

Safer in the Shade

Seven large white pine trees were planted near baseball fields on Liberty High School grounds May 27 as part of an annual skin cancer awareness initiative led by The Partnership for a Healthier Carroll County. Students and school staff participated in the project, called Safer in the Shade.

The Partnership coordinates Safer in the Shade to help youths learn about preventing melanoma and other forms of skin cancer.

Melanoma is the deadliest form of skin cancer, killing approximately 8,650 Americans in 2009. Carroll County is seventh out of 24 Maryland jurisdictions in melanoma incidence and melanoma mortality, according to the American Cancer Society.

The American Cancer Society recommends that all children and adults use regular protective measures against skin damage, including staying in the shade during the hours of greatest sun intensity and avoiding tanning beds.

Safer in the Shade provides skin cancer education and in-

Please see **Safer, C3**



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Liberty High School Principal Thomas Clowes, center, joins student Greg Wheatley, left, and a representative of The Village Garden Nurseries in the tree-planting project.

Safer

From Page C1

formation in coordination with shade tree plantings to reinforce a sun-safe message.

In April, educators from the Carroll County Health Department and Carroll Hospital Center did skin damage analysis and gave a skin safety presentation to students at the school.

Liberty Principal

Thomas Clowes was very involved in the project — from selecting the trees and tree planting site to “digging in” on the day of the tree planting.

Del. Susan Krebs suggested Liberty as the 2010 site because of her long-standing concern for those using the school’s wide-open athletic fields.

The play spaces at Carroll County Head Start and at Westminster Elementary School were previous recipients of the Safer in the

Shade activities.

The Partnership used coupons from the Marylanders Plant Trees program to defray some of the expense of trees. Trees were purchased locally from The Village Garden Nurseries, whose staff demonstrated proper planting and tree

care techniques.

“We’d like to accelerate the impact of this project by having multiple planting locations each year,” said Tricia Supik, executive director and CEO of The Partnership.

Call 410-871-6784 if interested in hosting a Safer in the Shade project.