Students in Cameron University's computer and information technology classes are building databases to manage the refuge's volunteer work, inventory of documents and other functions.

"It's very interesting to me, and I think will be really good for me after I graduate," said Tommie Walls, also a senior majoring in computer information systems. "It's a part of something real. It's a part of something that will have an impact on people's lives."

Students in the class to 5A

Cameron University computer science major Anthony Law, a senior, helped develop a system that will catalog documents while the other three built databases for the refuge volunteers.

"We do these services for free," Smith said. "All it's worth is the knowledge that you get from doing this each year in the course and the benefit that you get from choosing one that has the right people to do the work."

"There are so few pennies to go around, volunteer hours are precious," Smith said. "My students are the future of this project. They have been requested and have had to stand up and write code to address the client's needs. They have been asked questions and have had to stand up and answer them."

"I have grown up working the way refuge personnel work the way refuge personnel work," Walls said. "I'm proud of my product. I think it's a fantastic project for applied data modeling."

"We need to be tracking it down can be time-consuming. It will show up asking for a specific document, but it might be a couple of years down the road you want to find that document, and that's my job," Smith said. "I've always volunteered. I've always been interested in computer science."

"I liked getting to do "fun" things, and I liked meeting new people and being "technical," straight to my left brain and the big brain," Walls said. "If that falls through, I might work for his uncle, after he graduates. I'm a National Guard member, so I'm going to stay in the Air Force."

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