



chit chat

A publication of Geauga Park District



Volunteer Jean Dively poses as Medusa during one of the ever-popular Halloween Wagon Rides at Swine Creek Reservation.

Fall is my favorite season! The crisp air, the magnificent array of color, the crunch of leaves underfoot...it's a great time to be outdoors! We have many programs in need of your help to ensure their success. The annual Halloween Wagon Rides are set for October 16 and 23, and several positions are available. We also continue our hiking series, school children will be visiting, and we're anticipating the opening of *Snowbelted: Winter's a Blast!* There's a lot going on in the fall!

I'd like to take a moment to chat about the online volunteer program sign-up system. All programs for the seasonal quarter are posted on the volunteer website on the 20th of the month before the quarter begins. This means fall programs are available September 20, winter programs December 20, spring programs March 20, and summer programs June 20. The website listing is always 'live,' meaning that volunteers can sign up for programs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. So even if you've left me a message to sign up for a program, someone else could sign up on the website for that same program before I get your message. I'm always glad to talk with our volunteers, so I do appreciate your calls, but please understand that sometimes programs fill before we can chat on the phone!

HOWEVER (and there's always an exception, isn't there?!) the *Snowbelted* volunteer schedule will not be available online...so we'll have a chance to chat on the phone for that! Please mark your calendars for Saturday, October 29, for an exclusive volunteer preview of the exhibit...I look forward to seeing you there!

Holly

PARK COMMISSIONERS

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Keith McClintock

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

Holly Sauder



FALL 2011

SNOWBELTED Winter's a blast!

The transformation of The West Woods Nature Center into a snow-covered discovery area is underway! *Snowbelted: Winter's a Blast!* will officially open on November 1, and run through February 2012. Volunteers will play an important role in enhancing the visitor experience. There are daily volunteer opportunities to be a part of the fun!

Please take a few moments to review the volunteer position descriptions, check your calendar, and contact Holly to sign up. Volunteer trainings are listed below: you only need to attend one session. Exhibit uniform shirts will be provided.

There will be two shifts each day: 10 AM - 1:30 PM and 1:30 PM - 5 PM. Regular weekday, weekend and school holiday job descriptions are to the right.

The exhibit volunteer schedule will not be available online, so please call or email Holly to sign up at 440-279-0802 or hsauder@geaugaparkdistrict.org.

- **Weekday Exhibit Guide/Front Desk Assistant:** One volunteer needed with general knowledge in all aspects of the exhibit and classroom activities; will greet and count guests and tend to traditional front desk duties.
- **Weekend Exhibit Guide (2 stations):** On weekends and weekday school holidays, exhibit guides will interact with visitors, engaging them with the interactive features. One volunteer needed in each of the two sections of the exhibit: "The Culture of Cold" and "Weathering Winter."
- **Weekend Front Desk Assistant:** One volunteer will greet and count guests, maintain the classroom activities and tend to traditional front desk duties.

Thanks in advance for helping make *Snowbelted* a success!



volunteer trainings

***Snowbelted: Winter's A Blast!* Volunteer Trainings**
The West Woods Nature Center
 Thursday, October 27, 3 - 4:30 PM
 Saturday, October 29, 10:30 AM - Noon
 Thursday, November 17, 3 - 4:30 PM
 Wednesday, December 7, 7 - 8:30 PM
 Volunteers will get an on-site orientation to exhibit components and the various roles relating to the exhibit. Need to attend only one session.

scout programs

Webelos Cub Scout "Naturalist" Achievement
 Saturday, October 1, 9:30-11:30 AM
 Big Creek Park
 Two OCVN volunteers to discuss bird flyways, poisonous plants or wetlands (pick one).

Cub Scout Weather Belt Loop & Pin
 Saturday, November 5, 10 AM - Noon
 Observatory Park, 10610 Clay St., Montville
 Two volunteers to assist with check-in and weather activities. OCVN opportunity.

Brownie Girl Scout Day at *Snowbelted: Winter's a Blast!*
 Saturday, November 19, 9:30-11:30 AM
 The West Woods Nature Center
 Two volunteers to assist with check-in and exhibit stations. OCVN opportunity.

Halloween Wagon Rides

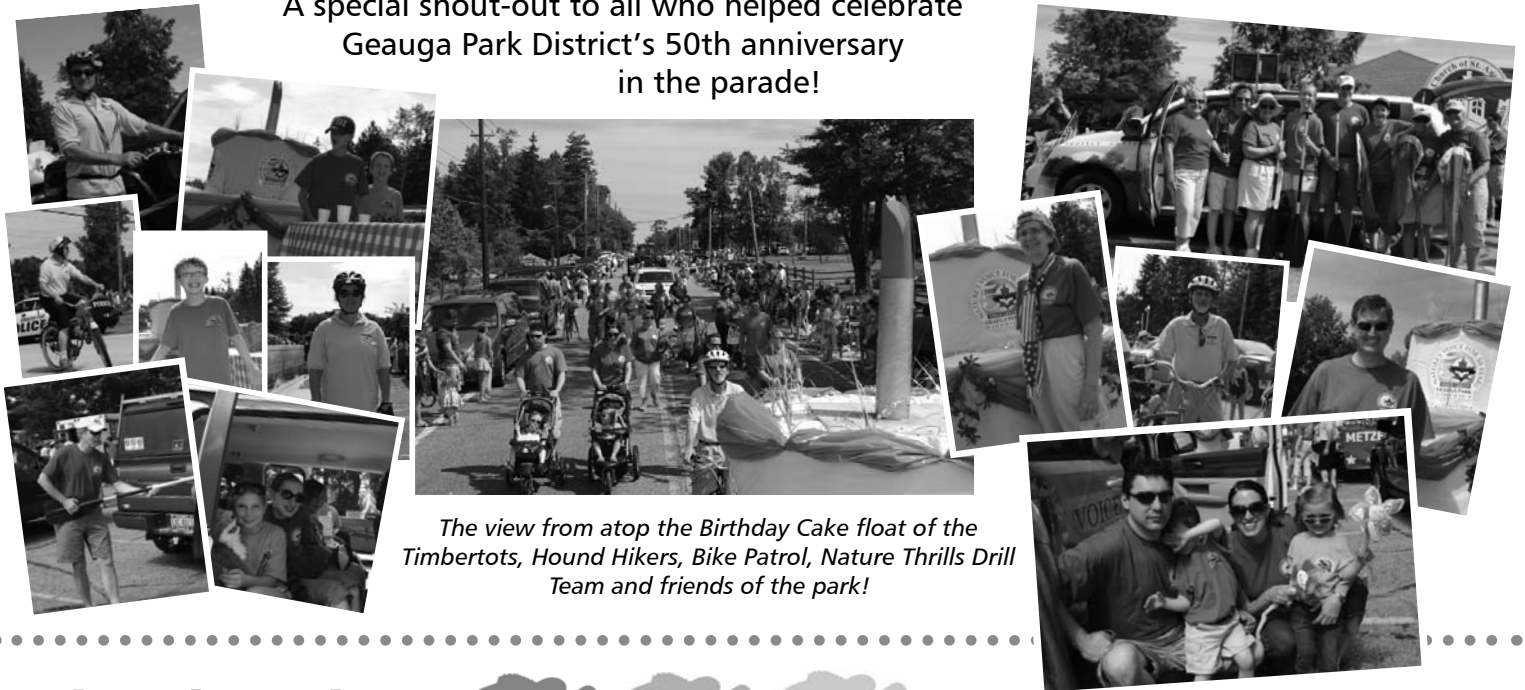
The annual Halloween Wagon Rides will be held October 16 & 23 at Swine Creek Reservation. It's a great way to celebrate the fall season in all its splendor! We are in need of several volunteers at themed stations, wagon ride guides and ticket hosts. This is always a fun-filled program! To volunteer, please contact Holly at hsauder@geaugaparkdistrict.org, Linda Gilbert at lgilbert@geaugaparkdistrict.org, or visit the volunteer website.

The Ghoul (Tom Robbins) explains dead-man's finger fungus to wagon ride guests.



CHESTERLAND'S INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE!

A special shout-out to all who helped celebrate Geauga Park District's 50th anniversary in the parade!



The view from atop the Birthday Cake float of the Timbertots, Hound Hikers, Bike Patrol, Nature Thrills Drill Team and friends of the park!

Kid's Fishing Clinic



A special thank-you to all who helped in the successful Kid's Fishing Clinic in July! The event was coordinated by volunteer Debbie Armbruster, who became certified for the ODNR Passport to Fishing program in 2010. Volunteers Joel Firem, Bill and Sue Berger, Jeff Hickox, Shay'uma Rawls, Jeff and Jacob Suszynski and Catherine Ullman covered knot tying, fishing baits, native fish, ethics, safety and casting. Debbie's successful grant application enabled participating youngsters to go home with their own fish pole and tackle box...a thrill for all the kids who participated!



Jeff Hickox & Shay'uma Rawls



Joel Firem



Jeff Suszynski



Catherine Ullman



Volunteer opportunities

Reminder: Program start times are listed below.
Volunteers should plan to arrive 15 to 30 minutes earlier.

October

- 10/1 50 Years/50 Miles 1 PM
Maple Highlands Trail - Rt. 322
- 10/8 Autumn Bird Walk 9 AM
Burton Wetlands
- 10/8 50 Years/50 Miles 6:30 PM
BB Metzenbaum Park
- 10/9 Tare Creek Bike Ride 11 AM
Mary Yoder's Restaurant
- 10/11 50 Years/50 Miles Trail Ride 6 PM
Headwaters
- 10/15 Orchard Hills Dedication 10 am
Orchard Hills
- 10/15 Activitree Spree 11 AM
Orchard Hills
- 10/15 Timbertots 10 AM
Headwaters
- 10/16 Halloween Wagon Rides 1 PM
Swine Creek
- 10/19 Timbertots 10 AM
Headwaters
- 10/21 Timbertots 10 AM & 1 PM
BB Metzenbaum Park
- 10/22 Muskrateers 9:30 AM
Sunnybrook
- 10/22 Crinkleroots 9:30 AM
Sunnybrook
- 10/22 Geauga Cemeteries 1 PM
Briar Hill - Russell Twp.
- 10/23 Halloween Wagon Rides 1 PM
Swine Creek
- 10/27 Jam Session 7 PM
Big Creek
- 10/29 Hound Hike 10 AM
Big Creek

November

- 11/4 Astronomy Night 7 PM
Observatory Park
- 11/6 Heron Hike 1 PM
The Rookery
- 11/10 Food and Farms 6:30 PM
West Woods
- 11/11 Moon/Meadow Stroll 7 PM
Frohing Meadows
- 11/12 50 Years/50 Miles 1 PM
West Woods - Affelder
- 11/13 Timbertots 3 PM
Observatory Park
- 11/15 Timbertots 10 AM & 1 PM
Sunnybrook
- 11/16 Timbertots 10 AM
Observatory Park
- 11/17 Jam Session 7 PM
Big Creek
- 11/20 Attracting Birds 1:30 PM
Big Creek
- 11/26 Scat, Tracks, Facts 1 & 3 PM
West Woods
- 11/27 50 Years/50 Miles 2 PM
Swine Creek
- 11/20 Why Trees Matter 7 PM
Big Creek
- DAILY SNOWBELTED OPENINGS
IN NOVEMBER at The West Woods!**

December

- 12/2 Homeschool Program 2 PM
West Woods
- 12/3 Holiday Greens 9 AM & 1 PM
Swine Creek
- 12/4 Evergreen Hike 1 PM
Swine Creek
- 12/4 Timbertots 2 PM
Swine Creek
- 12/6 Timbertots 10 AM & 1 PM
Swine Creek
- 12/7 Timbertots 10 AM
Swine Creek
- 12/8 Art Takes a Bough 6 PM
Big Creek
- 12/10 50 Years/50 Miles 2 PM
Big Creek
- 12/11 Comeback Critters 1:30 PM
Big Creek
- 12/18 50 Years/50 Miles 2 PM
Sunnybrook
- 12/21 Candle Light Walk 7:30 PM
West Woods
- 12/27 Muskrateers 10 AM
West Woods
- 12/27 Crinkleroots 10 AM
West Woods
- 12/29 Grandparent Program 9:30 AM
West Woods
- 12/29 Jam Session 7 PM
Big Creek
- DAILY SNOWBELTED OPENINGS
IN DECEMBER at The West Woods!**



Want to Volunteer at Observatory Park?

We are seeking volunteers for Observatory Park to assist with astronomy programs, school visits, and to serve as general hosts and trailgators. Please contact Holly Sauder at 440-279-0802 or hsauder@geaugaparkdistrict.org, and watch *Chit Chat* for more details as we progress toward regular operating hours.



thank you!

Volunteer hours for May, June, July are 2,875!

ALLEN, BILL
ALLEN, KATHY
ALLENSON, STEPHEN
ANDREAS, MARIE
ARMBRUSTER, DEBBIE
BANZER, CHARLOTTE
BANZER, JOSEPH
BARNHART, SAM
BELLITTO, RITA
BENEDICT, HENRY
BERGER, SUE
BERGER, WILLIAM
BERMAN, TED
BLAIR, CHRISTINE
BLAIR, JAMES
BLOCH, BARBARA
BOBBITT, TRENT
BOEHNLEIN, SISTER
JULIE
BOSWORTH, SHERRY
BOWMAN, DEBBIE
BRETSCHNEIDER, ELAINE
BROBST, LARRY
BROBST, PATTY
BROZOVIC, NICHOLAS
BUEHNER, LARRY
CALLAHAN, JOYCE
COMBS, RITA
COOK, PATTI
CUPP, ELIZABETH
CURTIN, TOM
CVERNA, FRAN
DESANTIS, ALAN
DIVELY, FRED
DIVELY, JEAN
DOMBROWSKI, MARK
DONALDSON, CAROLINE
EIPPERT, KATIE
EIPPERT, SARAH
EMCH, BARBARA
FABIG, DAVE
FATH, JOAN
FATH, MIKE

FIREM, JOEL
FISH, BONNIE
FISH, GARY
FISHER, MADDIE
FLETCHER, CHARLES
FRANCIS, JOAN
FRANZ, BILL
FRASER, WILLIAM
FRENCHIE, RICHARD
FROHRING, GLENN
FROHRING, JEAN
GALDUN, DAN
GARVER, BEBE
GAZLEY, CINDY
GILBERT, LINDA
GRANGER, PAM
HANNAN, PEGGY
HANNAN, TOM
HAYES, LOIS
HECKLER, JERRY
HEDLUND, GEORGIA
HICKOX, JEFFREY
HODAKIEVIC, JAN
HOLM, RUTH
HOSIER, PAIGE
HOSMER, PAT
HOSMER, WAYNE
HRIVNAK, NANCY
HUDAK, AUDREY
JANOCH, JOHN
JEFFRIES, CLARENCE
KECO, JOY
KEICHEL, CLIFFORD
KIEVETS, CLARA
KLEPACH, SANDY
KOVACEVIC, JOHN
KOVANES, SANDRA
KOZA, CHERYL
LEAVENWORTH, KATHY
LEECH, PAT
LIESER, ED
LIPTAK, ANDREW

LIPTAK, MICHAEL
LIPTAK, VICKY
MATHIOTT, DOTTIE
MATHIOTT, RACHAEL
MCGUIRE, MIKE
MCKINNEY, RACHEL
MEER, KELLI
MEER, RACHEL
MERRYMAN, ALICE
METYK, BONNIE
MILLER, MARLENE
MITCHELL, PATRICIA
MOONE, CHERYL
MORGAN, KAREN
MORGAN, KEVIN
MOSTER, SANDIE
NEMECKAY, DOUGLAS
NEMETH, JANE HALL
NEMETH, WILLIAM
NESTOR, JOHN
NEWTON, MICHELE
NOBLE, KATHLEEN
O'DONNELL, JOHN
O'NEILL, MARY BETH
ORVIS, TERRENCE
OWENS, CAROL
PADAVICK, JOYCE
PAGE, BOB
PARKINSON, BARBARA
PODOJIL, GENIE
PODOJIL, ROY
PRUSZYSKI, ROBERT
RALSTON, DOUG
RAMSEY, LISA
RASMUSSEN, BARBARA
RAWLS, SHA'YUMA
RAY, TODD
ROBBINS, THOMAS
RUNION, MICHAEL
RUNION, TERESA
RZESZOTARSKI, MARK
SAUDER, BRAD

SAUDER, HOLLY
SAUDER, RACHEL
SAUDER, RYAN
SCHIEMANN, LEE
SCHMID, HARRY
SEDIVY, MARY ANN
SICILIANO, SALLY
SICKLING, KATHRYN
SIFRITT, SUSAN
SIMKO, DAVE
SIMON, MARSHA
SINDELAR, GEO
SINDELAR, NORA
SKINNER, CAROL
SKINNER, DAVID
SKINNER, IOLA
SMITH, BRIAN
SMITH, EILEEN
SMITH, MICHAEL
SOUCEK, JOSEPH
STEHLI, FRANK
STEIGERWALD, GEORGIE
STEIGERWALD, JOHN
STROJAN, JEAN
STRONG, PARKER
STRONG, PJ
STRONG, REBECCA
SUSZYNSKI, JEFF
SZUTER, KEITH
TOMPKINS, KEITH
TRETERA, FRAN
TURPIN, STEVE
ULLMAN, CATHERINE
VALENTINE, BRIAN
WEAVER, ABE
WHITE, ALAINE
WIEBUSCH, SANDY
WINTON, DON
WOOLF, SANDY
ZACK, AL
ZEITZ, JAMES
ZOVACK, GERRI
ZRINYI, GENE

Thank you to all the volunteers! Geauga Park District truly appreciates your time and hard work.

GEAUGA PARK DISTRICT FOUNDATION



Updates from Geauga Park District Foundation

You can leave a legacy of protecting and conserving Geauga County's important natural resources for generations to come through a planned gift to the Geauga Park District Foundation. An outright bequest is the simplest way to provide a future gift. A charitable gift annuity returns a present stream of payments to the donor or another beneficiary while also providing a future gift for the Foundation. A named endowment fund may be established with a minimum gift of \$10,000, which may be paid over a three-year period.

Gauga Park District Foundation is a partner with the Cleveland Foundation in assisting those who wish to leave a legacy gift for the Park District and who have questions about how to accomplish this. Another resource for answering questions you may have are the Gift Planning pages on Geauga Park District's website. You will find a wealth of information there about all manner of planned and deferred giving.

The Park District's McCullough Society acknowledges and recognizes those who have made "lifetime" gifts in support of Geauga Park District through the Foundation. To learn more, call the Geauga Park District Development Office at 440-286-9516 or visit www.geaugaparkdistrict.org and click Support Your Parks button at the top of each page.



THE McCullough SOCIETY



Geauga Park District
9160 Robinson Road
Chardon, OH 44024-9148



Please Join Us...

For a Volunteer
sneak peek of

*Snowbelted:
Winter's a Blast!*

Saturday, October 29, 2011
9 - 10:30 AM

The West Woods Nature Center

More information will be sent in mid-October.

For a detailed list of volunteer opportunities, visit www.geaugaparkdistrict.org or check the current issue of Geauga Park District's public newsletter, *Voices of Nature*. The volunteer logo appears by programs requiring volunteers. Or call Holly Sauder, volunteer coordinator, at 440-286-9516 or 440-279-0802 (direct).

