



Jenny Tierney, board member, and Fred Weed and Ruth Wright, volunteers.



Pinkie Byrd, board member, and Carrie Blair, volunteer, remove ivy from trees and ground. (Courtesy photos)

## Friends of Silvermont brave 'dead fall' days

The Friends of Silvermont (FOS) includes community advocates who try to keep Silvermont Park as a vibrant community center and historic landmark. FOS's mission is to support and advise Transylvania County management in the renovation, enhancement and upkeep of the Silvermont mansion and surrounding park.

FOS began its 2023 "dead fall" days on Feb. 4 in 27 degree weather. Ten volunteers braved the freezing temperatures to eradicate ivy from the trees and ground and gather fallen limbs along the trail. FOS

meets every first Saturday of the month to pick up fallen branches, prune shrubbery and remove invasive vines from the area. Grounds work is also done on the street front and flower boxes in the parking lot, too.

During the colder months the meeting time is 10 a.m. to noon. We meet earlier as the temperature rises. Come for an hour or join us the whole time. Please bring your own garden tools as everyone works independently in assigned areas of the grounds. Fear not if you do not have tools. There

is always group work to move branches and vines to the front for pick up by the county.

Enhancement of the trail by the county is in action. The trail gets hit hard by seasonal rains therefore the work is necessary to maintain a safe walking path.

FOS has many ways for volunteers to assist on the upkeep of Silvermont mansion and surrounding park besides "dead fall" days. If you are interested in volunteering or serving on a committee, please contact [friendsofsilvermont1917@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofsilvermont1917@gmail.com).



Chet Wright and Erik Rasmussen, board members.