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Mission Statement

*The Springfield
 Parks Foundation
 is a not for profit
 fundraising
 organization
 committed to
 collaboratively
 working with the
 Springfield Park
 District to enhance
 the use, growth and
 preservation of our
 parks.*

Park District Scholarship Program is goal for Annual Gala

This year's Springfield Parks Foundation Annual Gala was held on Wednesday, May 28th, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. at the Inn at 835 on South Second Street. Both a Live and a Silent Auction were held. Attendees enjoyed live music, great food, and beverages. All funds raised during this event went toward the Park District Scholarship Program.

The Springfield Parks Foundation, in collaboration with the Park District, created the scholarship program several years ago. This scholarship fund is specifically set up to help economically disadvantaged youth and their families participate in Park District programs. The Springfield Park District and the Springfield Parks Foundation strive to eliminate the financial barriers that can prevent people from participating in park programs. Eligibility for assistance is based upon family size and income levels. The application process can take up to 10 days, so please inquire in advance of program registration. Some of the programs being offered are swimming, baseball, day camp, hockey, summer camp, tennis, alley cats bowling, golf, and the Junior Zoo Keeper programs.

To learn more about the scholarship program visit the SPF website at www.springfieldparksfoundation.org. Donations are accepted year round for this very worthwhile program. You can use the enclosed envelope to support the Scholarship Program, as well.



Springfield Parks Foundation Tool Wagon is up and running

Has your neighborhood association wanted to clean up the park or green space in your area? Do you have a volunteer group that would like to landscape and beautify your park area?

Thanks to efforts on the Springfield Parks Foundation Board, the Springfield Park District and various community donors, you now have a Volunteer Tool Trailer at your disposal to help with these projects. The Volunteer Tool Trailer is available for use by established volunteer groups (Springfield Green, Foundations, Neighborhood

Associations, etc.) for weekend checkout Friday through Monday and during the week for up to 3 days. The Park District will deliver and pick up the trailer; the contact for the group is responsible for signing it out and adhering to the rules for using the trailer. A waiver and liability form is to be signed stating that the group is responsible for returning the trailer in the same shape it was received.

The Volunteer Tool Trailer is a 6' x 12' utility trailer which is fully stocked and

organized with all the tools needed to complete basic landscaping projects. The trailer will support work crews of 15 to 20 members depending on your project. Now you can take charge of your neighborhood, and we are helping get the "tools" in your hands.

There are still a few new items needed. The wish list is below. For further clarification or if you would like to donate a new item listed, contact Doug Reynolds at 553-1329 or e-mail fl16ratt@mac.com.

Wish List for the Volunteer Tool Trailer:

1. Gas powered tiller/cultivator (something small and easy to pick up and move)
2. Gas powered leaf blower
3. 4 steel leaf rakes, (not plastic)
4. 5 small hand planting trowels
5. Safety equipment, goggles or glasses, reflective vests (5-10 each)
6. 100' garden hose and nozzle
7. Tool box with basic tools, screwdrivers, pliers, hammer, etc.
8. Cotton jersey work gloves, various sizes. (need a lot)
9. Lawn bags and trash bags

All items need to be new to maximize the service life of tools. The greatest need is the gas powered tools. The Springfield Parks Foundation is also looking for someone to cover the expense of the lettering on the tool trailer.

We would especially like to thank those business that helped get this project off the ground – Springfield Park District, Baum Chevrolet and Trailer Sales, Ace Hardware, Noonan True Value, and Sam's Club.

With the warm weather approaching, it is a great time to get out and enjoy your neighborhood, do a bit of spring cleaning, and spend time donating your time to help clean up our neighborhoods.



Southwind Park Progress

The Springfield Park District is setting a precedent in this park by spearheading a project that offers a new dimension of inclusion for all people “without boundaries”, promoting healthy lifestyles and leisure activities. Through the cooperative efforts and financial support from many community individuals and businesses, the Park District is successfully building Southwind Park.

The Southwind is blowin’... and we are growin’

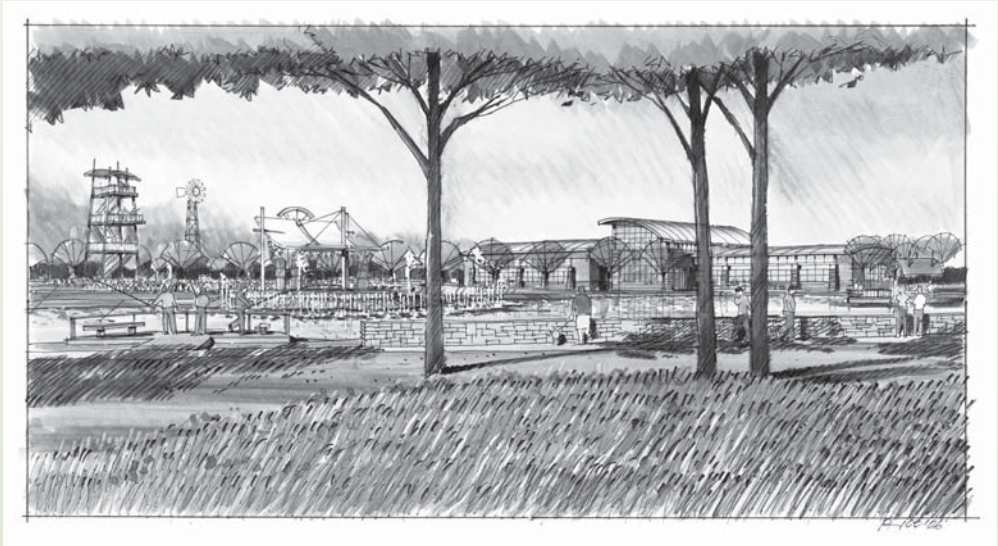
After a long and wet winter and spring, the earth moving and building progress is again in ACTION at Southwind Park.

The infrastructure work for the entire park is complete. All of this necessary work is “underground” and includes, the park’s

- Storm and sanitary sewer system
- Irrigation system
- On site water
- Power / Communication

In addition,

- Over 500 seedling trees were planted
- Acres of grass seed was planted throughout the park
- The parking lots curbing is complete
- The parking lot grading and sub surface rock is complete
- Construction for island bio – swales & tree plantings complete
- The concrete trail way work began



Groundbreaking for the park’s first building, Erin’s Pavilion will be in early June.

Construction is planned to begin this summer on the park’s sensory gardens, butterfly garden, 2 ½ mile urban trail way, sports courts (life size chess, bocce ball, shuffle board and horseshoe pits), playground, fishing piers, a gazebo on the lake and picnic shelters. The park will open in June 2009.

The State of Illinois Department of Natural Resources recently announced the OSLAD grant award to the Park District Southwind Park Project of \$400,000. The grant will fund continued development at Southwind Park. Amenities include wetland/prairie plants, water splash pad, large group shelter & restroom building, senior area with lawn chess, sensory gardens and interpretive signage, native tree plantings, wilderness theme playground and additional parking lot area.

Additional grant applications are pending. Total grant awards have now reached 1.3 million! Fundraising continues for the park.

Cooperative partnerships and donations for the project are overwhelming and demonstrate the community support of our neat project!

Please visit our website for details of our progress, www.springfieldparks.org or call 544-1751 for information or with questions!





Another Summer of Movies in the Park

It is time to celebrate 2008 with the 3rd Annual Movies in the Park Series. The dates have been set, the parks have been chosen and the movies are ready to roll. Be sure to mark your calendars for an evening of summer fun.

Friday, June 20	Comer Cox Park	Bee Movie-PG	Dusk
Friday, July 25	Kiwanis Park	Charlotte's Web-G	Dusk
*Friday, August 29	Lincoln Park	Ratatouille-G	Dusk
Friday, Oct. 24	Riverside Park	Monster House-PG	Dusk

Also enjoy Haunted Hayrides

*August 29 in Lincoln Park is Customer Appreciation Day at the Nelson Center Pool. Be sure and check the website for more activities held at Lincoln Park this day.

Bring a lawn chair, snacks, or purchase items after you arrive and enjoy the parks this summer.

Rain Policy 2008 Season of Music in the Park

Rain Policy

In the likelihood of rain on the day of a performance (movie or music) or if it is raining prior to going to the park, please call 544-1751 for an update or cancellation of Music or Movie in the Park.

The 3rd Annual Music in the Park Series has begun. It is time to spend your summer in the park's listening to wonderful music, and enjoy your area parks.

Come to **Douglas Park on June 14th from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** This 5 band showcase will begin with the *Carrie Williams Due, City Lake Drive, Houdini from Palmer, IL, Clearly Confused and round off the night with Violent Ascension.*

On Sunday, **July 13th in Enos Park - Saturday Night Special, Hot Country and Suzie and the Smokers, Torch Blues** will perform from **4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Come out to **Comer Cox Park on Saturday, July 19th** to enjoy Rhythm and Blues from **2:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** The line up includes *Debbie Ross, John Crisp and Ada Lou and the Capitol Sound Machine.*

Featured on **Saturday, August 23rd from 4:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Dreamland Park** will be *Aside Entertainment (DJ) with John Crisp and Ada Lou and the Capitol Sound Machine.*

The final Music in the Park Program will be held on **Sunday, September 14th in Washington Park from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.** with the popular Celtic Festival. The lineup includes *Exorna, the Elk Pipes & Drums and Emerald Underground.*

Bring a chair, a picnic, friends and family to the parks this summer for the wonderful lineup of Music in the Park.



Springfield Parks Foundation List of Donors

Below is a list of all Springfield Parks Foundation donors in 2007-2008. Every attempt has been made to include Ball givers; it is possible that a name has been inadvertently omitted. If this is the case, please contact a Springfield Parks Foundation Board member or the Springfield Park District and a correction will be made in the next newsletter. Thank you so much for your contributions throughout the year. Because of the generous donors listed below, the Springfield Park Foundation is able to provide many opportunities for community members to enjoy the parks.

Park Benefactors (\$1000 and above)

Lou and Kim Dixon	Southwind Park Project
Bill and Mary Forsyth	Southwind Park Project
Al Inkel	Southwind Park Project
James and Karen Nachtwey	Southwind Park Project
P.J. and Grace Nanavati	Washington Park
Hal and Mary Perkins	Southwind Park Project
Bill and Mary Schnirring	Membership
Nancy Segatto	Southwind Park Project
Jerry Seibert	Southwind Park Project
Jerry & Norma Seibert	Southwind Park Project
Philip and Sandra Wheeler	Southwind Park Project
Kit Malley	Washington Park
Philip Martin	Southwind Park Project
Kelly Ellinger	Southwind Park Project
Richard Barclay	Southwind Park Project
Peter and Cheryl Wise	Southwind Park Project
Fred Prinze	Southwind Park Project
James and Karen Nachtwey	Southwind Park Project
Mike Aiello	Southwind Park Project
Steve and Jeannette Hassebrock	Southwind Park Project
Steven Hassebrock	Southwind Park Project
Peter and Sandi Heckman	Southwind Park Project
Hank Plain	Southwind Park Project
Ron & Therese Romanelli	Southwind Park Project
Rich & Gina Solomon	Southwind Park Project
Joe & Sara Hansberry	Southwind Park Project
Susan Schmitt	Southwind Park Project
Brad and Julie Zara	Southwind Park Project
Ed & Pat Calcaterra	Southwind Park Project
Wally Henderson	Southwind Park Project

Park Supporters (\$500 - \$999)

Robert and Donata Eggers	Southwind Park Project
Joseph and Janice Franz	Southwind Park Project
Paul Porter	Southwind Park Project
Cathy Schwartz	Membership
Don Walton	Membership
Philip Martin	Southwind Park Project

Park Patrons (\$250 - \$499)

Jim and Pam Brown	Membership
Dan and Carolyn Dungan	Membership
Michael Dynak	Membership

Don Ecklund	Washington Park
John Hains	Membership
Friends of Isringhausen Imports, Inc.	Membership
Robert and Sue Tucker	Membership
Frank and Cinda Edwards	Southwind Park Project
Jim Agnew	Washington Park
Janet Glisson	Southwind Park Project
Wendell Hahn	Membership
Frank and Cinda Edwards	Southwind Park Project

Park Donors (\$100 - \$249)

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David and Karen Barber	Membership
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Don and Karola Beahringer	Membership
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Evelyn Brandt Thomas	Membership
Sally Cadagin	Membership
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Diane Corcoran	Washington Park
Fletcher Farrar	Membership
Roger and Rose Fenstermaker	Membership
Kay Fisher	Membership
Tom and Chris Flynn	Membership
James and Libby Gildner	Membership
Robb and Audrie Haag	Membership
Shelby and Lyn Harbison	General
Richard and Roberta Hendee	Membership
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Marilyn Kennedy	Lincoln Park
Ed Kwedar	Membership
Rick and Kim Lawrence	Membership
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Jim and Annette McDermott	Membership
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Ken and Teresa Niemczyk	Membership
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Friends of Standard Mutual Insurance Company	Membership	Paul and Lynne O'Shea	Membership
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Cathy Schwartz	Generations Tree	Dave and Chris Chapman	Membership
Ceci Maloney	Southwind Park Project	Victoria Clemons	Southwind Park Project
Ted and Judy Flickinger	Membership	Court and Karen Conn	Membership
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Keith and Kara Sias	Southwind Park Project	Joe and Madonna Fluckiger	Membership
John and Megan Voss	Generations Tree	Jim & Cindy Fulgenzi	Membership
Brad and Julie Zara	Southwind Park Project	Randy and Kathy Germeraad	Wine Tasting

Individual and Family Donors (up to \$99)

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Marian McDermott	Southwind Park Project	Dick and Caryl Moy	Membership
Norma Bartoletti	Membership	Allen Murphy	Membership
Tomaz and Sandy Borowiecki	Membership	Vivian Najim	Membership
Robert Bradford	Membership	Don and Nancy O'Neal	Membership
Michael and Sandra Brewer	Membership	David O'Shea	Membership
Florence S. Bunn	Membership	Claudio and Sandra Pecori	Membership
Rainie Dallavis	Membership	Mark and Sula Mae Roberts	Membership
William Davison	Generations Tree	Hank and Betsy Rohs	Membership
Lisa Ellis	Membership	Ray and Mary Beth Roland	Membership
Helen Evenson	Membership	Steve and Sue Scaife	Membership
Bob and Janie Irwin	Membership	Bruce and Marguerite Simon	Southwind Park Project
Karl Kohlrus	Membership	Wallace and Patricia Strow	Membership
Patricia Lloyd	Membership	Ron and Ann Tucker	General
Frank and Blanche Logan	Membership	Pete and Jennifer Wagner	Membership
		Randy and Karen Witter	Membership
		Louise Wollan	General

Bunn Park
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SPF challenges the SPD to a Bocce Ball Showdown!!!

The Springfield Parks Foundation's 4th Annual Bocce Ball Tournament is expected to draw a lot of interest this year. What has been "friendly" competition in past years will turn into "heated" competition at Centennial Park this fall. We anticipate more rivalry between teams of similar organizations and companies. Stay tuned for more information by checking the web site at www.springfieldparksfoundation.org. Registration information and competition dates will be posted as soon as final plans are firm.

Isn't there a team of co-workers or a business competitor you'd like to challenge to a game of bocce ball? Think about it as we set the stage for our annual tournament.

See you at the courts!

FOURTH ANNUAL



Angel of Hope statue coming to Washington Park Botanical Garden

The Angel of Hope statue will be a welcomed addition to the Washington Park Botanical Garden and more importantly the greater Springfield community. The beautifully landscaped site will be located just north of the rose garden and will be graced by the Carillon as its backdrop.

The installation of an Angel of Hope statue responds to the needs of local families who have experienced the tragic loss of a child and helps facilitate the growth and healing of parents, families, and the wider community in which these departed children should be playing, working, and living. The angel statue will provide a place for parents and loved ones to remember their children and find solace knowing that their beloved children are acknowledged and commemorated in the angel statue.

The angel statue was first introduced to the world in the book *The Christmas Box*, a worldwide best-selling story by author Richard Paul Evans. In the book, a woman mourns the loss of her child at the base of an angel monument. For over a decade many families have found comfort in the message of hope and love found in this touching story.

Although the story is mostly fiction, the angel monument described in the book once existed but was later destroyed in a flood. In response to reports that grieving parents were seeking out the angel as a place to remember and heal, the author commissioned a new Angel statue. The sculpture is modeled according to the description in Evans' book. If you look closely you can find the word "HOPE" delicately engraved on the angel's right wing.

The ground breaking for the Angel of Hope site is scheduled for this spring with the dedication taking place on October 4, 2008. Each year on December 6th at 7:00 p.m. a public candlelight ceremony will be held at the Angel statue in honor of the children to whom the statue is dedicated. The Angel statue is a beautiful work of art that commemorates the lives of children who have left us too soon. If you would like more information on the Angel of Hope please contact Doug Reynolds at 217-553-1329 or email f16ratt@mac.com. You may also visit our website www.springfieldangelofhope.org.



Velasco Tennis Center event July 5th

Please join the Springfield Parks Foundation, the Springfield Park District, and the Velasco Tennis Committee as we honor the Velasco Family by renaming the tennis facility in Washington Park.

The incredibly hard-working and (mostly) good-looking members of the Committee to Rename the Washington Park Tennis Facility the VELASCO TENNIS CENTER are planning a party. And you won't want to miss it. Get in prime party shape, plan your vacation around it, reschedule your elective surgery, and postpone your nervous breakdown. All the finest people in Springfield and some of the less refined (like, The Committee) will be there.

In addition, this is our chance to honor two of the nicest, most valuable people in town – Manny and Blanca Maria Velasco – for their decades of work in organizing, coaching, and promoting tennis.

Mark the date July 5th.

Springfield
Parks Foundation

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