

North Bend opens new village park

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(Photo: Thanks to Marilyn Kramer)

NORTH BEND – The village recently celebrated the opening of its new Presidential Community Park.

The park project was a collaboration between North Bend Mayor Doug Sammons and Brian Riblet, the public works director for the city of Montgomery.

Marilyn Kramer, deputy clerk for North Bend, said the village began the park endeavor in fall 2013 at a meeting for Hamilton County Public Health's WeThrive! initiative. She said city, village and township representatives at the meeting each described a project and vision for their municipality.

After North Bend officials talked about the hope for a playground area for the village, Riblet offered to donate Montgomery's playground structure to North Bend, as Montgomery was purchasing new equipment.

Kramer said Hamilton County Public Health's WeThrive! program then awarded the village a \$6,420 grant after the village completed an action plan and established a wellness committee for North Bend.

To further assist with the development of the park, the village contacted the Western Hills Lowe's and Home Depot stores and asked them to be a part of the community collaboration.

Kramer said Lowe's donated all of the landscaping needed to complete the park and also donated picnic tables, wood, paint and volunteers who helped plant and landscape the park. She said Home Depot donated picnic tables, brick pavers, a large urn and volunteers who assembled and painted the picnic tables.

KS Design Signs donated the signs for the park, and Kramer said the Cleves Skyline donated the food for the park's grand opening celebration June 21 and Robin's Balloon Art provided face painting, glitter tattoos and balloon sculptures for the children.

Village staff also worked hard to complete the project, Kramer said.