

# Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation

February 2011

Volume I Issue 4

The Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation is a non-profit tax exempt organization under a 501(c)(3) status. All donations are tax deductible.



## Foundation Board (3-Year Terms)

Paula Anderson President	Year 4
Jay Panzer Vice President	Year 4
John Staley Secretary	Year 4
Jim Bollman	Year 4
Rohinee Damle	Year 3
Brian Kraft	Year 4
Eunice Kuhn	Year 3
Casey Ryan	Year 4
Rob Vollrath	Year 4
Brandy Chaffee Ex: Officio	



Jay Panzer

## Our Mission

Contribute to and promote healthful lifestyles in our community through the development and enhancement of parks, playgrounds, recreational facilities, programs and activities for all people of Grand Forks, regardless of age, physical ability or economic position.

## Community Impact through Youth Scholarships: Giving Hearts Day—February 10th



Dakota Medical Foundation (DMF) has selected the Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation to participate in the 2011 Giving Hearts Day, a 24-hour online fundraising event on February 10, 2011. Contributions of \$10 or more will be matched by DMF. The Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation will designate all funds generated

through Giving Hearts Day for Youth Scholarships. In the past two years, because of Giving Hearts Day and generous online donations, the Park District was able to give \$27,000 in scholarships to kids in our community who may otherwise not have the financial means to participate. Please help us again this year! To support the Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation and have your donation matched, please follow these 5 easy steps to bring you through the process on Thursday, Feb. 10th.

- 1) Go to [www.impactgiveback.org](http://www.impactgiveback.org)
- 2) Click on the Giving Hearts Day "Donate" button
- 3) Click on "Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation" from the list of participants
- 4) Click on the red "Donate" button
- 5) Complete the donation page

A special thanks to Frandsen Bank and Trust; our partner in supporting youth scholarships.



## "The Second Best Day of My Life"

On a mild winter day in 2011, Grand Forks resident, Dan Frei along with his daughter, 7 year old Emmalia enjoyed one of the GF Park District outdoor winter fun areas—the Lincoln Drive Park sledding hill. Emmalia trudged up and down the snowy hill pulling behind an old sled, which Dan himself used as a child and was now sharing with his little girl. As she reached the top of the hill, with a cheerful grin proclaimed, "Dad, this is the second best day of my life!"

Dan, who was taken aback by the statement, asked Emmalia, "Really? Well then what was the first best day of your life?"

Emmalia responded without

hesitation, "When you took me to the Daddy Daughter Dance last year."

Dan rushed over to the Park District office on the first day of registration for the very popular Knight for a Princess—Daddy Daughter Dance and signed up again.

The Grand Forks Park District strives to provide a wide variety of programs and services to the community. There have been countless smiling faces who have attended the Knight for a Princess-Daddy Daughter Dance over the past 6 years. Keep in mind, the smiling faces are not just the girls. The dads, uncles and grandpas who escort their little princess, are also having one of the best nights of their life.



Registration for the 2011 event is now available. Space is limited! Go to [www.gfparks.org](http://www.gfparks.org) for details.

## Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation

c/o Grand Forks Park District  
1210 7th Avenue South  
PO Box 12429  
Grand Forks, North Dakota 58201

Phone: 701-746-2750  
Fax: 701-746-2753  
E-mail: [bchaffee@gfparks.org](mailto:bchaffee@gfparks.org)

This newsletter was written and edited by:  
Brandy Chaffee and John Staley of the Grand Forks Park District

**We want to hear from you!** Please email your questions or comments to [gfparks@gfparks.org](mailto:gfparks@gfparks.org)



## Projects & Partner Update

### IMAGINE CAMPAIGN—CHOICE WELLNESS CENTER AND YMCA RENOVATION:

Over 300 individual and business donors have contributed to the Imagine Campaign for Choice Wellness Center and Y Family Center. All donors who contribute at the Willow level or above will be recognized at both facilities on beautiful donor walls. Currently construction estimates and bids are being developed for both projects. Construction for Choice Wellness Center and the Y renovation will begin this spring, as weather permits. Be on the look-out for more information regarding the YMCA's 125 Anniversary and official project groundbreaking!

Total *Imagine Campaign* donations and grants to date exceed \$14.6 million. There are naming opportunities still available at Choice Wellness Center and the Y Family Center. If you are interested in learning more about these opportunities, please contact the GF Park District or Y Family Center today!

### ROLLIN ON THE RIVER—INLINE MARATHON:

The Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation recently established a charitable events program, which supports the community by providing a vehicle for organizations to host special events, which benefit recreation related causes.



The inaugural Rollin' On the River-Inline Marathon event is scheduled for August 26-27, 2011. Proceeds from this event will directly benefit the Perry Nakonechny Youth Sports Fund - a GF Parks and Recreation Foundation fund. In conjunction with the Rollin' On the River—Inline Marathon, the GF Park District will host an **indoor skating opportunity at the Alerus Center, Sunday, March 13th from 1-5 PM.** All ages and abilities are welcome to attend this free event! Helmets are required. Website and registration is available at [www.rollinontheriver-inline.com](http://www.rollinontheriver-inline.com).

## We're on the Web!

[www.gfparks.org/foundation.htm](http://www.gfparks.org/foundation.htm)



▲ Photos from Greenway Ski Days at Lincoln Drive Park

## Enhancing Lives through Youth Golf Opportunities

*The Grand Forks Park District has been focusing on enhancing lives for over 100 years through parks and recreation programs and services, for all ages.*

One area in which the Park District has enhanced in recent years is **accessibility to the game of golf** for all children, regardless of ability or economic position. In doing so, long-time employee of the GF Park District, Stephen Mullally spearheaded the development of a 6-hole youth golf course within the site of Lincoln Park Golf Course. This is a place where kids and their family can enjoy learning the game of golf in a safe and child-friendly environment. All 6 holes are less than 100 yards each and there is no cost to play! There is also youth size golf clubs available to use for free through the Lincoln Golf Course Clubhouse.

As Stephen Mullally retired in December 2010, he was pleased to know kids had access to the game of golf through this great little course. In honor of Stephen's 37 years of service to the GF Park District and his devotion to the game of golf, the Grand Forks Board of Park Commissioners voted to permanently rename the course, the "**Stephen Mullally Youth Golf Course**".



### Looking Ahead Next Issue: May 2011

#### Special Funds/Endowments:

- Perry Nakonechny Youth Sports Fund
- Jeff Pettit Memorial Fund
- Todd Riedlinger Hockey Fund
- Ozzie Nord Memorial Fund

#### Keep Us In Mind:

- **Choice Wellness Center/ YMCA Renovation**  
- Imagine Campaign  
[www.imagineGF.com](http://www.imagineGF.com)
- **Giving Hearts Day:** a one-day online fundraiser, February 10th supporting **Youth Scholarships**

*We ask that you consider contributing to the Grand Forks Parks and Recreation Foundation. The Foundation provides valuable support in the development of programs, facilities and parks, benefiting not only the children and families of today, but generations to come. Go to: [www.gfparks.org/foundation.htm](http://www.gfparks.org/foundation.htm)*