

AUGUST 2011

TOWN & GOWN

magazine



Maroon Volunteer Center participants provide service at a 911 Ceremony.



Ferrell is coordinating the volunteer efforts, and he said preparations began last spring. Students will participate in a variety of projects, including work with partners such as Ability Works, Aiken Village Preschool, Boardtown Village, Camp Seminole, Gaining Ground, George Evans Park, Habitat for Humanity and Oktibbeha/Starkville Emergency Response Volunteer Services.

Students who participate receive a free T-shirt and lunch. They are asked to meet in the Junction at 8:15 a.m.

One of the groups participating in Service DAWGS has a few other projects in progress, too. The Oktibbeha/Starkville Emergency Response Volunteer Services, or OSERVS, has a lot of items on their agenda these days.

This group helps prepare and assist in times of natural disasters. OSERVS is a nonprofit organization that formed in 2010, and it is working on several projects that need the help of volunteers, said Carol Moss Read, outgoing chair of the OSERVS' board.

New this year is a Community Emergency Response Team, which is a partnership effort between MSU and OSERVS. Members of this team will be trained in basic disaster response skills, like fire safety and search and rescue.

The organization is looking for Starkville – and Oktibbeha – area citizens to join this team, Read said.

OSERVS also needs volunteers to help with answering the phone, putting together comfort kits and become certified CPR instructors.

Organizers of these many different service projects say volunteering is important, creating better citizens and fostering a better education for volunteers who are students. Smith said he wants MSU and the community to provide a variety of service opportunities for students.

Ferrell said more volunteer opportunities are on the way for students and others in the community, ranging from taking care of cemeteries to helping in local food production.

“These opportunities can help to enhance the academic experience for the students by giving them hands-on activities involved in their field of study,” he said. ■

Groups in the Starkville – and Oktibbeha – areas are looking for volunteers. Learn more about two groups, Service DAWGS and the Oktibbeha/Starkville Emergency Response Volunteer Services.

Service DAWGS and Maroon Volunteer Center:

Service DAWGS Day is planned for Aug. 13. Students, especially freshmen, are asked to register at mvc.msstate.edu.

Students will participate in 21 service projects across the campus community.

For more information, call (662) 325-2150 or email volunteer@saffairs.msstate.edu.

Oktibbeha/Starkville Emergency Response Volunteer Services:

A new nonprofit is looking for volunteers to help assemble comfort kits, serve on disaster response teams, become certified CPR instructors and prepare for disasters.

For more information, call (662) 418-8911 or visit OSERVS.com.

BRIDGES OUT OF POVERTY WINE TASTING

PHOTOGRAPHY BY LAURA DANIELS



1. Taylor Adams, Phoenix Adams, Bob Collins 2. Dobby Golson, Lynn Gaines-Phillips 3. Russell Gaines, Antwane Tate, Yolanda Boyd, Lynn Gaines-Phillips 4. David Ammon, Nina Ammon 5. Shelitah Spearmon, JoAnne Collins 6. Allan Tucker, Barbara Tucker, John Harness 7. Jimmy Richardson, Robbie Richardson 8. Clara Williams, Bart Williams, Cynthia Williams, Joe Williams, Ann Jackson 9. Sandy Gentry, Bill Gentry 10. Patricia Harris, Jimmy Harris 11. Yolanda Wooten, Melvin Wooten, Melita Tomlinson 12. Ren Crowell, Marianne Crowell 13. Bonnie Renfroe, Fritz Fulgham 14. Robert Long, Charlotte Long 15. Ted Dobson, Susan Cook 16. Pam Collins, Kim Walters, Nancy Walsh