

Volunteer Voice

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Spring Flowers Bring Community Service Hours

By Amanda Fletcher

This winter resulted in treacherous snow storms throughout the country and produced plenty of rain to Valdosta. Those showers certainly brought flowers and a plethora of outdoor community service. Throughout the month of April, Volunteer Services teamed up with students and faculty to engage in numerous community services events. These events included: the ongoing Soles4Souls, the Great American Clean-Up on April 17, and Relay for Life on April 23. National Volunteer Week was celebrated during the week of April 18-24.

During National Volunteer Week, Volunteer Services presented four students with the Community Service Award for Excellence. This award is dedicated to students who have contributed more than 100 service hours and encouraged a sense of civic responsibilities among students through critical engagement and



Volunteer of the Month: Whitney Tutt

By Amanda Fletcher

Actively involved in numerous volunteer organizations on campus, including Golden Key International Honor Society, Alpha Chi National Honor Society, and SIFE, Whitney Tutt is April's Volunteer of the Month. With 130 recorded hours of service, Tutt spends her days dedicating time to her favorite place, the Methodist Group Home.

"I've been volunteering at the Methodist Group Home for over two years, which has in turn helped me become an open-minded and patient person by interacting with a wide array of individuals," Tutt said.

Volunteering since her freshman year of high school, Tutt found her passion for service when she first started helping kindergartners with reading skills. That enthusiasm for helping children is engraved in Tutt to this day. She devotes a couple days each week at Westside Elementary School to help students with accelerated reader exams.

Already a cheerful person, Tutt loves volunteering not only with children, but also around the community.

"Volunteering does not require a huge time commitment, just a few hours a week is greatly appreciated," Tutt said. She believes that volunteering just once makes one realize the daily necessities people take for granted.

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VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY
VOLUNTEER SERVICES

Why Volunteering Benefits YOU!

- **Learn Something New**-learning something new and exciting adds to the enjoyment and quality of our life.
- **Meet New People**-volunteering offers you the opportunity to meet new and diverse people.
- **Feel Good**-helping others makes you feel good about yourself.
- **Gain Professional Skills**-volunteering is an excellent way to build your portfolio.
- **Become Connected to your Community**-volunteering can make you feel connected and a part of something bigger than yourself.
- **Improve Your Health**-new research indicates that there is a link between doing volunteer work for others and living a happier, healthier, longer life.
- **It's The Right Thing to Do**-as students receiving a higher education, living in America, having food, shelter, and other material goods, you are privileged and have a responsibility to those who do not share your gifts of access.

STUDENT ACTION COUNCIL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

HOMELESS RESOURCE FAIR-MAY 15

EMAIL VOLUNTEER SERVICES AT
VOLUNTEER@VALODSTA.EDU

OR CALL MRS. GRACE WRIGHT AT 229-245-7175
EXT. 280

**ADDITIONAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
MAY BE FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE:
WWW.VALDOSTA.EDU/STULIFE/VOLUNTEER/INDEX**

FALL 2010 STUDENT ACTION COUNCIL BOARD

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