Tackett said that the experience has not only enhanced his students’ legal understanding of criminal cases, but by way of the criminal psychology student presentations they also learned about the psychological aspects of the cases, “which they found very intriguing.” He said his students were able to put their work as high school students beside that of their college colleagues. “They did an exceptional job,” he said, adding, “I believe that both groups not only learned new things about their respective cases, but also gained a greater respect for each other’s work and professionalism.”

A partnership this fall between Georgetown College’s Department of Psychology and Elkhorn Crossing School’s Law & Justice Village has enabled both college and high school students to study the legal and psychological aspects of several high profile criminal cases.

Since August, students in Dr. Karyn McKenzie’s Psychology and the Law class at Georgetown and those in Michael W. Tackett’s Law & Justice at ECS have reviewed and analyzed the cases of 1970s serial Killer Ted Bundy, Cleveland, Ohio kidnapper Ariel Castro, and the more recent SLODDERMAN fictional supernatural character stabbing case involving adolescents Morgan Geyser and Anissa Weier in Waukesha, WI, among others.

“My students focused on the legal side of things,” explained Tackett, who is both a teacher and an attorney, saying also that his high school junior’s learned from “examining not only the facts of the case, but also the criminal statutes involved and their varying elements, as well as phases of the criminal justice system such as the arrest, trial proceedings, plea bargaining, and sentencing.”

Dr. McKenzie said the psychological aspects of the studies addressed such things as primary motivations, a criminal’s childhood, personality disorders, etc.

The project culminated recently with presentations at Elkhorn Crossing of findings from the studies.

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As printed in the Georgetown College eNewsletter, November 12, 2015
by Mr. Jim Allison.
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Students make a difference in our community

Superintendent Patricia Putty highlighted student led community service projects at the Scott County Board of Education meeting on November 12, 2015. Students from Southern delivered homemade cards and collected food and toiletry items for Lexington Veteran’s Affairs Medical Center.

One student DECA group hosted a recent family fun night with 120 in attendance raising more than $600 for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. A second DECA group collected books to start a lending library and provide one free book per student at the Scott County Preschool Center.

Cardinal Academy students completed service leadership projects to benefit Toys for Tots and provide a special memorial bench. Other students served as mentors and guest readers at Scott County Preschool.

Numerous food drives to benefit AMEN House are currently underway, including the annual FFA food drive that collected more than 14,000 items last year. FCA at Royal Spring Middle is participating in Operation Christmas Child while Beta Club members from GMS mentor students at Garth.

These are a few of many examples of philanthropy and service to others prevalent throughout Scott County schools.