

The Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service

The Cabinet for Health and Family Services



T H E H E A R T L I N E

T A K I N G T H E P U L S E
COVERING VOLUNTEERISM AND SERVICE THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH

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4th Quarter/October 2006 Edition

2006 AMERICORPS LAUNCH

The 2006 AmeriCorps Launch was a huge success! The three-day training event for 175 first- and second-year AmeriCorps members was held at the Capital Plaza Hotel in Frankfort. Members serve in one of nine programs across the state, covering more than 68 counties.

Members had the opportunity to socialize with members from other AmeriCorps programs, all while learning tips, techniques and other valuable information to help them during their year of service. Sessions covered topics such as team building, disability accommodation, volunteer recruitment, organizational skills and emergency preparedness. The



Launch also enabled members to understand the "big picture" of national service. One member commented, "I learned just how much my services are needed in our country."

Trainers and presenters included Jeffrey Morales of the Corporation for National and Community Service Office of Inspector General, Patricia Thurman of Patricia Thurman Training Inc., Mike King, Lanny Taulbee of the Kentucky Commission on Community Volunteerism and Service, Rose Johnson of the American Red Cross, Regina Horine of the Office of Labor-Management Relations and Mediation in the Kentucky Department of Labor, Sarah Elliston of the United Way of Cincinnati, and Tandy Hubbard of the Kentucky Office of Homeland Security.

The event concluded with a memorable induction ceremony on the steps of the state Capitol. Members marched up the steps with their program signs proudly displayed.



The AmeriCorps pledge was administered by Mark D. Birdwhistell, Secretary for the Cabinet for Health and Family Services. He commented that AmeriCorps' impact on the communities it serves has value-added benefits long after members' terms have ended.

"Because of AmeriCorps members, children learn to read;

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AMERICORPS PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

The Learning Corps



The Learning Corps (TLC) AmeriCorps program is committed to serving the children of Kentucky in partnership with caring families, supportive schools, involved communities and dedicated

volunteers. TLC helps students improve their reading and math skills and develop a lifelong love of learning.

Imagine that you couldn't read the preceding paragraph. It's difficult to believe, but all too true, that there are second- and third-grade students in Kentucky who can't read.

The Kentucky Department of Education reported in December 2005 that one in five, or about 20 percent of Kentuckians 25 and older, do not have a high school diploma or GED, compared to fewer than 15 percent nationally. Breaking the cycle of illiteracy in the commonwealth requires that we first ensure our youngest students have the academic skills they need to succeed. Not the least of these skills is the ability to read.

Most children learn to read until third grade and, from that point onward, read to learn. Unless they become good readers, very few children will ever achieve their full educational potential.

TLC exists to provide extra help in basic reading and math to the lowest-achieving students in Barren, Hancock, Marshall, Pulaski and Webster counties. Reading is the most essential skill children learn in school today. TLC uses the Reading Coaches Model to meet the unique needs of each child, using a variety of methods and techniques to help students increase their word knowledge and reading abilities.



AmeriCorps members also receive training in Great Leaps, a

(continued on page 4)

Corporation for NATIONAL & COMMUNITY SERVICE



Throughout the newsletter are small bits for your enjoyment. Keep an eye out for them.



The happy dancing man is always accompanied by a "funny." Lighten your mood a little with a short joke.



The thinking man is followed by wise witty words from many sources. Allow him to engage your mind.



This icon is accompanied by a brain teaser. Go ahead, see if you can catch the solution.



This icon indicates that interesting statistics follow. It also begs the question: are all things number? From the philosophy of Pythagoras who said, "all things are number."

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From www.corsinet.com/braincandy

1. What can you hold without ever touching it?
2. What happens when frogs park illegally?

Answers on page 2.

WHO WE ARE

KCCVS COMMISSIONERS

Wendy Stivers, Ph.D., Chair
Douglas Adams, Vice Chair
Phyllis Culp, Secretary
Cindy Ferrell, Finance

Aaron Anderkin	Kitty Pilger
Philip Anderson	Emily Shelton
Susan Brammer	Anna G. Smith
Amy Burke	Steve Swim
Marlene Duffy	Victoria Thompson
Carol Daniels	Jana Sturm
Patrick Hargadon	Alan Taylor
Kenneth Knipper	Kate Wenzel
Brandi Moore List	Patricia Winlock
DeAndre Mitchell	
Laura Owens	Betsy Wells, Ex-Officio

KCCVS STAFF

Eileen Cackowski – Director
Melissa Newton – Training Officer
Shannon Ramsey – Media & Publications Specialist
Andrea Sieloff, RSM – Program Officer
Lanny Taulbee – Disabilities Coordinator
Marzelle Wurtsmith – Financial Officer

KCCVS MISSION

To promote all Kentuckians working together to meet actual community needs in a way that fosters personal, family and community pride and an enduring ethic of volunteerism and service.

DID YOU KNOW?

Brought to you by www.hookedonfacts.com

- A group of frogs is called an army.
- More people have a phobia of frogs than rats.
- Each year, 24,000 Americans are bitten by rats!
- A rat can fall from a five story building without injury.
- Rats can't vomit, that's why rat poison works.
- One in 500 humans has one blue eye and one brown eye.
- The estimated number of M&M's sold each day in the United States is 200,000,000.
- To burn off one plain M&M candy, you need to walk the full length of a football field.
- In an average lifetime, a person will walk the equivalent of three times around the world.
- About half of all Americans are on a diet on any given day.
- Most burglaries occur during the daytime!
- Your home is ten times more likely to have a fire than be burglarized!
- Only 1 out of 700 identity thieves gets caught!

Editor: Shannon Ramsey

COMMISSIONER SPOTLIGHT

Wendy Stivers



Wendy Stivers was appointed to the commission in 2004. Originally from Rineyville, her family has lived there since coming to Kentucky around 1785. Stivers now resides in Nicholasville.

She has a passion for youth development and education and has worked more than 30 years with the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service in 4-H youth development.

Stivers holds bachelor's and master's degrees from UK and a PhD in agricultural education (youth program management) from Ohio State University.

Stivers and her husband, Alan, a former high school math teacher, have been married for more than 38 years and have two daughters. They also are doting grandparents to four grandchildren, the eldest 17 and youngest, twin girls, born this year.

Faith and involvement in church are important to Stivers who believes we are placed on this Earth to serve God and our fellowman. This servant leadership philosophy can be seen in her loving and generous attitude, as well as in her choices of activities and affiliations. She sings in the church choir and teaches vacation Bible school every year.

"Chuck Swindoll once said there are only two things that last eternally, the Holy Bible and people, so I long ago decided to invest my life in things eternal," she said. "Volunteer service and servant leadership within our communities is an extension of that philosophy."

Stivers is inspired by everyday people who are willing to make sacrifices to serve others. She wants to be remembered as a person who loved and served others, especially those less fortunate than herself.

In her spare time, she enjoys visiting with her 89-year-old mother, children and grandchildren and listening to Christian and Southern gospel music. Her favorite movie is "It's a Wonderful Life."

Stivers' goal is to serve and provide educational programs for the people of Kentucky. She offers a welcome perspective to the commission as its newly appointed chair.

"What the KCCVS and our AmeriCorps members do fits perfectly into my life philosophy of servant leadership," Stivers said. "Our AmeriCorps members serve others and their communities while growing personally and professionally in the process. I am so proud to be part of the KCCVS which enables these great programs to help Kentuckians."



We are excited to have this new chapter begin for the commission. Welcome, Wendy!

2006 AmeriCorps Launch (continued from cover page)

seniors continue to live independently; neighborhoods are made safer; and, young people develop skills to become leaders in their communities," Birdwhistell said. "AmeriCorps members likewise benefit from pride in accomplishment and the honor and satisfaction of having made a difference in the lives of others."



To see more pictures from the 2006 AmeriCorps Launch or for more information about the 2006-07 Kentucky AmeriCorps programs, visit our Web site, www.volunteerKY.ky.gov.



Answer to jokes on page 2.

1. A conversation.
2. They get toad.

A "LAUNCH" STORY

As I began to make preparations to attend the 2006 AmeriCorps Launch, my 6-year-old son, Zek, seemed to take special interest in this particular trip. Any time I mentioned that I was going to the Launch, Zek got a worried look on his face and responded, "No, Mom, you're not going!"

Zek is a first grader with Cystic Fibrosis, so he is rarely away from home and, until this year's Launch, he'd never been separated from me overnight. I simply assumed his worry was a mild case of separation anxiety that would pass quickly.

As days passed and the time of my departure neared, Zek seemed to become more concerned. As I packed my bags he finally said, "Mom, I don't want you to go to outer space."

"What are you talking about, Zek?" I asked.

"You have been talking all week about going to the Launch," he replied. "So, when are you going to launch your spaceship into outer space?"

As realization dawned on me, I smiled. "I'm not going into outer space," I explained. "I am just staying at a hotel for a couple of days."

"So you're **not** going into outer space?" he asked incredulously.

I told him "no," again, and, seeming satisfied, he went to play in his room.

A few moments later, he returned and asked one last time, "Are you sure you're not going into outer space?"

At that final reassurance, he asked to help me pack.

It just goes to show you never know what children are thinking!

Submitted by Renee Bowles, The Learning Corps AmeriCorps member

WILLIAMS NAMED RSVP DIRECTOR



Sharon K. Williams of Hillsboro has been named director of the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) at Morehead State University. She succeeds Catherine Riley who retired June 30.

Williams, an MSU staff member since 1991, most recently was associate director of MSU's AmeriCorps program, Kentucky's PromiseCorps. Among her duties were recruiting and supervising

volunteers, grant research and writing, and administrating the fiscal aspect of the program in compliance with federal regulations and university policies.

During her 15 years on the campus, she has been a counseling coordinator and office assistant with Upward Bound, area coordinator for AmeriCorps, administrative assistant II with the Office of the Vice President for Development, administrative secretary for the College of Business, and academic support administrative specialist for the Academic Services Center.

Her prior work experience includes serving as laboratory secretary for Humana Hospital in Lexington and nursing assistant for Pioneer Trace Nursing Home in Flemingsburg.

An MSU graduate, Williams received a Master of Business Administration in 2003 and a bachelor's degree in university studies in 1999 with a minor in business and an emphasis in health. She earned an associate degree in office systems with an emphasis in medical in 1993.

The purpose of RSVP is to connect senior adults, those who are at least 55 years of age, with volunteer positions in non-profit organizations throughout the five counties in the Gateway Area Development District in Kentucky—Bath, Menifee, Montgomery, Morgan and Rowan.

In her new role, Williams will develop and write grant proposals, negotiate contracts with the Senior Corps of the Corporation for National and Community Service and Bluegrass United Way, and adhere to compliance with federal regulations and university policies.

Among her first priorities, Williams will be reviewing activities currently underway and recruiting new volunteers. Anyone desiring additional information or interested in becoming a part of RSVP may send a message to s.williams@moreheadstate.edu or call her at (606) 783-5124. Her office is located at 231 Waterfield Hall on the campus.

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You've done word scrambles before, but for some reason people find this one particularly difficult. Can you work with the following letters to spell a 10-letter English word?

Answer
on back
page.

TTNENUMROA

From www.discoveryschool.com/brainboosters

TLC Spotlight (continued from cover page)

brief but intense reading curriculum. Members also may help in other programs like Reading Recovery, Earobics and small-group reading.

All members are trained in Great Leaps Math to help them teach basic math skills to children performing below their grade level. Members may also use other math curricula including Saxon Math and small-group math tutoring.

During the next year, TLC members will help students with the aim to increase learning skills in math and reading among at least 70 percent of program students and help change attitudes toward learning to further ensure success.

Members will recruit more than 100 reading and math volunteer tutors to support students' growth as learners. At least three community service projects will be initiated in the coming service year including the annual beef stew drive for Make a Difference Day in October. Another will be the Hearts from Home project for which students make Valentines to send to troops serving overseas. Each team of members will be asked to identify a need in his or her community and develop a community service project around that initiative.

TLC will change the course of the lives of children, enabling them to learn the basic skills of reading and math to break the cycle of illiteracy. Members and staff alike are rewarded daily as children blossom with their newfound skills.

We invite anyone with an interest in Kentucky's future to join with us as a partner in education and read a good book with a child today!

Submitted by Shannon Bailes, TLC Program Director



"We can only learn to love by giving."

– Iris Murdoch, British writer (1919-1999)

MAKE A DIFFERENCE DAY 2006



Make a Difference Day 2006 exceeded our expectations! Staff of nine DCBS Service Regions, AmeriCorps and Senior Corps members, the Frankfort Volunteer Center and lots of non-profits joined to make this the largest beef stew drive yet. The Make a Difference Day Beef Stew Drive began as an idea about five years ago and, since, has taken on a life of its own.

We are still counting the total ounces of beef stew collected and will have the final tally in the next issue of our newsletter. Results will also be posted on our Web site, www.volunteerKY.ky.gov. Participating organizations made sure to collect cans with Spanish language labels as many food pantries serve members of the Hispanic communities. We were also pleased that so many cans of stew with pop-top lids were collected, as many homeless do not have a can opener, but could enjoy a meal straight from a pop-top can.

These compassionate Kentuckians worked hard to "Make a Difference" and we applaud their efforts.



Nearly **10%** of American households dress their pets in Halloween costumes.

From www.hookedonfacts.com

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

Shannon Bailes

You may have wondered what happens to Kentucky's AmeriCorps members when they complete their terms of service. And, we have, too.

To satisfy our curiosity, The Heart Line has added a new feature, Where Are They Now? to highlight former AmeriCorps members and what they're doing now. We hope you enjoy reading about them as much as we've enjoyed catching up with them.

From 1997-98, Shannon Bailes served with the KY-READS Ameri-Corps program, sponsored by the Simpson County Board of Education. During her time at KY-READS, she was the team leader for Daviess County, serving four schools and 12 members.

KY-READS was a reading intervention program serving academically at-risk students.

Members coached students in 30-minute sessions four days a week, providing help with reading and comprehension skills. Members also recruited volunteers who provided additional help for students served by the program. The targeted students in the KY-READS program improved an average of 2.9 reading levels.



After serving with KY-READS for one year, Bailes was promoted to the position of director of recruitment and training where she served until she was made director of KY-READS, now called The Learning Corps.

Bailes said it is a privilege to serve alongside Learning Corps AmeriCorps members "I learn so much from the members that serve for this corps," Bailes said. "They challenge and inspire me and make me a better leader of this program."

When asked to give incoming AmeriCorps members a piece of advice, Bailes said: "Find ways to serve your community that will make a lasting difference and make plans now, while you are serving, to use your education award...you earned it, but it is a gift that you will never get again!" Bailes used her education voucher to take college classes after her term of service.

A stay-at-home mom for 14 years prior to her year of service, Bailes considers herself blessed to have been able to stay with the program for as many years as she has. Having both served as a member and program staff, Bailes has a unique understanding of the benefits of the AmeriCorps program. She remains proud and honored to serve with AmeriCorps.

"I feel that AmeriCorps is such a great opportunity for many people to better themselves and to help them make a difference in their lives and the lives of others," she said.

EXTREME BUILD

Hope Sounds Like a Hammer

According to Kentucky Baptist Fellowship (KBF) Associate Coordinator for Missions Rhonda Abbott Blevins, hope sounds like a hammer. For McCreary county native Brenda Perry, the sound of hammers means she can finally bring home her 10-year-old grandson, Dalton.



Thanks to hundreds of volunteers and countless hammer swings, Perry and her grandchildren

will have a new home. Dalton was hospitalized for more than a year with complications from a diabetic coma and could not return to his grandmother's home because of his special needs. When the KBF and McCreary County Community Housing Development Corporation (McCHDO) learned of Dalton's situation, the two partnered to provide the handicap-accessible house the Perrys desperately needed and, in the process, provided them with a little more hope.

During the week of July 9-14, more than 150 volunteers from all across Kentucky congregated in the small community of Sawyer in rural McCreary County to participate in Extreme Build, a KBF-led project to build the Perry family's new house in one week. Despite the seemingly impossible nature of the task and hot, humid weather, volunteers remained optimistic and a real community effort resulted, with local churches and organizations lending support and donating materials and labor.

Tom Prather, of Louisville, was one of about 25 volunteers from Lyndon Baptist Church. "It was amazing," Prather said of the project. "If people saw a need, they went and did what needed to be done without being asked. That's how so much got done." Though Prather has worked on several construction projects in the past, he said Extreme Build was a "great chance to look at the overall picture and see how everything came together."

The idea for Extreme Build was born when Dalton first became sick in February 2005. According to Perry, Mike Jones, who worked in the family resource center at Dalton's elementary school, learned of the family's need and put them in touch with people who could help. Jones, also a member of the McCHDO board, brought the Perry family's situation to the board's attention.



"I felt like it was my job to not give up on the family," Jones said. "[The new house] is a totally better environment all around for the kids," Jones added.

On July 14, a dedication ceremony was held to honor those

(continued on page 6)

Extreme Build (continued from page 5)

who participated in the project and finally hand Brenda Perry the keys to her new home. It was a moment Perry will never forget.



"It's great and it's overwhelming. It's hard to believe," Perry said of her experience with Extreme Build. Perry also expressed great

appreciation to all the volunteers who participated in the project.

For more information on Extreme Build, visit www.cbfmissions.blogspot.com or www.thefellowship.info/News/060714Kybuild.icm.

By Rachel Parsons, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

DISABILITIES CORNER

Self-Disclosure



As the disabilities coordinator for KCCVS, it is my job to recruit people with disabilities to participate in Kentucky AmeriCorps programs. In so doing, I am asking them to reveal, or self disclose, to others that they have disabilities. A wide network of information, referrals, accommodations and services is available to help AmeriCorps members with disabilities; however, before I can offer these services to prospective members, they first must self disclose that they have disabilities. Disclosing a disability isn't always an easy thing for people to do.

People with disabilities often hesitate to self disclose because of negative reactions they sometimes get from friends, co-workers or strangers. They fear that by knowing about their disability, people will avoid them, make fun of them or treat them like a child. Many people won't acknowledge they have a disability and may go to great lengths to conceal it if possible. This is especially true of learning disorders and other cognitive or hidden disabilities.

Undisclosed hidden disorders often are a source of ridicule and teasing, not to mention embarrassment. Many people are unfairly accused of being "stupid" who have cognitive disorders that make it difficult for them to read, do math or get along well with others. Not all hidden disabilities are cognitive in nature. People with heart conditions, for instance, may be considered lazy because they aren't as physically active as others are. But to many people with disabilities, those unfair labels and attitudes are preferable to having others know they have disabilities.

Someone with epilepsy may choose not to disclose her condition rather than deal with the fears and prejudices of others who may not fully understand her disorder and the reaction and overreaction of friends and co-workers once she discloses that she has a disability.

Among those who often experience dramatic negative

reactions from others are people with HIV and AIDS. Once HIV positive status or AIDS is disclosed, people may be subjected to attitudes ranging from sympathy and coddling to loathing and rejection, all the result of misinformation and irrational fear.

Misconceptions about disabilities, conditions and diseases stem from a lack of information and education and lingering societal fears of contagion. In spite of great strides in both medicine and basic attitudes, fears and misperceptions still exist and people with disabilities still suffer indignities and hardships as a result, which lead many to choose to keep their disabilities a secret.

According to the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a disability is "an impairment or physiological disorder or condition that results in substantial limitations of basic activities that the average person can perform with little or no difficulty. These activities include caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, walking, seeing, hearing, speaking, breathing, learning and working."

I encourage prospective AmeriCorps members to self disclose their disabilities to fellow AmeriCorps members, their site supervisor, their program director, or to me as their disabilities coordinator especially when those disabilities may interfere with performing tasks or functions related to their service duties. By stating, either verbally or in writing, that a disability exists, a person with a disability is then afforded and entitled to all the protections and provisions of the ADA. Disability related information provided in writing is, by law, kept confidential and separate from other personnel documents and may only be shared with others on a need-to-know basis.

It is up to each person to decide whether, when, how and to whom he or she will self disclose his or her disability. But, unless or until self-disclosure is made, a person with a disability is not protected by the ADA. Kentucky AmeriCorps programs are required to recruit members with disabilities and provide those members with reasonable accommodations to allow them to perform their service. Since the law prohibits asking if or assuming that a person has a disability, no matter how obvious a disability may appear, documentation of and accommodations for a disability cannot be provided until self disclosure has occurred. If the individual does not self disclose, he or she is not protected by the ADA and accommodations cannot be provided.

That is why it is important for AmeriCorps members who have a disability, either visible or hidden, to disclose that fact to someone in their chain of command. Even if they do not require an accommodation today, the self-disclosure could reduce the response time for a needed accommodation later, especially if medical documentation is required.

Submitted by Lanny Taulbee, KCCVS Disabilities Coordinator



"[AmeriCorps] has opened doors for me and given me opportunities."

– Roxanne Coffman, former Senior Connections AmeriCorps member

LAC VIET ACADEMY

Volunteers in the South End help ESL students

The students who flock to the Lac Viet Academy in Jefferson County each day after school seem to come from every direction. Seventy school children ranging in age from kindergarten to ninth grade, most of them Vietnamese, arrive by bus, car or on foot and quickly settle in to classrooms for a couple more hours of learning.

The academy, established in 1999 to provide homework help to the children of Vietnamese immigrants, has flourished in recent years. This September marked its fifth year at its site on the second floor of the St. John Vianney building. Its staff has grown to incorporate 10 rotating Jefferson County Public Schools-certified teachers, several translators and two AmeriCorps*VISTA members. The academy's impact on the community in its brief existence already reverberates through generations.

"Lac Viet is where I first learned English grammar," said Tanya Le, Lac Viet's newest work-study student from the University of Louisville. "It's also where I met friends – together we even put together a Vietnamese literary magazine. I was still in middle school at the time."



Tanya Le, former Lac Viet student, helps children with their homework.

Having advanced from Lac Viet student to tutor, Le has a unique outlook on the program. "When I attended, Lac Viet was less structured. Now it's aimed at teaching and helping kids with homework," she said.

Some program staff have been with the academy since the beginning. "Many new families come to this community not speaking English," said TruLan Nguyen, assistant director and bilingual instructor. "The parents can't help their children with schoolwork, and the students fall more and more behind at school." She explained that a desire to avert students' academic failure inspired creation of the academy.

"Because we are a small non-profit program, we rely heavily on our staff and our board members, and of course we need lots of volunteers," Nguyen added.

Currently several UofL students volunteer part-time at Lac Viet. Some hope to achieve work-study status. Others come because they have personal connections with the Louisville Vietnamese community and still others come for the sheer enjoyment of working with the students.

Le, on the other hand, knows first-hand what it feels like to be an ESL (English as a Second Language) student struggling to keep up with the most basic class requirements.

"I came to the U.S. when I was about 10 years old and had such a hard time in classes," Le said. "My teachers gave me work that was way above my language level, and it took a lot of work to catch up."



Long-time Lac Viet volunteer Kevin Lam works one-on-one with a newcomer.

In September, she worked one-on-one with several newcomers from Vietnam.

"One girl who hardly spoke any English got homework that required knowing the multiplication table," Le said. "Not only could she not understand the directions, but she hadn't learned multiplication yet."

Together, the newcomer and Le made flashcards and within days, the student had memorized all the single-digit multiplication cards. She and Tanya recited them together by the end of the week.

"Without volunteers Lac Viet would not be able to function," Nguyen said. "They are the ones who work with the older kids one-on-one, and just having them here is such a help."

At 6 p.m. parents arrive to collect their children and Lac Viet once again settles into silence. But even though the school day is over, learning doesn't stop for any of the students – or for the staff.

Le said when her full day of study and volunteering ends, she heads home to study for the Graduate Record Examination. "The vocabulary part is the most difficult for me," she said.

Submitted by Liz Shaffer-Wishner, AmeriCorps*VISTA member at Lac Viet Academy

GREAT KIDS SUMMIT

Dear Heart Line:

I must commend the staff of Kentucky Child Now! for again hosting a wonderful Great Kids Summit. I believe the summit fulfilled to its fullest extent the mission to "bring youth and adults together to create positive change in Kentucky."

The summit was held July 12-14 at Louisville's Galt House and offered a diverse menu of wonderful speakers and sessions to choose from. I enjoyed the presentation by Brian Biro, a professional speaker and author. His message was so motivational and I left inspired to accomplish something great. I also really enjoyed all the wonderful musical and dance entertainment that was provided. It was such a treat to see young people with so much talent.

On Friday, the service fair provided summit attendees a chance to meet and speak with members from a variety of non-profit organizations about volunteer opportunities. Lanny Taulbee and I set up a table to talk about AmeriCorps opportunities around the state and were fortunate to make contact with lots of great youth and adults.

If your organization serves or works with youth in any capacity I strongly encourage you to plan to attend the summit next summer. It is a great experience!

More information about the Great Kids Summit is available at the KY Child Now! Web site, www.kychildnow.org.

Sincerely,

Melissa Newton

KCCVS Training Officer

WHAT'S ON OUR CALENDAR?

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER/JANUARY 2006-07

Oct. 2 – Yom Kippur (Jewish)
Oct. 9 – Columbus Day (observed)
Oct. 13 – Last day of Sukkot (Jewish)
Oct. 19 – Lailat Ul Qadr (Islamic)
Oct. 24 – Eid-al-Fitr (Islamic), United Nations Day
Oct. 28 – Make A Difference Day, www.usaweekend.com/diffday/
Oct. 29 – Daylight Savings Time Ends
Oct. 31 – Halloween
Nov. 7 – Election Day
Nov. 10 – Veterans Day (observed)
Nov. 23 – Thanksgiving Day
Dec. 7 – Pearl Harbor Day
Dec. 16 – First day of Hanukkah (Jewish)
Dec. 22 – Winter Solstice
Dec. 23 – Last day of Hanukkah (Jewish)
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day (Christian)
Dec. 26 – Kwanzaa begins
Dec. 31 – Eid-al-Adha (Islamic)
Jan. 1 – New Year's Day
Jan. 7 – Orthodox Christmas (Orthodox)
Jan. 14 – Orthodox New Year (Orthodox)
Jan. 16 – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, www.mlkday.org
Jan. 20 – Muharramn/New Year (Islamic)

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NEXT EDITION:

- Make A Difference Day 2006 Results
- Commissioner Spotlight: Aaron Anderkin
- Program Spotlight: Homeland Security Corps
- Governor's Awards information



Answer to Brain Teaser on page 4
The word is **TOURNAMENT**.



Kentucky is a place where spirits are free to soar and big dreams can be fulfilled. We relish competition and cherish our champions for their willingness to push beyond conventional boundaries to reach new heights of success.



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