

All ages join project to explore park's past

▼Park / from A1

"The idea was that, while learning about the park, to bring kids together with adults," Clay said. "Young people can learn from the experiences of older people, and older people can really be energized by interaction with younger people."

"The kids would get an opportunity to learn about their community's history. This park has been very important in the community's life."

A history of the park, one of the CAPE-funded projects, backs that up. Among the items noted was that the park housed a pool, built in 1928 after another pool constructed at Cascades Park proved problematic. The Juke Box building — now named in honor of former Bloomington mayor Tomi Allison — came along in 1938, and the park's bandstand shell was the site for Thursday night concerts from the 1940s into the 1960s.

The project prompted Monroe County Community School Corp. associate superintendent David Frye to reminisce about the days his dad, Carl W. Frye, conducted those Thursday concerts.

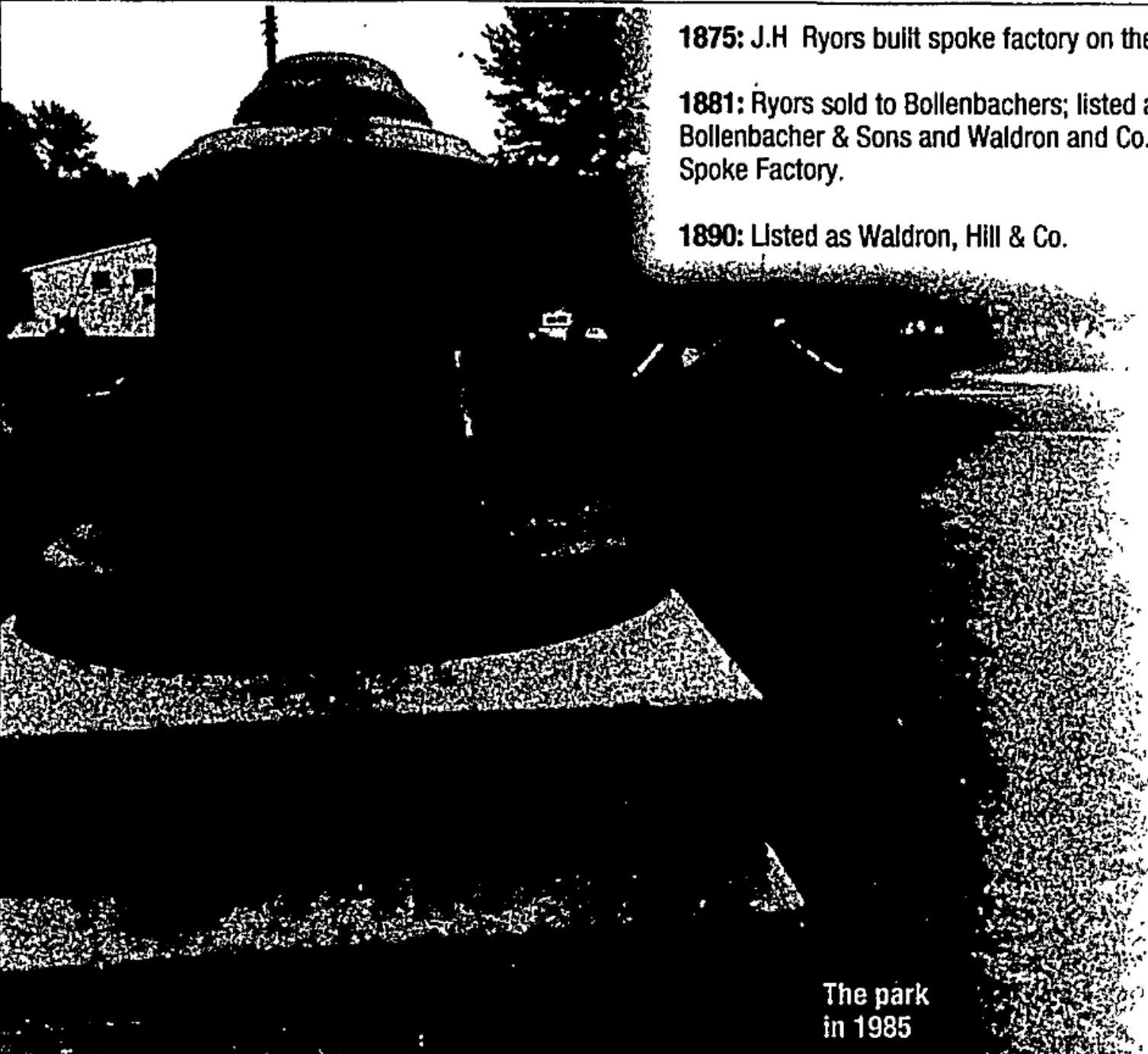
Dad was supervisor of music for Bloomington Metropolitan Schools, and he did those programs during the summer with a community band comprised of high school students, former graduates and adults in town who just liked to play," Frye said. "I remember going as an 8- or 9-year-old in the early 1950s and, later, I played in the band. There are a lot of us still around who did."

"The old band shell was on the east side of the park, off Lincoln Street, right next to the swimming pool. The pool would close about dusk, then the band program would start. People would sit on green benches in a half circle, or maybe on blankets on the ground. The music was from the 1930s, 40s and 50s, some Broadway, some swing, some classical. It was before television became the thing people did on Thursday nights. I have a lot of pleasant memories."

So does Monroe County Commissioner Joyce Poling, who related stories about her days as a swimming instructor at the Third Street Park pool when interviewed by North students for the Evergreen CAPE project.

"They're just happy memories," said Poling, an Evansville native who came to Bloomington as an Indiana University student. "I gave swimming lessons, working with a bunch of special-needs kids, many of whom are still in our community. I still see them off and on. That was a very

Third Street Park timeline



1875: J.H. Ryors built spoke factory on the site.

1881: Ryors sold to Bollenbachers; listed as Bollenbacher & Sons and Waldron and Co. Spoke Factory.

1890: Listed as Waldron, Hill & Co.

1890-10: Listed as Waldron-Hill-Buskirk Hub and Spoke Factory.

1899: Eastern boundary of park (Spanker's Branch) called an eyesore/open sewer

1923: Major portion of the park land was donated by Hill-Buskirk-Waldron family, to be named and maintained under the name of "Waldron, Hill and Buskirk" Park. Henry Gentry led 50 volunteers into property to clean it up

1928: Pool built, funded by \$20,000 donation from Mr. and Mrs. William H. Adams, dedicated to the memory of their daughter Emma Jane; bathhouse was in old frame building (it had been Levi Hill's grocery store). A long, wooden sidewalk led from bathhouse to pool. Two gates in north fence of the pool were entrances; a band shell of limestone was donated by Hughes Brothers.

1934: Frame bathhouse replaced with limestone building on south edge of pool. The pool had a big slide, wide steps; ice cream cones sold at Pete Athens' little store in the bathhouse. There were Thursday evening band concerts

1938: Juke Box constructed by Federal Youth Administration as teen center, community center and arts and crafts center.

1940s-1960s: Thursday night band concerts attended by many, particularly during World War II; dances at Juke Box for teens

1960s: Parcels of land were added to complete the current park parameters.

1966: Pool closed

1971: Proposal made to build 17-story housing and parking garage on park site--proposal fails

1975: Saturday morning Bloomington Community Farmers Market begins. Parks board has problems with retail sales on park property

1970s: Old-time music weekly dance at the Juke Box.

1982: Farmers Market moves to courthouse square

1991: \$200,000 allocated for park renovations including a plaza, fountain, stage and new parking lot and a large plaza with an old cast-iron fountain made by Seward's Foundry about 1895, fountain had been commissioned by association formed to start Rose Hill Cemetery

2000: Juke Box named Allison Juke Box in honor of Mayor Tomilea Allison, who fostered Kid City program. There are weekly Friday night concerts, Shakespeare in the Park, Simply Living Fair and other activities

"The idea was that, while learning about the park, to bring kids together with adults. Young people can learn from the experiences of older people, and older people can really be energized by interaction with younger people."

Janey Clay, Evergreen staffer who helped found the project

special time for me.

"I really enjoyed visiting with the kids during our interview, too. The kids were really enthused about what they were doing."

Ryan Smith, one of the North seniors who interviewed Poling, confirmed that.

"It was a lot of fun to do those interviews, and great to learn about the history of the park," Smith said. "It's a neat place. It's centrally located. A lot of people can walk there from the core neighborhoods, and it played a pretty central role in the community for a long time."

"I like a lot of the present features. Some are pretty unique. There is a drinking fountain, with a spigot and a tray, for dogs (dedicated to a dog named Eddie). So it even serves the four-legged community."

Brittany Linville, Smith's class-

mate at North, added, "We also tried to envision how the park could look 10 years from now. So we've made displays not just depicting what the history of the park has been, but what we'd like to propose about what it could be."

Dave Williams, operations director for Bloomington Parks and Recreation, and architect Jim Rosenbarger, talked with the students about what is possible for the park and how future plans for the park might be influenced or implemented.

"It always starts with a free-wheeling discussion," said Williams, who remembers swimming in the "circular, Depression Era-design" park pool before it closed in 1966. "Then you have to infuse some reality about restrictions in terms of deeds, covenants, money and other factors."

Grants help get young people involved

By **Andy Graham**
H-T Staff Writer

CAPE grant-funded projects such as the Evergreen Institute on Elder Environments "Discovering Third Street Park" are designed, in part, to promote young people as resources in the community.

Here is an update on just some of the other on-going CAPE projects with a similar theme.

Clear Creek Elementary, \$13,345, "Clear Creek and Community Service, Helpers and Heroes."

Spearheaded by Clear Creek fifth- and sixth-graders, who started a social action club called "The Caring Comets," the school's all-grades journalism club and other student organizations, this project is overseen at the school by Michelle Henderson and project director Nicole Schenemann.

Clear Creek's journalism club publishes a monthly newsletter, after meeting once a week to generate stories about what is going on in their classrooms and the Clear Creek community.

The Caring Comets, whose first initiative was to collect donated non-perishable items for Bloomington's Animal Shelter that they delivered this past week, are starting a neighborhood association as an outreach to Clear Creek residents. The students want to volunteer to do some of what needs doing around the community — from raking leaves to

cleaning up trash — and asking neighbors about memories of Clear Creek.

"We have some records of multi-generational families in the area, one going back to great-grandparents," Henderson said. "We're also be documenting when we host two community celebrations, one in January and one in May, when students will be invited to come and relate what they've learned."

"We're also wanting to offer Clear Creek school as a site, a place where community members and organizations can gather."

Another Clear Creek project, which will come to fruition at February's Soup Bowl benefit for the Hoosier Hills Food Bank, involves students working with musicians Carrie Newcomer and Beth Lodge-Rigal to record songs for a charity CD.

Bloomington Area Arts Council, \$23,130, "Act on the Issues."

The project started during the summer, when a group of teenagers enrolled and chose The Rise, Middle Way House's temporary housing facility, as a subject about which they wrote and directed plays. They then performed the work in street-theater fashion, in locations such as the Courthouse Square and the Sample Gates.

"We summarized the shows with a collective performance at the Waldron," said Kaira Hogle of the John Waldron Arts Center staff. "And the performance pieces were followed

by a discussion period, when the audience asked the kids about their experiences and how that was translated into performance."

"We really are trying to emphasize the assets of community valuing youth, and youth as resources. We really want to instill a sense of empowerment — that no matter how old they are, they can make a difference in the community."

Rhino's Youth Center's video group documented the performances, which are being shown in schools, which is encouraging enrollment in the program.

"The kids had a positive experience and want to do it again, and we're getting new recruits," Hogle said. "We'll plan to do it again next summer."

Aurora High School, \$10,000, Aurora Multi-Media Project.

Sarah Erb piloted a media class at Aurora last spring, with classroom space, a media studio and equip-

ment supplied by Rhino's Youth Center. The grant has helped Aurora purchase equipment, such as six video cameras, and to set up its own studio for the class.

"This all began because students here expressed an interest in working with community concerning issues and events which impact the community," Erb said, "and many of the students were interested in media."

"One of our missions is to develop students who want to take part, and feel empowered to take part, as citizens of our community, often involving social justice issues they perceive."

Public-service announcements are one avenue the students are pursuing.

They already worked in helping to document, on video, the 2003 Lotus festival.

Reporter **Andy Graham** can be reached at 331-4346 or by e-mail at graham@heraldt.com.

Cancer research center gets \$10 million gift

Associated Press

SEATTLE — The Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center has received a \$10 million donation from the chief executive officer of a California software company.

The gift from Don Listwin, CEO of Openwave Systems and head of the Listwin Family Foundation, was the center's largest ever and will be

used to develop systems for early diagnosis and prevention of cancer, the center said Saturday. Listwin said one in four deaths is from cancer.

Based in Redwood City, Calif., Openwave Systems Inc. provides software for Internet-surfing cell phones.

The Seattle center is known worldwide for treatments and research on cancer.

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WORD OF THE DAY

vicarious

vye-KAIR-ee-us
adjective
acting for another; experienced or realized through imaginative or sympathetic participation in the experience of another

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The Herald-Times

See what's in it for you

TUESDAY: PHONE IN
Chat with Editor **Bob Zaltberg** by calling 331-4364 during the weekly "Talk to the Editor," session, Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

A Breakfast Serial

Join young Ben Quigley in the tenth installment of "The Winner's Circle," an eighteen-chapter serial story running Tuesdays in *The Herald-Times*.

TUESDAY

Pushed aside?

In School reporter Anne Kibbler takes a closer look at the book *Dividing Classes: How The Middle Class Negotiates and Rationalizes School Advantage*.

IN SCHOOL

WEDNESDAY

Celebrating Hanukkah

Food Fare columnist Jennifer Piurek explores traditional Hanukkah foods and provides recipes for latke.

FOOD