



October 27, 2014

For Immediate Release

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WEA Trust Grant Secures Future of Beloved Community Event Kronenwetter's "Movie Under the Stars" Wins \$2,500 Award

KRONENWETTER, Wisconsin – As part of its inaugural *Local Spark Award*, the WEA Trust awarded the Village of Kronenwetter a \$2,500 grant to revitalize its "Movie Under the Stars" program.

"You see kids and parents singing along to songs in the movies and just enjoying their time together outside," said Village Administrator Richard Downey about the event. "This old-fashioned family time deserves a place in our community's future. The Local Spark Award gives us that opportunity."

Kronenwetter's "Movie Under the Stars" attracts more than 200 residents for a night of free fun in two of the Village's parks. In addition to the family focus of the event, local civic groups and businesses get the chance to interact with community members. The \$2,500 Local Spark grant will replace aging equipment, enabling the event to continue into the future.

In partnership with League of Wisconsin Municipalities, WEA Trust created the Local Spark Award to recognize and reward innovation in Wisconsin's cities and villages. This fall, WEA Trust received dozens of project proposals from around Wisconsin, which were reviewed by a panel of judges including:

Jerry Deschane – Executive Director of the League of Wisconsin Municipalities
Edward Huck – Retired Executive Director of the Wisconsin Alliance of Cities
Dan Hill – Local Government Specialist at the UW-Extension

"We wanted to set off that spark of genius, of creativity, in Wisconsin," said WEA Trust Chief Medical Officer, Dr. Tim Bartholow. "Our winners not only have that spark. They have a light that brightens up their communities."

Kronenwetter's project was one of three Local Spark Award winners chosen by the selection committee. Other winners include an artist-inspired garden in Milwaukee and a neighborhood safety program in Eau Claire.

WEA Trust is a not-for-profit insurance company in Wisconsin offering top-rated service and quality benefits to Wisconsin public schools, state health plan members, and local units of government.