

ECPC News welcomes submissions from all parks friends groups to elmcityparksconservancy@yahoo.com or ECPC News at the above address.

ECPC is supported in part by the New Haven Department of Parks, Recreation & Trees.



CELEBRATE BAY VIEW

The third annual Celebrate Bay View, held on June 10, was a great success! Forty-seven adults and more than fifty children came out to enjoy our full roster of events - a martial arts exhibition, our Box Wall Break Down (*pictured*), story telling, races and games, free ice cream and refreshments, the fire truck exploration, contests for bubble blowing and coloring, the craft table, a Piñata Bust, the Bayview Park Garden Ground Breaking, and the Bayview Yell.

To make sure that Bay View Park would look special for our Celebration, our Green Team worked with the Parks Department during the rainy week of June 3. What a great job we all did! Flowers were planted under our park sign; mulch was placed around each of our trees; new chips were placed in the play area; the grass was mown; the dead pin oak tree was removed; and the park received a double cleaning - all detritus, human and otherwise, was removed.

Our event day was actually dry - very windy and at first threatening, but dry! The Green Team arrived at the park Saturday morning at 10:30 AM, full of vim and vigor and ready for the day ahead. The tent just had been set



(Kris Sainsbury)

up when it blew away. We chased it across the park hollering, OH NO! COME BACK! COME BACK!

After it nearly blew away a second time, we tied it to the fence, and then the top blew off! Work with what you have, my grandmother used to say. By 12:00 o'clock, as they say at NASA, It's a go.

Our first event this year was the Break Through Wall (*pictured*). At the count of three, the children run at and through the wall, which can symbolize anything. We run this event to show our children that if they try, they can overcome any wall put in front of them.

Thank you Parks Department!!! Thanks to Bob Levine, Christy Hass, and the whole Parks Department maintenance crew. The Green Team and our community would like to thank the Elm City Park Conservancy for supporting the Celebration through an Experience Your Parks Grant which helped defray the cost of this event. THANK YOU - THANK YOU THANK YOU!

Together we can make our parks come alive! -Kris Sainsbury

CALL OUT for PHOTOS

If you have photographs from an ECPC or neighborhood park event, please send us copies, through email or snail mail, along with the name of the photographer. We'll credit any imaged used.

ECPC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cordalie Benoit, *President* - Easter Howard, *Vice President*
 Steve Wilcox, *Secretary* - Anna Schildroth, *Treasurer*
 Chris Ozyck, Dave Reher, Dave Demers, Michelle Maitland, Marge Ottenbreit, Colin Caplan, Kris Sainsbury,
 Paul Larivee, Barbara Schlein *Staff* - Illisa Kelman

BOARD MEETINGS

6-7:30 pm, 4th Wednesday of each month, New Haven Parks Offices
 720 Edgewood Avenue. Open to the public.

Please call 946-5713 in case of scheduling changes.

Citizen-based and not-for-profit, **Elm City Parks Conservancy** is the only parks advocacy organization serving New Haven's entire parks system. Our mission is to partner with parks friends groups, parks users and New Haven's Dept. of Parks, Recreation & Trees to strengthen public awareness, participation and preservation of New Haven's beautiful and historic parks system. ECPC is a 501(c)(3) organization to which all donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



I am honored and so pleased to be the new President of Elm City Parks Conservancy. New Haven's vibrant park system is one of the best features of life in New Haven. More residents are recognizing the importance of citizen's involvement in the maintenance, planning, and programming for their neighborhood parks. Among other things:

The Friends of Edgewood Park are gathering more steam each month. They have successfully obtained a grant and a very generous private donation to complete the park's fitness course.

The Historic Wooster Square Association friends' group has again planted three cherry trees. They also met with Christie Hass, New Haven's Tree Warden and Head of the Park's Maintenance Division to evaluate the implementation of the Wooster Square Park Management Plan.

Through much hard work, The Friends of Bishop Woods has been able to reduce the illegal use of the bird sanctuary by all-terrain vehicles. They are also working closely with the Bishop Woods School Building Committee to reduce the impact of the school expansion on the Woods.

As usual, the Edgerton Parks Conservancy is energetic and facilitating lots of exciting programming at their Park. There is Shakespeare, Sunday in the Park and the New Haven Folk Festival to name a few wonderful events.

What is your group up to? Can Elm City Parks Conservancy help you become more organized and more active? Would you like to learn what other groups are doing or what is happening in your own neighborhood park? Please join us the fourth Wednesday of each month at the Parks Department Office, 720 Edgewood Avenue at 6:00 pm. Also let us know when you meet. I would love to get to know you and your Park.

-Cordalie Benoit

SAVE THE DATES - Fall Festivals in the parks!

- Hawk Festival**, Lighthouse Point Park. Saturday, September 23.
- West Rock Park Day**. Saturday, September 30.
- East Rock Festival/Angel of Peace Dedication**. Sat., October 14.
- Celebrate Edgewood**. Saturday, October 22.
- Fright Nights**, Edgewood Park. Thursday & Friday, October 28 & 29.

For information, contact Martin Torresquinterro at 946-6768.

ATTENTION ALL PARKS FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS

DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A COMMUNITY EVENT IN YOUR LOCAL PARK?

Thanks to continuing support from the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven, ECPC is looking to aid your community park events through our

EXPERIENCE YOUR PARKS! GRANTS

Make your idea a reality! Design a tour or event to showcase your local New Haven Park. ECPC can answer questions, offer added people power, or start-up funds. For more information or to receive an application contact ECPC or visit our web site at

<http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/Parks/ecpc.asp#programs>.

The ECPC board meets monthly, and applications are accepted on a rolling basis.

ECPC'S SPONSORS COMMUNITY PARK EVENTS!

ECPC regularly sponsors events in parks across the city, enabling community groups stretch to their limited resources. The Parks Dept. generously allows us to extend our permitting and insurance coverage to parks and neighborhood groups for events that are free and open-to-the-public. ECPC sponsors the annual **May Day on the Green**, the **Ideat Village** at Temple Plaza, and EACH of the **Cityseed farmers markets** held at Russo, Edgewood and Quinnipiac Parks (onging until the end of October). We also sponsor neighborhood events such as **Celebrate Bay View Park**,

If your parks or neighborhood group is producing a public event in a city park, contact ECPC.

ECPC CELEBRATES THE ANGEL OF PEACE

In conjunction with the Parks Department's conservation of the **Angel of Peace** statue that crowns East Rock Park's Soldiers and Sailors monument, ECPC introduces our third commemorative medallion, featuring this statue.

In 2004, ECPC released the Five-Mile Point Lighthouse ornament, followed by Christopher Columbus in 2005. The City of New Haven and the Parks Department are restoring each piece of sculpture in our parks. ECPC is selling these collectible medallions to raise awareness and appreciation of these sculptures and the renewed interest in their conservation.

The Lighthouse and Columbus medallions are still available. With a new medallion every year, we hope to increase the breadth and effectiveness of this program. By purchasing these medallions, you are demonstrating support for public art while aiding ECPC's advocacy efforts. As a small gift or distinctive decoration, these medallions are both attractive and affordable at **\$12 each or \$30 for 3**. **ECPC members receive discounted pricing of \$10 each or \$25 for 3**. To purchase your medallion, call, email or visit our web site: <http://www.cityofnewhaven.com/Parks/ecpc.asp#programs>. Download an order form in "Public Art in the Parks".



EAST ROCK'S ANGEL OF PEACE VISITS THE GREEN

The Angel of Peace, 11.5-foot, 5,000-pound bronze statue which tops the New Haven Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument on East Rock, is being restored on the New Haven Green. ConservArt of Hamden will finish conserving the statue about two weeks after its arrival day, September 5. Mayor DeStefano asked that the Angel of Peace be restored on the Green so that New Haveners could see the famous statue up close. This incredibly beautiful monument is a worthy legacy because it not only memorializes the sacrifices made by so many generations of soldiers, it also communicates the wish of all Americans for peace,

DeStefano said.

The Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument stands in honor of those Americans who have served their country in battle throughout history. Commissioned in 1885 and completed in 1887, the monument was inspired by the Civil War but has since become a tribute to all of America's veterans.

The monument's square pedestal comprises four different bas-relief sculptures commemorating the Revolutionary War, the War of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Civil War. On each corner of the pedestal sits a bronze female figure, the four women together representing Patriotism, Victory, Prosperity, and History.

In February, the New Haven parks department had the Angel of Peace removed from atop East Rock and shipped to a foundry in Flushing, NY before being returned to Connecticut for further restoration. The statue is a landmark for New Haven - approximately 250,000 cars pass the Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument each day on Interstate 91.

The City of New Haven and the New Haven Register have been inviting and publishing peoples' wishes for peace on their websites. People can email the City with their wishes for the world and their messages will be displayed on a special website linked to the City's

SCA 2006

For the sixth year running, ECPC hired Student Conservation Association (SCA) interns to work in New Haven's parks and open spaces. UConn student, Liz Lane (*below right*), and Meera Acharya (*left*) of Marist College in the Hudson River Valley spent their summer working on land and river and living at the West Rock Nature Center.

These energetic women weeded, planted, painted, performed outreach and supported community activities at Edgewood, Edgerton, West River Memorial, Russo, Quinnipiac River, Jocelyn Square, Beaver Ponds/New Haven Animal Shelter, Bay View, and Lighthouse Point Parks. Supported by the Community Foundation for Greater New Haven's Quinnipiac River Fund, Meera and Liz photographically documented the shape of the Q River shoreline; worked with a community greenspace group near Dover Beach Park; created and disseminated 1000 informational fliers about the Quinnipiac and how to reduce nonpoint source pollution. They also took patrons of Stillwater American Bistro canoeing to introduce them to the river's recreational possibilities.



(Liz Lane)

ATTENTION PARK FRIENDS GROUPS

WILL YOU NEED VOLUNTEER HELP IN YOUR PARK IN 2007?

In 2007, ECPC will continue its partnership with SCA by employing energetic and motivated young adults to work in New Haven's parks and open spaces from mid-June until late August. In order to maximize the benefits we receive from and offer to them, ECPC is instituting a planning program.

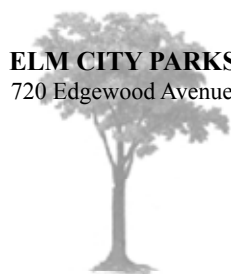
To make the best use of their time next year, we are now calling for input from you as a stakeholder in the New Haven parks system. Please give some thought to your goals, visions, or ideas for the park or parks that you care the most about. Consider programs for environmental outreach and education in your community, traditional park-related work such as trail maintenance, innovative ecology, recreation or education programs, or creative ideas that would well serve your park and community.

Please note that if your parks group is interested in hiring energetic conservation interns for a few hours per week next summer, whether you have previously been involved or not, please contact Illisa or watch our web site for our new pre-submittal request form, to be posted soon. So that ECPC can best plan and organize the work the SCA volunteers will be doing next summer work, we ask that all submittals be received **PRIOR TO MARCH 2007**. -Dave Demers

main page and on the New Haven's Register's website. Wishes and photos can be emailed to dwheeloc@newhavenct.net or to nhall@nhregister.com. Check online at www.cityofnewhaven.com or www.NHRegister.com -Catherine Sullivan-DeCarlo

ELM CITY PARKS CONSERVANCY

720 Edgewood Avenue, New Haven, CT 06515



ECPC NEWS: fall '06
Please Open Immediately
Dated Material Enclosed