

**THE
BURKHART
CENTER
FOR AUTISM
EDUCATION
AND
RESEARCH**

Burkhart Buzz



You're Invited: Back to School Bash

The Burkhart Center and SPAN have partnered together and organized a swimming party for all children and families affected by Autism. This will act as a back to school kick-off for the upcoming year and will serve as a great way for people in the community to connect with one another and share information about available resources.



This event will take place at the new state-of-the-art Leisure Pool

Swimming Party at the Leisure Pool

Date: August 29, 2009

Time: 7:00-9:00

Place: Leisure Pool at TTU

located at the Recreation Center of Texas Tech University. Among other features, the facility includes a 645-foot Lazy River, a 10-foot Drop Slide, and a Cascading

Water Deck. Since space will be limited, please contact the Burkhart Center and RSVP if you are planning to attend. We hope that you will come out and enjoy the evening.

August 2009

Volume 1, Issue 3

Inside this issue:

<i>You're Invited: Back to School Bash</i>	1
<i>Introducing... Development Officer, Karen Jacobsen</i>	1,2
<i>A Closer Look: Teaching Academy</i>	2
<i>In the Spotlight: Candice Sherman</i>	2
<i>Upcoming Events</i>	2

Introducing...Development Officer, Karen Jacobsen



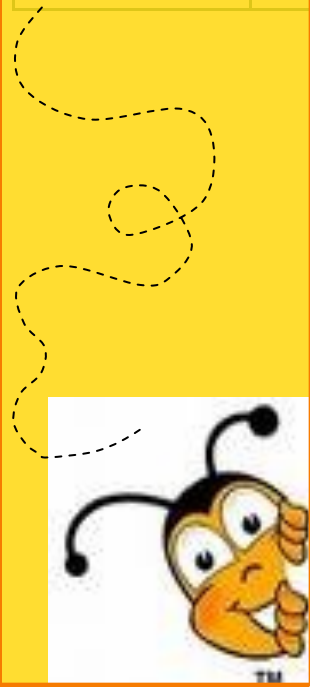
Karen Jacobsen, Development Officer for Colleges of Education and Mass Communications

On April 27th, 2009, Karen Jacobsen began working full time as the Development Officer for the Colleges of Education and Mass Communication. In this new role, Karen has begun fundraising full time and says, "One of the best things about fundraising for a university is the opportunity to help others."

Fulfilling that ideal, Karen has been working

closely with the Burkhart Center to better understand our hopes and dreams for the future. "With the support of Dean Chuck Ruch, Provost Bob Smith, and President Guy Bailey, I hope to identify new funding sources to support Autism Spectrum Disorders, particularly in the area of teacher education and adult transition services," says Karen.

Jacobsen continued on pg. 2





Jacobsen (continued from page 1)

Individuals, corporations, and foundations will be identified and contacted about The Burkhart Center at Texas Tech, and in the process, new and continued support for the Center will be found. With the Center's general operating budget covered by the University beginning June 1st, leadership in the College of Education and the Center can renew its focus on research, collaborations across campus, and academic excellence for the support of developmental

disabilities, including Autism. If you are interested in making a gift to The Burkhart Center, or know of a potential funding source, please call Karen Jacobsen at 806-470-5292 or email at karen.jacobsen@ttu.edu.

We are extremely excited to work with Karen and have the utmost confidence that she will be the perfect person to see that our goals are achieved.

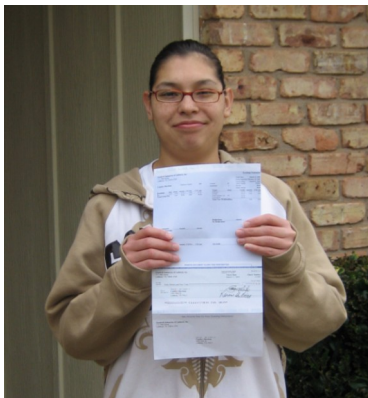
Upcoming Events

July 30, 2009	Kenny's Korral	10:00-12:00
August 6, 2009	Science Spectrum	10:30-12:30
August 13, 2009	Ready-Set-Go	10:00-11:30
August 29, 2009	Swimming Party at Leisure Pool	7:00-9:00

Update: Contrary to the date listed in last month's newsletter, Parents' Night Out will not be meeting in July or August. We will resume in September and keep you informed of the date and time. We hope you will still join us for the remaining Family Fun Days and our swimming party.

A Closer Look: Teaching Academy

As the Burkhart Center continues to restructure and expand, we have decided to resume the monthly Teaching Academy. Beginning in September, this program will provide opportunities for educators in Lubbock and the surrounding areas to attend a series of lectures regarding a variety of topics related to Autism. Our hope for the program is to further the knowledge of teachers in our community about this growing disorder, as well as provide them with effective strategies to use in the classroom. If you are interested, please contact the Burkhart Center for additional information. Parents, please encourage your child's teacher to attend.



In the Spotlight: Candice Sherman

This month, we are featuring a student who attends the Collin Burkhart Transition Academy. Candice Sherman, a 21-year-old resident of Lubbock, has attended the program for two years and shown tremendous growth in overcoming her personal challenges.

This past Spring, Candice began her first

part-time job, working in housekeeping at the newly renovated Goodwill Industries. After putting her fear aside, she has flourished in this position and has developed a great sense of purpose and pride. The picture to the left shows Candice with her very first paycheck.

Candice has inspired other students in

the Transition Academy and proved that it is possible to conquer obstacles and follow your dreams. Her mother said, "We are proud of Candice and all that she has overcome and accomplished."

We are very blessed to have Candice in our program and look forward to watching her continued success in the years to come.

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