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Greetings, Friends!

O hio is known for having four distinct seasons, but with the unpredictable weather we have recently experienced it sometimes feels like all four seasons are happening in the same week. Nevertheless, our Friends members, dedicated gardeners and volunteers are enthusiastically embracing the spring season. Plans are underway for a robust lineup of events sponsored by Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens to celebrate the onset of summer.

Looking forward to the return of our annual Plant Sales this year, our Plant Sale Committee chaired by Deb Metzger, has scheduled four separate plant sales at the Gardens. Master Gardeners will be on hand to share their expertise and love of gardening which will both guide and inspire even a novice gardener. In addition, this year’s Horticulture educational events and programs supported through the John and Doris Andrews Memorial Education Endowment have been designed to share a direct connection to the plants being featured at these events and some hands-on experiences with support of master gardeners.

As we look forward to the outdoor activities at the Gardens, I am reminded of a quote from Robin Williams: “Spring is nature’s way of saying ‘Let’s party!’”

We are happy to announce the return of our monthly series of ‘On the Terrace at 5’ events, beginning May 22 from 5 to 7:30 p.m. featuring live jazz, wine and refreshments on the Garden Cafe Terrace. Come and spend the evening on the patio in a beautiful setting overlooking Lake Glacier and try out the new patio furniture purchased through an allocation from Friends made possible through the D. D. and Velma Davis Education and Visitor Center Permanent Endowment.

Don’t forget to mark your calendars for this year’s Annual Garden Party on July 26, 2024. The chairperson for this event, Jeanne Simeone, has already selected a captivating theme, “A night in Italy”. This is one summer event you will not want to miss!

Whether you are looking for a quiet space to relax and enjoy the beauty of Fellows Riverside Gardens or somewhere to join with friends and fellow garden-lovers to share in special events of the season, we hope you come often to experience all the Gardens have to offer.

The Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens

Newsletter Editorial Team: Jim Houck, Denise Stewart, Janet Yaniglos, Mary Ann Navarro, Lisa Frederick and Kathleen Krantz

Cover and inside photos: Scott Lanz and Lisa Frederick

Friends Office: Contact Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens : info@friendsoffellows.org



To become a member of Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens, visit www.friendsoffellows.org.

FRIENDS OF FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS

Since 1988, the Friends have been dedicated to the promotion, improvement and preservation of Fellows Riverside Gardens, a free public garden, through advocacy and fundraising. As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, the Friends are independent of the Gardens and Mill Creek MetroParks, yet work in steady collaboration with them to sponsor events and programs and to fund large-scale garden projects.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS VOTING MEMBERS

President: Denise Stewart
Vice President: Jim Houck
Treasurer: Eric Clark

VOTING MEMBERS

Amanda Banner
Nicholas DuBos
Marcia Haire Ellis
Lisa Frederick
Thomas Hull
Elizabeth Johnson
Deb Metzger
Susan Moorer
Joan Motheral
Mary Ann Navarro
Gene Pusateri
Patrick Russo
David Sabine
Lori Shell-Simmons
Jeanne Simeone

MILL CREEK METROPARKS STAFF AT FELLOWS RIVERSIDE GARDENS

Visitor Services Manager: Jessica Jablonski
Maintenance: Kathy Monteleone
Maintenance: Kevin Wegendt
Receptionist: Lori Rogers
Receptionist: Emily Protain
Garden Supervisor: Joe Tucker
Gardener: Marcy Dubec
Garden Maintenance: Andy Russell
Garden Maintenance: Luke Manary
Garden Maintenance: Jesusita Luther
Garden Maintenananc: Skip Scisinger

Shop in the Gardens Staff

Manager, Buyer/Merchandising: Jeanne Simeone
Shop Assistant: Susan Wojtowicz
Shop Assistant: Jennifer Aronson
Shop Assistant: Cheryl McIntyre
Shop Assistant: Connie Migliozi

Friends Staff

Kathleen Krantz, Operations Manager
To get in touch with Friends: email us at info@friendsoffellows.org

Jennifer Aronson’s Active Retirement Involves Many Friends Activities *by Mary Ann Navarro*



Jennifer Aronson spent a lot of time in Mill Creek Park as a child, especially Idora Park, the Flats, Cinderella Bridge and anywhere by the water. In 2015, she began volunteering in the Davis Center gift shop and has loved every moment since.

“It gave me the opportunity to meet people from all walks of life and share with them our beautiful park and gardens,” she shares. “I don’t think I realized as a child what a treasure the Gardens were like I do now.”

As a Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens member, she treasures taking part in member night special sales, selling memberships, attending the Garden Party each summer, and traveling on Friends bus trips.

In May 2021, she joined the shop’s staff and adores working with Jeanne Simeone and the excellent team. In this role, she enjoys talking with people, building connections, and encouraging guests to explore more of our Youngstown treasure, Mill Creek Park.

She was recently asked to join the committee that plans day trips and 2-3 day journeys.

“It is so special to share my travel experience knowledge and assist in planning our trips to include new garden places and cities with fun activities.”

Jennifer was born and raised in Poland. She graduated from Poland High School and Youngstown State University. She lived in Columbus for 27 years before returning to her hometown. She has three sons, two living in Columbus and one deceased.

She loved her 30-year career in pharmacy for the wonderful people and experiences, but has certainly been loving retirement since 2019. She enjoys gardening, especially growing fresh herbs to use in her cooking, and spending time with her dog. Entertaining in her home, especially on warm summer nights, adds to her love of the Poland area. She is passionate about reading, listening to music, and travel.

Her recent travel has focused on cruises to see many places and meeting great people along the way. She has several more trips planned in the next couple of years, including to the Caribbean, Alaska and Europe. One of her dream trips is to travel the USA on Route 66, preferably in a restored 1964 Mustang convertible.

Jennifer hopes to see you either in the Shop or at one of the many activities in and around Fellows Riverside Gardens.



GARDEN SPOTLIGHT:

Spring has Sprung Early This Year:

A Blossoming Tale from Fellows Riverside Gardens By Lisa Frederick

The Gardens have suddenly burst with color and new life early this spring. The onset of warmer temperatures and the abundance of rain have been a delightful surprise for the Gardens' staff.

The meticulously tended flower beds now boast an array of vibrant blooms, ranging from delicate pastels to bold primaries. The fragrance of blooming flowers fills the air, creating an enchanting atmosphere for visitors as they leisurely stroll through the Gardens.

Joe Tucker, the Operations Supervisor for Fellows of Riverside Gardens, notes with excitement that this year's blooms have arrived approximately two weeks earlier than usual, a testament to the favorable weather conditions. Joe and Marcy Dubec, the head gardener, are eagerly overseeing various new plantings and projects that have been in progress since December of 2023, anticipating an even more spectacular display of colors and textures as the season progresses.

Amazing color awaits

More than 30,000 annuals, carefully nurtured from seed, are thriving in the greenhouses, their tender shoots promising a spectacular floral display in the coming weeks. The dedicated Garden staff eagerly anticipates the opportunity to transplant these seedlings into the garden beds before June arrives, ensuring that visitors will be greeted by a variety of colors as they explore the grounds.

In addition to the annuals, four new trees have been recently planted throughout the Gardens, strategically positioned to enhance the beauty of their surroundings. An Okame Cherry and a Kwanzan Cherry, resplendent in full bloom, greet visitors near the entrance from the parking lot near the Long Mall, their delicate blossoms attracting admirers with their captivating beauty. A Weeping RedBud Cherry graces the hillside by the North Terrace, its graceful branches swaying gently in the breeze, while a majestic Corkscrew Willow provides welcome shade in the Outdoor Gallery, inviting visitors to linger and admire the serene beauty of their surroundings.

Transformed rose beds

The three original rose beds that flank the northeast portion around the Gazebo have undergone a stunning transformation, now adorned with seventy-five different

varieties of prized David Austin English Garden Shrub Roses. These exquisite roses, meticulously selected for their fragrance and beauty, promise a breathtaking display of color and fragrance in the coming weeks. Shades of red, pink, white and yellow petals will soon burst forth, creating a captivating tapestry of hues that will delight visitors.

As summer approaches, plans are underway to replace the aging wooden planter boxes that adorn the rim inside the Gazebo, ensuring that this beloved focal point remains as inviting as ever. These new planters will be filled with an assortment of annuals, adding an extra layer of color and vitality to this charming space.

**Reimagined landscape beds**

Alex Miller, the new Mill Creek MetroParks planner, has been hard at work reimagining the landscape beds that adorn the parking lots throughout the Gardens. With a keen eye for design and a passion for horticulture, Alex is committed to creating visually stunning displays that will enhance the Garden's natural beauty. Each of the 10 landscape beds is being meticulously curated to

feature a diverse selection of perennials, carefully chosen to showcase a variety of colors, textures, and bloom times.

Visitors can look forward to a kaleidoscope of blooms, from early spring bulbs to late summer perennials, ensuring that there will always be something new and beautiful to discover with each visit. Scheduled for completion in mid-May, these revitalized landscape beds will serve as a vibrant welcome for Gardens visitors, setting the stage for memorable outdoor experiences.

Peaceful labyrinth garden

Christina's Labyrinth Garden, nestled east of the Kidston Pavilion, is a hidden gem waiting to be discovered by visitors. This tranquil oasis is currently in full bloom, its pathways lined with newly planted Rose Pink Dianthus, replacing the old Mondo Grass. These delicate bright pink flowers add a touch of whimsy and charm to the labyrinth, their sweet fragrance filling the air as visitors wander through the winding paths. Designed to provide a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of daily life, Christina's Labyrinth Garden invites visitors to slow down, take a deep breath, and immerse themselves in the beauty of nature.

**A sensory delight – fragrance garden**

Lastly, the Gardens crew is buzzing with excitement over the upcoming complete renovation of the Fragrance garden, situated northeast of the Rose Garden. Slated for completion sometime in summer 2024. Currently, the area is cordoned off as the crew rests the cobblestones, laying the groundwork for the rejuvenated and enchanting space.

The new design for the Fragrance Garden promises to be a sensory delight, featuring a carefully curated selection of

fragrant, shade tolerant plants. Magnolias, Paris Japonica, Brunnera, Goats Beard, Heachera, Lenten Rose, Hardy Gardenia and Viburnum are some of the plants that will be showcased for their intoxicating scents.

As visitors explore the winding pathway and secluded nook of the Fragrance Garden, they will be enveloped in a symphony of delightful aromas, transporting them to a world of tranquility and serenity.

**On the Terrace at 5!
Wines Up for 2024** By Lisa Frederick

As the new 2024 season of "On the Terrace at 5!" begins, the dates are all set for the summer season. On Wednesday, May 22nd we will kick off the season with Danny Shapira providing his smooth jazz musical entertainment. The other three dates will be: 6/20, 7/17, and 8/21. Please note that this event is the third Weds during the summer months with the exception of 6/20 which is a Thursday. The Visitor Center is closed Wednesday 6/19 in recognition of Juneteenth.

Thanks to the disbursement of \$105,043 from the Davis Endowment, new patio furniture and twelve shade canopies have been purchased, installed and now grace the Cafe Terrace at the Davis Center. Additionally, eleven patio heaters are strategically arranged around the patio to provide heat on chilly evenings allowing us to continue the season into the fall. We also are working with Kravitz Deli to select a special menu for the evening events.

The events will be held from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and door will open at 4:45 p.m. The price for members will be \$13.00



per person and non-members \$18.00 per person and includes two glasses of wine.

Come and join us for an enchanting evening filled with the perfect blend of great music, gentle summer breezes, and the tantalizing flavors of savory wines. Nestled amidst the picturesque beauty of Lake Glacier and the lush backdrop of the Gardens, the Terrace offers a captivating setting for unforgettable moments with friends.

Follow us on Facebook to keep up to date on which musicians will be featured for the rest of our summer events.

Shop in the Gardens Summer Décor and Sales

By Kathleen Krantz

Get ready to decorate your table for summer parties with family and friends by visiting the Shop in the Gardens. Our Buyer and Shop Manager Jeanne Simeone has selected a large variety of plates, platters, bowls and other serving pieces along with glassware, napkins and other decorative items to enhance your table. We have items to decorate your garden and outdoor deck, as well as a selection of unique cook books and food items.

We also have a large selection of unique gifts for bridal showers and weddings.

To help you stay in budget, the Shop is offering some special promotions now through Labor Day.

Wall Art Wednesday: every Wednesday all our wall art items will be 10% off – if you are a Friends member this is in addition to your normal 10% discount.

Friday with Friends: Friends members can choose ONE item of their choice for 20% off (some exclusions apply)

Stonewall Saturdays: all Stonewall food items are 20% off on Saturdays.

We look forward to seeing you at Shop in the Gardens open Tuesday through Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays Noon to 5 p.m. The Visitor Center is closed on Mondays.

If you are not a Friends Member or want to renew your membership, visit the Shop or go online at friendsoffellow.org/membership.



Plant Sale Celebrates Spring

By Janet Yaniglos

Friends' 2-day Spring Plant Sale, held on Mother's Day weekend, was a colorful success! This year, plants were displayed along the new Margaret Cushwa Education Building, which sits at the northern edge of Fellows Riverside Gardens parking lot and is surrounded by green space that will eventually hold six children's gardens. The Friends organization has been a major donor to the Gardens over the past few years from proceeds from this sale.

Besides being able to experience up-close the striking design of the outdoors-yet-indoors classroom space, shoppers found a wide selection of herbs, annuals and perennials to whet their spring-planting appetites. Vegetables and sunflowers grown by volunteers at the Gardens' greenhouse – always sale

favorites – were plentiful. So was advice on growing the many varieties of flowers and vegetables offered.

Profits from this year's sale will support ongoing projects around the Gardens. Friends is also planning Autumn Plant Sales featuring mums and, a few weeks later, bulbs – more details to come.

Special thanks to Chair Deb Metzger and to those volunteers who made the sale possible:

Pam Baytos, Monica Bokesch, Janice Coombs, Julie Downie, Sallie Dutton, Cynthia Foust, Carol Hart, Angie Iaconis, Kathleen Krantz, Sallie Lepore, Monica Parkhurst, Nancy Phillipson, Patty Rush, Annie Stertzbach, Debbie Walker, Janet Yaniglos, Joyce Yaslik and Mary Yee

And thanks to Joe Tucker and the Gardens staff, helpful in so many ways.



Frederick, Johnson, Motheral and Shells-Simmons Joins Friends Board

Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens added four new board members at recent meetings. Please join us in welcoming them.



Lisa Frederick

Lisa is a retired Visual Art teacher with 36+ years of dedicated service and is a lifelong Mahoning Valley resident. Throughout her retirement, she remains actively engaged in a multitude of artistic, cultural, philanthropic, educational and athletic organizations, steadfast in her commitment to community enrichment.

As a photographer, her work has been exhibited regionally, nationally and internationally. Currently, she teaches adult and children's art classes at the Butler Institute of American Art and she is the Coordinator for the Butler Celebrates Young Artists Exhibition.

She is excited to have the opportunity to serve on the Board of Friends because she loves the Park, spends time in it daily, and wants to see it flourish. In her spare time, she loves spending time with family and friends, riding her bike, taking photographs, painting, hiking and sharing knowledge.



Elizabeth Johnson

Liz is a YSU post-graduate and a long-time resident of the Mahoning Valley. She has served not-for-profit health care systems in Northeast Ohio and Cincinnati as a Chief Compliance and Risk Executive.

Liz is an avid gardener and a long-time supporter of the Gardens, enjoying the beauty, events and facilities through the years with

friends and family. She looks forward to serving on the Board in support of the Gardens.



Joan Motheral

Joan has lived in the Youngstown area throughout her life. Her father designed and built her childhood home in the Idora Park district. She attended the Youngstown City Schools and enjoyed all areas of Mill Creek Park as a Girl Scout and in the years beyond. After attending Ohio University where she earned Bachelor and Graduate degrees in Education, she returned to the Youngstown City Schools to

teach learning disabilities and primary education mainly as a kindergarten teacher for 35 years.

Joan was married in Youngstown to her college sweetheart,

Thomas, where they raised their two sons in their "forever" home in the Forest Glen area. Her family frequented and enjoyed all areas of Mill Creek Park especially the walking trails around Newport Lake and Fellows Gardens.

During her career and in retirement Joan has served as a member of The Youngstown Symphony Society, The Junior League, Butler Art, Catholic Collegiate, Friends of Fellows Gardens and The Glen Gardeners. For several years, she has served on the Dean's Circle of Engagement in The Patton College of Education at Ohio University.

Being a part of the Board of Friends of Fellows Gardens is an honor for Motheral and an opportunity to work with a group of individuals who strive to support and improve Fellows Gardens and Mill Creek Park.



Lori Shells-Simmons

Lori was born in Youngstown to Rev. Lawrence and Artesia Shells. One of four daughters, she was raised in the church her father founded, Christian Bible Baptist Church in Youngstown. After graduating from Cardinal Mooney High School in 1981, she earned Bachelor's, Master's and a Juris Doctorate degree from The University of Akron.

She's practiced in the Mahoning County Prosecutor's Office, the Court of Common Pleas and Children's Services, and she's currently the City of Youngstown's Law Director.

Atty. Shells Simmons is also avidly involved in the community, serving on boards with YSU's IRB (Institutional Review Board), Mahoning County Bar Association, The Ohio State Bar Association, The National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, The National Bar Association, The National Black Prosecutor's Association, The Ohio Prosecutor's Association and the National District Attorney's Association.

Also active in her church, New Bethel Baptist Church in Youngstown, she is a Deaconess, Sunday School teacher, Assistant Director for the church's Vacation Bible School, and board member of NBC Visions.

A wife to Dwayne Simmons and proud parent of a 23-year-old daughter, Geordyn and 29-year-old son, George, Atty. Shells Simmons strives to keep God first in her life while she endeavors to dispense justice and reunify families.

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following for their donations and or memorials the past three months to support Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens:

In Memory of Mary Farragher York:

Inge Farragher
Suzanne Fleming

A Journey to Tuscany Awaits 2024 Garden Party Guests *By Kathleen Krantz*

We are so proud to continue the legacy of an event that allows our community of passionate bright-minded business leaders and individuals to come together and celebrate the beauty and wonder of Fellows Riverside Gardens.

The Friends Summer Garden Party is always an anticipated event in the Mahoning Valley. For 32 years, it has remained a major fundraiser for the Friends organization, striking the right balance of a formal occasion with a casual garden vibe.

Cocktails along the garden paths

Always held the last Friday evening of July, this year's Garden Party is Friday July 26. The theme is "A Night in Italy." Come enjoy an exceptional evening as nothing matches the sweep of colors of Fellows Riverside Gardens under the summer sky at twilight. Guests mingle in the rose garden grass walkways sampling appetizers and the signature welcome drink or top shelf cocktails, wine and beer from the cash bar and stroll the garden paths.



This year we will also have a wine tasting during the cocktail hour on the Kidston Pavilion featuring wines from the reserve

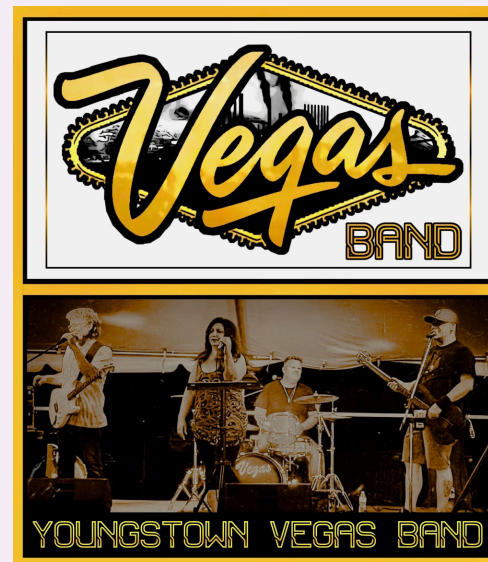
collection of L'uva Bella Winery and hosted by CEO Marisa Sergi and her husband Evan Schumann, President. The cash bar will also feature a selection of craft beers from Brew Kettle, also sponsored by L'uva Bella. Mid evening, guests will sit down to elegant tables outdoors for a grand dinner by Kravitz Inspired Catering.

Italian tenor to perform



After dinner there will be an hour-long performance by Italian-American singer Moreno Fruzetti, a native of Pisa located in the region of Tuscany, Italy. You will be sure to enjoy his powerful tenor sound and captivating onstage presence with a variety of operatic arias, pop music and American classics.

After the performance the "Friends of Fellows Youngstown Cookie Table" will be open for dessert along with the opportunity to dance under the stars with the rhythm and music of the Vegas Band.



Chair of this year's Garden Party is Jeanne Simeone, who is also the Shop in the Gardens Manager and buyer. Other committee members include Jennifer Aronson, Amanda Banner, Sue Berny, Kathleen Krantz, Talva Maslach, Connie Migglozi, Deb Metzger, Joan Motheral, Charlene Reed and Carole Sankovich.

Buy your tickets now

For this event to be a success we need your support. So, give your friends, family and colleagues a ring and make plans to join us. Various levels of sponsorship are available along with reserved table for six or individual tickets. Go to friendsoffellows.org/events for more details on pricing. Purchase your tickets online or visit the Shop in the Gardens.

Whether you are a sponsor or an individual your contribution is welcome and needed. We offer a magical journey "to Tuscany" in return under the stars.

Succulents, Pumpkins and Monticello Adorn Horticulture Committee Activities *By Lisa Frederick*

The Horticulture Committee has some very exciting programs and prestigious guest speakers lined up for 2024. Deb Metzger, the Friends of Fellows Riverside Gardens Chair of Horticulture, along with Monica Parkhurst and Carol Ann Knock worked collaboratively to set up the star-studded events. Both members and nonmembers can look forward to engaging talks, informative workshops, and inspiring demonstrations throughout the year.

Please join us at one or more of the following events:

SUCCULENT SAFARI, Exploring the Tropical and Frost Resilient Beauties

June 26 at 5 p.m.

Rossi Auditorium - DD & Velma Davis Education Center

Talk Hosted by Master Gardener and Succulent Expert Carol Ann Knock and Crissy Crosby.

Succulents will be available for sale at the lecture.

Registration required. More details to follow.

PUMPKIN PALOOZA

Sept. 28 at 11:00 a.m. (Adults) and 1:30 p.m. (Child + Adult)

Margaret Cushwa Outdoor Education Center

Hosted by Joyce Hamilton

Decorate pumpkins with live plants, moss, dried flowers, and fall decorations.

Registration required. Fee. More details to follow.

A RICH SPOT OF EARTH - THOMAS JEFFERSON'S REVOLUTIONARY GARDEN AT MONTICELLO

Oct. 6 at 2 p.m.

Rossi Auditorium - DD & Velma Davis Education Center

Talk Hosted by Peter Hatch, Director Emeritus of the Gardens and Grounds for the Thomas Jefferson Foundation.

The presentation will be centered around Hatch's 35-year career at Monticello that centers on restoration, maintenance, and interpretation of the 2400 acre national landmark. Signed copies of Hatch's book, "A Rich Spot of Earth: Thomas Jefferson's Revolutionary Garden at Monticello," will also be available for purchase.

Registration required. More details to follow.



Note: For more information on any of these events or classes or to register online please go to www.millcreekmetroparks.org or call 330-740-7116 and speak to a receptionist.

Please note – Registration is required for many of the classes in this listing – check the specific event for drop-in class availability.

EXHIBITS

Mill Creek MetroParks History
Ongoing | Tuesday – Sunday,
10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Location: Fellows Riverside Gardens

The Melnick Museum offers the visitor a peek into the unique history of Mill Creek MetroParks. Look back and discover how Volney Rogers garnered property and how that land has grown into Mill Creek MetroParks. Learn about the generosity of Elizabeth Fellows that was the beginning of Fellows Riverside Gardens. And take time to learn about the early days of McGuffey and his boyhood homestead located in Coitsville and now known as the McGuffey Wildlife Preserve.

A Walk Through the Park
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Weller Gallery
4/6–7/7 | Tuesday – Sunday,
10 a.m.- 5 p.m.

Mill Creek MetroParks presents A Walk Through the Park showcasing works from local artist Thomas Sewickley. The exhibit will feature works of Mill Creek MetroParks in a single, passing moment in time by using soft pastels on sandpaper using a heavy color palette to add energy and to manipulate temperature and contrast. Sewickley chooses sandpaper as his canvas as it allows multiple layers of pigment to be laid down creating a more painterly surface. This free exhibit will be displayed April 6, 2024, through July 7, 2024, within the Weller Gallery inside the Davis Center at Fellows Riverside Gardens, during normal operating hours of Tuesdays - Sundays, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., closed Mondays. The artist with a special meet and greet opportunity on June 1st from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. in the Weller Gallery.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Bug Day!
Ford Nature Center
7/20 | 9 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Join us for Bug Day 2024! There will be live bug exhibits, including “The BugMan”, Mark Berman, from Columbus, Ohio; Orin McMonigle, author of dozens of

books on insects; and Don Kovach, the local “Bee-Manager.” Other fun activities will include gentle and respectful bug-catching and release, bug crafts, a bug tattoo station, and a special Pop-Up Library visit from the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County. Make plans to attend and get your fill of some creepy-crawlies! Free parking available on site. Free. There will be snacks and a framed photo at our Bug-themed photo booth available for purchase (cash only). ***Check out the special BugMan Stage Show that takes place prior to Bug Day at Ford Nature Center. Limited to 30 participants. Register online at www.millcreekmetroparks.org

HEALTHY LIVING

Yoga Basics Course
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Radius Room
6/30 - 8/18 | Sundays
8 - 9:15 a.m.

Release physical and mental tensions while gradually improving strength & flexibility. Gentle but thorough classes guided by experienced instructor Karres Cvetkovich. register online or call 330.740.7116 ext. 230. \$96-8 week course.

Yoga in the Gardens
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Radius Room
Now through 12/19/24 |
Tuesdays & Thursdays,
9:30-11 a.m.

Elevate your yoga practice and discover a healthier you with Marina. All levels are welcome to join. Don't forget to bring your mat and a small blanket for ultimate comfort during the session. Invest in yourself for just \$15 per class. Let's find balance together! To secure your spot, register and pay online or call 330.740.7116 ext. 230. Walk-ins are also welcome! NO CLASSES ON JULY 4TH, NOVEMBER 28.

Outdoor Yoga Basics Course
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Radius Room
5/05 – 6/23 | Sundays,
9:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

Pre-registration required before May 26. Release physical and mental tensions

while gradually improving strength & flexibility. Gentle but thorough classes guided outdoors amid the splendor of the gardens by experienced instructor Karres Cvetkovich. register online or call 330.740.7116 ext 230. 8- week course \$96.00

Outdoor Yoga Basics Course
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Radius Program Classroom
7/2–8/20 | 6 - 7:15 p.m.

Release physical and mental tensions while gradually improving strength & flexibility. Gentle but thorough classes guided outdoors amid the splendor of the gardens by experienced instructor Karres Cvetkovich. register online or call 330.740.7116 ext230. 8- week course \$96.00

T'ai Chi Step One in the Gardens
Fellows Riverside Gardens: Radius Room
Now through 12/18 | Wednesdays,
Noon - 1 p.m.

Ease stress, improve health, and increase vitality. Join Marie Lew in warm-ups, breathing exercises, instruction of selected movements and narrated practice of a classic Chen T'ai Chi form. Register online or call 330.740.7116 ext.230. Walk-ins welcome. \$12/class

HORTICULTURE

Coffee With the Birds
Ford Nature Center
5/25 | 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Sit and enjoy a hot cup of coffee or hot chocolate and watch our feathered friends at our feeders in Nancy's Nook at the Ford Nature Center! An Educator will provide assistance in identifying birds as we look for spring birds who have recently returned from migration to the nature center. Coffee and hot chocolate provided. Registration required; space is limited. Ages 12+. Please register/pay by 5/23 online or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. \$5

Coffee With the Birds
Ford Nature Center
6/8 | 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.

Sit and enjoy a hot cup of coffee or

hot chocolate and watch our feathered friends at our feeders in Nancy's Nook at the Ford Nature Center! An Educator will provide assistance in identifying birds that frequently visit our nature center. Coffee and hot chocolate provided. Registration required; space is limited. Ages 12+. Please register/pay by 6/7 online or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. \$5

Birding the Sanctuary
Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary
6/22 | 8-9:30 a.m.
7/20 | 8-9:30 a.m.
Springfield Forest
6/29 | 8-9:30 a.m.
7/13 | 8-9:30 a.m.

Enjoy birding with Jeff Harvey on this early morning hike at Mill Creek Wildlife Sanctuary. Space limited. Boots required. Moderate. 1.25 mi. Register by 6/20, online or call 330.740.7107 x 129. Free

Park Wanderings
Fellows Riverside Gardens:
Outdoor Concourse
5/31 | 9 - 10 a.m.

Join Educator Miss Lynn for Park Wanderings, a leisurely stroll at different Park locations. This month let's wander at Fellows Riverside Gardens to enjoy the spring bulb display. Dress for the weather. Easy 0.5-mile walk. Register/pay by 5/29, online or call 330.740.7107 x 129. No walk-ins. No pets. \$5

Who's Hootin': Owl Prowl
Mill Creek Park: FNC Education Classroom A
6/8 | 7:30 - 9 p.m.

Join a park educator and an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist as we listen for who's hootin' in the woods and search for owls along the East Cohasset Trail! Be prepared for a moderate 2-3-mile hike. Dress for the weather. Please register online by 6/6 or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. No pets. No walk-ins. Free.

Wildflower Wander
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
6/15 | 10 - 11 a.m.

Explore native wildflowers and other

plants with park educators and an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist on this mid-morning leisurely hike around the Ford Nature Center and then to the Lily Pond. Meet at the Ford Nature Center (840 Old Furnace Rd). Registration required. Please register by 6/13 online or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. No walk-ins. No pets. Free.

June Mushroom Meander
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
6/18 | 6 - 7 p.m.

Join Park Educators and an Ohio Certified Volunteer Naturalist as we hike and search for mushrooms. Meet at the Education Building behind the Ford Nature Center. Hike will be 2-3 miles on uneven terrain. We will stop along the way to identify mushrooms as we come across them. Please wear hiking shoes and bring a mushroom field guide if you have one. Registration required. Register/pay by 6/16, online or call 330.740.7107 x 129. No pets. No walk-ins. \$3.

Park Wanderings
Fellows Riverside Gardens:
Outdoor Concourse
7/19 | 9 - 10 a.m.

Join Educator Miss Lynn for Park Wanderings, a leisurely stroll at different Park locations. This month let's wander about Fellows Riverside Gardens to enjoy the summer annuals. Dress for the weather. Easy 0.5-mile walk. Register/pay by 7/17, online or call 330.740.7107 x 129. No walk-ins. No pets. \$5

KIDS & FAMILIES

Sprout Club - the Buzz on Honeybees
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
5/16 | 1 - 2 p.m.

Ages 3-5; plus adult. Join Sprout Club for fun and hands-on activities learning all about honeybees. Meet at Ford Nature Center, 840 Old Furnace Rd. Register/pay by 5/14, online or call 330.740.7107 x 129. \$7

Forest Babies
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
5/22 | 10 - 11 a.m.

Join Park staff for Forest Babies, a program for your youngest ones, ages

1-3 years old. We will explore the trails at Ford Nature Center and create a simple nature craft. Please be sure you and your little one are dressed for the weather as this program will include outdoor nature time. Register your child by 5/20 online or call 330-740-7107 x 129. No pets. \$5 per child.

Critter Tales -- Worms
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
6/5 | 11 a.m. - Noon

Ages 3-6, plus adult. Come and learn about worms with park educators! Story time and hands-on activities are part of the fun. Meet at Ford Nature Center Education Building Classroom B. Register/ pay online by 6/3 or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. \$7

Forest Babies
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom A
6/12 | 10 - 11 a.m.

Join Park staff for Forest Babies, a program for your youngest ones, ages 1-3 years old. We will explore the trails at Ford Nature Center and create a simple nature craft. Please be sure you and your little one are dressed for the weather as this program will include outdoor nature time. Register both you and your child by 6/10, online or call 330-740-7107 x 129. No pets. \$5.

Sprout Club - Wet & Wonderful Water
Ford Nature Center Education Building, Classroom B
6/20 | 1 - 2 p.m.

Ages 3-5; plus adult. Join Sprout Club for fun and hands-on activities learning all about water. Meet at Ford Nature Center, 840 Old Furnace Rd. Register/pay by 6/18, online or call 330.740.7107 ext. 129. \$7

Nature Things Summer Camp Week 1--Earth Things
Ford Nature Center Education Building Classroom A
6/24–6/28 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Looking for a summer nature camp for your 5-9 year old? This summer, our camp theme is NATURE THINGS and each weeklong session will focus on a new Nature Thing. Week 1 will focus on Earth Things: plants, trees, decomposers, mammals, rocks, fossils, soil, and

crawling creatures. Campers will be outside for the majority of the day in all kinds of weather. Week 1 Earth Things is from Monday, June 24-Friday, June 28, from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Ford Nature Center. Cost is \$125 for five days of camp. Spots are limited; don't delay in registering. A letter with additional information will be sent to you as soon as the paid registration is received. Register/ pay online by June 19th or call 330-740-7107 x 129 for more information. \$125 per child.

Nature Things Summer Camp Week 2--Sky Things
Ford Nature Center Education Building Classroom A
7/8–7/12 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Looking for a summer nature camp for your 5-9 year old? This summer, our camp theme is NATURE THINGS and each weeklong session will focus on a new Nature Thing. Week 2 will focus on Sky Things: weather, clouds, rainbows, moon, sun, planets, birds, and flying insects. Campers will be outside for the majority of the day in all kinds of weather. Week 2 Sky Things is from Monday, July 8-Friday, July 12, from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Ford Nature Center. Cost is \$125 for five days of camp. Spots are limited; don't delay in registering. A letter with additional information will be sent to you as soon as the paid registration is received. Register/pay online by July 3rd or call 330-740-7107 x 129 for more information. \$125 per child.

Nature Things Summer Camp Week 3--Water Things
Ford Nature Center Education Building Classroom A
7/22–7/26 | 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Looking for a summer nature camp for your 5-9 year old? This summer, our camp theme is NATURE THINGS and each weeklong session will focus on a new Nature Thing. Week 3 will focus on Water Things: rain, water cycle, lakes, ponds, streams, fish, frogs, aquatic insects, and ducks. Campers will be outside for the majority of the day in all kinds of weather. Week 3 Water Things is from Monday, July 22-Friday, July 26, from 9:00am-1:00pm at the Ford Nature Center. Cost is \$125 for five days of camp. Spots are limited; don't delay in registering. A letter with additional information will be sent to you as soon as the paid registration is

received. Register/pay online by July 17th or call 330-740-7107 x 129 for more information. \$125 per child.

TROLLEY TOURS

Rock the Park - a Geological Exploration of Mill Creek Park
Fellows Riverside Gardens
5/18, 6/22, 7/11, 7/27
10 a.m. - Noon

Ever wonder how Mill Creek Park was formed? For much of geologic history, Ohio was underwater and near the equator! Join us on the Cohasset Express Trolley as we travel back over 300 million years and explore the formation of the Park throughout geologic time. Learn about the bedrock of the Park and how the Ice Age shaped the Park that we all love. Where possible, we will hop off to investigate geologic features up close. Trolley boards at Fellows Riverside Gardens. Register/pay online at www.millcreekmetroparks.org or call 330.740.7107 x 129. Adults: \$10 R, \$12 NR; Seniors/Youth: \$7 R, \$ 9 NR

Spring Trolley Tour
Ford Nature Center
5/19, 5/21, 5/28, 6/2, 6/4, 6/6, 6/9, 6/11,6/16, 6/18, 6/20,6/23,6/30
1:30 - 2:30 p.m., - 3 - 4 p.m.

Enjoy Spring in Mill Creek Park with natural and historic views aboard the Cohasset Express. Limited seating. Boards at Ford Nature Center. Register/ pay online by calling 330.740.7107 x 129 or www.millcreekmetroparks.org. Adults: \$10 R, \$12 NR; Seniors/Youth: \$7 R, \$9 NR

Summer Trolley Tour
Ford Nature Center
7/2,7/7,7/9,7/11,7/14,7/16,7/21, 7/23,7/28,7/30
1:30 - 2:30 pm, 3 - 4 p.m.

Enjoy Summer in Mill Creek Park with natural and historic views aboard the Cohasset Express. Limited seating. Boards at Ford Nature Center. Register/ pay online by calling 330.740.7107 x 129 or www.millcreekmetroparks.org .Adults: \$10 R, \$12 NR; Seniors/Youth: \$7 R, \$9 NR



of Fellows Riverside Gardens

123 McKinley Avenue • Youngstown, OH 44509

Mill Creek MetroParks - Fellows Riverside Gardens

Free and open daily, dawn until dusk

D.D. and Velma Davis Education & Visitor Center

Information Desk 330.740.7116

Tuesday - Sunday, 10 am - 5 pm

Closed: Mondays

Closed: Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day

Shop in the Gardens

Tuesday - Saturday, 10 am - 5 pm

Sunday - Noon - 5 pm

Garden Café

Tuesday - Sunday, 10 am - 4 pm

General inquiries about Fellows Riverside Gardens

email: info@friendsoffellows.org

Visit: FriendsOfFellows.org

millcreekmetroparks.org

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Save The Date:

Additional details on all events inside this edition of the newsletter

On the Terrace at 5!: May 22, June 20, July 17 and August 21.

Note: the third Wednesday of the month EXCEPT in June on third Thursday

Annual Summer Garden Party: Friday July 26

Horticulture Programs:

Succulent Safari: June 26

Pumpkin Palooza: September 28

A Rich Spot of Earth, Thomas Jeffersons Monticello: October 6

Fall Mum and Bulbs sales: dates TBD

For more information, please email us at info@friendsoffellows.org or call or stop by the Shop in the Gardens during normal business hours.