

October 1, 1999

Dear Editor:

Your readers may see yard signs, billboards, or newspapers announcements heralding the coming of the "Silver Screen Celebration" - the Parkland Foundation's third annual fundraising gala scheduled for October 22. But your readers may not know what the Foundation is, and why it is raising money.

The Parkland Foundation was established to provide support for the college through fundraising and private gifts. Why should people donate money to Parkland? Because as the cost of providing higher education has increased, public spending has decreased. If Parkland is to continue to provide excellent educational opportunities to our community, private contributions are vital.

The Foundation raises money in many ways - through direct solicitations, through the annual campaign, and through special events like the golf-a-thon and the upcoming gala. Much of the funds collected are earmarked for certain projects, like the proposed Agriculture Complex or student scholarships.

Wouldn't you like to spend an evening dancing to a live swing band, eating food from some of the finest restaurants in our area, reminiscing over old film clips, and bidding on movie memorabilia and local gifts during a silent auction - all the time knowing that your admission price is going to a great cause?

As a member of the Parkland Board of Trustees, I encourage you to support the work of the Foundation, because investing in Parkland is investing in the future of our community. If you have questions about the Foundation or the gala, please call 217/351-2458.

Sincerely,

Tom Bennett
Parkland College Trustee

540 Clover Court
Gibson City, Illinois 60936
Home 217/784-8540 Work 309/766-8435