



# Park Paths

Vernon Hills Park District Community Newsletter

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Summer 2009

## Park District Welcomes New Executive Director

Jeff Fougrousse joined the Vernon Hills Park District on July 13, 2009 as its new Executive Director.

Mr. Fougrousse is the former Executive Director of the Morton Grove Park District. His career as a park and recreational professional began 28 years ago. Prior to being the Executive Director, he served as Athletic Supervisor, Aquatic Supervisor, Facilities Superintendent, and Recreation Superintendent.

Throughout his career, he has earned the reputation as a progressive, innovative, enthusiastic,

community driven leader. He has been named the Recreational Professional of the Year by the Illinois Park & Recreation Association.

Mr. Fougrousse's insight for the future and certainty in meeting resident's needs will be apparent in the District's new Strategic Plan. The Park Board and Executive Director will study the results of the recent Community Needs Survey and use this data as a tool in developing the future needs of the District.

Fougrousse 5/14/09 Press Release



## Cynthia T. Peterson Park Dedication



Cynthia Peterson pictured with Senator Terry Link.

In 1985, the Park District received a gift that has continually, over the past 24 years, kept on giving to the community! During Cynthia's tenure on the Park Board, the Sullivan Community Center, Family Aquatic Center, Skateboard Park and numerous neighborhood parks were developed. Cynthia has served the community, Park Board & staff and residents with ingenuity and integrity. This soft-spoken powerhouse has passionately dedicated herself to the residents of Vernon Hills for over two decades. She retired as a Park Board Commissioner in May of this year and on July 11, 2009, she was honored with a park dedicated in her name. The park, formerly known as Century Hawthorn, located at 200 Hawthorn Parkway, is now the Cynthia T. Peterson Park.

Peterson Park Board Career History

## Green Team Report



Recycle in your parks! New waste/recycle containers are present in many District parks. Please recycle all cans and bottles - your efforts help keep the parks beautiful!

## Playground Safety

Every District playground is inspected by a Certified Playground Safety Inspector 8 times per year for compliance with standards set by the Consumer Product Safety Commission and The American Society for Testing and Materials.

The Park District has ammended its No Smoking Policy in the parks. Smoking is prohibited within 25 feet of playgrounds, athletic fields, & skate park.

## Summer Fun at the Family Aquatic Center

### FAC Summer Hours

Monday - Friday:  
11:30 am - 8:00 pm  
Weekends:  
11:00 am - 7:00 pm

### August 24 - September 7

Weekdays:  
4:00 pm - 8:00 pm  
Weekends:  
12:00 pm - 5:00 pm

### Rent The FAC!

Private Parties • Corporate Picnics  
Birthday Parties • Team Parties



### Summer Splash!

A pool party for Vernon Hills residents

Friday, August 7th  
5:30 pm - 8:30 pm

This popular event features pool-side music, carnival games, food, and family pool activities.

Tickets: \$1 each until 9 pm on 8/6  
\$5 each on day of event  
Children under 2 are free.

Tickets must be purchased at  
the Sullivan Center.



Enter the **Annual Duck Race!**  
\$1 per duck or 6 for \$5!



## National Award Recognition

The Park District's commitment to provide exceptional service to all citizens of the Vernon Hills community was recognized at the national level. In April, 2009, the Park District was honored for the fourth consecutive year when the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) named the Vernon Hills Park District as a finalist in the Gold Medal Award for Excellence competition. Municipal parks & recreation departments and park districts nationwide vied for top honors recognizing their agencies' ability to address the needs of those it serves through the collective energies of volunteers, staff, and elected officials.

In October, 2009, the NRPA will hold its annual Congress and Exposition in Salt Lake City, Utah, where the Gold Medal winners will be announced. The Vernon Hills Park District is one of four national finalists in the Class V category, agencies serving a population of 25,000 or less.

## Meet Your Park Board



First row:

David Doerhoefer, Mike Meline

Second row:

Bruce Robbins, Carol Sente, Jim Ballowe - President

### Park Chats

Join District staff and Commissioners for an evening in the park! These gatherings provide a great opportunity for casual conversations. Culvers is on site offering free ice cream too!

Aug. 11 6:30-8:00 pm Aspen Backyard Park  
Sept. 8 6:00-7:30 pm Westwood Park

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