

Paying it forward

Lindsay Owens Times Herald | Posted: Thursday, April 30, 2015 7:00 am

Washington High School students in Barb Knepp's health classes have joined with students involved in Choice for Change, a student group working to create a more positive atmosphere at WHS, to pay it forward throughout the month of May.

Participating students will receive three "Pay It Forward" cards and are asked to do three nice things for people in the community. Those on the receiving end of the good deeds will receive a Pay It Forward card and are asked to do something for someone else.

"We are spinning off Global Pay It Forward Day," said Knepp, adding that 800 of the cards have been printed and that Global Pay It Forward Day is today. "We would really like to get the community involved as well, so if any businesses, churches or groups would like cards, they can call the school office and let them know. We really want to see how far the cards have traveled."

The cards were designed and printed by students in Brian Hancock's classes and distributed to some students this week. So far, several of the students have already done their part to pay it forward. For Adriana Kennedy and Joshua Hulsey, helping with homework was part of their efforts. Kennedy helped another student with science homework, while Hulsey helped another student tackle the quadratic formula in math class. Charlie Abbott and Alyssa Knepp purchased lunch for other students. Brianna Coman assisted a fellow student who dropped their belongings in the busy halls of the high school.



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Lindsay Owens | Times Herald Students in Barb Knepp's health classes at Washington High School have joined with students involved in Choice for Change, a group of students who are working to build a more positive school atmosphere, to pay it forward to the Daviess County Community in throughout the month of May. Students are asked to do three good deeds for those in need. Those receiving the kind deeds will receive a Pay It Forward card and are asked to do something for someone else. Front (from left): Alyssa Knepp, Adriana Kennedy, Charlie Abbott, Brianna Coman and Joshua Hulsey. Back row: WHS health teacher Barb Knepp, Shelby Rudicel, Choice for Change sponsor Vicki Murello, and WHS Dean of Students Troy Zollars.

While many students have provided good deeds to those in need inside the walls of the school, participants are encouraged to be on the lookout for those in need within the community as well.

“I helped an elderly neighbor with her landscaping,” said Shelby Rudicel.

Even though the first time event is just getting under way, Vicki Murello, Choice for Change sponsor, said students are already thinking about ways they can continue to pay it forward throughout the entire year.

“This project is really a direct tie in to Choice for Change,” said Murello. “We had several kids come up with ways they can help even in the summer. The kids are really excited.”

With finals just a few short weeks away, Knepp said the timing of the Pay It Forward project is perfect.

“Doing something nice for someone else makes you feel good,” she said. “It’s a good stress reliever. This is all about learning life lessons.”

For more information

For more information on the WHS Pay It Forward project contact the high school at 812-254-3860 or email Knepp at bknepp@wcs.k12.in.us.