

# Still News

October/November 2007

A.T. STILL UNIVERSITY | ATSU

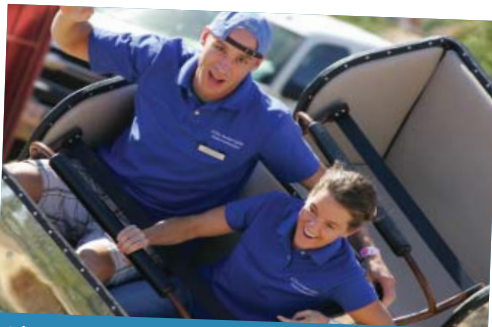
## University celebrates Founder's Day



Preston Puckett shows off his face painting at the Tinning Education Center during children's games.



A total of 483 people celebrated at Schnepf Farms.



The roller coaster was a big hit with kids and student ambassadors.



Ron Gaber, Ed.S., enjoys a lemon meringue pie at the Still-A-Bration pie throw.



Mary Pendergrass, MS I, is crowned ATSU Idol following a vocal music piece.



The prize for overall fastest male went to Gavin White, spouse of an MS I student, with a time of 18:42. The overall fastest female, Ashlee Holst, MS II, crossed the finish line at 21:06.



Children enjoy the slide at Schnepf Farms.

Each year, Founder's Day is celebrated by both University campuses - students, faculty, staff, alumni, and their families join together for entertaining activities that commemorate the rich heritage of ATSU.

Three days of campus wide Founder's Day activities took place on the Missouri Campus on October 18-20. Friday evening's Still-A-Bration celebration commenced with children's and adult's games, which included a pie throw and tug of war, a fiesta picnic, ATSU Idol talent show, and dance.

The Arizona Campus celebrated at Schnepf Farms in Queen Creek, Ariz., on November 3. This year's celebration was the largest in its history! A total of 483 attendees enjoyed a petting zoo, volleyball, amusement park rides, country road rally, miniature golf, and an all-you-can-eat buffet.

## E.R. Club hosts airway lab

KCOM's chapter of ACOEP (ER Club) conducted an Advanced Airway Management Lab October 4-5 at Adair Ambulance in Kirksville. Students learned intubation, CombiTubes, and other advanced airway maneuvers from paramedics under the instruction of paramedic Troy Mihaelivich.



Paramedic Jeff Gray instructs a first-year KCOM student in intubation.



## Phones for violence victims

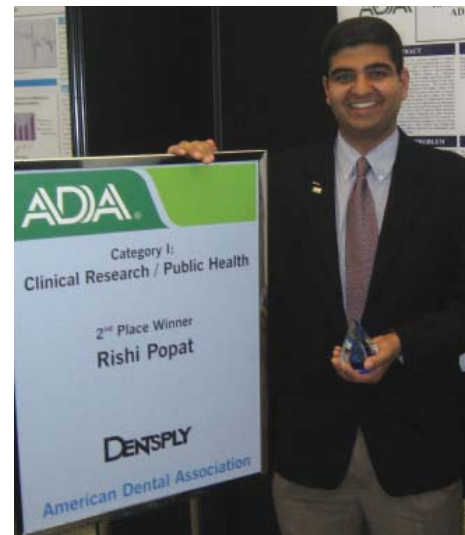
A cell phone drive was held September 10-21, hosted by KCOM's chapter of ACOEP (ER Club). Cell phones were collected, programmed to dial 911, and then distributed via Victim Support Services to victims of domestic violence throughout the community for their safety and convenience. The ER Club collected 26 cell phones during the drive. "The phones are a lifeline for many of the victims in times of crisis," explained Sarah Ferran, MS II, ER Club president.

## ASDOH student research acknowledged by ADA

Rishi Popat, a fourth-year dental student at ASDOH, triumphed as second-place winner of The American Dental Association (ADA)/Dentsply Student Clinical Research Program Competition in Category I: Clinical Research/Public Health. Popat was awarded a \$1,000 check, trophy, and induction membership to the Student Clinicians – American Dental Association (SC-ADA) for his independent research project: "Early Childhood Caries Prevention Baby Bottle."

Michael Glick, D.M.D., Morris Reisbick, D.M.D., and Janet Woldt, Ph.D., selected Popat's research study to represent ASDOH in the prestigious national competition. Popat's instruction from ASDOH, coupled with a solid research background from Harvard School of Dental Medicine/Brigham, served as his project's foundation.

Popat will pursue a career in orthodontics and practice in Phoenix.



"Rishi Popat is a model for future generations of dentists," said O.T. Wendel, Ph.D., assoc. provost of ATSU's Arizona Campus.

# Compassionate students receive Clark B. Ator, D.O., Memorial Financial Award

Second-year medical students, Nathan Nielson and Andrew Gough, were presented with the Clark B. Ator, D.O., Memorial Financial Award on Compassion Day, October 18. This award provides financial assistance to qualifying KCOM students



Andrew Gough,  
MSII



Nathan Nielson,  
MSII

who are committed to family, fellow man, and community with a strong desire to learn, practice, and

teach medicine. The annual award was established by Dr. Ator's wife, Karlene, and fellow KCOM Class of 1994 graduate, Gary Knighton, D.O., to continue Dr. Ator's legacy of compassion.

The lives and careers of this year's recipients solidly demonstrate their love and commitment for

family, community, and medicine. "[My family is] my inspiration to be the best doctor I can be, because that is what I would want for them and what my patients will expect of me," said Nielson. Both Gough and Nielson are involved in numerous campus and community organizations, and balance family life amidst busy school schedules..



With shovels in hand, KCOM Rotaract members prep the Energy Trail garden for winter on November 2. Left to right: second-year students Christine Nguyen, Jason Meler, Makoto Uchiyama, and Kara Benning.

# ASHS alum is World Cup Champion

Stacie Segebart PT, D.P.T., CSCS, '05, is a World Cup Champion in Singles Ladies Shotgun, winning the Copa del Mundo Tiro a Vuelo 2007. Following a series of competitions over the year, Stacie won in the finals held in Valencia, Spain, September 8-9. She recently won second place at the Championship of

Europe and will compete for the USA Helice Ladies Team for the Championship of the World in Madrid, Spain. Segebart has been shooting since 1997 in various shotgun sports and is a member of the allied health staff at Mayo Clinic Hospital in Phoenix.

# Connell Center donors honored

President James J. McGovern, Ph.D., hosted the Benefactor's Dinner at the Connell Information Technologies Center on Saturday, October 20, to acknowledge and appreciate the naming opportunity donors who made the Connell Center construction possible. Approximately 80 guests were in attendance for the evening's events.



President McGovern welcomes the Zazaian Family to the Benefactor's Dinner.

# Life Lessons: ASDOH provides dental care to orphans in Peru

ASDOH students Erin Bigelow, Brendan Davis, April Goodwin, Megan Magruder, Charmaine Ng, Rob Wake, and faculty advisor Debby Kurtz-Weidinger, R.D.H., M.Ed., director of integrated human sciences, traveled to Peru on June 24 with Wings World Wide and Southern Cross Expeditions on a 10-day tour to provide dental care in several cities throughout the southern part of the country.

Their journey began in the outskirts of Cusco, Peru, at The Sunflower Home, an orphanage recently constructed through the humanitarian efforts of Southern Cross Expedition. Situated in the Sacred Valley of the Incas, The Sunflower Home offers clean, modest living conditions, sheltering children ages 5-18. Upon arrival, the group was graciously greeted by welcome lines, dancers, hugs, kisses, and food.

Culture and language differences initially created a barrier for students because many patients had never before seen a dentist, fearing not only their masks and headlamps, but also the procedures. Kurtz-Weidinger explained that because patients did not understand injections or numbness, they worried that parts of their face were missing, a fear eradicated only by a mirror. “We learned here that understanding our patients is really most important in order to treat

their conditions,” said Wake. To develop relationships with the children and others in the village, students would often ask: “What tooth hurts?” to easily transition into dental treatment. Extractions of abscessed teeth were the most common procedure performed, followed by restorations and fillings.

Students also traveled the difficult, yet beautiful Peruvian landscape to the villages of Lima, Pisaq, Kaq’llaraqay, Patacancha, and finally the Uros Islands of Lake Titicaca, where the comforts and conveniences of electricity and running water have never been experienced. However, the students agree, this day was the most magical. Despite grim working conditions, the use of hand instruments, gauze, headlamps, and only a cup to spit in, students diligently provided dental care to adults and children as a cohesive team of dental professionals. The lessons learned were many, and the experiences gained at Lake Titicaca were instrumental in cultivating compassion, integrity, and ability in ASDOH’s future dentists. “I think seeing how hard they work and how happy they are really helped me put life into perspective,” Goodwin said. “It is nearly impossible not to increase your compassion when being there with those people.”



“[Experiences at The Sunflower Home] really helped our team gain confidence and unbelievable experience clinically,” said Goodwin.



“We all went because we are compassionate, but I don’t think we knew just how much we really cared,” shared Wake.



Left to right: ASDOH students Davis, Bigelow, Kurtz-Weidinger (faculty advisor), Ng, Magruder, Goodwin, and Wake pose among the Incan ruins.



Ng provides treatment to Heidi at The Sunflower Home. The children’s names, accompanied by the teeth that needed to be extracted or receive restorations, were written on their bibs.

## SOMA induction: members network in San Diego

On September 28-29, nine members of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) attended the SOMA Fall Convention in San Diego, Calif. At the convention, the School of Osteopathic Medicine in Arizona was inducted into the SOMA program as an official chapter. During the convention, members networked and gained valuable information regarding the SOMA program and the osteopathic profession.

The mission of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association, the student affiliate organization of the American Osteopathic Association, is to promote osteopathic ideals and unity within the profession, to educate future osteopathic physicians, and to establish and maintain lines of communication among healthcare professionals in an ongoing effort to improve the quality of healthcare.



Front row, left to right: Kristin Foglia, Cara Lasley, and Linda Shuler. Back row, left to right: Michael Valletta, Adam Berkovits, and Jenny Demos.



Front right: Jenn Lizcano, national liaison officer. Back right: Michael Valletta, secretary. Front left: Linda Shuler, president. Back left: Jenny Demos, vice president.

## Student interest continues to grow in SHM's D.H.Ed

Student interest has fueled SHM's newest degree program, Doctor of Health Education, to unexpected heights. Approximately 20 students were enrolled in the D.H.Ed. program during its introductory year. This year, enrollment stands close to 100 students. "The D.H.Ed. program has grown three times faster than what I figured," said SHM Dean Jon Persavich, Ph.D. "Very few D.H.Ed. programs exist, and even fewer exist online."

Students can complete coursework at their own pace with the convenience of online classes and are never required to come to campus to complete residencies. Also, applied dissertations are embedded within coursework, allowing students to write portions of their exposition as they move through each class. When students complete their courses, they have fully completed their degree.



Jon Persavich, Ph.D., dean of SHM, said the number of online students has doubled in the last year. Enrollment currently stands at 400 online students who are working toward doctoral and master's degrees via online courses.

## ASHS White Coat Ceremony

ASHS presented White Coats to the Au.D. Class of 2010 on Saturday, September 29. The short White Coats symbolize students' triumph and success in completing their didactic year and the beginning of hands-on clinical rotations. During the ceremony, students recited the Audiology Oath, expressing their understanding of the immense responsibility to the health, safety, welfare, and dignity of their patients.



## ATSU walks in Truman Homecoming Parade

ATSU's Missouri Campus participated in the annual Truman State University Homecoming Parade on Saturday, October 27, in downtown Kirksville. Several KCOM student organizations walked in the parade, passing out flyers and candy to onlookers.



Left to right: Meggan Johnson, MS II, NOWPA president, Sarah Hellmann, MS I, Heidi Hansen, MS I, and Lori Haxton, M.A., associate vice president of admissions and alumni activities.

## Osteopathic women honored with Dovin NOWPA Scholarship

National Osteopathic Women Physicians Association (NOWPA) members Sarah Hellman, MS I, and Heidi Hansen, MS I, each received the Dovin NOWPA scholarship on October 23. The scholarship is awarded each year to two members of KCOM's NOWPA organization in recognition of their advocacy of women's health issues and promotion of women in osteopathic medicine. The award is given in honor of Irma S. Dovin, a 1996 graduate of KCOM and active NOWPA member.



Class of 2011 officers enjoy the newly opened Connell Information Technologies Center. First row, left to right: Kelsey Montgomery, class representative, Jenny Larsen, class treasurer, Krista Willingham, class secretary, Dana Ries, class representative, Tawny Ross, class representative, John Thurman, class president. Second row, left to right: Brian Park, executive at large, Joseph Morris, class vice president, Zach Nollin, class representative, Matt Guymon, executive at large, Rickie Mui, class representative.



The 2011 Ladies play the 2010 Ladies in the Annual Powder Puff Football Game at Still-A-Bration. The competition was heated, ending in a 28-28 tie at the end of regulation. Overtime also resulted in a 28-28 tie.

## Dental students serve East Valley's uninsured

Through the efforts of ASDOH's dental students, CARE Partnership Clinic, a non-profit organization in Mesa, Ariz., opened its doors on September 12. Approximately 30 pre-dental students volunteer, providing free comprehensive dental care to patients.

"After 13 years of searching for a way to respond to the east valley's uninsured dental care needs, CARE Partnership ... had the good fortune to engage support from enthusiastic dental students and pre-dental students," said CARE Partnership President/CEO Bev Tittle-Baker.

CARE Partnership is the second clinic in the country to be student-run, along with the expertise of volunteer dentists and hygienists. The clinic's primary goals are to provide needed dental services while offering a unique learning experience for future dentists. Volunteer dentists and hygienists are still needed to reach the clinic's goals.



Volunteering at CARE Partnership Clinic is a long term project. Eventually, the clinic will be open five days a week and offer a permanent medical/dental facility and pharmacy.

# Golfing for a good cause



Matt Wessner, Bill Sexton, Joe Whitman, and Tedi Howell walked away with top prize.

Nearly 60 ATSU students, staff, alumni, and their families, participated in the Max Gutensohn Golf Classic at La Plata Golf Course in La Plata, Mo., on September 22. KCOM's Sports Medicine Club hosted the annual tournament, and with the help of over 30 sponsors, raised \$1,000 to benefit the sports medicine department at Kirksville High School. "Max would certainly have been proud," said KCOM Dean Philip Slocum, D.O.

## Treats, not tricks

Children from the Kirksville Day Care were on their best behavior while trick-or-treating on Halloween. The children traveled from the annex building via bus to the main campus for handfuls of candy. The SAA Kids Halloween Costume party was held on Friday, October 26. KCOM's OB/GYN Club also participated in the Halloween fun by organizing a candy gram sale from October 22-26. Students created personalized bags of candy, complete with special messages and stickers, which were delivered in class to fellow students in celebration of fall's yummiest holiday.



## Pizza 'n Politics

contributed by Brock Lorenz, ASDOH Class of 2010

In mid-October, the ASDOH Chapter of the American Student Dental Association (ASDA) hosted the annual Pizza 'n Politics Luncheon. The event was designed to teach dental students the importance of legislation and its impact on the dental profession.

The keynote speaker was Jon Holtzee, the American Dental Association (ADA) Director of State Government Affairs.

Speaking to a group of forty-

seven students, Mr. Holtzee not only discussed the current issues of dentistry on a national level, but also impressed upon students the different ways in which one can impact legislation on local, state, and national levels.

This lunch and learn event featured pizza, salad, and beverages in exchange for a \$5 donation to the American Dental Association Political Action Committee. To date, sixty-seven

ASDOH students have contributed towards this year's campaign.



**Students: if you have news to share, email [lcashatt@atsu.edu](mailto:lcashatt@atsu.edu).**

StillNews is published by Communications & Marketing for students, faculty, staff, and friends of A.T. Still University.

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