



Park Board Update: Dec. 12, 2016

Turkey Trot final tallies

Official tallies for the 2016 Turkey Trot are now available. There were 8,378 registered participants in this year's event, the second largest on record. Participants donated 7,693 lbs. of food — enough for 6,611 meals — to Ozarks Food Harvest, on one of the largest single-day food drives of the year.

This event would not have been possible without 222 community volunteers working 593 hours the week of the race.

Proceeds from Turkey Trot are split between the Developmental Center of the Ozark and the Springfield-Greene County Park Board Scholarship Fund. Final expenses and revenues from this event are still being processed, but a check presentation is planned for the Jan. 13 Park Board meeting.

Price Cutter Charity Championship

The Park Board received a check from the Price Cutter Charity Championship Nov. 29 at a ceremony at Highland Springs. The PCCC donated \$14,203 to the Springfield-Greene County Park Board Scholarship Fund, one of many community projects supported by the PCCC golf event, held in August in Springfield. This year's PCCC donations totaled \$905,339 to 45 children's charities in the area.

The Park Board has partnered with the PCCC for 17 years, providing volunteers, bleacher seating and silent auction items for the event as well as hosting qualifying rounds and Junior Pro-Am events at Rivercut Golf Course.

What is this Scholarship Fund?

Despite the name, the Springfield Greene County Park Board Scholarship Fund does not send youth to college (at least, not directly.) Rather, the Scholarship Fund allows income-qualifying youth 18 and under to participated in Park Board sports, before- and after-school programs, summer camps and other programs designed to build skills and confidence while maintaining healthy lifestyles. Recipients must live in Greene County

and qualify for the free or reduced school lunch program. Since 2008, the fund has awarded more than 6,000 scholarships.

Zone 1 tennis event wins award

A new tennis program at held in a Zone 1 neighborhood has received an award. "Tennis Under the Lights," a free evening event held June 25 at Lafayette Park tennis courts, was named the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Missouri Valley's Event of the Year at their annual meeting November. "Tennis Under the Lights" featured glowing racquets and tennis balls, glow bracelets and necklaces, music, snacks and, of course, tennis! The event was presented by the USTA in partnership with Viva Tennis!, M30, Woodland Heights Neighborhood Association and the Park Board.

Candy Cane Lane

Attendance has been strong the last two weekends at the Park Board's Candy Cane Lane and Rutledge-Wilson Farm Park. One weekend remains for this drive-through light display, featuring thousands of colored lights and farm-themed holiday displays. Admission is \$5 per vehicle. Candy Cane Lane is open Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, 5-8 p.m. The event closes on Dec. 18.