

Western Kentucky University

TopSCHOLAR®

---

ALIVE Center Publications

ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships

---

9-2009

## UA23 Newsletter, September 2009

Paul Markham

Western Kentucky University, paul.markham@wku.edu

Aurelia Spaulding

Western Kentucky University, aurelia.spaulding@wku.edu

Follow this and additional works at: [https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/alive\\_pub](https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/alive_pub)



Part of the [Civic and Community Engagement Commons](#), [Place and Environment Commons](#), [Service Learning Commons](#), [Social and Philosophical Foundations of Education Commons](#), and the [Social Welfare Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Markham, Paul and Spaulding, Aurelia, "UA23 Newsletter, September 2009" (2009). *ALIVE Center Publications*. Paper 18.

[https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/alive\\_pub/18](https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/alive_pub/18)

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in ALIVE Center Publications by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact topscholar@wku.edu.



September 2009

Volume 4, Issue 3

# Under the Bridge



## IN THIS ISSUE

- 2 Service-Learning Grows in Kasigau
- 3 A Student's Campaign for Causes
- 4 Owensboro Campus Expands
- 5 Girl Scouts: Endless Opportunities
- 6 Under the Bridge
- 7 Community Events
- 8 Big Red's Blitz
- 9 Contact Information

VISIT US  
[www.wku.edu/alive](http://www.wku.edu/alive)

Email us to subscribe to our email listservs!

Friend us on Facebook  
WKU ALIVE Center

facebook

Follow us on twitter  
[twitter.com/wkualivecenter](http://twitter.com/wkualivecenter)

twitter

UNDER THE BRIDGE is a project that was initiated as a result of a Homeless Forum held on January 15, 2008 in Bowling Green as part of the Region II Continuum of Care Regional Implementation Strategies of the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. It became evident that many in attendance were unaware of specific services for homeless individuals and families in our region. There was also limited information on the rights of the homeless that often proved to be major barriers in accessing identification, housing, education, mainstream benefits, and other critical services.

At the suggestion of the WKU ALIVE Center for Community Partnerships, the Barren River Area Safe Space, Inc. (a domestic violence shelter) submitted a request for a WKU service-learning project to develop a Regional Homeless Rights and Resource Manual that would be accessible to homeless service providers and advocates. The request was accepted by Jan Peeler, Instructor with the WKU Social Work Department, and within a few weeks, WKU social work students Angela Murrell and Lindsey Nave began to formulate a plan for the manual. Students met with BRASS Executive Director, Lee Alcott, and the Housing Advocates at the shelter to determine the types of information to collect, as well as a possible format.

Alcott, as a member of the Region II Continuum of Care, and Chair of the Regional Services Committee, introduced the concept of the manual to the statewide SOAR/Services Committee. It was accepted by the Kentucky Housing Corporation and Kentucky Inter-agency Council as an element of the Region II Continuum of Care Regional Implementation Strategies. Information of the process and product was presented at several state-level meetings, and Angela and Lindsey presented information about their role in the project's development to the Kentucky social work conference attendees in a poster format.

(continued on page 6)

## Service-Learning Grows in Kasigau



Service-learning continues to grow in the Kasigau area of Kenya with ever-expanding projects and contributions from WKU students, student organizations, faculty and staff. This year students from Americans for Informed Democracy traveled to Kenya to work with the communities and provide some relief from the current two-year drought. During the Spring 2009 semester, these students raised funds in the United States which were used to purchase seed grain upon arrival in Kenya. Enough money was raised to buy grain for all seven of the communities WKU has been working with for the past five years. In addition, the WKU Students In Free Enterprise Program (SIFE) continued its work with the seven Basket Guilds, purchasing a total of three hundred baskets, one hundred more than were bought last year. These baskets will be sold here in the United States through local civic organizations and at the WKU Bookstore. One hundred percent of the proceeds from the sales go back to the Guilds to fund school fees for needy students, build structures for community use, buy seed grain and purchase medical supplies for the three health clinics in the area. In January of 2010, WKU pre-med students and three Bowling

Green physicians will make their second trip to Kenya to work at these health clinics for a ten day period. And last, Rotaract, the University version of Rotary, provided shoes that went to the Widow and Orphans organizations in each village. As the partnership grows stronger with these communities, WKU hopes to provide more initiatives which will meet community needs and bring sustainable projects to the area.





## A Student's Campaign for Causes

Greg Capillo is originally from Lexington, Kentucky. His dad had always been very progressive, protesting the Vietnam War and pushing his small Catholic college to include the social sciences. He informed a lot of Greg's beliefs about life and people. Greg's mom has always been very committed. She moved to Kentucky right after high school to work in Wolfe County as part of a relief program set up by the Catholic church and has been there and working for the people ever since. When Greg was younger, she was a domestic violence victims' advocate, and many times she would bring home the women and their children if she felt she needed to. Her commitment to doing the right thing inspired Greg to take action for what he believes.

Greg originally came to WKU for the Journalism program. It was while Greg was writing for the WKU Herald that he was assigned to cover the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day festivities in Bowling Green. Talking to Linda McCray, Executive Director of the Bowling Green Human Rights Commission, about the status of social justice in Bowling Green and the legacy of Dr. King blew him away.

Greg continued to cover housing stories alongside Kaleidoscope Youth Programming and through those efforts met Jessica Hays and Dana Brown with Kentuckians for the Commonwealth (KFTC). Greg also began working with other WKU students affiliated with the ONE campaign to end global poverty. He felt they were doing great work, and he wanted to share with them information about the social justice issues right here in Bowling Green.

Eventually Greg and his friends were able to organize a WKU campus chapter of KFTC that became a part of Bowling Green's Chapter. One of

their biggest efforts was in the primary elections last May, when turnout rose almost 15% in the precincts which they worked. Over the course of the next semester, KFTC and Americans for Informed Democracy canvassed every Saturday and registered 750 new voters.

Greg's favorite moment last Fall was an interaction with a Bosnian family whose father, Mehmed, desperately wanted to register to vote but wasn't home. When Greg was on his way back through their neighborhood, one of the daughters ran up to tell him that her dad was back. Greg helped him fill out his registration card, as the gentleman did not understand the difference between the political parties. KFTC is a non-partisan organization, so in these instances you name candidates from each of the parties. Greg explained that John McCain was the Republican candidate and that Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama were the Democratic candidates.

Greg continues to be inspired to do the work that he does with KFTC and the ONE Campaign, and he expresses much enthusiasm about being a part of history in a time when social issues are such a priority for our nation's leaders. We will no doubt continue to see Greg's mark on the world here at WKU and beyond.



*The ALIVE CCP is proud of the many WKU students that make their mark on the world. Regardless of ideology or political orientation, we celebrate our student's efforts to work together to address some of the world's most complex problems. As the number of students becoming active in our community continues to grow, we thank you for the role you play in educating a generation to become active citizens working to improve the quality of life in Kentucky and beyond.*

## Owensboro campus expands



WKU-Owensboro is eagerly awaiting the completion of a new Administration/Classroom building. Believing that increasing the number of baccalaureate degrees is critical to the economic success of the county, the Daviess County Fiscal Court is constructing this building for the University. This is the first of five buildings that will eventually make up the WKU-Owensboro campus. For the first time in history, WKU-O will have its own facility. It will contain 18 classrooms, a computer lab, and ample faculty offices, as well as a multipurpose room to host WKU-O and community events. Each classroom and the multipurpose room will be equipped with the most up-to-date, state of the art equipment conducive to teaching and learning. The building will be ready for students starting with the January 2010 Winter term.

This major move is a significant milestone in the regional campus's 40 year existence. Before Western Kentucky University was officially established in Owensboro, several classes were held through the Owensboro Higher Education Consortium (OHEC). It was established in 1969 for students enrolled in education, psychology, sociology, math, economics, history and library science classes. These classes were held on the Brescia University and Kentucky Wesleyan College campuses.

On July 1, 1980 the WKU-Owensboro campus was officially established. Dr George Overstreet became the first campus director. The WKU-O offices moved to the Likens Building on Frederica Street and undergraduate and graduate classes were taught at Owensboro High School for 23 years. The offices were later moved to the Longfellow Center, which was a converted elementary school. IVS classes were held there as other classes continued at the high school. In addition, a few classes were scheduled on Owensboro Community and Technical College's (OCTC) main and downtown campuses.

In March 2005, WKU-O and OCTC began a partnership which allowed area students to complete their associate degrees at OCTC and transfer easily to WKU-O to complete their bachelor's degrees. To make the partnership more effective, WKU-O moved to the OCTC main campus and has worked out of a suite of offices on the second floor of the Learning Resource Center.

Dr. Gene Tice was chosen as the campus's permanent director in July 2008. Today, WKU-O has 1040 undergraduate and graduate students. Classes meet face-to-face, through interactive television, internet, web-enhanced courses and other independent learning opportunities. There are three full-time faculty members with three additional full time faculty being hired soon. WKU-O offers 20 undergraduate degrees, 14 minor degrees and 23 graduate degrees.

To learn more details about their campus, visit their website at [www.wku.edu/owensboro](http://www.wku.edu/owensboro).



## Girl Scouts: Endless Opportunities



**G**irl Scouts is an organization that gives girls from all segments of American life a chance to develop their potential, make friends, and become a vital part of their community. Based on ethical values, Girl Scouting opens a world of opportunity for girls, working in partnership with adult volunteers. Our sole purpose is to meet the unique needs of girls. The Girl Scout Program teaches the skills girls need to become successful adults, such as self-confidence, positive decision making, leadership skills, money management, career exploration, and team building. We have exciting, age-appropriate activities for girls ages 5 to 17, which include skating, bowling, horseback riding, canoeing, archery, field trips, crafts and much more. Girls also have the option to participate in our Nut and Candy Program in the fall, and the Girl Scout Cookie Sale in January.

In Girl Scouts, volunteering opportunities are endless – from sharing a skill at a special event to becoming a troop leader, no contribution is too small. Both women and men are needed to help girls grow strong. No experience is necessary. Volunteers receive training, support, and many helpful materials. It's never too late to become involved with Girl Scouts.

BE SURE TO VISIT

[www.kyanags.org](http://www.kyanags.org)

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- October 1, 2009  
Nut, Candy & Magazine Sale (Fall Product)
- November 11 & 12, 2009  
Fall Product Deliveries
- December 4, 2009  
Girl Scout Christmas Tree Lighting at WKU
- January 1, 2010  
Girl Scout Cookie Sales Begins
- January 22, 2010  
Desserts First at Carroll Knicely Center-  
Tickets are \$35 per person  
Corporate tables are available for \$250

Regional Director - Deborah Faircloth  
 Volunteer Coordinator - Cathy Parker  
 Membership Coordinators - Brenda Warren,  
 Sarah Wunderlin, and Della Edwards  
 Office Manager - Rebekah Russell  
 Outreach Coordinator and PR Consultant -  
 Felicia Bland

Troops are now forming and volunteers are needed. For more information about becoming a Girl Scout or about volunteering, contact:

Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana  
 1-888-771-5172 or 270-842-8138  
 901 Lehman Ave, Suite 7-Midtown Plaza  
 Bowling Green, KY 42101

# Under the Bridge

(continued from the cover page)

When reflecting upon the value of this experience, Peeler states that social work is a “civically engaged discipline,” and the WKU Department of Social Work actively seeks to enter into collaborative partnerships with community organizations in an effort to identify community needs and create service-learning opportunities for students. This service-learning project allowed students to embrace social work goals as it relates to the values and mission of social justice, community service and civic engagement. “While the community benefits from the service, students enhance their academic knowledge by allowing them to apply critical thinking skills related to social work concepts and skills,” Peeler said.

The Homeless Resource section of the manual is broken down into specific sections including, but not limited to, children, education, food, veterans, immigration, and legal issues. Each section highlights homeless-specific resources, locations, eligibility, times of operation, what to bring and contact information. The resource section also has a “Rights for the Homeless” reference that is specific to each resource topic. This design enables Continuums of Care in each Region to incorporate information on homeless rights into existing or newly developed homeless resource manuals.

The Homeless Rights section of the manual references federal and state laws, entitlement and non-entitlement programs to ensure that agencies who work with the homeless are able to advocate for their rights to access services.

Laws will be highlighted for each resource in a user-friendly format. The manual is available in print, as well as on various websites, including the Kentucky Homeless Website. A pocket version of the Homeless Rights information is available for use across the Commonwealth.

It is our hope that this manual will serve as a means to better serve the homeless population of Kentucky, to promote the rights of the homeless and to meet our goal to end homelessness in the Commonwealth.



Stupp Bridge Company presents

## GALILEO 1610

featuring Mark A. Thompson

*A fundraising event for the Barren River Imaginative Museum of Science*

Thursday, October 22, 2009

BGJHS Auditorium

School Performance 10:00am

Public Performance 7:00pm



## Local Community Events

### Nonprofit Community Calendar September - November

- 09/07 Downing-McPeak Vision Center's *Walk for Sight*
- 09/09 Barren River Health Department's *Cooper Clayton Stop Smoking Cessation Class*
- 09/11 Southcentral Kentucky Kids on the Block *Festival of Sand*
- 09/11 *Balloons, Tunes, and BBQ* (runs through 9/13) benefiting United Way
- 09/12 *Multiple Schlerosis Walk*
- 09/14 Orchestra Kentucky's *Made in America*
- 09/18 VISION *Multi-Agency Council Meeting*
- 09/19 Alzheimer's Association *Memory Walk*
- 09/22 Bowling Green City Schools *Parent's Internet Safety Night*
- 09/24 Healthy Weight Kids Coalition *Obesity Forum*
- 09/26 *BG International Festival*
- 09/26 Warren Regional Juvenile Detention Center *Annual Corn Toss Competition*
- 09/30 Last day for *First Book* voting
- 10/10 NAACP *Freedom Fund Banquet*
- 10/10 American Red Cross *Blood Drive*
- 10/22 BRIMS *presents Galileo 1610*
- 11/04 Barren River - Mental Health and Aging Coalition *6th Annual Educational Conference*

For more upcoming events,  
please view our online calendar!  
[www.wku.edu/alive/events](http://www.wku.edu/alive/events)

**EDUCATION  
FINANCIAL KNOWLEDGE  
JOB READINESS  
HEALTH  
EMPOWERMENT  
EXP**



**Saturday, September 26, 2009**  
Western Kentucky University Downing University Center  
3rd Floor Mezzanine - 1906 College Heights Blvd.  
10:00AM-2:00PM

Featuring business and organization informational booths encompassing education, health, finance, and job readiness. In addition, workshops will take place each hour and a motivational speaker will conclude the afternoon.

**FREE ADMISSION**  
Early registration preferred, but not required  
info@naacpbgwc.org | www.naacpbgwc.org | 270-573-1909

**FREE Admission ALL DAY - EVERYDAY**



**Thursday**  
Kids Night!  
Central and Salsabila Fair

**Friday**  
Hot Air Balloon Glow  
Bowling Green Idol

**Saturday**  
Hare and Hound  
Hot Air Balloon Race

In Concert  
**Justin Moore**  
&  
Floord, The Thorns,  
and Easy Street

**September 10th  
thru  
September 13th**

Don't Miss the Fly-Ins  
Saturday and Sunday Morning

**Bowling Green/Warren County Regional Airport**

For more information or to volunteer  
call 270.745.7532

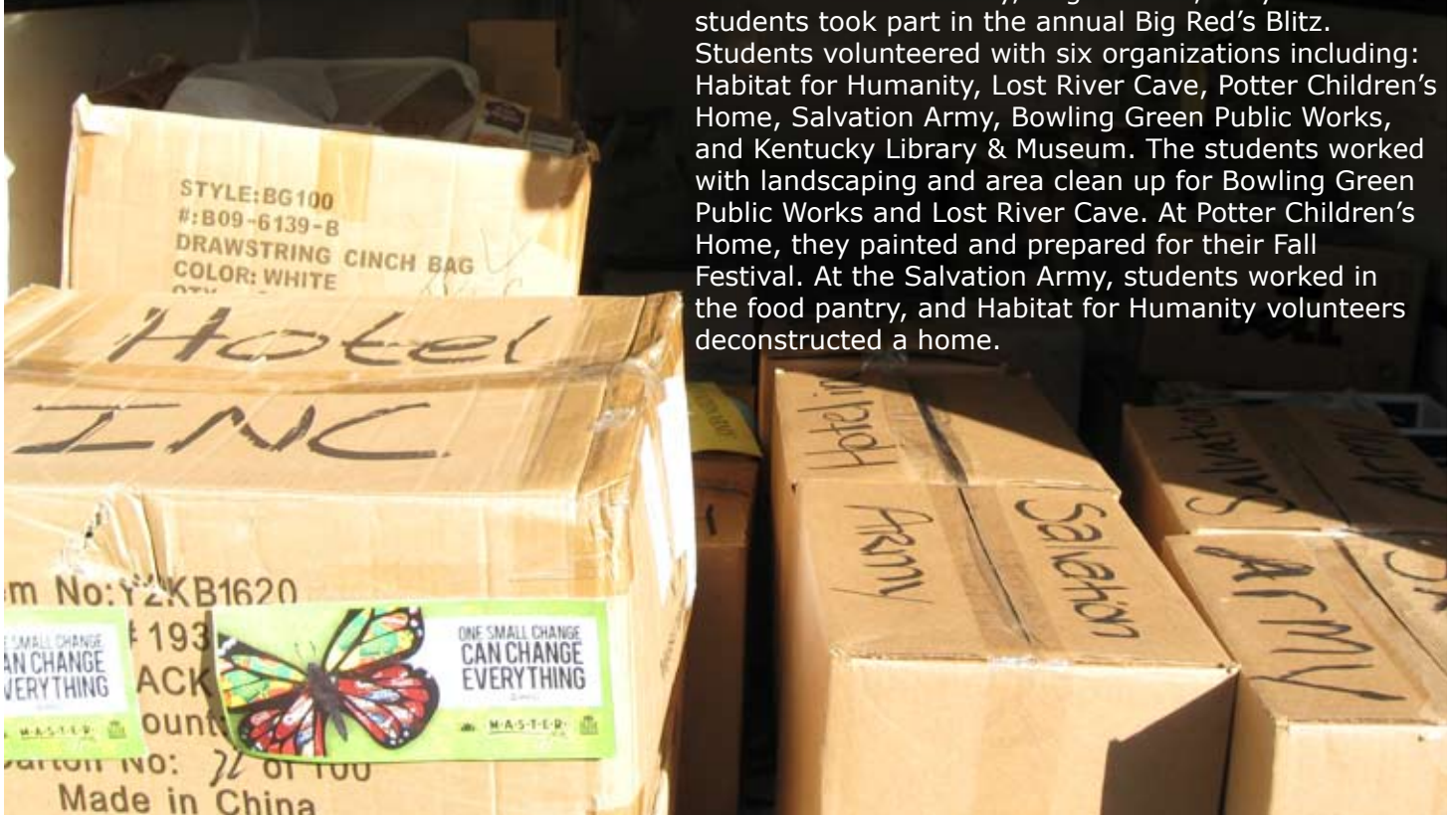


## M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan events engage students and community



Thank you to all those who participated in this year's Big Red's Blitz and Butterfly Effect Canned Food Drive. Approximately 60 boxes and 10 bags of food were collected through the Butterfly Effect Canned Food Drive for Helping Others Through Extended Love In The Name of Christ (HOTEL INC) and the Salvation Army. Not only did WKU faculty, staff, and M.A.S.T.E.R. Plan students donate 45 food boxes, but numerous community members also took part. Community organizations that contributed were the Barren River District Health Department, Gamma Sigma Sigma National Service Sorority, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP).

When food collections ended, the service still continued. On Thursday, August 27th, forty WKU students took part in the annual Big Red's Blitz. Students volunteered with six organizations including: Habitat for Humanity, Lost River Cave, Potter Children's Home, Salvation Army, Bowling Green Public Works, and Kentucky Library & Museum. The students worked with landscaping and area clean up for Bowling Green Public Works and Lost River Cave. At Potter Children's Home, they painted and prepared for their Fall Festival. At the Salvation Army, students worked in the food pantry, and Habitat for Humanity volunteers deconstructed a home.



## CONTACT US

**Paul Markham, Ph.D.**

Director  
paul.markham@wku.edu  
(270) 782-0966

**Leah Ashwill**

Community Engagement Coordinator  
leah.ashwill@wku.edu  
(270) 782-0812

**Mailing Address:**

1906 College Heights Blvd. #21095  
Bowling Green, KY 42101-1095



**ALIVE**

**WKU CENTER FOR  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS**

**Cheryl Kirby-Stokes**

Service-Learning Coordinator  
cheryl.kirby-stokes@wku.edu  
(270) 782-0653

**Aurelia Spaulding**

Communications & Marketing Coordinator  
aurelia.spaulding@wku.edu  
(270) 782-0082

**Street Address:**

1818 31W Bypass  
Bowling Green, KY 42101

Phone: 270.782.0082 Fax: 270.782.0922

Email: [alivebg@wku.edu](mailto:alivebg@wku.edu) Website: [www.wku.edu/alive](http://www.wku.edu/alive)