

NEW FACEBOOK CONNECTS STUDENTS

Non-affiliated website serves as a popular online hang-out

By Kim Fleming

Perhaps you forgot your lab partner's room number. Maybe you were wondering what the homework assignment really was for psychology class on Tuesday. Students are getting connected to one another by using the new Rider Facebook website.

"I made some new friends over the summer, kids who liked the same kind of music as me," said freshman Bill Purcell. "I realized the first week of classes that one of my new Rider Facebook friends had biology with me which was really convenient."

Junior Diana Pittman, however, said she is not registered on Rider Facebook.

"Although I heard of it through my sorority sisters, I looked for it on the Rider website and couldn't find it because I didn't know the actual address," she said.

Being that it is an unofficial website of the University, students should be wary about releasing their information onto the site according to Dean of Students, Anthony Campbell.

"I would caution students against putting any information on that website," said Campbell. "We don't know how [the people who created it] are going to use it. We don't support it. We've never been consulted in the development."

Despite its unofficial attachments to the University many incoming freshman have used the Facebook to make their transition into their new college life a much easier one, said freshman Vicki Giordano.

"The Facebook lets me interact with other students from my class online and make new friends,"



The Rider Facebook is a new website that emerged over the summer. Though it was not created by the University, it has become a widely used source for students and alumni alike.

she said.

For some students, not living on campus means less time to make friends. Some commuter students have explored some of the perks the Facebook has to offer.

As a commuter, sophomore Dan Hewins said he has found the new website to be helpful.

"The Facebook has allowed me to take the formality away from meeting new people," he said. "It provides a low pressure atmosphere in which anyone can simply approach anyone else with a level of ambiguity, but also a sense of who and what makes

them unique."

In addition, the Facebook has been a way for recent graduates to catch up with their friends from their old residence halls, or offer some advice and guidance to new freshman, said Rider graduate Brandon Rojas.

"I think the Facebook is a good thing for both current and former students like myself," said Rojas. "First, it's a way for kids to meet other people that they might not talk to on a regular basis. It also it gives alumni a chance to meet incoming students, keep in touch with current ones, and lend a helping hand when needed."

Group of new students get dirty and lend a hand

By Ashlee Belovin

Before beginning their education, a group of about 30 freshmen were already giving back to the community.

To help new students start off the year, a program called "Rider Serves" was put into action. Rider Serves, launched by the Office of Orientation along with the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Community Service, was a service retreat that not only benefited the community, but also helped new students develop friendships and memories that would last a lifetime.

On Sunday, Sept. 5, freshmen and transfer students were taken by bus to the Delaware-Raritan freeway, where they cleaned up a trail that was over a few miles long.

The program was organized by administrators Christine Carter, Angela Jackson-Powell and Jessica Januzzi.

According to Carter, coordinator of the New Student Resource Center and the Office of Orientation, seniors Melissa Borotto and Mary Ann Somaine had a big hand in running the activities.

"The purpose of the program was two-fold," said Carter. "It introduced students who were interested in community service to the resources that Rider has to offer, but it also gave this group of incoming students a chance to meet students that were coming in the same

boat as them, that are interested in community service but don't know anybody here at Rider."

According to Freshman Annmarie Mercieri, the retreat was successful in terms of meeting its goals. The project was enjoyable, and she met a lot of people while serving the community.

"I think it's a great thing," comments Mercieri. "After this year, we could advertise it more to other people and see if we can get more freshmen in it."

When they stepped back to look at what was accomplished in just one day, the project gave those who participated a beaming sense of pride and achievement. The trail was almost impossible to walk through before they transformed it, according to freshman Jamie Papapetros.

"We started at the beginning of the trail and we worked through more than a couple of miles," said Papapetros. "[We] cleared most of the debris, brush and trees and just made it so people can come enjoy the park and relax."

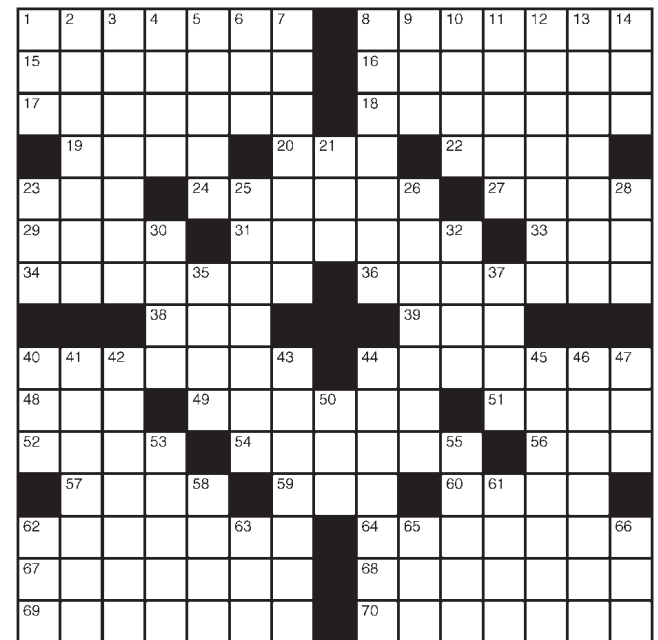
Although they only spent one day on this project, the students of Rider Serves really made a big impact on the community, and it turned out to be very memorable for them.

"The Rider Serves retreat was a valuable experience," Papapetros said. "People should get involved as much as they can with their community and give back. Help somebody in need."

Crossword

- ACROSS
- Blockhead
 - Defeatist
 - South Pacific region
 - Deprive of fortitude
 - Italian baroque artist
 - Bombardment
 - Makes lace
 - Giants and Titans org.
 - the Red
 - Pop's partner
 - Necessitate
 - Animated bug film
 - DOS rival
 - Heavy overcoat
 - Wide shoe width
 - Propriety
 - Surrendered
 - Zilch
 - Neptune's realm
 - Prescribed amounts
 - Throb
 - Scheduled
 - Spillane's Mike
 - Slender
 - Use acid for art
 - Band leader?
 - East Lansing sch.
 - Getz or Kenton
 - Yak
 - Inspires dread
 - Rampaging
 - "The New Colossus" poet
 - Near the kidneys
 - Mournful poems
 - Moral of the story
 - Ailment

- DOWN
- Occupation
 - Fragrant solvent
 - Fired clay
 - German philosopher
 - Licorice flavoring
 - Transgression
 - Pious
 - Superiority of kind
 - Verse opener?
 - As to
 - irma
 - Prepared physically
 - Dispossessed tenant
 - Checkers side
 - Notes in scales
 - Wet dirt
 - Part of NRC
 - Free time
 - Last letter from London
 - Warrior Princess
 - Virginia dance
 - Close by, old-style
 - Girl of the Highlands
 - Ike
 - Exterior divisions
 - Military
 - Import illegally



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Solutions

