

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Each year our high school students are required to perform thirty-six hours of community service. This month we took the opportunity to talk with a few of the students to see what they do for their community service hours and what they think about the requirement to perform service. Many of the students reported enjoying the services they perform and said they would be doing some form of community service even if it were not required. A few of the students said they found it difficult to locate projects that they will enjoy and would rather not have the requirement. Others said they think students should be helping in their community but don't know what projects are available. Most agreed that they enjoy helping others.

A common thread that was found running through many of the service projects that the students are involved in is the desire and willingness to help other kids.

Travis Smeltz, Dusty Harrington, Scott Nelson, Clint Smith, and Mark Lunsford have found that they enjoy the time they donate to helping with school sporting activities. Earlier this year they could be found refereeing the junior high football games.

Sherry Grisham attended the Close Up program in Washington D.C. last year and knows the value of the trip. As such she has chosen to assist this year's group with its fund-raising activities. She helped the group during Cycle Oregon by selling *Shave Her Head* votes and by serving meals. She also helps teach Spanish to the kindergarten class. Bethany Nelson has helped with children's activities in Town and devotes many hours to service programs through her church. She has helped on projects at the Grand Canyon and in Mexico. She enjoys performing in skits that entertain youngsters. She did this in Mexico and at summer camp.

Paula Slayton is another student who has chosen to volunteer time to provide service through her church. She enjoys helping others and said she would do community service even if it weren't required.



John Hoel has found that he enjoys outdoor projects and has been helping the Lions Club on their service projects. He helped to load, measure, and stack the cord of wood that was auctioned off for the local scholarship fund. Charlie McLauchlan, Gabe Nelson, and Sara Thompson spend time each week helping at the Cole Rivers Fish Hatchery. In addition to helping with fish counts, they do grounds clean up and miscellaneous chores. Charlie has also helped with the kids craft activities at community hall and volunteers time to help with church activities. This past summer he served as a camp counselor for junior high students at Camp LaHaRoi. Jason Umpstead volunteered time for Cycle Oregon and is looking for more projects.

Heidi McLauchlan has devoted many hours to local projects. She organized the highway clean up just prior to Cycle Oregon, has helped on all of the kids programs at community hall, and provides service through her church. Last summer Heidi spent four days in Mexico helping to paint a church, put in a playground, and put a new roof on a building. Through the church's program- Today's Youth Matters- Heidi spent time in Oakland, CA helping kids who are going through the court system. Many of these are kids who have been abused. Heidi has also served as a counselor at both Snow Camp and Summer Camp.

Elizabeth McLauchlan enjoys volunteering time to her church and local projects. She spent time helping in Mexico this summer and particularly enjoyed helping with vacation Bible school. Elizabeth acted as counselor at Camp MaHaNaim, a Bible camp for 8-10 year olds. She enjoys working with children and has been involved with many projects for children at community hall. She recently took part in the *Walk for Diabetes*.

Sara Lawrence and Jessica Dunlap also spent time in Mexico this summer helping paint, construct a playground and teach vacation Bible school. Sara Lawrence is another student that recently helped with craft activities for local kids at the community hall. She supervised the youngsters as they crafted a snowman from a clay pot.

This is just a sampling of what some of our students do for their community service hours. In addition to the satisfaction they receive from helping others and fulfilling their requirement for community service, many of these young people are setting fine examples for our younger citizens.

