

Office of Community Service and Civic Engagement

Volume 2, Issue 2

Spring 2006

Trinity Unites for the Relay for Life: Over \$69,000 is raised for the American Cancer Society

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This spring, sophomores Sarah Knox, Hannah Charry, Leighann Kinter, and Jenn Wise successfully coordinated Trinity's first-ever Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society. On April 7-8, over 500 members of the Trinity community took part in the 18-hour event on the Jesse-Miller Football Field. In the end, \$69,089 was raised for cancer research and support services for patients and families.

The Relay is a team event that is about remembrance, celebration, and hope. This year, the Student Planning Committee dedicated the Relay to the memory of Trinity English professor, Fred Pfeil, who lost his battle with cancer in the fall of 2005. His wife, Religion professor, Ellie Findly, shared her experience as a caregiver in a moving speech during

Opening Ceremonies.

Connecticut Secretary of State Susan Bysiewicz providing uplifting remarks and then Music professor Eric Galm and his Samba



Photo by Chuck Pratt

Ensemble officially kicked off the event by leading a group of cancer survivors around the track for the first lap.

Survivors and their caregivers were then escorted to Hamlin Hall for a formal dinner, during which Dean Ann Reuman, a breast cancer survivor, delivered an inspirational speech about her experience with the disease.

Special thanks to Hot Tomato's for catering the meal, Chartwells for supplying silverware, and members of the Jazz Theme Quad for providing live dinner music.

Survivors were honored again at nightfall during the Ceremony of Hope. Luminaries bought in honor and/or in memory of those who have had cancer lined the track and spelled out the word "HOPE" on the visitor side bleachers of the football field.

Andra Chantim '08 shared a poem about the power of hope, and six-time cancer survivor, Amanda Garbatini '09, captivated the audience with her emotional personal story.

Garbatini recalled noticing an unusual bump on her calf and being diagnosed (*continued on page 14*)

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Trinity Community Service Selected Highlights by the Numbers

\$95,299.40

Raised by Trinity students to benefit non-profit organizations in Hartford and around the world

284,000

Kilowatt hours of wind energy purchased by Green Campus & SGA during the year

2,948

Articles of men's, women's, and children's clothing donated to local shelters

117

Pints of usable blood collected from the Psi U/ Red Cross Blood Drive

100

Children who received holiday gifts from the ACES Sponsor-a-Snowman Drive

420

Pies that were baked and donated to local shelters as part of the Praxis "Great Pie Project"

42

Trinity students who spent their spring break helping rebuild the Ninth Ward of New Orleans

1,543

Books donated to the local community through the Cops-n-Kids and prisoner book drives

100

Thanksgiving baskets filled with turkey and all the trimmings and donated to local families

Spring 2006 Event Recap

January

25

Community Service Fair: Representatives from more than 30 community service organizations on campus set up stations in the basement of Mather and spent the afternoon recruiting new members.

31

Relay for Life Kick-Off Rally: More than 80 students attended the rally to learn more about American Cancer Society's first-ever Relay for Life at Trinity College.

February

4

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!

22

Red Cross Blood Drive (sponsored by Psi Upsilon): Drive collected 56 units of usable blood.

March

3-5

COOL Conference: Five outstanding student leaders traveled to Nashville, TN to exchange ideas, network, and learn from over 1,500 other students, campus administrators, and nonprofit professionals from across the country

9

ACES Annual Auction for Charity: \$2,337 was raised and split between the Make-A-Wish Foundation and Peter's Retreat, a local HIV/AIDS housing community

18-25

Alternative Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity: 30 Trinity students spent their spring break building houses with Habitat for Humanity affiliates in New Orleans, LA.

28-29

Fifth Graders go to College: students from schools in the surrounding area toured Trinity and attended lectures.

April

7-8

Relay for Life: More than 500 students participated in the overnight event that raised over \$69,000 to support the American Cancer Society.

May

5

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

8

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

Get Naked with Praxis: A campus-wide clothing drive

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



Special Report: Spring Break NOLA

On Saturday, March 18th, 30 members of Trinity's chapter of Habitat for Humanity boarded a bus in the Mather parking lot and 30 hours later, we arrived at our spring break destination- New Orleans, Louisiana.

Our home for the week was the Gretna United Methodist Church, a small parish just outside of the city that received only minimal damage during Hurricane Katrina. The church graciously provided us all with sleeping mats as well as access to their kitchen and shower facilities.

Though tired from our long trip, we spent our first night adjusting to New Orleans and exploring the French Quarter. The next morning, we attended an orientation at Loyola University with the Habitat New Orleans affiliate. We learned about what life in "Nawlins" had been like before the storm hit and how things had changed. After receiving health and safety information and our building assignments, we were given the rest of the afternoon off to enjoy the city.

That night, we returned to the Garden District and attended a panel entitled "Voices of New Orleans" at Tulane University. College students, professors, elementary school teachers, and other residents shared their evacuation stories and talked about the way that their lives have been affected. The event was followed by a reception at which we were allowed to meet and speak with the speakers.

Our building got underway

early the following morning. On Tuesday and Wednesday, our group was split and sent to two different work-sites. One group went to the Upper Ninth Ward and worked on the Musician's Village site, a project conceived by Harry Connick Jr. and Branford Marsalis. Both days were spent digging foundations and moving and tarping pre-framed sections of houses.



The other half of the group went to Oschner Warehouse, a storage facility that was recently donated by a local hospital. Students spent the first day cleaning out debris left by the storm and the second day unloading two 18-wheeler trucks full of furniture that had been donated for new houses in the Upper Ninth Ward.

On Thursday, our group came together and worked on a house on Mandeville Street in Orleans Parish. We had the chance to do everything

from putting up siding and trim to roofing, caulking and painting the nearly completed home.

After work that day, we ventured into the Lower Ninth Ward, the area most devastated by Hurricane Katrina. We were able to see where the levee was breached and many of us were overwhelmed by the resulting destruction. Entire neighborhoods remained deserted, and trees, parts of houses, smashed cars, and children's toys still littered the streets.

On our last day of building, half of the group continued working on the Mandeville Street house and the other half went to Delachaise Street to put the finishing touches on a home sponsored by the New Orleans Hornets NBA basketball team. At the end of the day, we all boarded the bus exhausted, sunburned, and covered in paint, but with satisfied smiles on our dirty faces!

We returned to Trinity on Sunday, March 26th with wonderful memories and a real sense of accomplishment. We would like to thank everyone who supported our fundraisers throughout the year and also Chartwells, Whole Foods, Wild Oats, and Shaw's Supermarket for the generous food and beverage donations that they sent down with us.

For more information about our trip or about Trinity's chapter of Habitat for Humanity, please contact Spencer Durland at (spencer.durland@trincoll.edu).



Adolescent Mentoring Program (AMP) by Danielle Rowan

Every Monday, members of the Adolescent Mentoring Program (AMP) meet in the FACES Lounge in Mather Hall basement. Trinity mentors match up with mentees from local Hartford high schools and engage them in homework help sessions, SAT preparations, and discussions on issues ranging from rap to sexual assault awareness.

AMP sessions also include a fair amount of unstructured time that allows mentors and mentees to bond and share casual experiences. You can often find them playing pool or eating snacks in The Cave, taking walks around the campus to see some of our

academic facilities or just chatting it up in the FACES Lounge.



This semester we took a group trip to the Hartford Stage to see Tennessee William's *A Lovely Sunday for*

Creve Coeur and participated in the International Hip Hop festival by taking a group break dancing class.

All in all, AMP has had a very successful year, and the relationships between mentors and mentees have blossomed.

For more information about AMP, please contact Danielle Rowan (danielle.rowan@trincoll.edu).

Boys and Girls Club by Paula Guzman

Throughout the school year, Trinity students volunteered at the Boys and Girls Club, located at 1500 Broad Street.

The most popular program is Power Hour, an hour long homework intensive study period in which Trinity tutors spend time helping between 50-60 Hartford elementary school children with their assignments. By the end of the hour, most of the students' work is

completed and the children can then move on to recreational activities like games, dance, and arts and crafts projects.

The Power Hour program will be up and running again next year and we hope to recruit even more Trinity tutors. An orientation session will likely be held at the beginning of September.

If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Sarah Hoyle (sarah.hoyle@trincoll.edu).



Big Brother/ Big Sister by Sandy Tichnor

The purpose of the Nutmeg Big Brother/ Big Sister program is to help children reach their full potential through positive one-to-one relationships with a mentor. In our program, Trinity students serve as "bigs" and the "littles" are students from McDonough Elementary School.

Trinity "bigs" spend at least one hour a week chatting, playing games, and/or doing homework with their "little." As a result of all of this contact time, "bigs" and "littles" establish special friendships and many of

them keep well beyond the academic year.



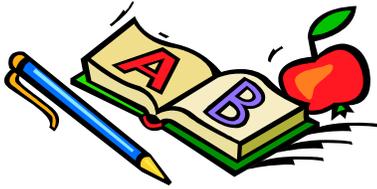
The Big Brother/ Big Sister program makes it possible for Trinity students to have a positive impact in the life of a young child in our area. Because McDonough Elementary School is just around the corner from

Trinity, it is very convenient and accessible.

If you would like more information about the Big Brother/ Big Sister program, please contact Steven Netcoh (steven.netcoh@trincoll.edu).

Youth ESL by Alexandra Blair

The Youth English as a Second Language Tutoring program (ESL) consists of a group of Trinity students that works with first graders. Working in a



one-on-one setting, college students assist the children in reading books, sounding out words and targeting pronunciation.

Headed by Alexandra Blair, the Trinity group travels to Dominick F. Burns Elementary School during the day to meet with selected students.

The students come from four classrooms and have been targeted as

needing extra help with English. The group's goal is to increase English proficiency while introducing children to the idea of college.

Getting involved is easy, as Burns Elementary is located one mile from Trinity.

For more information, please contact Alexandra Blair (alexandra.blair@trincoll.edu).

Amnesty International by Lindsey Moore

Amnesty International is a large and diverse group of Trinity students that works to strengthen the voice of protest against human rights abuses. Specific issues that Trinity's chapter has focused on are fair trade, the death penalty, arms control, political prisoners, and a human rights curriculum.

Throughout the year, Amnesty collaborated with other activist groups and attended rallies at the Capitol and conferences around the country. We worked closely with Oxfam on the

growing international movement for fair trade, which ensures that producers in poor countries get a fair price for their goods so that they are able to stay above the poverty line. We set up public displays in the lobby of Mather and encouraged students to lobby their senators.

Next semester, Amnesty is planning to shift its focus from international human rights issues to human rights violations in the local Hartford community. A major aspect of this local campaign will be a human rights

curriculum that Amnesty volunteers, led by Kathleen Milnamow '06, developed to teach in Hartford schools. The students of Amnesty are proud of an incredibly active and successful semester and are prepared for the challenges that lie ahead.

For more information, contact Megan Borgelt (megan.borgelt@trincoll.edu) or Dave Lenzner (david.lenzner@trincoll.edu).



Voices Organized in Democracy (VOID) by Carrie Edwards

From protests to independent film screenings and cancer walks, Voices Organized in Democracy (VOID) tackled many tough issues this year.

VOID, a progressive activist group, opened the school year with a "Die-In" to mark the death of the 2,000th American soldier in Iraq. VOID members lied down outside of Mather Hall holding signs with random numbers between 1 and 2,000 on them while pamphlets that asked "How many more?" were handed out to passersby. The protest served as a visual illustration of the death toll in Iraq. While extreme, the Die-In forced students to remember that the war is happening and to reflect on the impact of each individual soldier and every death.

To broach a topic closer to home, VOID held a screening of "Wal-Mart: The High Cost of Low Price" at Cinestudio. The event brought together students and Hartford residents to educate and inspire action against Wal-Mart's exploitative policies. A discussion was held afterwards, along with a walking tour of "Hartford's History of Struggle."

Other activities VOID participated in included peace protests downtown and the campus-wide Relay for Life. We raised nearly \$1000 in memory of our late adviser, Professor Fred Pfeil.

At the end of the semester, we hosted a screening of "Unconstitutional" in order to educate and reflect on the U.S.A. P.A.T.R.I.O.T.

Act and other questionable actions of the Bush administration. VOID met with the director of the Connecticut Working Families party and we hope to collaborate with them during the 2006 elections.

Next year, we will continue our efforts around issues of corporate capitalism and its repercussions through a number of projects including working with the Connecticut Working Families Party, starting a Trinity anti-sweatshop campaign, become an affiliate of the newly revitalized Students for a Democratic Society, and collaborate more with Food Not Bombs.

For more information, contact Ben Miller (benjamin.miller@trincoll.edu).

Best Buddies by Jen Kern

Best Buddies® is a nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of people with intellectual disabilities by providing opportunities for one-to-one friendships. The Trinity College Chapter of Best Buddies is just one of the many college chapters in Connecticut.

The second semester was a fun and busy one for our chapter. To kick off the new term and welcome the warm spring weather, buddies came to Trinity and spent the afternoon painting flower pots and planting flowers. At the end of the day, all of the buddies went home with a smile on their face and a colorful flower pot and plant to

take care of.

In March, all of the buddies went on a field trip to Newington, Connecticut for some friendly, but competitive duckpin bowling.



The Trinity College Chapter was also a participant at the Best Buddies Annual Crafts fair at the Uni-

versity of Hartford and helped to plan the statewide Best Buddies Dance at Quinnipiac.

We ended the school year with a party at Pizza Plus restaurant on Washington Street. We feasted on several "deluxe" pizzas and had canonolis and cheesecake for dessert. The event was the perfect end to another busy and fun-filled school year.

For more information about Best Buddies, please contact Jenny Gragg (jenny.gragg@trincoll.edu).

Habitat for Humanity by Margot Koch

Habitat for Humanity is an international, non-profit organization devoted to eliminating sub-standard housing all over the world.

This spring proved to be an incredibly busy semester for Trinity's Habitat Chapter! In order to raise money for our Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans, LA, we kicked things off with some major fundraising efforts, holding 50/50 raffles at squash matches and basketball games and selling carnations and care packages for Valentine's Day.

We braved the winter weather to participate on Hartford area builds and spent a great deal of time preparing for our trip-planning, securing food donations, and learning about post-Hurricane Katrina New Orleans. We were fortunate enough to have Dr. Larry Deutsch share his experience helping rebuild New Orleans and provide us with useful health and safety information to keep in mind while working in the disaster area.

While you can find details of our trip in the "Special Report" section, highlights of the week included working with AmeriCorps volunteers,

NCCC volunteers, and University of Chicago students on the initial stages of the Musician's Village Project and building in the Upper Ninth Ward. During our free time we enjoyed exploring the sights and sounds of the French Quarter and sampling the delicious local cuisine. It was especially exciting to be able to reconnect with some of the Tulane students who had attended Trinity in fall 2005.

Although there is still much more work to be done in order to restore New Orleans to its former glory, the Habitat volunteers are grateful to have had the chance to help out and to get to know such a fantastic city. After a 30 hour bus ride, we returned to Hartford tired, sunburned, and with memories that will last a lifetime!

Once back at school, we turned our attention to Act!Speak!Build! Week, an annual international advocacy event dedicated to raising awareness of housing issues. We organized a letter-writing campaign to our senators, demanding that funding not be cut for programs such as AmeriCorps and NCCC, whose volunteers often

work with Habitat for Humanity to oversee building projects.

In May, we ran cookie decorating booth during the Fun Fair and spent the final days of school handing out Final Exam care packages and recruiting a new executive board to guide Habitat through another successful year in 2006-2007.

For more information, please contact Spencer Durland (spencer.durland@trincoll.edu).



Peter's Retreat by Dan Cosgrove

Peter's Retreat is a home in Hartford that provides housing and other services to Hartford residents living with HIV or AIDS. The program was started in the early 1990s by Center City Churches of Hartford in an attempt to support each resident's effort to lead a healthier life.

Trinity students volunteer bi-monthly at Peter's Retreat and help mostly with maintenance tasks, including repairing dry wall in a bathroom, mowing the lawn, cutting some trees, and stocking the pantry. Led by Dan Cosgrove '08, the group has a solid core of volunteers that includes Summer Cannon '08, Allison Horrocks'09, Tara Valcimond '08 and Martin Garcia '07.

This semester, we were able to work both in and outdoors and do some activities beyond regular yard work. One day we cleaned out the main office for the staff. Martin developed a friendship with one of the residents and spent a lot of time helping him set up a new computer. Another week, we were able to spend the afternoon painting an empty apartment in preparation for a new resident.

We encourage *anyone* interested in Peter's Retreat to come out and give it a try. It is a truly gratifying experience to know that you are contributing to the goal stated above of what Peter's Retreat hopes to accomplish for its residents. We would like to

emphasize that Peter's Retreat is extremely informal; the only thing required of you is to show up with some old clothes and an open attitude. For more information, contact Dan Cosgrove (daniel.cosgrove@trincoll.edu).



ConnPIRG by Kelly Mearns

ConnPIRG (Connecticut Public Interest Research Group) had a fantastic end to the school year. We continued work on our campaigns of Hunger and Homelessness and Campus Climate Challenge, while also helping with the state affordable textbooks campaign.

Our Hunger and Homelessness Group held an array of fundraisers to contribute to the National Student Campaign against Hunger and Homelessness's (NSCAHH) Hunger Clean-Up. Half the proceeds were given to our friends at Mercy Housing and Shelter Corporations, while the other half was sent to two international campaigns: Support for Darfur and the Girl's Child Network in Zimbabwe. We surpassed our initial goal of \$1000, raising approximately \$1900.

With the help and support of Chartwells Dining Services, our Swipe a Meal fundraiser was a success. Nearly 400 students voluntarily donated one of their meals and a portion its price went to support our cause. In the end, we were able to raise \$900!

We also held a spare change drive and went door-to-door in all of

the residence halls on campus. Trinity students were generous again and we were able to raise \$350. Our final fundraiser was a bake sale held at Trinity's International Hip Hop show.

ConnPIRG was also involved with the Feinstein Challenge program which commits monetary donations to anti-hunger agencies for the amount of canned food collected for the months of March and April. We held canned food drives and informed local shelters about ways to be eligible for these donations.

Our Campus Climate group worked hard on a great education program all semester. They had a week focusing on Earth Day issues, in which speakers, movies, and fliers educated the campus. These events focused on global warming, renewable energy, and recycling. ConnPIRG intern, Qi Le '06 also worked on an inventory of Trinity's greenhouse gas emission. His project was challenging, but necessary because it is part of a campaign to get the College to lower its greenhouse gas emission 90% by 2050.

The most memorable project was the Recycle Your Light Bulbs cam-

paign. Students brought in their old used light bulbs and received free environment friendly ones in return. The group tabled and traveled to dorms asking people to switch. A total of 200 donated light bulbs were dispersed during the event.

ConnPIRG also worked with other Connecticut colleges to lower textbook prices. We tabled outside of Mather, the activity fairs and even went into classrooms to get signatures to petition state government to take action. A bill was written and passed by the Connecticut General Assembly Senate, making it all the way to the Governor's desk for approval. The resolution states that textbooks companies must submit prices with the list of books to all professors so they can know this information before choosing a book to assign for their classes.

For more information on what ConnPIRG is doing or how to get involved, please contact Kelly Mearns at (kelly.mearns@trincoll.edu) or Ian Hendry at (ian.hendry@trincoll.edu).

Green Campus by Kathryn West

Green Campus is a student organization that is dedicated to increasing environmental awareness at Trinity. During the spring, we focused our efforts on improving recycling on campus and rallying support to reduce Trinity’s greenhouse gas emissions.

Among other accomplishments, the club successfully developed an informational website:

www.sustainabletrinity.blogspot.com.

The site includes a picture tour of the path of Trinity recyclables. It was formed in an effort to dispel the myth that recyclables are thrown out along with our trash. To map the route, the club followed Buildings & Grounds (B & G) vehicles through their daily pickups. We discovered that B&G has three large metal units in which they sort bottles, cans, office paper, and corrugated cardboard. Once a unit is filled, its contents are removed and taken to the Connecticut Resource Recovery Authority to be recycled.

To spike interest in our activities, Green Campus tabled at the Bistro for “March Recycling Madness.” We informed diners about which items were recyclable and encouraged them to shoot these items through a basketball hoop and into a recycling bin.

Another positive step that Trinity has taken toward becoming a greener community is the exclusive use

of clear plastic bags for recyclables. This makes it easier for both students and members of the custodial staff to visually distinguish what is a trash bin and what is a recycle bin. Green Campus and B&G have been collaborating to ensure that custodial staff has the correct bags and the overall use of recycling bins around campus has greatly improved this semester!



Green Campus had a strong presence at several large social events like the Relay for Life, the International Hip Hop Festival, and Spring Weekend. During the Hip Hop Festival alone, we were able to collect six 32-gallon bags full of recyclables!

During Spring Weekend, we joined forces with Guster, Americorps, Cliff Bar, and Luna to make the event ecologically friendly. We set up an eco-

pavilion on the LSC quad and encouraged students to pledge their support of renewable energy. On an average weekday, Trinity uses 90,000 kilowatt hours of energy. Green Campus worked with Sterling Planet and purchased 115,000 kilowatt hours worth of wind-energy to offset a portion of the energy used during Spring Weekend.

As the semester came to a close, Green Campus held its annual “Dump & Run” and placed cardboard boxes in dormitory laundry rooms to collect students’ reusable items. The project saved reusable school supplies, lamps, furniture, shoes, and a little more than one-thousand articles of clothing from going into a landfill. These items were donated to Interval House and Immaculate Conception shelter. Food items were donated to Mercy House.

Next semester, Green Campus will continue to improve recycling on campus and we are currently working with the Student Government Association to purchase outdoor recycling bins. It is our hope that, through education combined with action, we will have a positive overall effect on reducing green house emissions and promoting conservation.

For more information, contact Kathryn West (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* | White office paper (it can have printing on it) Colored paper Envelopes Cardstock (heavier paper) Corrugated cardboard (break down, put near a trashcan) |

* Plastic bottle caps are not recyclable. Please remove them before putting bottles into a bin.

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

Bottles still containing liquid cannot be recycled!

Pizza boxes cannot be recycled because the cardboard is contaminated by the grease

Annual Community Events Staff (ACES) by Miriam Zichlin

The Annual Community Events Staff (ACES) is responsible for organizing one large scale event every month.

We kicked off the semester in February with our annual Soup-er Bowl Food Drive. On the Saturday before the NFL's Super Bowl football game, members of ACES and Zeta Omega Eta went to two different Stop & Shop grocery stores in the area and solicited non-perishable food donations. By the end of the day, we had collected several carloads of food for the Hartford Catholic Worker, a neighborhood outreach organization in north Hartford.

In March, we raised \$2,337

through our Annual Auction for Charity. Students were able to bid on a variety of items including faculty parking passes, gift certificates to local businesses and restaurants, autographed sports memorabilia, and dinner with various members of our faculty and staff. All proceeds went to the Make-a-Wish Foundation and Peter's Retreat (a local residential community for people with HIV/AIDS).

We concluded the semester by pairing up with TCAC in May to sponsor Fun Fair, an annual carnival for local children. Members from various clubs and Greek organizations set up booths on the main quad and spent the afternoon face painting, decorating cookies, playing games and doing arts

and crafts projects with the children. The weather held out and a good time was had by everyone!

Next year, we are hoping to make our annual events better than ever and are considering adding a new event at the end of the year.

For more information about ACES, please contact Meredith Wilson (meredith.wilson@trincoll.edu).



Aetna ESL by Kate Carillo

The Aetna Center for Families ESL Program provides adults in Hartford and its surrounding areas with the opportunity to learn English as their second language.

Located on the Washington Street border of the Learning Corridor,

students from Trinity take the short walk over to the Center and volunteer as head or assistant teachers in English classes of varying proficiency levels. The classes are small and intimate, and Trinity and ESL students alike are able to grow and learn to-

gether.

For more information about becoming an ESL mentor, contact Matt Bartha at (matthew.bartha@trincoll.edu).

Hillel by David Goodman & Hannah Charry

Hillel is the cultural student organization on campus that brings students together to discuss issues dealing with Judaism. Members are involved with many social activities, including Shabbat dinner every Friday at 6:00 p.m. in the Hillel house and numerous community service events. The past semester was full of 'Tikkun Olam' (Hebrew for 'Repairing the World') for Hillel.

During the winter, Hillel created the "Hamsas across Hartford" program. A Hamsa is a Middle Eastern hand symbol that is believed to guard its owner from evil spirits. For each paper Hamsa sold, money was donated to a program to buy gloves for Hartford's homeless population during the frigid winter months.

In early March, Hillel paired with the TrinKnitters and Connecticut Coalition to Save Darfur. In addition to a poster and flier campaign to increase awareness of the injustice occurring overseas, we made and sold scarves during the holiday season. The \$600 proceeds from the sale went toward aid for Sudanese refugees.



In addition, for the past two years Hillel members have been lobbying members of Congress to advocate policy that will rectify the situation in Sudan.

In April, Hillel made its presence known at Relay for Life, fielding a team of 12, raising close to \$1,000 for the cause, and sponsoring a Shabbat dinner in the food tent during the event. All of the Relay's participants were welcomed to join and eat the traditional food that was offered, such as pita bread and hummus.

If you would like more information about Hillel, please feel free to stop by the house located on 74 Vernon Street or contact David Goodman at (david.goodman@trincoll.edu)

The Lions Club by Haley Lepo

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, with a special focus on the sensory impaired.

During the last week of March, we held a drive to collect old eyeglasses, used cell phones, and empty ink cartridges. The glasses and cell phones were donated, the ink cartridges were recycled, and all of the proceeds went to charity. We will continue collecting these items next year, so please keep us in mind and do not throw these things away. Items you would like to donate can be brought to the Community Service Office, which is in the Mather basement, next to the campus bookstore.

On April 21st we held our annual Wine and Cheese in the Smith House. The event was our most successful one to date and we raised \$1,334 for Lions Club International. This money will eventually be distributed to vision and hearing related local charities, like FIDELCO, Journey for Sight and American School for the Deaf, as well as to vision care efforts in third world countries, disaster relief, and health care.

After the semester ended, Lions Club continued to work. We collaborated with Hawk's Landing Country Club in Southington to hold a golf tournament to benefit breast cancer research. Over 100 golfers participated and approximately \$3000

was raised for the cause.

This semester was the last for long-time club officials Andrew Szilvasy '06 and John Razzano '06. Their energy and dedication will be sorely missed.

For more information about Trinity Lions Club, please contact Haley Lepo (haley.lepo@trincoll.edu).



Praxis by Juli Martha

Praxis is Trinity's residentially-based community service organization located in the Doonesbury residence hall (90-92 Vernon St.). Members of Praxis commit some individual service involvement, either on or off the Trinity campus, and also participate in large-scale Praxis group projects throughout the year.

During fall semester, Praxis hosted both small and large scale events. In October, we transformed our dorm into a haunted house for the yearly Halloween on Vernon Street. In November, we baked 420 pies for local shelters at our annual Thanksgiving Great Pie Project, and we co-sponsored a social event with Pike that raised \$50 for Hurricane Katrina relief.

During the winter holidays, we sold holiday candy-grams to raise money for a CT Department of Child and Family Services grassroots project. Other projects included redecorating our common living spaces, an outdoor day of service at the Knox Parks Foundation, a Praxis holiday party, and completing a year-round project at a soup kitchen in which we bake dessert

and serve lunch so the chef can have the day off.

During the spring semester, we focused our efforts on recruiting members for the 2006-2007 school-year. After looking through applications and conducting interviews, we successfully filled our residence hall with students who are committed to community service and further increasing the positive impact that Praxis has on our campus.

In April, we participated in Trinity's Relay for Life and raised over \$1,726 for the American Cancer Society. We also held our annual spring "Get Naked" clothing drive in which we went door-to-door in all of the residence halls on campus and collected donations of over 1200 items of clothing.

We ended the year with a barbecue that brought together current, returning and new members. For more information about Praxis, contact Nora Steinman (nora.steinman@trincoll.edu) or

Caroline Milano (caroline.milano@trincoll.edu) or visit our website: www.trincoll.edu/orgs/praxis.



Trinity Wishmakers by Hannah Charry

This year, sophomores Sarah Knox, Leighann Kinter, Jennifer Wise, and Hannah Charry established a chapter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation at Trinity through the themed housing program. The purpose of the Make-A-Wish Foundation is to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions in an attempt to enrich their lives with hope, strength, and joy. In an attempt to provide the terminally ill with both short and long term relief, we decided to also organize Trinity's first-ever Relay for Life to benefit the American Cancer Society (see cover story).

Juggling two large projects with two separate national organizations was no easy task. We began on a small scale and held "Make-A-Wish Week" in October to raise awareness of our presence on campus. We sold paper stars during Mather meals and held an ice cream social during dinner one night. Chartwells and Hershey's generously donated all of the ice cream

and toppings and we were able to raise \$310 for our cause.

On Friday, December 9th the Wishmakers collaborated with the Inter-Greek Council to sponsor Late Night in Vernon Social Center. All fraternities and sororities closed for the night in support of the event and tickets were sold for \$3. The cooperation of the Office of Campus Life and local businesses helped bring us a few hundred dollars closer to granting a wish.

In March, ACES held its Annual Auction and donated \$1,163 (half of their proceeds) to our chapter of Make-a-Wish Foundation. Their generous contribution allowed us to focus more attention on the Relay for Life, our other main project.

Though planning for the Relay began in August of 2005, things really kicked into high gear during the spring semester. On January 31st, approximately 60 students attended a Relay Rally in the Washington Room and

learned more about the event. People signed up to be "team captains" and from that point on attended bi-weekly Relay meetings in the FACES Lounge.

The Relay was held on April 7-8th on the Jessee/Miller Football Field and was a complete success! A total of \$69,089 was raised for the American Cancer Society and more than 500 students and faculty/staff members participated!

Under the leadership of Dan Hoyle '09, the Wishmakers Theme Quad will continue next year and another Relay for Life is being scheduled for early April. For more information on how to become involved, please contact Dan at daniel.hoyle@trincoll.edu.



The Ivy Society by Jenn Katz

Coming off of a busy and successful fall semester, the sisters of the Ivy Society worked hard to become even more involved in community service activities during the spring.

Throughout the semester, Ivy solicited donations from family and friends in preparation for Trinity's first-ever Relay for Life. We had 100% participation from our members and in the end, we more than tripled our fundraising goal, collecting over \$3,875 for the American Cancer Society. The unity of this campus-wide event was amazing and Ivy will forever remember our walk together throughout the night.

At the end of April, our commitment to important social issues was manifested in our full participation in "Take Back the Night." The event, co-sponsored by the Women's Center,

SART, Zeta Omega Eta, and IGC, brought attention to sexual violence and the need for increased social responsibility on campus. In addition, "Take Back the Night" helped make everyone on campus aware of the many resources that Trinity offers to students who have been victims. This event was extremely important to our organization and we are proud to have been able to support it.

During the spring, true passion for social action was also reflected in senior Ivy member Lizzy Pendergast's spring break plans. Rather than spending spring break of her senior year having fun-in-the-sun, she volunteered with the New Orleans organization Common Ground and spent the week building houses in New Orleans' Ninth Ward. We are very proud of her efforts!

To conclude the spring semester, the Ivy Society paired up with the brothers of Alpha Delta Phi to host a roundtable discussion on cultural and diversity issues at Trinity and in our nation. The event was well-attended and we hope to host a similar discussion in the fall.

For more information about the Ivy Society, please contact Celia Berger (celia.berger@trincoll.edu).



Kappa Kappa Gamma by Mary Elizabeth Clune

The Zeta Theta Chapter of Kappa Kappa Gamma had a busy spring as they were involved in numerous philanthropy projects in the Hartford community. Not only were Kappas enthusiastically involved in these activities, they were not afraid to take on leadership positions in some of these events.

Kappa began the semester by instituting a semester long pen-pal program with seventh grade students at Bellizi Middle School. The goal of the project was to create friendships with local students while encouraging them to re-discover the lost art of letter writing. The Kappas and the young students exchanged letters about everything from shared interests in sports, music, and other activities to what it is like to be a college or middle school student in Hartford. Kappas and the young students had a good time getting to know one another and we hope to continue the pen-pal program in the fall.

During March, Kappa joined forces with Zeta Omega Eta and fundraised for C.A.R.E., a program that funds the education of hundreds of young girls in the Middle East. Kappa and Zeta tabled in Mather for a week and were able to raise \$385, enough money to send 9.5 girls to school next

year! Special thanks to Elizabeth Mooney '06 who helped coordinate the fundraising efforts!

In addition, during the month of March, several Kappas volunteered to spend their Spring Break working with Habitat for Humanity in New Orleans. Sophomores Danielle Rowan '08, Lilly Hancock '08, and Sarah Knox '08 spent the entire week working on



houses in the Upper Ninth Ward as part of the Musician's Village Project. We are extremely proud of all of their hard work and dedication!

In April, the entire sorority took part in Trinity's first-ever Relay for Life and raised \$6,268 for the American Cancer Society. Sisters camped out, took turns walking in shifts, and helped pick up food donations throughout the night. Kappa is

especially proud of sisters Sarah Knox '08 and Jen Wise '08 who took on the incredible task of organizing the Relay with their roommates as part of their theme housing project. The young women spent countless hours planning, organizing, and rallying people to get involved and raise money for this important cause. The event was a complete success and we are already looking forward to being involved again next year!

At the end of April, Kappa spent time fundraising for "Fallen Soldiers", an organization that supports soldiers who have been injured and/or experienced mental distress while fighting in Iraq. Kappa solicited donations from family and friends and sold little yellow ribbons while tabling in Mather. In the end, Kappa was able to raise over \$250 for the organization.

Kappa concluded its semester in early May by hosting a face-painting booth during the ACES/TCAC Annual Fun Fair. Sisters spent the afternoon drawing clown noses, whiskers, flowers, and animals on the faces of Hartford children. A good time was had by all!

For more information about Kappa, please contact Danielle Rowan (danielle.rowan@trincoll.edu).

Alpha Delta Phi (AD) by Will Moyet

The spring 2006 semester proved to be successful in terms of the contributions that Alpha Delta Phi made in the community service arena.

AD's first big project was the annual 5th Graders go to College Day. The event was held March 28th-29th and several schools in the surrounding Hartford community visited the Trinity College campus. AD brothers gave the students campus tours and escorted them to educational sessions like robotics and insect lectures and basketball clinic conducted by members of the

men's basketball team.

In April, AD took part in the Relay for Life and raised over \$2,000 for the American Cancer Society. Along with a solid turnout by brothers, our fraternity chef donated his services and baked the majority of desserts for the event's Survivor Dinner.

AD also supported Take Back the Night in late April by attending a the rally at the Vernon Social Center and learning about the dangers of sexual violence and sexual harassment.

Following a controversial comment made in a classroom during the semester, AD hosted a forum on race relations in early May. The gathering brought together cultural houses, student committees, Greek organizations, faculty members and Dean Alford.

For more information about AD, please contact David McDonough (david.mcdonough@trincoll.edu) or David Nestler (david.nestler@trincoll.edu).

Pi Kappa Alpha by Caleb Wasser

This past spring semester the brothers of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity (Pike) collectively logged over 480 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. By co-sponsoring a social event with Zeta Omega Eta and solicit-

ing donations from family and friends, we were able to raise over \$931 for the Relay for Life. The event was well attended by the brotherhood, with 10 of us camping out the entire night in the rain to cheer one another on as we took turns walking around the track.

In addition, Pike brothers volunteered their time working at Trinity's first-ever Hip-Hop festival, helped out on several Habitat for Humanity builds in the area, and organized games and races for the young children who attended the ACES/TCAC Fun Fair.

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 (caleb.wasser@trincoll.edu).



Fall 2006 Upcoming Events

August

28-30

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

29-9/1

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

September

6

Activities Fair: Representatives from more than 30 community service organizations on campus spend the afternoon recruiting new members

9

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

October

15

Making Strides Breast Cancer Walk: Kappa Kappa Gamma and Colleges Against Cancer team up to participate in the walk held at Bushnell Park

Red Cross Blood Drive sponsored by Psi Upsilon



Habitrot: 5k run sponsored by Habitat for Humanity raised funds for their alternative Spring Break trip

29

Halloween on Vernon Street: A half-day event that gives hundreds of local chil-

dren and their families a fun and safe Halloween experience

November

Green Homecoming: Green Campus and SGA pair up to distribute biodegradable cups for tailgates and purchase wind energy to offset Trinity's energy use for that weekend.

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

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

December

ACES Sponsor a Snowman Drive: 100 holiday gifts are collected for the children of the Hartford Interval House, a domestic violence shelter

Trinity's first-ever Relay for Life is a success! *(continued from page 1)*

with cancer when she was 11 years old. The tumor returned twice, requiring a leg amputation in 2000. She also fended off different types of



cancer in her lung and as well as in her ribs.

According to Garbatini, she “received so much love and support from not only my family and friends, but from the entire community. (Now) I have the opportunity to be here with a story that will hopefully encourage you to continue your support for this universal fight.”

The Ceremony of Hope concluded with a slideshow complete with names, pictures, and messages to loved ones who have lost or are still fighting their battle with cancer.

Throughout the entire 18 hour event, at least one member from each of the 38 registered teams was walking around the track at all times. Teams represented various clubs, Greek organizations, athletic teams, the coaching staff, religious groups, residence halls, and groups of friends. According to Relay Co-chairperson Sarah Knox, “while each club or organization on

campus has a strong presence, there is little connection among them. This event provided an opportunity for everyone to come together in support of an important cause that affects us all.”

Co-chairperson Hannah Charry agreed, explaining that one of the initial goals in bringing the Relay to campus was to “bring attention to the connections that many of us share within our sometimes fractured Trinity community.”

As emotional as the event was, it was also a great deal of fun. A stage was set up in the southern end-zone of



Photo by Chuck Pratt

the football field and there were live-music performances by bands “Doublethink” and “Rocket Surgery” as well as an acoustic hour from Todd Morrison ‘07. Narin Prum ‘06 served as the DJ/host for the entire event.

Participants also had the opportunity to take part in a long-toss football contest, a pie-eating contest, a jellybean guessing game, and to enjoy late night screenings of the movies “Anchorman” and Zoolander out on the field.

Over 30 local restaurants do-

nated food and beverages to the event. We were especially appreciative of the kindness of Chartwells who donated all of the flatware, cups, and napkins, Sergeant Pepperoni’s who donated more than a dozen pizzas, Coldstone Creamery who provided dessert, and the Panera Bread Company who provided breakfast in the morning.

The Relay Student Planning Committee is both shocked and touched by the Trinity’s outpouring of generosity. When planning for the event began in August 2005, the initial goal was to raise \$20,000. However, once the fundraising website opened, we exceeded that goal within the first three weeks! By the end of April, we had raised over \$68,000 and secured our place as the 4th highest Relay for Life in New England!

The bar is now set high and plans for next year’s Relay for Life are already underway. For more information about the Relay for Life or how to become involved in the planning process, please contact Dan Hoyle (daniel.hoyle@trincoll.edu).



2006 Relay for Life Planning Committee

Co-chairs: Hannah Charry & Sarah Knox

Logistics Co-Chairs: Kurt Preuss & Ian Hendry

Publicity Chair: Jenn Wise

Accounting Chair: Leighann Kinter

Online Fundraising Chair: Danielle Grossman

Entertainment Chair: Olivia Noren

Luminaria Chair: Andra Chantim

Survivorship Chair: Amanda Garbatini

Food & Beverage Chair: Kelly Mearns

Advisor: Sarah Hoyle