

Preschool finds new home

The K-CDC had roots in a University-run preschool, daycare

BY CHRIS BONING
Assistant News Editor

The Kirksville Child Development Center finally has a place to call its own.

The K-CDC celebrated its grand opening with a ribbon-cutting ceremony Monday following its second move in as many years.

Katy Korte, director of the K-CDC, said the center secured its new building last autumn and moved into its present site in February. Monday's grand opening coincided with the observation of the nationwide Week of the Young Child, she added.

"It kind of worked out well to have everything go on this week," Korte said.

Prior to relocating to its current site at 2805 S. Halliburton Street, the center had been sharing space with Countryside Christian Church, she said. Before the K-CDC, Truman had its own Child Development Center, Korte added. Funding to that center was cut in 2006 to make room in the school's budget, according to the May 4, 2006, issue of the Index. Families worked with Korte, a former instructor at the CDC, to turn that program into a parent cooperative and open the K-CDC, according to the Sept. 26, 2006, issue of the Index.

Korte said that some of the families who went to the University's CDC now go to the K-CDC. "We're still a half-day preschool, [but] now that we have our new building, we will start being a full-day preschool next year in the fall," Korte said.

She said the K-CDC has about 14 children right now, although it has the capacity for as many as 20 children. The K-CDC currently is enrolling for next year, Korte added.

"Since we're only like a year and a half or two years old, we've gradually built up to [14 children]," she said. "It's more than we've had before."



Erin Lee Givarz/Index

Currently only 14 children regularly attend the Kirksville Child Development Center, but the new building on Halliburton Street has the capacity for as many as 20 children.

Korte said Monday's grand opening event was a success and added that about 40 people showed up, including families who used to come to K-CDC's old location, Kirksville mayor Martha Rowe and University faculty.

Senior Arianna Downard said she works at the K-CDC two days a week for her University scholarship job. She said her duties include supervising the children and helping them with art projects.

"I make sure they don't hurt themselves while they're playing and try to encourage them to do creative things while they're playing," Downard said.

She said she has been involved with the K-CDC since it was located at the University.

"I followed it off campus," Downard said. "I feel it's really important to do something you really like to do with your scholarship hours, and on top of that I want to be a teacher when I grow up, so it's good for my personal development as far as my career goes."

The best part about working at the K-CDC is that it is different every day, she added.

"I know a lot of people go to their scholarship jobs and do their homework, but I go to my scholarship job, and I don't know what we're doing that day," Downard said. "I don't know if there's going to be dirt and we're planting things or painting or building with blocks — it's great."

Kirksville resident Devon Mills said she has been bringing her 4 1/2-year-old son Henry to the K-CDC for about two years. She said Korte, whom she described as an extraordinary woman, is one of the main reasons she enrolled Henry at the K-CDC.

"The depth of her knowledge about children and her respect for the children and their point of view and their way of doing things is unparalleled," Mills said. "I've never met anyone like her. She's amazing, and I trust her."

Mills also said she likes the sense of community at the K-CDC and the fact that children are allowed to pursue their own interests, such as simply playing, which is the center's founding philosophy. This is also what her son Henry likes about the K-CDC, she added.

"He said to one of his friends, 'Basically, school is playing,'" Mills said. "He likes it — he loves it — and we know he's in good hands."

"[At my scholarship job], I don't know if there's going to be dirt and we're planting things or painting or building with blocks — it's great."

Arianna Downard
K-CDC Worker

Bill Kuntz
University Farm Manager,
giving one reason that full-time Farm residents are necessary

University replaces house lost in fire

School builds new duplex for students at the University Farm

BY ALEX HALFMANN
for the Index

Soon the University Farm once again will be home to students, not just livestock.

After student housing on the Farm caught fire in January, the new duplex will be built west of the former location and should be completed by Aug. 8, in time for the start of the 2008 school year.

Physical Plant Director Karl Schneider said the University is bidding out the floorplan to companies.

"We've taken an existing floorplan, and we're bidding it out, asking the bidders to provide something similar to the floorplan we provided," Schneider said.

Schneider said the new housing complex will be slightly smaller than the old house but that it still will be capable of housing four residents, with two bedrooms on each side of the duplex.

He said the project is estimated to cost about \$160,000. He also said that estimation includes the foundation and utilities but that the University will have to

wait until the bids come in for the actual cost.

The insurance will cover slightly more than \$90,000 after the University pays a \$50,000 deductible, he said.

Schneider said the University had been waiting on the final assessment from the insurance company before taking any action. In the months since the fire, the University discussed whether to repair the existing structure or replace the duplex altogether.

Farm manager Bill Kuntz said not having students living on the Farm has made things a bit more difficult for him.

"It has made it a little more challenging, especially on the weekends," Kuntz said. "I have to work a weekend or so, myself, doing chores, so [the fire] has made it a little more challenging without someone always being here."

Senior Carl Duncan and junior Kendra Nilson were the two students living at the Farm this year. Duncan, who has moved to another on-campus location, continues to do work at the Farm. Nilson has moved into another off-campus residence.

"The plan was to have them pay as little of the out-of-the-pocket expense as possible," Kuntz said.

He said three students have signed up so far to live in the new complex in the fall.

"I would like [the house] to be done by the fall," Kuntz said. "My hope is that we get it finished by [the fall] and the students can move in. I just want a nice house for the students to live in."

Kuntz said that for him, not having a house at the Farm was not an option.

"It's a necessary thing, and it serves more purposes than having somebody work for me," Kuntz said. "It allows us to have somebody out here 24 hours a day. ... Visitors come and have questions, it gives them somewhere to stop or if someone is out here in the evening. It's also a security concern not to have someone out here."

Kuntz said security for the Farm is the most important benefit the student residents provide. "Who is to say that we are not

going to have a fire in another building?" he said. "If no one is here to see it, it's going to be a pretty bad deal by the time it gets taken care of."

Duncan, who was sleeping at the duplex when the fire broke out, said he would definitely live on the Farm again if he weren't graduating this May.

"I think rebuilding is a very good idea," Duncan said. "I think it's a great asset to have students out at the University Farm, not only for reasons of security ... but it is also a very good experience for anyone who lives out there."

He said he had very positive experiences while living and working on the Farm and that it gives him a sense of responsibility. He said he advises other students to take advantage of the Farm.

"Enjoy your time out there, even though it's some work, but it is an experience that not many other college students get the chance to have," Duncan said.

"Who is to say that we are not going to have a fire in another building? ... If no one is here to see it, it's going to be a pretty bad deal by the time it gets taken care of."

Bill Kuntz
University Farm Manager,
giving one reason that full-time Farm residents are necessary

NEWS | In Brief

Iowa man sentenced to Missouri prison

Steven K. Toolate of Seymour, Iowa, has been sentenced to serve 10 years in the Missouri Department of Corrections after pleading guilty to first-degree child molestation, according to a press release from last Thursday.

An Adair County Grand Jury indicted Toolate on March 27, 2007, for an incident that took place between April 1 and May 1 of 2006, also according to the release. Toolate pleaded guilty to subjecting a minor to sexual contact. The minor became pregnant with Toolate's child, according to the release.

Toolate also has been ordered to be evaluated within the Department of Corrections Sex Offender Assessment Unit.

Sodexo changes its name, drops "h"

Sodexo Alliance, the University's food service provider, has renamed itself Sodexo, Inc. in an effort to create a more contemporary, dynamic visual identity, according to a Jan. 22 press release.

The "h" in Sodexo was dropped because it is associated with the hotel and food services industry in Europe, where the company is based, according to the release.

Student Senate | In Brief

- Senate approved the 2008-09 FAC slate proposal.
- Senate passed a \$43.25 money motion for advertising for Ward Connerly's speaking event.
- Senate passed a \$200 money motion for advertising for Phi Sigma Pi's Jump-a-thon.
- Senate approved an increase on spending on an Earth Week banner (to \$75).
- Senate approved a transfer of about \$3,000 into the Bike Co-op account.
- Senate approved a \$650 money motion for Monday's Diversity Banquet.
- Senate approved a \$2,337.93 money motion for recycling bins for the freshman recycling initiative next year.
- Senate approved an \$825 money motion for printing the "Sustainable Guide to Living in Kirksville."
- Senate approved a \$425 money motion to fund the Local Food Conference.
- Senate approved a \$1,220 money motion for Earth Week T-shirts.
- Senate discussed additions to the organization's standing rules, specifically the roles of the president and vice president.
- Senate discussed putting up a link to the Bike Co-op Web site on the Senate Web site.
- Senator senior Brett Wiley opened discussion on BOLD Action, a potential set of goals based on the report from the consulting firm Art & Science. Wiley presented goals for a Student Success Center, international student recruitment, new majors and minors, a Center for Innovation Leadership and an Alternative Semester program.
- Senator freshman JoEllen Flanagan presented feedback from Big Event participants who took part in a diversity pilot program.
- Senator senior Greg Wisa opened discussion on adding spring HIV testing as a standing budget item.
- Senator junior Chris Miller opened discussion on installing condom machines in residence halls.
- Treasurer sophomore Phillip Gilmor told senators they must turn in expense reports by May 7.
- Speaker senior Daniel Poindexter reminded senators about Student Association elections.
- Adviser Laura Bates spoke about end-of-the-year committee reports and asked for feedback on work service (like scholarship hours) at the University for a branch-out committee from the University's office of enrollment management.

DPS | Reports

- 4/14 Report of theft from Ophelia Parrish.
- 4/12 Report of theft from the Department of Public Safety.
- 4/12 Freshman Nicole Warner was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/12 David Drilling was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/11 Sophomore Ricky Whitby was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/11 Freshman Michael Sowatzke was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/11 Sophomore Daniel Meagher was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/11 Sophomore Maggie Mastroianni was issued a Missouri Uniform Complaint and Summons for minor in possession of intoxicants.
- 4/10 Report of theft from Ophelia Parrish.
- 4/8 Report of property damage in the Student Union Building.

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