



Brian O'Shaughnessy/Index

Sophomores Andrea White and Lindsey Adams spend time with three young girls in the new K-Life building Tuesday afternoon. Support from the community made the \$80,000 building a reality, said local director Jon Courtney.

## K-Life building finished

BY SARAH SMITH  
Staff Reporter

When K-Life opened the doors to its new facility, young girls, staff and interns were quick to arrive.

K-Life is a Christian youth ministry that is inter-denominational. The organization's staff members and volunteers act as mentors to students in kindergarten through 12th grade.

Kirkville's K-Life started in 1993 with a small number of members meeting in a local basement, but as the number of kids increased, the group made several moves to larger locations.

An open house for the new building took place Sept. 27 at K-Life's new location on South Jamison Street. The building serves as a place for K-Life girls to have sleep overs and hang out.

"If girls ever want to come over, they have a place to go, and they are guaranteed three girls who live here who are most likely around," area director Jon Courtney said.

Courtney said the Kirkville K-Life Board, made up of 11 local families, decided at the end of May to add a new building. The board president owns a construction company in Kirkville and was able to construct the building within two months between June 20 and Aug. 20, Courtney said.

Courtney said the new building also enables the girls

to cook food in their own kitchenette.

It consists of two apartments, one for the women's staff and one for the two female interns along with a back clubroom area.

Courtney said K-Life currently has two full-time staff members, four interns who are also full-time Truman students and about 80 volunteers and leaders from Truman. Courtney and two male interns live in the back of the larger building.

The building cost about \$80,000 and is being paid for by funds raised through local support and from donations and contributions from people in the community, Courtney said.

"All funds that are raised locally stay local in this building and for the kids of Kirkville," Courtney said.

Although K-Life supported AFTERdark, they did not receive any revenue or funding from the program. It was not officially involved, nor are they officially a campus organization yet, Courtney said.

Several advantages the new building brings are the ability to split up boys and girls

if necessary and the space to host more small groups at one time, Courtney said.

"We want to have a place specifically for [the girls]," Courtney said.

One disadvantage is simply having another place to keep up with and keep facilitated because things can possibly get broken or torn up with kids around, Courtney said.

In 2001, the Board decided K-Life needed its own house, and on Sept. 9, 2003 they broke ground. The K-Life house opened in January 2005.

Allison Stone, a recent Truman graduate, works as the K-Life Women's Staff Coordinator and lives in one of the apartments of the new building. Stone participated in K-Life through high school and then became a volunteer during college.

Stone said she was affected by her experience with K-Life. "I just wanted to be able to give back to the same ministry that gave so much to me," Stone said.

Stone said that before the new building was constructed, small groups for girls had to meet at girls' apartments or houses. Now they get to meet

at the K-Life site in their own building.

"[The new building] allows for all of us to live here on the property," Stone said.

This means they are at the site all the time, and kids can drop by anytime. Otherwise, Stone said, the women's staff would have to live elsewhere and then drive to the campus. Therefore, it offers girls more opportunities to meet with the staff and have fellowship, Stone said.

Kevin Harrison, Truman senior and Kirkville resident, has been an intern at K-Life for three years.

Harrison said the best part of volunteering at K-Life is seeing kids come in with little to no self-esteem and watching them realize talents they never knew they had.

"[One of the boys] wanted to have his birthday party here at the house because he wanted his friends to know about K-Life, and he wanted all money that would go towards presents to go towards K-Life," Harrison said. "That's what's awesome."

Harrison said the addition to the previous K-Life building will give more opportunities to the girls. Having an amazing place for ministry and for the girls to go is an advantage of the building, he said.

"It's going to help our girls side of the ministry out so much with just letting them get away," Harrison said.

## New center to expand ideas for local businesses

BY ARRON HUSTEAD  
for the Index

Truman students and other residents of northern Missouri have a new resource available to them.

The Missouri Rural Enterprise and Innovation Center is an economic development tool focused on helping businesses in the Kirkville area develop and expand through the use of technology. The center will generate new jobs, help businesses retain existing jobs and improve production.

These services will be open to anyone. The office currently is located on the second floor of City Hall.

"The center will be taking those people who have an idea, who have a concept, who are wanting to develop a product and hooking them up with a process they need to follow, the

resources that they need to help them move forward and what they need to do to bring it to fruition," Kirkville city manager Mari Macomber said. "The center's job is to find out what they are trying to do and help them work through the process to get it from an idea or a concept to an actual product or service."

The center also will benefit Truman students.

"In the long term, it will help students because the companies that we serve and hopefully help establish and expand will be able to provide students with internship opportunities, possibly employment opportunities for students that want to stay in the area," said Michael McMannis, dean for planning and institutional development and executive assistant to the president. "There may also be opportunities for students to do research at the center."

Junior Ashley Tomten, part owner of Fitness Fusion on the square, said she did not think the Center would benefit her business.

"The Innovation Center seems interesting, and I think it's great to have a place meant for helping expand local businesses, but I don't think it would help Fitness Fusion much," Tomten said. "We don't have the funds to use a lot of technology in our business. We don't even have a credit card machine at this point."

Along with his duties at Truman, McMannis serves as Truman's representative on the governing board for the innovation center, and he currently is serving

as chairman of the board.

The innovation center's governing board consists of representatives from the city of Kirkville, Adair County, Truman State University, A.T. Still University, Northeast Regional Medical Center, the Kirkville Area Chamber of Commerce and Kirkville Regional Economic Development Incorporated.

"When a feasibility study was done a couple of years ago, each of the partners contributed \$5,000, although two of the partners split that," McMannis said. "At this time Truman is not contributing cash to the actual operation of the center."

Instead, Truman is contributing services to the center, such as serving as the center's fiscal agent.

This means Truman's responsibilities include tracking the center's funds, receiving revenue and dispersing funds as the center incurs expenses. The other partners also will play a role as the center progresses. McMannis says that the board hopes to eventually add more members from other areas in the region beyond Kirkville.

Early in August the center hired its executive director, Charlene Boyes.

"Boyes is very experienced," McMannis said. "She used to work with [the] University of Missouri and some of their technology transfer efforts, intellectual property, and she has a lot of knowledge and experience about patents," McMannis said.

Boyes will be doing a lot of traveling throughout the region as executive director for the center.

"She will be putting together PowerPoint presentations to take out and deliver to the various service clubs not only in Kirkville, but reaching out beyond the city limits, and that'll be one way that she will get out and get the information to people," McMannis said.

The center is in the startup phase, which means getting office furniture, setting up its Web site, meeting insurance requirements and establishing the bank accounts that need to be set up for the center to do business.

Innovation centers already exist in several other cities in Missouri, but the Kirkville center is the only one in the state north of Interstate 70. It will differ from the other centers because it will focus on the rural areas in the region as well as businesses inside the city limits.

## ITS applies for free music download service

New software would provide music not compatible with iPods

BY DIANE POELKER  
Assistant News Editor

Campus music lovers might be wondering what all the Ruckus is about.

Information Technology Services soon will provide Truman students with free access to movies, music and more via the Ruckus music network. Truman's Internet service provider, MOREnet, established a contract

with the Ruckus network and is passing the benefits on to its clients.

"[Ruckus] is similar to iTunes," said ITS director Matt Farwell. "From Ruckus player, you can browse a whole library of songs, have a little bit of video content. You can download, bring it to a computer and play it, sync it to a portable device. It's all free."

According to [www.ruckusnetwork.com](http://www.ruckusnetwork.com), Ruckus provides digital entertainment for colleges and universities. The service provides more than 3 million free licensed tracks available on any campus with a dot-

edu domain name.

Farwell said ITS has applied for acceptance into MOREnet's Ruckus program. Once Truman is accepted, students will be able to access Ruckus' libraries of music, movies and entertainment. However, Farwell said the Ruckus player will not act as a free pass for all mp3 users to bulk up their music libraries.

"I personally don't think it's wonderful because it doesn't sync with iPods and iPods are so prolific, but anything that's free — hey, it's free, right?" Farwell said.

Farwell said that in order for stu-

dents to be able to transfer Ruckus downloaded songs from their personal computers to mp3 players, the mp3 player must support Digital Rights Management, or DRM. DRM acts as a sort of digital library system where users can check songs in and out, he said.

"[Ruckus'] way of protecting from the artist perspective song piracy is to do DRM, and DRM isn't supported by iPods," Farwell said. "Apple uses their own [system]."

Student Laura Casey said Ruckus could provide an alternative for people who have morality issues with

using systems like LimeWire but that the lack of compatibility with iPods could cause problems for some.

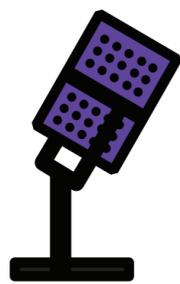
"Score one for the counter culture of faux-pods I guess," Casey said.

Andrea O'Brien, director of Residence Life, said the Ruckus system will be great for students but that early use might create extra computer traffic.

"It might clog [residence] hall computer labs at first with the excitement over the new software," O'Brien said.

Farwell said ITS expects to have Ruckus up and running on Truman's campus within the next few months.

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