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## **Working for a Better Community**

From the 2006-2007 AYS Academy "Yearbook"

This year the students reached out to help others in the community in many ways. In October we participated in the United Way drive and bought tickets for a candy raffle. One of our students won the bucket of candy, and we raised \$30 for United Way. After Christmas we began a program called "Read to Feed." Students sought out cash contributions for reading novels in class. We read over 20 novels and raised \$290 in cash for the Heifer International Organization, which gives farm animals to villages in Third World countries. An anonymous donor matched our donation, making our total contribution \$580. For Valentine's Day we participated with a local radio station to send handmade Valentines to Children who were hospitalized on Valentine's Day. In the spring we completed three handmade fleece blankets and two dog beds for the AYS Stack the Decks fundraiser. The school's contribution raised \$220 for the agency. In May we took part in Shed Spread's "Spread the Sharing" program. We each wrote a story of a time we shared with someone, and the story purchased a meal for a needy family. We work with the YMCA on a regular basis, clearing their parking lot and grounds, in exchange for the use of the gym two days a week for basketball. We have had a busy year – but it feels good to share what we have!

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