

Amherstburg Recreation Complex fundraising picks up

Approximately \$75,000 raised in two days

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AMHERSTBURG — Fundraising for the new Amherstburg Recreation Complex got a boost of approximately \$75,000 in a recent two-day span.

Debi Croucher, marketing director with the Amherstburg Recreation Complex (ARC) fundraising campaign, announced on behalf of Green Shield CEO Ray Gollmer at the Aug. 23 town council meeting that the latter firm has made a \$50,000 donation to the complex.

Green Shield will sponsor the scoreboard at the premier baseball diamond.

Croucher said Green Shield has a long track record of donations to projects such as the ARC.

Deputy Mayor Robert Bailey said he was "extremely appreciative" of the donation.

"It is a very significant donation," said Bailey. "It is really helping us move on and realize our ultimate goal."

The previous night, the ARC fundraising campaign held a garden party at the home of Frank and Pina DeAngelis. The DeAngelis' are the parents of Max DeAngelis, the primary contractor for the complex.

"We're expecting to net about \$25,000 (for the garden party)," said Croucher. "We're very, very pleased. Everything came together beautifully."

The event attracted a sell-out crowd of 230 people. Catering was done by St. Clair Centre for the Arts with Croucher adding the campaign was grateful for all the sponsors.

"The weather held for us and the DeAngelis family was generous enough to donate their property," said Croucher.

Neighbor Graeme Hutchinson was also generous enough to donate use of his land, added Croucher.

The campaign is planning a pasta dinner this fall at the Verdi Club, with the date to be determined. Croucher said they are trying to offer fundraising activities that appeal to a wide range of demographics. A total of what has been raised thus far will be disclosed shortly, she added, but said the campaign is picking up steam.

"The momentum is there now. It's exciting," she said.

Mayor Wayne Hurst also expressed enthusiasm over the recent fundraising, praising the work of the fundraising campaign. He also thanked the DeAngelis family for allowing the garden party on their property and said the event was "well put on." The weather conditions only added to the event, he added.

"It was overwhelming," said Hurst.