

E.L.I.T.E. CLASS CAPSTONE SERVICE PROJECTS (Spring 2011)

MORE COWBELL FOR CANCER & CARDIO

Heather Black and Halee Heath sponsored a 5K Run and Walk on March 5, 2010 that benefited both the American Cancer Society and the American Heart Association. Approximately, 35 runners participated and they raised over \$1000.



ARBOR DAY

Jessica Tucker initiated, planned and implemented the first ever Arbor Day Celebration at MSU on February 18, 2010. She coordinated the volunteer efforts of fifty volunteers and collaborated with the Forestry Club, Campus Landscaping and Plant and Soil Sciences Department. Together, they planted 10 donated trees near the Bost Extension building and participated in a tree dedication and planting demonstration near the Lloyd-Ricks-Watson building.



CHARITY WATER

Felix Martin spearheaded an online fundraising campaign to raise money for the nonprofit organization *Charity: Water*. One hundred percent of the proceeds donated went towards building new water wells for people in developing nations. With the help of willing supporters, Felix raised over \$1,000.

KIT SCHOLARSHIPS

Aloysius Rice & Alyssa Spencer sponsored a scholarship drive in honor of Aloysius Rice's grandfather Kit Curry Akins. Both students raised enough funds to award a \$250 scholarship to a deserving recipient at their respective high school alma maters, Starkville High School and Lanier High School in Jackson, MS.

FOREIGN CONNECTIONS

Daniel Gingerich and Tom Stockman founded Foreign Connections, a student organization that seeks to expose Starkville area youth to unique cultural experiences through international student volunteers sharing their cultures. The students worked with Aiken Village Preschool and other local schools to arrange for international students to serve as guest speakers in the classrooms.

BRIDGING THE GAP

Laura Coats, Shaun Cooper and Kimberly Norman organized an opportunity for 20 student volunteers to pair with the elderly at Montgomery Gardens Assisted Living facility in order to enjoy fun activities. The purpose of this project was for MSU students and the elderly to build and foster mutually beneficial relationships through visits and activities. Special activities included flower-planting on February 18th, a Senior Prom on April 1st and a Bingo Bonanza event on April 29th.



TEAM G.I.R.L. (GROWING INTELLECTUALLY WHILE REACHING FOR LEADERSHIP)

Alisan Abernathy, Robin Kirby and Shelbie Gordon organized a pep rally event to empower young junior high and high school women. Their event took place May 14, 2010 in the amphitheater on campus. The event focused on building self-esteem and featured a guest speaker.



A HEART 4 WORDS: LITERACY PROGRAMS

Jennie Mason and Trenz Scott partnered with Ideal Woman, Men of Excellence and the Holmes Cultural Diversity Center to create literacy awareness programs at two schools. Jennie coordinated 20 volunteers to read to preschool age children in Noxubee County. Trenz organized volunteers to tutor students at Sudduth Elementary. The program ended with a celebration party at The Other Mother Day Care in Noxubee County.

HEALTH LIVING, HEALTHY DAWGZ: CROHN'S & COLITIS AWARENESS

Ricardo Horne sponsored an informational event on the drill field. He distributed snacks and raised awareness about Crohn's & Colitis while encouraging students to live healthy lifestyles through exercise and proper dieting. The event reached approximately 200 students.



CARE FOR CANINES DAY

Ariel Burton partnered with The Pre-Vet Club, Golden Triangle Kennel Club and Oktibbeha County Humane Society to host an event that included various booths about animal care and fun activities for dogs and owners to enjoy. Twenty-five dogs participated in the event and \$60 was raised. All proceeds from the event benefited the Humane Society's Second Chance Program. This event was held on April 16, 2010.



5K FOR MS SOCIETY

Landon Mumbower organized a 5K Run that benefited the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. His event took place on May 7th and raised \$800. Thirty two runners participated and six individuals volunteered including the MSU Police Department.



RESTRUCTURING BROOKVILLE GARDENS AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM

Fred Oglesby worked with the nonprofit, Brickfire, to establish a new afterschool program for high school students. The program will focus on building computer, reading, writing and math skills. A preliminary version of the program will begin in the summer of 2011.

BAND SCHOLARSHIP

Andrew Everett is a member of the Famous Maroon Marching Band. He raised funds to sponsor a scholarship for a deserving band student at his high school alma mater, Waynesboro High School.

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE FOR GREENVILLE, MS

Gerriyan Davis, Keosha Lewis and Marlon Taylor conceptualized a project that would benefit their hometown of Greenville, MS. They have worked to obtain donations for school supplies and uniforms and will distribute these supplies to deserving kindergarten – sixth grade students in Greenville, MS.

SMASH OUT CANCER

Ty Griffin and Morgan Miller created a project that took place in conjunction with Relay for Life on Friday, April 1. Participants were given the opportunity to smash a donated car painted in various colors related to specific forms of cancer, with a sledge hammer. Participants took three swings at the car for the cost of \$2. Approximately \$400 was raised and all proceeds benefited the American Cancer Society.



START NOW: FINANCIAL ADVICE FORUM

Haley Glenn and Lauren Glenn partnered with local banks, the Business School and the Financial Management Association to host an on-campus seminar on building credit and spending money wisely. The event took place on April 12th and featured Mr. Beau Bell, VP of Loans at Bancorp South and Dr. Mike Highfield, Department Head of Finance and Economics as guest speakers.

MILITARY PACKAGES DRIVE

Rebeka Hott implemented a drive to send care packages to men and women serving in the US military overseas. She raised supplies for 60 care packages filled with games, hygiene products and fun MSU paraphernalia for service men and women during the month of November 2010.

SOLES FOR SOULS

Loren Bruce and Sarah Miller organized a campus-wide shoe drive that benefited the nonprofit Soles4Souls. They collected between 45-50 large garbage bags filled with shoes, an estimated amount of 700 pairs of shoes. The shoes will benefit children living in impoverished areas. In addition, these students had the unique opportunity to be interviewed by a road crew from Soles4Souls.



HEALTH FAIR/PANEL DISCUSSION

Justin Glover partnered with Health Education and MSU Police to host a forum on college safety and general health issues. The forum featured three guest speakers. Starkville High students enrolled in Health and Physical Education classes participated in the forum and received door prizes that encouraged healthy living and the prevention of underage drinking. This event took place on April 15, 2010.



WORLD DIABETES DAY

Oluwasola Omotola, Ademola Oladunjoye and Katherine Taylor joined together with Housing and a Residence Life, the Oktibbeha County Hospital and the Student Dietetic Association to bring awareness about Diabetes. The students sponsored diabetes testing for 200 participants, hosted a guest speaker on caring for loved ones with diabetes and put together a walk-a-thon with sugar free snacks. The all-day event was held on November 11, 2010.

