



May 16, 2008

Ald. Jim Bohl
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Sculpting A Park Out Of A Landfill

Hartung Park Phase One Groundbreaking Ceremony Sunday

The much-anticipated first phase of work on the future Hartung Quarry Park will begin with a special groundbreaking ceremony this weekend, Ald. Jim Bohl said today.

Ald. Bohl, Mayor Tom Barrett, Wauwatosa Mayor Jill Didier, Wauwatosa Alderman Craig Maher, other elected officials and members of the Hartung Park Community Association (HPCA) will hold the ceremony at 1 p.m. on Sunday, May 18, 2008, at the intersection of W. Keefe Ave. and N. Menomonee River Parkway (on the east side of the Menomonee River) about one-half mile north of Burleigh Street, at the future site of the park's play area. Media coverage is invited.

Ald. Bohl, who has been actively working on the Hartung project since 2001, said the first phase of work on the park will encompass approximately five acres on the northwest quadrant near the Menomonee River Parkway and Keefe Ave. "Needless to say people who live in the area who have been intimately involved in this project are excited about watching it become an outdoors area where residents from Milwaukee and Wauwatosa can relax, recreate and enjoy themselves," he said.

"Sunday is a big day and we've had it circled on our calendars for some time," the alderman said.

The first phase of the project – expected to get underway this summer with completion in late fall – will include the children's play experience/tot lot, a demonstration rain garden, a small play/picnic area and limestone Silurian Reef outcroppings.

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Landfill To Become Park/ADD ONE

The 16-acre quarry, used as a landfill for the city since 1964, will reach its capacity in the next couple of years and plans to use the area as a public park with approximately 10 single-family homes along the eastern and southern boundaries were approved with a resolution approved by the Common Council in 2006. A \$250,000 state Department of Natural Resources grant received in January – matched by \$200,000 included by Mayor Barrett in his 2008 budget and \$50,000 that had been previously allocated for the project – are the primary funding sources for the first phase of work on the park.

The HPCA, a neighborhood grass roots organization supporting the project, has also been awarded two other grants to support the park development, including \$5,000 in funds from REI (nominated by the Brookfield Store on W. Capitol Dr.) and \$3,000 in funds from the Maihaugen Foundation. The HPCA includes resident members from Milwaukee and Wauwatosa, and its intention is to be a joint and cooperative intergovernmental venture joining Milwaukee and Wauwatosa in the cause of creating the new park.

The HPCA's annual meeting and ice cream social will follow Sunday's groundbreaking ceremony.

For more information about HPCA and the park, visit the website:
www.hartungpark.com