



HAMILTON

parks

CONSERVANCY



First

2015 ANNUAL REPORT

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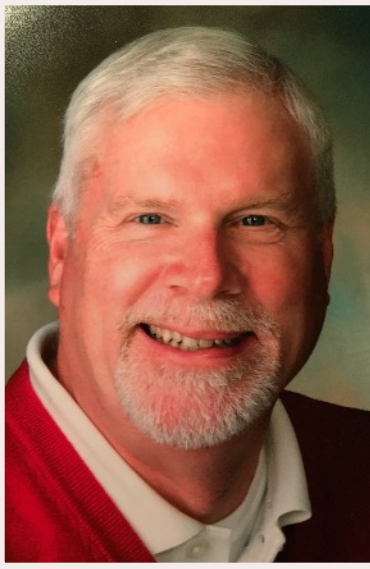
Hamilton Parks Conservancy, formerly the City of Hamilton Division of Parks and Recreation, was established in January 2015.

The Hamilton Parks Conservancy was created to provide services to the residents of the City at a lower cost and to have the ability to conduct fundraising through the solicitation of donations.



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES



JAMES K. FITTON
Chairperson

Message from the Chairperson

It's been an exciting and productive first year for the Hamilton Parks Conservancy as we watch the improvement and renovation of our public green spaces and playgrounds.

The people of Hamilton owe a debt of gratitude to the City of Hamilton for having the vision to allow this group of concerned citizens to assume management of our parks.

The sad reality of modern economics and the current political climate prevents government entities from giving parks the funding and attention that park users want and need. This is not a problem unique to Hamilton, but we have been able to come up with unique solution: A not-for-profit entity that can maintain and improve our public recreational areas without the red tape, bureaucracy and politics that is part and parcel of civic government.

Not only can the Parks Conservancy respond quickly and efficiently to public concerns and find solutions in a more economical manner, but can purchase materials and services at a better cost than a government agency without the restrictions that slow progress and raise prices.

Through the grace and generosity of the parks users and supporters, we are able to do things that may not have enough public interest to justify the spending of tax money. A lot of taxpayers see parks and recreation as an extra, something expendable in tough economic times. The Hamilton Parks Conservancy, however, can take a broader view and operate under a philosophy that good parks make for good cities and bring together donors, volunteers and other supporters to make things happen.

Take the disc golf course going in at Millikin Woods, for instance. It's not something with broad appeal, but a small group of people would get a lot of use out of something like this that they can't do in their own back yard. With the assistance and blessing of the Parks Conservancy and the Hamilton Community Foundation, those people banded together to raise the money to donate the course to the parks, not only for their use, but for the use of all. This is something that could never have happened in the current economy with government money. Now, the disc golf lovers can have their disc golf course without the rest of the citizenry getting up in arms about special interest government spending.

The Board of Trustees owe our own debt of gratitude to Steve Timmer and his staff for their dogged determination in turning the parks system around, to the Hamilton Community Foundation for being not only a fiscal agent but a catalyst for raising funds to make these improvements, and to Hamilton City Council and City Staff for their cooperation in making this project a reality.

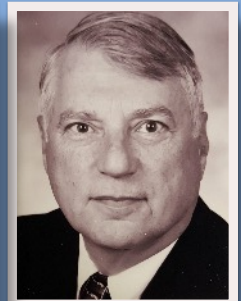
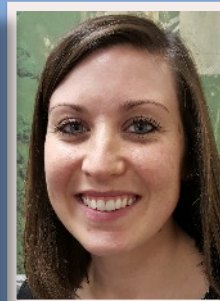
We have just finished the first year of a five-year agreement, and already the results are palpable. All it takes is a drive around the city to see the difference, making it hard to imagine what it will be like in four years, but we are certain that it will be spectacular!

GERRY A. HAMMOND
Vice Chairperson

THOMAS VANDERHORST
Treasurer

CARRIE MANCUSO
Secretary

KATHLEEN KLINK
COURTNEY SANDERS
DR. KENNETH L. WEHR



STAFF

Directors Report 2015

The Hamilton Parks Conservancy's inaugural year has been both exciting and extremely busy. I hope everyone has noticed the improved maintenance in our parks. We did not accomplish everything we desired, but I think we made real progress. I believe that to improve our neighborhoods, we must improve our parks.

We had to prioritize and tackle unsightly conditions and safety issues first. On page six of this report you can read a list of the highlights of our year.

What's coming in 2016:

- Installation of two new spraygrounds, which brings Hamilton's total to five water features including YMCA swimming pool at the Booker T. Washington Community Center;
- Opening of the Crawford Woods restroom;
- Construction of a disc golf course at Millikin Woods;
- Construction of the new public park at High and Second;
- Construction of Marcum Park, thanks to the Marcum Family;
- Installation of new grills, benches, trash cans, and picnic tables at a park near you;
- Continued park maintenance and improvements;
- The establishment of a Hamilton Parks Endowment Fund at the Hamilton Community Foundation.

We are also pleased to announce that the Parks Conservancy has been awarded two grants for new ADA compliant playgrounds, one at Millikin Woods and the other at the Booker T. Washington Community Center.

I would like to thank everyone who made all of this possible:

- The Hamilton Parks Conservancy's Board of Trustees for their time, assistance, and support given to me and the staff in 2015;
- The Hamilton Community Foundation for their assistance, the playground grant, and for being our fiscal agent;
- The City of Hamilton's Department of Public Utilities, the Department of Public Works, the Finance Department, and Hamilton's Strike Team;
- Community Design Alliance providing professional designs and personal and professional support for our construction projects;
- Our Donors, who in 2015 contributed over \$60,000;
- The Marcum Family for providing 3.5 million dollars for the construction of Marcum Park.
- City Manager Joshua Smith, the Mayor, and City Council for their support and for having the confidence that we could accomplish this mission!
- My staff, without whom nothing would have been accomplished: A special thanks to Audrey Baker, the office manager, for keeping me under control; Jon Cook, the Parks Maintenance Supervisor, who is impossible to outwork; Richard O Jones, who oversees our social media, newsletters, and website; Chad Riegert, our 2015 Project Manager; and of course, the staff in the field who really does the work and makes things look good.

Sincerely,

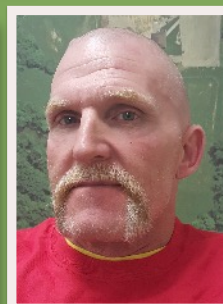


STEVE TIMMER
Director

AUDREY BAKER
Office Manager

JON COOK
Maintenance Supervisor

RICHARD O JONES
Communications

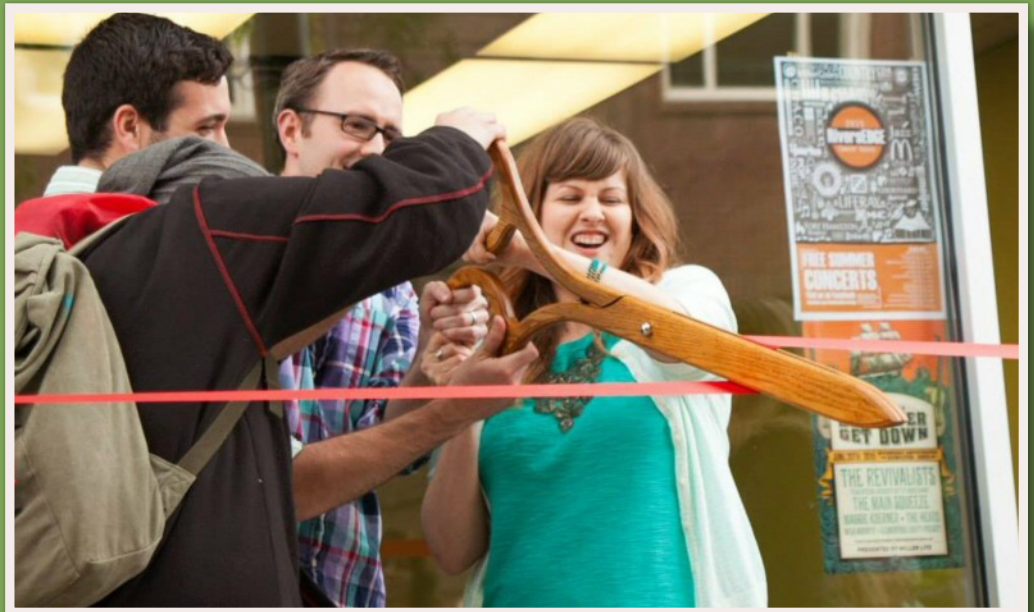


SETTING UP SHOP



Welcome to the Birdhouse!

The City of Hamilton did the Parks Conservancy a big favor by giving us office space in the city's former utilities office at 106 North Second Street, next to the city garage exit. One problem, though: It had an U-G-L-Y plain concrete exterior that did not speak to our dynamic mission to make your city parks safe and fun. But with the help of the Art Strategy Committee, we received a grant that allowed us to hire local artists Taylor Welch (Community Design Alliance), Jenn Acus-Smith (Fitton Center for Creative Arts), Brianne Thyen (Miami University Hamilton student) and Stephen Smith (InsideOut Studio) to come up with a nature-themed design. Now, we love our "birdhouse" and are glad to be a part of the Downtown Revitalization.



A YEAR OF *GETTING*



VG IT DONE!

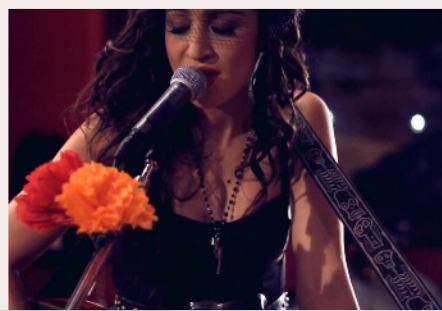
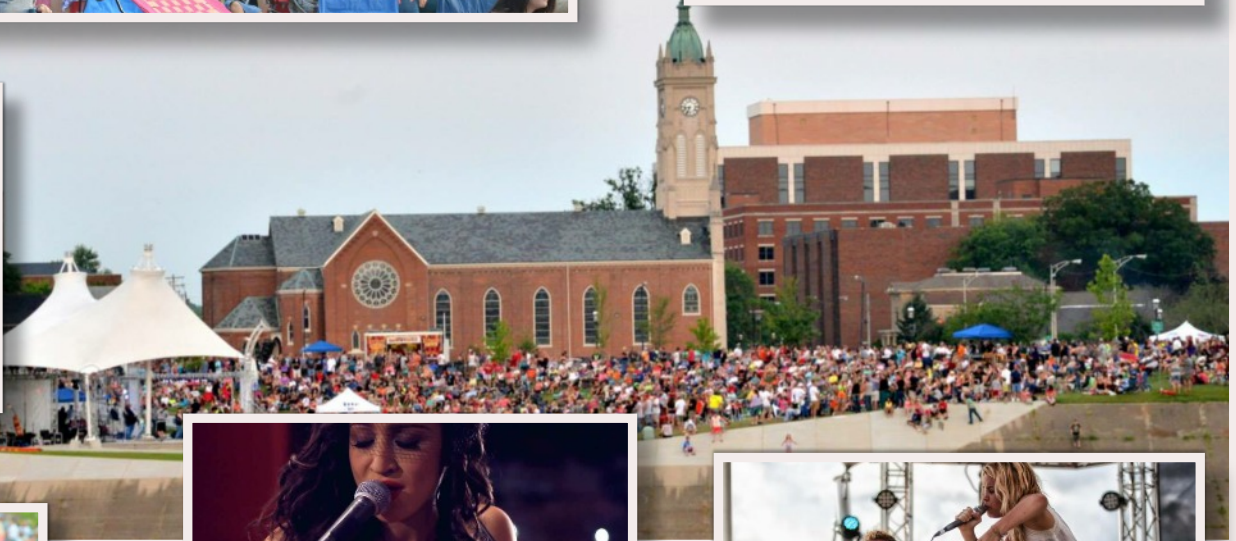


Yes! We were busy!

Here's a partial list of the improvements we made to your parks in 2015:

Constructed new restrooms and pump house at Crawford Woods • Constructed new sprayground at Crawford Woods • Installed new security cameras • Constructed six new picnic shelters at Crawford Woods, Millikin Woods and Jim Grimm park • Repaired, rehabbed and painted 15 picnic shelters • Painted and installed new and upgraded lighting in park restrooms • Removed over 300 dead trees • Installed 11 new steel doors in the restrooms at Joyce Park • With the Hamilton Community Foundation, constructed a new playground at Jim Grimm Park • Demolished six unsafe structures • Re-roofed six structures, including the Michael J. Colligan Lodge • Renovated and moved into new office space at 106 North Second Street • The Hamilton Public Works Department installed a new parking lot at Crawford Woods • Repaired grounds and drainage system at Hamilton Dog Park • Applied over 1,200 gallons of paint throughout the park system • Installed 800 cubic yards of playground protection throughout the parks • Re-graded roads and parking areas at Joyce Park and Millikin Woods • Mowed, trimmed and maintained over 1,000 acres of park land each week • Assisted Lindenwald Little League to paint and re-shingle all of their dugouts • Installed new fountain at Miami Woods pond • Replaced old trash barrels with new receptacles at Kevin Lodder Park and other parks • Repaired fire control system at Colligan Lodge • Repaired bridge on the Great Miami Recreational Trail near Joyce Park.

GOOD TIMES

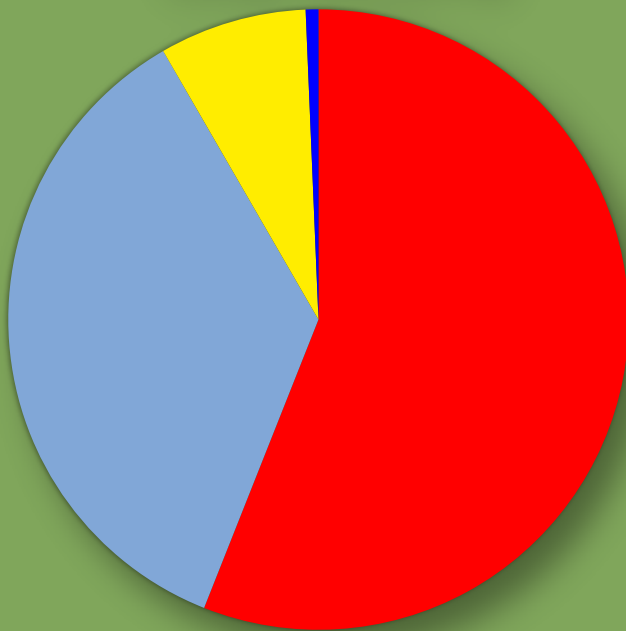


Hamilton's Hot Spot!

Whether it's one of the free concert series performances, a classic rock tribute band, a showcase of local talent, Shakespeare in the Park, a Mad Cap Puppets show or an all-day ticketed event like David Shaw's Big River Get Down, crowds are flocking to RiversEdge Amphitheater by the thousands.

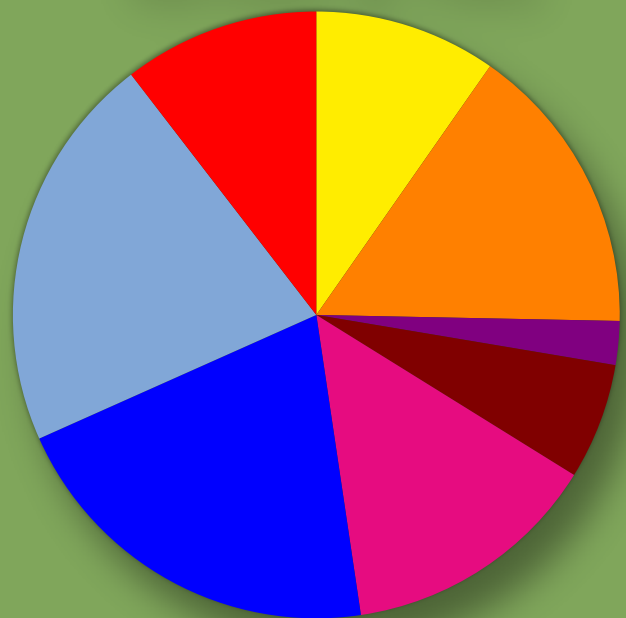
FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Total Income



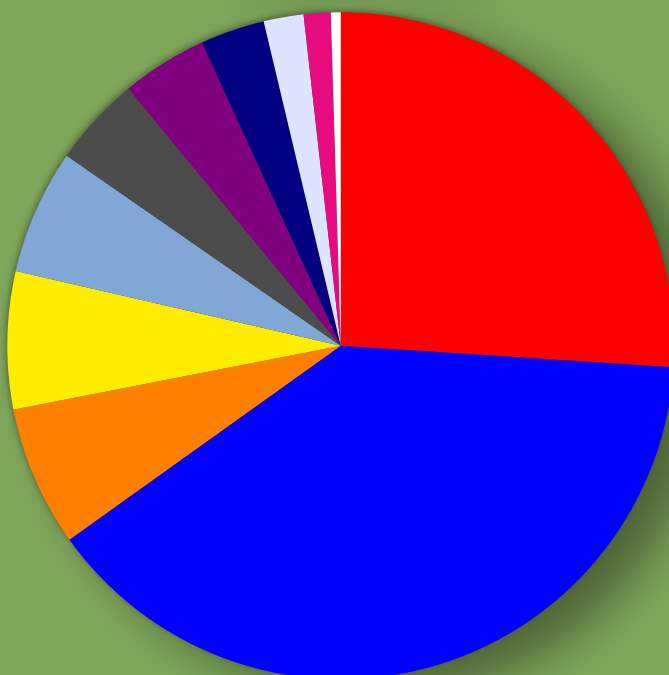
- Grant Funds
- Capital Grants
- Rental & User Fees
- Other

Rentals & Fees



- Concessions
- Soccer Fields
- Show Wagon
- RiversEdge
- Ball Diamonds
- Softball Leagues
- Colligan Lodge
- Picnic Shelters

Expenses



- Salaries/Benefits
- Capital Improvements
- Professional Services
- Repairs/Maintenance
- Materials & Supplies
- Equipment
- Utilities
- Fleet Maintenance
- Office Expenses
- Insurance
- Fundraising/Marketing

FINANCIAL

Income

Hamilton Community Foundation Capital Grants	\$700,000.00
Soccer Field Rentals	23,563.20
RiversEdge Rental	9,350.00
Donations	1,080.00
Reimbursement	12,105.32
Miscellaneous	1,158.12
Show Wagon Rental	3,522.50
Concessions	14,644.88
Ball Diamond Rental	20,835.00
Softball League Fees	31,200.00
Colligan Lodge Rentals	34,402.34
Picnic Shelter Fees	15,854.78
Hamilton Community Foundation Grant Funds	1,104,588.64

Total Income **\$1,972,304.78**

Expenses

Concert Series	\$13,450.52
Marketing/Social Media	7,370.34
Professional Services	3,652.50
Insurance Premiums	24,368.00
Expense Reimbursement	22,231.90
Fundraising Expenses	1,469.15
Small Equipment	61,438.67
Capital Improvements	728,912.66
Television	2,007.72
Fleet Maintenance	47,397.50
Fuel, Equipment	17,270.30
Materials and Supplies, Tools, Non-Capital	14,714.74
Materials and Supplies, Concessions	7,888.06
Materials and Supplies, Consumable	33,303.68
Chemical Supplies	4,490.65
Misc. Office Equipment	6,051.51
Office, Consumable	3,684.11
Postage	637.00
Membership Dues	1,152.54
Internet Service	3,181.55
Telephone Service	5,374.95
Other Repairs and Maintenance	24,277.02
Building Repair and Maintenance	103,489.61
Equipment Repair and Maintenance	19,757.79
Vehicle Repair and Maintenance	10,662.84
Misc. Lawn Care Services	3,506.42
Utility Service	77,508.01
Workers Compensation	1,983.27
Unemployment Compensation	7,598.44
Fuel Oil and Propane	10,536.78
Bank Charges	1,386.10
Payroll Processing	2,398.44
Medicare/FICA	34,758.03
Salaries, Regular Employees	440,595.20
Contractual Services	120,210.69

Total Expenses **\$1,868,716.69**

Net Income

\$103,588.09

PARTNERS

\$3,500,000 and over
The Marcum Family
Marcum Park

\$50,000 and over
City of Hamilton
Hamilton Community Foundation
Community Design Alliance
In Kind Services

\$20,000.00 to \$24,999.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joel H. Schmidt
Friends of the Parks/Hamilton Dog Park

\$10,000 to \$14,999
Mr. & Mrs. James Fitton

\$5,000 to \$9,999
Mr. & Mrs. James D. Fuhrman
Established Disc Golf Fund
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Whalen
Hamilton Parks Conservancy Endowment Fund

\$2,500 to \$4,999
Ms. Kathleen Klink

\$1,500 to \$2,499
Mr. & Mrs. William Coombs
Steve & Linda Timmer
Mrs. Gerry Hammond

\$500 to \$999
Greater Hamilton Chamber of Commerce
(In honor of Steve Timmer, Citizen of the Year)
Cox Media Group – Corporate
(In honor of Steve Timmer, Citizen of the Year)
The Lanni Family Fund
Mr. & Mrs. David H. Schirmer
David Kramer & Karen Underwood Kramer

\$250 to \$499
Judge & Mrs. John Moser
Mr. & Mrs. Craig Wilks
Mr. & Mrs. William A. Groth
Mr. Vernon H. Huber, CPA
Mr. & Mrs. Robert B. Wile
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Rentschler
(Endowment Fund)

\$100 to \$249
Mr. & Mrs. John Reister
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mr. Thomas B. Rentschler
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Dr. Lee & Mr. Robert Sanders
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mr. & Mrs. James K. Fitton
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Dr. & Mrs. Khoen Sih
Mr. & Mrs. Scott Scrimizzi
Mr. & Mrs. William Brunner
Mrs. Martha Jane Spain
Mr. & Mrs. Joe Belew
Mr. & Mrs. Lee H. Parrish
Mr. & Mrs. Richard T.
Underwood
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey P. Thurman
Mrs. Terrill L. Stewart
Dr. & Mrs. Glenn Stitsinger Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Neal Cohen
Levajo, Inc.
Mr. William C. Wilks

Mrs. Judith S. Stitsinger
Mr. Scott Timmer
Mr. & Mrs. Mark L. Sanders III
Mrs. Gerald G. Froelke
Mr. & Mrs. John B. Kirsch
Mr. & Mrs. John Guidugli

\$50 to \$99
Mrs. Joan Crane
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Donatic
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Ms. Mary Pat Essman
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mr. & Mrs. J. Eugene Jacoby
Judge Matthew J. Crehan
Mr. & Mrs. Vince Jolivet
Mr. & Mrs. Calvin L. Lingler
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel J. Hayden
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Willey
Dr. Doris Bergen
Mr. & Mrs. Timothy Nabb
Dr. & Mrs. Gregory L. Savage

Ms. Kay S. Ratliff
Mr. Jack Kirsch
Mrs. Phyllis R. Snyder
Mr. & Mrs. Patrick J. Pawling
Dr. & Mrs. Robert H. Rusbosin
Ms. Joan C. Fatika
Mrs. Janet Fatika
Mr. & Mrs. Ray Smith
Mrs. Mary C. Spoerl
Mrs. Robert E. Zellner
Mr. & Mrs. John J. Reister
Dr. & Mrs. Gregory L. Savage

Up to \$49.00
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Belew
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mrs. M. David Urmston
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mrs. Carolyn Soupene
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mrs. Marilyn V. Smith
(In memory of Ken Snyder)
Mrs. Vincent Davin

Mrs. Ann E. Brown
Mrs. John H. Rehm
Mr. & Mrs. Thomas J. Shannon
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Flum
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Cohen
Mrs. Susan Cummins Myers
Mr. & Mrs. Robert L. Cottrell
Mrs. Albert J. Jones
Mr. & Mrs. Michael Chambers
The Presby Generation of the
Presbyterian Church
Ms. Cynthia V. Parrish
Ms. Marilyn H. Dole
Mrs. Maureen F. Fritsch
Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth R. Chaney
Mr. Robert C. Dawson
Vision Source/Nye Family
Vision Center
Mayor Patrick G. Moeller
Mr. & Mrs. Robert C. Hicks
Mrs. Mary Joe Staarmann
Mr. & Mrs. Neil L. Sohngen II



Hamilton Parks Conservancy

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www.hamiltonparks.net