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Letters



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Clean Up, Green Up Saturday in Hanson

BY TRACY SEELYE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 06, 2011 02:55 PM

Know any places in Hanson that could use a good cleanup in conjunction with April's observances of Earth Day? Does your neighborhood need a good spring spruce up?

The organizers of the second annual Clean Up, Green Up effort would love to see you at Town Hall at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 9 to pitch in from 9-11 a.m.— or at least out sprucing up in your area.

"We're meeting up at Town Hall and then we're sending people off in different directions to clean up areas," said organizer Sue Gaspar. "We've already heard from a few people through the Web site that they will be cleaning up their own neighborhoods, which is nice."

For example, the Phillips and Holmes streets residents have organized a group to clean that area of town, Gaspar said.

"We'd just love the community to help us out, whether they clean their own neighborhood, in front of their house, an empty field near them," she said.

The Boy Scouts and the Hanson Middle School Builders Club are sending some members, the CEAC group from Whitman-Hanson Regional High School are also trying to rally a few people to come, as well.

Hanson Ace Hardware is donating the trash bags. The Hanson Police Department helps out by assigning extra drive-bys to the areas where the group will clean to ensure their safety along busy roads. The DPW will pick up the bags of trash. The group will work to separate recyclables from what is picked up, an effort begun last year by Jim Armstrong, a former selectman who volunteered with the Boy Scouts.

After the cleanup is done, pizza and soda, donated by Josh Culter and Mike's Pizza will be available to satisfy whetted appetites.

"We figure 45-50 people showed up last year, so we hope — between Scouts and youth groups and their chaperones — for about the same," Gaspar said.

The idea for last year's inaugural effort was a natural for this outdoor enthusiast.

"I'm a biker, a runner, a walker," she said. "I got sick and tired of looking at the trash on the street."

Gaspar then approached Green Hanson and asked if a cleanup effort was something that the organization did. It took about a year to properly plan. April's Earth Day observances were a natural time of year for such an effort, she reasoned. But there is also seasonal logic at work.

"Now's a good time because there's not a lot of new growth," she said. "If you wait for the fall you can't see the trash — which



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is nice – but if you want to pick it up, you really have to pick it up before the new growth covers it up.”

An added target for cleanup efforts this spring is all the tree debris knocked to the ground during the hard winter.

Last year a story in the Express also prompted some residents to pitch in and organizers are hoping to spur similar interest this weekend.

To volunteer, e-mail Green Hanson at greenhanson@gmail.com – show up at Town Hall by 9 a.m. Saturday, or even find an area you feel needs a cleanup and grab a rake!

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- Girls soccer let leads slip away in first two games of season
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- Melissa Triantafillou, 42
- Karen A. Shionis, 53
- John M. Baxivonus, 82
- Marilyn Healy, 75
- Theo Edna Tyni, 93
- Lorraine M. Faxon, 85
- Elaine M. Foster, 62
- Irene F. Rogers, 62

Comments

#3 national grid 2011-04-09 07:11 -1
 Hmm, where is Hanson GREEN when National Grid is unleashing their jihad on trees. Rather quickly, our beautiful little town, with it country roads, is being turned into Rt 18 in Weymouth.

SIDEWALKS in the 10 year plan? We can't afford them. Since National Grid is cutting down healthy trees on both sides of the road, maybe the TOWN FATHERS got them to do their dirty work.

They'll just take you land people...Like they did to the guy across from the Ski Shop.

In their eyes, the end justifies the means!!!

#2 Joan Webber & Don 2011-04-08 16:54 +2
 This is just one of the admirable things that Sue Gaspar does. She is an energetic and positive energy that gets things done. Congratulations Sue on another selfless and inspiring event. All the best, Joan & Don

#1 Douglas J Miannay 2011-04-08 14:13 +2
 That's my OLDER sister! Excellent initiative, sis! If I weren't 1000 miles away, I'd join the fun. Hope the cleanup is extensive.

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