

KALB events keeping clean city, county

Variety of events planned to help the local environment

By **Gregg L. Parker**

For the Limestone Spirit
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ATHENS - In March and throughout spring, Keep Athens-Limestone Beautiful (KALB) has scheduled a full slate of activities for a clean city and responsible stewardship for the local environment.

"KALB's role is to educate and provide opportunities so everyone can participate in protecting our environment," executive coordinator Lynne Hart said. "We need people to care about the environmental legacy we leave to our children's children."

Community involvement is essential for success, Hart said.

Anyone can participate at the Aluminum Can Bash on March 26-30 at the A-L Recycling Center, 15896 Lucas Ferry Road.

"The center will be open on Monday to accommodate increased traffic," Hart said. "Premium prices over the going rate will be paid."

On Free Dump Day (March 31), county residents can take a trailer or truckload of trash free to the transfer station, 16100 BFI Lane from 7 a.m. to noon. "Bring a utility bill and identification for proof of residency," Hart said.

Earth Day Celebration will be held at Athens' Big Spring Memorial Park on April 21 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. The rain location is Athens State University gym.

Hart hopes all visitors will leave "with at least one more reason to appreciate



At the 2011 Earth Day Celebration, a girl meets a snake from Coosa River Science School as she holds a potted PANSY. (Special to The Huntsville Times)

and protect our planet."

"We have become so tied to our electronic devices that we've forgotten to touch the world around us."

Information booths will cover recycling, litter control, gardening, medicine disposal and safe cleaners. The Coosa River Science School will bring raptors, amphibians and reptiles for two presentations.

Exhibitors include Peace, Love, and Animals shelter, The Green Spot, Limestone County Master Gardeners, Athens-Limestone Beautification Board, Tom's Busy Bees homemade soaps and creams, G-Daddy's Toys, Limestone County Beekeepers Association, Wheeler Wildlife Refuge and We Chunk Junk.

Also for Earth Day, registered participants are Sarrrell Dental Center, Athens-Limestone Recycling Center, Huntsville Solar Works and Alabama Veterans Museum and Archives. The KALB Auction



Want more?

Keep Athens-Limestone Beautiful is at 125 East St.
Call 256-233-8728

Email to KeepALBeautiful@att.net

Visit KeepAthensLimestoneBeautiful.com.

Fundraiser will also be held March 31 at the Athens State gym.

"We have exercise equipment, artwork, window blinds, dining table and miscellaneous furniture, tools, shelving and glassware," Hart said. "More is received every week."

Residents can donate tax-deductible auction items until March 29.

The Dogwood Festival Vintage Fashion Show and Luncheon on May 1 will benefit KALB. "Come and enjoy beautiful vintage fashions and a wonderful



In 2011, Becky Collier with Coosa River Science School holds Leuc, a bald eagle with a birth defect caused by DDT, banned years before he was born. Leuc's crossed beak makes it impossible for him to feed in the wild. (Special to The Huntsville Times)

lunch at the Family Life Center of Athens First Baptist Church," she said.

During spring cleaning, Hart offered suggestions for unwanted items in a home's shed, garage or closets. "Have a yard sale. That's recycling, too. Also, give items to someone you

know can use them, or donate usable items to the KALB auction."

Taking unusable pieces to Free Dump Day is another option.

"Check out We Chunk Junk. They donate and recycle all they can first," Hart said.