



Letter from the President

I was invited to a special meeting on Dec. 20, at Nankin Mill, for a presentation called the Mill Run Project. This is a big project that not only includes the four historic former Village Industry Mills—Nankin, Phoenix, Wilcox and Newburgh—that were built by Henry Ford, but also includes plans for the former Hawthorne Valley Golf Course, Holliday Nature Preserve and many other elements of Wayne County Parks.

Part of the Mill Run Project involves the sale of mills with the exception of Nankin to private developers. Because I knew what to expect, I came prepared with a HNP A position letter, stating NO support for sale of Wayne County Parks property. The County representatives expected such a stand. This letter has been posted on HNP A Facebook page.

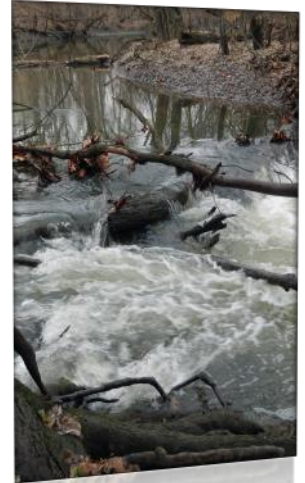
Thirty years ago, HNP A was formed out of the many people who stood against the County's proposal to cut

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Activities

Please join us! Our walks last from an hour to 90 minutes and are held regardless of the weather, so please dress for conditions and often uneven ground. In winter, trails may also be slippery.

Our walks are family friendly. Sorry, no dogs allowed. Questions? Contact us at HollidayAssociation@hnpa.org or via our Facebook page.



➤ "Middle O' Winter" Walk

Sunday, Jan. 27, 2019, Noon, Cowan section.

Cowan entrance on Central City Parkway, west of Wayne Road, north of Warren Road.

This section is especially beautiful in winter with snow covered pines, an icy Tonquish creek and animal tracks. Deer may even be sighted.

➤ 'Yep, It's Still Winter' Walk

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, Noon, Ellsworth Trail .

Parking at Nankin Mill along Hines Drive, east of Ann Arbor Trail

Enjoy a walk along the floodplain while we talk the upcoming and modified project that will take place here.

➤ "No Longer Winter" Walk

Saturday, March 23, 2019, Noon, Koppernick section.

NOTE: Parking at Koppernick entrance, Koppernick Road, west of Hix Road, south of Joy Road

It's the first day of Spring and join us as we look for early signs of its arrival as we walk the loop trail of Koppernick.

Continued on page 1

down the Holliday Preserve, to make a golf course. That "unsound" proposal was dropped when there was a loud public outcry against the sale of county property.

This new County proposal is also unsound and in the view of many would diminish the Park system.

Many people have supported HNPA over the decades. Now it is time for HNPA members to join the growing opposition to this sale. I hope you agree. I hope you share your opinion with County Executive Warren Evans and your County Commissioner. Mr. Evans can be reached at: 500 Griswold St # 1050, Detroit, MI 48226 or by calling (313) 224-0286

Save Hines Park!

Sincerely,

Bill Craig

HNPA President

A Look at the Wayne County Parks Millage

Every five years since the mid-1990s, Wayne County voters have passed a millage to maintain and improve Wayne County's park system. The last renewal was in 2016 when three-quarters of voters supported the .25 mill renewal. Here is the first section of that proposal: "To continue the millage authorized in 2010, shall Wayne County levy this millage at the estimated 2015 rollback rate of .2459 (about 25 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for five more years (2016 through 2020) **to continue to improve and operate several parks and related facilities, including Hines Park...**"

We've bolded what we feel is an important part of that proposal.

In addition, the heads of 18 local units of government that make up the Conference of Western Wayne also supported the 2016 millage renewal with these words: "The funding provides for park staffing, related events such as the annual Hines Drive holiday light show and free outdoor concerts, maintenance, equipment, and allows room for capital improvements for existing parks."

Now to be fair, selling property may not have been on the mind of the County Exec when the renewal was approved in 2016. However, selling park property to private developers doesn't seem to be what voters had in mind either when they approved the renewal. At least that's HNPA's view.



Our October walk was in Koppernick. We had great weather so we took a slow walk. One highlight was a "fairy ring" of mushrooms. Unfortunately, one walker stepped inside ring and vanished. Please read your folklore before entering forests. Oh, and we recommend NOT eating the mushrooms. By the way, rings start from one mushroom spore. They then push outward in a circular shape as the fungi underground seeks new food sources.

New Signs Make Appearance

There are two brand new signs in the Holiday Preserve. One is at Koppernick entrance, and another is at the Cowan entrance. Many read the signs wonder why they are there. That was also the first reaction of HNPFA President Bill Craig who checked with Wayne County Parks and found out they are valid and there because of something that happened more than half a century ago.

Seems that back in 1965, the federal government allocated \$28,143.57 for a comfort station, a shelter, parking lot, water, sewage and electrical services—and the sign.

Then in 1966, another \$20,272.64 was granted for second comfort station,

shelter, entrance drive, parking, landscaping and sign. The comfort stations, shelters and everything else is long gone (except those nice tiled floors). Now the signs have finally been installed.

The funding came from the Land and Water Conservation Fund that was funded from oil and gas royalties. This fund provided matching grants for many types of conservation projects.

Congress let the act expire last year despite bipartisan support. House Bill 502 and Senate Bill 569 have versions to permanently reauthorize the Act, but the new Congress has not taken up these bills.

HPNA feels it is a valuable program worthy of reau-

thorization as it can help conserve land and water in our area. We suggest you learn more about these bills and even call your senator and Congressional representative to urge them reauthorize and fund this valuable program.



November walk in Cowan. Some funguys and fungals looking at fungi. This is a white oak, one of many killed by gypsy moths. Now decaying, it still is of value to insects, birds and more.



December walk in Ellsworth. This sign (although several hundred yards from Hines Drive) somehow got run over by truck. It was repaired and relocated to prevent a reoccurrence.

HNPA's Mission

Holliday Nature Preserve Association (HNPA) is a group of volunteers dedicated to the William P. Holliday Forest & Wildlife Preserve in Westland, Livonia and Canton. The Preserve consists of 500-plus acres of forests and wetlands that runs along tributaries of the Rouge River.

The HNPA seeks to nurture a greater appreciation of this unique natural resource by hosting walks, conducting maintenance improvement projects in conjunction with Wayne County Parks and promoting the importance of the Preserve in improving the quality of life in Western Wayne County communities.

Our activities are free and open to everyone. Find out more at hnpa.org.

Resolve to Renew in 2019

Five bucks. That's all we ask each calendar year for your continuing support of our organization and its mission.

That donation gets you three newsletters and allows us to support Scout and trail maintenance projects, Preserve clean ups, as well as fund our website at hnpa.org. Please use the form below. Thanks!



Thanks to our Supporters

The following people joined HNPA, renewed their memberships or made donations this summer. We thank them and appreciate the continuing support they and our other members give along with the trust they put in us. We will use the funds for the overall benefit of the Preserve.

**Jesse Bruce
Jim & Pat Dee
Marie Feeley
Jim Flanigan
James Gilbert
Sally Green**

**Peggy & Alan Van Kerckhove
Kiran & Orin Lenz
Misty & Mike Mitchell
Daniel Noble**

**Linda Poole
Robert & Lynda St. John
Dennis & Pamela Scott
Larry Willis
Candy & Dan Yando**

Become Part of Holliday

Membership in the Holliday Nature Preserve Association is only **\$5 per year (Jan. 1—Dec. 31)**. Your support makes it possible to distribute

our newsletters, host a website, support Rouge Rescue, offer walks, educate the community and promote the Preserve. Any additional funds over and

above are used to benefit the Preserve. You may also earmark additional funds to extend your membership.

Name: _____

Address: _____ **Address 2:** _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____ + _____

Email Address (if you wish to share it. (We won't) : _____

\$ _____ **Enclosed**

Please make check or money order payable to the **Holliday Nature Preserve Association** and mail to:
HNPA, P.O. BOX 532243 Livonia, MI 48153