

Campus group seeks to make ‘campus beautiful’ a little greener



(Top) Volunteers show off recycled trash collected at tailgate by the Fitness and Wellness Center. (Bottom) Green ambassador decorates recycling bins for tailgate.

By JUSTIN OVERBAY
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A new campus organization is helping push the “green” movement at Eastern and is dedicated to making a change to the environment, starting right here on campus.

The Green Crew currently has 19 members and works to educate students, faculty and the community about environmental issues, said Alice Jones, coordinator of the environmental sustainability and stewardship minor.

“A few ways we are doing it [educating students] is by labeling bulbs and by landscaping on campus,” Jones said.

Additionally, the crew is planning other activities to go green. One of these plans is to co-host two service trips with the Office of Student Life. A service trip in the winter will be to the Everglades and the second trip will be to the Outer Banks of North Carolina during spring break.

Jones said recycling is one of the main focuses the crew is trying to encourage.

“Our primary focus is to increase recycling on campus,” Jones said.

During this football season, the crew will hold a campus-wide competition for any student organization wanting to participate. The organization that brings the most bags of recyclables including cans, bottles, solo cups and cardboard will receive a grand prize at the end of the football season.

The prize will include a variety of gifts and services from local Richmond businesses.

“It’s a fun and easy way to help the environment,” said Jamie Carter, 22, student green ambassador and wildlife management major from Meade County.

Another way the Green Crew is taking charge is with hydration stations around

campus located in Combs Building, the Library, Powell Building, Student Success Building and Wallace Building. It’s one of the many factors for the Green Crew to contribute to their mission.

The Blue Grass P.R.I.D.E. as a part of an act to ban the use of plastic bottles funded the hydration stations with a grant.

“There’s no reason why we should go through such a huge amount of disposable drink containers, its yet another downfall of our convenience-based society,” said Kelley Davidson, president of the Green Crew and Student Sustainability coordinator.

Using these stations helps to promote the reusing of your water bottles instead of buying bottles and throwing them away, Carter said.

“Reusing your water bottle helps people save money, reduces wastes, and helps people stay healthy,” Carter said.

To further their promotional efforts, the Green Crew is asking students to participate in The Water Project. Participants will be given a bracelet and asked to use the hydration fountains for two weeks, drink only water and then set aside the money they would have been spent on drinks such as coffee, tea and soda to donate the money to The Water Project.

Proceeds from The Water Project will go toward building clean wells and water purification in third world countries. The person who donates the most money will receive a solar powered charger that can charge anything that connects to a USB drive.

The Water Project will start on October 24 during the Green Crew’s Fall Festival, as they celebrate Campus Sustainability Day.

To find out more information about The Green Crew or The Water Project, the group’s meetings are every Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. in Case Annex 109.



MACHAELA BALLARD/PROGRESS

Students participate in archaeological dig at White Hall. They uncovered various items, including horse or mule shoes, hardware, a pickaxe head, segments of chain and glass pieces.

Faculty sets out to inspire students local love for Archaeology

By WESLEY ROBINSON
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If you’re up for the task, you don’t have to be Indiana Jones to help solve one of history’s mysteries.

The first Friday and Saturday of each month, the Department of Anthropology, Sociology and Social Work is offering Archaeology Days at White Hall to give members of the public the opportunity to see how archaeology is done first-hand.

Jon Endonino, an archaeology lecturer in the department, is heading up the project to excavate, document and map the historical site.

Endonino said volunteers have come in many forms including primary school students, college students, interested members of the general public and other archaeologists.

WHITE HALL:
See related story on B1

“If you’re not comfortable with getting dirty, this is a great way to see what archaeology is like,” Endonino said.

Participants do not need any formal training and are able to come out and get a crash course with Endonino and students who have taken the field school. Endonino said the participants will get to do everything an archaeologist would do at the site.

“You might see archaeology on the history channel or somewhere on TV, but it’s close by,” Endonino said. “The public can see what it’s like and how it’s done.”

Digging is performed in 1 meter cells, 10 centimeters at a time to peel away a single layer at a time with relatively simple tools

including bladed shovels, folding rulers, trowels, hand brooms, levels and probing poles.

Endonino said more high-tech equipment like satellite imagery and magnetometers can also be used to detect anomalies in the ground to determine something like the location of a destroyed house’s foundation.

The current portion of the excavation is the four corners of what is believed to be the foundation of a barn, which may have been burned down.

Endonino said the items found at the site are cleaned and brought to Eastern to be identified and catalogued to give a better idea of the daily events and history that happened at White Hall. He also said an artifact as simple as glass and nails can provide significant insight to the fate of the structures on the property.

“Archaeology happens a lot closer to home than most people realize,” Endonino said. “It usually goes on with a lot less public fanfare.”

In the area currently being excavated, Endonino said diggers have found horse or mule shoes, hardware, the head of a pickaxe, segments of chain and bottle glass at the south end of what they believe is a barn. A skeleton of a “mystery animal,” which is appears to be a large mammal such as a cow, horse or mule has also been found.

“Archaeology is like being a detective,” said David Vonderschmidt, 25, anthropology major from Cincinnati. “We are working to put things together. We are piecing together clues to figure out what happened.

Vanderschmidt said he has enjoyed mysteries since he was a kid and is enjoying volunteering at the site.

Daniel Barber, 36, anthropology major with a minor archaeology from Madison, Ind., said he loves archaeology and will vol-

If You Go

What:
Archaeology Days

When:
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 5 and 6 and Dec 7 and 8

Contact:
If you are interested in participating, contact Jon Endonino at: jon.endonino@eku.edu

unteer to excavate whenever he can.

“I love history, Barber said. “I love knowing what they did [in the past]. It’s important for people to come out so they know what archaeology is and hold the past sacred. It tells us what to do and what not to do.”

Gin Petty, 67, from Berea attended an excavation and said she has always had an interest in old things.

“They showed me what to do and I’m learning how they do it,” Petty said. “I can ask all kinds of questions and they don’t say that’s dumb.”

Petty said she used to search for arrowheads, pottery and other relics on the 155-acre farm she owned, and at an excavation Sept. 15., she found an arrowhead Endonino estimated was between 500 and 1,000 years old.

“There’s no telling what you’ll find and [the archaeologists] let you do it” Petty said. “You get to see how they think.”

Caitlin Rogers, 21, from Nicholasville studies anthropology and classics at UK

and attended the Sept. 15 event. Rogers works as a part-time laboratory field technician with the Kentucky Archaeological Survey.

“I thought it would be cool to do some public archaeology things,” Rogers said.

The project is a part of a larger Civil War sesquicentennial celebration in Kentucky, which was once home to emancipationist, politician, newspaper publisher and Union major general Cassius Marcellus Clay.

“It’s a good chance to look into the heritage of the state,” Endonino said. “If we don’t take the opportunity to learn from these things they will be lost forever”

Cassius Clay lived on the property owned by his father, Revolutionary War General Green Clay, and records of the property were destroyed when Cassius Clay’s Lexington office was burned and all of the records of the house and surrounding property were destroyed in the fire, Endonino said.

Endonino said as an emancipationist with a newspaper in the largest slave owning county in the state, Clay had many enemies and was often engaged in duels and knife fights and kept a brass cannon on his desk.

“He was a pretty rough and tumble guy,” Endonino said.

Endonino said the excavations will continue until the end of the fall 2013 semester, but the timeline for the project is fairly flexible and he would like people to volunteer and experience archaeology.

“This is more than just moving quickly,” Endonino said. “This is about teaching and learning as well as uncovering the past.”

Archaeology Days will be held 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Oct. 5 and 6 and Dec 7 and 8. If you are interested in participating please email Jon Endonino at jon.endonino@eku.edu prior to attending.