



Earth Day Keeping it Green at the Gillespie

Our Earth Day Celebration on April 20, featured Earth-friendly activities and environmental education for all. Sunshine on a cloudy day, this year's green fair brought together student organizations and programs from across campus to showcase environmental initiatives and offer hands-on activities.

Teams could build a bird-

house with Stetson's chapter of Habit for Humanity or a ladybug house in the Hatter Harvest community garden. The Sandhill Gang offered a workshop on natural plant dyes; museum staffers and Students Advocating a Sustainable Stetson (SASS) provided a natural stone and recycled glass beading station. The Stetson HATS program, Stetson Recycling, and members of the honors program designed a recycled art studio. Volunteers from the Center for Community Engagement kept the action going.

Information booths included The Conflict Free Resolution Initiative, with a display on responsibly recycling electronics; and two honors projects focused on the recycling efforts of downtown merchants and water conservation alternatives. Back by popular demand, members of Stetson Cycles brought the smoothie bike, with its human-powered blender.



Special thanks to Debbie and Ted of Jerry's Automotive, DeLand, who offered free tune ups in the RELC parking lot.



Earth Week Documentary: Switch



As part of Earth Week on campus, Stetson joined 250 universities across the country in a premiere screening of a documentary about the energy future. The event was co-sponsored by the Gillespie, Geography & Environmental Science, and Students Advocating Sustainability at Stetson.

An informal discussion of the documentary followed the screening, led by Jim Buthman, Visiting Lecturer in Political Science; Tony Abbott, Professor of Geography and Environmental Science; and Bekah Burket, SASS (pictured in order above).

The *Switch* documentary is part of the Geological Society of America's Switch Energy: Awareness & Efficiency Program, (www.switchenergyproject.com), a multi-pronged effort to build a global understanding of energy.

Florida Black Bear Scenic Byway video



Krystal Sellers' *Sorrowful* and Gillespie exhibit featured

You'll want to check out this video which features Krystal Seller's sculpture and its installation in the Gillespie. You may recall that Tony Ehrlich and Mike Woods from FBBSB and several state wildlife agencies helped us celebrate the opening of our exhibit in September.

<http://floridablackbearsenicbyway.org/>

Earth Science

Volusia County Teacher's Workshop

In May, twenty secondary science teachers from the county gathered at the Gillespie Museum to attend an earth science workshop, *From Sand to Sandhill*. Morning sessions, led by Karen Cole in the Museum and Rinker Environmental Learning Center, focused on the geologic history of Volusia County, especially forces that have created its signature sand. In afternoon sessions, Cindy Bennington (pictured below left at forefront), Department of Biology, used the Sandhill Teaching Landscape to examine Florida's declining biodiversity and to present focus activities for use in the classroom. Our thanks to Chris Stefancik (Chemistry '05) of the District Science Office for arranging this day to welcome science faculty to our corner.



Museum hosts S.T.A.R.S



Doug MacIsaac (pictured below), Stetson's PDS Liaison (Professional Development School), coordinated a visit of fifty students from the DeLand Starke Elementary S.T.A.R.S. program

(Students Turning Around Reaching For Success).

S.T.A.R.S. provides support and experiences for children including mentoring, field trips and guest speakers. During their

visit, the group toured the museum's mineral collection, participated in a geology lab to learn about the physical properties of minerals, and competed in a native plant scavenger hunt on the museum grounds.



Good Things in the Landscape

Arbor Day Planting



Students and volunteers broke ground on a new site in the native plant landscape, soon to become The Pollination Station. A red bud (*Cercis canadensis*) and



Arbor Day planting of a redbud and the start of the GM's Pollination Station: Kai Eckenrode, Caleb Canlon, Isaac Denner, Pryce Koshiol, Keneil Codner, and Adrielle Gonzalez

some flowering plants attractive to butterflies and bees (among them *Coreopsis*, salvia, porter weed, and *Liatrix* which were started in raised planter made by Ethan Mathias (see article below).

Boy Scout Project Benefits Ecosystem

As part of a badge-earning project, Ethan Mathias (son of Dr. Cynthia Bennington, Biology), member of Boy Scout Troop 550, built a planter box for use in the Museum's native landscape. The box will safely house seedlings until they are large enough to be transplanted to the Sandhill Ecosystem Teaching Landscape as well as our other native plant projects, such as The Pollination Station. Good job, Ethan!



Fall Dates on the Slate:

- SAT., SEPT. 28, 10AM-1PM
SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM DAY
- TUES., OCT. 1
EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS BEGIN
CHECK OUR WEBSITE FOR MORE INFO:
WWW.STETSON.EDU/GILLESPIE
- SAT., OCT. 26, 10AM-1PM
MOSTLY GREEN HALLOWEEN
- SAT., NOV. 9, 10AM-1PM
SCIENCE SATURDAY

We will miss our graduating seniors. Good luck and thanks for all your hard work!



Congrats!