

Youth News

May 2009—August 2009 edition

We need your help...

Help us make this newsletter possible. If you know of any special youth-related events being held throughout the area in upcoming months, or would like to submit your own items for publication in the next newsletter, please let us know.

Contact:

Christa Myers, writer:
cmyers@co.hocking.oh.us

Rev. Mark Daniels, writer:
markluth@aol.com

Gretchen Gregory, editor and
newsletter design:
ggregory@logandaily.com

Inside this edition:

Bishop Educational Gardens.....	2
Staying in Shape.....	3
The Bowen House.....	4
HCCC.....	5
Get Outside.....	7
When I was fifteen.....	3, 7 & 8
Continuing Education.....	8
Interview with Naturalist.....	9
Interview with Student.....	9



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www.ffaao.org



Photo by Rebecca Miller

By GRETCHEN GREGORY

The cold days are over, and summer is almost here, which means spending time outside with friends, going to the park, and helping parents around the house with those dreaded spring cleaning projects. If you have parents like mine, spending a Saturday morning cleaning was never fun, but always needed, especially if I wanted to go out with friends later that night. Well, that and having good grades.

One of the advantages to living in the Hocking Hills is the vast array of things to do. While an adult is often needed to go canoeing or horseback riding, other places like hiking trails and nature preserves are open to everyone, as long as you have transportation to get there.

If you live in the Hocking Hills, there's no excuse not to get outside and enjoy some fresh air.

There are lots of things to do this summer; you just need to know where to look.

One of the best places to start is this newsletter, where we try to bring you events that happen throughout the community. Your next stop should be the Hocking Hills Tourism website (www.1800hocking.com), which features a lot of free activities. You can even sign up to receive weekly events in your inbox by sending an email to kraymore@1800hocking.com.

If you don't have online access at your home or local library, then glance through your local newspaper. If your parents don't have a subscription, then encourage them to do so. Where else can you get local news and events going on in Hocking County every day? (That's my only plug for *The Logan Daily*. I love my job.)

Express your creativity in your search, and you can fill your days with lots of positive things to do this summer.

Bishop Educational Gardens

Home of Lilyfest

13200 Little Cola Road, Rockbridge

Page 2

Who we are

Reclaiming Futures Hocking County is taking a new approach to help teenagers stop the vicious cycle of drugs, alcohol and crime, and a \$1.3 million dollar grant from the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Reclaiming Futures, and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is helping them do just that.

The supplemental treatment grant, payable in increments each year for three years, will be used to design effective, community-wide solutions to substance abuse problems among adolescents.

According to Christa Myers, program coordinator for the Hocking County Juvenile Drug Court and Reclaiming Futures Hocking County, the local initiative will combine many community resources, including schools, churches, hospitals, and anyone interested in helping young people in the community.

The program, which originated at Portland State University in Portland, Ore., has seen positive results in 10 sites throughout the country. Other than Logan, the only other city in Ohio to receive help from Reclaiming Futures National Program Office is Dayton.

The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation has dedicated \$21 million to the national program.

Ever been to the annual Lilyfest event held each July outside of Rockbridge? Although great, the gardens are more than just a venue for an arts and entertainment festival. They are also home to several outdoor programs throughout the year, each which offer lessons to younger generations about butterflies, birds, flowers and living a more sustainable life.

June 4

Beginning at 6 p.m., visitors can learn tips for growing their own vegetables, making a beautiful center piece or bouquet, and how to control non-native species which can take over your garden or land.

Bring your own favorite lawn chair or blanket and own mug or cup for your beverage to help cut down on waste.

If you can't find someone to go with you, bring yourself! **Register by May 29** by calling 385-3016.

Bishop Educational Gardens is located at 13200 Little Cola Road, Rockbridge.

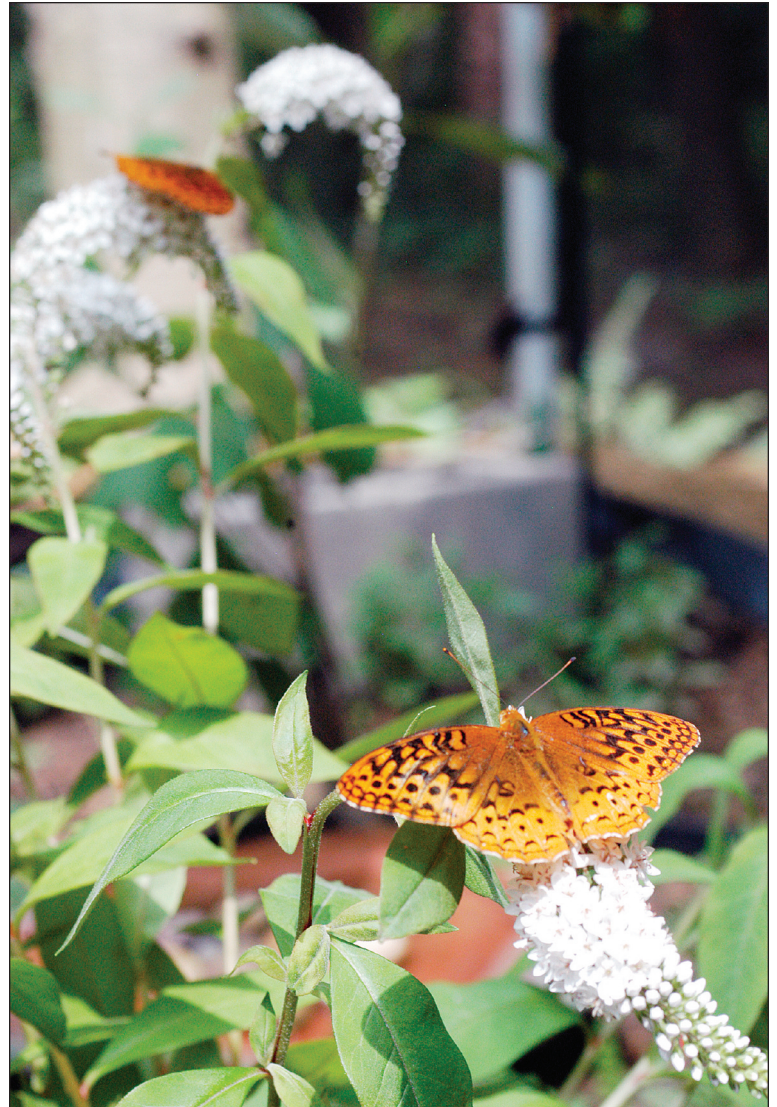


Photo by Gretchen Gregory

July 10, 11, 12

Lilyfest is a free local festival which takes place over three days at Bishop Educational Gardens near Rockbridge.

If interested in adopting a flower bed, volunteering at the festival, or want to learn more about the music and events, visit www.lilyfest.com.

The Bowen House

196 North Market Street, Logan

Page 4



Courtesy of www.bowenhouse.org

“Where culture comes alive”

May

Monthly art exhibit: Feats of Clay, featuring clay works of local artists.

May 21: Literary evening, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

May 23: First meeting of the local Song Writers Group, 1 p.m.

May 25: Memorial Day events, 11 to 3 p.m.

June

Monthly art exhibit: Vinton County Quilts, featuring various quilts by local quilt makers, including one which aided people to freedom in the Underground Railroad.

June 6: Concert, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

June 11: Literary Evening, 6:30 to 8:39 p.m., Quilts and the Underground Railroad.

June 13: Washboard Quilt Show Opening, 6 to 8:30 p.m.; with live music.

June 19: Live music, coinciding with the Washboard Festival.

June 20: Live music, coinciding with the Washboard Festival.

June 27: Second meeting of the local Song Writers Group, 1 p.m.

July

Monthly art exhibit: Painter’s Extravaganza

July 6 to 10: Children’s summer arts experience, kindergarten to first grade; bring your younger sib-

ling; topic is American Indians. Call 385-0344 for time.

July 11: Painter’s extravaganza grand opening, 6 to 8:30 p.m.; with live music.

July 13 to 17: Children’s summer arts experience, second to fifth grade; bring your younger sibling; topic is American Indians. Call 385-0344 for time.

July 16: Literary evening, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.; with live music.

July 20 to 24: Children’s summer arts experience, sixth to tenth grade; topic is American Indians. Call 385-0344 for time.

July 25: Song writers group, 1 p.m.

July 25: Concert series, 7 to 9:30 p.m.

August

Monthly exhibit: Art of the Hocking Hills

August 1: Live Music, 6 to 8:30 p.m.

August 20: Literary evening, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

August 22: Song writers group, 1 p.m.

Schedule an event

Are you interested in learning about photography? Do you have a group of friends who want to learn about music, take a watercolor class, or learn how to plant flowers or vegetables? If so, call Marcia at 385-0344 with your idea for a class or workshop, and she’ll try and set it up for you. You can also email her at bowenhouse@hocking.net.

Visit them online at www.bowenhouse.org.

Programming funded in part by Bowen House members, the Logan-Hocking County District Library, the Logan-Holl Foundation, and the Ohio Arts Council.

The Bowen House is open Tuesday-Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m., except for the first Saturday of each month when it is open from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m., in conjunction with Late Night Logan activities.

If you like music... Think HCCC

Page 5

By **CHRISTA MYERS**

*Project coordinator
Reclaiming Futures
Juvenile Drug Court*

"Totally awesome."

"A most joyous experience."

"Really amazing."

"New friends."

These are the responses that I received from youth and the director to describe the chorus. I had the opportunity to pose questions to two tenth-grade members of the senior chorus, Cathy and Christy Burcham, and to the director, Judie Henniger.

Cathy and Christy have been with the chorus about eight years, and Henniger has enjoyed over 25 years working with children and youth. Hocking County Children's Chorus (HCCC) has certainly grown over the years and now consists of two groups: junior chorus (second and third grade children) and senior chorus (fourth to tenth grade youth). While the junior chorus focuses on pitch matching, using their head voices, blending their voices, and basic vocal training, the senior chorus members are given more difficult music, expected to take lead roles in the musicals, and must attend a larger number of rehearsals.

Cathy and Christy both shared that they are in-

involved in other musical activities beyond HCCC including high school band, musical, and choir. They also enjoy playing softball, soccer and being members of their church youth group.

While they are certainly involved in many extra-curricular activities, they have enjoyed their participation with the choir, especially the musicals, performances, and trips to locations like Washington DC, Cincinnati, and Canada.

Some of Christy's favorite memories include "the Southeastern Ohio Festival, the Washboard Festival, Niagara Falls Festival, going to sing with other kids you don't know and traveling all the time," she said.

When asked about the advantages and disadvantages of being some of the oldest members of HCCC, Cathy replied, "you get to help the younger members if they aren't doing something right."

Christy added, "the little ones in junior chorus are so cute and fun to work with."

Henniger shared that "the older youth bring much to the younger ones - they



submitted photo

The Hocking County Children's Chorus sings in front of Lincoln Memorial during a recent tour of Washington D.C. for the National Festival of the States. The group, under the direction of Judie Henniger (center), also sang at the Fairfax Veterans Retirement Center and the Crypt of the Basilica.

have developed stage presence and confidence which comes with all the performing they do. They also bring a depth to the sound.

Some things I like to do is give them solos or small group solos." A favorite story of Henniger's involves one of her HCCC graduates who, as a college student, studied in Germany. "The host parents that she lived with took her to their grandmother's house and while visiting asked her to sing for

them. She recalled a Bach song that we had learned in German and sang it for them. Imagine the thrill that she brought to that grandmother knowing that this girl from a small town in Ohio had learned their language. That is what music does, it brings the world together and I am forever grateful that I have been able to participate in this endeavor in some small way," she explained.

To become a member of HCCC, please contact Judie (385-4781) or Marcia Jeffrey (385-7746). HCCC will be accepting new members in late August. You can catch the HCCC's final performance at our very own Washboard Festival on June 19, 2009.

Did you know?

At a recent adolescent substance abuse training I attended, the speaker mentioned the fact that while music stimulates both the auditory cortex plus 18 or more other sites in the brain for the adult human, this number increases to 30 or more sites in a youth's brain. Obviously music is very important for children and youth!