

## Happy Summer from Project Playground!

### PP Update

It's been a while since you heard from us, and we apologize. People moved, jobs changed, children grew, children graduated (from preschool!). Life happened. But this project has gone on, it's become part of us, and it's changed us. Many things have changed and grown, decisions have been made, and we continue to plug away toward our goal of seeing a brand new park in September 2006! You know, when we embraced this project two years ago at about this time didn't know what we could do, but then, we didn't know what we *couldn't* do, either. What an incredible learning experience it's been!

### Goal Update

The last time we wrote we happily reported the latest grant info from Ford Family Foundation and the Autzen Foundation, bringing us to \$30,000 in grants! We're now thrilled to announced that, thanks to YOUR help and including Run for the Park pledged sponsorships, we are coming close to **\$70,000 in pledged cash and services** toward our conservative goal of \$75,000! This fact is incredibly amazing to all of us, just astounding to believe that a little faith and a little (okay, well, more than a little) hard work could make something like this happen.

### Build Day

After two years, we are planning to build in mid-September 2006 using available funds. We've got the second annual Run for the Park coming up, and we still have a few grants outstanding, so we may even be able to put in some extras—but no matter what, we are going to have an amazing new playground in place **very soon!**

### Run for the Park

Last year's run was so fun, and so successful, that we had to do it again. This year's run will be held on Saturday, July 15, at 8 a.m. Last year brought 169 runners and walkers to our event—which offers the choice of a 5k or an 8k route—and this year we have **doubled** last year's sponsorship, and we hope to also double the participation! This year, we have signed on BiMart as primary title sponsor for the event, and Foster Farms is again providing sponsorship funds. Te following other generous companies, many of whom were kind enough to sign on last year, are also sponsoring this year:

Advantage Timber Cutters, Auto Service Center, Cascade Home Center, Creswell Chiropractic, Creswell Family Dental Clinic, Cumulus Broadcasting, Derminer Paint, Figaro's Pizza, Kachina Properties, Los Cabos Mexican Restaurant, Nathan Marple Excavating, The Natural Path, Plumb Crazy, Ray's Food Place, Sawtooth Flying Service, Siuslaw Valley Bank, South Willamette Veterinary Clinic, TJ's Family Restaurant, Wegand Contracting, Inc., Windermere

We'd like to see even more Creswellians participate this year, so pass the word, spread the challenges! It's a great way to visit the Creswell countryside and commune you're your friends and meet your neighbors. Whether you're into racing or walking, it's going

to be a fun event. We hope to have great weather again this year, along with some fun entertainment. If you would like to register for this lovely run or walk through Creswell's lovely country roads, or know of someone who would, please see the contact information below, use your credit card and sign up online at [www.goodrace.com](http://www.goodrace.com) (through 10 a.m. on July 14), stop by Ray's or other area locations (including participating sponsors and several Eugene running stores) to pick up a flier, or check out our Web site at <http://home.centurytel.net/playground> to see photos from last year's race or to download a flier.

### **Update on Juli**

Juli's family, including her horse, is now happily esconced on 3+ acres in Philomath. Husband Tom is reportedly enjoying his job at OSU, son Eli appears to be adjusted and enjoying his new preschool, and we're making sure Juli is still in the PP loop! In fact, she's still very involved in this year's run, since she did such a great job of coordinating it last year!

### **Most of all, thanks!**

This project has been a labor of love, and we are definitely ready to have our children reap the fruits of our labor. We are so grateful to everyone who has found it in their hearts, and pocketbooks, to give in ways large and small. The large grants are of course enormously helpful, but we couldn't have done it at all without financial and moral support of the people of Creswell. Our fundraisers have invited Creswell citizens of all ages to join our cause, and the "Little Bits" campaign at area stores has resulted in more than \$750 for the project. Did you know that's enough to pay for a cool airplane or dinosaur spring rider?? It's an amazing exercise in how small contributions add up!

### **Contributing**

It's not too late to get that donation in. Any additional money we receive will go toward things like bike racks, benches, picnic tables, and possibly even an historic Olt Town façade. Remember, contributions are tax-deductible! Bring a check by City Hall to receive a receipt, or drop a check in the mail to Project Playground, PO Box 981, Creswell, OR 97426, and please let us know if you need a receipt.

Again, thanks so much for your support. We've all been busy with our kids, our jobs, our gardens, our critters, and trying to stay cool. But please stay tuned to the website for updates: <http://home.centurytel.net/playground>.

Play on!

### **The moms of Project Playground: Juli, Deb, Monica, and Heidi**

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