

December 10, 2009 Monthly Highlights: Gary Lawton, President

The Parks and Recreation Department is seeking letters of interest from those who may wish to respond to an upcoming Request for Proposal regarding the use of Park-owned property at the northeast corner of Monroe Street and Bridge Avenue, commonly referred to as the "**Bosch lot.**"

The Department will be considering proposals for the lease and development of this property which is approximately 1.12 acres in size. The land is currently used as an unpaved commercial monthly, daily, and hourly fee parking lot for Riverfront Park, adjacent businesses, and City-owned vehicles.

It is anticipated that the Request for Proposals will be issued in February 2010. At the current time it is the intent of the Park Board to judge public interest in the property and ways in which it might be utilized. Based on the letter of interest response the Park Board may decide to broaden or narrow the scope of the Request for Proposals.

The Park Board does not intend to enter into an agreement to lease the property solely on the basis of financial considerations. You will find more information about this project on the department's web site, www.spokaneparks.org

Visitors to Riverfront Park during the holiday season will once again find the traditional **Community Tree** decked out with more than 20,000 lights, along with other decorations and a star on top of it all. The City of Spokane's Parks and Recreation Department is making sure the holiday tree tradition continues. And, thanks to a generous contribution from L & M Truck Sales, the price tag for illuminating the tree was minimal. L & M donated the use of their 60-foot bucket truck for two full weeks to allow Park Operations staff time to carefully string the thousands of lights. We greatly appreciate this contribution from L & M.

Looking for a FREE and unusual holiday activity? We've got just the one for you. It's called **The Ruff Revue**. This is a group of very talented dogs and their owners who will be performing at East Central Senior Center on Friday December 18th, at 11:00 am. Members of The Ruff Revue "dance" to both Christmas and popular songs, in a variety of holiday costumes. The performance is FREE and recommended to dog-lovers of all ages. For more information please call the East Central Senior Center at 625-6693.

The **Corbin Art Center**, is offering a variety of kids camps and workshops beginning December 21st. Programs include a Festive Ornaments Workshop, Fairies and Wizards Workshop, Dinosaurs in December Workshop, Magical Creatures Camp and a Gingerbread Kids Camp. For more information call 625-6677 or you can register online at www.spokaneparks.org.

And as you plan ahead for the busy holiday season you'll want to mark your calendar for the annual **Holiday Lights at Manito Park's Gaiser Conservatory**. This year an estimated 30,000 lights will join beautiful and intricate holiday plants, flowers and displays. Holiday Lights takes place December 11th through the 20th. The Conservatory is open 8 am until 7:30 pm with the best viewing of the holiday lights after 4 pm.

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