



Out & About

Columbia Cosmopolitan Club receives recognition at Woodridge Park Dedication By Aric Jarvis

On Thursday, May 26, 2016 the Columbia Parks and Recreation department held a dedication of Woodridge Park at 3505 Lansing Avenue in Columbia, MO. All Columbia Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club members were invited to attend the dedication after the Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club donated \$125,000 to the park to make it handicap accessible last year.

From City of Columbia website:

Woodridge Park features a premiere, inclusive playground especially designed for those with developmental and physical disabilities, while still serving able-bodied children. The concept for the design was inspired by the park's proximity to the Ronald McDonald House, the Thompson Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, and the Women's and Children's Hospital. The inclusive playground features:

- Fence enclosure around the playground, so children don't wander off
- Ground level roller slides to provide a unique sensory experience
- Group swing so that several kids or a parent and child can swing together
- Musical therapy play features
- Poured in place rubber surface for the best accessible surface
- Ramps to all levels of the playground to ensure access for everyone

The playground was dedicated to the memory of Dr. LeRoy J. "Doc" Miller who was a Cosmopolitan Club member for over 60 years. A plaque is placed at the playground to remember his time and commitment to the club and community. By funding projects such as this one, the club is able to help fight diabetes by providing recreational areas for our youth to be active. The Cosmopolitan Luncheon Club will continue to sponsor local park and recreation projects to achieve this goal and give back to the community.



Columbia Show-Me Club Goes Bowling! By Brett Benton

"Extreme Bowling" is a great way to bring Cosmos together for a great time and raise money for our community. Our Show-Me Club in Columbia, Missouri, just had our 17th annual event. In total, we have raised more than \$50,000 for our community. This event has been one of our top fundraisers every year.

In 1999, we were looking at doing a new fundraiser. Since the age of 10, bowling has always been a passion of mine. I thought it would be pretty neat if I could turn that passion into a fundraiser. I talked with our local bowling center manager, and the Extreme Bowl was born.

In order for this fundraiser to work, you need helpers. I've been truly blessed by the amount of support that I've gotten for this event. We've had several local sponsors that we can count on each and every year. Committee members solicit local businesses for sponsorships and also prizes that are given away at the event. Original charter members Wayne and Maxine Powell put in a lot of time and effort to make sure every bowler gets a prize.

Our club charges \$200 for a sponsor fee. This covers five bowlers over three games. Bowlers are asked to report to the front desk at check in to pick up their bowling shoes, lane assignments, and free raffle ticket. My mother, CeCe Benton, called out the winning prize numbers as other committee members handed out the prizes.

The Show-Me Club has made anywhere from \$2,000 to \$4,000 annually on this event. Our club members are encouraged to help by sponsoring teams, picking up prizes, or even bowling in the event. Our local bowling center adds to the event by giving us the "Extreme Pkg" (such as strobe lights, loud music, and fog). The Extreme Bowl is a great fundraiser with great fun to be had by all.



The picture is the winning team receiving the trophy from Brett (second from right). The winning team was G&D Steak House.