

BBBS

of West Kentucky

BULLETIN



Big Brothers Big Sisters

Little Moments. Big Magic.™

June 2009

Christian

On April 25th, Woodmen of the World (WOW) joined hands with Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) for our first annual Super Spaghetti Saturday at the WOW Lodge on Pembroke Rd. We consider it a big success. There was plenty of good food, a silent auction, and door prizes. Volunteers had the opportunity to speak about their experiences in the BBBS mentoring programs. We were fortunate to have a woman employed by Woodmen of the World who spoke about her own experiences in the program, evidence that mentoring touches many of the lives around us. Wal-Mart management and employees were there to help the event from the very beginning to the very end. They cooked, cleaned, served, made us laugh, and made evident what is meant by "teamwork." We could not have done it without them. We ate a lot, talked a lot, made new friends, and look forward to next year. Put it on your calendar for the first Saturday in May 2010.

Big Brothers Big Sisters will give away a UK basket and Bristol tickets at the end of June. Anyone interested in donating a dollar for a chance at the baskets may contact BBBS at 886-8172 or a board members.

Trigg

BBBS of Trigg County is gearing up for our 3rd Annual Kars for Kids Show! The date is set for June 13th, 2009 from 8:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.! Location is yet to be determined. There will be 25 Trophies to include: Best-In-Show, Kids Choice, and Viewers Choice. Pre-registration is \$10.00, and \$15.00 at the door. For more information contact Amy Allen at 522-2210 ext: 3203.

In appreciation of our "Bigs", BBBS of Trigg County is planning a Lunch with your Little Day! This is an opportunity for our "littles" to say "THANK YOU" and to introduce them to their friends. Our "littles" are PROUD of their "Bigs", and this is just one way to say we appreciate your dedication throughout the year. Scheduled days for this event is May 26th and 27th at the Trigg County cafeteria.

A big "Thank You" to everyone who participated in the Tasters Supper and Boston Butt sale. Big Brothers Big Sisters of West Kentucky (Trigg area) appreciates the community support for the success of our program.

Calloway

On April 17th, all BBBS kids were invited to "The Pirate Adventure" held at the Carr Health Center on the MSU campus. Lacey Harris, Intern, planned and coordinated the event which included kids dressing up like Pirates, a "treasure hunt" game, an obstacle course, and a pirate ship war! Pizza and drinks were provided grattis by Nick's Family Sports Pub and enjoyed by all while we watched the movie "Peter Pan." We were all surprised when 51 out of over 160 kids showed up! We have never had more than 20 kids show up for any event! After a discussion of the Pillars of Character, the night ended with a dip in the pool. Bowl for Kids sake was a bit smaller for us this year, but none the less exciting and prosperous! On Saturday, April 25th, 11 Teams and about 20 BBBS kids bowled for fun and prizes like a Murray Parks and Recreation Disc Golf kit, Pool Pass for one child, Lazy Lunches coupon, WKMS Radio various items, MSU light and a handmade child's dress. The winners this year was the USBC Association Team who took home a first place trophy and gets their name placed permanently on the display trophy with past winners. The Major Sponsor for this event was the Murray Rotary Club, with Honorable Mention Sponsors being Murray Independent Schools Family Resources.

I am John Gorrell and have recently graduated from Murray State University with a Bachelor of Science in Outdoor Recreation and a minor in Youth and Non-Profit Leadership. I have lived pretty much my whole life in Murray, KY, and am happy to be able to give back to the community. I came to Big Brothers Big Sisters as an office intern during the fall semester of 2008. Some my interests include golf, disc golf, UK basketball, hunting, fishing, and camping.

Employee Update

Make a "BIG" Impact by showing a "LITTLE" of Life's Possibilities. Become a Mentor Today!

Deberia Alexander, Case Manager for PROJECT ITEM. I've worked for Big Brothers Big Sisters for five years in Brookhaven, Mississippi; Dallas, Texas and Hopkinsville, KY and also worked in Human Resource as a Staffing Coordinator for four years. As stated, I am a Case Manager for PROJECT ITEM, (Industrial Talent Enhancement Model), a mentoring program partnering with HCC, local industries, middle and high schools students, to build future workforce talents. The goal of the program is to educate, instruct and guide students about the local workforce with volunteers who come from manufacturing and technical industries with good work ethics. Mentors will help build relationships by encouraging, supporting and developing good work ethics skills such as: encouraging, being creative, decision making, time management, leadership and teamwork. For more information about this program and how to become a Mentor, please call the office at 270-886-8172. I look forward to working with you!

I love to talk about my job. I look for opportunities to explain to people how becoming a mentor to one of the 65 children on the waiting list is an experience so worth the effort. It only takes a minimum of 4 hours a month. Over the two years that I have been employed as the Christian County Case Manager I have been lucky enough to see many relationships grow, as the volunteer and child get to know one another. I am frequently asked questions about what it takes to be a mentor and I respond with, "Just show them what you know." This is best illustrated by a conversation that I had with a mentor some months ago. After being matched with a child in elementary school, and having met a couple of times, he told me how the child took pleasure in showing him how to give a "cool" handshake. The volunteer obliged. Afterwards the volunteer asked if he could show him another kind of handshake....the kind where you shook with a firm grip while looking the other person in the eye. It meant that you were a person of your word. It was something that was taught to him early on by his father and he never forgot it. It was a lesson he cherished and wanted to pass it along. The child understood. This is what I mean when I say, "Just show them what you know." If you are sincere, if it comes from your heart, it doesn't matter if it's social interaction, mathematics, or hammering a nail. Little moments, Big magic! Donna Dakin

BBBS Thank You



Big Brothers Big Sisters of West Kentucky has had many supporters over the years and we would like to say a special "Thank You" to all supporters from each of our three communities we serve. Support systems happen in various ways throughout our communities, such as: mentoring/volunteering; monetary donations; "Bowl for Kids Sake" teams and sponsors; buddy campaigns; promoting activities for waiting list children; and attending BBBS events. This month we would like to salute Wal-Mart a huge supporter of BBBS of West Kentucky. Almost from the commencement of BBBS of West Kentucky, Wal-Mart has taken a continuing role of support. This past year Wal-Mart has shown their support through: Christmas Skating Party (Hopkinsville store), monetary donations for children's Christmas (Hopkinsville store), event volunteers for Super Spaghetti Saturday (Hopkinsville store), mentors and volunteers (Hopkinsville store & Distribution), BFKS teams (Hopkinsville store), and grant sponsorships (Hopkinsville store, Oak Grove Store, Distribution Center & Transportation Center). We would like to say a special thanks to all Wal-Marts for how they support Big Brothers Big Sisters and the communities. A special thanks for Joe Thompson and Management for taking a pie in the face for BBBS.

BBBS Board Members

Tom Bell	Cheri Farmer	Nancy Mieure	Joe Thompson
Moe Bowron	Susan Flater	Melissa Sellers	Dick Weaver
Cecelia Cloos	Ruth Hawes	Mathew Sholar	Lauren Wilson
Ann Erps	Alex Krohn	Brenda Southwick	

Thanks to Hopkinsville Junior Auxiliary and Hopkinsville Newcomers for their donations to BBBS!

ITEM Grant Case Managers:
Deberia Alexander (270)886-8172 and John Gorrell (270)759-2227. Please call for more information on how to enroll.

How can your company/organization make a "Big" impact by showing a "Little" of life's possibilities. Become a Mentor today!

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For more information on Big Brothers Big Sisters of West Kentucky go to www.bigbrobigsis.org