



May 16, 2011

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CARSON PARK DEDICATION

New Neighborhood Park Features
Splash Pad, Playground and Basketball Court

Editor's Note: Carson Park will be officially dedicated at 11:00 am, Saturday, May 21, at 5701 N. Assembly (cross streets: Assembly and Rowan).

In determining a name for the new neighborhood park at the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex, the Northwest Neighborhood Council was asked to provide a recommendation.

In short order the Council came back with what members said they saw as a "wonderful way to acknowledge Dick and Dorothy Carson for all they have done for the Northwest neighborhood."

- Dick and his wife Dorothy were charter members of the Northwest Neighborhood Council, and were instrumental in forming it as an association (officially a 501 c 3)
- Both Dick and Dorothy are active members of the Northeast Kiwanis Club of Spokane. Dick was involved, as was Dorothy, in the Washington ANG band, and Kiwanis in a multitude of service projects all over Spokane including the I-90 litter clean up twice a year.
- Dick also volunteered with Spokane Public School's Hubs summer program for 6th graders transitioning to middle school where he served primarily as a mentor to the students.

The Northwest Neighborhood Council Board was unanimous in the recommendation to name the new park Carson Park for all that Dick and Dorothy have done for youth and service to the City of Spokane.

About the Northwest Neighborhood Association

The Northwest Neighborhood Association works to improve the quality of life for everyone that lives and works in the neighborhood by providing a forum for their discussions, an opportunity for their participation, and an organized approach to communicating with local government and other decision making bodies.

Northwest Neighborhood meetings are held the 3rd Thursday of every month (except July, August, & December) at Browne Elementary School 5102 W. Driscoll Blvd. at 7:00 pm.

Summer 2011 Concerts

6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

- July 14 – “Sidetrack”
- July 28 - "Men of Rhythm"
- August 11, "DogHouse Boyz"
- August 25, "Spokane Youth Symphony"

About the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex

Named for one of the city’s most influential figures in the development of athletic competition for children, the Dwight Merkel Sports Complex was constructed using \$7 million from the 2007 City of Spokane Parks Improvement Bond along with \$4 million from the sale of park property that was approved by City voters in 1999 and subsequently held in reserve.

The new Dwight Merkel Sports Complex features:

- Six full size natural grass soccer fields
- Two full size synthetic athletic fields with lights
- Five softball diamonds with lights
- One youth baseball field
- Concessions, rest rooms and meeting space
- BMX track with lights & timing equipment
- Skate Park
- Carson Park with splash pad, playground and basketball court
- A paved perimeter trail, plus an unpaved hiking trail approximately one mile long that leads down to Riverside State Park’s trails and offers outstanding views of the Spokane River.

For more information www.spokaneparks.org

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