

Parks Foundation

CLARK COUNTY

Inspiring kids of all ages to connect with nature.

June 2011

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The Parks Foundation Annual Luncheon is Tuesday, June 14, at the Water Resources Education Center. Don't miss it - there are only a few spots left! Register today at www.parksfoundation.us



Congratulations to the 2011

Florence B. Wager Award Winners!

The *Leading Eagle Award* recognizes a community leader who has led initiatives that have significantly influenced the life, health, and direction of our parks, trails, and recreation programs. **Ron Onslow, Ridgefield City Mayor** and community activist, has been selected as the 2011 Leading Eagle recipient. Onslow's long list of achievements include coordination of volunteer efforts towards construction of Eagle's View Park and the Blue Heron Community Garden, organizing fundraising events in support of the Ridgefield Overlook Park Project, facilitating the improvement of over 3,000 feet of city-owned trails in Abrams Park, and leading efforts in planting over 300 trees and native plants in Ridgefield's parks and open spaces.

The *V-Formation Flyer Award* recognizes the spirited volunteer whose dedication goes above and beyond the norm. They unhesitatingly give of their time and resources, organizing, developing, or enhancing the parks, trails, and recreation programs of our community. In honor of more than 20 years of commitment and dedication to the Vancouver Tennis Center, **John Garofalo** has been named the 2011 V-Formation Flyer Award recipient. Garofalo was instrumental in the development of the Vancouver Tennis Center Foundation.

The *Tributary Award* recognizes a parks and recreation department professional who has gone above and beyond their daily duties in developing or enhancing innovative programs that connect the public to parks and recreation in new ways. **Debbi Hanson, Director of Battle Ground Parks and Recreation**, has been selected as the 2011 recipient of the Tributary Award. Among the many achievements cited in her nomination were the development of fitness and exercise programs for seniors, the establishment of a summer playground program, and the creation of community-wide holiday events and programs.

The distinctive, natural, stone awards, designed and sponsored by Vancouver Granite Works, will be presented Tuesday, June 14, at the Parks Foundation Annual Luncheon at the Water Resources Education Center.

We're pleased to announce the 2011

Community Grant Awards

The Parks Foundation will award \$34,642.01 in support of Clark County parks, trails, and recreation programs at the June 14 Annual Luncheon.

The following programs and projects have been awarded funds for 2011:

- Battle Ground: Summer Playground Program—\$6,000 funded through Riverview Community Bank.
- Ridgefield: New bleachers for Abrams Park—\$6,200 funded through Waste Connections, Inc.
- Washougal: Kerr Island Park Clean Up and Trail Building Day—\$1,600 funded through Columbia Resource Company.
- Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation: Everybody Plays! Recreation Scholarship Program—\$10,000 in partnership with Waste Connections, Inc.
- Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation Marshall Community Park Nature Play Area Construction -- \$10,000.
- Yacolt: New Tri-Bar Playground Equipment—\$842.01 in partnership with Northwest Playground Equipment, Inc.

The foundation was able to fund a large portion of grant requests this year through the generous support of Columbia Resource Company, First Pacific Associates, Northwest Playground Equipment, Riverview Community Bank, Waste Connections, Inc., and the many generous community members who contributed to the grant program throughout the year.

The Parks Foundation receives \$25,000 to ensure Everybody Plays!

The Community Foundation of SW Washington has awarded two grants totaling \$25,000 in support of the Vancouver-Clark Parks & Recreation Everybody Plays! Recreation Scholarship Program. The funds were provided through the Community Foundation's Community Giving Fund (\$15,000) and Children's Trust Fund (\$10,000).

This funding will have a significant impact on the lives of many children in Clark County, who might not otherwise be able to afford participation in fee-based recreation activities. Parks and Recreation budget cuts throughout Clark County have made programs for low-income families, like the Everybody Plays! Recreation Scholarship Program, extremely vulnerable.

The Parks Foundation is committed to help fill the funding gaps for this program and others like it in our community. We are extremely grateful for this generous grant award from the Community Foundation.

If you would like to learn more about the Everybody Plays! Recreation Scholarship program, contact the Parks Foundation, at 360.487.8370, or Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation at 360.487.8311.



Mark June 11 on your calendar for the next Nature Explore Club Event!

The Nature Club kickoff at Haagen Park on May 20 was a huge success. Join us for the June Club event, celebrating National Get Outdoors Day at the Water Resources Education Center.

Saturday, June 11, Vancouver-Clark Parks and Recreation and the Parks Foundation will host a Vancouver-Clark County Nature Explore booth at the Water Resources Education Center Get Outdoors Day. From 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., your family will enjoy prizes, surprises, and opportunities to try lots of outdoor activities. For more information about this fun event, please visit the Water Resources Education Center website. The Nature Explore Club is a joint program of the Arbor Day Foundation and Dimensions Education Program, along with local community and business supporters, including Columbia Sportswear, REI, Waterford Press, Backyard Birdshop and Jan Oliva.



June 19
7:00 a.m.
Begins at Esther Short Park

Registration closes June 13!

Visit the Vancouver USA Marathon site for more information at www.vancouverusamarathon.com.

Early Bird Deadline
June 17!

11th ANNUAL PARKS FOUNDATION CLASSIC

Monday, August 22, at Camas Meadows
Register at www.parksfoundation.us