



Liberty Partnerships LIFE Program
Workforce Investment Act
Genesee Community College– Albion Campus

The Navigator

Helping you to navigate the world of school and work



Special points of interest:

- Navigating paying for school
- Navigate your future: LIFE Skills 101
- Reporters wanted for The Navigator
- Navigate your Career Direction
- Ethanol Plant Tour
- Peter Pan Performance at GCC
- National College Tour– Rochester, NY

Welcome to the first issue of The Navigator!

How many times have you been asked, What do you want to be when you grow up? The most honest way to answer this question is this: I don't know, because I haven't grown up yet.

Somewhere along the line, adults (and kids) have decided that everyone should have a clear picture of what we want our lives to look like by the time we graduate from high school. For many people, this is farthest from the truth and challenges what it really means to be an adult. The struggle to embrace our true calling and to follow our dreams can be difficult– and scary as well.

We often picture our lives to be

like the profiles we see on television– a CSI investigator, a doctor on Scrubs or a lawyer from Boston Legal. While an investigator, doctor, or lawyer are noble professions, these are often out of the reach of many people (including me.) But the problems in our every day lives cannot be solved in an hour.

This year, we will here to help you to search for your passion, to follow your dreams and to help you to find your place in the world. This may be a tall order, but we are up to the task and we are ready to give you the tools you need to succeed! So, what do you want to be and how can we help you to get there?



Thinking about your future can be hard. We are here to help you to picture your life and realize your dreams.

Believe
Believe

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It's time to think about paying for school!

Yeah, you are interested in going to college. The big issue is: *How can I pay for it?*

New York State and the United States Government have *grants* and *loans* to help students pay for college/trade school. A grant is money given to you by the federal government that *does not need to be paid back*. The amount you receive is based upon your family

income and need, as determined on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid, or *FAFSA*. This application is available on-line at www.fafsa.ed.gov. This can be completed as early as January 1, 2008 for the school year 2008-09.

A loan is money you can borrow at a low interest rate (4%) to help you to pay for school. This is money that *must be paid back*. After you graduate or leave school, you have

six months and then repayment of the loan begins.

Loans and grants will help you to pay for your housing, your books, your transportation, your classes and your food, making college available to *everyone!* Additional information is available in the Cool Website section of the Navigator, or feel free to contact Mrs. Golden to help answer any questions you may have.

What's your Career Direction?



The more you can lean about yourself, the better equipped you are to make decisions about your future.

Many of us struggle with deciding which way we want our life to go. Let LIFE help you to better understand how we can turn what we like to do into a rewarding career!

Sergeant Cryer, from the *New York State Army National Guard* will be doing a presentation for WIA and LIFE students in 9-12th grades in *Albion and Medina* at the brand spanking new Genesee Community College's Medina

campus computer lab in April, during the Spring break recess.

Career Direction is a program provided for no charge by the National Guard to students in high school to help students think about and to plan their futures.

There is an interactive workbook, and website component for students to explore what jobs and careers may be interesting to

them, based upon their answers to a short questionnaire.

We will also be completing some team-building exercises, to help students to work together and how their actions (or lack of thereof) have an effect on others as well.

Be sure to reserve time during the Spring break (April 15-17) to participate in this terrific program. More information will be given as the date arrives.

Calling all Writers! We need your HELP!

Hey, do you like to write in your spare time? Would you like to have a terrific looking resume with the addition as a reporter or photojournalist for *The Navigator*?

The Navigator is looking for LIFE/WIA students that would like to write short articles or to be a photojournalist creating features for our bi-monthly

newsletter. It can be on any topic that you wish, and only needs to be 200 words or less.

Some ideas: You can interview your neighbor who works at a Day Care about her job and what she likes the most about working with kids. Or you can run your own advice column, helping other kids with their problems. Or maybe you want to tell others about a really

cool college you visited.

Hey, you need your community service hours. Why not have them go to someone worthwhile? Your fellow LIFE students!



"You must be the change you wish to see in the world."

Mohandas K. Gandhi

The Ethanol Plant is open in Medina!

Those of you that enjoyed our *Alternative Energy Career Day* last Spring will remember that the CEO of the *Western New York Energy*, Michael Sawyer, had invited us back for a behind the scenes tour of the newly constructed ethanol plant once the construction was completed

and the plant went online. Well, guess what? The plant is currently open and producing Ethanol for E85 Gasoline.

The plant, which cost 90 million dollars to build and has employed 50 workers in the Medina area will be a boom to the local economy, providing skilled jobs

to the local workforce.

During Spring break in April, we will have the chance to see the plant in action and to have a behind the scenes tour of this facility. Be sure to reserve your spot for this once in a lifetime opportunity!



Giving back to the environment by cutting our dependence on foreign oil imports- ETHANOL

You've got the time, we got the SKILLS!

On *February 19th and 21st, 2008*, the LIFE program is proud to present the presentation, *Skills For LIFE*. It will be held at the *Brockport Middle School LGI*, from *9:00 am to 2:30 pm*. Transportation and lunch will be included on both days, with free drawings for various prizes donated by our speakers and gifts for workshop participants.

Cheryl McKeever, from *Consumer Credit Counseling Services of Rochester*, will be discussing the pitfalls of credit

cards and what you can do to protect yourself. Anita Mault, from *M&T Bank*, in an encore performance, will also be speaking about things you can do to help your money to grow as well as what a bank can do for you, from interest to the different types of accounts.

Kelly Lewis and Kim Bryant from *State Farm Insurance* will be talking about what types of insurance coverage you may need to protect yourself and your car/home and Mary Edwards

from *Danielle Windus-Cook Real Estate* will be speaking about what you need to rent or purchase your own home.

We will also be speaking with a sales professional from *Spurr Dealerships* on buying or leasing a car, as well as things to think about when choosing a vehicle.

We will also tour their places of work and talk about careers in your community. Join us for this informative and interactive workshop— SKILLS FOR LIFE!



Navigate your way to a better life. Let the LIFE staff help you to get the skills to pay the bills!

February 19th and 21st
9:00-2:30

National College Fair is coming to Rochester

On Saturday, April 5, 2008 from 1-4 pm at the *Rochester Riverside Convention Center*, the National Association for College Admission Counseling will host the *Spring College Fair*. Come with us to see what college has to offer you!

Transportation will be provided to and from the event from Albion, Medina and Brockport.

Over 160 colleges will be in attendance to answer any questions you may have about the application process, paying for college, and even what classes you need and what activities and skill they are looking for in an applicant. Students in 10th and 11th grades will be given priority for attendance.

Please see your Case Manager,

Mrs. Golden or Mrs. Zwifka if you have any questions, or if you want to save your spot for this terrific opportunity to see so many colleges in one place!

Reserve your spot early, as space is limited and we would really hate to leave you behind!

Help us to navigate your future and to see what's out there beyond high school.

Have you ever thought about a Career in Theatre?

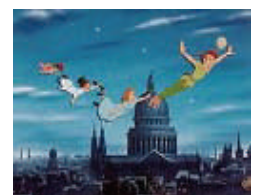
Genesee Community College Theatre Department is presenting the musical, *Peter Pan*. Based on the play by James M. Barrie, with music by Mark Charlap and lyrics by Carolyn Leigh, America's popular musical follows the adventures of

Wendy, John and Michael, as they travel to Neverland with the mischievous little boy who wouldn't grow up, where they join forces with the Lost Boys to battle the evil Captain Hook.

Professor Arena from the theatre department has offered to give

us a behind the scenes tour of the actors, costume design, set design, lighting and special effects, to see all of the work involved with putting on a production of this magnitude. Come experience the theatre for yourself!

Peter Pan will be presented on April 10-13, 2008 at the Genesee Center of the Arts



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We're on the web!
www.glowworks.org/youth_news

Look what you've

The WIA gang on our recent college tour to Buffalo State College and to the Albright-Knox museum in Buffalo, NY.

We have also toured Genesee Community College- Batavia campus as well this past Fall. Keep watching for other opportunities.

Be sure to see where the WIA gang is headed next in our Spring issue!

