

Highland Conservancy E-News May 7, 2009  
Spring has finally arrived...

#### Plant Sale and Huron Valley Youth Athletic (formerly Hi-White) Parade

This delightful hometown parade will occur Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> in downtown Highland. The floats are always quirky, the crowd is friendly, and all kids love a parade! Be there a bit before 10am for a good roadside seat along Livingston Road west of Milford Road. We will have a booth set up next to the Senior Center alongside the Beautification plant sale. Hope to see you there! Yes, bring your dog and join us in marching along.

#### Nature Park

HC president Jim Lloyd made a presentation to the Highland Township Park's Committee this week. So far, the feedback received has been overwhelmingly positive for protecting this 28 acre nature park. The main purpose is not to change or disrupt the natural beauty of this land but rather our goal is to leave it much as it already is...an awesome place to walk your dog, listen to red-winged blackbirds sing in the marsh, or ride a horse through its rolling meadows. With its proximity to several Huron Valley schools, it would be an excellent site for educational workshops for students, scouts, birders or others.

#### Community Garden

Highland's community garden has been plowed, organic material added and plots staked out. A portion of this garden is set aside for community share. If you are interested in donating plants or want more info, please call Katheryn Krupa 248-887-4643.

#### Adopt-a-Road

Our section of road from Highland Oaks south to M59 is looking clean and spiffy. Thanks to everyone who showed up to help out!

#### Garlic Mustard

I was doing some yard work this week when I noticed a massive blanket of what looked like...oh no, it was – garlic mustard! Amazingly, it had already covered a huge area where there was nothing at all last year. This plant is insidious in that it spreads quickly and can completely take over a forest in one or two seasons. Unlike dandelions that coexist merrily with native plants and grassy lawns, garlic mustard smothers everything in its path. There will be a garlic mustard removal day at Highland Oaks on Saturday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Please consider joining us – last year we discovered some rare trilliums, wildflowers and a really unusual looking salamander.

#### In Honor of Mick Bell

One of the founders and past president of the Highland Conservancy, Mick Bell, recently passed away. He was a tireless, dedicated, wonderful leader and will be greatly missed. Thanks Mick for everything – you truly made a difference.

#### Meeting Change

Our monthly meetings will now take place on the SECOND Tuesday of each month at 7pm at the Huron Valley Council of Arts building, 205 W. Livingston Road. We invite you to join us.

Katheryn Krupa, Editor

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