

# What's going on

## Volunteers needed to impact lives

Stacey Brewer  
Girl Scout Council

Do you want to make a lasting difference in the life of a girl?

The Girl Scout Council of Cumberland Valley is seeking college-age volunteers to work with its Rites of Passage program, a unique program designed specifically for girls who live in public housing communities and surrounding areas.

Through Rites of Passage, girls from 5 to 17 years old participate in arts-based activities and workshops that promote healthy life choices.

Utilizing the arts as a teaching tool has been a successful avenue for inspiring young girls while building self-esteem and self-confidence.

Girls participate in age-appropriate, arts-based activities that reinforce the importance of education and healthy living.

In addition, this unique program provides avenues for self-discovery. Girls often discover hidden talents as they participate in various arts activities.

Volunteers are being sought to work with the girls throughout the summer months (May through August.) Time commitments can vary. For more information, or if you would like to participate, contact Karen Claud at 615-890-2451 or kclaud@girlscoutsof cv.org.

The Girl Scout Council of Cumberland Valley serves more than 25,000 girls and more than 8,500 adult volunteers in 38 counties in Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky, and is a part of Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA), the world's preeminent organization for girls, with a membership of more than 4 million girls and adults nationwide.

Now in its 92nd year, Girl Scouting cultivates values, social conscience and self-esteem in girls while teaching them the critical life skills to succeed as adults.

In Girl Scouting, girls discover the fun, friendship, and power of girls together. The organization strives to serve girls from every corner of the United States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. To volunteer your time or make a donation, call 1-800-395-5318 or log on to [www.girlscoutsof cv.org](http://www.girlscoutsof cv.org) or [www.girlscouts.org/espanol](http://www.girlscouts.org/espanol).

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## Family fun at the movies: "Robots"

Sarah Kingsbury  
Staff Reporter

"Robots" displays imagination at its best, taking us to a world of gadgets and picturesque imagery.

"Robots" is nothing but charmingly sweet for 91 minutes.

The movie centers around Rodney who is the offspring, if you will, of a kindly dishwasher (Stanley Tucci) and a housewife (Diane Wiest).

It is a blue-collar household, with no room for waste.

Love, duct tape and hand-me-down parts keep the Copperbottom family together.

He treks from his tiny hometown to Robot City in search of Bigweld (Mel Brooks), the sole maker of robot spare

parts and the brilliant inventor Rodney grew up watching on television.

Rodney befriends the "Rusties"- the discontinued ("outmoded") low-class citizens, who are being replaced with shinier new upgrades.

The theme is heavy on corporate monopoly.

"Robots" are unable to repair themselves, because of discontinued parts, and have no choice but to upgrade (a metaphoric Microsoft).

As in past computer-animated films, some jokes may be over the heads of children.

"Robots" leaves room for later discussions and gives an older audience something to benefit from.

"Robots" has a few minor story issues.

We never understand why Bigweld

disappeared in the first place, and his timely comeback is slightly confusing, to say the least.

Older audiences might find the mainstream music clips ("Right Thurr") misplaced and out of flow.

Despite the kinks, "Robots" debuts as an appealing piece of charming comedy.

Rated PG for some brief language and suggestive humor.

"Robots" features the voices of Halle Berry, Robin Williams, Amanda Bynes, and many more.



Photo courtesy of PixPosters.com

## New Director of Disability Services

Sarah Kingsbury  
Staff Reporter

With Kathleen Sowell, students at Vol State are in good hands.

Sowell began her position as the new director of disability services at Vol State on March 15.

"All of my experience prior to Vol State was in rehabilitation," she explained. "I've worked with individuals with disabilities across a wide variety of settings."

Sowell has worked at Vol State for eight years as a psychological examiner and counselor.

Previously, she worked in case management helping injured workers return to their jobs.

Sowell's enthusiasm about her work

is hard to miss.

She is extremely approachable and eager to carry on a conversation.

"We're very pleased that Kathy is here and very happy to have her. She's tailor-made for the job and she's very qualified," said Sowell's secretary, Carma Lyles.

Presently, Sowell is settling into her new job.

"For now, I'm going to take a little time and see how things run out," Sowell explained, "I do have plans to develop new strategies for retention."

In the weeks that follow, Sowell will certainly be qualified to follow through with any plans she makes.

Sowell is a licensed psychological examiner and certified rehabilitation counselor as well as having a bachelor's

degree in elementary education and a master's degree in counseling.

Credentials aside, Sowell is all jazz at heart.

"I love jazz! Big band, classic jazz... Ella Fitzgerald, Diane Reeves, it's all great!" she exclaimed.

Sowell's sweet-spirited laughter fills the room.

Sowell explains why she feels she is qualified to be the director of such an important department at Vol State, "Everyone of us, whether we have a disability or not, have weaknesses, we all have strengths and talents. Everyone is disabled in their own way."

Sowell ponders this for a moment and reaffirms herself, "We're all unique individuals."