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Spring is here, well at least by the calendar and for those who recognize the awakening of nature from winters rest. I hear the singing of migrating birds and the pussy willow kittens are abundant. There are patches of grass beginning to brighten in colors of green and sap dripping from broken branches the winter icy storms left behind. The Ashland County Park District has the spring feature flower of the month posted on their web site, the Skunk Cabbage. This interesting early emerging flowering plant was the focus of the park's earliest flower walk in early March along the paths of Pine Hill's Crall Woods. If you missed the walk, you can find it still at the park or check out the web site at www.ashlandcountyparksdistrict.com for a look at it and discover some interesting facts on this plant. Park Commissioner Sam Weyrick will lead two more flower walks into Pine Hill's beautiful Crall Woods. The first one is scheduled for April 13 beginning at 2 p.m. and expecting to last at least two hours. The second walk is slated for May 11 also beginning at 2 p.m. Participants meet in the parking lot, children are accompanied by their parent or adult supervisor, with everyone dressed for the weather conditions. Generally this means good walking shoes that can handle a bit of moisture, long sleeved shirts and long pants with a camera and binoculars. A spritz of insect repellent is also a good idea with a wide brimmed hat to ward off over exposure to the sun or a quick rain shower. Pine Hill is the northern most park located on Township Road 1601 which is accessed off US 224 one mile west of SR 250 in Ruggles Township. Four more foot bridges made by a local Eagle Scout and will be nice in the early wet season. Friend of the Park, Tim Leslie continues with his Beginner's Bird Walks on Saturdays at Byers Woods. The Tri-County Bird Watchers offer a beginner's bird walk on the fourth Saturday of the month at Byers Woods. (Yes, they are meeting today, March 22 and if you are quick, you may be able to join them.) The Saturday walk will use the Pine Loop Trail and will begin at 9 a.m. and is expected to be completed in two hours. The monthly event is sponsored by the Ashland County Park District. Upcoming walk dates are scheduled for April 26th and May 24th. If your class, group or organization is interested in scheduling a bird walk, call Tim Leslie at 419-289-2626. Byers Woods is open to the public and is on County Road 1754, just east of State Route 60, 4 miles south of Ashland or 3 miles north of Huntsville. The park's web site also has a printable county map with the parks located along with a description of each one. Members of the community are watching for the announcing of opening dates for two of the park district's latest additions and will find them posted when available. The next public meeting of the park board and the Friend of the Park is scheduled for April 7th beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Trinity Lutheran Church and is their normal schedule. All interested parties are encouraged to attend. A report on the successful Family Nature Day will be a portion of the discussion along with other upcoming events on the schedule.