

Be The Change

OHIO
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Community Service

Campus Involvement Center

Student Service Org. Issue

February 2011

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GET INVOLVED!

To learn more about all Ohio student service orgs. check out : www.ohio.edu/communityservice/student

Bobcats For Babies



Bobcats for Babies is an OU service group dedicated to pursuing the mission of the national organization of March of Dimes. Their goal is to help moms have full-term pregnancies and research the problems that threaten the health of babies. Made up of around 15 members, Bobcats for Babies welcomes new members all year round and meets every other Tuesday. If interested, you can contact Chelsea Acock at Ca572306@ohio.edu.

The organization aims for one major fund raising event each quarter. Fall quarter a corn hole tournament was sponsored by the group. This quarter the group is hosting the third annual OU Idol on February 21st and 22nd.

The contest is open to anyone to perform and compete in front of a panel of three judges from Elliot Studios. The winner shall receive five hours of recording time. Money from registration, ticket sales, and a bake sale all go towards the March of Dimes. In the spring the organization volunteers to help put together the March for Babies in partnership with March of Dimes. "The group has made progress in the past couple of years and we are looking forward to making the group even bigger and putting on more well-known events to help serve their cause," said Chelsea Acock, President.

**By Ashleigh Mavros
Freshman, Journalism**

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"If you cannot do great things, do small things in a great way." » Napoleon Hill

Student Council For Exceptional Children

By Ashleigh Mavros
Freshman, Journalism



Working to help serve children with disabilities throughout the Athens area is the main priority of the student service group, the Student Council for Exceptional

Children (SCEC). The club meets on Tuesdays at 7:00 in McCracken and is always looking for new members.

Although a large amount of their time goes to serving children, they also work with adults with disabilities. Their projects include a wide range of activities from volunteering at ATCO, a work training center for adults with disabilities, to putting together bowling and movie nights, tutoring, to working at food pantries.

On top of their service hours, the group also fundraises. Past donation efforts funded the building of a handicap accessible playground and sponsored a little league baseball team.

In the future, SCEC hopes to continue serving children and adults with disabilities along with getting more people involved while promoting their organization. For more information please contact SCECOhio@gmail.com.

Student Teaching About Racism in Society

By Ashleigh Mavros | Freshman, Journalism

Students Teaching About Racism in Society (STARS) has been a presence on OU's campus since the early 80's. They work to serve and educate the surrounding areas about racism through diversity training sessions, connecting with other organizations, and putting on events to help spotlight various issues related to racism. The group meets Mondays at 6:00PM in Bentley 110 and welcomes new members.

Last quarter, STARS worked with Student Senate to put together Islamaphobia, a panel on anti-

Islamic beliefs. Their most recent event was "It Takes A Village," which educated Athens county grade school children about diversity, Martin Luther King Jr., and why we celebrate MLK day. In the past, this event was put on every other year as an extra-curricular activity for grade school children. However, this year over 320 students in grades k-12 participated. The event won a leadership award given out by the University for the best winter quarter event of 2010.

In the future the group hopes to keep working with various

organizations, buildup "It Takes A Village," and work with even more volunteers. For more information contact Laure Hyde at Lh264909@ohio.edu.



"We all have ability the difference is how you use it." > Stevie Wonder

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Student In Service

Joe Stitt

Senior,
Earth Science
Education



Joe Stitt, an OU Senior & Earth Science education major from Pittsburgh, PA, has shown commendable contributions in the local community while at Ohio University. Since 2007, Stitt has volunteered at Habitat for Humanity. At Habitat, Stitt has assisted in the building of homes in Athens, OH and Wood County, WV. During the past two years, he has also served as an Advisory chair on Habitat's Executive Board. In that position, he has lead a committee to plan "Act, Speak, Build Week," a week-long advocacy campaign for Habitat on Campus. Since 2008, Joe has also been a volunteer at the Big Brothers Big Sisters organization in Athens. Stitt

was matched with a boy from New Marshfield and drives there to see him on a weekly basis. During their time together, they play sports and discuss their interests.

"What I like best about community service is seeing the impact one can make on someone else's life," Joe Stitt said. "Every time I get to meet a Habitat homeowner, or see the smile on my "little" brother's face, I know that the effort I put in is completely worth it." Lastly, Stitt is the only student representative that serves on the Cardboard City Committee. The committee plans an annual event in which students stay in cardboard boxes overnight in an effort to bring awareness of homelessness, substandard housing and the need for safe housing. In the past two years the event has raised approximately \$12,000.

Stitt is a member of Kappa Delta Pi, an education honors society.

**By Kaila Uline
Student Contributor
Sophomore, Viscom**

Service Ambassadors



Ohio University Service Ambassadors (OUSA) is a new student service group forming in cooperation with the Community Service division of the Campus Involvement Center at Ohio University.

As a Service Ambassador, students will commit to giving five presentations every quarter to University students, faculty, and student organizations. The information included in these presentations will relate to understanding Appalachian culture, the fundamentals of running good service projects, and the resources available in this community. These students will be trained and become a knowledgeable resource for classes, organizations, or individuals who want to do outstanding volunteer work in Athens County.

Service Ambassadors will provide others with the tools they need to work effectively with community based organizations (CBOs) in Athens County.

OUSA is currently recruiting enthusiastic students to be a part of this new initiative. If you are looking to refine your public speaking skills, enrich your leadership skills, and empower others to be better community servants, Service Ambassadors wants you! For more information email Jessica Harlin at jessica_harlin@yahoo.com.

By Jessica Harlin
Senior, Organizational
Communications

"Remember there is no such thing as a small act of kindness, Every act creates a ripple with no logic end." » Scott A.

Community Service Leadership Council

By Nate Dicken | President of CSLC, Junior, Communication Studies

The Community Service Leadership Council (CSLC) has started with a gusto this Winter Quarter. After an enjoyable break everyone is glad to be back in Athens and we have been working diligently to provide and lead weekly projects in and around this great community. Some projects that we have done so far this quarter include working with UCM's Saturday Lunch and ongoing tornado relief effort. We have upcoming Projects with the Athens Humane Society Feb 5th and also with Passionworks later in February.

We are currently holding a new member drive and will be having an informational session for anyone interested in becoming a member of CSLC on Wednesday Feb 2nd at 7:00pm in Bentley Hall Rm. 124. We are always looking for interested and motivated individuals who want to help out Athens. As we see CSLC grow, expect to see more projects offered weekly and keep an eye out for advertising for those projects so that you know what will be going on each weekend.

So far this quarter we have seen great strides in member involvement and success with each project. We are having a great time giving back to our community and are excited for a great remainder of the Winter Quarter strongly!



Ready 2 Play

By Amanda Leheney | Student Contributor
Sophomore, Community Health/ Health Promotion

Sean Farrow an Ohio University Student and the Ohio University Men's Rugby club are helping the children of Athens community become "ready 2 play". Ready 2 Play is a student organization that collects any new or used sporting equipment and disperses it to youth and

recreational sport leagues in the Athens area, By cutting their cost for equipment this group aims to help out children who live in or near to poverty to enjoy all of the perks that playing sports can offer. This gives many parents the opportunity to get their children involved with sports without having to stress over

finding ways to afford them. Ready 2 Play meets two times a quarter to discuss ways to collect as much equipment as possible to help these children get active and experience team play. Students can get involved by donating their used athletic gear or purchasing new equipment. Ready 2 Play will then give the contributions to the Athens program community youth athletics. If you would like to lend a helping hand or get more information regarding Ready 2 Play, please contact Sean at sf249907@ohio.edu.



"Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." » Mark Twain

* = Good Group Projects

Calendar : Volunteer Events

February 2011		15th Friday •Visit your Hometown High School Training 12pm Chub 260
12th Saturday •Good Earth Farm Project of the week 9:00am – 2:00pm *Athens High School Sectional Swim Meet 1pm-4pm or 4pm-7pm	21st Monday •Bobcat IDOL (on first page)	26th Saturday •Battle of the Chefs 6pm Inn at Hocking College •Project of the Week
16th Wednesday •Visit your Hometown High School Training 6:00pm Athens Community Center Chub 260	27th Sunday *Up 'Til Dawn Annual Letter Sending Event 1pm-8pm Baker Ballroom	

Contacts For More Information:

- **Good Earth Farm**
Contact: Emily at ed299708@ohio.edu or to sign up visit <http://www.ohio.edu/communityservice/bobcat-vacation-donation.cfm>
- **High School Swim Meet**
email Bill at hauschil@ohio.edu

- **Hometown Visit Training**
Email: md226408@ohio.edu for more info visit www.ohio.edu/admissions/hometown
- **Bobcat IDOL**
Contact: Chelsea Acock at Ca572306@ohio.edu
- **Up 'Til Dawn**
Contact: Brad at bj230206@ohio.edu
- **Project of the Week**
<http://www.ohio.edu/communityservice>

Credits • • • •

Lisa Nelson- Managing Editor
Kaila Uline- Design and Layout
Ashleigh Mavros-Features Reporter

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