

Chamber Education Committee Sponsors Recognition Luncheon



The Education Committee of the Chamber of Commerce recently honored Most Improved GSD students and the Volunteer of the Year for 2012/2013. Recognized, l to r, were Josh Lockett - Tolbert, Most Improved in Math and Science; James Walton Ferris, Most Improved in English; Shavesha Ellis, Perserverance Award; and Volunteer of the Year Curt LaFontaine. The Adult Education Center recognized LaFontaine for working as a Literacy Tutor at the Grenada Vocational School from 1987-2006, serving as a volunteer GED Examiner for Adult Education from 2009 to 2013, serving on the Board for GLAD (Grenada League for Adult Development), and serving on the Chamber of Commerce Education Committee for over fifteen years. Thank you Curt LaFontaine for many years of service helping the children and community of Grenada.

High Hopes Breakfast



High Hopes Coordinators Melissa Taylor, left, and Dr. Becky Terry, right, enjoy the entertainment and breakfast items with adopter Fran Harper, center, from Renasant Bank.



Tie Plant High Hopes Coordinator Orzell Anderson, right, welcomes adopter Tomeca Bacon from Millcreek to the Partners Breakfast.

AmeriCorps Making A Difference



AmeriCorps member Pam Boykin participated in the "Make A Difference Day".

By Gwen Woodson
AmeriCorps Director

As part of the "Make A Difference Day" national service project, the Grenada School District AmeriCorps program members selected the Boys and Girls Club of Grenada to assist with educational workshops throughout the month of October.

"The focus of our program is dedicated to improving student academic achievement through tutoring and reading events and participating in community service. However, we also participate in Make a Difference Day, a national movement, to help gain awareness, build community and provide meaningful reflection," said Program Director Gwen Woodson.

AmeriCorps members presented three workshops to 35 children on the topics of Germs/Personal Hygiene, No Child Left Behind (Importance of Education), and Zumba/Healthy Eating. The workshops consisted of reading activities, personal testimonials, inspirational remarks, and many other fun activities.

"We realized that Make A Difference Day is reserved for October 26, but it was important to the members to make more of an impact by implementing workshops for the entire month of October," said Cynthia James, AmeriCorps member.

According to AmeriCorps member Pam Boykins, sharing the importance of getting an education was important for her because she has seen so many young people lose interest in education.

Ware Family Dental Clinic provided toothbrushes and toothpaste for each child to emphasize the importance of brushing your teeth after meals every day. Dollar General also provided supplies for the workshops.

"The workshops were very positive and encouraging to the children, as well as, inspiring to the members," said AmeriCorps Member Carolyn Smith.

"The Make A Difference National Day of Service is sponsored by the national agency," said Woodson. "By building this day of service into our program calendar, we can promote volunteerism in our community and provide opportunities for project-oriented problem solving, planning, teaching, researching, networking and increasing community awareness. The idea is to interest members in service so they will become life-long volunteers."

For more information about the Grenada School District AmeriCorps program, contact program director Gwen Woodson at gwoodson@grenadak12.com. For more information about AmeriCorps, visit www.americorps.gov.

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