SATURN SKY WINNER!

Drum roll, please…and the winner of the 2009 Saturn Sky car is the Central Illinois Manufacturing Company in Bement, Illinois! The winning ticket was drawn by David Leake, Master of Ceremonies, at the Foundation’s 11th Annual Gala held on Friday, October 24, at the Round Barn Banquet Center. Thanks to those who purchased a ticket!

Out of 500 tickets available for purchase, 456 were sold for a total of $45,600. These proceeds will be used to support the purchase of full-dome digital equipment at the William M. Staerkel Planetarium at Parkland College. The estimated budget of the state-of-the-art digital equipment is $1.2 million. Once purchased, the Staerkel Planetarium will become a Science Center and will be able to offer a variety of educational opportunities to students in programs other than astronomy.

Special thanks to the sponsors of the car raffle: Busey Bank and Busey Wealth Management, Carle Foundation Hospital, Central Illinois CW, Cim-Tek Filtration, Fox 55/27, Lite Rock 97.5 and WDWS, Royse Wagner, Inc., Saturn of Champaign County, and The News-Gazette.

11TH ANNUAL GALA A SUCCESS!

Attendance at our annual Gala this year was over 250 and included those who purchased a Saturn Sky car raffle ticket and other community residents who wished to enjoy a great evening while supporting scholarships at Parkland.

Guests were treated to refreshments and food, as well as entertainment by The Delta Kings, a rock and roll band. Also offered that evening was a chance to bid on silent auction items and a “99 Balloons” raffle with such prizes as massages by the Parkland College Massage Therapy program, Planetarium passes gifts from the Foundation, and other goodies.

Thank you to everyone who purchased a ticket and came out that night! Over $30,000 was raised this year and will be used to fund scholarships at Parkland College.

Special thanks to the following sponsors of the Gala event: The Andersons; Birkey’s Farm Store; Fox Development; Golfview Village; Henneman Engineering; Home Builders Association of East Central Illinois; Illinois American Water Co.; Marci Dodds, Jon “Cody” Sokolski and One Main Development; Marine Bank; Personal Care Insurance of Illinois, Inc.; Precision Graphics; Roessler Construction; Round Barn Banquet Center; Tile Specialists, Inc.; and University of Illinois Employees Credit Union.
Dear Community Member,

During a season known for compassionate giving but recently marred by economic crisis, it has been refreshing for me to witness, as you will in this latest issue of the Update, instances in which our community has risen above fear for its personal future to assist in giving a brighter future to new generations. This makes me proud to live in District 505 and to serve its communities.

Guests attending our annual fall Foundation Gala did not let a weakened economy stop them from donating thousands of dollars to help numerous college-bound students receive a Parkland Foundation scholarship in the coming year. Meanwhile, many of you graciously purchased tickets to support the William M. Staerkel Planetarium’s plan to bring fulldome digital theatre to the dome for improved science study—reducing to half the amount needed for the $1.2 million technology upgrade.

The Parkland family is also doing its part this year to help those in need, through improved response in our annual Combined Charities Campaign. Funds raised will go to support 33 human service agencies under the “umbrella” of the United Way of Champaign County, as well as Community Shares nonprofit agencies and causes near and dear to the hearts of Parkland employees.

Many of you still have the heart to give—so much so that you may have already reached your annual charitable deduction limitations. Read on for new ways to draw continued benefit from your philanthropic spirit.

While there may be cold days ahead financially, the warmth from hearts like yours will always provide the comfort needed to keep our community strong. Thanks for all you do.

Tom Ramage
President

PARKLAND COLLEGE FOUNDATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RECEIVES UIUC MERIT AWARD

Parkland College Foundation Executive Director Carl Meyer received the University of Illinois’ Varsity “I” Association Merit Award on November 1. The award is given to a current/former staff member of Illinois whose leadership, dedication, and integrity have left an indelible print on Illinois athletics. Meyer spent six years (’71-’76) as an assistant UI football coach and helped open the UI’s Athletic Development Office in downtown Chicago in 1980.

He has been the Parkland College Foundation Executive Director since 1997. In 2000, Mr. Meyer was named Outstanding Fund Raising Executive by the East Central Illinois Chapter of the Association of Fund Raising Professionals.

Online Giving is easy!
Visit us online at www.parkland.edu/foundation.
YOUR SUCCESS MATTERS

Kathleen Brown, Research engineer
Spraying Systems, Inc., Wheaton, Illinois

Kathleen, a 1994 Eureka HS graduate, wanted to become an engineer. Part of her plan included taking two years of Parkland College engineering and business courses that would transfer to the University of Illinois.

“I chose Parkland College to save money. It was also a nice transition into college and what I wanted to do in the future. Really, I got credit for everything I did at Parkland; my classes transferred easily.”

At Parkland, when math got tough, Kathleen found the support she needed from Omar Adawi, Parkland associate professor in mathematics/physics. Winner of the 2008 National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development Teaching Excellence Award (for Parkland College), Omar has tutored to hundreds of students and heads Parkland’s Peer Tutoring program.

“Omar helped me [and 4 or 5 other Engineering Mechanics students] through some tough statistics problems, which helped us build confidence and become comfortable with the curriculum. I began to see engineering as a real option.”

Kathleen earned a BS in General Engineering (business minor) from the University of Illinois in 1999.

Now, as a Special Projects research engineer for Spraying Systems, Co., Kathleen tests industrial spray nozzles for droplet size, velocity, and other factors, using modeling software for compositional fluid dynamics.

A wife and mother (1-year-old son), Kathleen is currently working on her MBA degree at Northern Illinois University.

“Parkland certainly gave me a solid foundation to build on.”

LET OTHERS KNOW WHAT’S NEW WITH YOU!

Name ____________________________ Social Security/ID Number __________________________

Address __________________________________________ City __________________________________________ State ______ Zip _______________

Telephone __________________ Year Graduated _______ Degree ____________Program of Study ____________________ e-mail:  ______________________

Let others know what’s new with you! If you’re a Parkland graduate, or even if you’ve only taken one class, please complete the following and we’ll publish the information in our next newsletter.

Other institutions attended; degrees and awards earned ___________________________________________________________________________________

Name and place of employment and job title __________________________________________________________________________________________

Personal news (spouse’s name, children, special interests and activities) ________________________________________________________________________

Please use additional pages if necessary.

Mail completed form to: Parkland College Foundation, 2400 W. Bradley Avenue, Champaign, Illinois 61821-1899.

For more information, call 217/351-2458.
CHARITABLE IRA ROLLOVER

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 was extended and signed into law on October 3, 2008, as part of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008. Known as the Charitable IRA Rollover, the provision, which will be in effect through 2009, allows individuals age 70½ and older who have a traditional or Roth IRA to:

- Make a direct transfer from their IRA to a public charity of up to $100,000 per year. The transfers are allowed in 2008 and 2009.
- Exclude the Charitable IRA Rollover amount from their taxable income.
- Satisfy their required minimum distribution by making a direct Charitable IRA Rollover.
- Continue to make deductible gifts to charities up to the percentage limitations in addition to the Charitable IRA Rollover.

You may want to consider a Charitable IRA Rollover if:

- You have accumulated IRA assets that may not be needed to support your retirement lifestyle, but you have to take a required minimum distribution each year. Direct Charitable IRA Rollovers will count towards satisfying your required minimum distributions.
- You take the standard deduction and do not itemize. With a direct Charitable IRA Rollover you may reduce your income tax.
- You itemize deductions but your other charitable gifts for the year have already reached the annual deduction limitations. With a direct Charitable IRA Rollover you may give up to an additional $100,000.
- You are a high income earner and lose itemized deductions and exemptions as your adjusted gross income increases. Direct Charitable IRA Rollovers are not included in taxable income, so you may be able to reduce taxes by directly transferring your required IRA minimum distribution to charity.

Individuals can use their IRA to make a tax-free charitable donation for an annual contribution, a major gift, or to satisfy a current pledge. For more information, please contact Mike Hagan, Director of Planned and Major Gifts at mhagan@parkland.edu or at 217/351-2457.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT LEADERS ALIGN FOR EXCITING ENDOWMENT

The V. Dale Cozad Entrepreneurship Program is a multifaceted initiative to promote understanding, appreciation, and support of America’s free enterprise system. Centered at Parkland College in Champaign, Illinois, this endowed program will be established through a leadership contribution from a group of Founding Members in honor of their friend, V. Dale Cozad. Initial Founding Members include Cozad Asset Management, Inc., Fox Development Corporation, and the Lambert Foundation, Inc. Greg Cozad, Peter Fox and Roy Lambert, as leaders in this effort, have been involved with other successful entrepreneurship programs.

The program differs from other entrepreneurship efforts in that in addition to providing scholarships and supporting programs, events, and activities which promote entrepreneurship, it seeks to grow and improve the local workforce in the community.

Parkland is well positioned, given its close relationship with the University of Illinois, and its prominence as a community college, to be a lead institution in the development of the regional-wide workforce development initiative to prepare the workforce of the future in keeping with Department of Labor recommendations about effective alignment of regional development.

For more information on how you can support this endowment, please call 217/351-2464.
SUPPORT FOR THE COBRAS!

Over 100 golfers participated in the Parkland College Foundation’s 2008 Golf Outing, sponsored by FedEx Ground and Supervalu, on September 9 at Stone Creek Golf Club.

The proceeds, close to $15,000, will be used to support the college’s athletics equipment and program needs. Special thanks to the major sponsors of this event: Central Illinois Manufacturing Co., FedEx Ground, GTPS Insurance Agency, Illinois American Water, Jerry’s IGA, Kraft, News Channel 15, PersonalCare, Stocks/KI, and Supervalu.

Thanks also to our hole sponsors:


And our Prize Sponsors:

Hawthorne Suites, Jill’s Creative Expressions, Myler Automotive Repair, Orange & Blue Distributing, Pepsi-Cola Bottling Co. of C-U, Premium Brands.

$100,000 DONATION TO PLANETARIUM!

By former Parkland College faculty member

Imagine the thrill of opening an envelope containing a $100,000 check. Dr. Tom Ramage, president of Parkland College, doesn’t have to imagine this experience since he recently received a check for $100,000 from Robert Carr, chairman and CEO of Heartland Payment Systems in Princeton, New Jersey. The check was sent in response to a request by the Parkland College Foundation to help the Staerkel Planetarium update its projection system from slide projectors to a full-dome video system.

Robert Carr was a fresh-faced college graduate when he was hired by the newly created community college in Champaign. In the letter to Dr. Ramage, Carr states, “I was 21 years old when I started my career at Parkland College as a math and data processing teacher. I was told when I was hired by Dr. Smith that I was the 5th faculty member employed by the school.”

He taught for five years at Parkland and served as director of the Computer Center. Carr was also the first elected leader of the Parkland College Association (PCA), the faculty senate.

Staerkel Planetarium Director Dave Leake was elated upon hearing of the donation. “Dr. Staerkel would have been thrilled to know one of his former employees has been so successful in his career,” he said. “This will honor his dream of making the planetarium an innovative place for learning and science.”

Carr has served as chairman, director, and chief executive officer of Heartland Payment Systems (HPS) since 2000, according to Businessweek.com. He co-founded the company with Heartland Bank in 1997. Carr joined HPS after selling his interest in Credit Card Software Systems, which he founded in 1987. In 2004, Mr. Carr received the Ernst & Young New Jersey Entrepreneur of the Year Award, which honors entrepreneurs through regional, national, and global award programs in over 100 cities and 35 countries.

HPS is an independent, employee-owned company that delivers credit/debit card processing and payroll solutions to merchants throughout the United States. The company has grown to over 1,100 employees, with a portfolio of 22.5 billion in annual card processing volume, since 1997.

“We are so pleased that Parkland College holds a special place in Mr. Carr’s heart and memory,” said Carl Meyer, executive director of the Parkland College Foundation. “This donation will certainly bring us much closer to our goal to help the planetarium.”
In May 2000, the Credit Bureau of Champaign County donated their office building at 2104 W. Park Court in Champaign, Illinois to the Parkland College Foundation. The facility is now being used as office space for the Foundation as well as classes and clinicals for the Massage Therapy program at Parkland.

In addition to the building, the Credit Bureau of Champaign County also contributed over $300,000 for a Community Scholarship endowment. These scholarships are awarded to high school students from the counties of Ford, Piatt, Douglas, Champaign, and the Village of Rantoul.

From spring 2001, until the fall 2008, a total of $72,324.00 in Community Scholarships was awarded to 159 students.

A donation of $200,000 was also made by the Credit Bureau to the Tony Noel Agriculture Technology Applications Center and an additional $200,000 was used to fund the first phase of the Auto Technology Expansion.

In all, Parkland College, its students, faculty, and staff have continued to benefit greatly from the generosity of the Credit Bureau of Champaign County.