

## Many came to the rescue

Thank you for featuring the Wayne National Forest plant rescue project so prominently in your most recent edition of *Ohio Today*. I was a part of that effort on two occasions this past fall along with many other concerned volunteers.

We rescued many plants and were glad to do it. Hopefully, we can continue with rescue efforts this spring, and perhaps longer, as the Nelsonville bypass project has been put on hold temporarily, although the logging continues.

I would like to see you continue to highlight this effort and to include the organizations that are partnering with Wayne National Forest so they can get some recognition in this effort as well.

**Katharine Parks, BSS '02  
Chillicothe, Ohio**

*Thanks for pointing out our oversight. In addition to the Ohio University Department of Environmental and Plant Biology, partners in the project are Rural Action Sustainable Forestry, Wayne National Forest, Hocking College, United Plant Savers, Frontier Natural Products Cooperative and the Forest Stewardship Club. — Eds.*

## Gone too soon

Thanks to Teri Krimm Rizvi for her reminiscences about Jim Frantz (winter 2007 *Ohio Today*). Her essay brought us all back to the early 1980s when we forged lifetime friendships at Ohio University.

Another classmate from our era left us way too early, too. Doug Hill — a 1982 radio-TV graduate — died at age 45 in November 2005 of a rare, degenerative brain disease. Doug was a talented comedian and writer who left behind his widow, Julie Skur Hill, BSJ '83, and their son, Nicolas, now 12. Julie has told parts of Doug's story on "This American Life," and Nicolas has raised more than \$10,000 for Northwestern University researchers who are working to find insights into brain diseases.

There are a lot of stories about Doug, but here's one of our favorites: He and Bob Burnett were on a road trip to visit Bob's family in Virginia when Doug noticed the writing on the side-view mirror and mused, "What if there was a smiley face



KIM WALKER

Plants in the path of a U.S. 33 bypass project have a new lease on life.

on the mirror and it read, 'Objects in mirror appear happier than they really are'?"

Amid happiness, amid tragedy, Doug always had a way of cultivating amazement and making us laugh.

In Doug's honor, together with one of his beloved professors, David Mould, we are working to endow the Doug Hill Memorial Scholarship for a radio-TV major at Ohio University. Contributions can be made to The Ohio University Foundation, P.O. Box 869, Athens, Ohio 45701.

Thanks for a fine alumni magazine.

**Julie Fanselow, BSJ '82  
Boise, Idaho**

**Alan Miller, BSJ '82, MS '02  
Granville, Ohio**

## Cutting-edge TV

I was tickled to see the 1947 picture of WEWS in Cleveland in the Scripps story (winter 2007). I was there at its beginning and a few times over the next couple of years before beginning my time at Ohio University (1949–1953).

We had a vocational high school in Canton, Ohio, built with funds from Timken Roller Bearing Co., which selected top students from Canton to attend as sort of a feeder to Timken. I was in the electrical shop, and we were given loads of surplus electronic gear by the armed forces at the end of World War II. We went up to Cleveland to visit the WEWS studio and discuss with the

engineers what could be done for us to get TV in Canton. In those days, the conventional wisdom was that one couldn't receive a TV signal from more than a few miles away and only in line of sight.

We took one of the large gear reduction motors we had been given, mounted it to the kitchen roof of a friend's house and added a long pole to the motor shaft with a TV antenna on top. We carefully joggled it into place and aimed it at Cleveland (about 50 miles from Canton) to pick up WEWS. It worked, and we had people come from all over to sit in the living room and look at a six-inch round picture tube to see TV.

**Leo Everitt, BSEE '53  
Bluffton, S.C.**

## Write to us

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