

Church group helps improve biking at ECE

By Leslie Mitts
Splyay Tymoo

Students at Early Childhood Education are enjoying newly completed bike paths along with new donated bike helmets.

The bike paths and helmets are gifts from a youth group of the Oregon City Evangelical Church. The group came to Warm Springs during spring break in order to complete the project.

They traveled to Warm Springs with 61 people total—and 44 members of the group were middle school youth aiming to get work done during their break from school.

They donated 178 bike helmets and completed 300 feet of bike paths for the ECE students.

But that's not all they did: the students also pitched in on other projects and worked to clean up the area around the church.

Snuffie Smith suggested the bike path project after church members asked her about any projects needing to be completed in the community.



Members of the Oregon City Evangelical Church chose the project at ECE to complete during their spring break mission trip.

Because the bike paths were unfinished and some children didn't own bike helmets, Smith said, they were unable to allow children to use the bike paths. Because the tribes' don't always have the resources or funding for projects like that, she said, it was an ideal project for the

church group to complete.

"The program needed either grass or a bike path," Smith explained. It's something that she believes the children will benefit from a lot, Smith added.

"It really makes a difference for them to come out and release their energy on some-

thing," Smith said. "It's just going to make a world of difference for everyone here at ECE."

Those with the church also started a project for CPS—bags for boys and girls were purchased and filled with hygiene and clothing items to be handed out to

families with foster children.

"That's going to be an ongoing project for them also," Smith said.

According to Pastor Josh Shelton, the youth raised about \$1,600 to pay for supplies and the bike helmets. Fundraisers included everything from selling Christmas wreaths to hosting dinners, and they also received donations from people in their church.

According to Shelton, the youth wanted a chance to get some work done during their spring break.

"They have an attitude for servant hood," Shelton said. "Warm Springs is a wonderful place for them to come and work."

Its not the first time Oregon City Evangelical Church has come to Warm Springs. Last year a youth group completed a fencing project in Simnasho, and the church has made regular mission trips to the area.

"Our church has a strong passion and love for the people over here," Shelton said.

Bottle drive for grad party

Organizers of the Madras High School 2008 All Night Drug- and Alcohol-Free Graduation Party are holding a can and bottle drive on Saturday, April 19 at Ralphs TV in Madras from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Voc rehab hosting training day for hearing impaired

The Warm Springs Vocational Rehabilitation Department will host a free one-day in service on deafness, hearing impairment and assistive technology at High-Lookee Lodge on Tuesday, April 22, from 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

This training is open to all community members, but space is limited.

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month at the Family Resources Center in Warm Springs. Or call us at 385-6944 Monday through Wednesday between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.



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