

Opportunity Knocks

Reporting on OWU Community Service Learning & Opportunities in Delaware and Beyond
Martha Park ~ Editor In Chief

The 2011 Golden Bishop Awards for Community Service

Every year the Golden Bishop Awards for Community Service are presented to individual students and student groups to recognize their dedicated service on campus and in the community. This year's award winners are featured in this final bonus issue of "Opportunity Knocks". Photos are courtesy of the OWU Student Involvement Office; John Holliger Photographer.



Andrea Hatfield '11

The Sara Paullin-Casto Student Humanitarian Award is given in recognition of outstanding humanitarian service on campus and in the community. This year, we are recognizing an individual student, as well as a student group. **Andrea Hatfield** initiated a national campus program that acts to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness. "Active Minds" is now in its second year of operation thanks to the Andrea's efforts, and the impact of this organization extends beyond the campus into the community of Delaware. Her work on behalf of "Active Minds" includes bringing a dramatic production to campus; organizing an art show, and a establishing a community gathering for public testimonials. In addition to this, Andrea and two other students produced a film documentary which dealt with the stigma of living in a trailer park, a project which was inspired by her work as a home health aide. Andrea is also being recognized for her outstanding work with HelpLine of Delaware and Morrow Counties, Inc.

The Peace and Justice House received the Student Humanitarian Award for their combined efforts as a small living unit. While the P&J House has always been one of the largest contributors of advocacy and service to humanitarian issues by virtue of their mission, they have particularly exemplified the values of their house in the past academic year. Their repertoire of programs has covered a huge variety of social justice concerns, ranging from local and domestic to international. Events have included fundraisers for education in Africa; art sales to benefit Pakistan flood relief; interfaith religious dialogue; fair trade education; leadership of Amnesty International; biking across the country for Habitat for Humanity; LGBTIQA advocacy; women's rights advocacy; and bringing Southern Poverty Law Center founder and civil rights activist Morris Dees to campus. These projects are only the surface of what the P& J has accomplished this year, in addition to striving to live out the mission of the house in their daily lives.

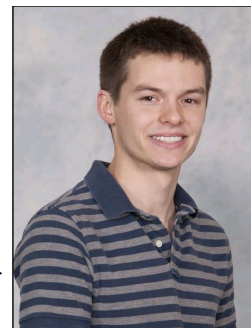
The Patricia G. Young Award is given each year in recognition for outstanding leadership in service to children and youth. This year's award recipient is **Alexa von der Embse**, recognized for significant contributions through her dedicated service to the children of Linden Elementary School through the Columbus Initiative, and to Columbus youth who participate in OWU's Upward Bound program. Beyond those two programs, Alexa's reach also extends to the national level through her leadership in establishing the annual "OWU Up 'til Dawn" event to raise awareness and funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Alexa's service to children extends even further to the global level with her leadership in the Spring Break Mission Week program at the Love & Hope Ministries home for children in El Salvador.



Alexa von der Embse '11

The Community Bridge Builder Awards are in recognition of service benefitting the greater Delaware County area. Nominations for this award come from our Non-Profit Agency Partners. This year we are recognizing an unprecedented nine individual students and one student group.

The Global Village Collection is a non-profit, volunteer-supported organization focusing on alleviating poverty through promoting justice in trade practices. **Ben Wallingford** has served for the past two years as a Global Village intern, often working 10 or more hours per week and remaining over portions of school breaks. He has managed the store's point-of-sale database; helped with purchasing decisions, provided support for other volunteers and for off-site sales. He has brought his energy, positive outlook and dedication to the store. Ben has been an enthusiastic teacher and learner in all aspects of running the store, including traveling to developing countries to explore the questions of international trade practices. As a result of his work with the Global Village Collection, Ben plans to pursue an internship in Kenya to explore economic development through microfinance.



Ben Wallingford '11



**Minh Ngo '13 and
Roxanne Damo '11**

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program offers free tax help to low- to moderate-income people who cannot prepare their own tax returns. VITA Volunteers are required to attend in-depth training and usually serve four to six hours per week between January 18th and April 18th helping people fill out their income tax returns. Last year, VITA volunteers helped to bring back \$1 million dollars to Delaware. Nominated by Diana Rice and Camille Orr, OWU students **Roxanne Damo and Minh Ngo** are being recognized for their significant service to this important community program.

Kaitlin Lentz, Rebecca Pollard and Molly Johnson are each being recognized for their dedication to hours of tutoring and mentoring with **Delaware County Juvenile Court TEAM Mentoring Program**, directed by Patty Cram. Because of Kaitlin, Rebecca and Molly, the girls they mentor have grown emotionally, academically, in self-esteem, and in their family relations. Their combined, dedicated efforts have truly made a difference in the lives of the children they are matched with.

The Willis Big Brothers Big Sisters Program is a school-based mentoring partnership between Willis Intermediate School, Ohio Wesleyan University and Big Brothers Big Sisters. For the past two years, the **OWU Men's Basketball Team** has made significant impact with the 5th and 6th grade boys they have mentored every Thursday at the noon hour. The boys have improved in academics, behavior and in peer relationships. The men have provided consistent support and friendship to the boys who have struggled with making the difficult transition from elementary to intermediate school. Every mentor has shown commitment and integrity while serving as role models for their little brothers.

Ian Reed has also served as a Willis Big Brother for the past two years. In that role, he has volunteered more than 100 hours with the same Willis student. He is also being lauded as a Community Bridge Builder for his dedicated service which has made a significant difference for his "little brother".



OWU Men's Basketball Team

Bridge Builder Awards, Continued...

Kristen Kalinowski has devoted her entire senior year to serving as an intern with the **Delaware County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity**, and in that role she has made significant contributions to this already substantive campus / community partnership. Among her accomplishments were the creation of a professional agency display; organizing a “shack city” event on campus in conjunction with the OWU Chapter of Habitat for Humanity and Habitat’s Youth United team; she helped to organize the John McCutcheon Concert in partnership with the University Chaplain; she helped improve the Habitat facebook page; she created, directed and produced the first ever HabiTalent Show event which raised over \$5,600 for Habitat. In short, Kristen has provided independent, efficient, reliable, professional quality leadership to her internship.

Chloe Hamrick has been a dedicated volunteer with **Grace Clinic** for the past two years. The clinic is a faith-based medical ministry benefitting community members who would otherwise have very limited access to medical care and prescriptions. The clinic is held every Wednesday evening at Andrews House and depends completely upon volunteers. Chloe helps with the daunting task of setting up and taking down the clinic; helping with patient flow which involves pulling charts, taking heights and weights, cleaning and stocking treatment rooms and escorting patients to the treatment area. Patient flow volunteers serve a key role in putting the clinic patients at ease, and Chloe has been exceptional in this regard. Chloe has also done much to recruit other OWU volunteers, providing cheerful leadership and organizing skills to the smooth management of the OWU clinic volunteers. It has been a blessing and a true joy to have her as part of the Grace Clinic team.



Chloe Hamrick ‘11



Magdalena Jacobo ‘13

The Ohio Campus Compact Charles J. Ping Award

Magdalena Jacobo has been selected as one of the 2011 Ohio Campus Compact Charles J. Ping Award Winners. The Ping Awardees are selected on the basis of their exemplary community service. Each candidate is asked to write an essay, which is submitted along with a letter of nomination from their University President. Magdalena’s service includes her work with “Latino Outreach” in conjunction with the Woodward Family Resource Center, the Delaware County Chapter of Habitat for Humanity, and the West Ohio Conference of the United Methodist Church. Much of Magdalena’s service work has involved providing translation services for Latino families seeking services in the community. In fact, she was instrumental in the application process for the first Delaware County Latino family being selected for a Habitat for Humanity House. As one of the top Ping Award recipients, Magdalena received a check for \$500 to donate to the charity of her choice.

The Columbus Initiative Award for Excellence in Tutoring and Mentoring is presented to honor graduating seniors who have given time, patience, and great love and commitment to the children of Linden Elementary, our inner-city school partner in Columbus, Ohio. Senior students spent over 200 hours working at Linden – and a few of them have spent nearly 500 hours at Linden during their college careers. Some have volunteered their time to tutor. Others have accessed their Work/Study funds – and it is important to note that working for the Columbus Initiative is a really active job. These students have big hearts and true commitment to their community.



Columbus Initiative Seniors

OHIO WESLEYAN CAMPUS GIRL SCOUTS OFFER PROGRAMS FOR MIDDLE SCHOOL GIRLS

Maybe you saw them selling cookies in Hamilton Williams Campus Center, or, walking middle school girls around the OWU campus. Where ever you saw them, the Campus Girl Scouts were busy this year providing programs for girls from around the 30-county Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council. Co-chairs, Kristen Lear and Erika Hankins, helped the group develop and execute the activities during their twice monthly meetings this school year while balancing the demands of being full-time students.

Not only did they plan two special programs for the Girl Scout council, "*Food: The Science behind your Kitchen*" partnering with OWU Women in Science in February, and, "*Relax, Reflect, and Dance*" in April, which also included a campus tour, but they assisted local troops with their international program as well. More than forty girls and their troop leaders, visited the OWU Science Center Atrium for the two programs and benefited from the interaction with college women.



*Photo and Story Information Courtesy of:
Donna Hughes, Regional Director
Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council*

Talking About the Science of Food...

You Can Find Many More Opportunities Through Connections Volunteer Center
Contact Suzanne Pingry via e-mail - spingry@helplinedelmor.org
Or Call Connections (740) 363-5000 - weekdays between 9 am and 4 pm

STRATFORD ECOLOGICAL CENTER ~ 3083 Liberty Road ~ Delaware, Ohio
Contact Volunteer Coordinator, Jane Walsh at 740-363-2548 or SECVolunteer@aol.com



Front Desk Office Assistants - Weekdays & Saturdays - Office help is needed Monday through Friday, 9am-5pm and Saturdays, 9am-1pm to answer phones, take messages, greet and direct visitors to activities, trails, u-pick areas, and sell farm products. Tasks may also include taking registrations and some data base entry. Office experience is helpful, but not necessary. We are looking for those who would like to commit to 4-8 hours a week or more.

Garden Help Needed - Come help us seed flats, plant, water, weed, and harvest produce in our Farmer's Field Garden, our Children's Garden, our Giving Garden and in our greenhouses. We are looking for those who wish to dedicate a few hours a week to help in all garden areas at Stratford. We are dedicating Mondays at 1pm as garden workdays. If Mondays are not an available time for you, please let us know that too and we can look at other days and times for you to help.

Road Front Litter Pick-Up - This is an on-going opportunity, but even more so, now that the snow has melted and we are noticing lots of little along the parameter of Stratford, that does not belong on the land. Share your love of nature by becoming a **Farm and Nature Guide** - leading small groups of children on adventures around the farm and nature preserve. These 1-3 hour learning discoveries share an appreciation of nature and an understanding of where our food comes from. We will train you!

Farmer's Helper - may include preparing and maintaining the fields, animal chores, carpentry, fence building, other farm maintenance and upkeep. We also have some rusty fencing on the farm that needs to be removed and are looking for a few volunteers who can help us in removing this rusty fencing.

Invasive Species Removal: garlic mustard, multi-flora rose, and honeysuckle. Removal of these invasives is important to our delicate forest of wildflowers. We are looking for some volunteers who would like to help us in Invasive Species Removal.

Trail Maintenance - keeping our trails clear and easy to follow. We need to keep our trails clear for visitors and field trips. Some work will need chain saws and other work will just involve picking up branches and sticks that are on the walking path.

Bluebird Monitors - During the spring, summer and fall, we for a couple of volunteers who would like to monitor our 27 Bluebird Nest Boxes at Stratford. It can be good exercise, great fun and we will train you!

And Much, Much, More! Contact Jane Walsh at 740-363-2548 or SECVolunteer@aol.com
Or visit www.stratfordecologicalcenter.org

Delaware County Children Services and Community Partners Present:

Pancakes for Prevention

Come join us for:

"You're a Better Parent Than You Think!"

Presentation for Parents

Games and Prizes for Kids ~ Community Resources

All-you-can-eat Pancakes Served by Local Celebrities

Saturday, April 30, 2011 ~ Willis Intermediate School ~ 74 W. William St.

Pancakes served from 8:00 AM – 9:15 Games for the kids from 8:00 AM – Noon

Guest speaker, Dr. Ray Guarendi at 9:30 AM

An event packed with humor and real-life examples for parents, teachers and anyone who works with children today who are having their confidence, peace of mind, and authority undercut by a number of widespread myths that have been pushed upon them. Plenty of practical ideas will be offered for dealing with children more calmly and easily.

You will leave laughing, feeling emotionally upbeat and much more self-confident.

Dr. Ray Guarendi is a father, clinical psychologist, author, and radio host.

He has appeared on national television programs, including The Oprah Winfrey Show.



The Global Village Collection

37 N. Sandusky Street

Shop Locally, Think Globally!

www.globalvillagecollection.org

The Global Village Collection is the perfect place to do your Spring gift shopping. The store is stocked with unique and beautiful hand-crafted items including clothing, as well as FAIR TRADE CHOCOLATE, coffees, teas, and other delicious food items. Your purchases help to provide a fair living wage to the artisans who create the items for sale, most of whom live and work in developing countries. The store is staffed by friendly volunteers who donate their time in support of this most worthy cause. If you haven't visited the Global Village Collection, you're in for a real treat.

To learn how you can become a Global Village Volunteer, e-mail volunteers@globalvillagecollection.org, visit their website, or...better yet, drop by the store in person. You'll be glad you did!



Be the change you wish to see in the world—Gandhi

Connections is the central clearinghouse for volunteers and can connect you to over 100 nonprofit organizations within Delaware County. Call us at 363-5000 or email us at spingry@helplinedelmar.org.

Visit delawarecountyvolunteers.org





Volunteer Opportunities

Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? Columbus Housing Partnership offers a wide array of volunteer opportunities in each of our Homeport Programs.

Columbus Housing Partnership is a nonprofit organization that operates in the belief that a decent and affordable home is the cornerstone of family life and a healthy community. Through our Homeport Programs, we provide quality, affordable homes and services to low and moderate income households in Central Ohio. Through our activities, Columbus Housing Partnership is a partner in building vibrant communities and enhancing the lives of its residents.

The ideas listed below are just a sampling of the volunteer opportunities and needs that can be found at CHP. Opportunities range from the small to large and from one-day events to year-long projects. CHP has opportunities that fit the needs of individuals, families, service organizations, and corporate teams.

Our Housing Advisory Center is currently looking for an **Administrative Support** volunteer to assist with tasks such as filing, computer research, organization of forms and folders, making copies and other tasks as needed. This assignment would require approximately 3-4 hours of service per week, however date and time are flexible during business hours.

We are also in need of **Guest Speakers** for our Teen Financial Fitness classes held at our rental communities. We are looking for volunteers with experience in the finance, banking, mortgage, or similar field to talk to our teenagers about finances and how the local economy affects them. These classes are one hour long and held in the evening. Email our Volunteer Coordinator for the class schedule.

Our Community Life Program has a variety of **Mentorship/Tutoring** opportunities through the end of the school year, and then again starting mid-June for our summer programming. These volunteers will work with the children in our communities on educational activities, tutoring, setting up of daily activities, chaperoning on designated field trips, and serving of meals. There are program locations throughout Columbus, as well as flexibility in schedule desired.

Spanish and Somali Language Translators are needed to assist with interpretation between residents and CHP Supportive Service Coordinators when the residents are non-English speaking. Opportunities are very flexible based on the volunteers' availability.

We are also in need of volunteers to assist with our upcoming **Health Fairs**. Volunteers will be needed starting at the end of April to help with our health fairs and our back to school rallies. Events are held on Saturdays and require about four hours of service. Volunteers will assist with ensuring residents questions are answered, keeping an eye on the children, helping with booth set up and tear down, registration, and other tasks as needed.

Our **Resource Development** department is currently in need of administrative support once a week for a few hours with data entry, making copies, typing letters, research projects, event planning, and event set up and tear down. We are looking for a volunteer during standard work hours, however day(s) and hours are completely flexible based on the volunteers availability.

Please contact our Volunteer Coordinator, Rachel Arnold, today if any of these opportunities are of interest to you! We will also have a variety of upcoming events including neighborhood revitalization projects, fundraising events, and back to school rallies that volunteers will be needed for! Please contact us if you would like any information on these opportunities as well.

Call 614-221-8889 x176
to discuss volunteer opportunities.

To learn more about Homeport Programs please visit:
www.homeportohio.org



Help Stop Human Trafficking... Attend A FREE TRAINING WORKSHOP

Sponsored by HelpLine, this workshop offers 2 free CEU's for counselors and social workers and is open to the public to increase awareness on a local level.

Featured Presenter: Brent Currence, Director of the Ohio Missing Children's Clearinghouse Of The Ohio Attorney General's Office, a person on the frontlines of the fight against human trafficking.

Tuesday, APRIL 26th, 6-8pm

Please call Connections Volunteer Center to register at [740-363-5000](tel:740-363-5000)!

***Training will be held in
Delaware County***



COMMON GROUND FREE STORE

APRIL FUNDRAISER

Place an order with the Pampered Chef and the free store will receive 10-20% of the orders, based on sales. Book a party and the free store will receive \$3 credit for each party.

GO TO: www.PAMPEREDCHEF.BIZ/LORIJOHNSON1

Select: shop online

Type: Common Ground Free Store as the host

Select your items

Select: Direct Shipping

Catalogs and order forms are also available at the free store.
ORDERS ARE DUE BY APRIL 30

If you have any questions, please contact Lori Johnson at 614-430-3821 or lorijohnson@columbus.rr.com

April Guest Special: Select any peeler FREE with purchase of \$60 or more!

You may pay with cash, check or credit card. Checks should be made payable to: Lori Johnson



Annual Food Pantry "CAN"paign Thru May 20, 2011

Food and Taxable Items Most Needed in the Food Pantry

Canned Meats/Fish	Dry Milk	Toilet Paper**
Canned Pasta	Coffee-Instant/Perked	Feminine Napkins**
Noodles/Macaroni	Tea Bags	Paper Towels**
Cereal-Cooked/Dry	Hot Chocolate Mix	Napkins**
Pancake Mix (Complete)	Syrup	Diapers** (Medium/Large)
Peanut Butter	Jelly	Razors**
Pudding Mixes	Jell-O	Kleenex**
Canned Fruit	Soups	Shampoo**
Boxed Dinners	Saltine Crackers	Laundry Detergent**
Graham Crackers	Spaghetti Sauce	Bar Soap**
Potatoes - Boxed/Instant	Cake Mixes	Dish Soap**
Frosting Mixes	Canned Vegetables	Shaving Cream**
Macaroni & Cheese	Muffin Mixes	Toothbrushes**
Canned Fruit Juices		

****Items not available with Ohio Direction Benefit Card**

People In Need, Inc. ~ Serving the Delaware County Community Since 1981
138 Johnson Drive ~ Delaware, Ohio 43015 ~ 740-363-6284
<http://delawarepeopleinneed.org/>



The Happy Residents, Advisers and Enthusiastic Supporters of the Award-Winning Peace & Justice House at the 2011 Golden Bishop Awards Event. (see cover story)

Dates To Remember

Now thru May 20th - (Page 7)
People In Need "CAN"paign

April 26th - (Page 7)
HelpLine Workshop to

April 28th
OWU Last Day of Classes

April 30th - (Page 5)
"Pancakes for Prevention"

May 2nd-5th
OWU Final Exams

May 7th - 8pm - Gray Chapel
OWU Baccalaureate

May 8th
Mother's Day
OWU Commencement



*To love what you do and feel that it matters...
How could anything be more fun? ~ Katherine Graham*

A very fond farewell...

Normally, we save this last page panel for the student editor to send along their regards as they complete their year-long internship with "Opportunity Knocks". But this year, Martha Park has very graciously suggested that it's my turn to write this bittersweet final message. As most of you know by now, I am retiring at the end of May after 22 years with Ohio Wesleyan. And what a wonderful experience it has been! Over the years I've had the privilege to serve with the best colleagues, students and community partners anyone could wish for. Many have become dear friends, and I know we will remain as such in the years to come. Thank you for sharing the journey of a lifetime!

And for those of you wondering about Martha, she is graduating with a degree in English and Fine Arts. She plans to return to her home town of Memphis, Tennessee in mid-July where she will have an internship with the local chapter of Facing History and Ourselves, an organization which "focuses on bringing ethical and moral philosophy to history and social studies classes, particularly regarding issues of racism, civic responsibility and tolerance." We couldn't be more proud!

With warm regards for you and all the great work yet to be done...

**Sue Pastors, Director
Community Service Learning**