, but occasionally, you had to remind them over again. There was very little room for self improvement because the atmosphere had everyone walking around on their very own egg shells. The, between 1995 and 1998, there were sweeping policy changes in IDOC and as a result, the average individual in custody could now do his time without the fear of prison politics causing so much pressure that there was no real time to work on self.

I left the maximum security facility (Stateville) in 2012 and went to Western Il. (Mt. Sterling). I quickly got into several tiffs with the newer generation of inmates because nobody had ever taught them our archaic rules and codes of conduct. After six months of segregation, I told myself that I could either continue playing out this role and continue clinging to this supposed convict mentality or I could begin making the changes necessary to reenter society. Now, albeit, I did earn that GED I spoke about in “A Class Act”, I did it kinda in secret, on my own time and in my cell so that it didn’t damage my “street cred”, so to speak.

Once my scene changed and I was able to...I hit the ground running. I took every self-help class, I earned my associates degree, and I made myself available to mentor others. I became a peer educator and I was able to use all of the experiences of my journey to dole out advice to others looking to change not only their scenes, but also their paths. My agenda was twofold. The first, I wanted to prove the judge wrong because I am redeemable. Second...I





never want to return to prison and I certainly never want to create another victim. Then, if I could help others in the quest for the same, I would essentially be “giving back”.

When I first began reading these articles of Kewanee Horizons, I did so with a raised eyebrow. I was seeing a larger platform of exactly what I have been doing. These men are focusing on the growth of our population’s spirit, and how they too are giving back by sharing how they improved themselves or ways that one might improve themselves; I wanted in.

So, the answer is “no”, I did not drink the koolade. I simply changed my scene, and I am still in the process of becoming the best version of myself possible. That way, when I eventually reenter society, I will be a loved and valued member of whatever community that embraces me.

I realize that when a person’s scene never changes, it is hard to envision any thing past the moment their in. It is difficult to speak of any type of tomorrow ...and for that, I pray a different place and time for you brothers. But, why throw rocks? If I were able to trade shoes, I would be celebrating the fact that you were nearing the finish line and were unselfish enough to shine a light on the path that others might find a way out.

So...if drinking the koolade means doing something for myself and then tossing a few crumbs behind me to help others find a way, then absolutely, “more koolade please.” Because I am doing just that. Kewanee Horizons gives a voice to anyone willing to expose a path of growth and self-improvement. So, How about chipping in a bit and I will get started on a larger batch of koolade. I promise...once you’ve tasted it, you all will agree on just how sweet it is...just saying.



PERSEVERENCE

By: Ronnie Carrasquillo

Speaking of the students who graduated the course called “Thriving Teams,” Turbo Version, on June 7, 2023, at the KLSRC; as a long time participant and Alumni for the Freedom from Within Organization, it is a great accomplishment for me to see the stamina of those enrolled to stay the course in their journey unto completion. CONGRATULATIONS!

There was hard work, time & energy to be put in to get to this point and sacrifices were made that these graduates denied themselves to be in other places, but chose to walk the walk and successfully complete the 3 courses thus far.

I have personally assisted with hundreds of men who have taken these Transformational Rhythm Classes set forth by the Freedom from Within Organization. Watching the men live out





the scripture that begs us to not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of our minds; through our learning, applying and engaging the Practices & Skills of the curriculum.

The Practices & Skills make one aware of needed changes to lead a restored life. The primary Practice being “Inner Strength” and the primary “Skill” being Spirituality – leads us to a powerful new foundation being set to help in the restoration of our lives. The journey being long, but a huge treasure as the prize.

The requirement of graduating the Thriving Teams class is that individual teams have to collaborate to do either a poem, skit or a play.

The winning team of this class chose to do a short skit about communication needs. Their skit was titled: Communicators Network. Com; that consisted of a help base in society for the needs of the confined and their families. Whether for Mental, Spiritual, or financial assistance.





Looking forward to see the creative ideas in the ultimate course “Organizational Integrity;” mapping out your business to become an Entrepreneur or Intrepeneur.

Thank you to Chaplain York and the KLSRC Administration & Staff for the privilege of helping men have access to this curriculum tool to aid in restoring their lives in becoming better men society, self and family.

THRIVING TEAMS

By: Joshua Scott

I want to shout out Thriving Teams and all the graduates!

I want to give a special shout out to my two teammates, Ronnie and Mike. We were the smallest team out of the class, but we won EVERY COMPETITION!

Thriving Teams doesn't require a large team, it only requires the right balance, the right people and the right skills and energy.

Together, two people could run an entire country. Hence, President/Vice-President.

So just because your team is small, and they say there is “strength in numbers”, don't see it as a weakness, see it as a strength.

Less is more, there's no room for error. Shout out my team!





BEING UNCOMFORTABLE

By: Michael Lee

The “Thriving Teams” book for the Transformational Rhythm’s Class was the most difficult so far. The lack of trust I’ve developed over the years makes it hard for me to trust others.

The Team I was on, had men I already knew; this made it a little easier, but over all this class was more uncomfortable than the first two. The class was exactly what I needed. I needed to be pushed out of my comfort zone. Being out of my comfort zone forced me to learn skill that will not only help me live as a better me, but help me thrive in my personal and vocational future.

This has been an amazing course. I want to thank the Wardens for their authorizing this class. Chaplain York deserves a big thank you for going out of his way to help keep the classes coming.

Of course, thank you cliff & Sue Parrish for bringing the course to Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry center for us to learn from. Thank all of you.

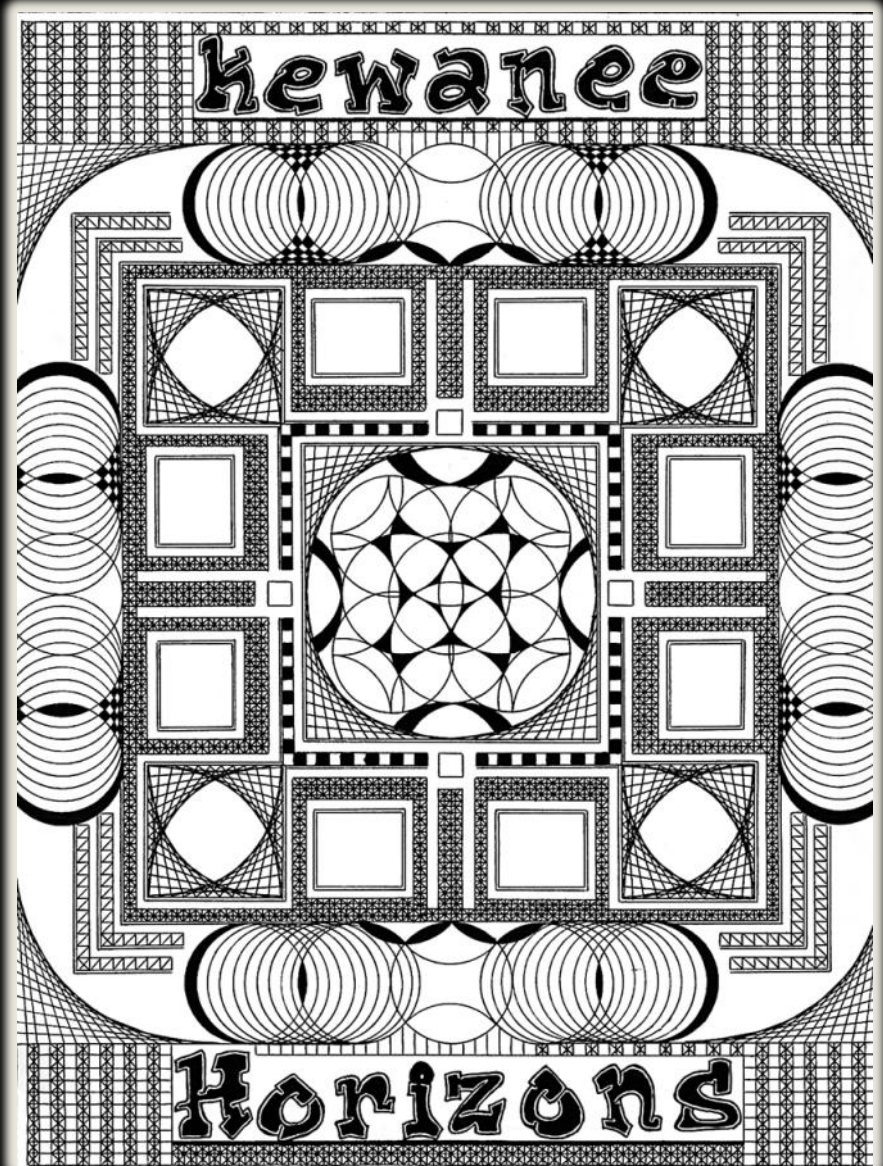




COPING THRU ART

Kewanee Horizons would like to send a shout out to **Stanley Yurgaitis** for sending us his artwork. Stanley, who is in Stateville C.C., said he created this with only an I.D card, flex pen and folded grievance. That's impressive! Stanley's artwork is a testament to the talent and creativity of the men and women incarcerated in IDOC. While behind these walls it's important that we find positive outlets to help on our journey of rehabilitation. Artistic expression can be therapeutic, but most importantly helpful in retaining our sanity. Whatever your skill or talent is, use this time to perfect it. What do you want your legacy to be? Our mistakes and bad decisions do not define us.

If anyone else out there would like to share their art or poetry with Kewanee Horizons please don't hesitate to send it to us. We'll do our best to showcase your work.



THE MARKET CORNER

By: Timothy "Timzale" Alexander

Greetings, I'm always telling people who ask me what to invest in if I don't want to pay attention to the market like you, what do I buy? I tell them to look into (ETF's) Exchange Trading Funds. ETF's are cheaper than buying single stocks along with less risk than single stocks. There are at least 250 ETF's that charge annual management expenses of 0.2% or lower and some of them charge 0.1% percent a year or less. The average actively Managed Mutual Funds in contrast, charges 1.25% a year. Index Mutual Funds generally cost a tad more than their ETF cousins. Such cost differences, while appearing small on paper, can make a huge impact on your returns over time plus if you look into them you will see ETFs are little portfolio's in one. ETFs have a small share of many companies combined to reduce your risk in the Market. You also still get a dividend along with being able to start building compound interest for years to come.

ETFs will become a part of your portfolio over time along with you having single shares of stocks in this same portfolio. As with all things concerning investing, you must do your research before you invest your money. (One ETF in my portfolio (* BULZ) that I was able to buy for as low as \$2 dollars is now at \$50 plus). This is why I ask you to study books, magazines and Newspapers. Let's stop overpaying, we always want to ove buy when something is at a great deal such as this was.





This is a list of a few of the ETFs providers along with some of their ETFs

BlackRock iShares

State Street Global Advisers, (SSgA) SPDRs(*DIA-\$338.11)(*SPY-\$412.20)(*MDY-\$456.15)

The Vanguard Group or Vanguard ETFs,(OIH-\$277.88)(VXF-\$138.62)(VGT-\$378.17)(VDE-\$116.62)(VUG\$248.53)(VOO-\$378.28)(VIOO-\$87.28)(VIT-\$208.00)(VTV-\$140.30)

Charles Schwab (*SCHD-\$73.16)(*SCHH-\$19.34)

Fidelity Investments (FBND-\$45.96)(FENY-\$22.91)(FREL-\$24.70)

T. Rowe Price

TD Ameritrade

Invesco PowerShares (QQQ-\$353.68)

Wisdom Tree (USFR-\$50.43)(DEM-\$38.07)

Guggenheim

ProShares (SSO-\$50.68)(*BOIL-\$3.34)(QLD-\$48.02)

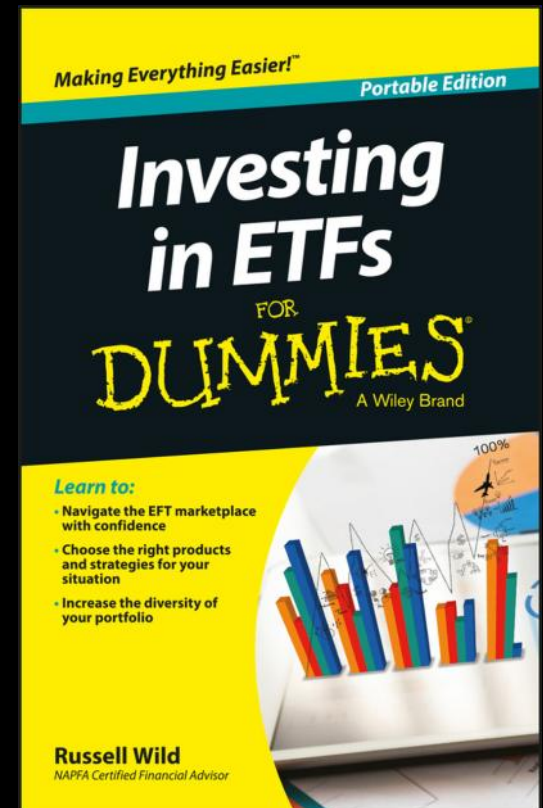
MSCI(IWF-\$250.06)(EEM-\$40.02)(IVE-\$152.00)

Barclays

ARK/(ARKK-\$40.01)(ARKG-\$30.58)

Direct(SPXL-77.10)

(SOXL-\$24.22)/Dimem/Capital.



There are much more that you can review every day in the Baron's newspaper, they list The Top 500 Exchange- Traded Portfolios. It's up to you which of them you choose after you do your Research. This is intelligent Investing.



ADVENTURES OF J DAWG



LAUNDRY SUPERVISOR BY DAY



GYM OFFICER BY NIGHT

10 AMAZING 4TH OF JULY FACTS

1



Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national animal but was out-voted when John Adams and Thomas Jefferson chose the bald eagle.

2



The stars on the original American flag were arranged in a circle to ensure that all colonies were represented equally.

3



John Hancock was the only person to actually sign the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. The other 55 signers did not sign until later.

4



Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died on the same day: July 4, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of signing the Declaration of Independence.

5



History's first submarine attack took place in New York Harbor in 1776.

6



There were no fireworks on July 4, 1776, but there were fireworks 1 year later, on July 4, 1777. This was still 6 years before Americans knew whether the new nation would survive the war.



7



George Washington was the best spymaster in American history! He ran espionage rings in British-held areas and he was a genius at misinformation. He constantly befuddled the British by leaking, through double agents, inflated reports of the strength of his army.

8



Washington was a robust man with a seeming immunity to disease and bullets. In one encounter in the French and Indian War, he absorbed 4 bullets in his coat and hat and had 2 horses shot from under him without any injury to himself.

9



The United States of America won its independence despite the fact that the British Army was established, experienced, disciplined, and trained and the American army was not. In addition to this, the British Army had ample quantities of powder, guns, and clothing and the American Army was not well supplied.

10



The song “Yankee Doodle” was sung originally by British officers making fun of backwoods Americans.

HAPPY
FOURTH
OF JULY





HOROSCOPES



Aries: Networking functions will lead to valuable opportunities . Don't waste valuable time when your input will put you in a position to spotlight your abilities. Stick to the basics.

Translation: When you're your counselor tells you, "You need to work the kitchen for 60 days to build your work history", just smile and say thanks.



Taurus: Pick up the slack and take care of business. Speak up about your concerns and intentions. A direct approach will attract attention and the support you need to reach your goal.

Translation: When buddy starts to slack on da line and tries to coast makin you look stupid, pull em to the side and check em, "whaz up, yo?"



Gemini: Impulsive action will lead to trouble. Someone will hold you accountable for your efforts and rhetoric. A change of attitude will help you redeem your position. Check out your options.

Translation: When the commissary dude gets crazy wit you and tells you we will have coffee next week and this it's 3 weeks later...have a WOO-SAH moment and start drinking the green tea, it got caffeine.



Leo: Slow down, be observant and avoid compromising offers. The changes you make for someone else must be equally suitable for you, or resentment will result. Put your energy where it counts.

Translation: When your homies tells you they got a fool-proof plan where we can't get caught. Remember, they got cameras everywhere, you get good time and they don't.





Virgo: Mix business with pleasure. An event providing knowledge, entertainment and a chance to promote what you have to offer will lead to new connections. Listen to suggestions.

Translation: When they holla at you to sign up for that new community activity, say yes; because you will meet that new homie who you gonna be jam wit.



Libra: Refuse to let laziness cost you. Focus on how you can make an impression, turn heads and get others to pitch in and help. Use charm, sincerity, and flexibility to suit others' needs.

Translation: Get off your bunk and get moving. Get your glamour on, because they gonna be here real soon for that visit.



Scorpio: Refuse to take on more than you can handle or put up with someone taking advantage of you. Concentrate on what's important to you. Set the standard instead of letting others dictate what happens.

Translation: You got a lot going on right now, work, school, Blackstone, and everything dealin with your case. When they start gettin loud tell em, "Backup and slowdown, I GOT THIS".



Sagittarius: Pay attention to you health and financial well-being. Don't let impulse take the reins. Spend only what's necessary and invest what's left into a long term plan that offers stability and security.

Translation: Do you really need to steadily buy all that junk at the commissary. The answer is NO, so put your hands up and slowly step away from the counter.





Capricorn: Take a closer look at your surroundings. Don't overreact or spend too much on something you can't afford or on someone who expects too much from you. Make your thoughts and intentions clear.

Translation: To be aware is to be alive. When they start trippin on the phone, listen to what they have to say. Then clearly say what you mean and mean what you say.



Aquarius: Hold on to what you've got. Don't listen to hype or let someone lead you astray. Stick close to home and to the people you trust. Put time and energy into physical fitness and romantic gestures.

Translation: Don't be trickin off to the new pen pal, you need to parole to MOMS. It's time for you to get tight and get right.



Pisces: A well-thought-out plan and people you can count on will help you reach your destination. Set an affordable budget before you start, and you'll attain your goal without setbacks.

Translation: Yeah, it's really called shrinkflation, the tortilla shells cost more and they got smaller. So tell your cellie they need to throw in more than that dry noodle.



Cancer: You can help someone without going overboard. An impulsive offer to take care of someone else's responsibilities will backfire. Use your intelligence and make suggestions, but don't take charge.

Translation: They ain't your mama, they ain't your wife and they definitely ain't your shorties so quit trippin and let them do them. They will figure it out.



STATEWIDE CALL OUT



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.



STATEWIDE CALL OUT



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!





MAILING US SUBMISSIONS

The address for Kewanee Horizons is:

Kewanee Horizons Editor, KLSRC

ATTN: EFA Mr. Warnsing

2021 Kentville Rd.

Kewanee, IL 61443

Here is a quick list of Do's and Do-not's:

- **DO** try to have someone official from your facility contact EFA Mr. Warnsing before you send anything through the mail, they may be able to e-mail it directly to him at **doc.kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov**
- **DO** try to stick within the ideals we have tried to promote in your article, namely Community and Restorative Justice principles, i.e. how the subject of your piece is community related and affected, stay positive
- **DO NOT** expect to have whatever you send, however you send it, returned to you under any circumstances
- **DO NOT** write to any individuals in custody at Kewanee Horizons directly, or indirectly if you are in prison, incarcerated, locked up, doing a bit or anything in that direction
- **DO** write to or e-mail our liaison E.F.A. Mr. Warnsing if you are a free person in the free world and would like to submit something for possible publication
- **DO** understand, your submission is not guaranteed publication in Kewanee Horizons, we have internal and external guidelines that we adhere to





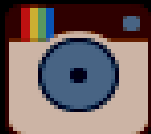
KEWANEE HORIZONS NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN EMAIL ADDRESS!

doc.kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov

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

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