
THE COLONIAL HILLS COURIER

The Friendly Community

May 2008

*Since thy return, through days and weeks
Of hope that grew by stealth,
How many wan and faded cheeks
Have kindled into health!
The Old, by thee revived, have said,
'Another year is ours;'
And wayworn Wanderers, poorly fed,
Have smiled upon thy flowers.*

--William Wordsworth, *To May*, 1830

Hello All!

Just a quick thank-you on Rocky's behalf for all your contributions to the Clean the Ravine effort last Saturday. Included are some before and after pictures, but they don't do justice to the amazing improvements. Walk over and see for yourself!

Despite some rain and cool temperatures in the morning, we ended up with more than 20 adult volunteers (including 2 awesome teachers!) who did the heavy-duty work of cutting out invasive honeysuckle in the ravine, hauling it out, and chopping it up for the brush pile. As Rocky says, "We kicked honeysuckle butt at Colonial Hills." The work area was the south slope of the ravine on the west side of school property. We cleared an area approximately 150 feet by 150 feet, from the outdoor classroom by the creek to the edge of the fifth- and sixth-grade playground. It's now possible to see the outdoor classroom from the school. How many of you didn't even know there was an outdoor classroom?

Then, as the afternoon arrived, the weather cleared and 15 kid helpers arrived, who all worked hard to pull up garlic mustard, gather trash, and clear the paths. We left a substantial number of sapling buckeyes and other native species. With a little grooming, we can keep the honeysuckle from choking the area again, and the school can resume the use of the ravine for study and recreation.

A big thanks to all our hands-on helpers: Tracie Conner, Scott Myers, Patricia Darbaker, Gretchen Wessel, Ted Dennison, Andy & Gretchen Pasquinili, Angela & TR Massey, Miriam Chon, Mike Riebel, Joan Zeller, Marlene Orloff, Jody Kushins, Dan Spurgeon, Dan Button, Jon Beard, Rick Harvey, Aigool Zumash. I probably forgot someone, for which I apologize.

An even bigger thanks to our little workers: Max, Gabe, Addison, Adam, Aaron, George, Rosa, Maya, Hope, Tripp, Douglas, Mitchell, Sabine, Caspian, and Isaiah. They may be small, but they worked as hard as anyone, and made a big difference.

Special thanks to Worthington Schools, specifically Henk DeRee and Dave Wickline, who gave permission

and assistance for this project, and the critical help of disposing of the enormous brush pile! Thanks to the PTA, the Colonial Hills Civic Association, the Boy Scouts and the Y-Tribe for announcing the project to members. Also thanks to Green Columbus for helping to publicize the event and rewarding our volunteers with lunch at the Earth Day festival at Goodale Park.

We're thinking of another work day in the fall, to clear further down the ravine. Stay tuned for more information. It is truly amazing what we can achieve when we all work together! Thanks for your interest in caring for the ravine, which is really a priceless neighborhood asset. We love Colonial Hills!!!

Emily Briscoe, Rocky Stoeckel & Max



before



after

Postscript: While we were working on this project, I learned some interesting things about how the ravine had been used in the past by the school. Ben Hayes, the original owner of the house across the street from us, and father of Christine Hayes, was a journalist and amateur naturalist. He used to routinely lead groups of CH students through the ravine on nature walks, as a standard part of the school's science curriculum. As we cleared, we found many places where Ben had placed small plaques, identifying native plants for the kids. Many of the plaques have fallen apart, but I would love to see them replaced and the students encouraged to use the ravine again.

UPCOMING EVENTS

****CHCA meeting Tuesday, May 13 at 7:00 pm—Shelter House**

**** PLAY CAFÉ resumes this weekend—May 10 at Selby Park!** Join your neighbors for coffee and conversation, 8 am to 10:30. A great way to kick off the weekend!

****WORTHINGTON FARMERS MARKET May 10-Oct 25** - Every Saturday. From 9 am -12 noon. **PLANT FEST** is also May 10, on the Village Green.

****WORTHINGTON FAMILY CONCERTS ON THE GREEN**

Performed on Village Green, Northwest quadrant.

SUNDAYS May 18 - August 10, 2008 7:00 p.m.

Concerts are **FREE** to all persons interested in good family musical entertainment. Chairs are encouraged. Those with blankets have front-row seating preference. **In case of inclement weather, concerts are cancelled.** The first five scheduled acts are as follows (courtesy of Worthington Parks and Recreation):

May 18 BAND SPECTACULAR - enjoy an old-fashioned concert "in the park" featuring the award-winning Thomas Worthington Symphonic Band and Wind Ensemble. Series established 1992.

May 25 AGENT 99 – 70’s Pop & more. The best music you forgot you loved – Boomer and beyond! Fleetwood Mac meets Tom Petty, and invites Sheryl Crow along for the ride in The Cars - Hang On, Sloopy! Fronted by Nancy Hughes from our Worthington Fire Dept. 1st time on the Green.

June 1 MIKE PATRICK BLUES - features hard driving blues with styles ranging from traditional, Chicago, Texas, New Orleans, to modern blues with an emphasis on up-tempo good time. Requested by Jeff Irwin. 1st time on the Green.

June 8 WORTHINGTON CHORUS - this 40+ mixed chorus has been entertaining central Ohio audiences since 1976 and is a proud member of the Worthington Arts Council. The Chorus will present a variety of songs.

June 15 DEBBIE WALTON AND ROCK MY SOUL – features electric and acoustic blues, rock with a splash of soul & gospel. The sounds of Chicago, Memphis and the Delta. Expect to be entertained and inspired. 1st time on the Green.

****WORTHINGTON MEMORIAL DAY PARADE: MONDAY, MAY 26** – 10 am. Begins at intersection of High and 161, south to Walnut Grove Cemetery.

And coming in June, Hi Neighbor Day (June 22) and our annual community garage sale. Stay tuned for more details!

ADS

Hello,

My name is Selina Mamone. I am a Colonial Hills resident and I am qualified to baby-sit children ages one to eight or be a mother's helper for newborns to eight-year-olds. I have passed the Red Cross Baby-sitting Course and can provide references. My phone number is 614-436-3045.

Thank you,
Selina Mamon



NEWBORN CARE

8 WEEKS to 24 MONTHS

Infants Only.

20 years experience + child care education

References - Insurance - IRS Tax Credit Form 2441 Honored

Colonial Hills—Worthington

Please Call 436-6294