

Opportunity Knocks

Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning and Opportunities in Delaware and Beyond
Ben Goodrum ~ Editor In Chief

Professor Enhances Learning with Service



Dr. Mary Howard

Some teachers like to lecture; some prefer to let the books do the teaching. OWU's Professor Mary Howard has a style all her own. Students will tell you that she does more than teach from a book or a lectern; whenever possible, she lets the world speak for itself. For example, Howard taught a class on the cultural, economic, and political climate of Haiti. Exciting classroom discussions were just the beginning; Howard took her class to Haiti over spring break to see the circumstances they were learning about. The Haiti class reflects Howard's commitment to experiential learning. To this day, she asks students to do something away from class that relates to a classroom topic. In her Health and Illness class students are encouraged to do formal presentations on a health related activity they are involved with. These class projects have included anything from working with the Special Olympics, to community HIV/AIDS activism. Prof. Howard claims that learning about things in context, in addition to the classroom setting, is one of the best ways to broaden perspectives.

Dr. Howard is not just an advocate of hands-on learning; she is a participant. To shed some light on the often negative and inaccurate stereotypes about the homeless and their situation, Howard tried her hand at documentary making. Wanting to hone her skills as a filmmaker and provide students with the same opportunity; Howard began teaching a documentary film making course with OWU's audio-visual expert Charles Della Lana. The documentary class gives students a chance to investigate social issues through a camera lens. Students sometimes get to screen their finished work at the Strand Theatre.

Since taking up the camera earlier this decade, Howard has produced two feature-length documentary films about homelessness in the Columbus area. Her most recent film *Swept Out* has become an award winning entry in 2008's Columbus International Film and Video Festival. Homelessness is a key issue for Howard. In her anthropology classes she adroitly explains how the US' cultural flaws fuel the cycle of homelessness and poverty.

Professor Howard hails from Columbus, Ohio and has taught Sociology and Anthropology at OWU since the early 1980's, and is the current Department Chair. She holds a PhD in medical anthropology and wrote a revealing book on malnutrition and poverty in Tanzania called *Hunger and Shame*. She holds that experiential learning enriches students' understanding of the world, leading to a more complex and nuanced perspectives than they had before.

Inside This Issue...

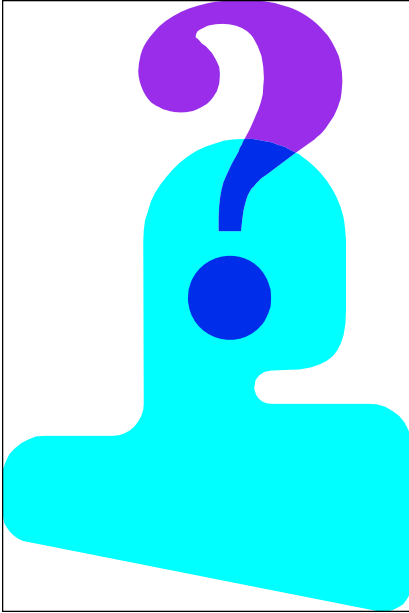
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Where Are The Male Volunteers?

-Part One of a Two Part Investigation

Big Brothers Big Sisters has 23 college women matched with 23 Little Sisters at Willis Intermediate School. There are less than 10 college men serving as mentors in this program. These numbers seem to represent a common theme on campus. Male volunteers are scarcer than at any time in recent memory in our community service programs. This would not be as alarming if there was not such a great need for male role models, especially in education and mentor oriented programs.

For whatever reason though, eligible college men seem to be avoiding community service, a trend that has been growing in recent years. A couple of those interviewed related that they had *thought* about volunteering – tutoring or being a mentor – but they just didn't have enough time. Others seemed to be in limbo – a state of getting ready, to get ready, to volunteer. One wonders what it will take to push them over the edge to actual volunteering? Would it help to know that those students who participate in campus service programs, or serve with agencies gain hands-on skills that make them more marketable to future employers and graduate schools? Would it help to know that you don't have to be popular or talented to make a significant difference in a child's life? That all you need to do is show up, and have fun.

Many of OWU's agency partners desperately need more men to step up to the plate. If you are reading this, and you are a college male who can give as little as two hours a week, now is the prime time to act. The friendly campus community service learning office is located in room 407 of the Ham-Will Campus Center.

This less than scientific investigation will attempt to dig deeper to answer questions about this critical issue. Look forward to next month's entry.

Crop Walk 2008 a Big Success

On Sunday, October 5th, more than 200 members of area churches and twelve campus organizations joined forces to participate in the annual walk for Church World Service. It was an absolutely gorgeous day; perfect for families who could choose the abbreviated one mile walk, and for those who walked the entire six mile route. In either case, both routes led to the First Presbyterian Church, where walkers were greeted with hamburgers, chips and sodas as a small token of appreciation from the walk sponsors. Despite the current economic climate, this year's early pledge count indicates that Delaware will once again give more than \$10,000 to Church World Service, with 25% coming back to the community for our own local hunger fighting agency, People In Need, (PIN).

The acronym CROP stands for "Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty". Church World Service is a co-operative ministry of 35 Protestant, Orthodox, and Anglican denominations, providing sustainable self-help and development, disaster relief, and refugee assistance in some 80 countries around the globe. For a list of member denominations, or a copy of the CWS annual report, please visit their website at www.churchworldservice.org.



Members of OWU's Sisters United are all smiles as they wait for the walk to begin.



HOLIDAY CLEARING HOUSE 2008

presented in accordance with the

PEOPLE IN NEED, INC.



HOLIDAY CLEARING HOUSE CITY/COUNTY FOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6th - HOURS: 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

Delaware County Fairgrounds Coliseum - 236 Pennsylvania Ave. – Delaware, Ohio

(Food, Taxables, NEW toys and NEW clothing donations accepted)

HOLIDAY CLEARING HOUSE 2008 BEGINS - Monday, December 8th thru Sunday, December 14th

Delaware County Fairgrounds Coliseum (740) 363-6528

HOURS: 9:00 am - 4:30 pm

NEW Toys, NEW Clothes, Food, Taxables and Monetary donations accepted

SENIOR/DISABLED FOOD PACKS PACKING DAY - Wednesday, DEC. 10th

HOURS: 9:00 am - 5:00 pm

FAMILY FOOD PACKS PACKING DAY- Saturday, DEC. 13th

HOURS: 9:00 am - 12 noon

DECORATE COLISEUM and TOYLAND SETUP - Saturday, DEC. 13th

HOURS: 1:00 pm- 3:00 pm

DISTRIBUTION DAY for FAMILIES - * Sunday, DEC. 14th**

HOURS: 8:30 am – 5:30 pm

VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME

Help us bring the true meaning of the Holiday Spirit to Delaware County families with children and senior/disabled shut-ins this Holiday Season. If you are part of a large group/organization (4 individuals or more) and desire to be a part of a positive sharing experience, please call Kevin at (740) 363-6284 with your service schedule and planned arrival.

*****(Due to the confidential nature of the HCH program volunteer minimum age requirement 15 years of age and/or 9th grade in school on Distribution Day only.)**

Remaining Clearing House food and monetary donations are Board allocated to the People in Need Emergency Assistance programs to be restricted for Direct Services only throughout the coming year.

**HOLIDAY CLEARING HOUSE
P.O. BOX 962
DELAWARE, OHIO 43015
(740) 363-6284**

Supported by the

**United Way
of Delaware County**



**Due to the current economic downturn, we are experiencing a dramatic increase in the numbers of people seeking assistance for their most basic daily needs. Please consider donating canned goods, non-perishable foods, and taxable items such as soap, detergent, diapers, paper goods, toothpaste, toothbrushes and shaving items to
PEOPLE IN NEED ~ 274 N. Sandusky Street ~ (740) 363-6284**

**DELAWARE COUNTY
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S OFFICE**



Working with the Victim Services Unit is a great opportunity to learn about the criminal justice system and the role of victim services, network with several important organizations, and to learn and use practical professional skills. We offer internships and volunteer opportunities year round, and students from a variety of academic backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

For volunteer information, contact Adrienne Bruce at (740) 833-2710 or ABruce@co.delaware.oh.us

Live United!

Please support the United Way of Delaware County. Your pledge helps to underwrite the work of many of the agencies and programs featured in this newsletter.

Without all of us working together, the quality of life in Delaware County would rapidly decline. And now, more than ever, we need to dig deep to help meet critical needs and to support Delaware area families and senior citizens. To learn more about the vital work of the United Way, visit their website at: <http://www.uwaydelaware.org/>

United Way
of Delaware County



GLOBAL VILLAGE
COLLECTION

Global Village Adopt-A-Shift Program

37 N. Sandusky Street

If you are not familiar with us, we are a non-profit, volunteer-staffed retail store filled to overflowing with amazing and unique hand-crafted Fair Trade items. Our main goal is to promote Fair Trade practices and to improve the economic welfare of Third World artisans and farmers by marketing their handicrafts. Purchases made at our store help provide a sustainable and fair economic system for the artisans and farmers who would not otherwise have access to our marketplace. Fair trade is not about charity. It is a holistic approach to trade and development that aims to alter the ways in which commerce is conducted, so that trade can empower the poorest of the poor. Fair Trade Organizations seek to create sustainable and positive change in developing and developed countries.

As we are volunteer staffed, we are looking to fill some of our shifts with members of service organizations such as yours. This typically works for weekend shifts—Saturday shifts are 11-1 p.m., 1-4 p.m. and 4-6 p.m. Sunday shifts are 12-2 and 2-4 p.m. In the past, we have had organizations “adopt” a shift—say Sundays from 2-4—and commit to filling it with two of their members on a rotating basis. This could also be done in conjunction with another organization.

I look forward to hearing from you! Thank you!

Tuesday Trippier
Director of Communications
Global Village Collection
740-363-6267 or 740/815-7638

e-mail: volunteers@globalvillagecollection.org
website: www.globalvillagecollection.org



Not to be Missed! The Global Village Invites YOU to Conversations About Globalization:

- Dr. Jeremy Baskes talks about the historical perspective/cultural challenges of indigenous Mayans
Sunday, October 26th at 4:00 pm at William St. UM Church - 28 W. William Street
- Dr. Robert Gitter looks at the impact of migration on Mexico and Mexicans
Sunday, November 9th at 4:00 pm at Williams St. UM Church - 28 W. William Street

Andrews House - 39 W. Winter Street "People Strengthening People"

Celebrating 15 years of service by providing free community meals, legal advice, computer training, supervised visitation, and a home to numerous partner agencies and programs. To find out how you can help with general maintenance, the computer learning center, serving Delaware's hungry, or helping with other programs, contact Kendra Winemiller at (740) 369-4520; kwinemiller@andrewshouse.org

"Christmas Cupboard"

Annual Fundraiser to benefit the work of Andrews House - December 6th
Shop from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.



WE NEED COOKIES! - Please deliver your delicious home-made cookies to Andrews House on December 5th so they can be sold at the "Christmas Cupboard" bake sale. Yum!

WE NEED DECORATORS! - Please contact Kendra to volunteer your skills to deck the halls, and foyer, and stairs, and music room...any time in November! 369-4520

Preservation Parks Wants YOU!

Trick or Treat Trail - Bring your trick-or-treaters in costume and walk the Acorn Trail in search of treats. Other activities include hayrides, pumpkin decorating, scarecrow construction, games, crafts and a surprise or two.
October 26th, 1-4 p.m.



Gallant Woods Preserve, 2151 Buttermilk Hill Road.

[Free admission and concessions are available.](#)

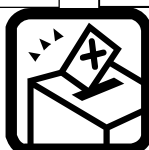
Help Preservation Parks of Delaware County PASS a Levy this November 4th!

How YOU can help:

- ♦ Make Phone Calls
- ♦ Go Door to Door
- ♦ Hang Signs
- ♦ Dress in funny costumes & stand at Polls
- ♦ Vote!

Call (740) 524-8600, ext. 6 to get involved!
YOU Can Make A Difference for the Environment!
visit www.preservationparks.com

VOTE!



Be A Willis Big Brother!!

We are in desperate need of male volunteers for the Willis Big Brothers program who can be friends and role models for Willis Intermediate School boys. The Willis Big Brothers program doesn't require much. All you need is to be free on Tuesday afternoons from 3:15 to 5:15. A typical day starts with homework and snacks, followed by games in the gymnasium. Willis Intermediate School, (5th and 6th grade), is within easy walking distance of campus on W. William Street, adjacent to Dominoes Pizza, across from Tim Horton's.

Applications are available in the Community Service Learning Office in Ham-Will room 407, or via e-mail. For obvious reasons, there is a required background check and program orientation session.

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



Matt Greene and his Willis Little Brother say,
"Be a Big Brother 'cuz it's FUN!"



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.

To volunteer contact Jane Walsh at 363-2548 or email SECVolunteer@aol.com

or visit www.StratfordEcologicalCenter.org



Delaware Senior Nutrition Program & 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 amvb@growingolder.org or call (740) 363-6677.

Turning Point
Domestic Violence Shelter
www.turningpoint6.com/
Help Increase Awareness ~ Help Save Lives
Contact Joyce Johnston 740-382-8988,
jjohnston@turningpoint.com



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.



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 bonniefr@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.

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 Abby Ward at (740) 816-1898, or ws2help@yahoo.com

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.

21st Century After School Learning Centers - Do you have a free afternoon any day of the week? You could make a significant contribution to a child's academic success by becoming an after school tutor at Conger Elementary, Woodward Elementary, (3:30 to 5:30 pm), or Dempsey Middle School, (2:30 to 5:30 pm). Volunteer Applications are available in the Community Service Learning Office, (Ham-Will 407). Or contact Program Coordinator, Cathy Silver at (740) 833-1850; or e-mail her at silverca@dcsl.k12.oh.us

Volunteers In Tax Assistance

(VITA) The VITA program offers free

Income Tax preparation services to couples and individuals who qualify for the Earned Income provides a refundable federal income tax credit for low-income working individuals and families. Taxes?! Wait! Keep reading. We all have to do them; now is your

chance to learn how to prepare tax returns and help low income Delaware County residents at the same time. As a volunteer you will receive a full day of tax law training on campus, designed to be as enjoyable as possible, where you will become certified to prepare simple tax returns. You can also become certified in more advanced tax preparation, including Foreign Student tax returns. During the tax season, January 15th- April 15th 2009, you'll work only a few hours a month providing free tax preparation to people in Delaware. Our tax prep site is just a few blocks off campus at the **Woodward Family Resource Center**. Volunteer with our group and become the envy of all your friends, especially during tax season. Contact Diana Rice at 740-369-3184 or vitamanager@caodmu.org



Delaware County EITC Coalition



BE A VOLUNTEER

One hour of your time

**could help a single mother of two get an
Earned Income Tax Credit of up to \$4,824.00!**

Ohio Wesleyan University
Community Service Learning
40 Rowland Avenue
Delaware, Ohio 43015

<http://service.owu.edu>

DATES TO REMEMBER

October

10/25 - Make a Difference
Day Ohio

10/25 - John McCutcheon
Benefit Concert in Gray
Chapel - 8 pm - \$15

10/31

OWU Trick or Treat Street
Small Living Units on
Rowland Ave & Oak Hill Dr.

November

11/4 Election Day

11/22 - 11/30

OWU Thanksgiving Break

11/27

Delaware's Free Community
Thanksgiving Meal at
Wm St United Methodist
Church - 12 to 2 pm

December

12/3

OWU Hunger Banquet at
Ham-Will Campus Center
Benes Room - 6pm -- \$5 or 3
canned goods

12/6-14

PIN Food Drive and Holiday
Clearing House Event
(see page 3)

12/12 OWU Last Day of
Classes

Please recycle this newsletter



Scenes from Crop Walk 2008



Happy Halloween!