

Town & County Volunteers at West Middle Community School



The chilly Saturday morning last week brought out nine volunteers from the Town & County Club on Woodland Street to add their efforts to make Asylum Hill a little bit better. They started months ago planning for a one-day event that could make use of their skills and interests and result in a visible result. They noticed that the beautifully restored Asylum Avenue façade of West Middle School still looked almost as it did the day the contractors left, while the landscaping did not. As Joanna Gerber, one of the nine who volunteered said “weeds don’t sleep”.

And so, over the past two years, they have been doing what weeds do. But on Saturday the nine volunteers, led by Janet Castricum came to do what they do as well, notice something that needs attention, deciding to remedy the situation and them bringing together the people necessary to get the job done. It’s in many ways a model of volunteerism.

The story doesn’t end there though. Along with willing hand came experience, and again Joanna pointed out that if this progress is to last more than a few weeks, the areas where they weeded, next to the building and around the sign will need mulching.

And so they are challenging the rest of the Asylum Hill community, “who will volunteer to lay down the mulch to preserve the work that they have done?”

Who will be the next volunteers, inspired by their efforts, to carry it forward?

To be continued!

More photos of the project, before, during and after are available at

<https://photos.app.goo.gl/Qw1XUtUsGYkJ2FCF7>