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Mission

To Develop, Maintain and Promote awareness of the importance of our Visual Environment

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HISTORIC STONEWALL

The Benjamin Haviland Stonewall

The Ben Haviland farm dates back to the late 1860s. Haviland, known as "Uncle Ben" to FDR, generously donated land to the town where Haviland Middle School stands. Remnants of the wall that enclosed his farm pastures are located on Rt 9G and with help from Central Hudson and New York State Department of Transportation, the trees and bushes that obstructed it have been cut down. Now the length of the wall is 550 feet and requires the removal of branches and trash to make it safer for rebuilding. We are asking volunteers to help in this effort every Tuesday beginning April 3 from 9:30 to 11:30. In the near future, certain Saturdays will be set to start working on the stone reconstruction. If you are interested, please contact Bill Ring at Billrr50@gmail.com.

Article by Bill Ring



The Hyde Park ENTHUSIAST

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Letter from the Visual Environment Committee Chair

Happy Spring to our members. Thank you for your generous support for the efforts of HPVEC. Whether participating financially through our membership drive, working at or attending one of our events, helping in our roadside gardens, working on stone walls or helping with our monthly litter pick-ups, your participation is sincerely appreciated and vital to our success.

We've had a wonderfully productive 2017 and we are looking forward to continuing our success in 2018. Last spring, we awarded our first annual Community Service Scholarship to a very deserving FDR graduate. We are in the process of collecting and reviewing the applicants for our 2018 recipient. We held our very popular Home for the Holidays event in December. Our generous Hyde Park homeowners opened their beautifully decorated homes to the public and shared their holiday traditions. Keep your eyes on the repairs that Stone Wall Chair Bill Ring and dedicated volunteers are accomplishing on the Route 9G Haviland Wall. This once crumbling wall that was overgrown with weeds and sumac trees is being transformed to its original beauty by this hard working group of HPVEC volunteers. The thousands of daffodils we plant along our beloved stone walls should be blooming as you receive this newsletter.

Our monthly litter pick-ups and weeding sessions are beginning. Please consider joining us for what are rewarding and fun work sessions with a wonderful group of people. Reminders are posted

through email, Facebook and are also posted on our calendar on our website.

Our membership drive continues throughout the year, so if you haven't yet renewed your membership, it is not too late. The progress we make in 2018 to expand our Hyde Park community enrichment programs depends directly on your membership and

volunteer backing. Your membership and participation supports our mission "to develop, maintain and promote awareness of the importance of the visual environment in the Hyde Park community".

We hope that you all will mark your calendars for our Hyde Park In Bloom garden tour on June 16th! You are in for another day of touring some of our most beautiful Hyde Park gardens as our generous hosts open their gardens to visitors.

Members, be on the lookout for mailed invitations. Tickets can also be purchased at <http://www.hydeparkvec.org>.

HPVEC is a one hundred percent volunteer organization. We could not exist without your generous support through membership donations and the donation of your precious time through volunteerism. Please get involved by volunteering at our events, stone wall restoration, garden maintenance and by sharing your ideas and vision of Hyde Park. Please contact us at hpvecboard@gmail.com if you would like to get involved.

Cathy Lane





HPVEC Thank You

We are so very appreciative of the many people in this wonderful community who support HPVEC in many ways. Every two years, we recognize our local residents and businesses with Beautification Awards held at the Henry A. Wallace Center. We decided to dedicate a portion of our newsletter to recognize people who dedicate their time and resources to enhancing our town's corridors.

Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce and Beautification Chair Bob DeLarm.

Year in and year out, Bob and Phyllis DeLarm can be seen working in various gardens along the Route 9 and 9G corridors. Most recently, they accomplished the monumental task of restoring the gardens at the entrance of our town. These lovely gardens welcome all who drive through our town. What a beautiful greeting for our visitors to see as they enter Hyde Park. Many thanks to the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce and Bob and Phyllis DeLarm!

Article by Cathy Lane



The HPVEC is looking forward to determining the 2018 winner of the Community Service Award.

This local honor is bestowed on the FDR High School Senior who has best exemplified the Committee's mission, in part, "to develop, maintain, and promote awareness of the importance of the visual environment."

This 2nd annual award, in the amount of \$500.00, will be given to one FDR graduating senior who has demonstrated commitment to the Hyde Park community through volunteerism and leadership.

All applications were submitted by April 1, 2018 and the recipient will be announced the second week of May 2018.

Congratulations to Graduating Class 2018!

Article by Marti Nichol & Joe Marrine

Beautification

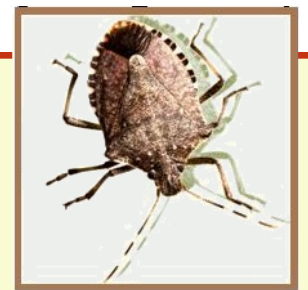
Now that the weather appears to be cooperating, the Beautification Committee has begun working on cleaning up our many roadside gardens. Please mark your calendars for Saturday, April 28th for our annual spring clean-up. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of TD Bank. Please bring work gloves, rakes and brooms. We will be working along our adopted highway section on Route 9G, the Route 9 corridor, and the garden in Staatsburg. Join us in picking up litter, raking out our gardens, and clearing around the stonewalls, making repairs easier. The impact on our lovely town is tremendous when we have a good turnout of volunteers.

We will continue our monthly weeding sessions on the first Thursday morning of each month. We meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the former Hyde Park Motors across from the post office on East Market Street. Please join us! We have a great group of people, fresh air, exercise and the satisfaction of seeing the impact of our efforts.



Please mark your calendars for Saturday, May 19th. We will meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of TD Bank for our planting of annuals. Beautiful zinnias and lantana will be planted in our roadside gardens. They not only bring color and beauty to the gardens, but they also attract pollinators.

Article by Cathy Lane



Brown Marmorated Stink Bug

Halyomorpha halys, also known as the Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, is an invasive bug that loves the warmth of homes. They cause damage to agricultural crops and can infest homes, crawling along walls, counter tops, curtains and ceilings. Not only are they unsightly, they are downright prehistoric. When caught and crushed, they give off a repugnant odor, doing justice to their name. These bugs were first seen in Pennsylvania in 2001, arriving as stowaways from Asia. Since then, they have invaded 41 states, damaging crops and becoming unwelcome guests in our homes.

Last fall, when we were having work done in our attic and our windows replaced, our evenings were spent catching and killing hundreds of stink bugs lining our walls, crawling across our bed and across the ceilings. These visitors were coming in through the eaves seeking the warmth of the house. Seeing them in such numbers each night was creepy to say the least.

Stink bugs respond to light and the longer days of spring signal their time for mating. Virginia Tech PhD student John Aigner recently ran a study comparing three different kinds of stink bug traps. The trap that was found to be most effective is inexpensive, non-toxic to humans and easy to assemble. They made the trap using an aluminum turkey roasting pan, a desk lamp with a 13 watt CFL Bulb and liquid dish detergent. They filled the pan with a half-gallon of water and added liquid dish detergent. They shined the light onto the surface of the water, switching it on at 7:00 p.m. and off at 7:00 a.m. It is important to ensure that the light cannot fall into the water. The stink bugs are attracted to the light shining on the water. They enter the water and cannot escape.

This method of eliminating stink bugs from your home is most effective in the spring, during the stink bugs' mating season.

Article by Cathy Lane



Hyde Park in Bloom 2018 Tour

Into The Backyard
Save The Date and Bring a Friend

Saturday
June 16th

Join us as we celebrate early summer with a showcase of private and public gardens throughout Hyde Park.

Tickets:

\$35 FOR
MEMBERS

\$40 FOR
NON-MEMBERS



BRUNCH at NYS Parks & Recreation Taconic Regional Headquarters from 9:00 am to 11:00 am / GARDEN TOUR 10:00 am to 3:00 pm

Proceeds from this community event help support HPVEC's beautification, education, and advocacy programs. Everything you give goes back into the community. Not a member yet? It's not too late to join. Go to <http://www.hydeparkvec.org/membership>