

Eveland, Gallagher, Close

“One Day One School” Program

The Marketeer is excited and proud to announce our partnership with the nationally recognized “Eveland-Gallagher-Close ONE DAY, ONE SCHOOL” Program. This is a program that brings communities, businesses, town representatives, (just about everyone) together to clean up school grounds and make them safe for our children. The projects are done at NO EXPENSE to the schools or taxpayers because it’s volunteerism at its finest!

We were introduced to the program through our longstanding relationship with the initiator of the program, Tom Gallagher, owner of Ace Gallagher Tree Stump Grinding. Gallagher began advertising his business in The Marketeer, back in 1990 and has remained a consistent advertiser ever since.

Gallagher’s infectious enthusiasm about his program inspired us to find out how we could contribute to all the good work. The obvious answer was to do what we do best...communicate to hundreds of thousands of residents and businesses! So, we have and will continue to publish information and updates on the One Day One School projects to inform, inspire and get more people involved as volunteers.

The program got started when Gallagher was walking his child to school and was alarmed by the hazardous branches and dead trees in the paths. Having plenty of experience in clearing storm damage at schools, he volunteered his company’s services – knowing there would be little in the budget to clean up the potential hazard. He was confident that just one day of volunteer

work at one school could make for a much safer environment for the students.

The idea was developed further with longtime friends, Scott Eveland, Mayor of Florham Park and Rick Close, district manager of the Davey Tree Expert Company in Morris Plains. Together, all three have grown the idea by creating a plan of awareness, involving proactive leaders and volunteers in the development of the program and making it comprehensive and wide reaching. As a result, the program has received an amazing amount of participation and support from the community. In fact, Dr. William Ronzitti, superintendent of Florham Park’s K-8 school system, along with Acting Police Chief Patrick Montuore jumped right in to help and quickly assembled teachers, students, and community members to volunteer for the clean-up events at Ridgedale Middle School and Briarwood & Brooklake Elementary Schools. Both were huge successes, saving the district \$60,000 - \$85,000.

The latest project was another enormous success! Work was done at Salem Drive Elementary School, on Nov 1st, and attracted twice the amount of volunteers as the last project. Judy Iradi, a Hanover Township councilwoman, played a large role facilitating the project. She contributed to the planning sessions and development of the program. The participating members included: **Ace Gallagher Tree Stump Grinding, A & M Services, All American Tree Company, Cashman Landscape, Davey Tree Company, DK Tree,**

Greenwood Tree Co., Honor Tree Service, J&R Tree Service, Timberland Tree Service, Woodland Tree Company and Zizza Landscape Construction. Leonard Manufacturing also reached out to contribute their tree industry equipment and the **Morris Sign Co.** generously donated large banners and other signage for the event.

Whole Foods of Madison supplied all the food for the members and volunteers. Chief of Police Montuore and Chief Gallagher (of Hanover Township) manned the grills! The **Morris YMCA** worked with the children in the cleaning and the planting because according to Tom “Ace” Gallagher, “Nobody is better qualified to work with our children than the YMCA!” Superintendents of both Florham Park and Hanover Township: Dr. William Ronzitti and Scott Pepper, respectively, were both on board, hands-on and enthusiastic about the event.

Blaine Rothhauser of B&R Environmental and president of the Florham Park Environmental Commission, involved in previous projects, again oversaw the native planting efforts. Lorraine Konopka, the Hanover Township Arborist, brought her expertise and dedicated work ethic to the table as well. Phil Infantolino, Supervisor of Building & Grounds for Florham Park Board of Ed., Roy Aull, Supervisor of B&G for Hanover Township Board of Ed. and John Csatlos, SBA for Florham Park schools all were key contributors, as well. Carl Ganger, Director of Community Services Florham Park, was on hand in an advisory role, overseeing the

work and lending a hand at the grill!

Since the program has such a positive momentum, it reaches beyond districts and politics. John Cryan, a Morristown councilman, read about the program and asked how he and Morristown can be involved. He joined the recent effort and will be bringing the One Day One School program to Morristown schools in the spring of 2009.

The program will undoubtedly continue to garner strength and support as it expands on a national level. It not only enables districts to make safer environments for our kids, but it also brings communities together, where everyone is a contributor.

*Want to get involved?
Contact Ace Gallagher
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More information
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www.acegallagherstumpgrinding.com

Ace Gallagher TREE STUMP GRINDING, LLC

