

ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.ohmha.org

OHMHA NEWSLETTER

September 2009

Autumn is coming, and so

Time to come out and join your neighbors at the 3rd annual



Fall Festival, Sunday, Oct. 11

WHO: The entire OHMHA neighborhood is invited!

WHEN: Sunday, October 11, 1-5 pm (rain or shine)

WHERE: At the grassy area by Thurston Pond on Yorktown, next to OHAC pool

Highlights:

- Cider, donuts and apples will be served.
- "Hunters of the Sky," a wildlife demonstration presented by the Leslie Science Center and featuring a live bald eagle, a hawk, and an owl, at 1:30
- Thurston Nature Center (TNC) tree tours in Thurston Nature Center with information on the Adopt-A-Tree program, given by TNC Land Steward Mike Conboy at 2:30 and 3:30 pm.
- Face painting, balloon toss, clown and other fun kids' activities.
- Display of live pond critters by Neal Foster, Thurston Nature Center Committee Chair.
- NEW THIS YEAR: Neighborhood artists & craftspeople can display their talents. Contact Amy Seetoo at SJBaggaley@aol.com or 332-1874, by Sept. 18.
- NEW THIS YEAR: Homegrown squash contest. Bring your squash and show them off and maybe win a prize. Contact Monica Hanna at 622-8113 or monicahanna@hotmail.com
- Friendly acoustical musical talent show, 4:00-5:00 pm, if enough folks volunteer by Sept 18. Please contact Bidisha at mamoni@gmail.com or 369-8943 to sign up.

The Fall Festival Planning Committee is looking for volunteers to help with several important jobs. If you can lend a hand, please phone Margaret Weiss at 997-6541 or email her at colinmargie@sbcglobal.net

This Fall Festival is sponsored by OHMHA together with the Thurston Nature Center. We look forward to seeing you! ■



The Fall Festival Planning Committee met at Sweetwaters on August 15.

Thurston Nature Center Area Construction

- by Neal Foster

Recent work supported by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Grant to the Ann Arbor Public School District included installing two large Aqua-Swirl units (underground) to clean stormwater and installing the more spectacular, big pipe deep beneath the concrete steps down the right-of-way from Bluett. This pipe will divert substantial additional supplies of stormwater



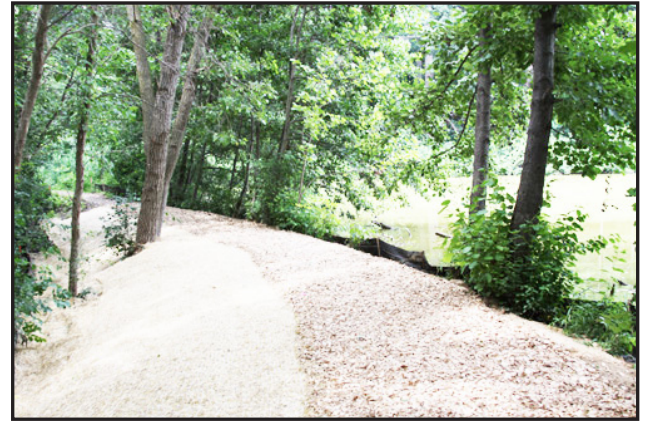
Stairs from Bluett, outlet of “big pipe,” and forebay, north of Thurston Pond.

southward from the Bluett and Antietam storm drains into the new limestone rock-lined forebay and then into the north side of the Thurston Pond. Some

of the lowermost concrete steps coming down from Bluett had to be replaced because of damage or deterioration.

The berm (dam) on the west side of Thurston Pond has been heightened and widened, work that was accomplished quickly and expediently by using pervious material (= loamy sand). This new base might not hold up very well as it becomes ever

more compacted by constant pedestrian and bicycle traffic. The Thurston Nature Center Committee had expected that relatively impervious clayey fill would have been used to heighten and widen the berm (which will potentially increase pond depth by about a foot). In the near future, a thick layer of a special clay (bentonite) will be applied to the pondward side to prevent seepage through the berm. The berm has been covered by matting on the sides of the walking path,



Heightened, widened berm at west side of Thurston Pond.

which also has been widened. A layer of wood chips has been spread atop the walking path for a considerable extent, from the southeast entrance to the Nature Center to the end of the berm. ■

ORCHARD HILLS ~ MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR JUNE 1, 2009 ~ MAY 31, 2010

(Make check for \$20.00 payable to OHMHA ~ additional contributions gratefully accepted.)

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ ☐ Please remove my name from your email list.

COMMENTS (we welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects):

Mail or deliver your dues to: Wendy Carman, OHMHA Treasurer, 2340 Georgetown

Local Coyotes May Endanger Pets

- by Neal Foster

In recent years coyotes have been spotted in all parts of Ann Arbor, even on the U of M campus. From a distance, a coyote resembles a slender, medium-sized



German shepherd dog. Their ears are pointed and erect--not floppy like the ears of most domestic dogs--and large in relation to the size of their head. When running, coyotes hold

their long tails drooping below the level of their back. Their muzzle is long and slender.

Unlike wolves, they are highly tolerant of human presence and can live in agricultural, suburban and even urban settings. The coyote's main food is small mammals such as mice, voles, shrews, rabbits, squirrels, but they also eat insects, fruits, berries, birds, frogs, snakes, leaves and seeds.

Coyotes may be seen day or night but are most active around sunrise or sunset. They usually hunt at night, and in our neighborhood uncovered garbage, garden vegetables, fallen fruit or pet food may attract them into your yard. Area veterinarians treat coyote-inflicted wounds and other injuries in small dogs and cats fairly often. If your pet ever was attacked by some unknown animal or mysteriously disappeared after being let out at night, one of our local coyotes may have been the culprit. Coyotes also can carry various diseases, including rabies. ■

The Movie "Flipped"

- by Neal Foster

Construction of a set (house) on the edge of the Thurston Prairie began on June 10. Actual filming by Castle Rock Pictures began July 13 and



House built for filming "Flipped"

was completed by August 14. Demolition of the set began August 16.

In consideration of this temporary use of the Nature Center Prairie for filming, Castle Rock Pictures gave the Thurston Nature Center (TNC) Committee \$10,000 dollars. Of this amount, one third has been deposited in the Thurston PTO's general fund, and the remaining two thirds (plus additional gifts from private donors to the Friends of the Thurston Nature Center [501(c)(3)]) has been deposited in the PTO's TNCC fund and will go towards strategic dredging of Thurston Pond if and when sufficient additional funds can be raised.

For more about Friends of Thurston Nature Center, see www.thurstonnaturecenter.org/news.htm ■

New OHMHA Board Members!

A warm welcome to our two new OHMHA board members, Monica Hanna and Phil Savage. Here's a quick intro from each of them:

Monica Hanna: My husband, Bill, and I have lived in Ann Arbor since 1991, and on Ardenne for 10 of those years. We have 4 daughters, 2 of whom went to Thurston for all 5 years, and one whom was there for 5th grade. All 4 have been at Clague. We enjoy continually working on our house, seeing Jack Cederquist run by, and seeing all of the kids having fun in the neighborhood. I hope to be able to add something good to the OHMHA board.

Phil Savage: My wife Elaine and I have lived on Bluett for 23 years. We moved into the neighborhood upon our arrival in Ann Arbor for my job with U-M. We have been very happy living in this neighborhood and raising our children here. We especially appreciate the sense of community that is present here. Our three children have attended Thurston and Clague, and then either Huron or Community High Schools. We have always appreciated the work that the OHMHA board does on behalf of our community, so I welcomed the opportunity to join the board and give back to the neighborhood. ■

OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS

Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2282	President
Stuart Baggaley	3111 Cedarbrook	332-1874	Vice President/Neighborhood Watch
Henry Brysk	3032 Cedarbrook	369-2986	
Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	Treasurer
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter (eisbruchs@aol.com)
Neal Foster	2115 Georgetown	663-0756	
Greg Jagst	2080 Yorktown	846-6332	Secretary
Monica Hanna	2163 Ardenne	622-8113	
Anne Karabakal	2405 Bunker Hill	669-2084	
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	
Phil Savage	3304 Bluett	994-6560	
Margie Weiss	2215 Yorktown	997-6541	

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

John Hieftje (Mayor)	1800 Traver	996-0493	jhieftje@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us
Tony Derezinski (Council Member, Ward 2)	1345 Glendaloch Cir.	995-2686	TDerezinski@a2gov.org
Stephen Rapundalo (Council Member, Ward 2)	3106 Bluett	476-0648	SRapundalo@ci.ann-arbor.mi.us

Please sign up for the neighborhood email list! Simply email wjcarman@umich.edu

OHMHA

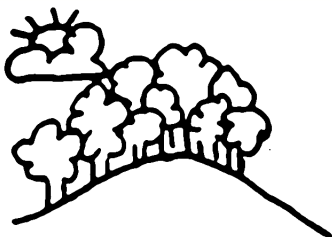
3111 Cedarbrook
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
www.ohmha.org

Join us at upcoming board
meetings:

Sept. 8 and Nov. 10, 2009

Thurston School Library

7:30 pm



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