

BHS Alumni Association members "clean up" in Adopt-a-Road program

By Jackie Giroux
Reporter

Members of Bedford High School Alumni Association spent a part of their Saturday on July 18 cleaning up a section of Dean Rd.

The Alumni Assoc. is a part of the Monroe Co. Adopt a Road program and is in their second year of helping to keep area roadsides free from unsightly trash and litter.

The Alumni Assoc. is responsible for a two-mile section of Dean Rd. from Lewis Ave. to Douglas Rd. They have two Adopt-a-Road signs denoting the area that they pick up trash along three times a year. "There is a sign near the intersection of Dean and Douglas and another by the BP station near Dean and Lewis," said Gene Stock, Alumni Assoc. vice president.

The first cleanup, of the scheduled three, was held in April with approximately 20 bags full of trash gathered. "Usually April is the worst because ditches aren't grown up and we can get down in there," Stock said.

This cleanup yielded 12 bags and Stock said they were lucky that until then it had been pretty dry so the ditches weren't full of water. Alumni Assoc. members who participated this time were Gene Stock, Linda Stock, Laura Collins, Bill Regnier and Ken Weaver.

It is always interesting to see what kinds of unusual items they find at each cleanup. This time around they found a brand new

pair of safety glasses, a coaches whistle, a new socket from a socket set and a one-dollar bill.

In addition to the usual bits of paper he said it is not uncommon to find newspapers delivered in plastic bags that have never been picked up and tires and siding, large branches and pieces of wood that he thinks must have blown out of the back of a truck.

And not that uncommon and something that Stock said that they don't pick up are dead animals such as cats, dogs and raccoons. He commented that there weren't as many this time so he thinks the road crew must be doing a good job of disposing of the animals that have been hit and killed alongside the road.

Stock said, "One thing the Alumni Association likes to do is some community work." Surprisingly not that much time is required to do something that enhances the look of the community. Depending on the number of members who volunteer, he said that it only takes about an hour to an hour and a half at the most.

"The stretch of road is split up and they work in pairs, walking against the traffic," Stock explained. For additional safety they all wear fluorescent green colored t-shirts so they can be readily observed by traffic.

"A lot of people go by and toot their horns and others come out and thank us for doing a good job," he said.

The final cleanup for 2009 is scheduled for September.



No litterbugs here! BHS Alumni Association members recently participated in a roadside clean up on a two-mile section of Dean Rd. Pictured, front row, L to R: Bill Regnier, Gene Stock and Ken Weaver. Back row: Laura Collins and Linda Stock.