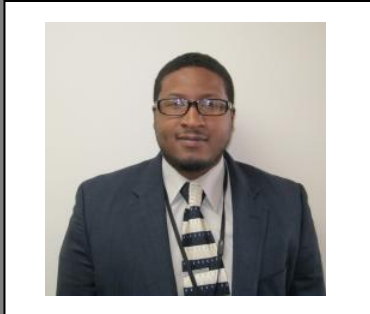


From the Director's Chair
Talking with Samuel Byndom
By Bryan Cannon, APL



Bryan: We'll start with a couple of ice breakers. Who do you think will win the NBA championship this year?

Mr. Byndom: The Bulls.

Bryan: What is your favorite sport to play?

Mr. Byndom: I like tennis now but I played football in college and high school.

Bryan: What inspired you to become the director here at UAEC?

Mr. Byndom: I looked at it as an opportunity to make positive changes in the community while working with a student population I'm passionate about.

Bryan: What are your plans for another successful year here at UAEC?

Mr. Byndom: I will continue to make sure that this is an effective student center of learning with programs to help students successfully bridge into the workforce and post-secondary education.

Mr. Byndom: I would like to build a strong alumni program, making sure that staff and students are recognized for their contributions.

The Class Act

Celebrating our Graduates

Urbana Adult Education Graduation

Sunday, June 1, 3:00 p.m.

Urbana High School Auditorium

Rehearsal for the UAEC graduation will be Thursday, May 29, 4:00 p.m. in the auditorium.

GED Graduation

Wednesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.

Parkland Theater

Congratulations to all of our APL, GED, and High School Credit graduates! Your hard work has paid off and you have earned the right to celebrate your success with your family and friends. We, the staff of Urbana Adult Education and your fellow students, wish you all the very best as you embark on new educational goals and dreams.

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**A Little Irish History
by Peggy Buck**

Like many Americans, I have a rich and mixed ancestry. I have ancestors, who came to America to escape religious persecution. I have other ancestors who came to America to make their fortune. Others came for adventure or a new start. But I also had Irish ancestors who immigrated to escape the Great Potato Famine of 1845.

Potatoes were originally brought to Ireland as a luxury for the rich but they quickly became the staple food and a cash crop for everyone. When a plant disease ruined the potato crops for six consecutive years, poverty, starvation, and death followed. Ireland's population dropped by one fourth, about two million people. One million people died of starvation and one million emigrated to other countries, many against their wills.

The majority of people who emigrated to North America were either put on "coffin" ships or indentured. Coffin ships were filled with people so poor and sick that most of them died on the ship. The people who were put on the coffin ships were often given passage by the landowners who had evicted them from their homes. The landowners just wanted to be rid of the poor.

Other poor people, like my great-great-grandparents, chose to become indentured servants. Indentured servants signed a contract agreeing to work for a certain number of years in exchange for the ship passage, room and board during the indenture. When the indenture was paid in full, the servants were allowed to work for themselves. Most indentured servants were young adults although sometimes parents would indenture their children as young as two. During the time of indenture, the servants were legally bound to do their

**It's Unofficial
by Johnell Smith**

Unofficial St. Patrick's Day is March 9th this year, the weekend before St. Patrick's Day, March 17. The unofficial weekend was made for the college students on campuses to have fun before going on spring break. Now Champaign Mayor, Don Gerard, has issued an order in connection to Unofficial St. Patrick's Day this year. The order will affect all businesses that have bars or restaurants with liquor licenses in the area bordered by Springfield Avenue, Wright Street, Kirby Avenue, and Neil Street.

In the past years at Unofficial St. Patrick's Day, there were some problems with the students' liquor intake. There was a lot of fun, but there were also a lot of injuries and damages to public property. On the day in which the event occurred, there was a significant increase in the number of arrests of intoxicated persons in the city of Champaign.

The mayor, who is the liquor commissioner, has now made an emergency order to try to cut down on the number of injuries, arrests, and damage to public property. He has put in place a timeline for alcoholic beverages. Businesses currently holding liquor licenses cannot sell liquor from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m. Sunday, March 9, 2014. For all bars, there must be at least one employee at all public entrances that are at least twenty-one years of age during that period of time. They must check ID's of all patrons entering their premises.

Consumers must complete a form if they want any of the following: 168 or more 12 ounce containers of beer or malt distilled spirits or one keg. This is an adult responsibility prescribed and provided by all class D liquor establishments. Businesses will be prohibited from hosting any private functions that result in special drink pricing or other privileges. If a licensed business violates any part of the Emergency Order, then it will be fined five hundred dollars for every violation.

I think that there may be a lot of rules for Unofficial St. Patrick's Day for the safety of all of the people there. I hope the rules make Unofficial St. Patrick's Day more fun and safe. I think there is a time for change; I just hope it's a good change. This Unofficial St. Patrick's Day has rules, but not bad ones. So, I can't wait for this year's Unofficial St. Patrick's Day.

masters' will much like a slave would and runaway servants were hunted and returned to the person to whom they were indentured. Indentured servants were most common during the 1700's and 1800's but some continued into the early 1900's.

We might wonder why someone would agree to sign away so many years of their lives. The truth is hunger is a great motivator. So is hope, hope of a better day for themselves and for their children. After their indenture was complete, my great-great-grandparents settled in Iowa, became farmers, raised a family and, indeed, had a better life in America. On St. Patrick's Day, I remember them. When I mistakenly say that I am starving, I think of them, too.



Recipe

Submitted by

Breonna Gardner

Homemade Irish Corned Beef and Vegetables

- 1 6- to 8-pound flat-cut corned beef brisket, trimmed, with some fat remaining

Corned beef and vegetables:

- 1 12-ounce bottle Guinness stout or other stout or porter
- 4 bay leaves
- 1 tablespoon coriander seeds
- 2 whole allspice
- 1 dried chile de árbol,** broken in half Cheesecloth
- 12 baby turnips, trimmed, or 3 medium turnips or rutabagas, peeled, quartered
- 8 unpeeled medium white-skinned or red-skinned potatoes (about 3 pounds)
- 6 medium carrots, peeled
- 4 medium onions, peeled, halved through root ends
- 2 medium parsnips, peeled, cut into 2-inch lengths
- 1 2-pound head of cabbage, quartered

- Horseradish Cream
- Guinness Mustard

For corned beef and vegetables:

Place corned beef in very large wide pot. Add stout and enough water to cover by 1 inch. Wrap cheesecloth around bay leaves, coriander seeds, allspice, and chile, enclosing completely, and tie with kitchen string to secure. Add spice bag to pot with beef; bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium-low, cover, and simmer until beef is tender, about 2 1/4 hours. Transfer beef to large baking sheet.

Add turnips and all remaining vegetables to liquid in pot; bring to boil. Reduce heat to medium and boil gently until all vegetables are tender, about 25 minutes. Using slotted spoon, transfer vegetables to baking sheet with beef. Return beef to pot and rewarm 5 minutes. Discard spice bag. Cut beef against grain into 1/4-inch thick slices. Arrange beef and vegetables on platter. Serve with Horseradish Cream and Guinness Mustard. <http://www.epicurious.com/recipes/food/views/Homemade-Irish-Corned-Beef-and-Vegetables-241623>

From the Director's Chair
continued from page 1

Bryan: What changes are you planning for the APL program?

Mr. Byndom: The changes will be collective; nothing is finalized.

Bryan: What are your thoughts on this year's graduation?

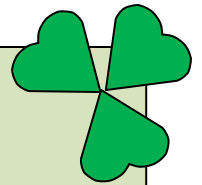
Mr. Byndom: I hope it's amazing, a memory students will always remember. Ms. Arlene is working with a group of staff to plan for this celebration.

Ask about our new
citizenship classes
offered this
summer.



The History of St. Patrick's Day

by Cassandra Foehrer



This holiday was named after Saint Patrick, the patron saint of Ireland. Maewyn Succat, the boy who later became St. Patrick, was born in Britain around 390 AD to a wealthy family. His parents were actually Romans living in Britain and part of the ruling class. When Maewyn was sixteen, he was kidnapped by pirates and then sold into slavery in Ireland. As a slave, Maewyn tended sheep on the mountains along the west coast of Ireland. Maewyn got to know God in Ireland. Legends say that one night in a dream, God told Maewyn to escape. He got on a ship back to Britain. Then, he went to France where he became a priest and then a bishop. Maewyn took the name Patrick when he became a priest. In another dream, God told Patrick to go back to Ireland to Christianize the Irish from their native practices. The Irish were polytheistic before Christianity which means they worshiped many gods.

One of Patrick's teaching methods used the shamrock, a three-leafed plant, to illustrate the three parts of the Christian God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. That is why shamrocks are worn on St. Patrick's Day. Sometime after his death on March 17, 461, Patrick was made a saint in the Catholic Church.

The original color used in celebration of St. Patrick's Day was blue. Over the years, however, the color green grew to represent the holiday. The holiday has come to mean more than just remembering one man, St. Patrick; it is now a celebration of the Irish culture. People all over the world celebrate St. Patrick's Day. How people celebrate may include having parades, festivals, eating Irish food, drinking beer and wearing of green attire or a shamrock. Happy Saint Patrick's Day!

Summer School is being offered for the first time in many years at Urbana Adult Education. The summer session will run from May 27 – June 27. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity. Call 384-3530 for more information.



APL Alumni of the Month

By Sheri Langendorf

Each month in the APL classroom, a distinguished APL alumnus is featured on the class bulletin board. It is enlightening to hear from the alumni in his/her own words how Urbana Adult Education helped to make that next step in pursuing further educational goals.

Sidney Stevens

On Urbana Adult Education: Urbana Adult Education helped prepare me for academic success in several ways. By allowing me to complete my high school education at my own pace, I was able to pinpoint and perfect my own learning style. Before UAE, I hadn't really considered college as a plan for my future. But thankfully, the teachers and guest speakers at UAE instilled in me the value of education. Enrolling at Parkland is one of the best decisions I have ever made, and I wouldn't have done it without the guidance and influence of the wonderful staff at UAE. I succeed academically because the staff at UAE invested so much in me and my peers, and I strive to make them proud.

On Succeeding in College: In college, there is no one universal path to success. That being said, you must remember that being there is not mandatory. You are there to improve yourself, learn valuable skills, and eventually land a job in a career that you will spend the rest of your life in. Take it very, very, VERY seriously. You are there for YOU, and no one else. Be prepared to devote all of your efforts to doing the best you possibly can. Take advantage of all of the resources at your disposal. The people at the college you attend are there with the sole purpose of helping you succeed. Take advantage of their help. Find out who the best professors are and take their classes. Get to know your professors, because they will do whatever they can to help you succeed, and can write the letters of recommendation you will need if you decide to go to graduate school. Join clubs, listen to guest speakers, join a research lab, have a bake sale for a charitable cause. Everything that you do will be a line to your resume that will make you stand out from other applicants, both for jobs and graduate school. Find a study method that works best for you and stick to it. Balance school and social life smartly. Work hard, but don't forget to give yourself time to relax, and enjoy the college experience. Make your own path to success.

People You Should Know

A Tribute to Arlene Anderson by Johnell Smith

Ms. Arlene Anderson is the Director of Student Services, as well as, the school's Guidance Counselor. Ms. Arlene has always wanted to work with young adults and decided to become a counselor very early in her career. She completed her Master's degree at Eastern Illinois University and got the counseling position at Urbana Adult Education. She has worked for UAE almost 20 years.

Ms. Arlene loves helping young people solve problems and reach their goals. Although she loves all students, her favorite age group is 16-24 years old. Some of duties of Ms. Arlene's job are: guidance counseling, testing, discipline referrals, assisting students with available community services, and attending a variety of local meetings.

I feel like Ms. Arlene is a woman of power because she doesn't let the negative things get her down. She pushes on to help other people reach their goals in life. She is a one of a kind, good hearted person who is focused on helping all students in school and in life. She is a very inspirational person. She attributes that to her love for God. Ms. Arlene can touch the coldest hearts and those who feel lost. When I feel down, she can always make me smile. She keeps me focused and motivated and makes me want to do and be better.

On behalf of all the students Ms. Arlene has helped over the years, I want to say, *"thank you so much, Ms. Arlene, we appreciate all the things you have done and will do. Thank you for believing in me when I didn't believe in myself."*

Arlene Anderson

**UAEC Director of
Student Services**



"Ms. Arlene can touch the coldest hearts and those who feel lost. When I feel down, she can always make me smile. She keeps me motivated and makes me want to do and be better."

In the Mind of a Tutor: an Interview with David Lee by Johnell Smith

How old are you? I am 21 years old.

When were you first interested in tutoring? I got my first tutoring job when I was a sophomore in high school. I got a job at the Kumon Learning Institute.

Is this the first time tutoring with students that are your age or older? Yes, this is the first time I have been in an environment tutoring students that are my age or older.

How did you hear about the tutoring program at Urbana adult Education? I heard about it by word of mouth and my friend said it will probably be a real good experience to help me learn more about myself and so I tried it and he was right. It has been a very good experience for me and I enjoy doing it.

How many days and hours do you tutor at Urbana Adult Education? I tutor three days a week, about six hours a week. Thank you for your time and the interview, David Lee. I appreciate the work that you do with the students at Urbana Adult Education. Thank you for the time and patience to help all of us.

An Interview with Marcellos Gray by Cassie Foehrer

What is the ACT class about?

The ACT Brush-up Class prepares students to sit for the ACT exam. (Academic College Test) The goal of the class is to provide an overview of the information presented on the ACT. The concept of the course is to help students to identify good test taking skills and strategies, to develop good study habits, and to complete practice questions/exams.

How long have you been teaching this class?

This was my first year teaching this class. The idea came from the Director of Adult Education. Mr. Bynum wanted to provide an additional course that would allow students of the APL program an opportunity to take the ACT. Many colleges and universities use the ACT for student acceptance and placement.

What inspired you to start teaching?

I have spent the last 20 years in Corporate America, but I have always wanted to teach and to pursue a Doctorate Degree. I really enjoy working with students; it is very gratifying to help others achieve their academic goals.

What subject do you teach?

I am a T.A. at Urbana Middle School. I work within the Special Education/Behavior Disorder classroom for both 7th and 8th grade.

How long have you lived in Champaign-Urbana?

I was born here. I attended Champaign Centennial High School and played basketball for Coach Coleman Carrodine. Additionally, I have lived in Missouri, Arizona and Chicago.

What would you like students to call you?

Marcellos or MG (my initials).

What do you do in your free time?

I like running, playing golf and participating in ½ marathons. I have run a full marathon and would like to complete a ½ triathlon someday.

Marcellos Gray ACT/SAT Prep Evening APL



What is your favorite type of music?

Actually, I enjoy all types of music especially Gospel, Blues and Jazz. I love eating at BB King's restaurant in Memphis on Beale Street. The food and musical entertainment is awesome.

Do you like to read?

Yes, especially short and quick reads. I enjoy books that I can complete within an airplane ride. For example, *Who Moved My Cheese*, by Spencer Johnson, M.D., is one of my favorite quick reads. It's a story about four characters caught in a maze and experience unexpected change. I enjoyed it immensely because I was taught that the only thing that ever remains the same is change.

What kind of movies do you enjoy watching?

Drama and Science Fiction movies are appealing to me. *The Core* is a good science fiction movie that I like.

What is your favorite season of the year?

I like the summer and fall. I really like sun in the summer and the colors of the trees and leaves in the fall. The weather seems more balanced with good and bad days during these seasons.

POETRY

C O R N E R

Life Is

By Mother Teresa

Life is an opportunity; benefit from it.

Life is a beauty; admire it.

Life is a dream; realize it.

Life is a challenge; meet it.

Life is a duty: complete it.

Life is a game; play it.

Life is a promise; fulfill it.

Life is a sorrow; overcome it.

Life is a song; sing it.

Life is a struggle; accept it.

Life is a tragedy; confront it.

Life is an adventure; dare it.

Life is luck: make it.

Life is life; fight it!

During a group meeting, WIA students were asked to read and reflect on the “Life Is” poem by Mother Teresa. These are their thoughts. Thank you, Jacqueline Williams, for sharing them with us.

Life has a lot of challenges and hard times but you can get through them if you try. Just make life a success at anything you’re doing.

Chris Clavielle

Life is what you make of it. There are so many options and opportunities, and you can choose your own path in life. Take pride in your life and succeed in whatever happens.

-Mackenzie Hillsman

Enjoy your life and take it the way it comes at you and accept it because it’s inevitable. Enjoy life to the fullest.

- Quantrell Johnson

No matter what life throws at you, grab life by the horns and hold on tight. Life doesn’t stop until your dead, and you should fight to live.

-Adam Kellems

From this poem I interpreted that life is very valuable so treat it like you need it. Believe that you have no boundaries to life and you will always follow your dreams.

Jamari Camble

Life is all you need. Keep moving forward and overcome things. Life is beautiful, fulfill it. You are beautiful and believe it.

Bre Gardner

I think that this poem is to interpret the meaning of life, to treat yourself with respect and equality. Then treat everybody like how you would treat yourself.

-Marshan Camble

Life is what you make of it, no matter how it treats you, no matter what you’ve been through. Life is good. In so many words the writer is saying even if life gets the best of you. You have to keep pushing and striving for better.

- Byran Cannon

Live your life to the capacity you are capable of living. Life is yours, do what is necessary. Everything happens for a reason.

-Kvlie Williams

Did you know that **March is Irish American Month**? Okay, how about, did you know that March was named for the Roman God” Mars”? That’s a pretty interesting fact. Just like how March is National Music in our Schools Month, and National Nutrition Month; also, National Peanut Month, and Red Cross Month, National Irish Heritage Month; designated by Congress in 1995, along with National Craft Month, National Frozen Food Month, and National Women’s History Month. Check out the following calendar to see not only up-coming school events, but some of the unusual, yet interesting days in March!

Saturday, March 1	Peanut Butter Lovers day
Sunday, March 2	Old Stuff Day
Monday, March 3	I Want You to be Happy Day
Tuesday, March 4	Amy Ali: Health and Nutrition Class National Anthem Day
Wednesday, March 5	Multiple Personality Day
Thursday, March 6	Teacher In-Service NO SCHOOL Carol Ammons political talk/upcoming election workshop Dentist Day
Friday, March 7	Employee Appreciation Day
Saturday, March 8	International (Working) Women’s Day
Sunday, March 9	Panic Day
Monday, March 10	Middle Name Pride Day
Tuesday, March 11	Amy Ali: Health and Nutrition Class Johnny Appleseed Day
Wednesday, March 12	Ms. Pam Burnside Workshop Plant A Flower Day
Thursday, March 13	Popcorn Lovers Day
Friday, March 14	National Pi Day (It’s 3.14!!)
Saturday, March 15	Incredible Kid Day
Sunday, March 16	Freedom of Information Day
Monday, March 17	St. Patrick’s Day
Tuesday, March 18	Amy Ali: Health and Nutrition Class Thank A Troop Day
Wednesday, March 19	Ms. Pam Burnside Workshop Poultry Day
Thursday, March 20	Proposal Day
Friday, March 21	Fragrance Day
Saturday, March 22	National Goof Off Day
Sunday, March 23	National Chip & Dip Day
Monday, March 24	Amy Ali: Health and Nutrition Class National chocolate Covered Raisin’s Day
Tuesday, March 25	Waffle Day
Wednesday, March 26	Make up Your Own Holiday Day
Thursday, March 27	National ‘Joe” Day
Friday, March 28	Something on a Stick Day

Saturday, March 29	National Mom & Pop Business Owners Day
Sunday, March 30	Take a Walk in The Park Day
Monday, March 31	Bunsen Burner Day

"March, 2014 Bizarre and Unique Holidays." *Holiday Insights*. Premier Star Co., n.d. Web. 1 Mar. 2014.

A Note of Appreciation

The staff and students of Urbana Adult Education would like to thank the individuals, organizations, and groups that help fund our programs, that provide tutoring and leadership, that bring energy and direction, and that help us reach our goals and succeed.

Our funding sources include the **Illinois Community College Board**, the **Regional Planning Commission WIA office**, **United Way of Champaign County**, **Rotary Club of Champaign**, **Community Foundation of East Central Illinois**, the **Orange Krush Foundation** from the students of the U of I, **Project READ**, **U of I Office of Public Engagement**, and the **Walmart Foundation**. **America Reads /America Counts** is a rich source of tutoring help along with Project READ volunteers. We also thank the **Urbana School District** for their continued support.

The Class Act staff and contributors:

Cassandra Foehrer, student reporter
Carol M. Sutherland, staff technology support
Peggy Buck, staff contributor, editor, sponsor
Larry Camble, student photographer, proof reader
Bryan Cannon, student reporter, contributor, editor, proofreader
Marshan Camble, student contributor
Kylie Williams, student contributor
Johnell Smith-Turner, student photographer, contributor
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Breonna Gardner, student graphic artist, contributor
Jamari Camble, student contributor
Adam Kellems, student contributor
Marcellos Gray, staff interviewee
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Mackenzie Hillsman, student contributor
Quantrell Johnson, student contributor
David Lee, tutor interviewee