

# Opportunity Knocks

Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning and Opportunities in the Delaware Community  
<http://service.owu.edu/>

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## OWU Students To Be Recognized for Leadership & Service

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Tuesday, April 22nd will mark the annual “Golden Bishops” Student Recognition event, a very special evening set aside for acknowledging the non-academic achievements of Ohio Wesleyan students. Designed to emulate a Hollywood-style academy awards event, students are given much-coveted golden-clad OWU Bishop mascot dolls as ‘Oscars’ to celebrate their achievements in leadership and service. Typically, awards and certificates of recognition are given out by departments ranging from Admissions and Alumni Relations to Student Involvement and Residential Life. Of course, Community Service and Service Learning are included in the event with special awards for the Columbus Initiative, as well as for humanitarian efforts, social justice, service to children and youth, and for providing service hours in the local community.



Senior Beth Griffith is OWU's  
2008 Student Humanitarian

As a sneak peak of what's to come, we are proud to announce that Beth Griffith is the recipient of Ohio Wesleyan's 2008 Student Humanitarian Award. In that capacity, Beth has been nominated for the 2008 Ohio Campus Compact Charles J. Ping Award for Community Service. Based in part on her many contributions to campus awareness regarding issues of hunger and homelessness and the continuing genocide in Darfur, Beth was nominated by Dr. Mary Howard who said; “Beth has been a passionate champion of social justice issues ever since she entered OWU four years ago.” As Vice-President of Progress OWU, Beth has helped in planning events such as weekly trips to the Columbus Open Shelter to help serve meals, and she assisted in organizing this fall's Hunger Banquet world hunger awareness event. As President of STAND, Beth has been instrumental in researching and distributing up-to-date information pertaining to genocide and human injustices, as well as in planning group trips to STAND Rallies in Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus. She also coordinated a trip to Washington, D.C. for the STAND National Conference and the showing of a film about human rights issues in Burma. She is a familiar face to those who walk past the tabling area at the noon hour in the campus center since she is frequently circulating a petition to be signed, or advertising an educational event focusing on issues like divestment, or equality of access to health care, or urging support of legislation to address an issue of social justice.

The Golden Bishop Awards event, which includes music, appetizers and desserts, will begin at 6:30 pm in the Benes Rooms of Hamilton Williams Campus Center. All students, faculty, staff, and community partners are welcome to attend the event, but are asked to RSVP by April 17th to Sue Pasters at (740) 368-3084 or [smpaster@owu.edu](mailto:smpaster@owu.edu). Students who have been nominated for recognition will receive personal invitations to the event. Anyone wishing to know more about The Golden Bishops, or to nominate a student for recognition, should contact Sue Pasters, or the event coordinator, Nancy Bihl Rutkowski at [rbrutkow@owu.edu](mailto:rbrutkow@owu.edu). All award nominations should be received by no later than Friday, April 4th.

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## Ohio Wesleyan University *Relay for Life 2008*

An 18 Hour Event ~ March 28th and 29th ~ Gordon Field House

It's never too late to help win the fight against cancer. You can participate by registering a team, or yourself, online at [www.events.cancer.org/rflowuoh](http://www.events.cancer.org/rflowuoh). Or you can make donations any number of ways, including sponsoring an individual or a team, or by purchasing luminaria to honor or memorialize a friend or relative who has battled cancer. Cancer survivors and caregivers can register themselves to take part in the opening lap and to attend the survivor/caregiver reception. All this is possible through one great website! At the actual event there will be music, prizes, a psychic, movies, games, performances by the Babbling Bishops and the Owtsiders, and much more. You won't want to miss this very special event.

Sponsored by OWU Colleges Against Cancer  
Event Coordinator Megan Evans ~ [mmevans@owu.edu](mailto:mmevans@owu.edu)

## S.I.I.D. Members To Stage March 24th Hunger Strike

Dear Community Member,

*One of the newest and most innovative efforts to aid those in poverty is microfinance. This is a program through which donors can lend small amounts to those who would normally be denied credit by a larger bank. Upon repaying each loan, the recipients are eligible to receive larger loans in the future. These loans are used to start or build up businesses. In many cases, a small business can be started in an underdeveloped country for less than \$100. The typical repayment rate for a microfinance institution is between 96 and 100 percent, substantially higher than that of commercial banks. These microfinance programs give the people the power to raise themselves and their families out of poverty permanently. Microfinance is not a handout, but instead an interactive effort to empower those who have the will to help themselves but have not yet been given the opportunity.*

*In an attempt to raise both money and awareness for microfinancing, the members of the Student Initiative for International Development (SIID), a student group at Ohio Wesleyan University, are participating in a 24-hour hunger strike taking place on Monday, March 24<sup>th</sup>. Although we will never fully understand the dire situation of those in extreme poverty, we hope to gain some insight into their circumstances and to bring it to the attention of others. At the same time, we hope through this project and your generosity to enable people with intelligence and motivation to have the opportunity to help themselves.*

*Microfinancing has been proven to be an effective and sustainable method of improving the lives of those in poverty. With your assistance, we hope to broaden the reach of such programs. If you wish to donate in support of our hunger strike, checks can be made payable to Ohio Wesleyan University, care of SIID. Donations are tax deductible. Thank you for your time, and we assure you that any money which you choose to donate will go directly toward changing people's lives.*

*Sincerely,*

*The Members of SIID ~ Student Initiative for International Development*

Kimberly Darren, Julia Blyth, Jake Barnett, Katie Schlaudt, Mery Kanashiro, Selby Majewski, Phuong Nguyen, Sue Pasters, Saif Rahman, Jon Powers, Claire Everhart, David Brown, Anh Nguyen, Troy Jeffrey, Amy Tuttle, Dwight Parsons, and Taapsi Ramchandani '06

## "OWU Bowl For Kids' Sake 2008" ~ Friday April 4th



### What is it?

- A fund-raiser to benefit the Delaware County Chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters\*.

### When and Where is it?

- The 10th Annual "All Ohio Wesleyan Night" will be held on Friday, April 4th- 9:00 p.m. to Midnight at the Delaware Lanes Bowling Center which is located on Route 36/37 East.

### How do we participate?

- ⇒ Teams of five register by filling out a Team Registration Sheet available in the OWU Community Service Learning Office, HWCC-407. (One team per organization/department, please!)
- ⇒ Don't Delay! There are only 16 lanes and several have already been reserved by last year's teams!
- ⇒ Once the Registration Sheet is turned in, the Team Captain is given pledge sheets.

### Questions?

- Call Sue Pastors at x3084; visit the Community Service Office in HWCC-407; or e-mail: [smpaster@owu.edu](mailto:smpaster@owu.edu) Thank You!

\*Big Brothers Big Sisters is a non-profit organization which matches children with caring adults. Their goal is to make sure that every Delaware County child who needs a Big Brother or Big Sister gets one. OWU is proud to be a partner in the Willis Big Brothers & Big Sisters Program. To volunteer, or to learn more about this special program, call Kerri Robe at (740) 369-2447, or Sue Pastors at x3084. BBBS is a United Way Agency.



# ReStore

**Open to the Public!**

**305 Curtis Street**

**740-369-4505**

**Wednesdays 4 pm to 8 pm**

**Thursdays-Saturdays 8 am to 6 pm**

A great place to recycle/donate & buy building supplies of all kinds including cabinets, doors, sinks, flooring, hardware, windows, tools, appliances, ceiling fans, paint, lawn & garden, light fixtures, plumbing, lumber, carpet, fencing, HVAC, and etc. A wonderful place to volunteer. Students can volunteer at the store or to assist with donation pick-ups. Contact Todd Miller, ReStore Manager, to learn more.

Delaware Habitat has a brand new mandatory volunteer orientation for volunteers who are interested in volunteering on the construction site. The orientation is a one hour session of helpful information and an overview of Habitat for Humanity. During the orientation volunteers will learn about Delaware Habitat for Humanity and what is expected of a volunteer from sign-up to workday. To sign up for orientation volunteers can go to [www.habitatdelawareco.org](http://www.habitatdelawareco.org), click on the blue "Volunteer Now" button, register by clicking "Sign In", and sign up for the next orientation event. If you have any questions or problems call Nora Weinheimer or Jackie Kuhns at 740-363-9950. We look forward to seeing you soon at an orientation!

The next Habitat House, (#33), "The Apostles Build" will be located at 219 London Road on the corner of Neil Street across from the Liberty Community Center. More than twelve churches and their congregations have joined forces to fund and build this house here in Delaware.

### OWU HABITAT Chapter Plans Special Events ~ March 31st to April 6th

Ohio Wesleyan's Act! Speak! Build! Week is partnering with Youth United to eliminate substandard housing in Delaware County. They are working to raise funds for a Youth United Habitat Home, and the next big event is to build, and auction off, a playhouse donated by Lowes. The OWU Chapter of Habitat will be setting up displays and distributing posters which focus on the issues of poverty and housing in America throughout that week. They will also be assembling and decorating the playhouse kit on the JAY-Walk...watch for further details!

## T.E.A.M. MENTORING

A Program of The Delaware County  
Juvenile Court

*Together Everyone Achieves More*



Do you like to play games, go out to eat, and hang out with kids? Can you spare 2 hours a week to be a mentor? TEAM Mentoring is a service learning program offered by the Delaware County Juvenile Court that matches mentors with Delaware county youth who are court-involved, as well as with kids who are at risk of becoming court-involved.

Want to know more? Contact Patty Cram at 833-2678 for information about becoming a TEAM Mentor. Your help can make a valuable difference in the life of a child.



**Planet Aid** is a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting the environment and creating sustainable development in Africa and Asia. They collect and recycle used clothing and shoes in 19 states in the USA. Items donated to Planet Aid are resold and the proceeds are used to support education, community development and HIV/AIDS programs in Africa and Asia. They partner with individuals, schools, organization, companies and government agencies to inform and contribute to community based development. The local office and warehouse is located at 2846 Banwick Road in Columbus, OH 43232. To learn more, contact Gretchen Stranges, (614) 598-6422, e-mail: [gretchen.stranges@planetaid.org](mailto:gretchen.stranges@planetaid.org)

## Be A Willis Big Brother!!

~ **Big Brothers Big Sisters** is looking for Ohio Wesleyan Students to become mentors for 5th and 6th grade boys at Willis Intermediate School. As part of a mutually rewarding relationship, Big Brothers will help to develop the social and educational needs of their Little Brothers, while forming a lasting friendship. The program meets on Tuesdays from 3:30-5:00pm at Willis, which is located on William Street.

~ **Are Tuesdays a problem? Lead Tutor/Mentors** are needed on Wednesdays and/or Thursdays for after school tutoring programs at Conger and Woodward Elementary Schools from 3:15 to 5:00 pm.

~ **Interested? Want to learn more?** Contact Kerri Robe at BBBS at 740-369-2447 or Sue Pastors at Ohio Wesleyan University: 740-368-3084. (smpaster@owu.edu)



*Andrew Hull and Little Brother, Daniel.*

Teen Start Inc.  
Striving for excellence

**TEEN START Inc.** is a non-profit organization with the mission to enhance the social development of teens and young adults through life skills training, mentoring, experiential learning and cultural exposure activities that will prepare them to be Self-sufficient, Responsible and Prepared for adulthood. Their services include independent living trainings such as spirituality, goal setting, communication skills, personal and professional etiquette, job skills and maintenance, nutrition, money management, domestic violence prevention, interpersonal skills development, anger management and coping skills, health/sexuality and teen relationships, legal, emergency, and safety skills. Mentors/Life-coaches are recruited to provide support, encouragement, guidance, and to hold the youth accountable for their actions. Workshops available for parents of teenagers, "*Parenting Teens in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*"

The Teen Start office is located in Andrews House, 39 W. Winter Street. To learn more or to volunteer contact Stanya Greathouse by phone (740) 362-3817; or via email [stanyamg@yahoo.com](mailto:stanyamg@yahoo.com).

Visit the Teen Start, Inc. website <http://www.teenstartinc.org> or [info@teenstartinc.org](mailto:info@teenstartinc.org)



## GLOBAL VILLAGE COLLECTION

**The Global Village Collection**  
37 N. Sandusky Street  
DELAWARE'S FAIR TRADE HEADQUARTERS

**This unique downtown Delaware Store-With-A-Conscience provides a source for fair trade coffee, tea and beautiful hand-crafted items made by artisans from developing countries. All purchases provide the artisans with a fair-living wage, so if you do all your Valentine's Day shopping at the Global Village, you can share the love...twice! You can also join this thriving enterprise by becoming a store volunteer. Service Learning opportunities include many options including daily store operations, support operations and strategic planning. A Financial/Systems Management Internship is available as well! Applications are available at the store upon request, or via email at [gvc@nexgenaccess.com](mailto:gvc@nexgenaccess.com).**



**The Delaware Senior Nutrition Program and the Council for Older Adults Need Help**

The Senior Nutrition program provides hot meals daily to older adults in their homes. The program delivers about 160,000 meals per year throughout the county on 25 different routes. As the Nutrition Program grows, more and more volunteers are needed, and YOU CAN BE ONE OF THEM! Volunteer drivers are needed from 11-1pm either short or long term any day Monday through Friday. Volunteers will receive training, mileage reimbursement and a free hot meal on the day they volunteer.

**Don't have a car but still want to help?** Local congregate meal site assistants are also needed to help with the nutrition program, as well as Café kitchen assistants, meal labelers, etc.

**The Council for Older Adults** is also always in need of people who can provide help for small household chores and yard work. To get more information contact Amy Brown at [amyb@growingolder.org](mailto:amyb@growingolder.org) or call (740) 363-6677.

## Delaware County Arthritis Foundation to hold Fifth Annual "Wine & Dine"



The Delaware County Arthritis Foundation provides programs and services for people of all ages who suffer from over 120 arthritis related diseases. They will be hosting the 5th Annual Wine & Dine fundraising event on Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-8:30pm at the Brookshire reception facility located at 405 Greif Parkway in Delaware. Attendees will enjoy delicious samples of food and wine from local restaurants and have the opportunity to bid on silent auction items. Volunteers are needed to help with a variety of activities including set up, silent auction, and clean up. Contact Arthritis Foundation Branch Director, Kathy Blakeslee at 740-362-8400, or e-mail [del.arthritis@verizon.net](mailto:del.arthritis@verizon.net) to learn more.

## **Happenings at the Andrews House ~ 39 W. Winter St ~ Delaware, Ohio**

**Kendra Carlson, Community Outreach ~ 740-369-4520 ~ e-mail [kcarlson@andrewshouse.org](mailto:kcarlson@andrewshouse.org)**

- ◆ Help Prepare and Serve Free Community Meals held at Andrews House on Second Fridays and Third Thursdays of each month. Clean-up help is also needed.
- ◆ The Free Legal Clinic Program, held each month on Third Tuesdays at 5:30 pm has openings for volunteer greeters and people to help with intake/registration.
- ◆ Volunteers are always needed to monitor the computer lab, teach computer classes, especially Microsoft Excel, and to do IT advising. There are also opportunities to do landscaping and cleaning projects in the building. Currently, there's a lot of interior wood trim to be painted!
- ◆ **NEW! Wanted:** A small group of energetic, articulate people to join an Ad Hoc Committee for a new Andrews House Marketing Initiative. Six to Ten Students are sought to become spokespersons to share stories about the good works of Andrews House and to solicit local support during the month of April. Orientation and training provided. Especially recommended for students majoring in Marketing, Public Relations, Business Administration, Non-Profit Work. Contact Milt Wyman to learn more at [mwyman1@columbus.rr.com](mailto:mwyman1@columbus.rr.com)

**Tutor/Mentors Are Needed for  
“(WS) 2” Program**



(WS) 2 is a collaboration between William Street United Methodist Church and Willis Intermediate School and is facilitated by The Literacy Coalition of Delaware County. Volunteer Tutor/Mentors are needed Mondays and/or Thursdays

from 3:30 to 5:00 pm to work with 5th and 6th graders in the after school program held at the church.

Responsibilities include supervising students through snacks, games, homework and clean up...as well as developing lasting friendships.

Interested parties should contact Teresa Milner at (740) 369-7401, or ws2help@yahoo.com

***Do You Care About  
Green Space ?  
Volunteer with  
Preservation Parks!***



~ Volunteers are needed in groups up to ten people to help conduct telephone surveys as part of the campaign for the levy on the November 2008 ballot.

~ Nature Center Attendants are needed at two park locations. Flexible weekday and weekend shifts available.

To help, contact Sandra Sklar (740) 524-8600, ext. 6



**Delaware County Chapter**

**Movers Needed!**

The Delaware County Chapter of The American Red Cross is moving!

The Delaware County Red Cross needs a small group of 5-10 people to help move items out of the 5 W. Winter Street office into the new office facility at 380 Hills Miller Road. This process will probably begin Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> or Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>, with finishing trips on Saturday, April 5<sup>th</sup>. Final details will be confirmed in the next couple of weeks, so if you are interested, please call the Red Cross office at 740-362-2021 and ask for Judy or Brandon.

**Donate Blood OWU !  
Tuesday, April 1st  
Hamilton Williams Campus Center Benes Room  
Sponsored by OWU's Chapter of Circle K**



**The Gift of Blood  
Is the Gift of Life!**



**HelpLine**

*Of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc.*

HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow counties provides support groups, community education and crisis advocacy. Should you or anyone you know be a danger to themselves or others, please call the 24-Hour Hotline at 1-800-684-2324.



April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month; watch for a calendar of special events on campus and in the community. If you are a HelpLine Volunteer or Advocate, please contact Volunteer Coordinator Victoria Abbott Swatloski regarding Upcoming Sexual Assault Awareness Month Events as volunteers are needed to assist with these public events.

~ To learn more about HelpLine services, programs, and volunteer opportunities, contact Victoria Abbot-Swatloski at (740) 363-1835, or e-mail vabbott-swatloski@helplinedelmor.org

## 21st Century After School Tutoring Programs

Tutors and Mentors are needed for Elementary and Middle School Children at Conger and Woodward Elementary Schools and at Willis Intermediate and Dempsey Middle Schools to provide math and reading intervention, homework help and enriched learning activities. As a volunteer, you'll be matched with either a single student or a small group as they go through their afternoon. You'll help with homework and help with recreational activities while acting as a role model for your student(s). To apply, contact Cathy Silver at (740)833-1850 or email [silverca@dcs.k12.oh.us](mailto:silverca@dcs.k12.oh.us)



Help a Child Succeed for Life...Become a Tutor !



**Stratford Ecological Center ~ 3083 Liberty Road** ~ Stratford is an organic working farm devoted to environmental awareness and appreciation. Among its many goals is the implementation of an environmental education program.

**Stratford has openings for Spring, Summer and Fall Environmental Education Interns.** Interns enjoy helping care for the farm animals, tending to the children's garden and greenhouses, and leading school children on unforgettable experiences in the forest and around the farm. Please contact us if you are interested in working on this friendly and Earth-loving organic farm and state nature preserve.

- ◆ **Invasive Species Team** members help with the many facets of the removal process for invasive plants such as garlic mustard, multi-flora rose and honeysuckle which crowd out delicate wildflowers.
- ◆ **Landscape Upkeep** includes planting and working in the earth to care for the Stratford gardens and landscape.
- ◆ **Greenhouse Guru(s)** help to seed flats, plant, water weed and harvest produce.
- ◆ **Famer's Helper(s)** tackle the spring jobs which may consist of preparing and maintaining the fields, animal chores, carpentry, fence building, and other farm maintenance.
- ◆ **Trail Maintenance** involves keeping the walking trails cleared and in good shape for all types of weather.
- ◆ **Saturday Receptionist** answers the phone, takes messages, greets and directs visitors to activities, trails "u-pick" areas, and sells farm products.

To volunteer contact Jane Walsh at 363-2548 or email [SECVolunteer@aol.com](mailto:SECVolunteer@aol.com)

### Turning Point Domestic Violence Shelter

[www.turningpoint6.com/](http://www.turningpoint6.com/)

*Help Increase Awareness ~ Help Save Lives*

Contact Joyce Johnston 740-382-8988, [jjohnston@turningpoint.com](mailto:jjohnston@turningpoint.com)



The Common Ground Free Store Ministries is a partnership between Delaware churches, businesses, civic organizations and caring citizens. We believe God's mercy doesn't come with a price tag. Together we have established a warm and welcoming store run by volunteers where everything is available to everyone free of charge—from clothing, shoes, diapers and linens, to small appliances, books and toys. There are no income requirements, no questions and no scrutiny—only the support of people who care. Everyone is on common ground.

There are many immediate and on-going volunteer opportunities for Ohio Wesleyan Students at Common Ground, especially on Mondays – helping to run the store, sorting clothing, re-stocking racks and shelves, and providing hospitality by greeting shoppers or helping to serve food. Students interested in getting involved with the Free Store should contact Bonnie Ristau at [bonniefs@columbus.rr.com](mailto:bonniefs@columbus.rr.com) or call the store and leave a message at (740) 369-3733. The store is located at 193 E. Central Avenue here in Delaware.

## Campus Calendar

March 24th ~ SIID Hunger Strike

March 28-29th ~ "OWU Relay for Life"  
Colleges Against Cancer / American Cancer Society

April 1st ~ Circle K / Red Cross Blood Drive  
Hamilton Williams Campus Center Benes Room

April 4th ~ Delta Gamma "Anchor Splash"  
Pfeiffer Natatorium, 7-9 pm

April 4th ~ "OWU Bowl for Kids' Sake 2008"  
Delaware Lanes, 9-Midnight



## March 22-29 is OWU Women's Week



"What Is Feminism?" week-long  
Display on the JAY-Walk

March 22nd: 1-4 pm - Women's House  
Make T-Shirts for the Clothesline Project

March 24th: Tom Digby, Men Doing Feminism  
presents two lectures in the Bayley Room  
3:00 pm "Love in a time of War and Terror"  
7:30 pm "Is Feminism Against Men?"

March 25th: 4-6 pm - Women's House  
Make T-Shirts for the Clothesline Project

March 26th: (tentative) Film Documentary  
7:00 pm in Bayley Room

March 27th: 8:00 pm - Corns 312  
"Take Back the Night"

March 28th: 7:00 pm - Chappellear Studio Theater  
"Guerrilla Girls" drama troupe



Spring Break Mission Week 2008 - Members of the Costa Rica Medical Mission Team actually ended up serving in a small community in Nicaragua. Pictured above are Jeffrey Thongsawath, Paolamantina Grullon, Steve Yang and Dr. Nancy Murray teaching dental hygiene to school children. The team stayed in Limon Dos, Nicaragua and worked at a local free clinic which is sponsored by the Foundation for International Medical Relief of Children, (FIMRC).  
Photo by Annie Worth