

Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement

Volume 3, Issue 1

Fall 2006

Year Begins with a Record-breaking Do It Day: Over 500 students volunteer at 57 different Hartford worksites

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For the past seven years, Do It Day has been the much anticipated first major service event of the academic year. Do It Day is a half-day event that engages students, faculty, and staff members in a variety of service projects throughout the Hartford area. Do It Day plays an important role in setting a tone for the Trinity community about the importance of acting as a responsible and engaged citizen of Hartford. And at this year's 8th annual Do It Day, Trinity did not disappoint.

On Saturday September 9th, the 8th annual Do It Day involved a record-breaking 520 members of the Trinity community, working at 57 worksites around our city. At the end of the day, everyone gathered on the Main Quad for a picnic and enjoyed food that was donated by 50 different local restaurants.

Marla Stancil '07 and

Kathryn West '07 served as Do It Day coordinators and spent the summer planning and organizing the large scale event. They were responsible for every detail, including, but not limited to,



A local child helps Scott Baumgartner '07 with gardening at Jumoke Academy.

contacting approximately 200 organizations and confirming arrangements with the 57 that actually participated, recruiting Trinity volunteers to fill all of the sites, and soliciting the food donations for the picnic.

Volunteer projects for the day ranged in everything from painting, flower planting and stocking a food pantry to fixing computers and running bingo games with predominantly Spanish speaking senior citizens.

Many students commented on the positive experiences they had at their worksite. For example, Praxis members spent the afternoon cleaning pianos, organizing the music library, and helping with yard work at the Hartford Conservatory. According to Praxis Coordinator Caroline Milano '07, "Our experience was especially rewarding because the Conservatory staff was so openly appreciative of our work. They worked along side of us throughout the day and provided snacks and drinks to help keep us energized!"

While Do It Day is largely about assisting organizations with projects they may not have the time *(continued on page 24)*

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Selected Fall 2006 Highlights

August

28-30

Pre-Orientation Programs: Community Service and Hartford Parks and Bike

28-31

FACES Training: Student community service leaders returned to campus early to begin planning for the new academic year.

September

9

8th Annual Do It Day: A half-day event that engaged more than 500 students, faculty and staff members in service projects at different sites around Hartford.

October

14

AIDS Walk: AMSA and SUSHI participated in the event in West Hartford and together raised more than \$700 for AIDS Project Hartford.

15

Making Strides Breast Cancer: Kappa Kappa Gamma (which raised over \$3,000 alone), Colleges Against Cancer, and the Women's Center participated in the walk at Bushnell Park.

22

Habitrot: The 5k run sponsored by Habitat for Humanity raised over \$900 towards their alternative Spring Break trip to Jacksonville, FL.

24

Red Cross Blood Drive and National Bone Marrow Registration Drive: Sponsored by Psi Upsilon, a record 63 pints of usable blood were collected and 25 people entered themselves into the Na-

tional Bone Marrow Registry.

25

Breast Cancer Awareness panel: Over 60 young women attended the event sponsored by Hillel, Colleges Against Cancer, and Zeta Omega Eta

29

Halloween on Vernon Street: A half-day event that provided hundreds of local children and their families with a fun and safe Halloween experience.



November

4-5

Green Homecoming: Green Campus and SGA purchased wind energy to offset Trinity's energy use for the weekend.

14

Peter's Retreat A Cappella Concert: All of Trinity's a cappella groups performed for the residents of Peter's Retreat, a local housing community for those living with HIV/AIDS.

14

Mix It Up Day: An event sponsored by Bridge that encouraged students to branch out of their normal social groups and sit with new people during dinner in Mather Dining Hall.

13-18

Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week: ConnPIRG, ACES, Amnesty, and Praxis held a series of events to draw attention to the troubling issue. Some of the activities included the Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive, the Oxfam

Hunger Banquet, and the Great Pie Project.

13-17

Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive: Turkey and all the trimmings were donated to 100 families of children who attend the M.D. Fox Elementary School.

15

Oxfam Hunger Banquet: In an attempt to draw attention to the unequal distribution of food around the world, people were seated and fed meals according to their randomly assigned social class.

16

"Faces of Homelessness" panel: A panel that consisted of formerly and currently homeless people that helped put a human face on the serious problem.

18

The Great Pie Project: Praxis baked hundreds of pies and donates them to nonprofit organizations in Hartford

28

9th Graders Go To College- Alpha Delta Phi escorted 40 9th graders from Bulkely High School on a campus tour and to various lecture on campus.

27- Dec 1

ACES Sponsor a Snowman Drive: 145 holiday gifts were collected for the children of the Hartford Interval House, a domestic violence shelter.

December

4-8

Human Rights Week: Speakers, movie screenings, and a peace vigils took place throughout the week to draw attention to human rights violations around the world.

Special Report: Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week by Annie Bonfiglio '10

During National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, which took place November 12th-18th, several Trinity organizations came together to draw attention to the issues of hunger and homelessness and help provide some relief for those in need in the Hartford area. Events held this year included the Oxfam Hunger Banquet, a “Faces of Homelessness” panel, the annual Thanksgiving Basket Food Drive, as well as the annual Praxis Great Pie Project.



With the goal of raising awareness of worldwide hunger, Amnesty International and ConnPIRG sponsored the Oxfam Hunger Banquet on November 15th in the Washington Room.

Upon arrival at the banquet, each diner selected a piece of paper that determined their name, job, and class for the duration of the event. People were then seated and fed according to their standing; the lower classes sat on the floor and were given water and rice; the middle class sat on chairs and received rice and beans; and the upper class sat at tables and feasted on salad, pasta salad, and juice.

The meal was followed by a presentation on facts about hunger and homelessness, stories of those who had experienced poverty firsthand, and an open discussion that allowed diners share their thoughts on the subject. Though the event was free, donations were collected and \$109.35 was raised for the Immaculate Conception Shelter.

On Thursday, November 16th ConnPIRG sponsored a “Faces of Homelessness” panel in the McCook Auditorium. Speakers included a representative from The National Coali-

tion of Homelessness (NCH), two people who previously been homeless, and one person who is currently homeless. The event began with remarks from the NCH representative, a presentation of statistics on homelessness and a clip from the television show *60 Minutes* special about “bum fights,” a disturbing craze in which people give home homeless men money and/or alcohol to fight other homeless men for the sake of entertainment.

The panelists then shared their personal stories of how they ended up in such dire circumstances, the discrimination they faced, and how it broke them down. Their moving stories struck a chord with many people and helped make the plight of homeless people seem a lot more real.



Praxis baked approximately 500 pies for local shelters.

In keeping with the hunger theme, ACES and ConnPIRG worked together to coordinate the annual Thanksgiving Basket Drive, an event that provides the needy families of 100 specifically targeted students from M.D. Fox Elementary School with a turkey and all the trimmings for their holiday meal. Chartwells donated all 100 of the 14 pound turkeys and Trinity’s administration, faculty, staff, and student body made generous food donations and/or monetary contributions so volunteers could purchase all the necessary “fixings” to complete the baskets.

Once assembled, the baskets were delivered directly to the elemen-

tary school where they were picked up by the children and their families. Thank you to everyone who donated food, money, and time and helped make this event possible!

The final activity during Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week was the Praxis annual Great Pie Project. On Saturday, November 18th, Praxis members took over the Mather kitchen and baked approximately 500 pies. Once cooled, the pies were wrapped and delivered to 12 different shelters and soup kitchens in the Greater Hartford area so they could be enjoyed at Thanksgiving dinner. Special thanks to Chartwells for providing Praxis with the baking ingredients, facilities, and moral support!

Thanks to the generosity of the Trinity community and based on the attendance at events and the reception our donations received in the community, Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week was truly a success this year. On behalf of ConnPIRG, Amnesty, ACES, and Praxis, thank you to everyone who helped make it possible!

For more information about Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week, please contact Joe Barber at jbarber@trincoll.edu.

ConnPIRG

Adolescent Mentoring Program (AMP) by Danielle Rowan '08

The Adolescent Mentoring Program (AMP) has had another exciting semester. At the end of last year, the leaders of the program met with educational program consultant, Fahd Vahidy of Street Smart Ventures to reconfigure the program's organization. After much planning, we decided to focus AMP on promoting literacy and building relationships between high school and college students.

Our group meets every Tuesday afternoon in the FACES Lounge. In addition to inviting several high schoolers back from last year's program, we also recruited new students

from Hartford Public High School. The program also gained popularity among Trinity students as we also boast several new mentors.

To maintain a casual and comfortable environment, mentors and mentees spend the first 30 minutes of each session mingling and eating snacks. This has helped everyone bond by building trusting friendships with each other as well as academic relationships.

After catching up with one another, mentors and mentees then work on homework or participate in the planned group activity for the day.

These activities range from discussions about current events to art projects to tours of our campus.

In addition, AMP teamed up with the Writing Center this semester to present several writing workshops (from poetry writing to analysis and general grammar work) for the mentees. With the help of the Writing Center and dedicated mentors, the AMP program was able to enjoy another successful semester.

For more information about AMP, please contact Melissa Katz at melissa.katz@trincoll.edu.

Big Brother/ Big Sister by Steve Netcoh '09

The Nutmeg Big Brothers/Big Sisters program gives Trinity students the opportunity to impact the life of a young student living in Hartford. Trinity students, known as the "bigs," make the short trip down the street to McDonough Elementary School once a week to spend an hour or so with their "littles."

In addition to providing homework help, 20 Trinity "bigs" spend time playing board games or just chatting and hanging out with their "littles."

The Trinity students serve as great role models for these children and the weekly visits are rewarding for everyone involved.



Many "bigs" and "littles" establish friendships that will likely continue in the coming years.

Since McDonough Elementary School is located just around the corner from Trinity, our strong base of volunteers carpool in teams of two to three people to the school, depending on their time slot.

If you would like to become a volunteer or would like more information about the Big Brother/Big Sister program, please contact Steve Netcoh at steven.netcoh@trincoll.edu.

V.A.M.P. & Rising Stars by Romulus Ferrer-Perez

The Vision Academic Mentoring Program (V.A.M.P.) and the Rising Stars Academic Mentoring Program provide impetus and a great sense of encouragement for local students to continue to climb the educational ladder.

This fall, 45 mentors from Trinity College become instant "big brothers" and "big sisters" to approximately 60 mentees from the Hartford Magnet Middle School (HMMS). The mentors and mentees alike are as di-

verse as the scholastic subjects and topics that they tackle together as a team. They meet twice a week for about two hours each day, in four different clusters or classrooms within the HMMS facility.

Since their inception in 2001, the programs have been influential and positive weekly affairs, combining an hour of focused on homework concentration with a half-hour to an hour's worth of enrichment activities. The latter includes everything from simple

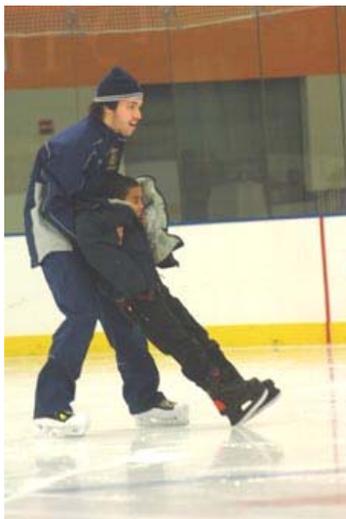
art projects or group board games to sharpen the mind to letting off steam through outdoor athletic activities.

As the mentors impart their knowledge, the mentees' attitudes and grades often improve and the result is a rewarding experience for everyone involved.

For more information on how to become a Trinity mentor, please contact program coordinator Romulus Ferrer Perez at romulus.perez@trincoll.edu.

Boys & Girls Club by Tauheedah Muhammad

The connection between Trinity College and the Boys & Girls Club proved to be very fruitful during the fall 2006 semester as there were several collaborations that have helped to bridge the gap between the College and the community. These interactions have provided many opportunities for Club children and Trinity students to learn from and bond with one another.



Trinity goalie Joe Hanson '10 helps a Club member adjust to his skates.

Some of the specific programs that have been available to Boys & Girls Club members with the assistance of Trinity students include Power Hour, Tributes, and ice skating, squash, and swimming lessons!

Power Hour, an hour-long homework intensive study program, takes place Monday- Thursday from 3:00- 4:00 PM. Several Trinity students provided homework help and tutored children in various subject areas during the fall.

The Tributes Drama Program has been a collaborative effort between holocaust survivor Eve Samaurai and Trinity Professor Naogan Ma, Club parents, Club staff, and Trinity students. Throughout the semester, Club members spent time learning and rehearsing the script for a play written

by Ms. Samauri about the life Harriet Tubman. Club members (with help and direction from two Trinity students) rehearsed once a week for eight weeks in Trinity's Life Sciences Center. The final performance took place in the Washington room on December 5, 2006 and was enjoyed by family, friends, and Trinity students alike. The Tributes program will now be offered during the Spring semester as a half credit course.

Several of Trinity's athletic teams were very involved at the Boys & Girls Club during the fall. During the month of December, approximately 50 Club members have been going to the Community Sports Complex and learning how to ice skate. Lessons, given by the Trinity men's and women's ice hockey teams, have been taking place three days a week for three straight weeks and will continue over winter break and during the spring semester.



On Mondays, the Trinity men's squash team has been spending an hour teaching Club members how to play the non-traditional sport. Team members designed and implemented this program on their own and the children have enjoyed learning how to play the game from the reigning NCAA Division I National Champions!

Another favorite at the Boys & Girls Club is the swimming program that has been run by the men's and women's swim teams for several semesters. This provides Club members with swimming lessons and life guards once a week on Fridays.

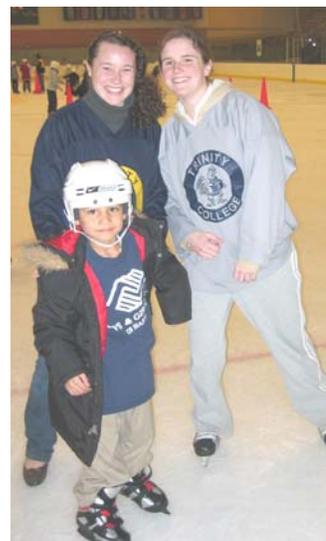
In addition, a Trinity student

helped run our Triple Play program as part of an athletic internship for one of his classes. This program highlights the importance of healthy habits, sportsmanship, and physical activity and provided the Trinity student with experiences in lesson planning, teaching, and running activities for young children.

This past semester, we were fortunate to have three work study students to help us with our five core areas: the Arts, Education and Career Development, Character and Leadership Development, Sports, Fitness, and Recreation, and Health and Life skills. Computer classes, science experiments, arts and crafts and sports leagues are among the various activities offered.

The connection between the Boys & Girls Club and Trinity College enhances the lives of Club members and Trinity volunteers alike. It is our hope that the relationships forged through these programs will be ongoing and continue to benefit everyone involved.

For more information about the Boys & Girls Club, please contact Unit Director Tauheedah Muhammad at (860) 727-4154.



Bantams Rosie McGuirk '09 and Marissa Powers '09 spend some time on the ice with a young Club member.

Dream Camp by Melissa Soroka

Dream Camp at Trinity College has a long-standing history of providing unique opportunities to Trinity students and children from the City of Hartford.

Founded in 1998, Dream Camp transforms the lives low-income urban



Jason Haber '08 lends a hand during a Dream Camp after-school program.

youth through innovative yearlong programs that nurture the individual, educate the mind and inspire the spirit. In partnership with families and schools, Dream Camp develops young leaders who embrace challenges, seize opportunities and overcome obstacles, and are inspired to live their dreams.

Each year 250 scholarships are awarded to youth throughout Hartford who represent 50 public, charter, parochial and magnet schools to attend Dream Camp at Trinity College. Each scholarship provides for enrollment in both the after-school program and summer camp, transportation to and from the programs, participation in family events, and healthy meals and snacks while at the program.

In addition, Dream Camp provides opportunities for over 25 Trinity College students to engage in the Hartford community each year. During the fall 2006 semester 16 Trinity College students worked directly with Hartford youth at the after-school program and we anticipate that 20 students will work during the spring semester.

Additionally, 8 Trinity College students joined Dream Camp's team over the summer. Through their work, each of these students has gained a greater understanding of the challenges facing urban youth and positively impacted the participants of Dream Camp. With the support of their mentors and counselors, Dream Campers continue to develop self-confidence and learn to believe in themselves.

Dream Camp's presence on campus extends beyond the boundaries of our after-school and summer programs. Each year, Dream Camp partners with the VAMP and Rising Stars programs to stage a college and career fair that encourages Hartford youth to set goals for the future.

As well, within the past year, Dream Camp forged a relationship with a remarkable on-campus group named Wishmakers, who adopted a Dream Camper, Ciara, as their beneficiary. Ciara started with Dream Camp in 1998 and was diagnosed with a rare disease that left her immobile and unable to walk early in 2005. At that time, doctors were unable to diagnose her illness and did not give a positive prognosis.

Although Ciara had braces on her legs, she was determined to be well enough to attend camp that summer and participate fully in all of the sports activities. She persevered throughout the Spring and by the summer she had achieved her goal with the help of her physical therapists. Since that summer her condition has fluctuated and she has spent numerous hours, days, and weeks in and out of hospitals with various tests being conducted.

Her condition worsened prior to the summer of 2006 and she was left unable to participate in camp. To keep her in the Dream Camp family, we hired her to be an office assistant and

she proved to be a terrific team member.

After a long battle with an unknown disease, Ciara was recently diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis at the young age of 15 and continues to struggle with the condition. In the Fall 2006, the Wishmakers stepped in to provide additional support to Ciara. The Wishmakers raised funds to buy her a brand new laptop computer. Their efforts, along with an individual donation made by Sarah Knox, made this wish possible. This computer will be used to complete homework, send emails to her teachers, and organize information relating to school. She was very excited! Ciara and her family are very grateful to the Wishmakers and their efforts to make wishes come true.



Natasha Rosa '08 reads a story to a few of the younger Dream Campers.

Dream Camp is proud to be a member of the Trinity College community and looks forward to a bright future on campus. For more information about our programs, please feel free to contact Melissa Soroka at 860-987-6209 or msoroka@esfdreamcamp.org.

Artistic Expressions by Lindsay Dakan '07

Artistic Expressions at Charter Oak ran quite smoothly during the fall semester as we worked on a number of exciting projects and had a great group of volunteers. The program will continue to run in the spring on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons at the Charter Oak Cultural Center in downtown Hartford.

Most of the children in the program come from Betances Elementary School which is located just down the street from Charter Oak. Artistic Expressions allows these students to spend a few hours after school with Trinity volunteers while taking part in art and other activities that we plan for them. The children have also been working with a group of local graffiti artists and break dancers on Thursdays and Fridays who also stop by earlier in the week to help and hang out with them. The kids have been very enthusiastic about their b-boy education and have performed a couple times

already at different events at Charter Oak and around town. In the spring, the children will be participating in the International Hip-Hop Festival which is organized by Trinity's own Temple of Hip-Hop organization.

Another major project for Artistic Expressions this semester was a documentary that Alfonso Bui '08 made about the program. Alfonso produced the documentary for the internship portion of his "Organizing by Neighborhoods" class taught by Alta Lash. In addition to regular participation in the after school sessions, we are in the process of getting the documentary broadcast on Hartford Public Access television sometime in the near future for the purpose of building recognition for the program in the community, as well as recruiting more kids and volunteers.

As program founder Susan Botzko '07 enters her final semester at Trinity and many other volunteers pre-

pare to graduate, Artistic Expressions is going to need continuing support from committed volunteers and from the community! If you're interested in volunteering or learning more about the program, please email either Susan Botzko at susan.botzko@trincoll.edu or Lindsay Dakan at lindsay.dakan@trincoll.edu.



A young student takes a break from his painting project at Charter Oak Cultural Center.

Voices Organized in Democracy (VOID) by Ben Miller '08

VOID (Voices Organized In Democracy) is a liberal/leftist group that strives to balance discussion with action. During the fall, we tackled issues like sweatshop labor, sexism, racism, and heterosexism and drummed up support for third party candidates who brought new voices to political debates.

First, with the help of United Students Against Sweatshops, we succeeded in getting Trinity to join a program that conducts research in order to ensure that our school is not relying on sweatshop labor. In addition, we raised awareness by posting flyers with disturbing sweatshop facts on them all around campus and several students walked around campus wearing sweatshop produced t-shirts with provocative graffiti messages on them.

In keeping with last year's "Don't Commit It, Don't Permit" movement, we continued to raise awareness of sexism, racism, and heterosexism on campus. This was the subject of many discussions throughout the fall and next semester we will help fight for structural changes at Trinity.

With the fate of our country up for grabs in November, we canvassed with the Connecticut Working Families Party in support of their efforts to elect Chris Murphy over 12 time incumbent Nancy Johnson in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District. In addition, we brought two great speakers to Trinity: Connecticut's first Green Party and African-American candidate for governor, Cliff Thorton, as well as David Duhalde, a national organizer for the Young Democratic Socialists.

Next semester, we plan to participate in the "Justice Beyond Borders" conference in New York City. In addition, we plan to organize a Trinity/Hartford block party by working with various campus and community organizations.

Members of VOID are always encouraged to share their political convictions and test the endurance of their political idealism and optimism. For more information on how to become involved in VOID, please contact Ben Miller at benjamin.miller@trincoll.edu.

Darfur Coalition by Cara Pavlak '09

The Darfur Coalition had an extremely productive fall semester this year, continuing our push for the divestment of Trinity's endowment and our campaign to encourage the pension firm TIAA-CREF to divest itself of its Sudan-related investments. Our mission is to do everything we can to take action against the genocide occurring in the Darfur region of Sudan, from raising awareness about the violence and human rights abuses to working with Trinity to divest itself of investments it may have related to the Sudan.

We took action during Human Rights Week to raise awareness about Darfur, by working with Hillel's Paper Plate Project to send letters to Senator Lieberman on paper plates to send a message about hunger in Darfur.

Member Alex Henry '06 also participated in a panel discussion at Cinestudio after a viewing of the film *Darfur Diaries*.

The TIAA-CREF campaign consists of sending letters signed by Trinity employees who have retirement accounts with TIAA-CREF requesting that the firm divest itself from companies doing business with the government of Sudan. This is an ongoing campaign that will continue next semester.

Our crowning achievement was our meeting with the Trustees of the College at their meeting in December, where they used our group's research and approved our resolution for divestment from companies doing business in Sudan. The Coalition would like to thank the Alpha Delta Phi fra-

ternity, Joseph Barber, Scott Reynolds, the Trustees, the professors, and all those who have helped our cause this semester. We look forward to continuing our work next semester, and we encourage all to join us in supporting this important cause.

For more information about the Darfur Coalition, please contact Cara Pavlak at cara.pavlak@trincoll.edu.

Amnesty International by Megan Borgelt '08

The Trinity Chapter of Amnesty International is dedicated to raising awareness of human rights violations in foreign countries as well as those here in Hartford. In addition to hosting Human Rights Week, some of the specific issues that we focused on this semester were fair trade, and hunger and homelessness

Much effort continues to be put toward bringing fair trade coffee to campus. While there is currently a large supply of fair trade coffee available, it is not yet 100%. We will continue this project in the spring in an attempt to ensure that every cup of coffee we drink on campus is fair trade certified. Buying fair trade products ensures that coffee farmers in developing countries are paid a fairer share of the coffee sale proceeds. Trinity is among many other colleges and universities that are working to become 100% fair trade certified in its coffee offerings.

In mid-November, Amnesty worked in conjunction with Oxfam America and our campus chapter of ConnPIRG to host a Hunger Banquet. While there is enough food in the world to feed everyone, one person dies from hunger related causes every 2.9 seconds. The purpose of the Hunger Ban-



quet is to draw attention to this disturbing problem and the fact that it is happening right here in the United States. For more information about the event, please see the Special Report section on page 3 about Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.

Our chapter also participated in Human Rights Week in early De-

cember, just before Human Rights Day on December 10th. Activities such as a peace vigil, speakers, the screening of the movie *Darfur Diaries*, and a concert were all held to raise awareness of human rights violations around the world.

In addition to continuing our work on the fair trade movement next semester, we plan to launch a campaign about malaria and support a block party that aims to unite Trinity and the surrounding Hartford community. For more information about our chapter of Amnesty International, please contact Alex Blair at alexandra.blair@trincoll.edu or Sarah Gardiner at sarah.gardiner@trincoll.edu.

Colleges Against Cancer (Relay for Life) by Dan Hoyle '09

Colleges Against Cancer (CAC) is the student organization that works with the American Cancer Society to sponsor the Relay for Life and other cancer awareness events throughout the year. Still a part of the Trinity Wishmakers Theme Quad, CAC was formed to accommodate the overwhelming surge in student interest after last year's Relay for Life. This year's Relay is scheduled to take place on Saturday, April 14-15th on the *Jessee/Miller Field*.

The Relay is an overnight team event about remembrance, celebration, and hope. Students form teams of 10-15 people and have at least one of their members walking around the track at all times. Campsites are set up next to the *Robin L. Sheppard Field* and volunteers are treated to a variety of free food, games, activities, and live band performances throughout the night. Other highlights of the event include a formal dinner in Hamlin Hall for cancer survivors and their caregivers and a "Ceremony of Hope" at dusk to honor loved ones who lost or are still fighting their battle with cancer.

Last year's Relay, which was the first-ever to be held at Trinity, raised over \$69,000 to fight cancer and

placed us in the top five nationally out of all 330 college fundraisers (per capita) held by the American Cancer Society in 2006. Trinity will be officially recognized for this accomplishment at the 2007 Relay for Life Kick-Off Rally on Thursday, February 1st at 7:00 pm in the Washington Room. The Rally will also provide a chance for people to sign up as team captains and start registering their teams. The team captain meetings for the spring semester are also posted below.



In addition to planning the upcoming Relay, CAC teamed up with and would like to extend thanks to several organizations that raised cancer awareness on campus this fall. In October, the sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma sold pink ribbons and handed out information about breast cancer during Mather lunch. On October 15th, Kappa (which raised over \$3,000 for the cause), Zeta Omega Eta, and the

Women's Center all had teams participate in the American Cancer Society's *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk* in Bushnell Park.

Hillel sponsored a "Pink" Shabbat to raise awareness about the prevalence of breast cancer in young Jewish women and also helped us sponsor a breast cancer awareness panel with Dean Ann Reuman and oncologist Dr. Patricia DeFusco.

Finally, thanks to Bridge for selecting the Relay for Life as the beneficiary of the Field Day they sponsored in November. It proved to be a day of fun for event participants as well as the CAC members who served as referees!

The spring will be incredibly busy for CAC as we hope to build on the success of last year's Relay by raising even more money and involving even more members of the Trinity community.

Please go to www.acevents.org/relay/cttrinity to sign up for the event or contact Dan Hoyle at daniel.hoyle@trincoll.edu, Will Cyphers at harry.cyphers@trincoll.edu, or Caitlin Farrell caitlin.farrell@trincoll.edu for more information.

2007 Relay for Life Team Captain Meeting Schedule

Thursday, February 1	Relay Kick-Off Rally	7:00 pm	Washington Room
Sunday, February 18	Team Captains: How to Relay	7:30 pm	FACES Lounge
Sunday, March 4	Team Captains: Status Check	7:30 pm	FACES Lounge
Sunday, April 8	Team Captains: Bank Night/Site Selection	7:30 pm	FACES Lounge
Saturday, April 14-	Trinity's 2nd annual Relay for Life	6:00 pm -	Jessee/Miller Field
Sunday, April 15		12:00 pm	

Go to www.acevents.org/relay/cttrinity to sign up for or donate to Trinity's 2007 Relay for Life!

Lions Club by Haley Lepo '08

The Trinity College Lions Club is a member of Lions Club International, one of the largest community service organizations in the world. We organize events and fundraisers to benefit the less fortunate, specifically the sensory impaired.

Our biggest project this fall was our annual mum sale at the Berlin Fair. Although the first weekend of October was cold and rainy, we sold a record number of mums, raising over \$1,300 for local charities. As always, we are grateful for the support of the Berlin Lions, who organize the fair and provide special assistance for our club.

In November, we held a Peace Poster contest for middle school students in the Hartford area. Posters were judged based on originality, artistry, and expression of the theme "Celebrate Peace." The winning stu-

dents were presented with gift certificates and the first-place poster has advanced to District-level competition. The young artists' optimism for a peaceful future provided a welcome respite from the stark realism of the adult world.

This semester we also continued our ongoing ink and toner cartridge drive. Donated cartridges will be refilled and resold by Carolina Imaging, who pays our club for providing the cartridges. The money we raise goes to benefit local and international organizations that aid the sensory impaired. Please feel free to drop off your empty cartridges in the collection boxes in the Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement and Peter B's Café.

Next semester will be even busier for the Trinity Lions as we already have several projects planned.

We are looking forward to volunteering with an organization that arranges for written material to be read to the blind and collecting eyeglasses and cell phones for those in need. In addition, our annual Wine and Cheese event for local Lions is scheduled for April 21st in Hamlin Hall.

For more information about the Trinity Lions Club, contact Haley Lepo at haley.lepo@trincoll.edu or the club president Anne Kim at anne.kim@trincoll.edu.



Students to Unite Science & Humanitarian Interests (SUSHI) by Jess Hart '08

Students to Unite Science and Humanitarian Interests (SUSHI) is a health and human rights advocacy group that focuses on health issues and inequalities both at home and abroad.

SUSHI began the year fundraising for and participating in the annual AIDS Walk to benefit AIDS Project Hartford. In addition to raising money individually, we also held a benefit concert in the Underground Coffee House. The event was well attended by students and professors alike and everyone was generous in their donations. We attended the walk on Saturday, September 14th and turned in the \$700 that our team raised! Proceeds from the walk go toward HIV/AIDS education programs, support groups for people living with HIV/AIDS, and case management.

Later in the semester, we invited Margaret Hynes PhD. from the

Connecticut Department of Health to campus to speak about health disparities in the state. She shared some disturbing recent statistics about inequalities in the Hartford area and



helped put us in contact with other universal healthcare advocates.

On World AIDS Day (Friday, December 1st), we assembled a visual display to raise awareness about the almost 40 million people in the world

living with HIV/AIDS. We wrapped the trees of the quad with red ribbon, with each foot of ribbon representing 10,000 people living with HIV/AIDS. The ribbon colored the quad red, making the statistic impossible to ignore. We also sponsored a lecture by Merrill Singer PhD from the Hispanic Health Council which addressed needle exchange programs. He talked about injection drug use, studies of needle exchange programs, and the continuance of the AIDS epidemic.

Finally, we sponsored a movie about microbicides and co-sponsored a movie about Darfur during Human Rights Week in mid December. For more information about SUSHI, please contact Becca Snyder at rebecca.snyder@trincoll.edu.

Peter's Retreat by Dan Cosgrove '08

Peter's Retreat is a local HIV/AIDS hospice where residents receive medical attention, access to drug treatment programs, help finding jobs and assistance in their transition to independent living arrangements. This semester's partnership was arguably the best one Trinity and Peter's Retreat has had in recent years!

Students volunteer at Peter's Retreat (a short walk from campus) on a bi-monthly basis, doing everything from maintenance work to playing games to simply talking with the residents. We usually visit on Friday afternoons at 2:45 PM and are back on campus by 5:00 PM. Volunteers who were especially consistent this semester included Dan Cosgrove, Summer Cannon, Stephanie Keith, Allison Horrocks, Mary Crawford-Roberts, Greg Amarra, Shah Momin and Mike Pierce.

The most exciting activity of the semester was undoubtedly the a cappella concert that featured all five of Trinity's groups. On a rainy Sunday



Pat Greene '07 and the Accidentals were one of several a cappella groups that performed at Peter's Retreat during the fall.

night in November, about 60 students visited Peter's Retreat to put on a great concert for the residents. The residents truly enjoyed themselves, singing and clapping along with the vari-

ous performances! This is exactly the type of activity we would like to do more of next semester as it provides a great opportunity for even more students to interact with the residents. Thank you to all of the singing groups for making this memorable night possible!

Though we will be losing several volunteers next semester while they study abroad, the program will continue under the able leadership of Allison Horrocks. If you would like to get involved with or sponsor an event at Peter's Retreat please feel free to contact Allison at allison.horrocks@trincoll.edu.

Best Buddies by Jenny Gragg '07

Best Buddies is a national non-profit organization that is dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships. The Trinity College Chapter is part of the organizations known as Best Buddies College. Our partner groups are the State of Connecticut Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) and HARC on Asylum Street.

The fall semester proved to be a fun-filled one for our chapter as we held one large group event every month and hosted an a cappella concert that raised over \$350 for our organization!

Trinity students met up with buddies for the first time at our "Getting to Know You" event in September. The buddies decorated their own picture frames and put pictures of them with their new Trinity buddy into their frame.

In October we threw a "Monster Mash" party that was quite a smash! Dressed in costumes which ranged from candy bars to cowboys, we spent the afternoon decorating pump-



Trinity buddies pose together at a recent holiday party.

kins, eating pizza, and even did a full out Conga line!

Thanks to both the Accidentals and the Trinitones, our November event was an a cappella concert that benefited our own Best Buddies Chapter! Each group sang about six songs

and the concert lasted about an hour. We would especially like to thank Chartwells for donating coffee and dessert to add the perfect touch to our relaxing night of music!

Our final event for the semester was a holiday luncheon at the AASA house. Trinity buddies prepared a feast of chicken, mashed potatoes, salad and rolls and then worked with their buddies to decorate cookies for dessert. It was a great way to celebrate the end of a great semester.

If you wish to get involved in Best Buddies, please contact Jenny Gragg at jenny.gragg@trincoll.edu

Habitat for Humanity

by Sarah Knox '08

Habitat for Humanity is an international, non-profit organization devoted to eliminating sub-standard housing worldwide. Since 1976, the organization has built more than 100,000 homes for needy families in 60 different countries.



The Trinity College Chapter of Habitat works primarily in the greater Hartford area and has helped build over 120 houses since its founding. This September, for the second time in our chapter's history, we broke ground on our own sponsored home. Due to our fundraising efforts over the past few years we were able to contribute \$25,000 (a third of the total cost) towards the construction of this home!

Our volunteers have worked several times at the house on Waverly Street and will return to the site in the spring to complete construction. The house is being built for Claudette Jump, a Jamaican immigrant who first came to Hartford in 2000. As a mother of seven, she has been sharing one floor of a two-family house which is clearly inadequate space for such a large family. It's our pleasure to devote our time and efforts in order to fulfill Claudette's dream of owning her own home.

Habitat also enjoyed another successful semester of fundraising for our house and our Alternative Spring Break trip.

We repeated annual fundraisers, like the Habrot and the 50/50 Raffle at sports events and added two

new fundraisers in the form of the Apple Festival and the Spare Change Drive.

In October, approximately 75 Trinity students ran in the Habrot 5k and a total of \$934 was raised. We would like to thank Chartwells for donating water, apples, and hot chocolate to this event- the runners certainly appreciated it! Habitat members worked hard to organize this annual event, and it certainly paid off!

The Apple Festival, sponsored by Chartwells, was held in October on the Cave Patio. A variety of locally grown apples and other fruits were



This year's Apple Festival (sponsored by Chartwells) took place on the Cave Patio and was a great success!

sold, as well as apple cider and homemade pies and apple turnovers made by our Habitat volunteers. Chartwell generously donated all proceeds to our chapter, so we were able to put another \$640 toward our Hartford house!

The Spare Change Drive was surprisingly profitable fundraiser. Our volunteers went door to door in every dorm on campus asking for spare change. After a few days of collecting, we had four buckets full of change, and raised over \$600!

Our chapter made a big decision by voting for Jacksonville, Florida

as our destination for Spring Break. Over the past few years, our chapter has traveled to places like New Orleans, LA, Albuquerque, NM, Miami, FL, and Fort Meyers, FL as part of Habitat's Spring Break Collegiate Challenge. Last year was especially unique because of the devastating effects of Hurricane Katrina. We were given the opportunity to contribute to the massive relief efforts, which proved to be an extremely rewarding experience. Our trip to Jacksonville promises to be equally worthwhile.

We finished the fall semester with successful fundraisers completed, a house in the midst of construction, and excited anticipation for our Spring Break Collegiate Challenge trip. We look forward to a successful spring semester!



Habitat president Spencer Durland '08 helps side a house during a recent build.

For more information about our chapter of Habitat for Humanity, please contact Emma Bayer at emma.bayer@trincoll.edu or Elizabeth Kennedy at elizabeth.kennedy@trincoll.edu.

Spring 2007 Habitat Build Dates

Saturday, February 3 & 10

Saturday, March 3 & 10

Saturday, March 17– Saturday, March 31 in Jacksonville, FL

Saturday, April 21

ConnPIRG by Ian Hendry '08

Under the strong leadership of our new campus organizer Katie Kleese, chapter president Kelly Mearns '08 and group leaders Sandi Gollob '07, Gizelle Clemens '09, and Ian Hendry '08, ConnPIRG enjoyed a very busy and successful semester. Our three areas of focus were the Campus Climate Challenge, the Hunger and Homelessness Campaign, and the New Voters Project.



Sandi Gollob '07 discusses ConnPIRG's renewable energy platform with Congressman Chris Murphy.

Campus Climate Challenge

Education and advocacy were once again top priorities with our Campus Climate Challenge (CCC) campaign. To kick things off, we sponsored well-attended showings of *Who Killed the Electric Car* and *An Inconvenient Truth*. The movies succeeded in sparking discussions about global warming and other environmental concerns among students and professors alike.

In keeping with this theme, we arranged for inventor Mike Dabrowski to bring his modified hybrid car to campus for a demonstration. Dabrowski explained how hybrid cars work, how they reduce pollution, and how he has altered his own car to get over 100 miles per gallon! This presentation prompted news coverage from both the local NBC and Fox affiliates.

CCC also continued its light bulb exchange drive and went around the dorms trading people more energy efficient and longer lasting compact fluorescent bulbs in exchange for their

conventional incandescent bulbs. We would like to give special thanks to Buildings and Grounds for generously donating these environmentally-friendly bulbs!

The final CCC event of the semester was a solar-powered study break at which students were given solar heated hot chocolate and educated about solar power.

One of our main goals for the Spring 2007 semester is to work with Building and Grounds on campus energy efficiency issues, including a request for an energy audit.

Hunger and Homelessness Campaign

Throughout the semester, ConnPIRG students volunteered on Wednesdays at the Grace Episcopal Church Food Pantry to help assemble food packages for those in need. We will continue this project in the spring and invite anyone and everyone to join us!

ConnPIRG

We were especially busy in November when we held our annual Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week (see the Special Report on page 2). In addition to pairing up with ACES for the Thanksgiving Basket Drive and Amnesty International for the Hunger Banquet, we sponsored a couple of other events during the week.

With the help of Chartwells we coordinated a "Miss a Meal" fundraiser which allowed students to donate one of their prepaid meals towards the fight against hunger. The result of everyone's generosity was a \$279 donation to the Immaculate Conception Shelter.

We also organized a "Faces of Homelessness" event in conjunction

with the National Coalition for the Homeless. "Faces of Homelessness" was a panel of formerly and currently homeless people, the intent of which was to put a human face on the very serious social problem. The event was coordinated by Kelly Mearns and funded by a grant from the Urban Being fund.

New Voters Project

Led by Gizelle Clemens, the New Voters Project (NVP) successfully registered 80 new voters from Trinity, 450 new voters in the Hartford area, and almost 2,700 new voters statewide! We accomplished this on campus by tabling outside of Mather dining hall and knocking on doors in the dorms and on the state level by working with NVP to call people, table, and hand out free t-shirts all around the city and state.

On Election Day, Connecticut enjoyed an increase in voter turnout, especially in areas with high student populations. The voter turnout for the polling station that serves Trinity increased by more than 30% from the last midterm election!

For more information about all of ConnPIRG's projects, please contact Ian Hendry at ian.hendry@trincoll.edu or Katie Kleese at Katie@connpirgstudents.org.



Inventor Mike Dabrowski poses outside of the library with his modified hybrid car.

Green Campus by Kathryn West

Green Campus is a student organization that is dedicated to increasing environmental awareness at Trinity.

We kicked off the semester in September with an environmentally friendly fundraiser in which we sold more than 100 plants to Trinity students and employees. All of these hearty spider and jade plants were grown in the Life Sciences Center's greenhouse.

Later in the month, Green Campus teamed up with the *Green Mind* First-Year Seminar and Professor Joan Morrison's students to clean up a portion of the Park River. Volunteers were shocked by the types of refuse- we found everything from pieces of a jeep wrangler to an old stove and broken bicycles. Our efforts received some local press coverage in the *Hartford News*.

During the last couple weeks in September, we helped ConnPIRG with their light bulb exchange program. In total, we traded 145 energy efficient compact fluorescent bulbs in exchange for their conventional incandescent bulbs. Using compact fluorescent bulbs is one way that Trinity can greatly reduce its ecological footprint. Another way to do this is by cutting down on our carbon dioxide emissions. In an attempt to do this, we used

money raised through our plant sale to purchase 140,000 kilowatt-hours of renewable energy for Homecoming Weekend. In addition, we worked with Buildings and Grounds to ensure that there were proper recycling receptacles available for the tailgating festivities and we supplied Alpha Delta Phi fraternity with biodegradable cups for the weekend.



Trinity students pull part of a car out of the Park River during their clean-up.

Two Green Campus accomplishments that we are especially proud of are the fact that outdoor recycling bins are coming to campus and that recycling information is now posted on Trinity's website. As a result of the hard work and by Green Campus, Student Government Association (under the leadership of Andrew Pedro '08), and Buildings and Grounds, the new green recycling bins will debut on campus soon. Green Campus members

will patrol around for the first few weeks of the spring semester to point out the new bins to the student body and ensure that they are used correctly.

Further information about recycling at Trinity is now available at <http://www.trincoll.edu/StudentLife/campuslife/residential/recycling.htm>. We would especially like to thank Dave Andres from the Office of Campus Life for helping us get this site up and running.

Green Campus's recycling efforts continued throughout exams as we succeeded in getting a dozen more recycling bins (for bottles and cans) added in the library. Thank you to Jose Silva, Superintendent of Custodial Services, for quickly responding to our request.

Green Campus is very proud of the positive changes we have seen at Trinity during these last few years and we hope that our school's commitment to environmental responsibility continues to improve. For more information about Green Campus, please contact Kathryn West at kathryn.west@trincoll.edu.



Trinity Recycling: What goes in the bins?

Bottles & Cans	Paper
ALL glass & aluminum containers Containers made from #1 or #2 plastics* * Plastic bottle caps are not recyclable. Please remove them before putting bottles into a bin.	White office paper (it can have printing on it) Colored paper Envelopes Cardstock (heavier paper)

Please remember:

Putting bottles or cans in paper recycling bins contaminates the entire bin. Please put items in the correct bin!

You can recycle newspapers and magazines by bringing it to the Community Service Office

Corrugated cardboard should be broken down and placed near a trashcan

Bottles still containing liquid cannot be recycled!

Annual Community Event Staff (ACES) by Meredith Wilson '09

The Annual Community Events Staff (ACES) enjoyed another busy semester as we put together our usual repertoire of events for the fall semester.

Our first event of the academic year, the 8th annual Do-It-Day, was held on September 9th and proved to be a great success. Do-It-Day has historically been one of our most well at-



David Slatkin '08 and Do It Day coordinator Marla Stancil '07 show off the "I Heart Hartford" shirts that volunteers received.

tended events, and this year was no different! We were able to send over 500 volunteers to over 50 locations throughout Hartford in what turned out to be one of our largest Do It Day thus far.

The day of volunteering was followed by a picnic on the Main Quad for which we received donations from over 50 local restaurants. Special thanks must be given to Marla Stancil '07 and Kat West '07 for spending the summer planning, organizing, and coordinating Do It Day, to the 50 organizations who hosted our students, and to Chartwells and all of the other local businesses that donated food and beverages.

Our second large-scale event of the semester was our 16th annual Halloween on Vernon Street in which cultural houses, Greek houses, some residence halls, and Dean Alford's house

all opened their doors for young trick-or-treaters. The route began in Vernon Social Center where costumed children were grouped with pairs of Trinity student chaperones and then escorted up and down Vernon Street to each of the designated stops and through several haunted houses. The older and most daring youngsters were able to make one more additional stop- the Trinity Chemical Society's always frightening haunted house in the Clement Chemistry building! The route concluded in Vernon Social Center where a variety of different clubs and organizations hosted even more games and activities for the children to enjoy and everyone was treated to apple cider, courtesy of Chartwells. This year was a big success as we had a turn out of over 400 children! Thank you to everyone who participated!



As a part of the annual "Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week" in November, ACES teamed up with ConnPIRG to solicit donations for, assemble and deliver 100 Thanksgiving baskets (complete with turkeys and all the trimmings) to needy families of children at MD Fox Elementary School. In the end, we collected over \$2,000 from various departments, student organizations, and members of the faculty, administration, and staff! We would especially like to thank Chartwells which again donated all 100 frozen turkeys this year!

Our final event of the semester was the Sponsor-a-Snowman toy drive. For the 11th year in a row, ACES

teamed up with the Interval House (a local domestic violence shelter) to fulfill the holiday gift wishes of 145 children associated with the shelter.

ACES tabled in Mather for several days so members of the Trinity community could select paper snowmen labeled with the child's name, age, and gift request. Purchased gifts were dropped off and sorted at the Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement before being taken to Interval House for its annual holiday party. Several ACES members attended the party where they were able to spend time with the children and do arts and crafts projects with them.

Next semester we look forward to organizing our annual Souper Bowl Canned Food Drive, ACES Auction, and Fun Fair. We would like to thank the Trinity students, faculty, and staff for their support and donations throughout the semester!

If you would like more information about ACES, please contact Meredith Wilson at meredith.wilson@trincoll.edu or Maggie Rivara at maggie.rivara@trincoll.edu.



Local children pose before entering the Praxis haunted house.

Bridge by Stacy Bertrand '09

Bridge is a new organization at Trinity College that tries to bridge the gaps between different cliques on campus in order to strengthen the sense of community here at Trinity. One group that we are specifically trying to target is first year students who may or may not feel entirely connected to life at Trinity yet. As part of this effort, we planned a couple of events to encourage the new students to interact with people from a variety of class years and different social groups.

The first event we held was Field Day on November 3rd. Our goal was to create a campus-wide event that allowed students to meet new people while having fun and raising money for Trinity's annual Relay for Life (which will be held this year on April 14-15th). Students organized teams and participated in variety of activities reminis-

cent of middle school days on the playground: kickball, tug of war, relay races, etc. A great time was had by all!

Our other project was Mix It Up Day – an internationally recognized event that promotes positive interaction among students in an educational community. Mix It Up Day took place in Mather Dining Hall during dinner. Tables were designated based on astrological signs and students were encouraged to sit accordingly in the hope that they would branch out and meet people with whom they may not normally interact. Though we did not get the student turnout that we would have liked, we hope to perfect this event and make it a permanent aspect of the Trinity dining experience in coming semesters.

This was a great first semester for Bridge and we hope to carry our

success into the next semester. Our kick off event for next term will be an open mic-night in Gallows where all students are encouraged to perform any type of art or expression.

For more information, please contact Stacy Bertrand at stacy.bertrand@trincoll.edu



Trinity Wishmakers by Will Cyphers '09

The purpose of the Wishmakers Theme-Quad is to grant the wishes of local children with serious medical conditions in an attempt to brighten their days with hope, strength, and joy.

This year, we have decided to sponsor Ciara, a 16 year old from Hartford who was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis (MS) last year. Ciara has a special place in the hearts of many people at Trinity as she has been a part of the Dream Camp program for 10 years. Though her illness prevented her from participating as a camper this summer, she remained dedicated to the program, serving as a Dream Camp office assistant and coming to help out on campus whenever possible.

Because Ciara's condition has limited her ability to attend school on a regular basis, we recently purchased a laptop computer, case, and accessories for her in hope that it will make it easier for her to stay on top of her work

and keep in contact with her friends. This purchase was made possible by a \$500 contribution from Sarah Knox '08 as one of the 2006 recipients of the St. Anthony's Hall Community Service



Sarah Knox '08 helps install software on Ciara's new laptop. The purchase was made possible by Sarah's donation as the co-winner of the 2006 St. Anthony's Hall Award.

Award. In addition, monies were raised last year at the annual ACES Auction for charity and though various

fundraisers held by last year's theme-quad.

The Wishmakers look forward to working with Dream Camp and any other interested organization to continue fundraising for Ciara throughout the spring.

For more information on how to help us fundraise for Ciara, please contact Will Cyphers at harry.cyphers@trincoll.edu, Dan Hoyle at daniel.hoyle@trincoll.edu, or Dream Camp Program Coordinator Melissa Soroka at msoroka@esfcamps.com.

Praxis by Nora Steinman '07

Praxis is Trinity's largest residentially based community service program. Our mission is to engage students in service work both on and off campus while simultaneously fostering a sense of community among our members. Students devote approximately three hours per week to their individual volunteer efforts in addition to participating in/helping to organize our three group projects each semester. All 32 members live in the Doonesbury residence hall (90-92 Vernon Street).

We began the year in late August by hosting our annual Welcome Weekend right before classes started. In addition to the usual getting-to-know-you activities, we paired up with FACES for a day of team-building at the Riverfront Recapture Challenge Ropes Course and spent an afternoon revitalizing the greenhouses on grounds of the Knox Parks Foundation.

We kicked-off September with nearly 100 percent participation in Do-It Day. Praxis coordinators Caroline Milano and Nora Steinman served as site captains as our group spent the afternoon cleaning and organizing at the Hartford Conservatory.

In October, we participated in Halloween on Vernon Street transforming our classroom into a frightening haunted house as we do every year. For



Praxis members take a quick picture together before a meeting.

nearly three hours, we provided scaretainment and candy to Hartford youth and their parents. Everyone involved had a great time!

Praxis members were kept busy the weekend before Thanksgiving break with our annual Great Pie Project. This year we successfully baked, wrapped, and delivered 500 pies to 12 different shelters and soup kitchens in the greater Hartford region. Praxis would like to extend special thanks to Chart-

wells for kindly providing us with all the pie ingredients, the use of the Mather kitchen, and the assistance of their staff. We could not do this event without them.

In keeping with one of our newer traditions, we adopted another Hartford family this holiday season. Through generous donations from friends, family, and faculty we were able to raise \$850 to fulfill the wish list of a sixteen-year old girl, a three-year old boy, and their mother.

As the semester draws to a close, we are proud to report that as a whole, Praxis members have accumulated well over 500 hours of community service this semester. For more information about our organization (including how to apply) please contact Nora Steinman at nora.steinman@trincoll.edu or Caroline Milano at caroline.milano@trincoll.edu.

Newman Club by Cara Pavlak '09

The Newman Club participated in a variety of activities this fall semester, ranging from spiritual to social to service. Our spiritual activities included praying the rosary together every week, celebrating Mass twice a week with Fr. Michael Dolan, and going on a spiritual retreat together. We also had a pro-life vigil in the chapel's rose garden in the chapel to pray for respect for all life.

In terms of social activities and community service events, we participated in a number of exciting new events this fall semesters. We continued having Newman Dinner social events at the Interfaith House every other week to foster conversations about faith in an informal environ-

ment. An extension of these discussions was brought to our Muslim-Catholic Dialogue, which consisted of two dinner meetings during the semester bringing together Muslim and Catholic students to discuss their respective faiths. It was the first of its kind on campus and a great learning experience for all who took part in it.

Finally, in terms of community service, our vice-president Stephen Sullivan began a weekly mission with other students to St. Peter's Church every week to distribute soup to the hungry. We'd like to thank Chartwells for its generous soup donations. As the semester closes, students are looking forward to participating in JELLOH (January Experience of Living and

Learning and Outreach in Hartford), during the week before the beginning of next semester. JELLOH is a week of service and religious reflection and we'll be volunteering at organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and the Hartford Catholic Worker.

We look forward to continuing and expanding our activities in the spring, bringing our renewed energy into the campus and surrounding community. For more information, please contact Cara Pavlak at cara.pavlak@trincoll.edu.

Hillel by Molly Goodwin '09

This fall has been especially productive and rewarding for the Hillel community, as we have been active in raising awareness about breast cancer and hunger. In addition, we achieved our goal of incorporating a community service component into most of our events as well our weekly Friday evening Shabbat services and dinners.

Inspired by the Jewish non-profit organization, Sharsheret, we hosted a Pink Shabbat evening in support of breast cancer awareness month in October. Sharsheret, which means "chain" in Hebrew, is an organization founded by two young Jewish breast cancer survivors that facilitates connections between and provides support for Jewish women faced with breast cancer. With the organization's help, we spent the evening educating our community about early detection and the startling breast cancer statistics that young Jewish women face. Guests wore pink to show their support for the fight against the disease and our dining room was covered with pink tablecloths, plates, napkins, ribbons, balloons and most importantly information packets provided by Sharsheret.

In late October, we worked with Colleges Against Cancer, the Women's Center, and Zeta Omega Eta to host a second breast cancer awareness event. Over 70 young women filled Gallows Hill as Dean Reuman

shared the inspiring story of her battle with the disease, and her oncologist, Dr. Pat DeFusco, explained early detection methods and treatment options. We thank them both for taking the time to speak to us about this devastating disease.

On Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the year, it is customary to fast in reflection and atonement for one's sins. As part of our observance of the holiday, Chartwells generously agreed to donate the money that typically would go towards our meals for



that day to MAZON, a Jewish organization whose mission is to alleviate and prevent hunger across the globe. Through this partnership we successfully raised over \$400.

In October, Hillel participated for the first time in Halloween on Vernon Street. We welcomed over 400 Hartford children trick or treating on Vernon Street to our house. The children played limbo and ate lots of candy!

In November, we held a Thanksgiving-themed Shabbat service to mark the beginning of our Thanks

and Giving project. We sold paper leaves and asked everyone to write something that they are thankful for on them. The leaves were then hung on a tree of life in our Hillel house, symbolizing our community. Proceeds were donated to MAZON. In keeping with the Thanksgiving theme, we also spent a day making over 100 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for the St. Elizabeth's Shelter in Hartford.

In addition, there are several community service projects that we are planning for the spring. David Goodman '09 will lead a project to raise awareness of the Darfur crisis and Rebecca Wolff '10 will keep organizing group trips to the Hebrew Home and Hospital in Hartford every week. Inspired by our breast cancer events earlier in the semester, Jackie Sparks '09 has already worked with the TrinKnitters to organize a scarf sale to raise money for Sharsheret. Finally, we are looking forward to another Hillel Relay for Life team in April.

For more information about Hillel, please contact Molly Goodwin at martha.goodwin@trincoll.edu.

Men of Color Alliance (MOCA) by Sammy Levy '09

In light of troubling events on campus, the Men of Color Alliance (MOCA) is working especially hard to unite the Trinity community. With the help of other student organizations, we hope to help make all students at Trinity feel comfortable enough to express themselves no matter who they are and what they believe.

This past semester we organized hip-hop events that brought people from all over campus together and

provided the chance for students and faculty alike to listen to music and intermingle in a safe space. We promoted intercollegiate unity by bringing students from the University of Hartford, Central Connecticut State University and Southern Connecticut State University to campus for a talent show in Vernon Social Center.

We also co-sponsored Field Day with the Bridge organization. Students participated in a variety of fun

activities while helping raise money for upcoming American Cancer Society Relay for Life. The event was a great example of the good time that Trinity students have when everyone comes together for a common cause.

We hope to continue bringing the Trinity community together next semester. For more information, please contact Sammy Levy at samantha.levy@trincoll.edu

Trinity College Black Women's Organization (TCBWO) by Melissa Harris '09

This semester the Trinity College Black Women Organization (TCBWO) had the pleasure of being part of the Hartford community in several ways.

We began our year by participating in Do It Day on September 9th when we were placed at Dress for Success, a nonprofit organization that provides affordable professional clothing for women going on job interviews and already in the working world.

Because the women who run the program are volunteers and have their own jobs, they sometimes have difficulty keeping up with the large number of donations. Thus, after our Do It Day experience, TCBWO volunteered on a

few additional weekends throughout the semester and helped them sort and update their inventory. It was very rewarding to know we were playing a part in helping local women succeed in the business world!

In October, we participated in Halloween on Vernon Street and created a "haunted" UMOJA house. The entrance was decorated with everything from cobwebs, spiders, and fog machines to a huge fake rat. As children came through the house, TCBWO members took turns jumping out of the shadows to give them a scare. Whether frightened or brave, all of the children were rewarded with candy at the end of their haunted journey.

We ended the semester by sponsoring clothing drives in residence halls throughout campus. Men's clothes will be donated to the Immaculate Conception Shelter and women's clothes will be donated to the Interval House, a local domestic violence shelter.

For more information, please contact Melissa Harris at melissa.harris@trincoll.edu.



Encouraging Respect of Sexualities (EROS) by Haley Lepo '08

EROS stands for Encouraging Respect Of Sexualities. We embrace people of all sexualities and work to promote a more accepting Trinity community. As part of this mission, EROS has recently become more involved with community service.

In September, EROS participated in Do It Day and volunteered at the Connecticut Pride Festival. The event provided us with the opportunity to establish connections with more of the GLBT organizations in the Hartford area, as well as a chance to enjoy the entertainment.

On Election Day, several EROS members went to the polls in South Windsor as representatives of Love Makes a Family. We informed

voters of upcoming decisions to be made in the Connecticut legislature regarding same-sex marriage and asked them to fill out postcards to send to their legislators in support of marriage equality.

in conjunction with True Colors.

For more information regarding EROS, send an email to president Crystal Nieves at eros@trincoll.edu.



Encouraging Respect Of all Sexualities

Next semester we hope to continue to increase our community service efforts. We plan on volunteering our time at the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective located on Broad Street. In addition, we have a lecture series scheduled regarding GLBT issues, including a youth event

Alpha Delta Phi (AD) by David McDonough '08

This past semester, the brothers of the Alpha Delta Phi (AD) continued their long standing tradition of excellence in community service. We kicked off the new academic year by participating in Trinity's annual Do it Day. One group of brothers painted the interior of an assisted living home for the elderly and another group spent the afternoon cleaning and landscaping a local park.

Later in the fall, we entered a team in the Habitrot 5k run to benefit our campus chapter of Habitat for Humanity. One of our brothers placed second overall by completing the event in 21.16 minutes!

At the end of October, we paired up with the sisters of the Ivy Society for Halloween on Vernon Street. We welcomed several hundred

young trick or treaters into our house for various games and an afternoon chock full of candy and fun.

In November, as part of 9th Graders Go To College, a program of the Hartford Consortium for Higher Education, AD served as guides for approximately 40 9th graders from Bulkeley High School. Brothers escorted the students to a series of workshops held for them around campus and ate lunch together at Mather dining hall. Our goal was to provide these students with a look at what college life is really like in hope that it will motivate and encourage them to further their own educations. This event was truly a rewarding experience for us and we are looking forward to hosting a similar program in the spring for the 9th year in a row- 5th Graders Go To

College

We concluded the semester by helping fund the Giving Gala as well as contributing \$250 to Green Campus and \$500 to the Darfur Coalition.

Alpha Delta Phi is proud to give back to both the Trinity and Hartford communities and we are excited for another active semester of service in the spring. For more information on Alpha Delta Phi community service, please contact David McDonough at david.mcdonough@trincoll.edu.



Psi Upsilon (Psi U) by Dave Millar '08

This semester at Trinity College saw many opportunities for students and members of the school community to get involved in community service and Psi Upsilon was no exception.

On Saturday, September 9th Psi U took part in Do It Day, sending brothers to the Rebuilding Hartford site where they spent the afternoon cleaning and restoring a run-down section of a neighborhood. Though it was hard work it proved be a very rewarding experience for all involved.

Our semi-annual blood drive for the American Red Cross took place on Tuesday, October 24th. In addition to soliciting blood donors, this year we also recruited students for the National Marrow Donor Program. Psi U brothers were responsible for planning and organizing the drive, signing up donors, and distributing information as well as helping out on the day of the event.

After fewer than four days of tabling at Mather in the week leading

up to the event, we were able to fill all available time slots for donations! In the end, a total of 70 members of the Trinity community participated and a record 63 productive pints of blood were collected! In addition, 25 students entered themselves into the bone marrow directory and pledged to do-



nate their marrow in the future should it be necessary. It is a credit to Trinity's student body and faculty that this event is such a huge success every semester, and we would like to thank everyone who helped out.

Also in October, Psi Upsilon participated in ACES' annual Halloween on Vernon Street. Working with our sister sorority, Kappa Kappa

Gamma, we invited hundreds of children into our house for Halloween-themed games and candy. The kids bobbed for doughnuts, had relay races and competed for candy. It was great to share our house (and tons of candy) with the Hartford community and everyone involved, young and old, had a blast!

Overall, it was a successful semester of community service for Psi U as almost every member of the organization participated in various community service projects, including some not directly organized by our organization. In addition to our group activities, some brothers taught children to swim and ice skate through the Boys and Girls Club while others served as mentors for younger children in the area.

For more information, please contact Todd Morrison at todd.morrison@trincoll.edu or Brad Monroe at rhoden.monrose@trincoll.edu.

Kappa Kappa Gamma by Danielle Rowan '08

The sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma were active in the community this fall, participating in several projects as a group and many others as individuals.

To kick off the year, two teams of Kappas participated in the 8th Annual Do It Day. Juniors spent the afternoon at the Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford facility fixing computers, organizing donations, and learning about the center's resources. After working, sisters sat down for snacks with the organization's leaders, making a crucial contact for future community service events. Seniors vacuumed, moped, organized, and tidied up the Youth Challenge Mission for Women, a residential center for men, women, and children affected by substance abuse.

During October, Kappa turned its attention to breast cancer awareness. We tabled outside of Mather Dining Hall all for two weeks distributing information about early detection and selling pink ribbons for \$1 to support our team in the American Cancer Society's annual *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk* in Bushnell Park. Sisters' individual fundrais-

ing efforts, combined with the ribbon proceeds, allowed our chapter to contribute \$3,060 for cancer research, and on October 15th, 30 sisters participated



Kappa sisters on the front steps of their house before heading off to the breast cancer walk.

in *Making Strides*. Thank you everyone who donated to our team!

Kappa showed its support for the fight against breast cancer again when more than 20 sisters attended the Breast Cancer Awareness panel sponsored by Hillel, Colleges Against Cancer, and Zeta Omega Eta. Sisters found Dean Ann Reuman's and Dr. Pat

DeFusco's presentation to be not only informative but also moving. We were genuinely touched by their stories and thank them for having the courage to share them.

At the end of October, Kappa paired up with Psi Upsilon for Halloween on Vernon Street to host a fun house (as opposed to a haunted house) for younger children. Neighborhood kids bobbed for donuts, played candy pong, ran relay races and stuck their hands in gooey witches' hair and eyeballs. Everyone enjoyed a good time and plenty of candy!

Many Kappa sisters are also active in community service on the individual level. Particular groups in which sisters are active include ACES, AMP, Dream Camp, Big Brother Big Sister, Habitat for Humanity, and Hillel. This past semester, Kappas represented three different organizations for FACES!

If you would like more information, please contact Mary Elizabeth Clune at

mary.clune@trincoll.edu.

St. Anthony Hall by Lilly Gumz '07 and Camilla Rich '07

This year St. Anthony Hall enjoyed becoming more involved in the community service efforts on campus. While we've participated in community service in the past, this was our first year as part of Trinity's FACES organization. Our involvement with FACES made it possible to become even more active in a variety of events on campus.

In October, we participated in Halloween on Vernon Street by turning our building into a haunted house. It provided a safe and fun environment for local children and their families to trick or treat. Everyone who participated had fun dressing up, decorating,

and interacting with the children. Although some of the youngsters were a bit frightened, a great time was had by all, and we can't wait to participate again next year!

In November members of St. Anthony Hall donated money to the ACES annual Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive. We reached 100% participation from the brotherhood which helped the ACES organization meet their goal of providing 100 families from the M.D. Fox Elementary School with Thanksgiving dinner.

While we are very proud of our community service efforts thus far, we

look forward working with FACES and becoming even more active next semester. For more information about St. Anthony Hall community service efforts, please contact Lily Gumz at lillian.gumz@trincoll.edu or Camilla Rich at camilla.rich@trincoll.edu.



Pi Kappa Alpha (Pike) by Caleb Wasser '08

This past fall semester the brothers of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity (Pike) collectively logged over 400 hours of community service.

A large percentage of the brotherhood served as members of community service organizations on campus including Big Brother Big Sister, Habitat for Humanity, ACES, Peter's Retreat and various mentoring programs.

In addition to community service activities that brothers did individually, the chapter came together as a whole to make a difference on several occasions. The largest brotherhood involvement came at Trinity's 8th Annual Do-It-Day. More than 20 brothers volunteered at two different sites in the Hartford community. Brothers were involved in packaging food for the

homeless, as well as, renovating a local shelter.

In addition, Pike brothers volunteered their time working at Trinity's annual Halloween on Vernon Street project, helped out on several



Habitat for Humanity builds in the area, and many of us sponsored and ran in Habitat for Humanity's "Habitrot" a 5k race around Trinity's campus.

This semester's community service participation was extremely high for the brothers of Pi Kappa Alpha and we hope to maintain these standards for many semesters to come.

For information about Pike, please contact Caleb Wasser at caleb.wasser@trincoll.edu.

Zeta Omega Eta by Marla Stancil '07

During the fall semester, 2006, Zeta Omega Eta participated in several community service projects.

We began the year by participating in Trinity's annual Do It Day on Saturday, September 9th. Sisters went to Girls Inc. for the afternoon and spent time cleaning, organizing, and helping out with some clerical work. We returned to campus and enjoyed a fun-filled picnic on the main quad.

In October, approximately 10 Zetas turned out for the *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk* in Bushnell Park. A couple of weeks later we paired up with Hillel and Colleges Against Cancer to sponsor a breast cancer awareness panel with Dean Ann Reuman and her oncologist Dr. Patricia DeFusco.

At the end of the month, we participated in Halloween on Vernon Street. Zetas served as chaperones for trick or treaters and also hosted a booth inside the Vernon Social Center



where children could make their own Fruit Loop necklaces. The day was filled with candy and fun for both the children and the sisters!

On December 13th, we held

another "Women in Academia" banquet in celebration of all of the wonderful women at Trinity College. The event, which was held in Hamlin Hall, recognized over a dozen female professors for the impact that they have had on our collegiate experience.

In the spring, we plan to host another leadership forum for young girls from the Hartford school system. Our hope is that these training sessions will further enhance their leadership skills and encourage them to be active within their own schools. For more information, please contact Kim Riggs at kimberly.riggs@trincoll.edu.



Spring 2007 Upcoming Events

January

24

Community Service Fair: Representatives from more than 30 campus community service groups will set up booths in the basement of Mather and to recruit new members.



February

1

Relay for Life Kick-Off Rally: Will provide the campus with an opportunity to learn more about the upcoming Relay for Life and start signing up for teams.

3

Souper Bowl Food Drive: Food drive held at a local supermarket the day before the Super Bowl to benefit the Hartford Catholic Worker. Several carloads of goods were collected!

21

Red Cross Blood Drive and National Bone Marrow Registration Drive (sponsored by Psi Upsilon)

March

8

ACES Annual Auction for Charity: A variety of items will be auctioned off during Mather dinner with proceeds going to local charities.

17-24

Alternative Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity: 30 Trinity students will spend their spring break building houses with Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Jacksonville, FL.

23-25

COOL Conference: Five outstanding student leaders will go to Chicago, IL to exchange ideas, network, and learn from over 1,500 other students, campus administrators, and nonprofit professionals from across the country

28-29

5th Graders go to College: Students from schools in the surrounding area toured Trinity and attended lectures.

April

12

9th Graders Go To College– 9th graders from local schools will tour the campus and attend various lectures.



14-15

Relay for Life: An overnight campus-wide event to raise awareness about cancer while simultaneously fundraising for the American Cancer Society.

21

Hunger Clean-Up (sponsored by ConnPIRG): A half day service event in which students volunteer and fundraise for local nonprofits.



21

Lions Club Wine & Cheese: An annual fundraising event for Lions in the Greater Hartford.

30

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Over 100 student volunteers were honored at a formal dinner in the Washington Room

May

5

Fun Fair: Student groups set up booths and hosted carnival for local children on the Main Quad.

Get Naked with Praxis: A campus-wide clothing drive

Graduation Pledge: Graduation seniors pledge to be more “socially responsible” in their future careers.



Do It Day a success (continued from page 1)

or resources to complete on their own, it is also about uniting the Hartford and Trinity communities. As women's ice hockey player Rosie McGuirk '09 put it, "Do It Day is a unique opportunity for Trinity students to get off campus, meet new people, and give back to our neighbors."

As often happens, these volunteer opportunities led to continued relationships between Trinity students and the organization they worked for that day. For example, the Trinity College Black Women's Organization (TCBWO) offered additional assistance to Dress for Success in the form of



Krystal Ramirez '10 and Gina Filloramo '10 pose for a picture before heading back to work.

counting, sorting, and keeping an inventory of clothing donations and the sisters of Kappa Kappa Gamma have continued to work with the Literacy

Volunteers of Greater Hartford.

Students signed up to participate in Do It Day as individuals or as part of an athletic team, Greek organization, club, or multicultural group. Groups that completely filled sites this year included crew team, swim team, women's ice hockey team, men's lacrosse team, Kappa Kappa Gamma, Zeta Omega Eta, Alpha Delta Phi, Psi Upsilon, Sigma Nu, and Pi Kappa Alpha.



Do It Day participants on the Main Quad for the thank you picnic.

Members of Encouraging Respect Of all Sexualities (EROS), the Asian American Student Association (AASA), La Voz Latina (LVL), the Men of Color Alliance (MOCA), the Trinity College Black Women's Organization (TCBWO), Imani, Bridge, and Praxis all filled sites as well. Please see below for a complete listing of the community organizations that participated in this

year's event.



Trinity students and Chartwells employees take a break at their worksite.

Do It Day provides the Trinity community with a taste of the wonderful organizations and volunteer opportunities that are available within our city. It was great to see Trinity students from all age ranges and social groups come together for the common goal of helping the local community. The Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement looks forward to even greater success at next year's Do It Day!

For more information about this event, please contact Joe Barber at jbarber@trincoll.edu.

2006 Do It Day Worksites

- AIDS Project Hartford
- Alternative Living Center (ADRC)
- Antiquarian & Landmark Society
 - Avery Heights
- Bacon Congregate Housing
- Blue Hills Civic Association
- Charter Oak Cultural Center
 - Children's Museum
- Connecticut Coalition of Mutual Assistance
 - Connecticut Opera
 - Connecticut Pride Festival
 - Connecticut Youth Forum
 - Co-opportunity, Inc.
 - Dress for Success
 - Ebony Horse Women, Inc.
- Family Life Education
 - Foodshare
- Friends of Pope Park
- Girls, Inc. of Hartford
 - Goodwill Industries
- Grace Episcopal Church
- Greater Hartford Association for Retarded Citizens (HARC)
- Hartford Catholic Worker
 - Hartford City Mission
 - Hartford Conservatory
- Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective
 - Hartford Hospital
 - Hartford Interval House
- Hartford Public Library (Park St.)
- Horace Bushnell Children's Food Pantry
- Immaculate Conception Shelter
 - Jumoke Academy
- Knox Parks Foundation
 - La Paloma Sabanera
- Latino Community Services
- Literacy Volunteers of Greater Hartford
- McKinney (Stewart) Shelter
 - Memorial Baptist Church
- Mercy Housing & Shelter Corp.
 - Mi Casa Family Service & Education Center
- Oak Hill's NEAT Marketplace
 - Our Piece of the Pie
 - Parkville Senior Center
- Peter's Retreat
- Rambuh Family Center
 - Real Art Ways
- Rebuilding Together Hartford
 - Right Place
- Saint Agnes Family Center
- Saint Augustine School
 - South Park Inn
- Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation
 - Tabor House
- Trinity Hill Care Center
- West End Community Center
- Youth Challenge Mission for Women