



Stone Belt

Lifelong Learning Newsletter

Volume 2, Issue 4

April 2012

This newsletter is produced and distributed by a committee of Stone Belt clients and staff. Please send comments, calendar events, story ideas, and requests to receive this newsletter electronically to LLnewsletter10@stonebelt.org.
March Newsletter Committee: Jeff B., Annie, Brandon K., Matt, Julie, Richelle, Shirley, Victor, Brittani, Denise, Karla, Adrienne Propsom, Michelle Davenport, Eric Ford, and Shawna Arnesen.



Richelle, Michelle, and Betsy at TIOSIN conference

***I Am You* carries on past curtain call**

The final curtain call for *I Am You 2012* was a bittersweet event for everyone. With the next production two years away, director Michelle Davenport is finding ways to keep the *I Am You* spirit

strong between shows. On March 24th, Michelle and actors Richelle and Betsy presented at the Theatre In Our Schools Indiana Conference. Michelle spoke about doing theatre with individuals with disabilities. Richelle and Betsy performed monologues and talked about the importance of theatre in their lives. When asked about the changes they experienced as a result of performing in *I Am You*, Betsy replied, "I finally got to sing a solo with my choir." Richelle shared that she felt "more real, and even like healed from some things."

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Michelle also created an *I Am You Client Spotlight* that will be featured on the cafeteria bulletin board and in the Lifelong Learning Newsletter. Melissa A. is the March/April client spotlight! Melissa has worked at Marsh for ten years where



Melissa bags eggs with care

she bags groceries, brings in carts, and makes customers feel welcome. She enjoys her co-workers Susan, Linda, and CJ. Melissa's hobbies include ice skating, painting, horseback riding, and watching *The Price is Right*. Her favorite foods are mac & cheese and chocolate pie. She loves socializing with friends, going out to eat, and spending time with her grandma.

Spring time is growing time!

It's that time of year again when the trees turn green, birds start singing before the sun is up, and Stone Belt gardeners are eager to plant. This year's gardening season kicked off with a trip to Lowe's by Brandon K. and Adrienne to pick up some supplies. Upon arrival, Brandon chose a flatbed cart and went in search of dirt; not just any old kind of dirt, but composted manure to give the plants some extra nutrients.

Once found, Brandon flexed his muscles and loaded the cart. Four hundred pounds of manure later, their search turned to finding the perfect plants for the raised bed garden. With input from clients back at 10th St., they chose four herbs (rosemary, basil, lavender, and cilantro) and four varieties of vegetables (cabbage, broccoli, brussel sprouts, and lettuce). The next day, Julie, Shirley, Bob P., and Brandon K. took turns with the trowels to dig the right size hole for each plant. The planting took several hours, during which Brandon delivered cups of water to keep everyone hydrated and reminded everyone to wear sunscreen. Then it was time to hydrate the plants. Since planting day, clients have discussed what to do with the herbs and vegetables when ready for harvest. Ideas include eating some of the vegetables raw, making salads, and using the rest to cook up dishes like broccoli and cheese, spaghetti with fresh basil, and making homemade pizza in cooking class.



Julie plants her favorite veggie-- brussel sprouts!



Brandon hills up the fertilizer

Spotlight on volunteerism



Georgia and Caroline plan their busy day

This month's feature not only highlights the great work of one volunteer, but sheds light on the desire so many clients have to give back to their community. Each week, Caroline M. can be seen around the community doing a number of volunteer jobs for different organizations. She sorts recyclables at WonderLab, gathers food donations at the YMCA and delivers them to the food bank, and delivers food to individuals who participate in the Community Kitchen's Positive Link program. Caroline and staff Georgia Emmert have kept up this busy schedule for the last three years, during which time individuals and agencies throughout the community have come to depend on Caroline's dedication and hard work.

With all the important work Caroline does each day, there was some concern about who would fill in when she recently took some time off. It turned out, however, that several Lifelong Learning clients were eager to jump in and lend a helping hand. During Caroline's absence, Karla, Cindy, Brandon K., and Kimmi all filled in. When the Newsletter Committee spoke with Karla, who is currently looking for a permanent volunteer job of her own, she told us she liked filling in for Caroline because it gave her a chance to experience a variety of different jobs. Her favorite was delivering food for Positive Link. When asked why, she stressed that people have to "eat." The Newsletter Committee looks forward to reporting soon on Karla's new volunteer job.



Caroline delivers food for Positive Link

Client Council Report

The Lifelong Learning Client Council has been hard at work this past month. You may recall from previous reports that council members wanted to add a monthly Movie Club to the Lifelong Learning schedule. In March, Eric Ford organized the first of these monthly events with a screening of *Waking Ned Divine*. On March 8th, council members passed out roses to the women in the building in honor of International Women's Day. The Council has also been busy planning for a number of events including, another sing along fundraiser in May, a cooking contest where client will compete to see who can make the tastiest salad with fresh veggies from the garden, a full week of Spanish culture appreciation (April 16th-20th), and a talent show. Be on the lookout for more information about these exciting events.

Project SEARCH gives young adults the skills to succeed

When Bitta DeWees visited the Newsletter Committee to discuss the Work Services Program, she gave so much praise to Project SEARCH the committee decided it needed a feature of its own. Designed to give young adults age 18-24 "real world" work experience, Indiana's Project SEARCH got its start in 2008. Participants in the program learn valuable interview skills, workplace social skills, and job specific skills through paid and unpaid internships. During their internship, individuals spend half the day in a job setting and the other half getting the information they need to do their jobs well. Over the course of the program, participants experience three different jobs in rotation. Organizations that have partner with Stone Belt to make this program work include, Cook Inc., Ivy Tech, Vocational Rehabilitation, and the IU Institution on Disability and Community. After completing Project SEARCH, individuals may earn a free course at Ivy Tech. Misty Lawyer is a perfect example of someone who has gone through the entire process with great success. Misty is currently studying for the GED and will be taking her class at Ivy Tech in the fall.



Misty is proud of her achievements through Project SEARCH.

Film series celebrates Bloomington, Little 500 tradition

According to the IU website, "The Little 500 is the biggest intramural event on the IU campus and the largest collegiate bike race in the United States" --iusf.indiana.edu. This year's women's race will be held April 20th at 7pm and the men's race is April 21st at 2pm. To celebrate the 2012 Little 500 race, the Lifelong Learning Film Series chose *Breaking Away* for this month's featured movie. The 1979 production, directed by Peter Yates, was filmed in our hometown, Bloomington, Indiana! It is a great story that describes the challenges of a town with a split identity and limited resources. It is also a story about a son searching for his own identity and the approval of his father, and of a tight knit group of friends at one of life's many crossroads, all of which is set before a racing spectacle.

For Bloomingtonians, the film is a chance to mark and celebrate how far we have come in both the spirit and design of our town since 1979, when Stone Belt was entering its twenties and arriving at many crossroads of its own. During filming, staff Ann Dininger almost played the role of the "salad lady." Since Ann wasn't available for shooting, actors such as Dennis Quaid, Daniel Stern, Dennis Christopher, Jackie Earle Haley, Barbara Barrie, and Paul Dooley got their chance to shine. So at 1:15pm on April 27th come into the Main Conference Room, settle down with some "cutter" and "non-cutter" friends alike, and enjoy the movie.

Don't be an April Fool's fool

April 1st has been given many names throughout the centuries and around the world. While not considered a national holiday, here in the United States the first day of April is typically referred to as April Fool's Day. It is a day where foolishness, hoaxes, and jokes are played on friends, family, and co-workers.

While the Newsletter Committee agreed that April Fool's Day has been celebrated for as long as they can remember, no one knew when the tradition began or what led to its inception. They decided to do a little research, throw some knowledge your way, and let you decide the origin of April Fool's Day for yourself. Here what they learned:

- Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales* of 1392 have the earliest recorded association with April Fool's—in one of the fables, a rooster is tricked by a fox on the 32nd day of March (which translates to April 1st)
- The Roman festival Hilaria was a week-long event that started on March 25th and concluded 7 days later, on April 1st. On this day masquerades, or costume parties, were held where people could imitate whoever they chose without fear of getting in trouble.
- A Flemish (Dutch-speaking inhabitants of Belgium) poet wrote of a nobleman who sent his servants on foolish errands on April 1st in 1539.
- Poland takes their day of pranks so seriously that in 1683, a document for anti-Turkish alliances was signed on April 1st, but then backdated to March 31st so it would be seen as credible.
- An Iranian tradition, dating back to Persian times (c. 536 BC), involves a celebration of Sizdah Be-dar. During the picnic day, which typically coincides with April 1st, men and women follow the oldest traditions and play jokes on one another.

Above are just a few stories that have been passed down through the years. No matter what you decide the origin of this tradition to be, don't get caught being the April Fool with no knowledge about this unique day we all love to celebrate.

IU games, great way to spend afternoon

One of the many great things about spring time in Bloomington is the opportunity to cheer on the Indiana University Hoosiers as they fight for victory during afternoon ballgames. Games are played at Sembower Field off North Fee Lane beside Foster residence center. Here is the April schedule:

4/4 vs. Ball State 3pm	4/17 vs. Louisville 3pm
4/11 vs. Indiana State 3pm	4/20 vs. Georgia Southern 3pm
4/13 vs. Michigan State 3pm	4/24 vs. Miami (Oh.) 3pm



Clients track progress of teams during March Madness

The beginning of March may signify the end of another season of college basketball, but it also marks the beginning of the insanity known as March Madness, a tournament full of heavy favorites and Cinderella story underdogs going head to head to be crowned the national champions.



Who will it be?

This year, clients in Route 66 (Room 16) decided to jump on the band wagon and bring a little madness to their classroom. Everyone sat down to work 1-on-1 with staff to fill in their individual tournament brackets. Staff Christy Roux and Kaitlyn Hoy made a large poster, an exact replica of the tournament brackets, which displays those teams that are advancing. The day after each game, clients went online to see who won, filled in the brackets, and checked on the progress of their favored teams. Tonight, Kentucky takes on Kansas in the final game.

Say Hello to...

Although Aveia Pitre has been working at Day Program for several months, the newsletter committee would like to take this opportunity to introduce her to those who may not know her. Aveia starts her shift each day at Southern House at 6am. At 10th Street she works mostly 1-on-1 with clients, but also helps out in the classrooms. She chose to work at Stone Belt after seeing the positive interactions clients have with staff, and because she liked the atmosphere. Aveia recently volunteered with *I Am You* as the sign language interpreter, a skill she learned through the "deaf ministry" program at her church.



When not working, Aveia enjoys spending time with her family, reading *Eclipse*, and watching the Cinderella remake, *Ever After*. Her dream is to be a guidance counselor at a college for adults with disabilities.

Other fun facts about Aveia....

Hometown: Lafayette, Louisiana (The heart of Cajun country)

Favorite Color: purple and pink

Favorite Music: Christian Rock, "News Boys"

Favorite Food: Boiled crawfish

Favorite Sport: Judo

On behalf of Monroe County Lifelong Learning clients and staff, the Newsletter Committee welcomes Aveia to the Stone Belt team. When you see her in the halls or classrooms, be sure to say hello and make her feel welcome

APRIL

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 DANCE 10:30-11:30 SEWING 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	3 DRUMMING 9-11 BINGO 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	4 DANCE 10:30-11:30 NAIL CARE 1-3 KARAOKE NIGHT WITH JAKE 4:30	5 DRUMMING 9-11 YOGA 1:30-2:30	6 CLIENT COUNCIL 9-10:30 COOKING 1-3 ART OPENING 5:30-8:00 (BPP)	7
8	9 DANCE 10:30-11:30 SEWING 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	10 DRUMMING 9-11 BINGO 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	11 DANCE 10:30-11:30 NAIL CARE 1-3 YMCA ADAPTED STRENGTH TRAINING 2-3	12 DRUMMING 9-11 YOGA 1:30-2:30	13 CLIENT COUNCIL 9-10:30 COOKING 1-3	14
15	16 DANCE 10:30-11:30 SEWING 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	17 DRUMMING 9-11 BINGO 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	18 DANCE 10:30-11:30 NAIL CARE 1-3 YMCA ADAPTED STRENGTH TRAINING 2-3	19 DRUMMING 9-11 YOGA 1:30-2:30	20 CLIENT COUNCIL 9-10:30 COOKING 1-3	21
22	23 DANCE 10:30-11:30 SEWING 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	24 DRUMMING 9-11 BINGO 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3	25 DANCE 10:30-11:30 NAIL CARE 1-3 YMCA ADAPTED STRENGTH TRAINING 2-3	26 DRUMMING 9-11 YOGA 1:30-2:30	27 CLIENT COUNCIL 9-10:30 COOKING 1-3 MOVIE CLUB 1:15	28
29	30 DANCE 10:30-11:30 SEWING 1-2 NEWSLETTER 1-3			2012 HOLIDAYS (DAY PROGRAM CLOSED) MAY 28 - MEMORIAL DAY JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY SEPTEMBER 3 - LABOR DAY NOVEMBER 22 & 23 - THANKSGIVING DECEMBER 24 & 25 - CHRISTMAS EVE/DAY		

KARAOKE NIGHT WITH JAKE

1st Wednesday of each month 4:30-7:00pm at 10th St. Everyone is invited to attend. A donation to the Hand in Hand Project of a non-perishable food item is encouraged, but NOT required. Each event will be a celebration of monthly birthdays, so bring your friends, housemates, and staff. It's guaranteed to be a blast!

STONE BELT ART OPENING

APRIL 6TH RECEPTION 5:30-8 PM

WORKS IN NEW MEDIA BY:

CAROLYN A., CLAUDIA, CONJI, JARED, PAT P., TOM M., JASON T., POLLY, SANDY, AND DENISE H.

107 W. 9TH STREET