

Students volunteer during spring break

By Sarah Bowers
Staff Writer

Over spring break, a group of students from Brevard went on an Alternative Spring Break trip. The trip was for students who either wanted to volunteer or could not go home over the break. "We had eight students, myself, and Charles Wallis go," said Jessica Blanford, the Director of Service Initiatives.

The group went to St. Simons Island in Georgia and stayed at Epworth by the Sea, a Methodist retreat center, for six days. They participated in a variety of projects throughout the week. The group first volunteered at Morningstar Academy making Mardi-Gras floats and masks for the children who live there. "Morningstar is an organization that houses kids from ten to twenty who have IQs under seventy and/or have been physically or sexually abused." Blanford said.

The group also went to Fort Frederica National Monument to clear brush and build benches. They made 400 bags of oyster shells to be placed back in the ocean to make artificial reefs, stocked shelves at Second Harvest Food Bank, and landscaped at a Hospice residential center. "We learned about each organization we volunteered at, which I liked a lot." says Madeline Sonner. "We also had reflections every



Pictured from left to right: Jessica Blanford, Madeline Sonner, Kevin Manion, Mark Mosley, Jessica Wright, Maggie Whitman, Harmony Blue, Josh Mower, Charles Wallis, and Meagan Crowson.

night to think about the things we had done that day. We made raps about our day too, which was really funny."

The group had some free time where they hung out in town, went to the beach, and went on a ghost tour. "I learned more about myself, the history of the island, and I got a better idea of what I want to do in the future." said Sonner. "The food was also a lot better than the food they have here."

"My hope is that students have an amazing

experience by serving another community, learn something about a particular organization that interests them, meet new people, and most importantly return to BC and become involved in the Center for Multicultural and Service Initiatives," said Blanford.

A collaborative poem by the students about what they learned from the trip will be posted in the cafeteria and in the Center for Multicultural and Service Initiatives.

BC hosts reading by writer Gary Fincke

Brevard College will host a public reading by Gary Fincke, the B. Degenstein Chair of English and Creative Writing and director of The Writers Institute at Susquehanna University, on Thursday, March 24.

The reading, which is free and open to the public, will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Reserve Dining Room of the College's Myers Dining Hall.

Winner of the 2003 Flannery O'Connor Prize for Short Fiction for his collection, *Sorry I Worried You*, Fincke has published 22 books of poetry, short fiction and nonfiction. He most recently published *The Canals of Mars*; *The Fire Landscape*; *Standing Around the Heart*; *Sorry I Worried You*; and *Amp'd: A Father's Backstage Pass*, a nonfiction account of his son's life as a rock guitarist in the band *Breaking Benjamin*.

Fincke has won numerous awards for his work, including three pieces published in *Pisgah Review*, with his story "The Chemistry of Miracles" to appear in the forthcoming *Pisgah Review Fiction 5: The Best Fiction of Pisgah Review's first five volumes*.

THIS WEEK ON CAMPUS

Free coffee: J.A. Jones Library today. Bring your own cup or get one there.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes(FCA): Meets every Tuesday at 9 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center.

Student Government Association: Meets every Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Reserve Dining Room.

Team - Mobilizing Opportunities for Volunteer Engagement (T-M.O.V.E.): Meets every Sunday at 7 p.m. in the AEC Conference Room.

BC Greens: Thursday at 8:30 p.m. in MG 113.

BC Spiritual Life Presents Common Grounds: Monday night at 8 p.m. in the Spiritual Life Center. Have questions? Contact Brian Burgess at burgessbd@brevard.edu.

Juried Art Show: Spiers Gallery in the Sims Art Center. The exhibition runs from Feb. 25 - Apr. 1, 2011.

Campus Activities Board: Wednesday at 6 p.m. in the Underground.

Expressive Arts Group: Meets Tuesdays at 5 p.m. If you are feeling the need for some change in your routine, if you are looking for an opportunity to have fun, be creative and express yourself, this group is for you.

Nominate a commencement speaker: BC is now taking nominations from graduating seniors for 2011 commencement speakers. Send your nominations to Judy Jones along with a few sentences about why this person should receive the honor.