

# Highland Heights Green Task Force



Fall 2013 Newsletter

Judy Dearden, President

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## ***MILLRIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL "PUMPKIN PATCH"***

We have PUMPKINS!!! At last count, there were 9 pumpkins of all sizes... with the largest being twice the size of a human head! Not only have the pumpkins done nicely, so have the green and red peppers, perennial herbs, scented geraniums, marigolds (for an extra punch of color and to discourage bugs!), green beans and tomatillos. As mentioned in the last newsletter, this enlarged garden is the result of the efforts of numerous community volunteers, businesses, and the staff and students of Millridge School.

The plan is to have a contest to win the pumpkins for Halloween, while parent volunteers make salsa with the tomatillos. Again, a big thank you to all who helped with the garden this year...perhaps an addition of sunflowers next year??

Composting will resume as soon as the compost teams are in place. If you are willing to help monitor this program over the school year, please contact Judy Dearden (see contact information at the bottom of this page). Help is always welcome!

## ***HIGHLAND HEIGHTS COMMUNITY DAY***

In spite of the weather, many residents stopped by our table to gather information about our 2013 campaign "**USE LESS PLASTIC**". We were able to show them alternatives for the many plastic items typically found in most homes. However, the simple, most profound solution to reduce plastic consumption is to bring your own bags when you shop at the grocery store or mall.

## ***HIGHLAND HTS. GREEN TASK FORCE 2ND ANNUAL GAZEBO "NO WASTE" POTLUCK DINNER***

On Sept. 4th, the Green Task Force hosted another successful "No-Waste" potluck dinner in our beautiful, community gazebo. We had a great turnout, including Mayor Scott Coleman and a number of members from council! For the second year in a row, we produced NO WASTE! Everyone was instructed to bring their own dishes, utensils, napkins, and drink glasses. I am pretty confident that we are all proud of our "new habit". There was just one bowl for scraping off food scraps from our plates. Good weather, food and great company! Thank you to everyone!

## **HIGHLAND HTS. GREEN TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP**

The HHGTF organization is coming to the end of its third year and is growing! This year our membership tripled over last year! So many wonderful members, but we always have room for more! We invite you to join us for a "Green Living Speaker Series" program, field trip, environmental event or a business meeting soon. Please keep in mind, we have no borders. It does not matter where you live, as we all have a "shared future". We invite everyone who has an interest in living a more environmentally friendly lifestyle to join us. Feel free to pass our information along to family and friends.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Held at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Center, unless otherwise noted.
- Nov. 6 - Solar Options, Jon Kaplan, Pearlwind, & Lighting Options Update, Rick Evans
- Dec. 4 - Business Meeting and Elections
- Early 2014 - Tentative
  - January - Freecycle/E-Waste Drive (location to be announced, watch for details).
  - February - Cooking classes by Leslie Elia, "Environmental Loads on Our Bodies"

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Thank you to all for continuing to be interested in our shared environment and how to keep it and ourselves healthy.

Please visit [www.highlandhtsgreen.com](http://www.highlandhtsgreen.com), or email [hhgreentaskforce@yahoo.com](mailto:hhgreentaskforce@yahoo.com) or call Judy Dearden @ 440-646-9820 for more information.