

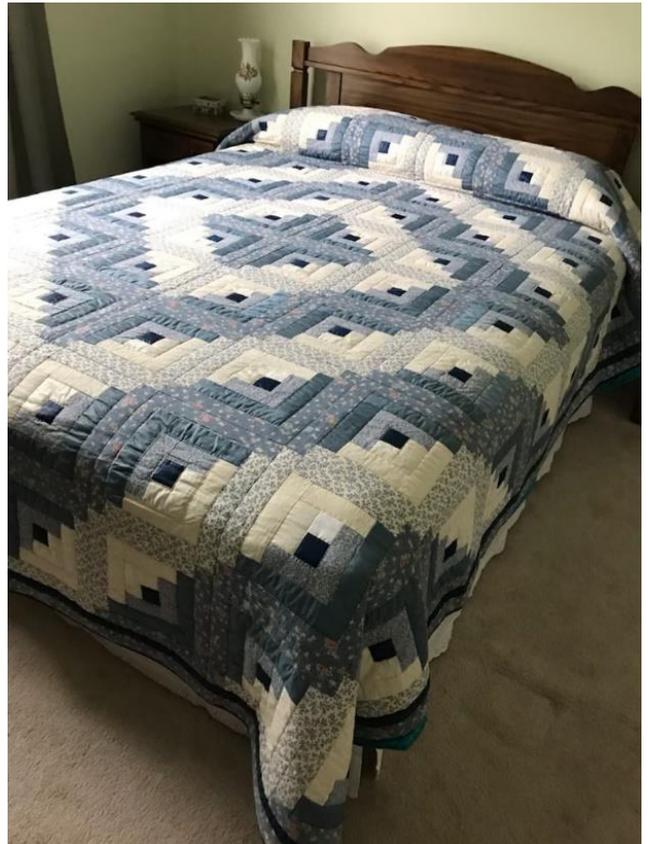


September 22, 2021

Friends of Bowie and Playground Committee Pair up for Nature Fest

Treehouse Playground will be the focus of the Nature Fest booths for the Friends of Bowie Park and the Playground Committee, as we draw closer to the December 29th playground fundraising deadline. The two groups will have booth areas adjacent to each other so they can work together. The Playground Booth will include Treehouse Playground branded items for sale, a silent auction, and “vote with your cash” jars for people to vote for who is the better corn hole player, between Kermit the Frog and The Big Bad Wolf (See article below.) All proceeds will go to the Treehouse Playground.

Visitors to the Playground Booth will have a chance to bid on some unique silent auction items donated by local playground supporters. The first item is this beautiful quilt, which comes with a story. It was donated by Mae Alt, an active member of the Friends, and an avid quilter. But Mae didn't make it. It was made in Nebraska 20+ years ago by ladies of the Church of the Holy Spirit in Plattsmouth, Nebraska. It was Mae's church when she lived in Nebraska, and she won it in a church raffle. Winning that quilt is what got Mae started on her quilting journey, and many intricate hand-stitched quilts have followed. This quilt is queen sized. It is hand quilted and the quilting pattern is known as log cabin. The minimum bid is \$250.



Another hand crafted auction item is this hypertufa leaf creation by Wrenae Shabel, which can be used as yard art, bird bath,

fountain, or in other creative ways. This picture is similar to the one which will be auctioned and is of an elephant ear leaf. The design is in keeping with the findings of bird experts who now recommend either ground-level or slightly raised bird baths rather than the traditional pedestal design. Minimum bid is \$30.



Also available for auction is the friendly brown bear porch decoration pictured here, donated by Megan Grimaldi. Minimum bid is \$20. There will be other silent auction items as well. The auction will end at 3:00 sharp.

Treehouse Playground branded items are also available at the “double-wide” Playground Booth, with special Nature Fest discounts. For a donation of \$25 you can display a “Proud Supporter” sign at your business or home. T-shirts and hats, emblazoned with the Treehouse Playground logo, are now discounted to \$15 each, or 2 for \$20. There are also smaller

branded items priced low enough for any budget. The booth will accept cash, check, Pay Pal or Venmo.



Nature Fest is this Saturday, September 25 at Bowie Nature Park, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm. Nature Fest is a day of family fun, music, food, art, hayrides, children’s crafts, inflatables, and booths. It is organized by the Fairview Area Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber is requesting a \$10 donation per car to attend the festival. Gate money goes into the Chamber’s scholarship fund for graduates of Fairview High School. The chamber is donating a portion of its booth fees to the Playground Fund, and the balance of the proceeds go toward funding the Chamber’s many community events.

Early booth set up is on Friday the 24th from noon to 6:00 pm. Set up the morning of the festival is from 7:00 am to 9:00 am. No cars will be allowed in the booth area after 9:00 am. Parking will be in the Equestrian area, and overflow parking will be at Scott Fetzer SFEG plant at the corner of Highway 100 and Bowie Lake Road. Vendors please check in at the Chamber booth, located against the fence near the restroom building, to get your booth assignment.

Volunteers are still needed for Nature Fest day as well as for preparation on Friday the 24th. To volunteer, contact Tabitha Bassett at tabicat.bassett@gmail.com. You can view Nature Fest schedules and a map at <https://www.naturefesttn.com/>. If you are helping with the Playground Booth, you can come straight to the booth, or ask at the Chamber booth if you can’t find it.

Curt Schilling vs. Aaron Davis Corn Hole Competition

If you’ve visited any of the Fairview area Facebook pages lately, you are likely to have seen a video of Aaron Davis of Fairview Trash sending out a public challenge to former Red Sox pitcher Curt

Schilling, who now lives in the Greater Fairview area. If you haven't seen it yet, click here. It's a hoot.
<https://www.facebook.com/fairviewtrash/videos/822332125096906>

Schilling has accepted the challenge. The original plan was for the two to face off at Nature Fest, but unfortunately Schilling had to be out of town on Nature Fest weekend. Arrangements are now being made for the competition to happen in October. Davis has pledged to double his donation to the Treehouse Playground up to \$1,000 if he loses to Schilling, and has challenged Schilling to make a similar pledge. It's all in good fun, and it's all for the benefit of the Treehouse Playground. Stay tuned!



Aaron Davis training for the corn hole competition; Curt Schilling, on the other hand, has been training for decades.

Kermit the Frog vs. The Big Bad Wolf Corn Hole Competition



For those who were counting on some corn hole action at Nature Fest, You're in luck. Kermit the Frog has challenged The Big Bad Wolf to a round of corn hole, and Mr. Wolf has accepted. The match will take place at Nature Fest, September 25th, at 1:15 pm in Bowie Nature Park. Mr. Wolf said he will "eat that frog's lunch," to which Mr. Frog replied, "I hope he likes flies."



Corn hole enthusiasts and fans of Mr. Frog and Mr. Wolf can vote for their favorite player by donating in the Kermit the Frog jar or the Big Bad Wolf jar at the Treehouse Playground booth. Both players will also be available for pictures with their fans for a small donation to the playground.

Fairview City Parks Operational Plan Committee Starting Soon

“We will begin immediately,” said commissioner Rod Dawson, speaking of the City Parks Operational Plan Committee. There are six positions, and the City received 11 applications. Dawson will present his choices to the Board of Commissioners (BOC) at the October 7th BOC meeting for the Board to vote on. Dawson plans to schedule the first meeting of the committee as soon as possible after they are approved. “I’m very excited,” he said. “We have some very brilliant applicants.”

The group will come up with a comprehensive plan for all the parks in Fairview. They will use the work that has already been done on the Bowie Park master plan, and get input from citizens as to what the community wants in their parks system. Dawson also envisions that this group will make recommendations to the BOC for items that require more immediate attention, such as repairs to the Nature Center and staffing needs. He said he doesn’t want to be in a position where we have to “bulldoze something because we didn’t repair it in time.”

Fairview Furry 5K Postponed to October 23. Playground and Humane Society to benefit.



Originally planned for September 4th, the Chamber’s Furry 5K fun run/walk/race was rescheduled for October 23 due to weather concerns. This is one event that’s for the dogs. And their human friends. The regular course is 5 kilometers. There will be a short cut for those who have older dogs or personal health issues and need to cut the distance shorter. The event starts at 8:00 am and ends at 1:00 pm. Registration ends October 23, 2021 at noon.

The Chamber also intends to add a race at the beginning of the event, where runners who wish to be timed may start before the fun run begins. The first 3 finishers will be listed and awards given, and the others will be told their time. Organizers won’t know exactly how to plan the race until they know how many have signed up for it.

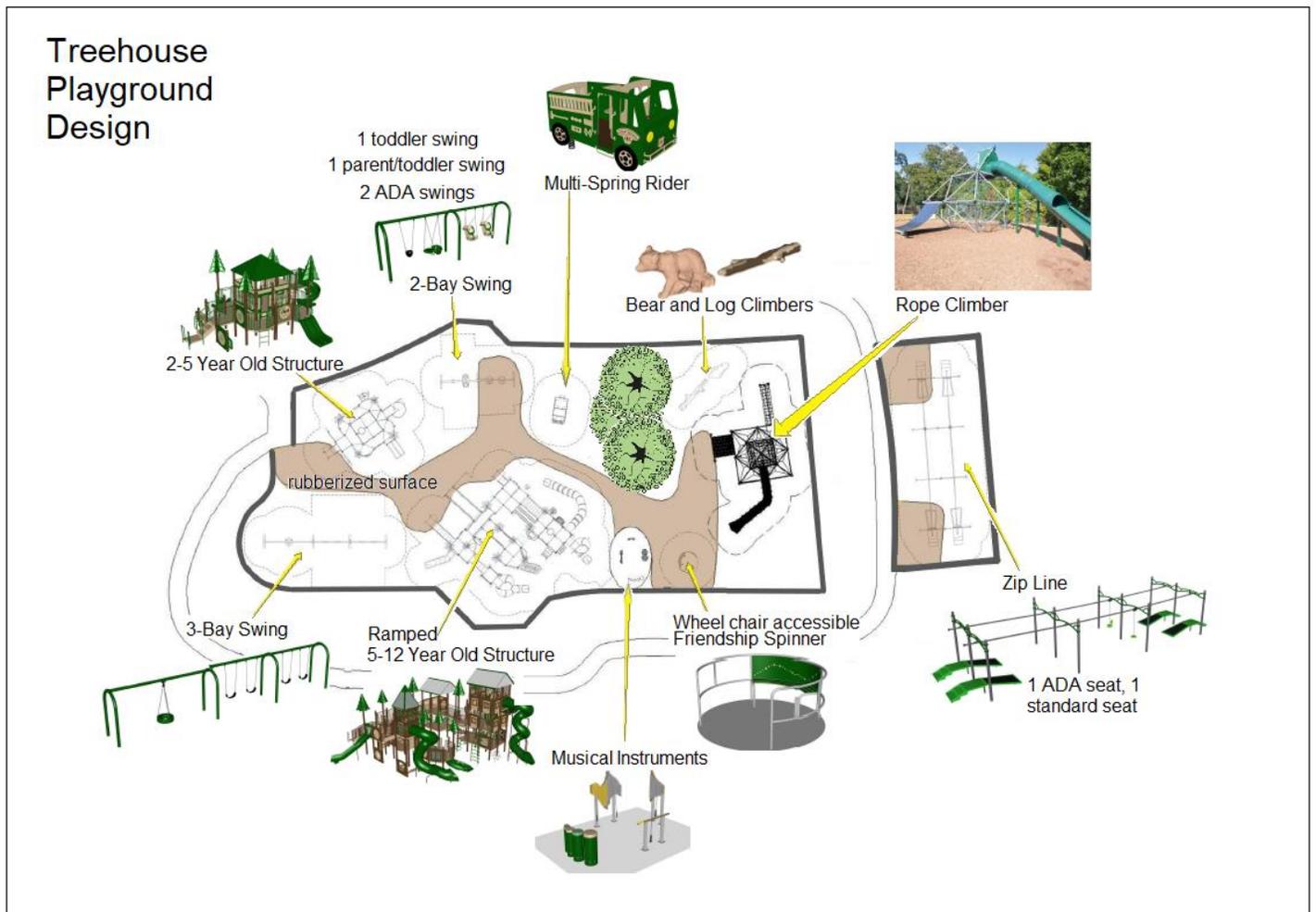
The cost is \$35 to register, plus a \$3.03 signup fee. The link to sign up is below. Registration fees pay for event costs and a t-shirt. Free giveaways and goodie bags will be handed out. All other proceeds

will go to two charities, the local Humane Society and Bowie Playground Build. It will be divided up 20% for the Humane Society and 80% for the playground. Emphasis is on the playground so it can be completed on time in July 2022 which will serve the community as a free place for families to take their kids.

So come out and get a t-shirt and exercise - run or walk with your friends and/or with your dog! Enjoy our beautiful nature park! Support two great causes! For more information and to sign up, please go to: <https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Fairview/FairviewFurry5K2021>

Treehouse Playground Workshops

New Time Frame Saves Money, Fundraising



The first of two city workshops regarding the Treehouse Playground was held on Thursday, September 16 before the BOC meeting. Playground Committee members met with the commissioners and City Manager to work out the final details of the current phase of the project before components are ordered. City Manager Scott Collins has spoken with the playground vendor, Nathan Chance, of Great Southern Recreation. Collins said that the City can order playground components in November, and pay for them on delivery in February. Price increases in the playground industry typically happen in January, so ordering in 2021 can save a considerable amount of money. The total needed for the entire plan is about \$750,000. The City has pledged \$600,000

from an upcoming bond re-issue, and fundraising and grants are taking care of the other \$150,000. If the City were to wait and order equipment in 2022, a new quote would be required from Great Southern Recreation, and we may have had to increase the fundraising by another \$50,000.

Other topics discussed at the workshop were fencing, sidewalks, and a donor monument. Chris Grayson, who was the chair of the first Treehouse Playground Committee in 1998, brought information about using composite material for a fence, and engraving pickets with names of people in the community in exchange for a donation to the Playground Fund. She found a company that would engrave the pickets, and agreed to find more information about the rest of the fencing components before the next workshop. Scott Collins will find out the cost of fencing if Great Southern Recreation installs it as a comparison.

Sidewalk changes need to be made. The sidewalk leading up to the old entry is too steep to be ADA compliant. So additional sidewalk needs to be added to make a zig-zag wheelchair entry on a shallower grade. The group also discussed changes to include the zip line in the same area as the rest of the playground. In the current design, the zip line is on the opposite side of the existing perimeter sidewalk from the rest of the playground. This was done to avoid the cost of taking out the existing sidewalk and putting in a new one. When the playground is fenced, the zip line would need to be inside its own separate fence unless the sidewalk is moved. Collins will look into what would be involved with moving the sidewalk.

There was a discussion about the donor plaque and a wall with bricks that people can have their names engraved on for a donation. Mayor Debby Rainey has been planning a wall for the personalized bricks that were saved from the original playground, plus a new batch of personalized bricks to help fund the new playground. Rainey was out of town at a conference at the time of the workshop, so the discussion was inconclusive. Grayson said she will contact Rainey and offer to help move the process along.

The next playground workshop will take place on October 7th, and will include Nathan Chance.

Other Playground News:

Fundraising Update: As of the September 16th workshop, the funds raised totaled **\$137,552**. This includes \$120,718 in the Friends of Bowie Park's Playground Fund, plus \$16,834 in the City of Fairview's Playground Fund. It does not include the \$600,000 pledged by the City from the upcoming bond re-issue.

Timeline. The timeline is essentially unchanged. The fundraising deadline is still December 29. At that point, whatever money has been turned over to the City for the Playground Fund, plus \$600,000 from the City's bond issue, will be the playground budget. \$600,000 will build a playground, but it requires an additional \$150,000 to build the playground that was designed by the Playground Committee and based on community surveys. The City will break ground in the spring of 2022, and the Grand Opening will be on Saturday, July 2nd 2022.

Recent Events.

1. State Farm grant unfortunately didn't happen. The Treehouse Playground cause was not chosen for the next phase in the grant process.

2. Thompson's Kitchen Benefit Chef Dinner Aug 21, 2021. This was a successful event, and very nice, according to those in attendance. The chef dinner got rave reviews, and Thompson's Kitchen donated \$850 to the Friends' Playground Fund.

Upcoming Events.

1. Nature Fest Sept 25, 2021 (see full article above). The Friends of Bowie Park and the Playground Committee will have adjoining booths. They will sell playground merchandise, hold a silent auction, and collect donations. Also, part of the Nature Fest booth fee for those who registered for booths after the August 1st Early Bird deadline will be donated to the playground effort.

2. Furry 5k Oct. 23, 2021. Sponsored by the Fairview Area Chamber of Commerce (See full article above.)

How you can volunteer. All of the work of the Playground Committee, as well as the events put on by the Chamber of Commerce, are all conducted by volunteers. This is the Volunteer State, and this is a community supported and lifted up by volunteers. If you would like to be a part of this project, please reply to this email or call 615-799-9666 and leave a message. It is a personal phone, so don't let that stop you from leaving a message. You can tell your kids and grandkids, "I helped build that!"

Calendar Announcements

Nature Fest: Sponsored by the Fairview Area Chamber of Commerce. **Saturday, September 25, 10:00 am-5:00 pm in Bowie Nature Park.** Donation of \$10 per car is requested for admission.

Fairview Parks and Landscaping Meeting: This is the citizen's advisory board that deals with all of Fairview's parks including Bowie, as well as the tree ordinance and Fairview's Tree City status. They meet on the **first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm in City Hall.** The next meeting is **October 5.** The public is welcome.

Playground Workshop: Workshops are informal meetings that happen at City Hall. Although commissioners attend workshops, they cannot officially vote on anything. The usual rules about who can talk and when are suspended in favor of talking out plans and problems. There will be a workshop regarding the Treehouse Playground on **October 7** beginning at **5:30 pm** at City Hall. Playground vendor Nathan Chance will attend.

Fairview Board of Commissioners Meeting: The Fairview Board of Commissioners is ultimately in charge of Bowie Nature Park. They meet at Fairview City Hall on the first and third Thursdays of each month at **7:00 pm.** The next meeting is **October 7.** Meeting agendas can be accessed at <https://www.fairview-tn.org/category/meeting-agenda-posts/> or at City Hall just before the meeting.

Friends of Bowie Park Member Meeting: Our next meeting will be on **Saturday, October 9 at 9:00 am.** We will meet at the **Bowie Park Nature Center.**

Fairview Planning Commission: The Fairview City Planning Commission meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Its next meeting will be on **Tuesday, October 12, from 7-9**

p.m. at **Fairview City Hall**. You can download meeting agendas at <https://www.fairview-tn.org/category/meeting-agenda-posts/>

Arts and Crafts Fair: Sponsored by the City of Fairview. **Saturday, October 16, 9:00 am-4:00 pm in Bowie Nature Park**. Booth space is \$35. Applications for booth space must be turned in by October 1. More information and an application can be found at <https://www.fairview-tn.org/2021/07/arts-and-crafts-fair-at-bowie-park-saturday-october-16-vendor-booth-application/>

Fairview Furry 5K: Sponsored by the Fairview Area Chamber of Commerce. **Saturday, October 23, 2021, from 8:00 am to 1:00 pm**. See <https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Fairview/FairviewFurry5K2021> for more information or to register.

The mission of the Friends of Bowie Nature Park is to preserve, protect, promote and enhance Bowie Nature Park for use by the general public as a nature reserve and park. To become a member of the Friends or to make a donation, please visit our website at <http://www.friendsofbowienaturepark.org/> .

To unsubscribe, please email eileen.brogan@comcast.net with your request.