You'll see men - and women - in trees, students on the ground, and volunteers galore when the Central New York Conservancy celebrates Arbor Day 2015!

This year’s Arbor Day packs events into 3 days: Friday through Sunday, April 24-26. Many different activities will celebrate the spirit of Arbor Day and the community’s love of Utica’s Olmsted-designed Parks and Parkway System.

“Arbor Day gives individuals and groups in the area an opportunity to come together and actively help to beautify Utica’s historic, Olmsted-designed parks,” said CNY Conservancy Board members and Certified Arborists Terry Hawkridge and Mike Mahanna.

Arbor Day has a long history that dates back to 1872, when the day was first celebrated at the suggestion of Nebraska journalist and political leader Julius Sterling Morton, who also served as Secretary of Agriculture under President Grover Cleveland. Morton proposed that Arbor Day be dedicated to planting trees and increasing awareness of the importance of trees. Arbor Day is currently celebrated in all 50 states and in several foreign countries. In 1970, Arbor Day was designated at the federal level and National Arbor Day is celebrated on the last Friday in April.

Each day of Utica’s Arbor Day program will feature a different aspect of caring for trees and making the parks safe places to pursue favorite outdoor activities.

On April 24, 13 local tree removal companies will volunteer their time and talent to prune and remove trees in FT and TR Proctor Parks that have died or are considered unsafe because of their proximity to playing fields, running paths, and trails. A ceremonial tree planting will also be held to commemorate Arbor Day.

On April 25, activities include the planting of 40 new trees in FT and TR Proctor Parks. “These new trees – ginkgoes, London planes, mountain sugar maples, legacy sugar maples, triumph elms, katsuras, and red oaks – are the start of the Conservancy’s commitment to restore the tree canopy originally designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr.,” said Hawkridge.

April 26 activities will feature a crabapple and serviceberry for a tree removal and pruning demonstration.

Continued on page 3…
Three of the Memorial Parkway's monuments have been newly adopted, thanks to the generosity of local companies and individuals.

Northern Safety Company has adopted the Mary S. Hendricks Police and Firefighters Monument. The General Frederick William Baron von Steuben Memorial is supported by the Gilbert & Ildiko Butler Family Foundation. Mrs. Melva Max has generously given to support the TR Proctor Memorial.

The Conservancy began its “Adopt-A-Monument” program in 2009, which encourages individuals, groups, businesses and organizations to make monetary contributions to support the redesign and landscaping of flower beds that surround each of the 14 monuments on the Parkway.

“As of February 2015, ten of the monuments have been adopted on an annual basis,” said Peter Falzarine, executive director of the Conservancy. “Most of our contributors renew their adoption annually. Thanks to these gifts, the Conservancy will be able to plant three times during the season from May through October. And, we will be able to redesign the beds around each of the adopted monuments.”

The Police & Firefighters Memorial, located on the grass median between the Memorial Parkway and Pleasant Street, honors men and women who currently or previously served as police officers and firefighters and who have died. Each year, a ceremony is held at the monument and the names of those being remembered are read aloud.

Gen. Baron von Steuben is located on the median to the east of Genesee Street and directly across from the Vice President Sherman monument. Gen. von Steuben is surrounded by one of the largest plant and flower beds on the Parkway. He “earned” his Parkway monument for the heroic role he played in the American Revolution.

TR Proctor, the Utica Parks and Parkway System’s original benefactor, is located on the south side of the Memorial Parkway, near the Parkway Recreation Center. His statue was added to the Parkway in 1921 and presented as a gift from Utica’s school children.

“In early May, the Conservancy and City of Utica will work with volunteers to remove overgrown plants and shrubs from the monument beds,” said Falzarine. “Those who drive the Parkway daily or who walk from one end to the other will notice a major difference in how the monument beds are planted and tended. There will be swaths of color from one end of the Parkway to the other. We have our “Adopt-A-Monument” contributors to thank for that.”

Photos ©Roger B. Smith 2014
“Thanks to a $936 grant from the NYS Urban Forestry Council, funds from the Conservancy’s year-end fund raising effort, and several other potential grants still under consideration, we will be able to purchase and plant new trees to replace those that were removed in 2014 as well as those that we will take down in 2015 to ensure that our parks are safe places for everyone,” said Mahanna.

The weekend celebration will conclude on Sunday, April 26, with a free workshop on pruning that is open to the public, the planting of 20 trees on the Memorial Parkway, mulching, and other finishing touches.

The magnificent Utica Parks and Parkway System was designed and created by Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., in the early 1900s and was named to the NY State and National Registers of Historic Places in 2008. The System is comprised of F.T. Proctor Park, T.R. Proctor Park, and Roscoe Conkling/Valley View Park, along with the Memorial Parkway.

The public is welcome to attend or volunteer during the Arbor Day Weekend event. The parking area in FT Proctor Park near the Pavilion will be closed to parking except for the participating tree company trucks and rigs on Friday. Parking may be found along Rutger Street. The lot across from TR Proctor Park will be available for public parking. Additional parking may be available along Welsh Bush Road.

Visitors and volunteers who watch or participate in the Arbor Day activities on April 24-26 must follow any and all safety precautions in effect on those days.

Here is the full schedule for Arbor Day Weekend:

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**Arbor Day 2015...**

*continued from page 1*

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**Arbor Day Celebration – April 24-25-26, 2015**

**Your hosts: Central New York Conservancy & City of Utica**

**Friday, April 24: Tree Removal & Pruning**

7:45 a.m. Contractors arrive on-site (list of contractors available April 1)
8:00 a.m. Coffee/Doughnuts & National Grid Safety Presentation
8:30 a.m. Northern Safety display/presentation; raffles (for crew members only)
9:00 a.m. Assignments given to tree crews
9:30 a.m. Crews working in field until 12:30 p.m.
11:00 a.m. Ceremonial Tree Planting (Mayor Robert Palmieri, local dignitaries & CNYC Board President Bill Locke)
12:30 p.m. Lunch for crews in FT Proctor Pavilion
1:30 p.m. Crews working in field until 4 p.m.

**Saturday, April 25: Tree Planting**

9:00 a.m. Hand out planting assignments to volunteers; Brief how-to for volunteers on planting bare-root trees. Approximately 40 trees will be planted in FT/TR Proctor Parks and in Welsh Bush Road area.
9:30 a.m. Planting begins
1:00 p.m. Lunch for volunteers at FT Proctor Park Pavilion
2:00 p.m. Clean-up and collect planting tools
Volunteers from TR Proctor High School NJROTC (under the direction of Master Chief Mark Williamson); additional volunteers anticipated from MV Resource Center for Refugees, Utica Sunrise Rotary, Utica College, & Lowes.

**Sunday, April 26: Memorial Parkway Tree Planting**

10:00 a.m. Workshop on Pruning in the FT Proctor Park Pavilion by Certified Arborists & CNY Conservancy Board Members Terry Hawkridge & Mike Mahanna – talk is free and open to the public
12:30 p.m. Tree planting begins on the Memorial Parkway from Mohawk St. to Sherman Dr.
Get ready for a busy season of CNY Conservancy programming!

If you love the outdoors, gardening, and Utica’s parks, you won’t be disappointed this Spring, Summer, and Fall! The Central New York Conservancy has several events in the offing that you won’t want to miss!

April 24-25-26
As detailed elsewhere in this issue of Borrowed Views, Arbor Day will be celebrated in style with three days of programming. If you’d like to volunteer to plant, mulch, and clean up along with the Conservancy’s crew, drop us an email at centralnyconservancy@gmail.com.

May 2
The first Saturday in May is “I Love My Park Day” in New York State, and the Conservancy will celebrate with a massive clean-up in the parks and along the Parkway from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Volunteers from the NJROTC at Notre Dame High School will be working on the monument beds along the Memorial Parkway, while members of the Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce’s Catalyst Group will clean stairs, paths, and the Butterfly Meadow in FT Proctor Park. If you’ve got elbows, grease, and lots of energy, come and join us!

I Love My Park Day volunteers helped clear the Butterfly Meadow last May.

June 20
For some folks, summer doesn’t officially begin until July 4. But the CNY Conservancy can’t wait that long to be outdoors and celebrate! We kick off the summer season on June 20, with our double booth at the Cornell Cooperative Extension Herb & Flower Festival. From butterflies to bushes, to classes in the latest in horticultural practices, and exotic herbal ice cream flavors, the Festival attracts thousands of visitors each year to the Cooperative’s campus in Oriskany. Be sure to stop by the Conservancy’s booth and that of Rustic Pines, owned by Conservancy Board member Terry Hawkridge.

July
Did you hear a rumor that the Central NY Conservancy and the Munson Williams Proctor Arts Institute will offer a painting class in Utica’s parks? It’s no rumor — stay tuned for more information about a plein aire session that will be offered this July to MWPAI members and non-members. “Art in the Park” will be held in conjunction with the Impressionism show, which is scheduled for a summer opening at the Institute.

August 25
A warm summer evening in Utica’s most elegant park, good company, wine, and hors d’oeuvres… What could possibly be better? Join the Conservancy and the Greater Utica Chamber Catalyst Group for the 2nd annual “Wine in the Park” social. The event is $10 for Catalyst members and $25 for non-members. This business-casual evening offers the chance for tours of FT Proctor Park, lots of socializing and some of the best “when I was a kid and came to the Park” stories you will ever hear! For more details, contact info@mvchamber.org or www.greateruticachamber.org.
September 10
The Greater Utica Chamber of Commerce teams up with the Central New York Conservancy to present a grand night for networking in one of Utica’s most beautiful outdoor settings. If the weather decides to be uncooperative, it won’t dampen our spirits. We’ll move this “Business After hours” event to an indoor site in Roscoe Conkling Park. The evening’s program will feature a presentation on the Starch Factory Creek, which runs through Utica’s parks, by Mr. Robert Heins. For more information, visit www.greateruticachamber.org or email info@mvchamber.org.

Yarn-bombing on the Parkway
It’s been a looong winter. And, while the cold months in Central New York certainly have their charm, winter’s visit began to wear a little thin after a January AND February that didn’t budge much out of the sub-zero basement.

How cold was it? Even the statues on the Memorial Parkway were donning 100-percent wool to stay warm! Thanks to some enterprising souls who call themselves “Beautify Utica”, several of the Parkway’s monuments were looking especially jaunty in the early days of March.


The Dunham Bust’s multicolor cowl shows off his patina, don’cha think?

Miss Liberty selected lace because of its graceful drape
The Central New York Conservancy is grateful to all who contributed during the Calendar Year 2014. Thanks to your efforts, the Conservancy experienced one of its best fund raising years ever, with nearly $42,000 contributed from individuals, groups, organizations, businesses and foundations.

In 11 years, the Conservancy has surpassed the quarter of a million dollars raised mark with total contributions of $277,203. All funds donated to the Conservancy are used to restore and preserve Utica’s Olmsted-designed Parks and Parkway System. We receive no subsidies from the City, County, State or federal Governments and depend on you, along with your neighbors and friends, to sustain our efforts. We cannot say "thank you" enough!

### PARKS PROTECTOR ($1,000 & ABOVE)

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<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Gilbert Butler/Gilbert &amp; Ildiko Butler Fdn</td>
<td>Baron von Steuben Monument</td>
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<td>Drs. Frank Dubec &amp; Mary Beth McCull</td>
<td>9/11 Monument</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Ronald P. Gouse</td>
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<td>Mrs. Melva Max</td>
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<td>Mr. Tom Simont/Bank of Utica Foundation</td>
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### CONSERVATOR ($500 - $999)

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<td>Al Carbone/Carbone Auto Group</td>
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<td>Ms. Carroll A. Clarke</td>
<td>IMO Betty Ann Canfield; IHO Erica Max</td>
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<td>Ms. Rocco Ferminald/Qaudimilia</td>
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<td>Mrs. Cornelia P. Knowe</td>
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<td>Mr. &amp; Mrs. Robert A. Menotti</td>
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### LANDSCAPER ($100 - $124)

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<td>Anonymous</td>
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<td>Ms. Melanie Zimmer</td>
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A correction: In our Winter, 2014 issue of Borrowed Views, we neglected to mention that the Clinton Garden Club made its annual donation to us at the Landscaper level of support. We apologize for the error.