



The Cornpicker

Bulletin of Fairbury, IL Rotary Club

"SOW THE SEEDS OF LOVE"

fairburyrotary.com

2002 - 2003 Officers

President Jeff Schweizer
 Pres. Elect John Strong
 Vice President Mike Petersen
 Sec/Treas Leroy McPherson

Editor. . .Leroy McPherson

DATE/TIME/ April 29, 2003 12:00 Noon at McDonald's
PLACE:

ATTENDANCE: 21

SING-A-LONG: Meet Me In St. Louie, Louie - Hello! Ma Baby

LOTTO: Ella Bellot and Si Moser

ACTION ON THE AVENUES

CLUB SERVICE

Programs:

- 05/06 ICE Students
- 05/13 Fred Wing
- 05/20 Gary Huston
- 05/27 Student of The Month
- 06/03 Mark Prost
- 06/10 Debbie Oelschlager
- 06/17 Mike Petersen

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Interact will be electing new officers this week.

Birthdays 

May 31 - Robin Coady

VOCATIONAL

I.C.E. Students will be here next week!

QUIPS AND QUOTES:

There is no house like the house of belonging
 David Whyte, Poet and consultant

AREA CLUB MEETINGS

Bloomington	12:00 Noon	Thursday	Elks Club
Gibson City	6:15 p.m.	Wednesday	Bayern Stube
Gilman	6:05 p.m.	Tuesday	Gilman Lounge
Lincoln	11:50 a.m.	Wednesday	Elks Country Club
Normal	12:00 Noon	Wednesday	Bone Student Center
Piper City	6:15 p.m.	Monday	Azz Izz Tavern
Pontiac	12:00 Noon	Tuesday	Mary's Family Rest.

Futures Unlimited

Brian Blossom



Brian is the Executive Asst.-Director. Futures was formed in 1970 by a group of parents and businessmen. They found there was nothing for people with disabilities after school.

Some programs are vocational programs with real work experience and then help in getting a job. They also had residential placement of a group of 3 men per unit. In 1994 they built a 16-apartment complex under HUD and they manage it. In 1970 their budget was \$50,000 . . .today it runs \$3.8 million. They are private, not-for-profit, and receive funding from the state and county. There are 100 staff members of which 85 are full time and 15 part-time. They are the 7th largest employer in Livingston Co. 150 clients are served per day for a total of 300 per year. They have 30-35 from the Fairbury area. Other than the schools, Futures is the largest transportation system with 10 vehicles and an estimated 88,000 trips per year one way. A lot of different hats are worn - vocational, residential, job placement, support, and employment. They coach the employee on the job, give community support - go to houses to make sure medication is taken and help with money management. They are community partners - a mentor for the disabled. The Respite Program allows the parent to take a break and they watch and

help. They started a program to target the dropouts in their 20's about 1 1/2 years ago. About one half are disabled. They go through union schools and so far have had 24 students, 23 of which have graduated. One went to Harley Davidson school and is doing well. Upon graduation, they receive help with placement. Six have qualified for apprenticeships. The first group of students put on an 800 sq. ft. addition of classroom and shop to their facility. The second - a 2,000 sq. ft. building for IHR and the 3rd are building picnic tables for the City of Pontiac. They have purchased the Rathbun building downtown Pontiac along with the J.C. Penny catalog building and put in a thrift shop. They will be developing the 3rd floor for a commercial office area. In 1990 they started maintaining the Livingston Rest Area - two shifts per day every day which includes mowing. They also clean for banks and dental offices. They have the Oncore Shop, and manage the Soda Shop at Bellots. Another business they have is the Production Service where they package and label DuPont products . They help package LeFever gourmet bird food toys that are sold internationally and also build and assemble the controls for Anthony Lift Gates. They depend on work from other companies and when the economy hurts - they hurt. Their newest venture is to manufacture transparent flex pens for prisons. Prisoners cannot make a shank out of them. They went to the state and received a sheltered contract. They are now exploring other institutions, etc. An endowment Fund was established this past year.

BITS & PIECES

A mixture of horse sense and common sense about working with people.



Life's Main Lesson

Just remember the world is not a playground but a schoolroom. Life is not a holiday but an education. One eternal lesson for us all: to teach us how better we should love.

Barbara Jordan , Politician