

## Bobcats Active in Community at Healthy Halloween

Written by Whitney Noble

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The Lees-McRae College softball team continues to be a positive influence in the local community this fall, expanding its outreach efforts several weeks ago by

coordinating the Annual Healthy Halloween event, which was co-sponsored by the Avery County Smart Start and the Avery County Health Department.

Coach Merritt Yackey and his squad once again stepped up to the volunteer plate and offered their services to Avery County Smart Start as the coordinators of the annual Healthy Halloween community event.

The Bobcats handled various aspects of the event including pre-event publicity, door prize solicitation, registration materials, being 'treater' helpers on the day of the event, scheduling blood donors for the blood drive and again providing the much need in-kind gift of volunteer hours to Avery County Smart Start.

As part of their work with the event, the Bobcats accumulated 180 hours of volunteer service, providing invaluable support to those attending the event. The day was topped off by the entire team unexpectedly signing up to donate blood, six of which were first-time blood donors.

The Red Cross Blood Drive team was very impressed with the camaraderie the girls displayed and said it was a first for them to have a team use a blood drive as a 'team bonding event'. The team members are looking forward to once again helping Avery County Smart Start with the 2013 Healthy Halloween and Ghouls Blood Drive.