



**Inside This Issue:**

**Coordinator's  
Corner**      pg. 1

**Spotlight**      pg. 2

**Viewpoints**      pg. 3

**Lakeshore  
Humane Society**      pg. 4

## From the Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services



Greetings from the Office of Volunteer and Community Services! During the Fall semester students continue to put forth great effort in performing a variety of volunteer and community service activities throughout the local area and beyond. This past year students performed over 20,000 hours of volunteer service affordable housing. Student volunteers, faculty, and staff helped to collect over four thousand seven hundred pounds of nonperishable food items for impoverished families for the Feeding Fredonia Challenge. Student groups raked over one hundred and sixty lawns in the village of Fredonia for the annual Fall Sweep event.

Many of our students, which included individual volunteers and student groups as well athletes have accomplished an array of tasks. Approximately two hundred students along with faculty and staff participated in the thirteenth annual Community Service Fair. The Move-in Crew event was again a great success. Over one hundred and ninety three students participated in this important endeavor. Other service projects that student volunteers will continue to partake includes cooking and serving meals to impoverished families at the local friendly kitchen; providing social and recreational activities to seniors while helping to improve their quality of life; making enhancements to the environment; assisting local youth and senior citizens along with many other activities. Our students have shown care and compassion to those who were in the greatest need by assisting families through Habitat for Humanity rehabing and building affordable housing. Student volunteers faculty and staff helped to collect over 4,000 pounds of nonperishable food items for impoverished families for the Feeding Fredonia Challenge. Student groups will put forth effort to rake lawns in the village of Fredonia for the annual Fall Sweep event. I would also like to congratulate our students for making such a positive impact in the community and the world.

For further information regarding volunteer and community services please contact the coordinator, [Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu](mailto:Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu) or call (716) 673-3690. You may also visit our website at [home.fredonia.edu/student-life/volunteer](http://home.fredonia.edu/student-life/volunteer).

## Intern in the Office

Hello everyone! My name is Jason Marin. I am a senior majoring in Business Administration, with a concentration in Management. I reside in a modest city located on Lake Erie by the name of Dunkirk, New York. The Dunkirk and Fredonia area has always been my hometown. I am very grateful for the opportunity to be able to make a difference within this great community that I call home.

As an active member of Fredonia State, I have found it extremely significant to become involved in many of the service events that take place here on campus as well as the surrounding communities. Currently, I am a member of the following student organizations. These include, Enactus Fredonia, the American Marketing Association and Fredonia Radio Systems. Enactus is an International student community. Our belief is taking "Entrepreneurial Action for others creates a better world for US all." I have participated in Hurricane relief efforts to help the residents of Houston, Texas, and Puerto Rico.

My internship with the Office of Volunteer and Community Services this fall has given me a genuine understanding of the planning, responsibility and overall commitment that goes into organizing and facilitating the many different school and community-based service events that materialize on, and off campus. Interning with the Office of Volunteer and Community Services has allowed me the opportunity to give back to my hometown community; and having the ability to give back through volunteer service is truly a humbling, rewarding, and life changing experience.



## Students

## Making a

## Difference

## Students



## Making a



## Difference



## In the Spotlight

### Fredonia State Women's Softball

The Fredonia State Women's Softball team loves to give back to the community through volunteer service. The team members realize how important it is to give back, and the hope is, that volunteering stays with the players as they move on, and start their journeys in life.

Fredonia Softball has done three service events this semester. We participated in the Alzheimer Walk of Dunkirk. Where we checked in walkers, handed out wish flowers, and held signs for the participants of the walk. We also sold numerous different items to help benefit the Alzheimer's Association. In doing this event, the team also became more aware of Alzheimer's in the process.

In October, Fredonia Softball also participated in the Halloween event held at St. Columban's Retirement home in Silver Creek, New York. Players worked many different activities for the grand children of the residents. Some of the games included a donuts type venture and an endeavor that made spiders out of different material for the residents children. They also did a couple of minute to win it type of activities. One involving M & M's that proved to be popular with residents and even the players had a particular liking to this activity too. Working with the little ones and seeing the joy on their faces was a memorable experience for the Fredonia Softball.

Our third event was *Fall Sweep*, which is the campus leaf raking event held annually every October. This particular event is nice for the community, especially the elderly, but it also teaches the players how to work together. Softball is more than just practicing and playing a game. It's about giving back to others and being part of the community. It is a big factor in the team's overall mission. Fredonia Softball players feel good about doing something for others, because they love too. The team has gained a deep appreciation for life. They have the

utmost respect

### Social Work Club

The Social Work Club strives to give students the ability to be involved in the community, by taking on leadership roles, increasing their interpersonal skills and creating a sense of self-worth. We accomplish this mission by offering volunteering opportunities on, and off campus, as well as scheduling guest speakers and training opportunities to build upon our skills.

We have been involved with Compeer for the past year and work with them to hold a workshops in the local community for at-risk youth. Workshops allow our club to create different stations where the participants can learn about nutrition, how to manage stress and money, and how to increase their self-esteem. We decided to get involved in service, because we saw a need to help the youth in the community and thought this was a great opportunity to do so. We also help the Community Blood Bank, which holds blood drives on campus each semester. Our role with Community Blood Bank is to help keep the blood drives organized and to spread the word around the campus, and community. We became involved with the Community Blood Bank, because we realized the need for more blood donations within our community and to help those who need it.

Our club mainly consists of Social Work majors, with a few exceptions to people who want to join for an opportunity to perform community service. We decided to get involved in the community, because helping others is a very important aspect of social work and we wanted to use the skills that we have learned in the classroom and apply them in peoples lives.

The Social Work Club is a group that has gained viable skills to use when working within the public and we all have a great sense of responsibility to give back. Volunteering has really opened the eyes of our group members about the many issues society faces and has given club members the opportunity to

### Applied Communication Association

The Applied Communication Association's mission is to provide members with knowledge and experience in the application of communication theory and practices. This is done by providing communication services to the campus and community in a professional manner.

Our largest community service event is Fall Sweep, an event in which students from campus organizations, clubs, or teams come together to rake the yards of many Fredonia residents. The Fall Sweep service event started off as a leadership project that now brings in over 600 student participants annually and has carried on for the last 14 years. ACA also participates in a creek clean up at the end of the year in an effort to keep the Fredonia community litter-free, and left to its natural state.

The group is always motivated to provide community service because as communication majors, we understand the importance of maintaining and building relationships within our community and we realize just how much giving back can really make a difference.

I would say that The Applied Communication Association has gained valuable insight into how important it is to put forth our skills and knowledge learned in a way that allows us to give back to others in a style that brings everyone together. Working with the Volunteer and Community Services, ACA has learned vital experience and gained fundamental knowledge about how people can always become more involved in service.

## Emily A. Staniszewski

Currently, I am the Vice President of Service for the Co-Ed service fraternity Alpha Phi Omega. I'm a Sophomore Childhood Inclusive Education Major, and I am from Batavia, NY. I am also currently involved in RHA and Alpha Phi Omega. I decided to join Alpha Phi Omega last year because I felt like it would be a really great opportunity to not only make friends but to also do service projects around campus and within the community.

While I was in high school, I loved doing service activities and Alpha Phi Omega was a great way to continue doing service in college. In addition to working in the Elementary school, we also held canned food drives and E-drives which were for people to bring their electronic devices so they could be disposed of properly. We also collected money and bought new toys to take up to Children's Hospital in Buffalo. All of these things that I was involved in helped motivate me to do service because I enjoyed doing the service part of these clubs that I was in. Through doing service I have been able to meet a lot of people and gain a lot of connections. I've not only been able to meet people, but I've been able to have in depth conversations that have led to other service opportunities which has been great. I feel like the community has gained a group of reliable students that they can rely on for service activities.

I'm currently going to be a Special Education teacher, so I think helping others is definitely something I'll be doing for the rest of my life. My plan is also to always find organizations no matter where I end up that I can do service through as well as have some of my own service projects as well. Another goal of mine is to start a non-profit organization, but we'll see where life takes me.

## Tommy Linares

My name is Tommy Linares and I am from Bay Shore, Long Island. I am a Senior graduating with a major in criminal justice and a double minor in Philosophy and Leadership studies. I am President of Habitat for Humanity. I am involved in Student Association as an Associate Justice. I am also an RA in Gregory Hall.

When I was a freshman, a few of my friends and I really wanted to build homes for the unfortunate across seas. After speaking with Joyce, we were introduced to Habitat for Humanity and the rest is history! I have worked at several sites trips and continue to help raise money and awareness for our local Chautauqua Affiliate. Through our new club, I was able to help out FRS with raising money for Roswell and participate in events such as, Safe Halloween, Up til Dawn, Fall Sweep, Relay for Life, and Lend a Paw and helped at annual beach cleanups.

Being involved in community service helps me stay grounded and humble. It supports my personal values and the community I am serving. Doing events such as these helps people understand their true value to the world. Knowing that anyone can make a difference can really go a long way.

Other than a new perception of the world, I have definitely gained skill. Since our main focus in Habitat for Humanity is to build homes, I have learned a lot about construction and what goes into making a house into a home.

I would like to think that I left a sustainable club that consists of very passionate students who are willing to help in any way they can. Habitat for Humanity definitely holds a special place in heart. I will continue to be involved with a local affiliate no matter where I go.

## Madeline Little

I am a Junior, from Buffalo, New York. My major is Communications and Journalism. I am also an African American Studies Minor. Since I came to Fredonia, I have joined multiple clubs such as the Blue Ice Step Team, Brother to Brother and the Fredonia Divine Sound Gospel Choir. Currently, I am the President and Vice President of B2B, PR Chair of Blue Ice, and Vice President of Gospel Choir, and I've also written for the leader. I also have been an intern at the IC Center as PR for the past two years. I got involved with these clubs and my internship, because I felt like that's the best thing you can do in college is join things and do things you love. I've met some of the most amazing people that were here before me and after me. The services we do for people are just amazing from performing, to serving, to promoting. I love it all. I wouldn't have wanted my College journey any other way. Joining these clubs has shaped me as a person and has kept me on my toes when I was at my worst.

I was motivated by Shantasia Johnson, Gamil Ashaun, Jasmine Bell, and Kiman Bolden to join clubs and be a face that everyone on campus recognizes not just another black person on campus and once I did I fell in love with being apart I began to look forward to community service outings and GB's and performances.

I've gained so much such as working with others, better writing, computer skills, people skills, someone to look up to and rely on, and so many connections. I feel like the community gains hope and great atmosphere from me. I feel like I am a perfect example of a student that loves to be involved and shows how much I love Fredonia and the staff here that have helped me so much. Of course, this is something I will take with me as I grow through life. You can never help to many people. There's always someone's day you can make. I feed off of the energy I give others!



**Emily A. Staniszewski**

*Year: Sophomore  
Major: Childhood Inclusive  
Education  
Hometown: Batavia, NY*

**Activities:**  
**Alpha Phi Omega  
RHA**



**Tommy Linares**

*Year: Senior  
Major: Criminal Justice  
Hometown: Bay Shore, Long  
Island, NY*

**Activities:**  
**Habitat for Humanity  
Student Association**



**Madeline Little**

*Year: Junior  
Major: Communications/  
Journalism  
Hometown: Buffalo, NY*

**Activities:**  
**Blue Ice Step Team  
Brother to Brother**

**Dunkirk and Fredonia Lions Club**



Delta Chi volunteering for the Lions Club at "White Cane Days."



The Feeding Fredonia Challenge benefiting the Fredonia Food Pantry.



The ACA Fall Sweep 2018



The VCS Community Service Fair Fall 2018

Across the globe, Lions are rolling up their sleeves and taking action. With over 1.4 million members, we're the largest service organization in the world. We're dedicated to helping those in need and our motto is, "We serve!" The Dunkirk Fredonia Lions Club is involved with the following; Breakfast with Santa, Winter Jacket Outreach, Pillowcases, children's books, socks, mittens for Willow Mission and the Friendship Baptist Church, \$500 scholarships for area high school seniors, vision screening, loan closet, guiding eye dogs, MLK Scholarship, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Dunkirk Number 3 School Reading Program, recycle eye glasses. Camp Gross take a Kid Fishing, Willow Mission, Smoke Alarms, Chautauqua Blind Association, Adult Day Care, Spot Camera, etc.

Volunteers are vital because we do not have enough members to ask for donations from the community at Wal-Mart and Tops on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Delta Chi Fraternity is vital for our efforts to fund with all of our activities. The community feels that if the youth care enough to ask for donations to help the White Cane Drive, then they are willing to contribute. Since 70% of our members are over the age of 55 some of our members no longer volunteer because of health concerns.

These young men are polite and outgoing. They show the community that SUNY Fredonia students care about the Dunkirk-Fredonia area, they are service oriented, they are willing to donate their time to help others and that by working together we can bridge the gap between the generations. Zach and everyone who volunteered were outstanding examples of future leaders who are making a commitment to making our world a better place! They had to be leaders to be where they are today.



**Volunteers Wanted:**

- Boys & Girls Club**
- Chautauqua County Nursing and Rehab Center**
- Friendly Kitchen**
- Habitat for Humanity**
- Lakeshore Humane Society**
- Salvation Army**
- St. Columban's Home**
- St. Vincent's Home**
- WCA Home**

**Volunteer Events:**

- Red Cross Blood Drive**  
Thursday, November 29 (11 am-5 pm)  
Friday, November 30 (9:30 am - 3:30 pm)  
Williams Center MPR
- Operation Breakfast Rescue**  
December 5- 6 9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Williams Center G103A
- Miracle on Main**  
Saturday, December 1st  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm  
Fredonia Commons
- Kick for a Cure**  
Saturday, December 1st  
12:00 pm - 4:00 pm  
Steele Hall
- Winter Kickoff - Relay for Life**  
Thursday, December 6  
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm  
en

**VCS Advisory Committee**

- Joyce Harvard Smith – Coordinator
- Jason Marin – Intern
- Marc Wilcox – Comm. Disorders/Sciences
- Adrienne Sader – Residence Life  
– WCA Home
- Linnea Carlson – Salvation Army  
–Chautauqua Cty. Nursing & Rehab Ctr.
- Emily –Student Representative

**Contact Information**

**Joyce Harvard Smith**  
Coordinator of Volunteer and Community Services  
Williams Center S-227  
Fredonia, NY 14063  
Phone: (716) 673-3690  
[Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu](mailto:Joyce.Smith@fredonia.edu)

**Jason Marin**  
Intern, Volunteer and Community Services  
Williams Center S-227  
[Mari8328@fredonia.edu](mailto:Mari8328@fredonia.edu)

**Please visit us at:**  
[students.fredonia.edu/volunteer](http://students.fredonia.edu/volunteer)