

Builders Club, an incredibly active service club at Lew-Port Middle School

Hi! My name is Brynn Townsend and I am the secretary of the Builders Club at Lewiston-Porter Middle School. What is Builders Club, you may ask? According to our club advisor, Mrs. Oddy, "Builders Club is the largest service organization for middle school students, with more than 40,000 members worldwide. Builders Club is a student-led community service organization, which operates under school regulations and is sponsored by Kiwanis. The club provides middle school students with the opportunity to help others, to serve their community and school, and to build a positive future for themselves."

Builders Club has already completed many events since the start of the school year. Our first event of the 2017-18 year was at the Peach Festival. There, we sold food at the Kiwanis food tent and assisted with the Lewiston Service Guild fish booth. Recently, we participated in the hurricane relief effort sponsored by PIE to help those affected by the hurricanes in Texas and Florida. Clothes, food, money, and personal care items were collected. Following up from last year, we have our recycling team that collects classroom recycling bins each week and returnable bottles and cans. With the Aquarium of Niagara, we completed the annual Fort Niagara Beach Sweep. Members participated in citizen science by recording data on types of garbage that were collected. We also helped run children's games at the Youngstown Halloween Party and moved books for the Youngstown Library in preparation for their book sale. Most recently, we held our annual District Wide Coat Drive. This year, Mrs. Alexander's Advisory started "Socktober" in the middle school where we collected 321 pairs of socks. All of the coats and 160 pairs of socks went to the Magdalene Project, while the other 161 pairs went to hurricane relief.

We have worked very hard on these past events, and have many more to come. We are looking forward to collecting food for the Annual District Wide Food Drive. Some items we are collecting include cereal, soup, canned fruits and vegetables, and other non-perishable items. All donations will go to the Care-n-Share Food Pantry in Ransomville. We also have our monthly story hour at the Youngstown Library on the third Saturday of the month. At each themed story hour, members read books to younger children, assist with a fun craft, and finish with an edible craft. We are looking forward to these, and many more events.

Builders Club is an exciting and active club. Feel free to check out our webpage at www.lew-port.com/domain/185 for more details about events happening throughout the year.

