Breast cancer awareness walk

By Lexi White
Features Editor

Students came together to honor the beginning of breast cancer awareness month. Led by the Residence Hall Association, students walked from the Buley Library to the Residence Quad to spread awareness of the disease.

A member of the RHA programming board, anthropology major Arielle McIntosh, a senior, helped to host the Breast Cancer Awareness Walk on Oct. 8. She said that the significance of this walk is to let students know that this disease is very real and affects the lives of many people on campus.

"My grandmother had breast cancer, and I was with her throughout her treatments," McIntosh said. "I want the others who are fighting to know that we are all supporting them, and that they have a community that cares."

For those who attended the walk for awareness, t-shirts, bracelets and bows were given out. RHA wanted to make sure everyone who was participating was wearing pink, the color of the breast cancer ribbon.

McIntosh said, "When students see all the pink apparel, they will know that this is about breast cancer and that we are making their fight our fight."

Police Sgt. Cynthia Torres and K-9 Jules also wanted to participate in the walk honoring the women who have fought against the disease. Torres said that when she was asked to come to the event, she did not need a second to consider attending.

"A lot of the members of the police department have family members who have luckily survived breast cancer," Torres said. "This is certainly a cause that we believe in very strongly, and we are happy and honored to help support."

Business administration major Asia Fairweather, a junior, was one of the students who wanted to share her support for those who have battled against breast cancer. She said she came to the event to help give the disease as much recognition as possible.

"As a woman, this event is so important because we have to be aware of the early signs and let other younger ladies know that the symptoms can start even at our age," Fairweather said.

Healthcare studies major Chekeena Jeudi, a junior, came to the event because she got an email from RHA regarding the walk. She said that she was eager to help support the cause.

"I'm looking forward to hearing people's stories and to seeing everyone come together," Jeudi said. "Bringing recognition to breast cancer during breast cancer awareness month is probably the thing I am looking forward to the most today."

Jeudi said that giving acknowledgments to the people who are not personally dealing with the illness but have a relationship with someone who is impacted by it, is also very important.

"People on campus can have somebody at home who's going through this, and they might not get to see the hopeful side of it, so for them to see what is happening today is so special," Jeudi said.



PHOTO | CARLY RUSSELL

K-9 Jules wearing a breast cancer awareness walk t-shirt.



Computer science major Alison Escobar, a sophomore, and psychology major Idalis Nuez, a senior, getting ready to walk for breast cancer awareness.

Owls Decide

What was your favorite childhood TV show?

By Lexi White
Features Editor



PHOTO | CARLY RUSSELL

"My favorite childhood show would have to be "Hannah Montana" because I used to watch it with my mom growing up."
-Nursing major Rebecca Anastasio, a junior



""The Tom and Jerry Show" was my favorite show because it was really funny and gave me a lot of information."
-Computer science major Murtaza Shahnan, a freshman



""Ninjago" because it was a diverse cast of characters, and it was very action-packed."
-Philosophy major Jacob Vasas, a sophomore



"My favorite show was "Phineas and Ferb" because it's very nostalgic and funny."
-Nursing major Sydney Crockett, a sophomore



"Either "The Suite Life of Zack & Cody" or "Drake & Josh" because they were always so funny."
-Business administration major Anderson Graham, a junior



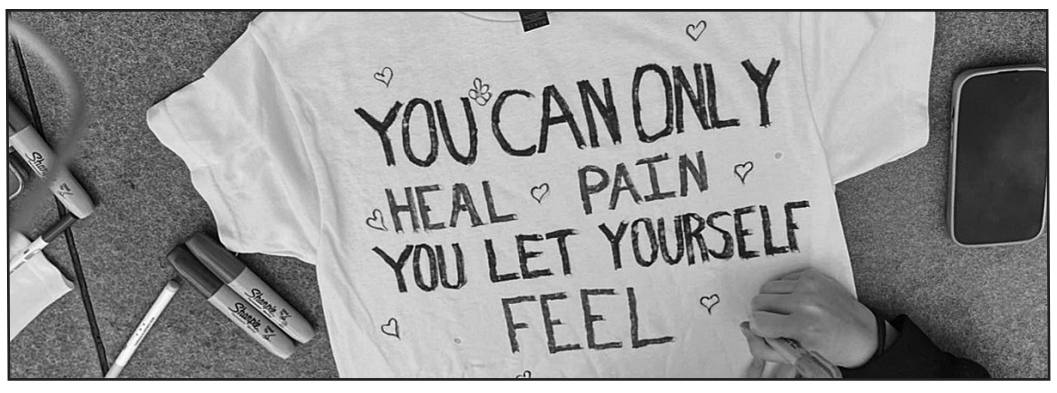
"Mine was "Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles" because I used to watch it with my dad and brother every Sunday."
-Sport management major Dontrail Antoine, a sophomore

VPAS clothesline project instills hope in students



PHOTO | INSTAGRAM

English major Emily Weiner, a senior, showing off the shirt she made at the clothesline project event.



One of the t-shirts made by students at the clothesline project event.

By Lexi White
Features Editor

Colorful t-shirts with powerful messages written by students were placed on the pedestrian bridge to give those passing by a reminder of how much they matter.

The Violence Prevention, Victim Advocacy and Support Center provided the shirts for students to write compelling statements on. Coordinator of VPAS Colleen Kearney said she was excited to see students use their voices to empower others.

"It's the most incredible feeling in the world to see our students come out to support people that they've never met or to support people that they know in their own life," Kearney said.

Kearney supports students who have experienced sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking at the university. She helps students find resources that fit their needs in navigating their trauma.

Kearney said, "Sometimes, you don't want to have this job because you wish that these things weren't happening, but to be able to give that support to students is really important to me."

Psychology major Jillian Haggerty, a senior, works as a student counselor for VPAS and said that she thinks their clothesline project is an important presence to have on campus.

"Us being here shows that we are educating students," Haggerty said. "They come over and ask us what we're doing, and we reply with telling them what's wrong or right in relationships."

Haggerty said that being a part of VPAS and helping students who have gone through dating violence is something that she is passionate about.

"I am a victim of sexual violence and having this event on campus shows that there is support for the students who have gone through it," Haggerty said. "These sayings can have positive impacts on their mental health, and they can become more aware of what abuse really is by talking to us."

Many students came to this event, regardless of it they have personally been affected by the issues VPAS spreads awareness of.

Communication disorders major Ava DeTulio, a sophomore, said that she came to the VPAS table because she wanted to show her support for the survivors of domestic abuse and sexual violence.

"Spreading a positive message is important to me because it shows victims who feel lonely that they have support in various ways," DeTulio said.

Another student who made a motivating t-shirt at the event was interdisciplinary studies major Dakota Dipietro, a senior. Dipietro said that coming to the event was important because of the message VPAS promotes and the support that is available for survivors.

"As a survivor myself, this event means a lot to me, and it's very empowering to know that there's such a great support system here on campus," Dipietro said. "This can help give people the strength to keep pushing through."

Dipietro said that people who have gone through traumatic experiences need a reason to defy the odds and get the help they deserve.

"Hope is what pushes people through their hard times," Dipietro said. "If they know that there's people supporting them, and that they're not alone, I feel like they could get through anything."