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# Annual Report





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## About Us

Hamilton Parks Conservancy, formerly the City of Hamilton Division of Parks and Recreation, was established in January 2015.

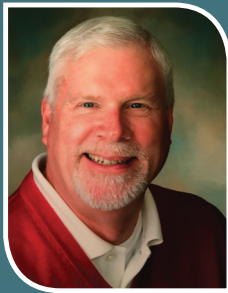
The Conservancy is a 501(c)3 non-profit focused solely on managing and improving the parks located within the City of Hamilton.



The Hamilton Parks Conservancy's mission is to create a clean, safe, and fun outdoor environment for the citizens of Hamilton.

# Board of Trustees

## Letter from the Board Chairperson



As we look back on the year 2018, I would like to review the year 2014. Why you ask? Well, it was then that teams comprising of City employees, Hamilton Community Foundation members and interested citizens made two trips to witness how other municipalities operate their park systems... specifically, Louisville, Kentucky and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Joshua Smith, Tim Werdman and Steve Timmer visited with folks at the Olmstead Parks Conservancy in Louisville. While there, they viewed the five parks managed by this organization and got a better understanding of their operations, funding, staffing, etc. While certainly helpful, the relatively small operation created additional questions from this group. Later in the year, Joshua Smith, Thomas Vanderhorst, Kathy Klink, John Guidugli, and Steve Timmer visited the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy. In this situation, the City of Pittsburgh managed some parks while the Conservancy managed others. Again, while helpful, these two systems did not portray the vision created by these individuals. After numerous meetings with City Staff, attorneys, the Hamilton Community Foundation and some of our present Board, our first official meeting of the Hamilton Parks Conservancy, a not for profit organization, occurred on November 18, 2014. Four of our current Board members made up the first meeting. As of the writing of the 2018 Annual report, we are one of the few Parks Conservancies that operate 100% of the park land in their respective communities. As a Board, we do not take this task lightly.

2019 will be another eventful and exciting year for the Hamilton Parks Conservancy. We began constructing Jefferson Park in 2018 on East Avenue as a result of numerous donations including the donation of the land by Frank and JoAnn Pfirmann. This park will be completed during the Spring of 2019. We are going to research and plan the construction of Pickleball Courts in a centrally located area of the City. An additional nine holes will be constructed at the Millikin Woods Disc Golf Course. We will work with Leadership Hamilton Class 27 and the Hamilton Conservation Corps to recreate the Cliffview Natural Area. The Arts in Our Parks program will continue with a mural painted on the new Nature Center at Joyce Park. We will develop a plan for the renovation of the Historic Joyce Park Home. Finally, we will continue a high level of maintenance in our parks and continue our proactive maintenance program for our park buildings and assets.

Our organization continues to seek out and work with local companies and contractors whenever possible. Playground Equipment Services and Al-Joe's Pet & Garden Centers, Inc. have also provided in kind contributions to us during the year. Thank you!

As a community, we are extremely fortunate to have donors and a staff that believe in the mission of the Hamilton Parks Conservancy. I believe that our citizens are reaping the benefits of the creation of this organization. A sincere thank you on behalf of your Board of Directors!

**James K. Fitton, Board Chairperson**

## Board of Trustees

James K. Fitton  
*Chairperson*

Gerry A. Hammond  
*Vice Chairperson*

Thomas Vanderhorst  
*Treasurer*

Carrie Mancuso  
*Secretary*

Kathleen Klink  
*Trustee*

Courtney Sanders  
*Trustee*

Dr. Kenneth L. Wehr  
*Trustee*





# Staff

## Director's Report for 2018



It's hard to believe that The Hamilton Parks Conservancy has just completed our fourth year of managing, maintaining and providing capital investment to Hamilton's park system. In 2018, we went to the neighborhoods. The Hamilton Parks Conservancy replaced eleven playgrounds and swing sets in our neighborhood parks in 2018. Add these to the seven playgrounds

we replaced in our first three years, and we now have eighteen new playgrounds in the City of Hamilton. We plan on replacing at least one more in 2019. This could not have happened without the generosity of our citizens, service organizations, and the Hamilton Community Foundation.

A unique opportunity arose in 2018. The Conservancy was contacted to see if we could construct a park in the Jefferson neighborhood (4th Ward). This is one of the few areas in our city without a park. The Frank Pfirman Family offered to donate the land and start-up funding. Mr. and Mrs. Harry Thomas contacted us and offered \$20,000.00, Mr. and Mrs. John A. Whalen added \$15,000.00, Kathleen Klink added \$10,000.00, and The Hamilton Parks Conservancy is appropriating \$25,000.00 from our capital budget. We will also utilize funds from "The Friends of the Parks Fund" at the Hamilton Community Foundation. The Parks Conservancy plans on opening Jefferson Park before the school year ends. The new park is located at East Avenue and Hensley Avenue next to the Boys and Girls Club.

Some great news in 2018! The American Planning Association named RiversEdge at Marcum Park "One of the Five Great Spaces in America" for 2018. Thanks once again to the Marcum Family.

I would like to thank The Hamilton Parks Conservancy's Board of Trustees for their time and assistance and dedication to the improvement of Hamilton's Park System. Thanks also to our donors and the Hamilton Community Foundation for their continued financial support, and to Adam Helms and his crew for a great concert series, the many city departments for their support in 2018, and City Manager Joshua Smith, Mayor Patrick Moeller and City Council for their support and confidence.

I would be remiss without thanking our team who work tirelessly to provide Hamilton's citizens with a park system that is getting better and better with each passing year. The management provided by Jon Cook, our Park Maintenance Superintendent and Audrey Baker, the Office Manager, makes my job so much easier. Special thanks go to Jeff Jones, our CPO, who worked almost every weekend during the summer making sure our Spraygrounds were properly operating, Lisa Scrimizzi-Jones for her dedication to making Colligan Lodge the beautiful venue it is, and of course Janis Overholser for taking our planting beds to a new level.

On a sad note, we lost Ron Maxwell, our Joyce Park Caretaker, in September. He was not only great for our park system but also a wonderful man. It doesn't seem the same at Joyce Park without him. He is sadly missed.

The year 2018 was also one of continued improvements.

- The interactive water sculpture was installed at Marcum Park.
- The little river at Marcum Park received upgrades and improvements.
- Marcum Park signs were added at two locations.
- A sign was added to Rotary Park.
- Six park shelters were re-roofed, painted and reinforced.
- The Beckett Lodge (the Joyce Park log cabin) was upgraded and will be available for parties in the spring of 2019.
- Remodeling of the Joe Nuxhall Driving Range building was started, and it will become a Nature Center.
- Our "Arts in the Parks" program continued with four murals and a sculpture. The murals theme in 2018 was insects. One mural is at Joyce Park, one at Benninghofen Park, one at Booker T. Washington Splash Pad, and the final one is at Millikin Woods. The "Live Your Dreams" sculpture by Dale Rogers is appropriately placed at Joyce Park where many children are playing sports. The Hamilton Parks Conservancy's "Arts in the Parks" program is funded entirely through private donations.

**Steve Timmer, Director**

The Hamilton Parks Conservancy

## Staff Members

**Steve Timmer, Director**

**Audrey Baker, Office Manager**

**Jon Cook, Park Maintenance Superintendent**

**Evan Chapman, Administrative Specialist**

**Sarge, Park Inspector**

**The Field Crew**





# Rebuilding Your Neighborhood Parks

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## Schuster Park

Children enjoying the new playscape at Schuster Park in Lindenwald. Schuster Park received one of the eleven new playscapes that were installed in 2018. The 2.4-acre park is located at 748 Clinton Avenue.





# Rebuilding Your Neighborhood Parks

## Griesmer Park

Griesmer Park is located at 324 St. Clair Avenue. In addition to the new playscape, this park is great for sled riding. Griesmer Park is also home to the Five Fathers monument.



## Marcum Park

Marcum Park gets better every year. In 2018, an interactive water sculpture was added as well as two new Marcum Park signs. The two interactive water features make it easy to cool off during hot weather. Marcum Park is home to the Hamilton Flea and the Badin High School festival. It is no wonder that RiversEdge at Marcum Park was named “One of the Five Great Spaces in America” in 2018.







## Joyce Park

The “Live Your Dreams” sculpture by Dale Rogers was added in 2018. Hamilton Parks Conservancy crews installed the foundation and set the sculpture. Janis Overholser, our horticulturist, provided the beautiful landscaping.



## Benninghofen Park

School children from Linden Elementary school enjoy the park. Benninghofen Park is one of the seven parks that includes a sprayground/water feature.



## Yoga at Marcum Park

Yoga is now provided at the Hamilton Flea! The Hamilton Flea takes place on the 2nd Saturday of the month during the months of May, June, July, August, and September.



## Southerland Park

The new playscape constructed at Southerland Park has been a hit. The 2.6-acre park is located in the 300 block of Park Avenue and serves the Prospect Hill neighborhood. The Hamilton Parks Conservancy, in 2018, also re-activated Beeler Park and Kingston Park. These two parks received new playscapes to replace those that were removed many years ago.

# Financial Report

## Income

### Grants/Contributions

Community Development Block	
Grant-Beeler Park Playscape	\$50,000.00
Jefferson Park	\$26,838.60
Marcum Park Little River Upgrades	\$47,465.00
Hamilton Community Foundation Grants	\$125,000.00
Friends of the Parks	\$40,000.00
Misc. Donations	\$42,947.95
City of Hamilton Capital Grant	\$131,500.00
Tree Memorial Program	\$1,185.00

### Anonymous Grants/Contributions

Arts in the Parks	\$10,000.00
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### Rentals & Fees

Softball Leagues Fees	\$27,757.80
Ball Diamond Rental Fees	\$25,099.00
RiversEdge/Marcum Park Rental Fees	\$13,385.00
Field Rental – Joyce Park	\$37,889.50
Show Wagon Rentals	\$2,500.00
Colligan Lodge Rentals	\$61,710.84
Picnic Shelter Fees	\$32,446.70

### Concessions

North End Softball	\$10,707.86
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### Miscellaneous Income

	\$10,215.81
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### Programming Income

HPC Concert Series	\$24,714.06
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### Contract Income

Great Miami Recreation Trail	\$30,000.00
Sanitation Income – Park Trash Collection	\$155,295.94

### Management Agreement

	<b>\$1,288,231.41</b>
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### Total Income

	<b>\$2,194,890.47</b>
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## Expenses

### Capital Improvements

Jefferson Park	\$70,103.08
Arts in the Parks Expense	\$11,340.85
Tree Memorial Program	\$1,185.00
Marcum Park Little River Upgrades	\$47,345.73
Beeler Park Playscape	\$88,800.86
Capital Improvements	\$522,999.13

### Equipment Capital Improvement Plan

	\$105,319.17
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### Repairs/Maintenance

Gravel/Soil	\$7,182.76
Other Repair and Maintenance	\$15,581.54
Building Repair and Maintenance	\$40,323.78
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	\$23,587.24

### Spraygrounds

Maintenance, Chemicals, Health Permits, Emergency Phones, and Repairs	\$20,304.46
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### Office

Telephone/Internet	\$14,056.66
Office Supplies – Consumable	\$3,912.69
Office Equipment	\$3,776.40
Postage	\$751.15

### Trash Disposal

	\$12,009.43
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### Other

Membership Dues	\$3,300.00
Bank Charges	\$4,360.43
Misc. Expense	\$1,953.42
Training and Education	\$1,595.91
Marketing/Social Media	\$3,933.51

### Programming Expense

	\$17,081.17
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### Professional Services

	\$62,810.41
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### Insurance Premium

	\$37,540.00
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### Fundraising Expense

	\$587.50
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### Fleet

Vehicle Repair and Maintenance	\$73,204.46
Fuel-Equipment	\$7,996.58
	\$32,846.13

### Materials/Supplies

Tools Non-Capital	\$8,120.16
Concession North End	\$5,782.09
Consumable	\$26,372.33
Chemical Supplies/Seed Grounds	\$15,924.62
Snow Removal Supplies	\$3,634.00

### Utilities

Utility Service	\$89,373.54
Fuel Oil and Propane	\$6,335.65

### Taxes

PR Taxes/Workers Compensation/ Unemployment Compensation	\$62,224.42
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### Contractual Services

Misc. Lawn Care Services	\$11,585.45
Contractual Services	\$153,692.20

### Salaries/Benefits

	\$677,744.88
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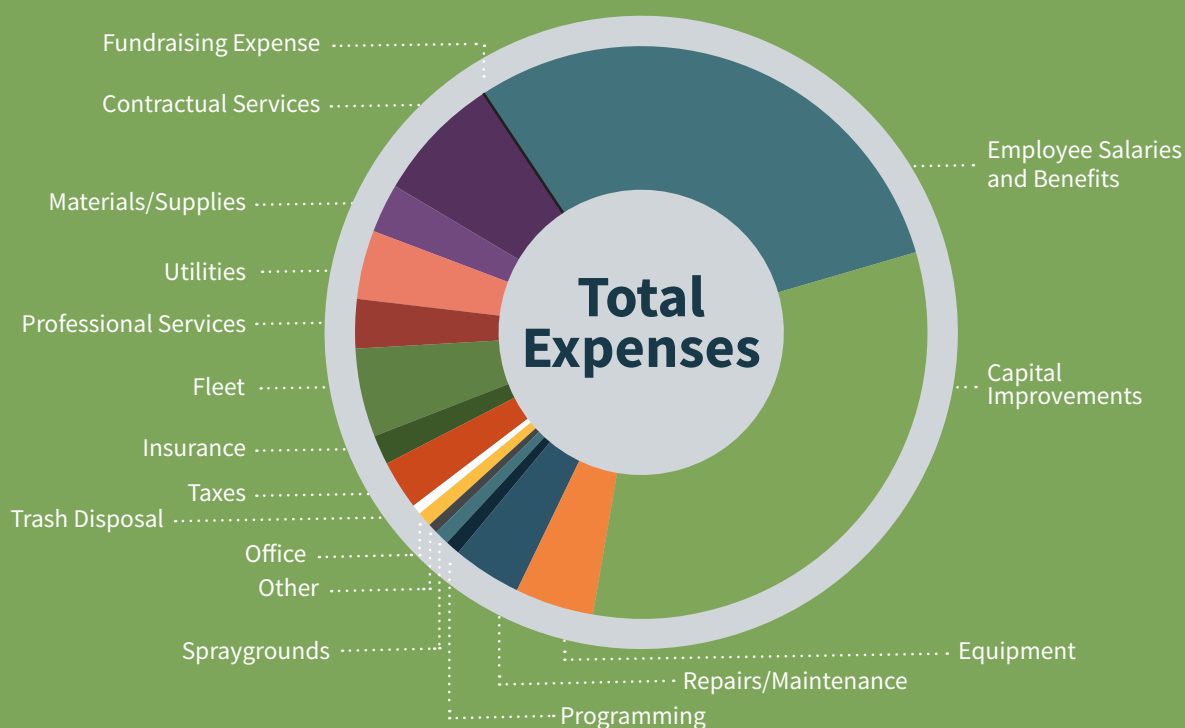
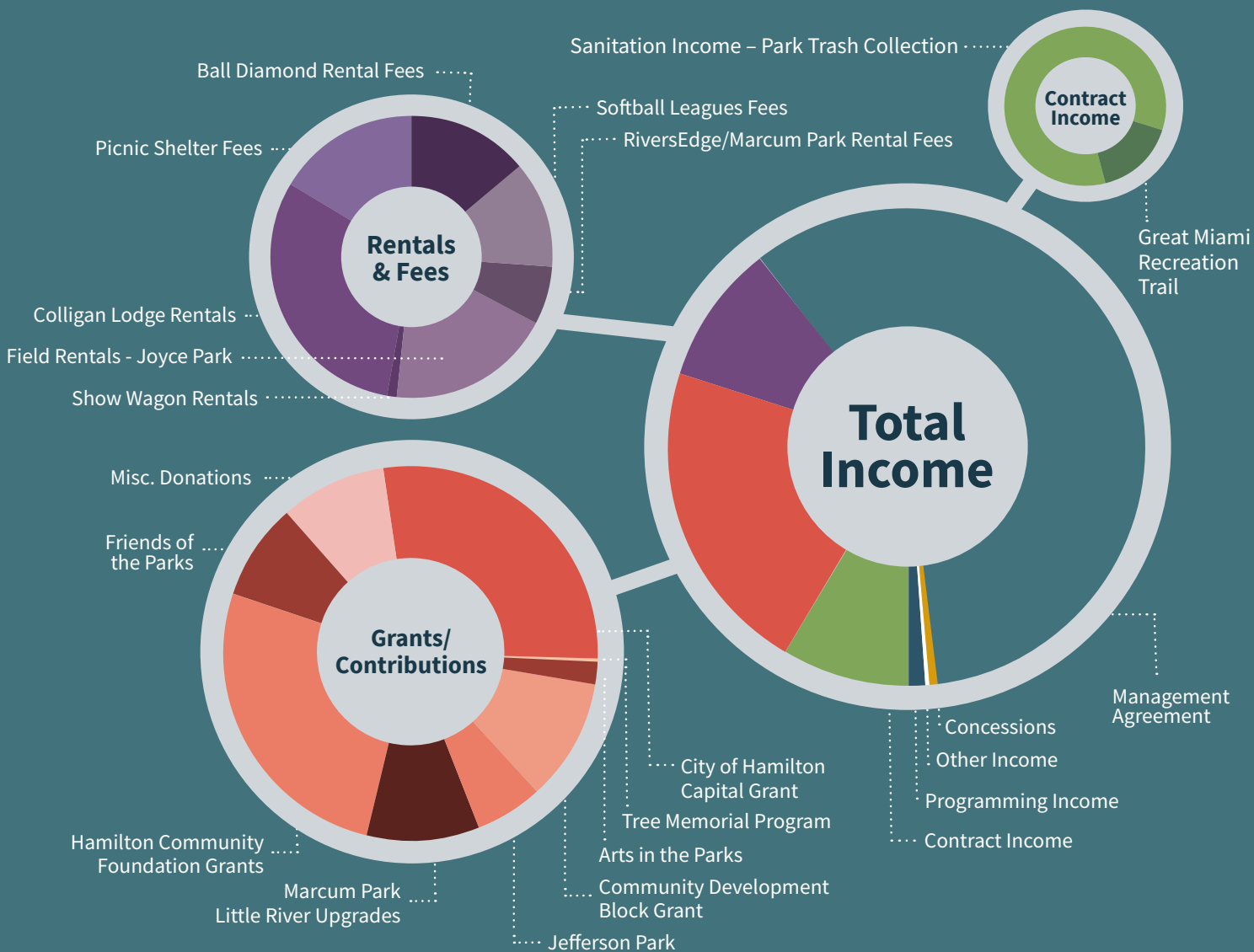
### Total Expenses

	<b>\$2,296,578.79</b>
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### Net Income

	<b>(-\$101,688.32)</b>
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# Our 2018 Partners

**\$250,000  
& over**

**The Marcum Family  
City of Hamilton**



**\$100,000+**

**Hamilton Community  
Foundation  
The Pfirman Family**

**\$25,000 –  
\$49,999**

**Mr. and Mrs. Joel H.  
Schmidt – Friends of  
the Parks and the Dog  
Park Fund**

**\$20,000 –  
\$24,999**

**The Carruthers Family  
Harry and Jerri Thomas**

**\$1,500 – \$2,499**

**Dr. and Mrs. Kenneth Wehr  
Mr. and Mrs. William V. Coombs  
Miami University Regionals –  
Sponsorship “Signs of Life” Concert  
Mr. and Mrs. James D. Fuhrman  
Mr. and Mrs. William A. Groth**



**\$15,000 –  
\$19,999**

**Mr. and Mrs. John A.  
Whalen – In Memory of  
E. Hjalmar Persson, for  
Jefferson Park**

**\$1,000 – \$1,499**

**Mr. and Mrs. Mark G. Rentschler  
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Marcum  
Mr. Dennis L. Wittman  
Judge and Mrs. John Moser  
Mr. and Mrs. Thomas E. Vanderhorst Jr.**



**\$10,000 –  
\$14,999**

**Mr. and Mrs. James  
Fitton  
Ms. Kathleen Klink**

**\$2,500 – \$4,999**

**Mrs. Sherry A. Armstead  
Mrs. Gerry A. Hammond  
Steve and Linda  
Timmer**



**\$500 – \$999**

**Mr. and Mrs. Tom Collins  
Mr. and Mrs.  
Thomas B. Rentscher Jr.  
Wilks Insurance Agency  
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Wile  
Mr. and Mrs. John B. Kirsch**





## \$250 – \$499

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas  
G. Stephenson

Don and Linda Hurley

Ms. Karen Baker



## \$50 – \$99.99

Mr. and Mrs. Robert  
C. Hicks

Mr. and Mrs. Vince  
Jolivette

Mr. Jack Kirsch

Liz, Danny and Bo Hayden

Mrs. Martha Jane Spain

Ms. Barbara Zellner

Mrs. Phyllis R. Snyder

Mr. and Mrs. Shaun  
Higgins

Mr. Evan Chapman

Dr. Doris Bergen

Mrs. Maryann H. Lingler

Mr. and Mrs. James  
A. Stever

Mr. and Mrs. Brandon  
J. Saurber

The Dole Family

Mr. and Mrs. Dan Antenen

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Ross

Mr. and Mrs. Vincent  
Jolivette

Mrs. Frances Jacoby

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas  
Brooke

Mr. and Mrs. Paul  
D. Trokhan

## \$100 – \$249

Mr. and Mrs. John Guidugli

Ms. Janet Fatika

Ms. Joan Fatika

Mrs. Nancy B. Follmer

Judge Matthew J. Crehan

Mr. and Mrs. Donald V. Ryan

Mr. and Mrs. Morton  
L. Mullins

Mr. and Mrs. J.  
Scott Scrimizzi

Mr. and Mrs. James  
C. Baker

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey  
P. Thurman

Mr. and Mrs. George  
R. Brown II

Dr. and Mrs. Khoen Sih

Dr. and Mrs. Thomas Nye  
– Nye Family – Nye Family  
Vision Center

Mr. Bill Wilks

Mr. and Mrs. William  
R. Brunner

Mr. and Mrs. Richard  
T. Underwood

Mr. and Mrs. Robert  
L. Cottrell

Dr. and Mrs. George  
T. Manitsas

Mrs. Anne G. McAdams

Mr. and Mrs. Michael  
P. Dingeldein

Dr. and Mrs. Glenn  
W. Stitsinger Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. John A.  
Whalen – In Memory of  
Sarah Marcum

Mr. and Mrs. John  
J. Reister – In Memory  
of Sarah Marcum

Mrs. Mary C. Spoerl

Mr. and Mrs. Ray E. Smith

Mr. and Mrs. Patrick  
J. Pawling

Mrs. Maryann H. Lingler –  
In Memory of Sarah Marcum

Mr. and Mrs. David L. Belew

Ms. Patricia Froelke

Mr. and Mrs. Mark  
L. Sanders III

Mr. and Mrs. Mark  
L. Sanders Jr.

Mr. and Mrs. John Reister

Mr. Scott W. Timmer

## Up to \$49

Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey  
W. Smallwood

Mrs. Jacqueline Blount

Mr. and Mrs. William  
L. Hartford

Ms. Allegra R. Brown

Dr. and Mrs. Gregory  
L. Savage

Dr. and Mrs. Spencer  
August

Mr. and Mrs. William  
C. Keck

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas  
J. Shannon

Mr. and Mrs. James  
P. Fening

Mr. and Mrs. Dean Wright

Ms. Ann E. Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth  
R. Chaney

Mr. and Mrs. Robert  
Short

Judge and Mrs. John  
G. Rosmarin

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth  
R. Knodel

Mr. and Mrs. Fred  
R. Marcum

Mr. and Mrs. Neil  
L. Sohngen II

Mrs. Mary Joe  
Staarmann

Mr. and Mrs. James  
L. Brown

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur  
C. Savage


Mr. and Mrs. Steven  
A. Williams





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**Become a Friend of the Parks!**

