**Feature Student**

**Gene Nuerge**

1.) Where do you go to school and what grade will you be in the fall? I go to Bowling Green High School and will be a freshman.

2.) What are you doing this summer? I like playing outside and coming to KAP.

3.) Who is your role model and why? Jeff Gordon because he is a racecar driver and I really like pretending to drive. I even have a battery powered steering wheel I take in the car with me.

4.) If you could go anywhere on vacation, where would you go? Colorado, because they have beautiful mountains there.

5.) What is your favorite thing to do at KAP? I like going on field trips and making new friends.

6.) What do you do when you go volunteer in the community with KAP? At the nursing home, I visit with and play games with grandmas and grandpas. At the nursery, I water the flowers and pick off the dead blooms. At both places, I work really hard.

**Thank You**

Michael L. Tetterton, President of Home-Towne Suites and Tammy Kirby, Bowling Green manager, whom have generously donated suites weekly during the summer for our families who are driving so far to take part in KAP. This wouldn’t have happened without the assistance from Steve Wilson, President of Bluegrass Legacy, Inc. Their generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you also to the Cave Country Harley Owners Group (HOG) Chapter who sponsored a “poker ride” with the proceeds going to KAP. (more on page 4)

**Lifeskills Sunset Run**

Written by: Amanda Jochim

Lifeskills of Bowling Green will be holding the 2nd Annual Sunset run this summer. The run will benefit the Kelly Autism Program and Lifeskills. We would like all our participants, parents, staff and supporters to come out and join in the fun while raising money.

**When:** Saturday, July 22, 2006

**Where:** Bowling Green Regional Airport

Bowling Green, Kentucky

**Time:**

- 4:30 pm Check-In
- 5:15 pm Ernie Small Blues Band Begins
- 6:00 pm 2 Mile Walk Starts
- 6:55 pm 5K Wheelchair Start
- 7:00 pm 5K Run Start

**Registration Fee:**

- $15 before July 1, 2006
- $20 after July 1, 2006

**Entertainment:** Ernie Small Blues Band, Silent Auction, Door Prizes, Kid's games, BBQ, Ice Cream, Free Sports Massage

All participants will receive an event t-shirt and a goody bag. Awards will be given to the different age categories. Brochures are available at KAP or online at www.lifeskills.com/sunsetrun. If you have any questions, call Lifeskills at 270-901-5661 or 270-779-6065, or KAP at 270-745-8903.
**Director's Desk**

Written by: Dr. Marty Boman

I will begin with a heartfelt “Thank You” to everyone at KAP for their support as I begin my new career as your director. This is such an exciting time as we move through the institutionalization process. KAP is growing so quickly, with many new projects on the horizon.

In the works for 2006-2007 School Year:

- The Exceptional Education and Education Departments are going to be involved with KAP participants as part of their coursework. Currently, EXED students are required 440 hours of practicum hours before they complete their student-teaching. KAP staff will supervise/support them, but the WKU students will actually teach the participants using research-based best practices. This will provide a wonderful educational experience for the future teachers regarding their work with individuals with autism while decreasing staff costs!

- The “KAP Circle of Support” college program will be reorganized so that we have “study hours” every night (similar to athletic teams). This process will serve two purposes. The first is that we will have two staff members working with the seven college students versus the one-to-one ratio that we had last year. This will foster social interactions among the participants rather than dependency on the KAP staff.

- KAP will be provided with three graduate assistants beginning in the fall. These individuals will serve in a supervisory role for each of the programs.

- Another federal grant will be completed this fall along with Lisa Murphy (Early Childhood) and Dr. Carrie Pritchard (Psychology) dealing with the continuum of services, including the addition of an elementary program at KAP.

- The Human Subjects Review Board has accepted three more proposals for research so we will be busy during July, August, and into the fall.

This will be a very and exciting summer at KAP! Again thanks for your support, and please feel free to call at any time.

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**KAP's New Initiative**

Written by: Dr. Frank Kersting

Last spring, the Kelly Autism Program began an initial venture into expanding our program to the 7-12 year old population. KAP’s original mandate was serving the middle school through post-secondary individuals along with their families. KAP has established sound programs for those age groups.

For the 7-12 age group, we started with one family. There was no publicity; the Executive Board was apprised of the initiative and approved. Throughout the spring, KAP received many phone inquiries about serving younger students. This summer we have a 7-week pilot program for a small group. We know that in the fall we will have, in the words of Ethan, ‘a mega-group,’ and that is a great idea!

The focus of this group is similar to the middle school program with an emphasis on social skills’ training. For the summer, the emphasis is on group participation. Hence, the name: Group Operations I. This name identifies the intent as ‘beyond play’ while focusing on group interaction and group problem solving. In the fall, there will also be a focus on academic support and assistance.

KAP has a new volunteer faculty member: Dr. Carrie Pritchard, a cognitive psychologist, who will help us with research design and developing activities to teach group interaction. Another new staff member is Mrs. Janice Smith who is a doctoral student in the University of Kentucky Joint Rehabilitation Sciences Program, and she is joining us for the summer, and hopefully longer! All in all, it promises to be another successful KAP summer.

During the first group meeting, the 7-12 year old participants took the time to get to know their new friends and staff members. Phillip Proctor made this statement about the group, "We play ball, have snack, and play games. My new friends are Danny, Grant and Ethan. I have a lot of fun."
A KAP Welcome to our New Staff

KAP would like to introduce our new staff members. This group of individuals brings many talents and interests regarding autism to the program. Welcome to all of you! We are happy to have you join the KAP family.

Janice Smith: Janice Smith is originally from Scottsville. She lived in Lexington for six years while completing her Bachelor's degree in Communication Disorders and her Master of Science degree in Speech Language Pathology from the University of Kentucky. She currently lives in Bowling Green with her husband and works in Morgantown, Kentucky as a Speech Language Pathologist in the schools. Janice is also completing her Doctoral degree in Rehabilitation Sciences at the University of Kentucky, which is a collaborative program between UK, WKU and other universities.

Smit Chauhan: Smit Chauhan is a Graduate Student in Department of Public Health. As a practicing medical physician in India, Smit has a couple more exams to complete licensure here in the United States allowing him to pursue his residency program. He has been here at Western since Fall 2005. He was working in the Department of Special Instructional Programs as an office assistant before he joined the Kelly Autism Program. He is involved in the research which we are conducting with the Kelly Autism Program.

Felicia Wells: Felicia Walker-Wells is a senior at Western completing her degree in Communication Disorders. She is married and lives in Bowling Green. She works part-time at the SKY Rehabilitation Hospital in Bowling Green. She is currently working at KAP part-time while participating in summer school.

Summer is in the Air!
Written by: Dr. Marty Boman
The summer session began on June 5th with a number of new initiatives. All participants will be involved in three hour sessions, at least twice a week. The most important change will be the fact that our participants, who are 16 years old and older are working regularly scheduled jobs throughout the summer, will receive pay for their efforts. The businesses/churches who agreed to hire our participants include:

- Greenview Regional Hospital
- Bowling Green Parks and Recreation
- Hughes & Coleman Attorneys at Law
- Hillvue Heights Church
- Rivendell
- WKU, Center for Gifted Studies

Also, the under 16 group will have structured group sessions where they are in the community for an hour and back at KAP working on job skills. The staff has adopted the “Camp Courage” Career Exploration/Job Skills program. Businesses which are assisting with these participants include:

- The Humane Society
- Houchens Market
- Schotts Gardens
- Saint Vincent De Paul
- Britthaven of Bowling Green

Thank you everyone for sending the message to the participants that their work is appreciated and valued! Please
Cancellations: If participants are unable to attend their scheduled session, please call the KAP office as soon as possible so staff can be notified.

**Summer Service Project**
Written by: Amanda Jochim
As an ongoing service project for the summer, we are focusing on the Humane Society. For those of you who do not know, the Humane Society is run on donations alone. KAP is going to help out where we can. First, we have several participants volunteering two days a week playing with cats and walking dogs. As an addition to that, we would like to collect supplies and donations throughout the summer. At the KAP office, there will be a box for supplies and a piggy bank for donations. The participants that have been volunteering all summer will take the donations on their last visit. We need your help in bringing supplies and donating any extra change. Needed supplies include: bleach, toilet paper, dog treats (milkbone type), and pine sol.

**Harley Davidson Poker Run**
Written by: Janice Smith
The Cave Country Harley Owners Group (HOG) Chapter sponsored a “Poker Run” on June 10th to benefit the Kelly Autism Program. During the event, bikers came to Harley-Davidson of Bowling Green to register and then began their ride to various locations across Warren County to play a “hand” of poker by selecting a card at each stop. The poker run raised one thousand dollars to benefit KAP! Don Wallace stated that the local HOG chapter became interested in donating to KAP when they realized that one of their chapter members had a child with autism. Don said, “We want to learn more about autism so that we can not only help our members but also our community.” More than 75 bikers participated in the poker run honoring KAP with their big hearts and generous giving.

**Thank you**
The Kelly Autism Program would like to thank the generous contributors for sponsoring these newsletters monthly. We would also like to thank in advance any future sponsors. Your contributions are greatly appreciated by the KAP staff.

**Scholarships and Charitable Giving**
As always, we ask that everyone remember KAP and the benefits that are being brought to the community. KAP has an endowment fund or consider us in estate planning and other forms of giving. KAP can also grow through your effort of time, talent, and treasure.

**The Kelly Autism Program**
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