

# the LARK newsletter



LANDMARK  
PARK

Vol. XXXIX, Number 3

Fall 2019

## Low Country Boil at Landmark Park



Landmark Park's annual Low Country Boil will be held on Thursday, September 19 from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Stokes Activity Barn at Landmark Park. Shrimp, sausage, corn, potatoes and a blend of spices will simmer in a 60-gallon kettle for a mouth-watering dish. When the cooking is done, Low Country Boil is served out of wheelbarrows for a laid back feast. Brian Hart will provide musical entertainment, plus a silent auction will feature items including trips, gift baskets, and more. Visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) for updates on items.

Wagon rides and hot dogs will be available for the kids. Proceeds help maintain Landmark Park.

Advance tickets are required and must be purchased by September 12. Tickets are \$50 per person, \$5 for kids ages 3-12, and \$500 for a reserved table of eight. For more info or to purchase tickets, call 334-794-3452. Ticket price includes all you can eat, plus beer, wine and soft drinks. This year's event is presented by William and Carroll Flowers and sponsored by

Adams Beverages, Alabama Power Energizers, Alden Services, Bob Woodall Air Care, Buffalo Rock, Dothan Printing and Litho, Hardwick and Son Printing, Imperial Dade, Martin Environmental, Nantze Springs, Pans and Petals, Playmaker Embroidery, Steve and Angelia Stokes, Sysco, The Blue Plate Restaurant, U. S. Business Products and WDFX Fox 34. Special Thanks to Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine, David Baker, Brian Hart, Jackson Thornton, Jared Ward, Engineered Systems.



## Dothan Landmarks Foundation Names Laura Stakelum Executive Director

The Dothan Landmarks Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the hiring of the new Landmark Park Executive Director, Laura Stakelum. Stakelum's hiring was confirmed Monday, June 24, at the Board of Directors monthly meeting after a nationwide candidate search. The park is excited to have Stakelum lead the park and continue to collect, preserve and interpret the cultural and natural heritage of Dothan and the Wiregrass region.

Stakelum is a Dothan native and has served as the park's public relations director for 10 years and interim director for the past six months. A cum laude graduate of the University of South Alabama, Stakelum looks forward to advancing the park through service to the community and positioning Landmark Park as a leader in historic preservation, environmental stewardship, agricultural appreciation and educational opportunities.

# DOTHAN LANDMARKS FOUNDATION

"The Lark" is published quarterly by Landmark Park for the members of Dothan Landmarks Foundation, P.O. Box 6362, Dothan, AL 36302.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Clay Williams, President; Steve Stokes, Vice President; Bence Carter, Secretary; Ben Wallace, Treasurer; Brandon Ziegenfelder, Barbara Jowers, Ronnie Davis, Gary Manfready, Kay Nailen, Kenny Moss, Paula Autrey, Korey Long, Jeanie Mann

## LANDMARK PARK STAFF

Laura Stakelum, Executive Director; Tabitha Shumaker, Education Director; Penny Smith, Office Manager; Celeste Conner, Head Soda Jerk/Volunteer Coordinator; Alisa Hamm, Soda Jerk; Naomi Chester, Soda Jerk/Gate; David Jay, Grounds/Special Events Manager; Marshall Moss, Maintenance; Julie Powell, Membership Coordinator; Jack Reynolds, Weekend Staff; Valerie Wise, Weekend Staff; Janis Lepley, Office Aide; Gabe Hamm, Gift Shop/Gate; Micah Holley, Gift Shop; Blaine Green, Gate; Chrissy Hale, Gate; Sharon Sailors, Inventory Specialist; Kayla Cole, Sub; Emily Wiggins, Sub; James Boone, Sub; Caroline Holley, Sub

## ALABAMA AGRICULTURAL MUSEUM STAFF

Kari Barley, Curator; Jay Sayre, Bookkeeper

# DATES TO REMEMBER

REPTILE FEEDINGS First Sundays

WOODTURNER MEETINGS First Saturdays

LANDMARK DULCIMER CLUB JAM First Saturdays

MARTIN DRUGSTORE HOURS Wed-Sat 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sun 1 p.m.-4 p.m.

LOW COUNTRY BOIL Sept. 19

SMITHSONIAN MUSEUM DAY Sept. 21

CAR SHOW Oct. 5

QUILT SHOW Oct. 18-20

FALL FARM DAY Oct. 19

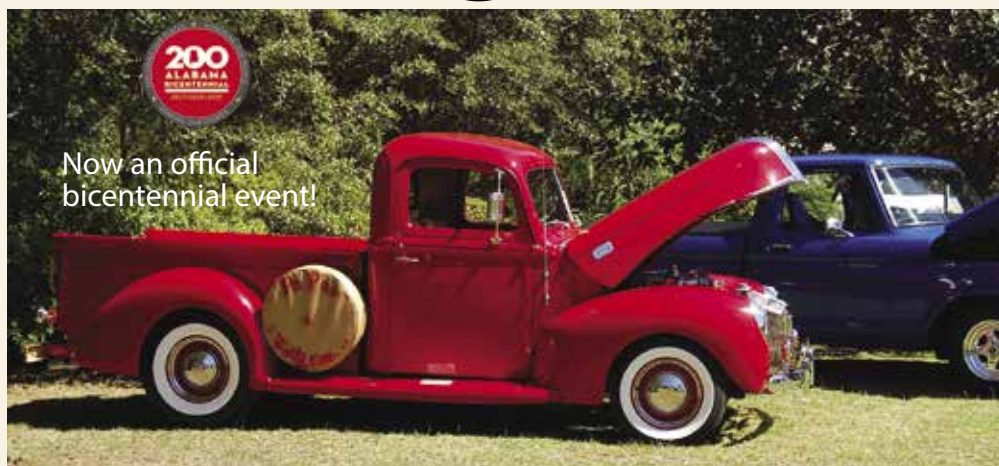
DECORATING WORKSHOP Dec. 1

VICTORIAN CHRISTMAS Dec. 8

ONGOING Register online for field trips!

Landmark Park will be closed on  
Thanksgiving Day.

Visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) to register  
for programs and for more details.



Join Landmark Park for the annual benefit car show on October 5 from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Over 100 collector cars, trucks and vehicles will be on display throughout the day. The price is \$10 to enter a car in the show, which also covers your admission to view the cars. Admission to the event to view the cars is \$5 for adults, \$3 for kids and free for park members and children 2 and under. The first 100 cars to enter the show for display will receive a dash plaque and a goodie bag. The Car Show is sponsored by WDHN TV 18, Barberitos, Billy's Paint and Body, Alden Services and Davis Oil Co.

Begun in 1983, the car show has generated over \$100,000 for the operation and maintenance of the park during the past 34 years. This would not have been possible without the numerous volunteers, auto enthusiasts and local car clubs who have participated or helped host this event. For details on judging, food vendors, sponsorships and more, please call the park office at 334-794-3452 or visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com).

## Someone will win \$500

### Is it you?

The annual drawing for \$500 will be held at the Car Show. Tickets for the drawing are \$2 each and are available at Landmark Park before and during the Car Show. Call 334-794-3452 to purchase tickets.  
Proceeds benefit Landmark Park.

You do not have to be present to win.



New  
Tractor Pull  
Track!



## FALL FARM DAY

LANDMARK PARK  
DOTHAN, ALABAMA



Now an official  
bicentennial event!



On Saturday, October 19 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., Landmark Park will host the annual Fall Farm Day. Enjoy the sights and sounds of an 1890s farmstead while volunteers demonstrate sugar cane grinding and syrup making, peanut picking, stacking and digging, an antique tractor pull and parade, household chores and more. Admission is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and active military, \$4 for kids, and free for children two and under and members. Concessions will be available and the Martin Drugstore and Shelley General Store will be open. Visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) for entry forms for the Tractor Pull and Parade. Fall Farm Day is an AL 200 Bicentennial event.

Cane Grinding Day, a special presentation of Fall Farm Day for preregistered classroom and homeschool groups, will take place from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. on October 18. To register your class, visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com). For more info, contact the Education Department at 334-794-3452 or email [education@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:education@landmarkparkdothan.com).

## Landmark Park Quilt Show



Alabama quilt designed by Caroline Holley

Antique and contemporary quilts will be on display in the Stokes Activity Barn for the eleventh annual Landmark Park Quilt Show on October 18-20. Friday and Sunday will be from 1 p.m.- 4 p.m. and Saturday will be in conjunction with Fall Farm Day from 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Admission on Friday and Sunday is \$4 for adults, \$3 for kids and free for members. Admission on Saturday is \$8 for adults, \$6 for seniors and active military and \$4 for kids. The theme for this year's show is 200 Quilts for 200 Years. The Quilt Show is an official AL 200 Bicentennial event.

The goal of the quilt show is to preserve our quilt heritage and promote the next generation of quilters. You are invited to share your quilts with the Wiregrass by entering them in the quilt show. Please call 334-794-3452 or visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) for entry forms. Deadline to return your paperwork to enter a quilt in the show is September 13.

Now an official  
bicentennial event!



## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



## Larry & Jessica Gautney

Jessica and Larry Gautney are this issue's Volunteer Spotlight. Larry got a PhD in Plant Breeding from North Carolina State University, Masters and BS degrees in Plant Genetics and Botany from Auburn. Jessica has a BS in Biology from Jacksonville State Univ, a Masters in Education from Auburn and a PhD. from Auburn in Invertebrate Zoology. They have continued, especially this summer, to volunteer and use their expertise in nature and wildlife for a variety of events around the park.

In the past, they have helped with the Education Department's Harvest Heydays with our Sugar Cane Station. Jessica, with the help of Larry, got involved with our Wacky Wednesday on insects. She also organized and lead our July 4th celebration with the Daughters of the American Revolution; in which, she is also a proud member of. She enjoys volunteering with the Friends of the Library as well. Now that he gets to enjoy retirement, Larry spends his free time breeding pepper plants and "has an ongoing breeding project with them" Jessica says. Both Jessica and Larry enjoy being active church members of Westgate Church of Christ.

Jessica and Larry, the park and staff can never thank you enough for all the hard work and effort you both put into Landmark Park. It is always a true pleasure working with you!

If you are interested in joining our volunteer family, we would love to have you! From office work to outdoor projects, there is plenty to do here at the park. For more information, please call Celeste at 334-794-3452.



# Let Landmark Park Help Make this School Year the Best Ever!

Are you looking for a way to reinforce your lessons through engaging, hands-on activities? Our Education Department can help! Our Field Classes, Planetarium Programs, and Seasonal Sessions have been specifically designed to provide your students with valuable hands-on activities to complement your lessons in our 135 acre outdoor classroom. Whether it is our turn-of-the-century farmstead, outdoor wildlife exhibits, planetarium, or boardwalk, the Park offers an exciting array of learning opportunities. All programs meet state and national standards and can be customized to meet your needs. Registration is now open! Please visit our website to view our program guide and register for programs. Contact the Education Department ([education@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:education@landmarkparkdothan.com), 334-794-3452) with any questions.

Tabitha Shumaker, our Education Director, will be visiting local schools in the upcoming months, distributing information on this year's programs. Special this year, the October 31 session of Harvest Heydays will be open to the public as well as to schools and homeschool groups. Make sure to schedule your seasonal sessions early as these programs fill quickly!

Landmark Park is excited to add a variety of Homeschool Days to the calendar, exclusive to the homeschool community. Our field trip opportunities are a great way to reinforce your lessons and have a little fun! Programs meet state standards for education. Or, join our EdVenture Club and receive a discount based on which level you select. Homeschool students are of course welcome to any other field trip opportunity available at Landmark Park. For details on field trip opportunities, and to register for a program or purchase an EdVenture Club Pass, visit our website at [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) or give us a call at 334-794-3452.

## Holiday Decorating Workshop

Spread some holiday cheer at Landmark Park at the Holiday Decorating Workshop on December 1 at 1 p.m. in the Alabama Agricultural Museum. Create wreaths, garlands and swags out of natural materials and decorate Landmark Park for Victorian Christmas (taking place on December 8) and make some decorations to take home! Refreshments will be provided. Guests are encouraged to bring gloves and wire pliers. Registration is required. Visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) to reserve your space. This event is supported by the Wiregrass Master Gardeners Association.

Make sure to visit the park during Victorian Christmas, our annual open house, on December 8 to view the hard work of the holiday decorators.



## In the Planetarium

Planetarium programs are \$3 per person and free for members. Visit our website for a full description of each program.

### LIVE SHOWS:

Saturdays and Sundays, 1 p.m.  
*(not recommended for children under 5)*

### FULL-DOME MOVIES: GREAT FOR ALL AGES!

Fridays, Saturdays, Sundays and Mondays at 3:30 p.m.; also Saturdays at 11 a.m.

### MOVIE SCHEDULE

September: To Space and Back  
October: Earth, Moon and Sun  
November: Astronomy: 3000 Years of Stargazing

## Don't Miss the Game! DISH TV Now Available Special Occasions



Photo by  
Cherokee Jones Spivey

Landmark Park is the perfect place for your own special occasion. Weddings, proms, parties, family reunions and more have been held at our Stokes Activity Barn. Call 334-794-3452, email [laurav@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:laurav@landmarkparkdothan.com) or visit [www.landmarkparkdothan.com](http://www.landmarkparkdothan.com) for more info.



## Remembering Yesteryear

View of Main Street looking West from near the present day location of the railroad tracks.

**We would love to see your old photos! Landmark Park maintains an archive of historic photos. Contact Kari Barley at [kbarley@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:kbarley@landmarkparkdothan.com) or 334-794-3452 for more info.**



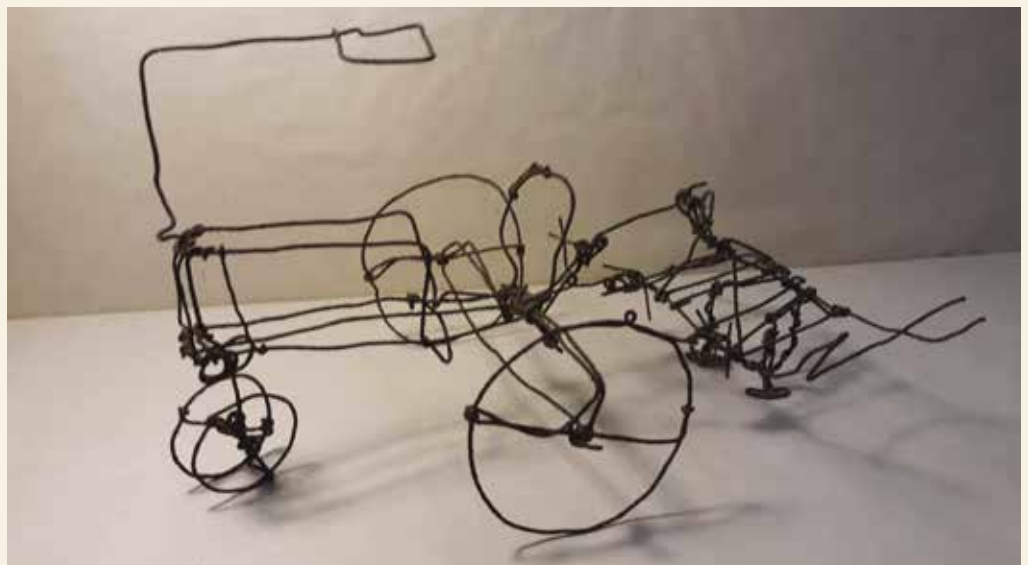
With so many great events coming up in the fall at Landmark Park, this is a great time of year to learn all about what the park has to offer. We are excited to be participating in Smithsonian Magazine's 15th annual Museum Day on September 21, giving visitors a chance to download a ticket for free admission to Landmark Park. The idea behind Museum Day is to allow museums to embody the spirit behind the Smithsonian Institution's Washington, D.C.,-based facilities that offer free admission every day.

To participate in Museum Day and receive your free admission to Landmark Park, visit [www.smithsonian.com/museumday](http://www.smithsonian.com/museumday) and download your ticket. You may either print your ticket or show it on your smartphone or tablet. Tickets will be available beginning August 15. Each ticket grants the ticket holder and one guest free admission on September 21 to any participating museum. Only one ticket per email address is permitted, so make sure to select Landmark Park as the museum you would like to visit at no charge.

As park members, this is the perfect opportunity to show your friends and family all the great things Landmark Park has to offer!

## Artifact Exploration

Toy tractor found in the attic of the Watson Cabin when it was donated to Landmark Park by Max Watson in honor of his father Sam Watson.





## NEW MEMBERS



*A special welcome to our new members who joined from May 15 to August 15. To all our previous members who renewed since our last newsletter, a sincere thank you.*

Mr. and Mrs. David Allgood, Mr. and Mrs. James Baltikauski, Mr. and Mrs. Terry Bowles, Mr. Luke Broom and Ms. Robyn Mills, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Dickard, Ms. Lupita Mendoza and Ms. Brooke Doane, Mr. and Mrs. Rob Egbert, Mr. and Mrs. James Enfinger, Mr. and Mrs. David Faulkner, Ms. Linda Bailey and Ms. Beth Granberry, Mr. and Mrs. Travis Gregg, Ms. Ashli Griggs, Ms. Kimberly Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Horne and Ms. Kayla McGowan, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Knowles, Mr. and Mrs. Wes Lane, Mr. and Mrs. Ryan Lawson, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Lee, Mr. and Mrs. Don Mainor, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Masoner, Ms. Jill Keenum and Mr. Randy Moring, Mr. and Mrs. Craig Nichols, Mr. Bradford J. Novak, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas Oates, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Olive, Mr. and Mrs. Andrey Palver, Mr. and Mrs. Virgilet Pierrissaint, Ms. Janice Nix Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Josh Peters, Mr. and Mrs. Steve Plant, Mr. and Mrs. Michael Pruitt, Mr. and Mrs. James Rhodes, Mr. and Mrs. Carl Rippe, Mr. Paul Rogers and Ms. Claudette Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Rankin Rouse, Mr. Brandon Sadler and Mrs. Halie Clark, Ms. Sandy Sanders, Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Sellers, Ms. Lynn Starcher, Ms. Lydia Tolley, Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey Willens, Wiregrass Children's Home

## CORPORATE MEMBERS

*Special thanks to the following businesses who have either joined or renewed from May 15 to August 15.*

Dothan Glass Company  
Flowers Insurance  
Macaroni Kid Dothan/Ozark  
Signs Etc.

## Thank You

### MONETARY DONATIONS

Cathy Corbitt, Dr. and Mrs. Steve Stokes, George Tatum

All In Credit Union for the Blue Star Museum Sponsorship

WOOF FM for Music by Moonlight Sponsorship

### ARTIFACT DONATIONS

Lois Foy, Katrina Messer, Jessica Mercer, Ed and Mary Ritty, Shelia Clay, Renee Roebeling

### IN KIND DONATIONS

Mr. and Mrs. Stan Aman, Norman Anderson, Tim Kilpatrick Tree Services, Shelia Andreason, David Barfield, Midsouth Paving, City of Dothan

### NATIVE PLANT GARDEN MAINTENANCE

Carole Ball, Irene Tucker, Maurice Tinkler, Wiregrass Master Naturalists

### EDUCATION FESTIVAL

Alison Bunge, Dana Peters, Noah Peters, Bence Carter, Jatin Patel, Jessica Gautney, Larry Gautney, Floyd Cook, Alison Holley, Tamira Henexson, Ava Henexson, Conner Henexson, Melanie Register, Alabama Florida Council, Morgan and Belinda Golden, Jack Jones, Liz and Marty Olliff, Wiregrass Master Gardeners, Wiregrass Master Naturalists, Steve Lowery, Carole Ball, Irene Tucker, Philip Carter, Allison Holley, Jim Powell, Melanie Register, Charlie and Cecilia Ciccarella, The Landmark Dulcimer Club, Ed Lewis, Maurice Tinkler, Bruce Turberville

### SUMMER CAMP

Noah Peters, Tom Boyle, Jan Shirley, Wiregrass Master Gardeners, Kari Barley

### OUTDOOR PROJECTS

Jimmy Jones, Earl Suggs, Jace Suggs, Maurice Tinkler, Bruce Turberville, Tom Boyle, Wiregrass Master Gardeners, Wiregrass Beekeepers, STEPS, Wiregrass Master Naturalists, Wiregrass Forge, Brent Clark, Houston County

### OFFICE PROJECTS

Austin Ellison, Liz Olliff, Alison Bunge, Lynda Salisbury, Louise Mills

### ANIMAL ADVENTURES

Big Bend Wildlife Refuge, Page Whatley, Tim Ward, Mike Jones, Renee Jones Lewis, Ken Weathers, Jatin Patel, Jimmy Stiles

### WACKY WEDNESDAYS

John Ross Helms, Larry and Jessica Gautney, Rosalyn Horton, Nature Gallery Yoga Studio, Evan Chickvera, Sid Brannon

### THROW BACK THURSDAYS

Presented in Partnership with the Alabama Agricultural Museum  
DAR, Patsy Davis, Annette Davis

### MUSIC BY MOONLIGHT

Sponsored by WOOF Radio  
Pontiac Stove Company, Tri State Community Orchestra, Troy Dothan Community Band, The Byrd Family

### WATERMELON TASTING

Watermelons donated by William Birdsong  
Tom Boyle, Wiregrass Master Gardeners, Bence Carter

### HERITAGE FORUMS

Presented in Partnership with the Alabama Agricultural Museum  
Dale Cox, Kari Barley, James L. Baggett

### HONEY WORKSHOP

Wiregrass Beekeepers, Alabama Cooperative Extension System, David Eldridge

### TRIBUTE FUND

In Memory of Charles Newton  
By: Sara Newton Carroll

In Memory of Beamer Williams  
By: Bill and Miki McFatter

In Memory of Dr. Warren Rollins  
By: Al and Helene Saliba

In Memory of Catherine Mary Hoyer  
By: Jon and DeNiece Smith



(LEFT) Thanks to Boy Scout Pack 38 for collecting school supplies and "Stuffing the Bus". These supplies will benefit students in Dale County.

## Giftworthy

Call Julie at  
334-794-3452  
to purchase a gift  
membership



## Wish List

Reptile UV Lamps/bulbs  
Portable projector screen  
Volunteers for Harvest Heydays,  
Living History and Fall Farm Day  
Kid's Zone  
Candy for giveaways  
White Aprons  
Suspenders  
Red Ribbon  
Paint for pumpkins  
46-50 inch flat screen television for display  
4 foot ladder  
Office Chair

## Call for Nominations

Dothan Landmarks Foundation is seeking nominations for the board of directors and for the 2019 Heritage Award. The board of directors is composed of local citizens who have the responsibility of establishing policies that govern the operation and future direction of the Foundation. Any park member may submit a name to the nomination committee for consideration. Nominees must be current members of Dothan Landmarks Foundation and be willing to contribute time and talents to the Foundation for a three year term.

The Heritage Award is presented each year to a person, organization or business that has made a significant contribution towards preserving the heritage of our community.

Both the slate of nominees for board members and the Heritage Award will be presented at the Foundation's Annual Membership Dinner in January. Deadline for nominations is December 1. For a nomination form, call 334-794-3452.

Find us on your favorite  
Social Media platforms!



## Welcome to the staff, Naomi!

The staff at Landmark Park wishes a warm welcome to Naomi Chester! Naomi joins us as a part time soda jerk in the Martin Drugstore and part time gate attendant. Over the summer, Naomi helped with a variety of programs, and she even got to hold a hawk at the Education Festival in August!

We are happy to have Naomi join us. Stop by and say hi next time you're at the park!

## Maintenance Report

Summer was a busy time for our Maintenance Department and volunteers! Special thanks to everyone who braved the heat to make Landmark Park look its best!

- Road work was done by Houston County, with materials donated by the City of Dothan and Midsouth Paving.
- A new pigpen was built and the boardwalk was pressure washed by 3G Construction.
- The 4-H Cluck A Lot Poultry Club reinforced our chicken coop against predators.
- New directional signs were installed thanks to a grant from Visit Dothan.
- Master Gardeners began work on the Sunflower House and continued to maintain the Kitchen Garden
- Master Naturalists continued work in the Native Plant Garden, sponsored by Michelin





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PARK**

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## LANDMARK PARK TRIBUTE FUND

*To Honor or Remember Family, Friends and Loved Ones*

As a special tribute to family and friends for important occasions throughout the year—a birthday, an anniversary, graduation, a “get-well” wish, or expression of sympathy—a gift to Landmark Park’s TRIBUTE FUND is a very meaningful and personal gift. Contributions are fully tax-deductible and are placed in the park’s trust fund, thereby providing an unending gift to Landmark Park that will also serve as a lasting tribute to the person you wish to honor. Personal acknowledgment is sent to the individual honored, without reference to the size of the gift, and your tribute is listed in the park’s newsletter, “The Lark.”

I wish to contribute \$\_\_\_\_\_ to Landmark Park.

I wish my gift to be in memory/honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Occasion:    Birthday    Anniversary    Memorial    Other

Donor’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Notify: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Make check payable to: **Landmark Park** and mail to:  
Landmark Park • P.O. Box 6362 • Dothan, AL 36302



## Leave Your Legacy

By including Landmark Park in your estate plans, you are securing the future of our educational programs.

To learn more about the benefits of planned giving,  
please contact

Executive Director Laura Stakelum

334-794-3452

[laurav@landmarkparkdothan.com](mailto:laurav@landmarkparkdothan.com)

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