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OHIOVILLE - Planting flowers that will attract butterflies and humming birds to the Lock 57 park is just one project in the continuing development of the park, Ohioville Mayor John Szatkiewicz said.

Szatkiewicz and a group of volunteers planted some trees and the flower garden Thursday afternoon. A dedication ceremony for the park is planned July 17 to coincide with Venture Outdoors' 10th anniversary party.

There will be kayaking at the park, and Venture Outdoors will host a kayaking party the same day in Pittsburgh.

A \$1,000 grant from Venture Outdoors paid for the trees and flowers planted Thursday at the Lock 57 park. Szatkiewicz said the five-year development of the park has largely been the work of volunteers, with funding through grants.

Along the way, Ohioville Borough pitched in about \$6,000 for the park's development, Szatkiewicz said. He said Robert Ours, president of the Ohioville Borough Council, has said he would like to see a gazebo built at the park.

Szatkiewicz said a boat ramp and dock that is accessible for wheelchairs is a priority. He said there is already a nice fishing pier at the park, but gravel and floating docks are not ideal surfaces for people in a wheelchair.

Among the volunteers who planted trees and flowers Thursday afternoon at the park were two members of Boy Scout Troop 425. The Scouts meet at the Fairview Grange in Ohioville Borough.

Dan Kovalesky is a junior, and at 18 is now considered an adult leader in the Boy Scouts. He has been in scouting about four years. He earned his Eagle Scout ranking in April and will receive the honor in a ceremony July 9.

Kovalesky said his Eagle Scout community project was renovation of the community hall at St. Blaise Catholic Church in Midland. He added classrooms and renovated the kitchen, he said.

Also on hand Thursday from Troop 425 was Doug Campbell, an eighth grader who started in scouting as a Cub Scout. Campbell told Kovalesky he will receive his Eagle Scout honor on his birthday, and "Seeing a friend succeed is a good birthday gift!"

Both Campbell and Kovalesky said they enjoyed working at the park and building the butterfly garden is a worthwhile community project.

Cherie Conrad, environmental science teacher at Western Beaver High, and Jennifer Emmerling of Glenmoor, helped direct other volunteers during the planting. Emmerling said she loves gardening and has a butterfly garden at her own home.

Liatris, butterfly bush, bee balm, Persian lilacs, cone flower, blanket flower, cardinal flower, trumpet vine and red hot poker are the varieties of flowers planted which are to attract bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

Emmerling said she has liatris in her own garden and bees love it. As she was positioning one of the plants in the ground, a bumblebee was already trying to land on its flowers.

Conrad said Western Beaver students take environmental science in the tenth grade. Pennsylvania has environmental science curriculum requirements, she said.

The students are involved in maintaining flower gardens, studying water quality and doing waterway and stream studies. She gets the students outdoors for hands-on experience whenever possible, she said.

Environmental science students study pollution and its effects on the environment and on people. They also study agriculture, and a trip to the Farm Show in Harrisburg each January is part of the class curriculum, she said.

Conrad said combination of species planted in the butterfly garden Thursday is ideal to attract hummingbirds and butterflies to the park. She and Emmerling said the plants will spread out and be even more beautiful and functional next season.

Lock 57 park is along Pennsylvania's Route 68, Midland Road, near the Point of Beginning.

The Point of Beginning is the beginning point of the U.S. Public Land Survey and is a United States National Historic Landmark, in Ohioville near Glasgow, Pa. A monument marks the border between the U.S. states of Ohio and Pennsylvania, on the north side of the Ohio River. It is near the three-way intersection of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and the northern tip of West Virginia.