

Rotary Park Gets Boost

By Susan E. Grubb

Mount Joy's Rotary Park got a boost on March 7 when representatives from the company performing the excavating work, B.R. Kreider & Son Inc., presented David Christian, co-chairman of the Rotary Park Centennial Project Committee, with a check for \$10,000.

"We are excavators on the site and would like to give back to the community," said Michael Fecik, president of the company, which is based in Manheim and works in Lancaster County and adjoining counties.

The park is being built in celebration of Rotary International's 100th birthday, which was in 2005. Rotary Park has been in the planning stages since mid-2003, and groundbreaking took place in April 2005. Actual construction got under way in July 2005. Rotary chose to undertake the project because of a lack of ball facilities in Mount Joy.

Rotary Park is situated on approximately 13 acres of land donated by the Lancaster County Career and Technology Center's Mount Joy campus, sitting directly across from the Mount Joy Lions Club Swimming Pool. The park will consist of a regulation-size soccer field, a peewee baseball/softball field designed for boys and girls ages 8 to 10, and a midget-midget/junior-midget baseball/softball field overlapped with an Under-10 soccer field.

Although the fields were seeded in the fall, they are not ready for use yet, said Christian. The fields need to settle for a year after the turf gets established so that they are stable enough for extensive use. Because of the lack of snow cover this winter, Christian does not yet know if the seeding took. It will probably be late March until Rotary members know if the seeding was successful.

In the meantime, Rotary members continue to work on funding for the park, which if done the way Rotary envisions, will be a half-million dollar project, according to Christian. The club expects to hear by the end of the month on the status of its application from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Growing Greener II Grant.

For more information on Rotary Park or on fundraising opportunities, readers may contact any Mount Joy Rotarian or David Christian at 664-0100 (during the day), 653-2622 (evenings until 9:30 p.m.), or via e-mail at dchristian@dejazzd.com.



Photo by Susan E. Grubb

David Christian, co-chairman of Rotary Park Centennial Project Committee (third from left), recently accepted a \$10,000 donation on behalf of the Rotary Club of Mount Joy from project excavators B.R. Kreider & Son Inc. Representatives of the Manheim-based company who presented Rotary with the donation include (from far left) Don Sauder, Doug Hottenstein, Roger Armstrong, Michael Fecik, and Tom Strickler.