Would you like to receive our newsletter? Subscribe here. Want to submit content to our newsletter? Submit content here.

We accept articles and stories, announcements for volunteer, civic engagement, and fundraising/philanthropy events, and nominations for Volunteerism and Civic Engagement Spotlight.

Vex Robotics: In February, middle and high school students from around Missouri will travel to Missouri S&T for two separate robotics championships. The VEX championship will take place on February 17th and the FIRST State Championships on February 24th. These events provide hands-on, sustainable and cost effective approaches to help engage young people and maintain their interest in STEM learning. By its nature, the study of competitive robotics not only encompasses all four pillars of STEM education, but also encourages important life skills like teamwork, communication, and project-based organization. Please contact Linda Bright at brightlj@mst.edu or 573-341-4279.

First Robotics Championship: These events provide hands-on, sustainable and cost effective approaches to help engage young people and maintain their interest in STEM learning. By its nature, the study of competitive robotics not only encompasses all four pillars of STEM education, but also encourages important life skills like teamwork, communication, and project-based organization. Missouri S&T promotes STEM learning through our Project Lead the Way (PLTW) curriculum and core training of teachers from across the country. Please contact Linda Bright at brightlj@mst.edu or 573-341-4279.

Community Partnership Resale Shop: The Community Partnership is a small, hardworking non-profit organization serving a wide variety of community members in several counties. The Resale Shop is an important outreach program of The Community Partnership. Proceeds from the shop allow us to continue to offer helpful and needed programs at The Community Partnership. Volunteerism makes our mission possible. We utilize volunteers every day in many ways. From our salvage baling events to hanging up clothes, cleaning, sorting, pricing, and organizing, there's always something for volunteers to do. We are always looking for individuals and groups to make a difference in our shop! Please contact Maria Grant (573-426-5923 or maria.grant@thecommunitypartnership.org) to set up a volunteer opportunity.

Service Spotlight: On February 10th a group of 10 students from S&T volunteered their morning at The Rolla Mission. The Rolla Mission exists to be a refuge for the disadvantaged. They offer practical resources that meet physical, social, and emotional needs. They provide a free laundromat, shower facilities, meals, and a safe place to belong for those experiencing need or homelessness in Phelps County. The volunteers spent 4 hours painting the main part of the facility. The room went from a dingy brown that resembled a cave, to a bright open room. It made the space seem bigger and happier. The Rolla Mission continues to need volunteers as they improve their building.

Fundraisers: March 15th 2018 is our third annual Gonzo Gives Back Day of Service. Over 100 students, faculty, and staff come together during the St. Pats break to make a difference in the surrounding community. It is an excellent way to meet new people and learn about how community partners make a difference in our community. All you have to do to be involved is register on Orgsync.

Below are quotes from people who volunteered in our last Day of Service—MLK Day. "I was reminded today that the simplest things can make a huge difference in the life of someone else." "I learned that everyone is capable to volunteer in some way, and it is just as rewarding to the giver as it is to the receiver." "I learned that it is easier than it sounds to serve and that it reaches more people than you realize." "I learned that we all can create a positive impact on our community just by participating in small projects as we did today. It feels great to give back to your community.”

Volunteerism Opportunities: Please see the Volunteerism section of the newsletter for opportunities to volunteer with our community partners. At the Rolla Mission, serving a hot meal, cleaning the building, and helping with the daily operations are always appreciated. At the Neon, serving meals, working the coffee bar, and assisting with the daily operations is always needed. At the St. Louis Area Food Bank, sorting food and volunteering in the warehouse are always appreciated. There are many more opportunities to volunteer in our area. Please see the Volunteerism section of the newsletter for more information.

Service Spotlight: Second Saturday Service Roja Mission: On February 24th, a group of 10 students from S&T volunteered their morning at the Roja Mission. The Roja Mission is a non-profit organization located in downtown Rolla that serves as a community resource and educational facility for the local population. The volunteers spent their time working on various projects around the building, including painting, cleaning, and tidying up the space. The Roja Mission staff expressed their gratitude for the volunteers’ hard work and dedication to improving the building.