

Christmas is a time for remem

'Tis the season to give

BY MELISSA PAQUETTE

As the school year progresses and the weather gets colder, many think of the ones who aren't as fortunate.

"Knowing that you've helped someone over the holiday just makes your own holiday that much more special," said senior Ashley Lawson, a member of several clubs, including Y-Club.

Y-Club held a coat drive and magazine drive for the holidays. The over dated reading material is going to be donated to the jail, and the coats will go to needy families in the area.

Almost everyone is familiar with the traditional Toys for Tots, which Y-club sponsored this Christmas. Toys for Tots supplies less privileged children with toys for Christmas.

However, Y-Club isn't the only organization helping others this Christmas.

Beta Club sponsored "Change for the Holidays" December 8-12. The project, which included only five classes, brought in \$130.

"We used the money to buy gifts for two children we adopted through the Migrant Program," said club adviser Susan Norton.

"We donated whatever we had left to Toys for Tots."

Beta also held a stuffed animal drive and donated their animals to Ms. Darlene Martin's fourth block Child Development class. The stuffed animals given to Mt. Vernon Elementar preschool students who attended yesterday's Christmas play.

FCCLA and Key Club pulled together to help families have a great Christmas dinner. They collected over 600 items during a canned food drive December 4-8.

"I encourage everyone to give a little of their time to help someone in need over the holiday," said senior Rachelle Hammond, president of Key Club and FCCLA.

All these activities may seem like a lot but it isn't. A few toys and some canned veggies aren't going to make needy families get a head start --but it will help.

While you are sitting in your warm house eating that delicious Christmas dinner with all those presents under the big decorated tree think of how lucky you are and what little boy or girl you made happy by helping out this year.



photo by Mindy Bullock

FCCLA members Rachelle Hammond, Daphne Adams, Josh Hale, Brian Reynolds, and Ashley Lawson.



BY LINDSEY PARSONS

I remember the year my dad got a skirt for Christmas. The look on his face after opening the gift was unlike anything you could stage. Thankfully, it is captured, along with my sister's terror of her mistake, on camera. This tape is always fun to watch as Christmas approaches.

As the holidays get closer, most everyone has memories they are reminded of.

Senior Tasha VanZant remembers a moment of chaos last year when her cat became tangled in the family Christmas tree.

"Our cat climbed in the tree and was attacking our ornaments. She tried to eat the Christmas tree skirt," VanZant explained.

Ultimate Sugar Cookies

- 3/4 cup Golden Crisco or butter-flavored Crisco
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 2 1/4 cups all purpose flour
- 1 1/2 tsp baking powder
- 1/4 tsp salt
- colored decorations or icing

Cream Crisco, sugar, eggs, and vanilla in large bowl at medium speed until light and creamy. Combine flour, baking powder and salt. Add to creamed mixture, mixing on low speed until well blended. Cover and chill dough for 1 hour. Preheat oven to 375. Roll half of dough at a time. Roll out on lightly floured surface to 1/4 inch thickness. Using a cookie cutter, cut into desired shapes and place on ungreased cookie sheets. Sprinkle with colored decorations or leave plain and decorate when cool. Bake for 8-10 minutes, or until edges are light brown. Cool slightly, then remove to cooling rack.