Service groups can provide job alternatives for grads

By Wendy Haun
KANSAS STATE COLLEGIAN

For graduates who are panicking about their post-graduation plans, don’t worry – options are still available. Many service organizations can provide graduates with a landing place in the real world.

Graduates could join the AmeriCorp Vista program, which is offered through the civil leadership program. Arpad Szentkiralyi, leader of the Vista program, said the program would keep graduates close to home.

“It’s the Kansas Campus Compact AmeriCorp Vista project,” he said. “It’s a nonprofit organization of colleges and universities here in Kansas who are committed to developing community service opportunities on their campuses.”

The Kansas Campus Compact works with K-State, Fort Hays State University, the University of Kansas, the University of St. Mary, Butler County Community College and Southwestern College. Though the KCC is specific to Kansas, Szentkiralyi said AmeriCorp Vista is a national service program.

The organization recruits 10-12 members who are placed into groups of two to serve at each campus. The recruiting process will end at the end of May.

In addition to working, participants are eligible for a federal educational award of $4,725 at the end of their year of service, as well as a living stipend, basic benefits and possibly housing costs.

Students in the Vista program work on a whole list of projects, Szentkiralyi said.

“There is a wide variety of responsibilities that they could find themselves being tasked with,” he said. “The project helps colleges and universities to better respond to issues facing low-income communities by improving the quality of campus community service.”

Included in the possible projects are developing leadership programs, linking coursework to community work, recruiting volunteers and work with other volunteers, Szentkiralyi said.

For those possibly looking to begin a career in the armed services, a bachelor’s degree is enough to enroll in an officer program. Sgt. 1st Class Keith Petite, one of the main Army recruiters for the Manhattan area, said students have several options for the officer program.

“They can be commissioned as an officer and when they complete the basic course, they can be a second lieutenant,” he said. “In most cases, students can have their student loans repaid upon re-entry to the services.”

Students can choose between being an active duty officer, where they can be stationed anywhere in the world, or they could join the Army Reserves and choose their base station.

However, the possibility of deployment is about 50 percent with both options. The length of time of officer training will vary, Petite said.

“Some of it would depend on their job selection,” he said. “It’s initially 16 weeks in the officer basic course, but it depends on the branch they go into. Each has a different scope, and it will depend on what they’re doing.”

Students also can go into another organization directed at post-graduates. The Peace Corps has an on-campus recruiter through the College of Agriculture who works to get students interested in the program.

The on-campus recruiter, LJ Sedlacek, was unavailable for comment at press time.

According to a recruitment e-mail, the Peace Corps offers paid travel and living expenses, student loan deferment as well as 48 days paid vacation and an allowance. It also provides insurance like medical and dental coverage and opportunities for post-graduate work.

In addition to the benefits, graduates work internationally and gain leadership experience.
Speaker raises a little dough for God's Pantry

By VERONICA MONIER
vmonier@nwkansas.com

The Norton community got a little more than it expected when it invited two Jayhawks to dinner Monday night.

University of Kansas Chancellor Robert Hemmingway and Athletics Director Lew Perkins were the guest speakers at the annual Norton Area Chamber of Commerce banquet. Both received loud applause, but the crowd also applauded itself when $255 was raised for God's Pantry in Norton.

(Continued on Page 5)
with either school had to give him $3, while a smart comment about Denver paid out another $20.

"Just to show I’m a supporter, I’ll donate $20 too," he said. "I’m a firm believer in supporting the community. It’s all about competition; friendly competition."

Mr. Perkins said in the four years he’s been at the university, the athletic budget has gone from $24 million to $54 million, mainly because of fundraising, which is small compared to some of the other state colleges’ athletic budgets.

The athletic department has improved and so has its student athletes.

“We have over 300 students on athletic scholarships and give the university about $13 million of our budget for those scholarships,” he said.

“We’re proud to be a part of the university. We have one of the highest number of student athletes in the nation with a GPA (grade point average) of at least 3.0. We have 47 student athletes with a 4.0 or better.

“We don’t just preach student athletes, we practice student athletes.”

The University of Kansas, he said, is not just about football and basketball. There are 16 other sports the university competes in.

“We want to be the best in everything," he said. "And the University of Kansas has one of the greatest athletic programs out there.”

Mr. Perkins ended his speech by saying, "I appreciate the opportunity to come here tonight. I think the people from Norton are very, very special and I’m proud to be with K.U., so I can be around people like you.

“Thank you and go Jayhawks!”

Chamber Board President Marvin Matchett said the Chamber has been busy in a good and successful way. Each of the Chamber’s promotions, like Crazy Days, Moonlight Madness, Spring Cents, the Fourth of July Celebration and Twelve Days of Christmas, have been a growing success. The Chamber has started a few new things, like selling

Chamber speaker raises money for Pantry

(Continued from Page 1)

First to speak was Mr. Hemmingway, who was introduced by Chamber Board member Kelly Hill as the 16th chancellor of the university that’s gained national respect for its academic programs and achievements under his guidance.

“I always enjoy coming to this area,” Mr. Hemmingway said. “I grew up in Hastings, Neb. and it’s like coming home.”

He said he was proud to be in Norton as one of the city’s students, Mathew Shepard, was the winner of a $20,000 Horatio-Alger scholarship and would be attending the University of Kansas.

“He’s accomplished a lot so far,” he said, “and I think he’ll accomplish a lot more.”

Mr. Hemmingway said the university’s goal was to prepare its students for global competition.

All of the university’s programs, from academics to athletics, were geared toward this.

“The University of Kansas is a university that prepares you to go out and compete in an international economy," he said. "Students have to get an education that allows them to compete on an international scale. That’s our goal, preparing people to compete in the 21st century, whether it’s in education or athletics.”

Mr. Perkins was next to speak.

“I’m very honored to be here,” he said. “One of the things I like to talk about is fund raising. I like to raise money. The chancellor has repeatedly told me I’m there (at K.U.) to raise money. So, I’m going to raise a little money for God’s Pantry.

“It’ll be a friendly competition.”

To start off, he had everyone associated with Kansas State Uni-

versity stand.

“Now,” he said, “everyone standing, come up and give me two dollars.”

Next was the University of Kansas people’s turn, who had to give him a dollar “since I’m with K.U.,” he said.

Those who had no affiliations
porkburgers at its free fireworks display, hosting a beer garden at the annual car show, and hosting The Winner's Circle, a new event.

Mr. Matchett recognized the Chamber Board — Randall Ball, Don Kaus, Joel Duscher, Kathy Erbert, Rich Hageman, Kelly Hill, Mary Oswald and Doug Ray; Chamber Director Karla Reed; and the Chamber Ambassadors — Evelyn and Chrise McDuffett, Ruth and Denzel Lofgreen, Georgia and Lyman Rowh, Jean and Warren White, Marcia and Richard Wiltfong, Shirley Erbert, Mel Rice, Norma Howorth, Alberta Slaby, Jake Durham, Genevieve Poage and Ruby Pflieger.

Door prizes were given away. Winning were Gil Otter, Dr. Roy Hartley, Mary Oswald, Mark Keilig, Kevin Baughman, Veronica Monier, Megan O'Connor, Darla Ellis and Marcia Wiltfong.
Chamber sponsors business seminar

The Atchison Area Chamber of Commerce, Atchison County Economic Development Board, Cray Center for Entrepreneurship at Benedictine College, and Northeast Kansas Enterprise Facilitation Initiative are partnering with the University of Kansas Small Business Development Center (KU KSBDC) to bring “The Right Start” seminar to aspiring business owners in Northeast Kansas.

Will Katz, director of the KU KSBDC, will present “The Right Start” at 6 p.m. Thursday, May 10, in room 206 of the Student Union at Benedictine College. There is no charge to attend.

“The Right Start” is designed for individuals who are considering starting a business or are new to business ownership. A wide variety of topics will be covered, including: permits and licenses, accounting, taxes, marketing, financing, and writing a business plan.

Mr. Katz said of the seminar, “It is a fast-paced overview of how to start a business. I am not going to talk business theory. Everyone who comes to this seminar will take away real-world business strategies.”

He stressed that the seminar is also an ideal introduction to other resources available to entrepreneurs.

The seminar will last until about 7:30 p.m. Mr. Katz and representatives from other resources that assist local entrepreneurs will available for questions afterwards. An optional resource notebook will be available and may be purchased for $20. Pre-registration for the seminar is required. Call (785) 843-8844 or e-mail maggie32@ku.edu.
Jenifer J. Bingham has met all criteria in conjunction with Pittsburg State University and the Kansas Board of Regents to earn her Master’s of Science degree in Educational Leadership. The master’s degree program in educational leadership is designed to prepare licensed leaders to assume school principalships and other educational school leadership positions. Commencement exercises were held Friday, December 15, 2006 in the John Lance Arena in the Weede Physical Education Building. The traditional President’s Reception was held on the Mezzanine immediately following the ceremony. In coordination with the Pittsburg State University Educational Leadership requirements, Bingham created a reading recovery and incentive program for middle school aged students as her master’s level project. Bingham is currently a 7th and 8th grades language arts educator in the Galena USD 499 district. She has served as the North Central Association Reading Chairperson, NCA science and social studies team, Young Authors coordinator/director, middle school play director and middle school cheerleading sponsor. Bingham was chosen to represent the USD 499 district in the 2006-2007 Greenbush Leadership Academy and was recently selected to the Cambridge Who’s Who Executive and Professional Women Teachers in Education 2007. Bingham earned an Associates of Arts degree from Northeastern A&M College in 1995 and a Bachelor’s of Science in Education from Pittsburg State University in 2003. Bingham’s future goals include continuing to assist students of all levels in attaining superior achievement, allow her education to work as a tool to be a voice for all educators and students in political educational reform for positive school climate and improvement, and plans to continue her educational studies through The University of Kansas extension services in doctoral studies. Bingham has been a resident of the Baxter Springs community for 17 years. She has been married to Mr. Jody Bingham for 15 years. The couple has two children, BayLeigh and Brett Bingham.
Learning about bicycling racing fascinating

We all know that sports play a big part in today's education system, from grade school, through high school, college and finally into the pros. We tend to think of baseball, football and basketball, soccer and wrestling and then less frequently participated in sports such as swimming, rowing and the list goes on. Among those sports is bicycling.

I had my first experience with collegiate bicycle racing this past weekend. I had the opportunity to travel to Kansas State University and watch the bicycling competition, hosted on the K-State campus Saturday and Sunday. Young men and women from universities in North Dakota, Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska and Kansas competed both as individuals and in team competition. This was the last weekend of competition before adding up the overall points, during the various competitions, to determine who will be representing each university at the national competition which will be hosted by the University of Kansas the second weekend in May.

This is the fourth and final year for KU to host the competition which has been very nice, having the Kansas central location, for the national competition. However, next year the nationals will be hosted another university campus.

These athletes, of which one is my nephew, take their sport seriously. To work out for this sport, he rides a minimum of 60 miles a day, after his classes are over for the day. When he visited us recently, he brought his bicycle and went riding for about an hour. When he came back he had ridden from Erie to the west end of the Shaw road and back. No big deal. Just a routine ride. If that doesn’t keep one in "shape," I don’t know what will. I did note, in visiting with the riders competing this past weekend that there wasn’t a single, overweight person in the group. They are all physically fit and as we would say, slim and trim.

My nephew rides an all-carbon bicycle. It weighs a total of 18 pounds and can be easily disassembled for easy transport. Businesses, interested in supporting the sport, sponsor the teams, helping them obtain equipment, racing outfits and sometimes travel assistance.

One other thing that really stood out with these athletes was their kindness and willingness to visit with people of all ages as they asked questions and learned more about the sport and the competition. I was one of those people who had and still have much to learn. We are anxious to find out if my nephew qualifies to participate in the national competition when it is held in Lawrence. He said there will be hundreds of bicyclists there from universities across the nation. This is his first year in the sport/competition. He has done quite well, for a beginning cyclist, He has a promising future according to those who know what it takes to succeed in the sport. He is anxiously awaiting the computation of points to see if he qualifies for nationals.
The classroom Monday was filled with students sporadically leaving for their clinical studies.

On the hospital side, second-year students Courtney Kurtz and Melissa Grammer practiced using sponges to apply medicine to the mouth of a mannequin.

“(The classes) help you find out if you really want to be in medicine,” Grammer said.

Mixed in with practice in the classroom and at work, students had the opportunity to spend daylong field trips at local health centers.

Throughout the year students received first-aid certification with the Lenexa Firefighters, spent a full day at the University of Missouri Kansas City School of Dentistry and a full day at the University of Kansas School of Athletic Training.

The students shadowed in places as diverse as the Eudora Animal Hospital and PromptCare in Lawrence to spending time with school nurses.

Senior Kayla Humbert, a first-year student, remembered her first clinical.

“That was really fun,” Humbert said. “It was really eye-opening to all of us.”

As she went through the course, Humbert was surprised at the strength it takes to be a nurse, she said.

The strength includes the physical ability to be able to lift a patient but also knowing how to deal with people, Humbert said.

“You have to be very patient,” Humbert said. “We learn to be very patient.”

The course has taught her well overall, she said.

“It was hard work, but it was a lot of good information that none of us knew before,” Humbert said.

The experience taught her something else about the medical field, with certification in May, she would be able to join.

“I think we all have a new respect for nurses and doctors and all the stuff they have to do,” she said. “It takes a strong person to do that.”
The speaker for the 2007 commencement exercises will be Dr. Doug Banning. He is the son of the late James and Edith Banning.

Dr. Banning graduated from Galena High School in 1976 and received his Bachelor of Science degree in pharmacy from the University of Kansas in 1982. In 1992, he graduated from the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine and completed his Internal Medicine Residency in 1995.

Dr. Banning is currently a hospitalist at OSU Medical Center and Southcrest Hospital. He is also the director of the Wound Care Program at Hillcrest Specialty Hospital.

In his free time, Dr. Banning enjoys mixed martial arts and is a second degree Black Belt in kickboxing/jiujitsu. He enjoys music and is a drummer for the Darrell “Elvis” Simmons Show. He also enjoys boating, snow skiing, and fitness.

Dr. Banning's cherished family members include his son, Skylar Banning, and Brenda Boren and her daughters Whitney and Chelsey. They currently reside in Tulsa, Oklahoma.
Receives KU’s Chancellor’s Award

LAWRENCE — An Effingham senior at the University of Kansas has been named the winner of a Chancellor’s Student Award, it has been announced.

Nathan Lee Ladd, a 2003 graduate of Atchison County Community High School, learned earlier this month that he was the recipient of KU’s Agnes Wright Strickland Award, which, along with other Chancellor’s Student Awards, recognizes students’ academic, volunteer and leadership accomplishments during their time at KU. Marlesia Roney, vice provost for student success, and Ann Eversole, assistant vice provost for student success, made the presentations.

As part of the 135th commencement at KU, Chancellor Robert Hemenway will host a reception to honor the students on Saturday, May 19, at the Kansas Room in the Kansas Union. The honorees also will sit on a platform with the chancellor during commencement May 20 in KU’s Memorial Stadium, and their portraits will be in the commencement program.

Ladd, son of Ray and Cindy Ladd, is majoring in business management and leadership and international studies. He served three terms as president of the “Kansas Connections — Helping Small Town Students Succeed” organization, was elected to KU’s Student Senate for two terms and served as a proctor in Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall for two years.

Ladd is a Solon E. Sumnerfield Scholarship recipient and a University Honors Program student. He was a summer 2005 Kansas Asia Scholar to China and recently completed an overseas internship in Singapore doing market research for a food distributor. He works as an assistant for the Center for East Asian Studies and is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society and of Phi Beta Kappa.

The Chancellor’s Student Awards committee selected the winners from nominations submitted by KU students, faculty and staff. The 15-member selection committee includes students, faculty and staff. Winners receive cash prizes, except recipients of the Agnes Wright Strickland Award, which comes with lifetime membership in the KU Alumni Association.

The Strickland award was established in 1953 in memory of Strickland, a member of the class of 1887. The awards annually go to graduating seniors in recognition of their academic records, demonstrate leadership in matters of university concern, respect among fellow students and indications of future dedication to service in the university.
Horton Teams up with State to Restore and Protect Mission Lake

From the Online HydroGRAM
Reprinted by permission

In 1924, Horton, Kansas built a 169-acre lake northeast of town. Since then, the lake has been used as a source of water and a place to boat, swim and fish. Today, the lake still is used for recreation, but its water supply use has been temporarily suspended and the lake’s surface area has shrunk to 123 acres. The lake’s water holding capacity also has decreased.

The lake’s shrinkage in both surface acres and water volume is due in part to soil eroded from fields and stream banks in the Mission Creek watershed and carried by high stream flows into the lake. Sedimentation is a problem faced by water impoundments throughout Kansas, from farm ponds to large federal reservoirs.

In 2005, the Kansas Legislature approved legislation for a pilot program to restore and protect a small public water supply lake using State Water Plan Funds derived from the Clean Drinking Water Fee Fund. It’s anticipated that lessons learned in the pilot project will be beneficial for other communities and, perhaps, even for federal reservoirs.

Horton was selected as the pilot community from a field of 14 towns across the state. Use as a public water supply lake, lake condition, available engineering studies and local funding were criteria used by the State Conservation Commission in selection the pilot community water supply lake.

Horton was selected as the pilot community from a field of 14 towns across the state. Use as a public water supply lake, lake condition, available engineering studies and local funding were criteria used by the State Conservation Commission in selection the pilot community water supply lake.

Recognizing the value of a dependable water supply and the draw a body of water affords, Horton residents in April, 2005 approved by a two-to-one margin (300-157) a $4 million bond issue . . . to dredge Mission Lake. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

"Mission Lake is critical to the water supply for Horton and vital to southern Brown County’s long-term economic growth," says Levi Henry, City Administrator for the City of Horton.

Currently, the city taps six wells to meet its needs and to provide water to Willis, four miles north of Horton.

"We’re meeting our needs now, but as we pursue new industries, we’ll need Mission Lake’s water and maybe even more from another source to complement the wells," Henry says. “One large and one medium water use industry have expressed interest in Horton depending on our ability to meet their water requirements.”

Steps in the process are underway. The city outlined its objectives for engineering firms. (Editor’s Note: A firm has been selected). The Kansas Biological Survey at the University of Kansas was scheduled to start its measurements of the amount and location of the lake’s sediment load in early April. (Editor’s Note: This is occurring).

As the lake restoration and protection work progresses, Horton plans to pursue in fiscal year 2008, a water and sewer grant from the Kansas Department of Commerce (KDOC). The grant will be used to either restore Mission Lake’s 1930s surface water treatment plant or build a new one. The city’s decision on which avenue to pursue will be guided by a preliminary engineering report.

Dredging existing sediment deposits will be of short-term value if nothing is done upstream to limit sedimentation and stream bank sloughing. Work to prevent sedimentation in the watershed began in the 1990s as a byproduct of a program to control chemical runoff from farmers’ fields. Given that atrazine, an herbicide used in production of corn and grain sorghum, attaches to soil particles, measures to limit chemical runoff were linked to erosion control. Filter strips and buffer strips were planted and conservation tillage practices were adopted. Plans are to work with farmers n the watershed to check the condition of the physical practices and the current use of conservation tillage methods.

Mission Lake is a priority watershed in the larger Delaware River
watershed. A watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) that takes a community approach to protection and restoration work is being developed.

“The City of Horton is as concerned, if not more concerned, as the state with watershed management given its funding commitment to the project,” says Henry. “Our approach will be community based and linked to volunteerism.”

Horton treats and distributes an average of 180,000 gallons of water a day with recent levels as high as 220,000 gallons a day. “In summer, there’s little room to spare for wasted water, especially during the Brown County Fair,” Henry says. “Horton is forced to make wise decisions about the use of water.”

Mission Lake northeast of Horton was selected for a pilot program to restore and protect a small public water supply lake using State Water Plan Funds derived from the Clean Drinking Water Fee Fund.
Ladd Ears Chancellor’s Student Award at KU

Nathan Lee Ladd, son of Ray and Cindy Ladd and a graduate of Atchison County Community High School, is one of nine KU seniors to earn a Chancellor’s Student Award. Nathan’s Chancellors Award is the Agnes Wright Strickland Award.

Due to being a recipient of a Chancellor’s Student Award, he will receive special recognition during graduation. As part of the 135th commencement at KU, Chancellor Robert Hemenway will host a reception to honor the students Saturday, May 19, at the Kansas Room in the Kansas Union. The honorees also will sit on a platform with the chancellor during commencement May 20 in KU’s Memorial Stadium, and their portraits will be in the commencement program.

Nathan is majoring in business management and leadership and international studies. He served three terms as president of Kansas Connections - Helping Small Town Students Succeed. He also was elected to the Student Senate for two terms and served as a proctor in Grace Pearson Scholarship Hall for two years. Ladd is a Solon E. Summerfield Scholarship recipient and a University Honors Program student. He was a summer 2005 Kansas Asia Scholar to China and recently completed an overseas internship in Singapore doing market research for a food distributor. He works as an assistant for the Center for East Asian Studies. He is a member of the Beta Gamma Sigma business honor society and of Phi Beta Kappa.

The Agnes Wright Strickland Award goes to graduating seniors in recognition of their academic records, demonstrated leadership in matter of university concern, respect among fellow students and indications of future dedication to service in the university. The award, also, recognizes the students’ academic, volunteer and leadership accomplishments during their time at KU.

The Chancellor’s Student Awards committee selected the winners from
universitywide nominations submitted by students, faculty and staff. The 15-member selection committee includes students, faculty and staff. Winners receive cash prizes, except recipients of the Agnes Wright Strickland Award, which comes with lifetime membership in the KU Alumni Association.

The Class of 1913 Awards annually go to a graduating man and woman, who show evidence of intelligence, devotion to studies, personal character and promise of usefulness to society.

---

Nathan Ladd