



KEWANEE HORIZONS
VOLUME 74



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OUTSIDE CONTRIBUTORS





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 within 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.

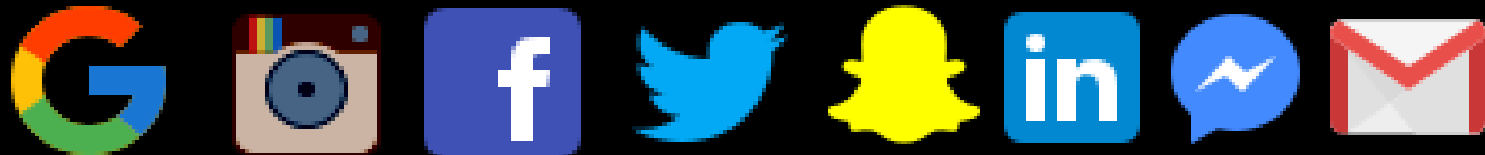
KEWANEE HORIZONS NOW HAS ITS VERY OWN EMAIL ADDRESS!

kewaneehorizons@illinois.gov

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

#KEWANEEHORIZONS

THEN LIKE AND SHARE THE POST!



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

IDOC HOME PAGE

CLICK "ABOUT"

CLICK "NEWS"

THEN SELECT "KEWANEE HORIZONS NEWSLETTER"



(ATTENTION ALL KEWANEE HORIZONS READERS & CONTRIBUTORS)

Dear KH Readers and Contributors,

We here at Horizons would like to thank everyone who reads and contributes to this publication, without you this would not be what it is today. We would like to let you the contributor and reader to know that this platform is for **EVERYONE**, you all have a voice and we are here to help you be heard with your stories of **RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**. Positivity is what we are about and we would love to continue to hear from everyone about the positive things that you are doing for yourself and for your community not just while incarcerated, but also upon your release. KH has always been about the community and we will never defer from that, however if we receive content that is not based on what we are about (**RESTORATIVE JUSTICE**), then it will not be published. We encourage all contributors to read page 3 on Restorative Justice, and page 4 on KH's Mission Statement so that you will have an understanding of what this publication is about. Again, **EVERYONE** is welcome to submit articles, and know that all articles are subject to editing by the KH staff.

Sincerely,

Kewanee Horizons

GOD HAS FOUND ME

By: Patrick Comi

God has found me... Just in the nick of time.

When I felt like giving up, I was dwelling on past hopes and dreams that never came to reality.

God has found me... Just when my mind was about to explode!

My mind was playing tricks on me. Having me thinking of a long distant past. In the beginning filled with hope, now with woe that last.

God has found me...Doubts had started creeping into my cerebral. I'm thinking about the what ifs in my pilgrimage.

The what could have been. The neglected advice. The unholy lies.

God has found me...Just when time was ready to leave me behind because society deemed me unkind.

God has found me in old age, I'm no longer filled with hatred and rage. I'm thinking of the innocent children who wont come of age because of broken ways.

God has found me...Just in the nick of time.

When the world has gone mad and this makes me sad.

When good seems wrong and wrong seem right, but wrong only leads to sorrowful plight. God has found me...So I'm taking the path on the right!

God has found me...Now I'm truly free! I'm not affected by how those with bias will always see me.

I'm smiling thinking about exploring landscapes, walking the terrain anticipating what comes next. God has found me.



NATURE CRAFTING

Yesenia Diaz @ Logan C.C.

In a previous issue of Horizons (vol 62) I shared how my love for crafting has given me a great to seasonally decorate my garden areas. Crafting has also opened many other opportunities—bless others and to share my faith.

The Nature Craft I am sharing with you was created from an Elephant Ear Plant. It is generally used as a houseplant, but I plant them in my gardens and dig them up in the fall to store in our greenhouse. This plant is characterized by its huge leaves— that’s why they call it an Elephant Plant.



I was inspired to make an Elephant Eleazor.

Eleazor’s body was formed
With “toilet-paper” Mache
Layered with an
Elephant Ear Leaf...

His trunk the stern of the leaf...
His eyes slivers of an oak tree...
His tongue a dracaena leaf tip...
His tusk scoth pine cones...

And his toe nails cornflower seeds.





Eleazor's home is on the desk of Mr. Terry Morgan. Mr. Morgan is the Illinois State Fair coordinator for the prison Greenhouse including Logan C.C. Mr. Morgan provides the flower seeds for us to grow for the state fair grounds. Eleazor was a "thank you" blessing to Mr. Morgan.

I was inspired to name this elephant "Eleazor" based on a devotional reading in "The Fathers Voice" By Rose Marie Jones. In her June 21st devotional reading, Rose Marie Jones calls us to be Eleazor's mighty warriors (2 Samuel 23). She reminds us that we are sons and daughters of our heavenly father and His word. She encourages us to hold fast to His promises, know He fights our battles, and that with Him our victory is great responsibility as others watch us, and they do, to be encourages so many can reap the fruits of our labor.

I pray these Nature Crafts inspire your imagination, enhance your faith, and bring a smile to your heart. May God smile on everyone and be gracious to you as He has been to me.





SOME DREAMS

By: Gary Poenitske @ Shawnee C.C.

Some dreams we have are fantasy at best
Some dreams stand out high above the rest
Some are based on fiction, some based on facts
Some give us what we want, or a love our hearts lacks
Some dreams you can't remember, the mind blocks them out
Some dreams you talk in your sleep, maybe even scream or shout
Some dreams are color less, some vivid and bright
Some have you running from that bump in the night
Some dreams are romantic, some are real sad
Some dreams leave you frustrated, scared, or mad
Some are of loved ones we've lost in our live
Some about people, our husbands, and wives
Some dreams give us riches, and monies galore
Some dreams have us buried under dirt floors

Some are quite scary, some really bad
Some are of memories, the best we've ever had
Some dreams more than most will never come true
Some dreams that don't... leave us feeling all blue
Some help us with problems, by helping us cope
Some find us hanging at the end of our rope
Some dreams leave us longing, yearning for more
Some dreams are the key to our life's locked door
Some have us broken, and useless it seems
The risks we take when we follow some dreams.

THE FINGER THAT POINTS

By: Earl Milton JR @ Centralia C.C.

The finger that points us in the right direction is very valuable. Yet we must remember that the finger that points is an instrument of the Divine. It is to be used to point out the good that is hiding in plain sight. The finger points us towards what we need to see. So, that we will eventually perceive the divinity that resides within us. A great spiritual leader is an instrument of God. Also there are Divine sacred books which also are instruments of God. There are people that are placed in our lives for various reasons. All of these are the finger



that points. These are the very instruments of God. We must keep this in mind as we progress on life's adventure. So, that we don't miss what the finger is pointed at, thereby failing to realize who this instrument is being used by and what is guiding us to. Before all of those luxuries and comforts of our modern world were put in place, people had to find the answers, the strength, and the directions from (I.G.S.) the inward guidance system. We must sharpen our senses and abilities to recapture the former glory that we once walked in. Why did people do more with less? Why do people with more do less? The answer lies in the instruments becoming crutches. When in fact they were set in place to help us in every way. Bless the finger that points. Also bless the one who sees and understands what is being pointed at, why and what to do about it. We all have equipment to develop and to use. One day we will see that most everything that we ever needed and or wanted could've been manifested from within. We must use Gods instruments to sharpen our instruments in order to be instrumental in creating positive change on our world. Don't under value the finger that points. Because one day my friend that is what you will be, an instrument of God. You will be the finger that points.

COLLEGE CLASSES DELIVERED AT THE DECATUR CORRECTIONAL CENTER

By: Dr. Carmela Braniger

Eight incarcerated individuals just successfully completed the pilot semester of The Autumn Taylor Initiative for prison education. This initiative grew from Alex Miller's decade-long work with the Shakespeare Corrected program. Each Spring, Alex and his crew recruit cast and crew for a production of one of Shakespeare's great plays. From Othello to Puck, incarcerated individuals at Decatur CC delivered a range of characters, plots, and themes to their peers and staff over the years. The Autumn Taylor Initiative further expanded educational



and artistic possibilities.

Who is Autumn Taylor and what's this initiative about? Autumn Taylor was one of the many wondrous Shakespeare Corrected artists who graced the stage for five years straight. Her after-incarceration story provides an example of how transforming education can be. Upon release, she took part in a two-week immersion at Millikin University, during which she took classes, spoke as a guest artist, and worked on the production set for *Phantom of Opera*. She went on to attain an internship with the Illinois Shakespeare Festival. Her unfortunate passing left a void in the community.

Autumn's passing created an opportunity to financially support the efforts of incarcerates seeking to further their education. To make Taylor's dream a reality, Alex Miller coordinated with Millikin University, the Illinois Department of Corrections, and Decatur CC to bring college-level coursework to incarcerates. During the Spring of 2024, the first Autumn Taylor pilot cohort of ten students were enrolled in two courses, one math and one poetry. The courses were taught by Millikin University faculty volunteers Professor of Mathematics, Dr. Emily Olson, and Professor of Writing, Dr. Carmella Braniger. Olson and Braniger volunteered three hours a week for fifteen weeks providing transferable college credits to the graduates. The program's goal was to graduate five students. Finishing with an 80% retention rate, the program exceeded its goal.

In a truly moving performance on Thursday, June 6, the eight graduates read their poems for peers and staff. The Decatur CC auditorium was once again filled with laughter, tears, and words of encouragement. The program graduates were empowered by the opportunity to share their hard work. Many gave testimonies about how poetry allowed them to be vulnerable and



heal. Writing about and through their traumas, the students took ownership of their choices, and several reaffirmed their commitment for change. Joanna McManigal read the following from her introduction to her portfolio of poems. Her words capture the spirit of the initiative and recognize the hard work of all those involved in making it happen.

My name is Joanna, AKA JoJo. I am 39 years old with a different but similar tale to tell of incarceration. I was born and raised in Chicago, Illinois. This portfolio means a lot to me because it's my life's journey and the sequence of events that led up to the situation. I was incarcerated at the young age of 18. Therefore, a lot of experiences that most young adults go through I didn't get to experience. There are other things I did get to experience because prison staff members and school faculty believed in me.

I came into prison broken and uncertain if I even had a future anymore. I lost hope because I saw many of my dreams being stripped away. There are some experiences that I've been through in here that I will never experience outside these walls. I will forever take what I have learned and cherish it for the rest of my life. This class has made me open to emotions you must turn off to survive. The chance to use words to express my vulnerability was amazing and new to me. Growing up in the Department of Corrections, you tend to have to grow up faster and many of your life experiences are stripped away.

In this class, though. I learned how to use poems to express my most vulnerable experiences and the emotions that went along with them. Being vulnerable isn't a luxury I always have because it's seen as a weakness. You have to shove all those feelings away. In the beginning, I didn't get that deep with my emotions. The poems "Mistake" and "Sacrifice" reveal deeper emotions. As I wrote more poems, I got more emotionally open. For example, in my poem "That Day,"



I express how I feel about being rejected by my mom. I truly thank my awesome teacher because she really had to pull the poems out of me. This is all new to me. I really was unsure of myself. This class allowed me to reach deeper than normal and be able to share my difficult journey. My journey has shaped and taught me valuable life lessons I will carry with me forever

This class allowed me to reach deeper than normal and share my difficult journey. My journey has shaped me and taught me valuable life lessons I'll carry with me forever. This class was the best thing to happen because I got to use my words as a survival weapon. The last few poems are exactly where I'm at with my journey. I am finally at the finish line and proud of how far I've come.

Thank you to everyone who believed in me. Thank you, Millikin Instructors, Dr. Olson, for helping me believe in myself. Dr. B, you are amazing and taught me to be vulnerable, and Dr. Alex, thank you for this amazing oppor-

tunity. To Lakeland Instructors: Ms. Hinton, you helped me achieve my goals; Ms. Whittmer, thank you for this amazing once-in-a-lifetime opportunity; and Ms. Q, thank you for always being flexible and willing to help me whenever possible.

The Autumn Taylor Initiative isn't over. It's only begun. Stay tuned for news on future courses to be offered throughout the program.



Names from bottom row left to right: Nicolette Banks, Amy Shemberger, Kira Wall, Danielle Wilson, Dottie Bright

Top row left to right: Joanna McManigal, Logan Freed, Nicole Morris, Dr. Emily Olson, Dr. Carmella Braniger

Untitled

By: Stacy E. Taylor

As a person who has LWOP (Life Without Parole), I am not afforded the same opportunities to further my education, i.e. College or other programs. I missed Statesville's return to college by a few years and here in these medium prisons because I have no MSR date, I was told outright that I could not sit in a seat.

But I am not uneducated nor unsuccessful. I am a self-taught artist. I paint all mediums, mostly subjects. My wife and I have been successfully married for the last 25 years. She is a Dutchwoman as she was born and raised in Holland with a child and grandchild close by. Through her, I'm fluent in the Dutch language and history. I can speak, write and fully comprehend what I read.

I'm not now, but I never have been a social butterfly in prison. Though, I stand my ground, I will not allow bullies or ignorance to control me, my truth or my happiness! You can be young and ignorant or old and ignorant, no, they will not determine my worth as a being. I survived the worst prison life already, so this is a cake walk. I was listening to Bob Marley's "Get Up, Stand Up" and this is what inspired me to write to Kewanee Horizons. "Don't Give Up The Fight!" My life is not the easiest, but its not the worst or the most difficult but stating who I am in prison actually has helped me to live happier and stress-free.



LAKELAND COLLEGE WAREHOUSING

By: Toria Emerson @ Decatur C.C.

Hey ya'll, I'm currently doing Warehousing through Lake Land College. When I first signed up I figured I'd do it "for the days" (we know how that is). But now that I'm more than half way done with the class I honestly enjoyed it and learned a lot. Not only will I be forklift certified, but I'll have a certificate as a Ware House and Production Specialist. The information I've learned, I will be able to use for a good job when I get out and it looks good on my background. During my bit I've had the mindset of returning to waitressing or bartending because that's really all I've known, but as I'm learning in school, I'm actually learning more about myself, my likes, and what I'm capable of doing. Truly, I think my favorite part of the class is being able to gather with other women (in the same boat as me), getting along, and getting educated together. Putting aside our backgrounds, charges, addictions, and our differences to achieve one goal, and that's to better ourselves. Whether you're at 50%, 85%, or 100% I recommend to **DO SOMETHING WITH YOUR TIME!** Don't

waste your days sitting around, use this time to educate yourself, better yourself, and find who you truly are. Remember, an idle mind is the devils playground. To all the women reading this, I challenge you to learn something new and to push yourself. Say out loud,

"I will be somebody,
I am somebody!"

Thank you for reading and shout out to my classmates and Mr. Riggs.





The Ladies 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.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATE

By: Julius Francellno

First off, let me say I never thought that I would be penning an article on the Kewanee Horizons page, but I guess great opportunities come to you when you continue to persevere through adversity and pain while maintaining a character of high standard. When I started on this journey to pursue my Associates degree, it seemed unreal and very beyond reach. I've been incarcerated almost 8 years, fresh out of high school, straight to prison, and my freedom, my physical freedom was more important to me than a piece of paper. I graduated high school early and the accomplishment was overshadowed by a foreseeable prison term and my mind wasn't ready to focus on anything other than freedom for the next few years. At 22-year old, after completing the (Blackstone Paralegal Courses) and their advanced options as well, I decided that it was time for me to go bigger and not be content with my current accomplishments. I felt in my soul that I was ready for more, and had encouragement from my mother and the older brothers on the inside to do what they saw inside of me, and that was to continue to grow as a man and be the man that I aspired to be. I realized in the middle of almost completing my classes, that no obstacle was too big for me to climb over, and no road was too long for me to travel, in short, I could accomplish anything at anytime with a little





patience and determination. So, in closing, I say to all the brothers statewide continue to persevere, continue to be determined, and continue to maintain that character of high standard because it is not in vain, it just may take a little patience to get to where you are trying to go. I hope I inspired ya'll to continue with those educations as well, because knowledge is power, and we can see the world a lot more clear with it no matter if it's a G.E.D. or a Master's degree. Remember, we planted a flag on the moon, so how could the sky be the limit? Stay blessed.





DAY WITH DADS

By: Montanez Bozeman

First & foremost, I'd like to salute and thank everyone that made the Day With Dads event possible. (Warden Carothers, Chaplin York, Hill Community Church, faculty, and volunteers). Also, I'll like to send a special shout-out to my new friends & angel Cherie & Cyniah. Thank you for your generosity protecting my precious cargo, and helping me to create memories beyond the Day with Dads event. Much love & respect!

I've been incarcerated for the past 18 1/2 years, and never have I experienced anything like Day With Dads before. I used to read about it on Kewanee Horizons over the last 2 years, and thought how cool it'll be if I had the opportunity to kick it with my kids outside of the confines of the visiting room. Well that opportunity came for me on June 1, 2024, unfortunately I wasn't able to spend that special day with both my son & daughter due to the age requirements, but having the opportunity to do things with my son that we've never done before (play basketball, catch, corn hole, miniature golf), meant the world to me. Beyond all the festivities & activities, we were able to have deep meaningful conversations as father and son. Don't get it twisted... we have those types of conversations over the phone, but it definitely hit different, when you're able to walk & talk for hours without having to cram everything in before that hater chime in and say "you have one minute left". We all know that feeling.

Over all, that experience is one for the books, I'll never forget that day. It was good seeing all the men in either daddy/granddaddy mode. All the kids/grandkids playing & interacting with each other. Even the Warden popped out and shook hands with the kids, now that's a first for me. But then again, this whole Kewanee Life Skills Re-Entry is a first for me. Stay tuned in for more updates of my Kewanee Experience.





My Kewanee Experience

By: Vincent Blue

Upon approaching the neatly cut grass of this institution they call Kewanee, I wasn't quite sure of the rumors that everyone spoke of. How could a prison be this sweet? Are the programs as excellent as they say? Do these guys really have as much freedom as rumors suggest? I would soon find out within a matter of 60 seconds. OMG I couldn't believe it, still puzzled by the presence of this place, the Warden walked right up to us and shook each and everyone of our hands and actually apologized for everything we has been through within IDOC. The Warden promised that things would be different this time around at his Re-Entry Center. Honestly, that right there has me kind of intrigued, but still I have to see for myself. As I walked down the hallway I couldn't help but to notice how clean the place looked from the dietary, barbershop, gym, and the commissary, then something else happened, something you never ever see within IDOC, staff and IIC's were very welcoming and they kept asking, did we need anything? From cloths, food, coffee or just a real conversation. I must admit that kind of opened my eyes up and allowed me to give this a chance. I didn't know these people from a can of paint so I turned down some things but as the days continued to fly past, I began to get comfortable so I started letting my guard down. We had orientation for 2 weeks, we met every staff member and we learned of every department and how they operated from the department head supervisor. The staff was really nice with free flowing conversation. In my head I was completely thrown off because this was the first time I had ever been treated like a human being, there was so much respect and so much love, I could tell that



they actually cared. Even the nurses In health care were very respectful and so kind, they stood on the business with taking care of everyone and it was clean back there, to me this looked like a daycare almost or a spot for the people who don't have much and they get provided with everything. When it was all said and done I came to find out that here at Kewanee, the opportunities are endless and you can prosper down here, but you have to want to change your life. Being here at Kewanee has changed my way of thinking and it has made me a very strong minded individual and a team player. I found out real quick that its not just about me, its about us and that we are stronger when we were together. With that being said, I want to thank the Warden and his entire staff (especially the dietary because the food is delicious LOL) but without you guys taking a chance on me, I would have never found a new me. Much love and respect.





Call Out

By: Jose Guerrero

My name is Jose Guerrero I want to do a state wide call out. I want to call on us to help save someone's life. What I mean by that is help someone who is out of shape, obese, has health conditions due to it get healthy. For example in 2021 I was 452 pounds suffering from hyperextension 2 A.K.A extremely high blood pressure, sleep apnea, and couldn't walk for more than 60 seconds at a time. Someone in Danville C.C. saved my life. The fact that a complete stranger dedicated his time to influence me into changing my life for the better and he seen it all the way through till the day I transferred. The biggest issues I was having and I'm sure we all have when we're obese is we are tired a lot, lazy a lot, unhappy a lot and in pain a lot. I had too much pride to admit any of that but today I stand 6'6 270 pounds healthy. I B.s you not I don't have sleep apnea, my blood pressure is controlled, and not only did the pain in legs go away but I run and can stand for hours at a time without discomfort. I'm calling on you to help add "more life" in to another person's life. All anyone ever needs is a little push. Just words of encouragement. Just be human. Forget being prideful, I'm calling out the state. Lets add "more life" into our lives and lets reverse the course of dying young because we are unhealthy. I promise you one thing it will change every aspect of a person's life, the way they breathe, sleep, move, think, act, and the way they live. I wanna challenge us as an IDOC community to show comradery and unity and take the next man or woman under your wing to help them lose weight. I want to see results. Let's go IDOC, lets change the way we live 1pound at a time. Remember "more life".



P.S Answer the call.



Congratulations to Illinois River's CAT Simulator Class. Below is a photo of their most recent class with their certificates that they received for successfully completing the Illinois River Correctional Center's Caterpillar Simulator Program. This program rewards Individuals in Custody who continuously exhibit the willingness to better themselves and their community by giving them the opportunity to become certified as a Hydraulic Excavator Operator.



JOE REAL ESTATE

The best outcomes in anyone's life are almost always the result of a big dream, a big plan and that plan powered by persistent effort over time.

The most successful people start with a big dream, put pen to paper and follow a plan of action. If I am not willing to write it down it will probably eventually evaporate from my mind. Then 2 days later I'll struggle trying to remember exactly what I was thinking about. I know it was to be great, but I just can't remember! So write it down. This is very frustrating and can hold us back from reaching these dreams. For me I need a constant reminder of my goals and/or purpose to keep on track. I learned this by 'winging it' my first full year in real estate. So I decided I need to start practicing what I thought a real business person would do. My point is I am not sure I had a real good 'image' of what a rock star real estate pro or business expert even looked like.

I started doing research and with that research emerged a clearer picture of what I wanted to accomplish. I was also able to more easily spot people in my office that I wanted to model and those I did not want to follow as an example.

One of the agents I wanted to evaluate suggested I shoot for the Rising Star award, just to set a measurable goal. In order to even be in the running I would need to sell at least \$5 million in real estate. Of course fear came creeping in, I didn't know if I could find one client let alone \$5 million! But for the first time I had a realistic goal beside just sell as many houses as you can... or make as much money as you can. These examples just don't work, they are far to broad. I'll come back to goal setting, but first add a side bar about what our biggest obsta-



cle really is. I want to talk about that dirty, little four letter word that ruins more success' in lives that any I can think of...fear.

As we say in my 12 step groups, "that evil corroding thread!" But we also have a wonderful acronym for fear, that I promise is the truest of them all, Future Events Aren't Real (fear).

How many times has fear smashed the hopes and dreams I had? How about yours? Be honest with yourself. For most, far too many times. Success of any kind, the money I want to make lives just on the other side of fear, guaranteed.

And don't think for one moment it won't creep in, it will, and it won't just be about failure. I learned later that some of my fear was of success. Such as O.M.G., what if this thing really takes off? How will I manage it? The help I will need? Etc... Will I ever have any time to just relax or do other things I love or be with my family?

Another good belief to live by is "one day at a time." And this is why writing things down, having written goals and plans is essential to success and minimization of stress and fear. Yes, plan for the future, but live in today.

So now I have a specific goal; sell \$5 million in real estate to potentially earn the Rising Star award, and I have about 365 days to make it happen... How?! Here it is again, fear, so let's figure out how by putting pen to paper and making some simple goals and action plans.

First let's just figure out how many homes I need to sell, is it five at \$1 million each? Sounds good, but probably not likely. Lets keep going, lets do some research. So I thought of some questions I would need answers to in order to put this plan together. (Side bar) As I came up with questions and some answers fear was being replaced with excitement and



hope. At times I would tell myself, “Ya baby! I got this!” even pictured award night at time (Lol) . Guess what else I’m learning and didn’t know it at the time? This was all (my real estate career) supposed to be about money! I wasn’t thinking about money, I had a greater purpose! I was discovering the power of my ‘big why,’ that would later catapult my career beyond my expectations. Your ‘big why’ may start with Ben Franklin, but when it goes beyond, you are on a collision course with true success. I’ll revisit ‘my big why’ in a later article. But the bottom line was I was surprised to find out my motivation was more than just money, although shallow (recognition), it wasn’t all about the money.

Questions... So how many homes do I need to sell to reach my goal? Which lead to, what is the average sale price in my market place? Which lead to, how many sales... How many appointments would I need to get to X number of sales... How many listings vs. How many buyers... and inevitability how many contacts I would need per day resulting in how many phone numbers I would need to dial per day to actively speak to a person to get those appointments to achieve those sales to reach my goal of Rising Star?

Your goals do need to be specific, measurable and timely, and obviously attainable. Many times I had smaller goals within the larger goal perspective simply because I was walking in unfamiliar territory and this required I do more research and learn a new skill. However, this has become a huge part of what drives me. The ever evolving learning curve. The journey through these daily action steps. .. The unknown! Money cannot buy this kind of fun. There is no drug on this planet, and I’ve tried most, that can give you the rush of overcoming fear and achieving your goals.

Joe Real Estate



Not Here to Sell Ice Cream!

By EFA Warnsing



If you want to make everyone happy don't be a leader - sell ice cream.
- Steve Jobs

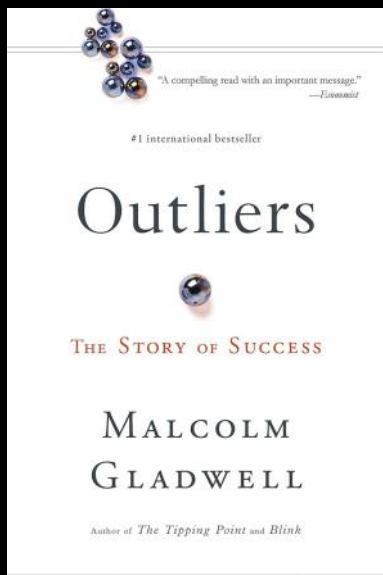
Former Apple CEO Steve Jobs where is famously quoted as saying "If you want to make everyone happy don't be a leader- sell ice cream!" This quote has been making it's rounds on all the social medias and memes for the past couple of years. Sometimes as leaders, bosses, people in general in is a good reminder that we are not put on the earth or in the positions we are in to always do and say the things that are going to make everyone happy. Sometimes we will need to stand up and say something that might ruffle some feathers.

And the thing is, is that it's not personal sometimes facts just need to be stated. SO here I am about to not sell some ice cream!

So last week I was fortunate enough to build some intentional time into both Thursday and Friday to catch most of the speakers that were part of the Global Leadership Summit. For those of you that were fortunate enough to catch some of the summit there were a number of great speakers that had some very impactful messages. One that caught me really hard was the first speaker of Day 2 (Friday). Amy C. Edmondson, she is a Novartis Professor of Leadership and Management at Harvard Business School, she is the author of



the book "Right Kind of Wrong: The Science of Failing Well". Her message focused on different types of failures, what types to prevent and what types to learn from. I had many take aways from here message but the one that really stuck with me is when she said something to the effect of Failure occurs not in one big gesture but in "small deviations of best practices". I loved the way this comes across and it reminded me of one of my favorite books "Outliers" by Malcom Gladwell. In that book there is a chapter where is he is discussing a study done on plane crashed. And in this study it was found that the typical plane crash is not cut and dry, but on average the crash involves seven consecutive human errors. A Plane crash is not as simple at the engine fails, but it is an accumulation of a series minor errors. So lets look at the hypothetical of an engine failure. In that situation there would be a person to check the plane in after it's last flight, a guy to run a diagnostic check before it's next flight, the pilot, the co-pilot, all the gauges, so you wee there are all of these that need to fail for the engine to fail and the plane to come down typically.



So where I am I going with this. At about the same time that Prof. Edmondson was discussing failures and small deviations for best practice, I took note of something I found interesting here at Kewanee LSRC. We were located in the west gym of the facility and had the summit up on the big screen. Under the big screen there is a row of "arm chairs" as seen in the



picture here. I noticed the pieces of paper taped to each of the chairs and during a break I began to inquire about the pieces of paper with names on them. I won't list the names here, as I don't want to call people out, but if you know you know.

So through my inquiry I found out that these were individuals reserving the "nice chairs" for movie night later that night, almost 10 hours later! I understand wanting a nice comfy chair when you are watching a movie. I get it. But I have to question if the same people who are saving their comfy seat for movie night are also as eager to "save their seat" for those classes,

groups, and other opportunities to better themselves. I am not sure if any of the guys that reserved for movie night were in the room to take advantage of the opportunity to see the Leadership Summit. I would hope so!

And I'm not saying that because you ran to the west gym after count cleared at 7:45 am to reserve you seat for the movie that that is a sign you are failing. I'm just questioning if that behavior is a small deviation from best practices. And just like it is the pilot and copilot's responsibility to look at the gauge and call out any concern they may have prior to the plane crashing, I feel a responsibility to point out these small deviations. For all of us we should be obsessing and being accountable about the seats we a reserving for ourselves on a daily basis and where those seats will need to our success!



JUNETEENTH PERFORMANCE

By Edwin Neal

Having the opportunity to not only host this Juneteenth Concert but be a part of its performances was a great experience. I opened up with an acapella verse and followed with two meaningful and impactful songs that everyone seemed to enjoy. My goal was to display the fact that despite the over saturated violence in todays Music, Rap is an Art where our pain, trials, and triumph can be found for therapy to the troubled Souls of our Culture. My first song "Conscious Man" spoke about the struggles of how being "One with Self" meant being "at odds with the World". A few lines from the second verses states "This illusion of a Title got me chasing Pendants/ Misconceptions of the Bible got me chasing Premise/ Thoughts of Santa had me twisted at a early Age/ Missing presents had a reason why I own a rage/ Symbols and the Signs can show you how to seek/ but I can never fill that void its like its out of reach". Being Black comes with an Enigma where even in the position of Great Success... one still questions his purpose and meaning in the grand scheme of Existence. Music gives me the much needed escape from the wonders of my woes while relaxing my Soul and Mind. There's only a few ways that we get to express ourselves "Artistically" and being able to put mines on stage in front of my peers was a memory I'll hold onto for a lifetime. Peace, Born Cipher.





THANK YOU

By: Malcolm Russell

Juneteenth was a amazing day. First before I get into all the things that happened on that wonderful day I have to send a very special thank you to the people who were behind the scenes. First I want to send a big **Thank You** to the Juneteenth Committee all you guys with your ideas and planning I take my hat off to you. The whole committee came together and made the day so special. June 16-19,2024 didn't feel like prison. It felt like I was at a family get together and I laughed and had so much fun with all the events. So please forgive me if I missed a person name, Terrence Lloyd, Ojo Webb, Roosevelt Mills, Charles Drain, and Stinson Caldwell. You guys did a hell of a job and from me to you Thank You. The other people I would like to thank are the people who believes in us and wants to see us celebrate a day that should mean so much to our community(The Freedom of Black People). First I would like to thank Warden Carothers, Second I would like to thank Lt. DeCoster, and LTS Supervisor Louck for always making it happen for us its greatly appreciated. Overall every event was live from the Spades, Dominos, Bid Whiz, Spelling Bee, all the basketball it was truly an amazing couple of days and I was glad to be able to celebrate Fathers Day & Juneteenth in the way that we did. Also lets not forget the cooks





who cooked the catfish, spaghetti, garlic bread, carrot cake, and the ice-cream on the side, (That strawberry short cake on a stick was magnificent just like the ice –cream truck from back in the day). This is my way of saying Thank You to all the people that had anything to do with the celebration because sometimes you just need to hear the words.





FATHERS DAY/JUNETEENTH AT KEWANEE

By: Stinson Caldwell

I want to "Thank" everybody who was a part of the Father's Day/Juneteenth Committee and Events as Roosevelt Mills, OJO Webb, William Jenkins, Kenji Haley, Two roads/Kewanee Horizons team, everybody who donated or played roles behind the scenes. I also want to "Thank" Warden Carothers, Mrs. Draper, Ms. Rowan, LTS Louck, Chaplain York, an all the staff who helped us make these event's a success. We had a great turnout, and everyone enjoyed themselves.

The Father's Day weekend events was good, we did a Spelling Bee, Casino, Domino's, Spades, and a Bid Whiz Tournament. But the Juneteenth event's is one for the record books. We turned up! The morning of Juneteenth, we brung the whole Kewanee Re-Entry Center out to Celebrate with us. The first event we had was the Spoken Words/ Poetry followed by the Basketball skills challenge which came down to the wire between T. Jenkins and Matthew Wall, with Wall winning the event.

We took a break from the first part of the events, to go to lunch where we had catfish, spaghetti, and ice cream. (Where they do that at? Catfish!). After lunch we kicked off the second part of our events with the 1st ever Kewanee Rap Cypher, followed by a 3-point contest, where Wall also won that event becoming back -2-back 3-point champion. After count it was time to setup eve-





rything for the main event's of the day, we had a pre-game showcase where the most talented guys in Kewanee came out and showed out for the artist showcase, and man these guys brung it! You had Keith start one of his performances sitting down doing an interview, like he was Jimmy Fallon or something before he performed, the when he can back out to do his last performance of the night, the man got wheeled out on a dolly with a mask covering his mouth and a shirt he made to look like a straightjacket, showing off his creative side and sending the gym up in a uproar with his performance (Think "Silence of the Lambs"). We finished the night with the Kewanee Juneteenth Big 3 Basketball Tournament and it went down! Check out some of the pictures for yourself.....



What a Juneteenth

By: Jermaine Brown

For Juneteenth we did it big. It was my first time celebrating the holiday and it was a blessing to be the host of the events. Before the Basketball skills challenge, 3point contest, and the big 3 tournament we had entertainment of poetry, and music performances. However, the highlight of the day was the KLSRC first ever Hip Hop Cypher.

Although, I had performed two conscious songs I wrote, one entitled 'Rules No More' (addressing the younger generation and the recklessness of community violence) and the 2nd entitled "Therapy" (addressing the need for therapy with Black people), I still felt the need to get in the cypher. It was my vision to have the camera man directly in the middle of the cypher, and at the last minute, me and OJO decided to have the audience surrounding the cypher. It took me back to when I was

young just jumping in the middle of a rap battle. It all turned into an amazing day, with an amazing ending. Plus my team won the Big 3 tournament. To all ya'll in these prisons, don't act like my name stopped ringing on the hoop side. Ya'll know my work...



A New Hat I Wore

By: Terrance Lloyd

Usually I'm a man of Gardening, fixing things, lawn care, I can even say a relationship expert at times. Those are just some of the hats I've wore on God's green earth. Arriving at Kewanee and seeing the atmosphere brought something out of me that I didn't know I had in me. I planned my first big event for Juneteenth. Warden Carothers, LTS Louck, Kenji Haley, and a team of the Juneteenth Committee Members helped make the vision come true. One I can say is that it wasn't easy. Putting this event together was like coming to prison for the first time. You get to see who's there for you as well as those that want to see you fail. If you are in prison or have been in prison, you know you must stay strong and yet through this journey either with them or without them. So who ever has planned a big event like this know it takes a leadership position to pull off. After all the hard work and dedication it turned out to be a success.

We ate cat fish fillet, ice cream bars, had a spelling Bee (which was a 1st), spoken word, a Hip Hop Cypher, a Big 3 Basketball tournament, a basketball skills challenge, played casino, dominoes, spades, bid whiz. We had a few rap performances as well. All in all it was a good 3 days. It was an honor to have the warden and liaisons that care and helped us bring the vision to life. It's a lot that goes on behind the scenes to make an event go smoothly, like it did.

One thing I can say is that I'm proud to have added that hat to my collection. Once I



saw the guys having fun I realized it was all worth it. That's how I felt after every event.

I want to thank all the guys at KLSRC for showing up to the celebrations and showing support. I plan to show all the guys here and those to come that each one teach one here in this community. You might have different players but the game still goes on. Shout out to Warden Carothers, LTS Louck, Kenji Haley, the Juneteenth Committee, staff, and the liaisons at KLSRC for helping pull this all off. It was an Honor, Love and Peace to all.





Ojo



Keith



Henry

CYPHER



Jermaine



Will



Shawn

PARTICIPANTS



Scott



June



Edwin



KEWANEES JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION



JUNETEENTH





NE NT







JUNE FIFTEENTH





THE JANKY PROMOTERS



JUNETEENTH







EVENTS



TEAM CAPTAINS

FLAG FOOTBALL GAME



JUNETEENTH





3 ON 3 BASKETBALL WINNERS



SPELLING BEE WINNER



CASINO WINNER

JUNETEENTH



BID WIZ WINNERS



**3 POINT CONTEST
&
SKILLS CHALLENGE
WINNER**



FLAG FOOTBALL WINNERS



SPADES WINNERS



DOMINOS WINNERS



JUNETEENTH





JUNETEENTH



JUNETEENTH



ARTROOM & SERVICE LEARNING

By: Melvin King

Once again, Kewanee's Artroom and Service Learning class came together for a good cause and produced some great wood and artwork. I find it amazing what these guys pull off each and every time they are asked to create something, and they do it with no questions asked. This new project consisted of making some corn hole games for Blackhawk Community College. The process started with Mrs. Trigg and the Service Learning class who measure, cut, sanded, and glued each piece of wood until it formed the corn hole game. Once the pieces were glued together, they were taken to the art room, which is ran by Mrs. Draper where they start to do their magic, creating some great art work. I'm sure you have seen some of the art work that came from the art room already in the Art Edition of Kewanee Horizons a few months ago, and if you liked the work that you saw then your going to like the work you see now. Carlos Santos, Aaron Clarke, Pedro Arroyo, and Bradley Collier are the gentlemen who dedicated their time to complete the corn hole games and it was time well spent. I'm sure whoever will be using these corn hole games will be pleased with the woodwork and artwork that went into making them. I want to send a shout out to everyone in the Artroom and in Service Learning class, and to the Supervisors, Mrs. Draper (Artroom) and Mrs. Trigg (Service Learning). Keep up the good work. (See photos on next page).



Bradley Collier



Aaron Clarke



Pedro Arroyo



Carlos Santos

KATTY B. & I'E

HEY! "MAGIC MAN!"
HOW LONG'VE YA BEEN LIVIN'
WITHOUT A CELLIE?



MICHAEL GILFORD

NOT LONG ENOUGH, JIMBO—
NOT LONG ENOUGH.
CELLIES CAN BE AGGRESSIVE,
SELFISH AND BULLIES!



GET READY, MR. CONGENIALITY.
I HEARD YOU'RE GETTIN' A
BRAND NEW CELLIE T'DAY.
SO, BE PREPARED.



AAAGH! A NEW CELLIE?!!!
I BET HE'S EVIL. FOUL TEMPERED
A THIEF! DOES HE SHOWER? OR,
BRUSH HIS TEETH—COURTESY FLUSH!



ALL I HEARD IS THAT HE'S A RAT.
A REALLY REALLY BIG RAT!



WELL, BEING LOCKED UP FOR 27
YEARS, I KNOW HOW TO HANDLE
RATS, EVEN BIG ONES!



LATER THAT DAY

HEY, CELLIE!



gilford

KATTY B. & I'E

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY, MIKEY!
ANY KIDS?



BY MICHAEL GILFORD

THANKS, RATTY B.
2. I HAVE 2 KIDS...
A SON AND A DAUGHTER



EVER GET TO SEE 'EM?

SO, NO VISITS?

ANY CONTACT AT ALL?



NO

NO VISITS

NOTHING IN 24 YEARS



LOVE 'EM?

MISS 'EM?



MORE AND MORE EACH DAY

EACH AND EVERY MINUTE



UMMM... MIKEY?

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY



YEAH?...
THANKS



gilford



FRANK
GUEST CARTOONIST

At Danville

BY:
Graphix
2024

MORALITY BRAIN FACTS

Moral Judgment

When we make decisions, our emotions play a vital role. In order to weigh moral matters, brain areas that are involved in emotional experience coordinate with areas that register facts and consider possible actions and consequences.

Altruism

When a person acts to benefit another at personal cost or risk. It involves empathizing with another's distress then acting to help. It involves distinct processes. Brain scans show that acting altruistically activates the reward pathways, reinforcing the behavior and quelling emotional discomfort. Selflessness is a distinguishing feature of human behavior and an evolutionary enigma given dangers to the altruist.

Psychopathy

Psychopaths can understand morality and can, therefore, mimic normal social interactions. This means that while they behave heinously, they remain hard to identify. The underlying cause may be a disconnect between brain regions linking logical decision-making and emotion, leaving them unable to grasp the fallout from their behavior.



MORALITY BRAIN FACTS

 =Rational Circuit



=Emotional Circuit

 **Posterior Superior Temporal Sulcus**

This area integrate rational and emotional information. It may also counteract the ventromedial area to suppress emotional drives when dealing with complex moral dilemmas that favor cognitive solutions using memories or other data.

 **Orbitofrontal Prefrontal Cortex**

Activated by watching morally charged scenes, this area processes emotional stimuli. It aids in representing just rewards and punishments for observed behavior and in making emotionally driven moral choices.

 **Dorsolateral Prefrontal Cortex**

This area integrate rational and emotional information. It may also counteract the ventromedial area to suppress emotional drives when dealing with complex moral dilemmas that favor cognitive solutions using memories or other data.



Parietal Lobe

Involved in working memory and cognitive control. This area of the cortex provides information needed to help us perceive social signals, to figure out others' beliefs and intentions - such as whether an act was aggressive or how a

HOROSCOPES



Aries: Refuse to let what others do confuse you. Stick to your plan, take care of your responsibilities, and use your imagination and passionate attitude to knock whatever you do out of the ballpark.

Translation: Don't allow others to spin you. Stick to your plans, follow through and watch the reward.



Taurus: Stop worrying about others and follow through with your plans. Use your experience, knowledge and energy to help make changes. Discipline and hard work will propagate unexpected opportunities.

Translation: Don't worry about what somebody else think. Put the work in, do what you have to do and it will come.



Gemini: Don't rely on or trust others to address your concerns. Keep an open mind, and don't allow someone's negativity to stop you from reaching the stars. Don't let anger set when action is acquired.

Translation: Don't look for somebody else to fight your fight. Don't get caught in your feelings and go after what you want.



Cancer: Forge into the future with optimism and faith in your ability to get things done to your specifications. A change will turn out better than anticipated if you are hands-on and oversee every detail.

Translation: Believe in what you're doing. Have a hand in building it from the ground up.



Leo: To ensure everything is up to code, monitor investments and expenses. A partnership is only as good as the people involved. Get in sync with anyone with whom you share your money, space or time.

Translation: Make sure all your paperwork is in order. If you have a partner stay in communication about all aspects of y'all thang.



Virgo: Call on experts to fill in any missing pieces you cannot do yourself, and run a tight ship that will help you gain respect and chance to expand your interests and gain momentum.

Translation: It's okay to call in a professional to help get things done but stay on top of things.



Libra: Do what you can for a friend, even if it means spending more time or diminishing your plans. A reunion or event will give you access to someone of value. Use your charm to extract information.

Translation: Show up for a friend. Reconnect with a friend you might get something from it.



Scorpio: Don't share your feelings prematurely. Find out where others stand and process the consequences of your actions before you act. Choose your words wisely and counter negativity with opportunity.

Translation: Don't be too quick to open up. See where their loyalties lie. Counter that ill energy with positive energy.



Sagittarius: Don't battle over something irrelevant. You cannot change or waste your time trying to convince others to see things your way. Put your best foot forward, do your own thing and don't look back.

Translation: Choose your battles. Everyone not going to be able to see your vision.



Capricorn: Move forward full force to get results leading to bigger and better opportunities. Emotional spending will be your downfall. You can't buy love or happiness. Explore possibilities.

Translation: Full steam ahead on going after what you want. But keep an eye on your heart and money.



Aquarius: How you present your intentions to others will determine who helps. A force play will not work, but offering incentives will be a game-changer. A change of heart is apparent.

Translation: Watch your approach it could determine who show up for you. Remember you can't force nobody to get down with/for you.



Pisces: Layout a foolproof plan, and the offers that surface will change how you move forward. Consider partnering with someone well-connected, but be sure to establish who is responsible for what.

Translation: Workout all the kinks in your plan before moving forward. Consider partnering with someone who knows how to move but speak on who go do what.



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!**

