

MAY 2023

Heartland

HAPPENINGS

HARDIN—LARUE—BRECKINRIDGE—HART—GRAYSON



Chris Reed

Teacher
Appreciation
Edition!



Director's Corner



With the 149th running of the Kentucky Derby now in the books, it reminded me of all the years of preparation that went into the final two minutes. It's not unlike the journey that our adult learners take as they make their way to the finish line, or in this case – graduating with their GED.

But, they don't do it alone. Like all the people who are necessary to get the horses to the starting gate, our students have a support system here at Heartland Adult Education, all of whom work together to make sure each student reaches his or her goal.

From the Data Specialists, to our College and Career Navigator, to our Instructors and everyone in-between, this team works in concert to make sure that the students have everything they need to train, to run the race, and to WIN the big prize.

As we celebrate teachers this month, remember the adult educators who are working every day to change lives. Though it's the student who eventually stands in the winner's circle, they do so with a team of support that makes it all possible.

To our Heartland teachers, and all the staff who support the student's journey, thank you! Your work, your dedication, and your constant drive to help others improve their lives is nothing short of awe-inspiring.





Stem to Stern

dana wolfe

College and Career Navigator



My entire life, it seems, has revolved around teaching. My father (MSGT. John Wolfe) was an Army MAPTOE teacher at Fort Knox (courses on how to do anything more efficiently), my mother taught art classes to the public and to military spouses, my eldest brother taught both Civil Air Patrol and Home Inspection classes, my twin brothers are both public school teachers (art and science), and I was a college instructor and Dean for nearly 20 years teaching writing and sociology before settling here at Heartland Adult Education. It's something that must be in the genes as we all yearn to be in front of the class.

And, that's just the Wolfes. There have been dozens of teachers that have influenced, inspired, and molded me into the person I am today. My first and favorite teacher, my Mom (Gloria Wolfe), taught me to understand and use the color wheel before I was five years old. She never pushed me to use the talent I was born with, but she encouraged me to develop the skill necessary to take advantage of it. Her most lasting directive to me was that I needed to learn how to "see." In order to draw, you had to first SEE the shapes, the shadows, the colors, and nuances that weren't readily apparent, but were present. Assuming that you know wasn't good enough; you had to truly look before putting the pencil to the drawing pad. This advice has lasted me a lifetime both in artwork and in making decisions. You have to see, to understand, the totality of the situation before you commit to the next step.

Ernie Spencer at Hardin Central Junior High was a father-figure to me who saw something in me that I didn't know was there – a love of photography. He taught science, but it was the love of the camera he gifted me and it has been a lifetime joy. Feisty Kate Bateman, my art teacher, also from Hardin Central Junior High, gave me the gift of developing artistic, creative thinking. She knew I had the talent already, so she used her time with me to teach me to reach inside and find the creativity to see the things that didn't yet exist. Mom taught me to see what was really there and Kate taught me to see what was possible. Both skills have been present in nearly every decision I've ever made since.

Dr. MaryCarol Hopkins at Northern Kentucky University, taught me a hard lesson that I needed to learn. I was fortunate in that school, even college, always came easy to me – especially writing. I turned in a well-crafted and researched document to her and she returned it to me with so many red marks that I nearly cried. I re-wrote and the same thing happened again. After the third time of her returning it, I threw it in the trash. Luckily, and unbeknownst to me, my then husband retrieved it. I asked her why she kept doing this to me when we both knew the paper was good. She told me that no matter how good it was, it could always be better. It wasn't enough to sit on the laurels of "good enough" when I had more to give. She wanted to know just how willing I was to challenge myself to do more than even I expected. She was right. I rewrote the paper a final time and won the 1995 Joint meeting of the Kentucky and Tennessee Academies of Science paper competition for original research. Like Kate Bateman, she saw what was possible – in me – even when I didn't. I've taken that lesson to heart ever since, knowing that "good enough" simply isn't.

There are so many more to mention, but the lesson is always the same – teachers changed me. They did so not by browbeating lectures, but by encouraging and guiding me to think for myself. They contributed to my socialization in a way that cannot be understated. I see the same thing happening every day at our GED Center. Teachers find new and innovative ways to explain, to guide, and to make sure that the lives they touch are irrevocably better than the way they found them. How fortunate I am to have both a legacy of teaching and a future of watching the results of our teachers' efforts walk across the graduation stage.

Thank a teacher. Don't gift them mugs or funny signs – just honestly and deeply thank them for their part in your life and make sure they understand their lasting impact. That's the very least we owe them.

What was Your Greatest Teaching Success?



*Laura
Lang*

Today I received a message from a student who said, "Thanks for working with me and my busy schedule and at any time, I appreciate you more than you know." That's how I measure success - when I've made positive and lasting connections with my students. I love seeing the "lightbulb moment" when a student finally gets a concept that I'm teaching. I celebrate with students when they improve their grade, pass a test, graduate, or meet their goals. I look forward to seeing students on the street who say "I remember having you as a teacher" or catching up with students' posts on Facebook. It's an honor to be part of so many people's lives. The joy of teaching is really the joy of sharing and hopefully making someone's life a better one. That's become my teaching motto - Making a difference, one student at a time. It might be Teacher Appreciation Week, but it is really my pleasure to work with so many wonderful students and coworkers over the years.



Diane Kelley

The greatest success in my 25 years with Adult Education is when I see a student BUY-IN to their success. What does that mean? When they accept and show willingness to actively participate. Without the student buy-in, our struggle is real.

Many moons ago, a young man came into our program, desperately needing his GED so he could get a better job. He actively listened in class, but very rarely put pencil to paper to do the work. He left after a few weeks because he felt he was not "getting," it was "too hard." Three months later, he returned. He was a changed student and within a month had his GED. What was the difference? He said actively participating in class, paper to pencil, and doing independent work (affectionately called homework). His story changed with the buy-in. Many of our students might take a while to buy-in to their success, but when it happens it is a wonderful sight to see.

For those students struggling, ask yourself, am I giving it all I have? Am I attending regularly, am I asking questions, am I doing independent work? As I was writing this, a student who was not committed and declared his intention to drop, came into the office to discuss how he could graduate this June! After a discussion with two of his instructors, it was obvious he was buying-in. That is exciting for me. We will see positive changes.

Of course, the work can be hard, and many will still struggle with content, however, we all know it is the perseverance that will get you over the finish line. A river cuts through rock, not because of its power, but because of its perseverance.





SHOUTOUTS

I SECRETLY asked our GED students if they wanted to give a shout out about their favorite teacher or staff member here at Heartland Adult Ed. Turns out, they had some things to say.....

SANDRA : You give me the reassurance I need to continue to stand out and ask questions. Even if I have asked the same question numerous times, you never get upset or aggravated with me. You just continue to show me multiple ways how I can solve what it is I'm struggling with until it finally clicks and I'm able to understand and comprehend the process. I never feel rushed when I am doing my work or "in a hurry" to complete a step. I will forever be grateful for your tolerance and patience. (Regina Ritchey)

LAURA L.: She always understands how hard is to do school with my busy schedule. She understands my kids are loud and she still works with me on Zoom—even Zoomed with me late. She makes me feel so wanted. (Annie Livermore)

BECKY: I love how Mrs. Becky teaches math without making it boring and she brings fun examples. Love her love for math and doing it with passion. (Bilge Harris)

DANA : Thank you for always being here to support me through whatever it is I've needed support with regardless of it being about GED or just day to day life occurrences. You have always been available to me to work through road blocks and rearranging my schedule. You are my hope when I am hopeless. You continue to give me the hope that I need to continue to push through to succeed. Sometimes, that's all someone needs is a little reassurance that all things are possible. I will always be grateful for your wisdom, dedication and encouragement. Don't change the goal, change the plan. (Regina Ritchey)

LAURA L: I also love my math teacher Saturday math teacher who taught me in a few hours how to use the calculator and the formula sheet for math — plus a few other math problems— to be able to pass my GED. (Bilge Harris)

SANDRA: Ms. Sandra is very calm and patient ... answering our questions giving us examples and encouraging us to take it one by one when we feel overwhelmed at times . (Bilge Harris)

GARY: I'd like to say Gary is my favorite teacher. He always makes time to help me . He also is the only teacher that's been able to teach me math. (Bretta Smiddy)

ALL: I think all the teachers are great at what they do but my special one is Sandra Singleton. She is great. (Mary Davis)


SANDRA: She is sweet, kind, patient, understanding, cares for her students and goes above and beyond. There are no words to fit the person she is. (Phylisa Poitier)

GARY: He is everything over amazing plus more. He has such passion in what he does his patience is beyond kind and I appreciate him for that . I could run out of words to write about Mr. Gary and the love he has for his students. (Phylisa Poitier)

SANDRA is very patient and understanding. She is very helpful and knowledgeable. Couldn't ask for a nicer person. (Alyssa Butler)


MS. PAM and **MS. SANDRA** are very good. all the GED teachers are good teachers! (Aram Jasim)

DIANE: Diane turned my math light on and nobody else could do that. She's a great teacher. (Robbie Downard)



GRAYSON COUNTY TEACHERS: I think all of the teachers are amazing up there! I have worked with 3 but 1 of those just once. Laura and Teresa are both great. I think I've worked with Laura more than any—she's amazing. (Robin Logsdon)

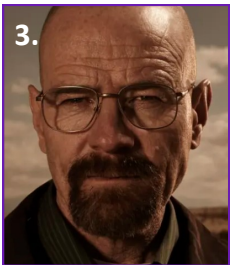
SANDRA: I want to give a shout out to Miss Sandra, she is the best teacher, I just love her being my teacher! (Jessaca Payton)



TV & MOVIE TEACHERS

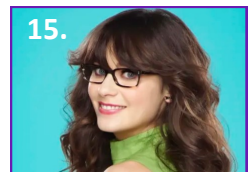
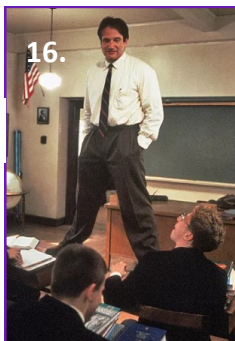
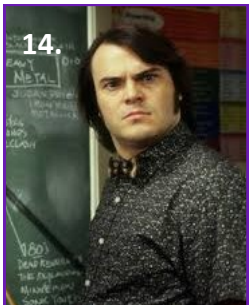
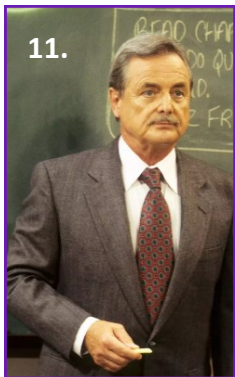
MATCH GAME

Answers on Page 7



- A. Walter White, *Breaking Bad*
- B. Mr. Feeny, *Boy Meets World*
- C. Jessica Day, *New Girl*
- D. Lydia Grant, *Fame*
- E. John Keating, *Dead Poets Society*
- F. Ms. Frizzle, *Magic School Bus* (How could we NOT include her?)
- G. Joe Clark, *Lean on Me*
- H. Mr. Holland, *Mr. Holland's Opus*
- I. Mr. Kotter, *Welcome Back Kotter*
- J. Will Schuester, *Glee*
- K. Mr. Garvey, *Key and Peele*
- L. Ted Mosby, *How I Met Your Mother*
- M. Dewey Finn, *School of Rock*
- N. Miss Honey, *Matilda*
- O. Mr. Miyagi, *Karate Kid*
- P. Annalise Keating, *How to Get Away with Murder*
- Q. Ms. Norbury, *Mean Girls*
- R. Miss Beadle, *Little House on the Prairie*
- S. Tammi Taylor, *Friday Night Lights*
- T. Professor McGonagall, *Harry Potter*

Some better than others!





Next Graduation is June 23rd.

Please join us!

If you've never attended a GED graduation, maybe it's time. There's just something truly special about watching these adults, who have overcome multiple obstacles, walk across that stage with pride and purpose as their friends and family cheer.

Please consider marking your calendars for **June 23rd** (at the Elizabethtown ECTC Campus) to join us for this inspirational and emotional night.

270.769.8866



FAMOUS PEOPLE WHO WERE TEACHERS

- ★ Gene Simmons (6 months as a 6th grade teacher)
- ★ Sting, aka Gordon Sumner (Primary School teacher and soccer coach in England)
- ★ J.K. Rowling (English in Portugal)
- ★ Sylvester Stallone (taught gym on the side to earn extra cash)
- ★ Alexander Graham Bell (teacher for the deaf and tutor to Helen Keller)
- ★ Mr. T. (gym teacher)
- ★ Andy Griffith (High School music and drama)
- ★ Billy Crystal (substitute teacher on Long Island)
- ★ Hugh Jackman (gym teacher in England)
- ★ Brian May of Queen (math teacher)
- ★ Lin-Manuel Miranda (High School English teacher)
- ★ Teller, of Penn and Teller fame (High School Greek and Latin teacher)
- ★ Stephen King (High School English)
- ★ Maya Angelou (University)
- ★ J.R.R. Tolkien and C.S. Lewis (both taught at Oxford)



Shout OUT TO ALL THE MOMS

A child's first teacher



Help with Internet Connectivity

A Resource to Share...Often

As we all know, the digital divide still exists and is a challenge for students and home-based workers alike. In an effort to expand accessibility to as many as possible during Covid, the Emergency Broadband Benefit was established. It has since been replaced with the Affordable Connectivity Program. See below for the steps and the site (getACP.org) to help determine eligibility. Pass this information on!

TV & MOVIE match answers.

1. R
2. J
3. A
4. P
5. Q
6. I
7. F
8. O
9. D
10. H
11. B
12. N
13. K
14. M
15. C
16. E
17. G
18. S
19. T
20. L

GET CONNECTED to FREE HOME INTERNET

The Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) is a federal government program that offers eligible households **\$30/month** toward home internet services.

Scan the code to get started.



Visit GetACP.org to see if you qualify, what you'll need to apply and how to connect to plans that are free with ACP.



4 steps To Get Connected

<p>1</p> <p>VISIT GetACP.org Get a checklist to simplify the application process</p>	<p>2</p> <p>APPLY Use your personalized checklist to apply for ACP</p>
<p>3</p> <p>CONFIRM Receive confirmation that you qualify</p>	<p>4</p> <p>ENROLL Select Internet Service Provider and enroll in service plan</p>





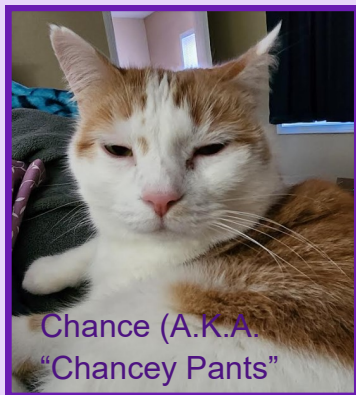
Lilly and Izzy ~ dana



Ellie and Missy ~ dana

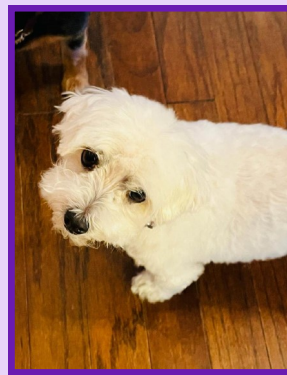


Ruckus ~ Pam in Hardin



Chance (A.K.A. "Chancey Pants")

~ Amanda in Hardin



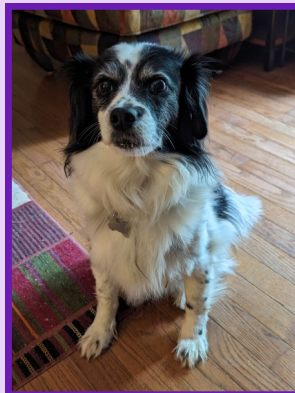
Gracie and Millie ~Gary in Hardin

May is National
Be Kind to Animals
Month

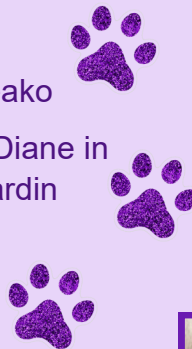
Some of Ours...



Champ ~ Chris



Teako
~ Diane in
Hardin



Shadow ~ Laura in Hardin



Bad BellaB and Sam ~ Tina in Hardin



Patty and Hank ~Sydney in
Breckinridge



May is also Military Appreciation Month for those in and out of the military. The U.S. Army's website says that, "We honor the service and sacrifice of members of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, Space Force, National Guard, Reserves AND the many self-less contributions of their spouses."

We humbly give thanks to all of you for your selfless service and support of all we hold dear.

DONATIONS IN MAY:

Thank you to Dan Wolfe (brother of our CCN, dana wolfe) who is retiring this year after 27.5 years of public school service (science teacher). He donated a large box of spiral ring notebooks for our GED students.

Another thank you to the First Presbyterian Church in Elizabethtown for again helping to stock our Students' Food Pantry (Snack Station!).



Heartland Adult Education Consortium Locations

Hardin/LaRue

(270) 769-8866

ECTC Campus

600 College Street Rd.

OTB 300, Room 310

Elizabethtown

(Classes also In Radcliff)

Breckinridge

(270) 756-1730

116 Old Highway 60

Hardinsburg

Grayson

270.259.9038

125 E. White Oak Street

Leitchfield

Hart

(270) 524-1267

230 Interstate Plaza Rd.

Munfordville



heartlandGED.com

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Check out our Facebook page for community resources, job fairs, employment opportunities, announcements, and plenty of encouragement! Please like the page and share any posts you think may be helpful for someone else. The more shares, the more people we may be able to help!

Please visit and like our other Consortium Facebook sites.

- ♥ [Grayson County Adult Education](#)
- ♥ [Hart County Adult Education](#)
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