

## Park Board Vice President's Highlights for February 2009

On February 9<sup>th</sup>, **Riverfront Park held its annual Job Fair** seeking applications from those interested in working in the Park this summer. The turnout was phenomenal with an estimated 800 applications turned in. From those applicants Riverfront will likely be rehiring about 65 people from last year, along with an estimated 50 new hires. Applications are still being taken and are available in the Pavilion at Riverfront Park.

The **Ice Palace** closed for the season March first. Just prior to that the annual "Skate At The Park" Figure Skating Competition presented by the Spokane Figure Skating Club was held February 28. Over 100 skaters from regional skating clubs used this event to prepare for qualifying competitions leading to the 2010 AT&T U.S. Figure Skating Championships to be held January 14 - 24, 2010 in Spokane.

Spokane's remarkable **Looff Carrousel** has opened for the season after being closed for 6-weeks of annual repair and maintenance. 2009 is a special year for the Carrousel as we begin its 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration. The full year of activities are planning beginning with a kick off on Saturday, March 21, at 10:00 am, with historical tours, the Ruth band organ, raffle tickets, antique cars and birthday cake.

**Outdoor Recreation** held a Paws and Poles fundraising event over the weekend at Mt. Spokane which was well attended and resulted in raising \$1,000 for SpokAnimal Care.

Gaiser Conservatory in Manito Park is alive with colorful blooms that are sure to chase away those winter blues. **The Conservatory is open daily including Saturday and Sunday from 8 am until 3:30 pm.** The exhibit is **FREE** and the public is encouraged to visit. Please note that on Wednesdays the Conservatory may be intermittently closed to allow for plant maintenance.

**Corbin Kids Spring Break Camps** will be held March 30 through April 3 at the Corbin Art Center. These are a series of one-day camps for ages 6 – 11. Pre-registration is required and kids can choose from:

- \* **Junior Sleuth Camp** –Monday, March 30
- \* **Clay Works Camp** –Tuesday, March 31
- \* **Wacky Critters Camp** –Wednesday, April 1
- \* **Magicians Craft Camp**–Thursday, April 2
- \* **Fountain of Youth Camp** – Friday, April 3

For a class schedule or additional information please call the Corbin Art Center at 625-6677 or, classes are available on-line at [www.spokaneparks.org](http://www.spokaneparks.org).

And a reminder, please **don't feed the ducks** or other waterfowl in city parks. In Manito Park our gardeners are working diligently to improve the water quality at the pond. The public may enjoy feeding ducks, but the effects of this seemingly generous act can be harmful to ducks and humans as well. Contrary to popular opinion, bread is not nutritious for waterfowl. Poor nutrition then results in malnourishment. Too many ducks in an area can spread disease and duck droppings then create water pollution. **We courage you to watch and enjoy the wild ducks, but please don't feed them.**