Love That Bridge

Having proved to be an effective location for getting attention, FEA held the a “Bridge to Love” event on Friday the 13th of February, at the foot of the bridge to the Shephard building.

Michael Greene, Melissa Di Tucci, Joy Winet, and Mrs. Blenis handed out Valentine’s Day refreshments and provided arts and craft supplies for homemade Valentine’s.

From 10:00am until noon many students grabbed a cookie on the way to and from classes and some stopped to craft a sentimental card for a classmate or loved one. We even had a handful of faculty and staff participants. Despite the ominous, date all of the “Bridge to Love” participants were in a festive mood, some even sharing a little too much information about their romantic weekend plans or lack there of.

Education Students Know How to Play

Courtney Treubert, Michael Greene, Ed and friends turned out on Saturday, February 21st for the first game night of the year. A riveting game of Apples to Apples broke out and the hours were whisked away. Be sure to make the next one on March 21st at 6pm. Bring movies, games, friends, snacks; whatever makes a party for you (and is appropriate for a school activity).
For more information on how to become a Peace Corps volunteer visit the website or contact the regional recruitment office directly.

http://www.peacecorps.gov/

SE Regional Recruitment Officer: Clara Ginyard:
cginyard@peacecorps.gov
(404) 562-3454

Peace Corps Fellows Share Their Experiences

In case you were not aware, our department is one of 40 select progressive programs that offer return Peace Corps volunteers a tuition discount on their graduate study. Our current Peace Corps fellows include: Richard Santangelo (China), Angela Delp (Cameroon), Jayné Park (Guyana), Kristi Boogard (Ecuador) and Benjamin Grace (Niger).

To celebrate National Peace Corps Week (Feb. 23rd – Mar 2nd), return volunteers from our department organized a couple of events to share their overseas experiences with the public.

Interested in serving? The best way to learn more about the Peace Corps would be to talk with our department volunteers. Angela Delp, who served in Mayo-Oulo, Cameroon from 2003-2006, had this to say about her experience, “In Cameroon I learned how to live a more abundant life with less materials.” Benjamin Grace did his service in Niger, West Africa from January 2006 through March 2008 and offered the following statement:

“I worked as a Natural Resource Management Extension agent working primarily in environmental education. For my 24 months at post I lived in a mud hut with no electricity or running water. While the challenges I faced were great, getting to know the villagers and experiencing their lives through talking with them, in their language, was great. Working side-by-side with them I learned more about the world and life then I ever did in school. I feel lucky to have been granted the opportunity to serve in the Peace Corps and while my primary goal was EE, I also got to participate in local radio shows, a giraffe census, 6-day HIV / AIDS bike tour that covered more than 20 villages and reached more then 400 people, play as a member of the Tahoua region men’s basketball team and help create a tree farm for sustainable harvesting and to produce income. The Peace Corps truly is the hardest job you’ll ever love.”
Upcoming Events

Lucky Bridge
Tuesday the 17th of March (St. Patrick’s Day), 9:45 am until the snacks are gone
We love our wooden bridge and how easy it is to get noticed by having a party on it. So, come help us spread awareness of our department and FEA. We will be giving out green treats, please bring some if you can. Help will also be needed distributing flyers, setting up the table and refreshments and taking everything down again. Anything you can do would be appreciated.

Game Night
Saturday the 21st of March, 6pm
Bring a game, snack, movie, friends, family, or make do with what we have. All competitors welcomed!

Student Teacher Banquet
Saturday May 9th
This one is a way off yet, but Mrs. Blenis would like an RSVP if you plan to attend. The banquet is a chance to thank Brevard County’s supervising teachers for releasing their classes and celebrating with our graduating seniors. The event includes dinner and recognition of our student teachers and their supervisors. All students are welcome, but again, let Mrs. Blenis know if you plan on coming.

Earth Day/ Arbor Day
To be determined...
Any ideas? Both Arbor Day and Earth Day are in April and quickly approaching. Help plan or organize an event; a seedling give away, recycled sculpture, or something more original. A few links with ideas follow; both are also great events for classroom activities:
http://www.arborday.org/
http://www.earthday.net/
Find existing events and get all information you need to plan one.

Save the Date
You are invited to participate in these upcoming events…. Get Involved!

Technology in the Classroom
(Tour Stone Middle School) 3/9/09

Lucky Bridge 3/17/09

Game Night 3/21/09

FFMT Conference in Miami 4/4-5/09

Student Teacher Banquet 5/9/09

Stop Budget Cutbacks to Education
On Monday night, February 23rd, thousands of concerned citizens crowded the King Center in Melbourne for a Town Hall meeting with local legislators to show support for education. Mrs. Blenis and our student teachers arrived at the event half and hour early to find that they had no chance of making it into the center and that they couldn’t even find a spot close enough to hear the outdoor broadcast. Video footage of the event is available from the Brevard Public Schools website: http://www.brevard.k12.fl.us/portals/community/budget_reduction_information.html
The proposed budget cuts could be devastating to the success of k-12 learners. There is currently a drive to contact Florida legislators and let them know that we don’t support more budget cuts and that we do support an increase in revenue to support education. Please consider calling or writing a letter. You can use the following links to determine who your state senators and representatives are:
http://www.myfloridahouse.gov/
http://www.flsenate.gov/
Go Green for St. Patrick’s Day

Thanks to Jennifer Engelhardt, Christine Wrolson, Amanda Coburn, Marianne Stadel, Angela Delp, Jayné Park, Ashely Sicard and Mrs. Blenis for sharing some actions they use in their daily lives to reduce their carbon footprints. Here are some of their green actions, please consider following their example:

- **Bike to School**
  Angela, Jayné, Amanda

- **Consolidate car trips**
  Jayné recommends combining all errands into a weekly trip. It requires advance planning but will save time and money as well.

- **Reuse**
  Angela reuses sandwich bags, Marianne her plastic produce bags, and Jayné keeps a box of paper that has only been printed on one side for scratch paper and draft printing.

- **Recycle**
  Everyone! For some this involves taking their recyclables to school as their buildings don’t provide recycling.

- **Use fabric shopping bags**
  Mrs. Blenis, Angela, Marianne, Jayné, Christine

- **Turn off/unplug appliances and lights**
  Almost everyone came up with this one.

- **Buy green appliances and products**
  Mrs. Blenis drives a hybrid. She, Angela and Jayné, use LED and fluorescent lights.

- **Consume less meat and buy local produce**
  Angela, Jayné

Caught Doing Good

Congratulations to Melissa DiTucci, new Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society inductee. ΦΗΣ recognizes high scholastic achievement among members of the freshman class. Michael Greene, also a member, attended the ceremony.

Ashley Sicard working the children’s area at the Florida Tech International Festival, Sunday February 22nd. As an RA, Ashley was also involved in the organizing, set-up and take-down of the festival.

DEPARTMENT CALENDAR

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Daylight Savings Time Begins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**March**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Technology in the classroom 9:30am</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Patrick’s Day &amp; Lucky Bridge</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Last Day to Withdraw w/ W</td>
<td>FEA Game Night</td>
<td>Easter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11am Spring Begins</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FEA Meeting</td>
<td>7pm</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kyle Stucklen’s Birthday</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration for Fall ’08 Opens</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tue</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thu</th>
<th>Fri</th>
<th>Sat</th>
<th>Sun</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“**You must be the change you wish to see in the world.**”

Mahatma Gandhi