



Winter 2012

Note from the Executive Director

Yes, it is still snowing out there and you are still enjoying winter activities, but at APF we have almost all of our 2012 summer projects scoped and ready to go! Because of supporters like you, we have 8 neighborhood park projects, a few challenge grants, several youth trail/waterway/forestry projects, and two destination playgrounds to build.



Please forward this email to teens looking for a summer job, and friends and neighbors looking to get involved in a great community project.

-Beth Nordlund

PS We will have a new version of our Anchorage Parks app out this Spring. Stay tuned!

Meet Anna and Help Make Parks for All a Reality

Meet Anna. She is 5 years old and has spina bifida, making her lower legs paralyzed. She uses a walker wheelchair to get around. Her dream is a playground where she can play with her cousins and friends.



Anchorage Downtown Rotary and [Parks for All](#) are proudly working together to build the inaugural Parks for All Playground in Cuddy Family Midtown Park.

The new playground will be the first fully accessible playground in Alaska, a central community play space and certified Boundless Playground. Children with disabilities will be able to play independently in a safe environment, and parents, grandparents, and veterans with disabilities will be able to play with their children, without barriers, in Anchorage's crown-jewel park.

announcements

2012 Neighbor-Powered Park Fix-Its: SAVE THE DATE

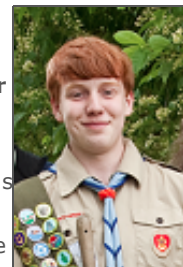
The Anchorage Park Foundation focuses its work on neighborhood parks because they are the public spaces that affect us close-to-home. This summer, we will work in partnership with the Parks & Recreation Department on community-identified "Fix-Its" in 8 neighborhood parks:

- **Minnesota Park**
(May 19th, 9am-noon)
- **Nunaka Valley North**
(June 2nd, 9am-noon)
- **Wolverine Park**
(June 9th, 9am-noon)
- **Windsong Park**
(June 16th, 9am-noon)
- **Kiwanis Fish Creek**
(June 23rd, 9-noon)
- **Sitka Park**
(June 30th, 9am-noon)
- **Sand Lake Park**
(July 7th, 9am-noon)
- **Shady Birch**
(July 14th, 9am-noon)

Everyone is invited to volunteer and lend a hand! Contact [Shannon](#) for more info or to sign up.

Franklin Durr is a Spirit of Youth WINNER!

Franklin is a **Spirit of Youth Winner** in the Service to Community category for his work to revitalize Little Dipper Park through a Challenge Grant last



We need your help! Tell the [Alaska Legislature](#) you support the playground, and vote for it on the bond package April 3rd!

Youth Employment in Parks is Hiring

We are thrilled to announce that we are hiring more than 30 Anchorage youth to complete park and trail improvements and offer recreation programs this summer through our award-winning [Youth Employment in Parks](#) program.

If your child or a teen you know would like to work in local parks, develop leadership and community action skills, learn about the environment & public lands, and give back to the Anchorage community in a positive and productive way, YEP is the job for them! **The [application deadline is right around the corner, March 20th](#)**. We are also seeking 5 emerging local artists for our Art in the Parks program with YEP. To apply or more information, please visit the [YEP website](#).



The **Youth Employment in Parks** program is making a difference in our parks, trails, and community. Last season's 25 YEP teens represented 13 high schools, spoke 10 different languages, and accomplished long-lasting and tangible results. If you know any of our [funders](#) please join us in thanking them!

This April 3rd, Park Bonds = Prop 3

The bond season is upon us, and we are hoping that the public will support the Park Bond April 3rd. This funding will go directly into making much needed safety improvements to our beloved Coastal Trail, Alaska's first 100% accessible playground in Cuddy Family Midtown Park, LED energy efficient lighting installation at Kincaid Park, and restoration of the Anchorage Veteran's Memorial. [Click here to learn more.](#)

Park Report Card Results Are In

summer. **Congrats, Franklin, we are proud of you!** [Read more here.](#)

Welcome to Keenan Troll, our Technology & Media Intern!

Keenan is working on his B.A. in Computer Science from UAA, and enjoys making music and art, getting outside with friends, and snowboarding. He says, *"I am very excited about my internship with the Anchorage Park Foundation because it is relevant to my future career field, and the parks of Anchorage hold a soft spot in my heart, having helped maintain them during the summer of 2010 as part of the **Youth Employment in Parks crew**."* [Read his full bio here.](#)



The **Anchorage Park Foundation** strives to build *Healthy Parks - Healthy People* by mobilizing public support and financial resources for Anchorage parks, trails, and recreation opportunities.

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This fall, our volunteers from across the city filled out Anchorage Park & Trail Report Cards and helped make Fix-It Lists.

Due directly to your input we made substantial park

renovations the past three summers in 27 much loved neighborhood parks, and this summer we are making 8 more! [Contact us for a copy of the 2011 report.](#)



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