From: <u>The Vasbys</u>

To: Nancy (Sabota) Timm; Mark Suckow; Don Solie; Jack Perrodin; Tom & Judy Wallner

Subject: Lincoln High Newsletter - 9/6/07

Date: Thursday, September 6, 2007 3:38:33 PM



Address changes:

Kathryn (Hahn) McKinney - katmckinne@q.com

Theresa (Malcolm) Obermeier writes:

I work for Catholic Charities Bureau of Housing out of Superior...managing -2- of their apartment houses..one for the elderly and one for developmentally disabled in Wisc Rapids and Stevens Point. I received a call last week from one of the Portage County Social Service workers looking for some items for a family in need.

Their first call is to Operation Bootstrap and Salvation Army but they are really "dry" due to all of the current need for people. Anyway....they are looking for a kitchen set for a mother and 2-3 small children. If anyone in the WR or STE area has one to "donate" I could pick up and deliver.

While I am on the subjuct.....until I took this "3 day a week part time job post retirement for volunteer type wages" I had no idea Portage and Wood County has so many families in need. On -2- separate occasions I have had people come to rent an apartment at the elderly complex that actually come with their belongings in a brown grocery sack.

I have been fortunate enough to be able to call up friends and neighbors and scrounge up enough to set them up to at least begin with the bare necessities. Unfortunately I have picked every friend, relative and neighbor clean!!!

Last winter had a man move in without a winter coat....yup!!! Romie is still looking for his navy blue Columbia jacket!!! Told him it must have been "misplaced" last September when we moved.

So...check your basements and corners if anyone has any usable kitchen-dining set that they are merely storing junk on and under and would like to help a needy family please give me a ring. A huge thank you!!!

Theresa Obermeier 712-0496 romie@charter.net

EDUCATION IS KNOWING, AND OR FINDING THE REAL TRUTH. THEN NOT BEING TAKEN IN, OR CONTROLLED BY THE PROGRAMING. MY EDUCATION STARTED AFTER SCHOOL. VIEW THE LATEST FREE POSTING. SEARCH ...WORLDREPORTS. THAT IS WHAT GOES ON IN ,DANE CO. PORTAGE CO. MADISON, AND D.C. YOU WILL SEE THE LATEST PURCHASES THE MOB-CLINTON BUSH MADE. LOOK OUT WHEN THEY GET TOTAL CONTROL OF THE FOOD. WALMART ETC. [U.W.S.P IS OPERATED THE SAME WAY, DO YOU NEED NAMES AND ACCOUNTS?]

GRAMPS MOVED TO N.WI. DUE TO THE MOB. IN CHICAGO. OUR BIGGEST ENEMY IS WITHIN, AND SCHOOLS HAVE PROGRAMED US SO WE DONT KNOW WHAT THE TRUTH IS FOR THE MOST PART. ELECTIONS ARE RIGGED, BANKERS USEING FED. RES. HAVE BUSTED OUR COUNTRY. EXON-M. OIL HAVE US IN IRAQ. DUE TO C.I.A. THE WORLD HATES US. BUT MORE THAT THAT THEY CANT FIGURE WHY WE ARE SO BLIND TO NOT SEE SO MANY

FALSE AND UNTRUE THINGS, FOR WHAT THEY ARE. RX DRUGS..ETC............ WE ARE IN BAD SHAPE. CHINA OWNS MOST OF OUR BIG BANKS NOW. FOR TOO MANY SCHOOL HAS TAUGHT US TO FOLLOW THE CROUD. I DONT FIND MANY THAT CAN THINK FOR THEM SELF ANYMORE, THAT CLAIM TO BE HIGHLY EDUCATED [PROGRAMED] THE SYSTEM IS NOT WORKING VERY WELL, AS JAPAN, CHINA, AND THE REST OF THE WORLD, START PASSING US UP. JUST WATCHING BUT NOT FOLLOWING. **DON Freeberg donaldfreeberg@yahoo.com**

I believe two things must change to have a positive change in public education.

- 1. Competition in education as to where you can send your children. Voucher system would be an excellent way of doing that, but your readers can come up with others I'm sure.
- 2. Get rid of the teachers union who appear to be totally against education for children.

Thanks, Shirley (Joling) Engelsman kene13@aol.com

First of all, thanks for all your work on the newsletter.

I want to share an experience with you all and ask for a little help.

I have worked at a middle school in Sierra Vista, AZ for the past 14 years as a counselor and most recently teaching the alternative education classes. Last fall, at a school fund-raising event, a pleasant, spry, gray haired woman looked at my name tag and said, "Did you go to school in Wisconsin Rapids?" I said I did and she told me that she was one of my teachers at Wood County Normal. That would have been at least 50 years ago, because I think 1957 was my last year there. The fact that she could recognize a name and put it in context after that long impresses the heck out of me.

For those of you who do not remember, Wood County Normal Teachers College was the building with a playground on Lincoln St. just past the vocational school. It was a 2 year program to train teachers who could work in the country schools. Each year, the first half of the year, all the kids in first through eighth grades (I think the biggest enrollment was 31 kids.) were in one room with one teacher. (I remember Mrs. Perkins and Mrs. Pliss.) The last part of the year, the student teachers from the second floor did their practice teaching with the kids on the first floor. I remember that there were about 5 or 6 kids in my grade the years I went there. We would have several teachers during the year as they did their practice teaching and we had each teacher for only a short time.

If anyone remembers <u>Miss Brandt</u> from the Normal School, let me know. She summers back in Wisconsin and winters here in Sierra Vista. I would like to pass memories along to her when she gets back. If anyone has pictures of the Normal School kids from the 50's, that would be amazing.

Tom Lehr ('64) <u>lehrtom@aol.com</u>

Good topic, Kent. You do a wonderful job.

Don't know if we really did know more at their age than the kids do today. One thing for sure is that our generation who had kids probably communicated a lot more with our children right from their birth. As a result, most have no trouble expressing their opinion which is a good thing, except when we maybe don't agree with or like what they're saying. Growing up where we did, also meant a situation without minorities and one language spoken by all. That is different than going to school in Milwaukee or San Diego where I have lived since 1971.

My son got a very good education; he is now 30 but was in a different school environment than someone going to school 5 mi. away from us. His school had only Spanish as a minority language but other schools had the many Indo-Chinese languages to deal with. That changed our school system, as we had enough teachers teaching bilingual Spanish/Eng. students. But then came Vietnamese, Laotian, Cambodian, Chinese, Japanese and it presented a whole new ballgame for teachers, as there were no translators for many years to help those children.

The NCLB law seems to have created a whole new problem that has a lot of teachers up in arms. (My SD Union-Tribune today had 4 letters making the points I won't reiterate here). I was a primary education major until I practice taught in a 4th grade class. I lasted 3 wks. I could not handle the fact that in the classroom 1/3 of the kids got the assignment done in the time I thought it would take, 1/3 would never get it done, and 1/3 were done in half the time. This was when all spoke English, mind you.

One requirement of the law says that every child be reading and doing math at grade level by 2014. This is absurd. What about the learning disabled or severely handicapped children? Of course teacher morale has suffered, and many have learned to teach to the test.

I am very glad that I am not young. Today's youth will be having a harder time than we did. They won't be able to survive on minimum wage jobs as they could back in our day. No buying a house in many areas of the country without outside help. There certainly aren't the manufacturing jobs available for those who don't and shouldn't go to college, as there was in our day. You all know what happened with the paper mills there; very little hiring going on for many years now. Yes, there'll be bigger inheritances but they'll have to wait for that yet. There'll be paying off a bigger tax bite also to get the services that we took for granted.

So I'll end with that, as I'm sure you'll get many more comments.

And again, Kent, thanks for keeping this going.

Nancy (Arnold) Witt nancystew@nethere.com

Friends and family members, the below site is well worth watching and forwarding on to one and all on your mailing lists.

Click on: PASSING OF A GENERATION

Don Bubolz sends this:

Fifty Years of Math 1957 - 2007

Last week I purchased a burger at Burger King for \$1.58. The counter girl took my \$2 and I was digging for my change when I pulled 8 cents from my pocket and gave it to her. She stood there, holding the nickel and 3 pennies,

while looking at the screen on her register. I sensed her discomfort and tried to tell her to just give me two quarters, but she hailed the manager for help. While he tried to explain the transaction to her, she stood there and cried. Why do I tell you this?

Because of the evolution in teaching math since the 1950s:

1. Teaching Math In 1950s

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for 100. His cost of production is 4/5 of the price. What is his profit?

2. Teaching Math In 1960s

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for 100 His cost of production is 4/5 of the price, or 80. What is his profit?

3. Teaching Math In 1970s

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80. Did he make a profit?

4. Teaching Math In 1980s

A logger sells a truckload of lumber for \$100. His cost of production is \$80 and his profit is \$20. Your assignment: Underline the number 20.

5. Teaching Math In 1990s

A logger cuts down a beautiful forest because he is selfish and inconsiderate and cares nothing for the habitat of animals or the preservation of our woodlands. He does this so he can make a profit of \$20. What do you think of this way of making a living? Topic for class participation after answering the question: How did the birds and squirrels feel as the logger cut down their homes? (There are no wrong answers, and if you feel like crying, it's OK.)

6. Teaching Math In 2007

Un hachero vende una carretada de madera para \$100. E l cost o de la producciones es \$80. Cuanto dinero ha hecho?