



# Springfield Park District

[www.springfieldparks.org](http://www.springfieldparks.org)

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**THE 53<sup>RD</sup> INTERNATIONAL CARILLON FESTIVAL  
FEATURING 16 CONCERTS OVER FIVE DAYS  
WEDNESDAY – SUNDAY, JUNE 4 – 8, 2014**

**BLUECROSS BLUESHIELD OF ILLINOIS FESTIVAL PRESENTING SPONSOR**

The 53<sup>rd</sup> Annual International Carillon Festival will take place Wednesday through Sunday, June 4-8, 2014. This year's Festival features 16 concerts over five days, including a special Lincoln-themed concert (June 4) and [Cast in Bronze](#) (June 7) – one of the nation's only traveling carillons. The Festival Fireworks are scheduled for Friday, June 6. For a PDF of the Festival program, please visit: <http://carillon-rees.org/Events/Carillon-Festival>

BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois is Presenting Sponsor of this year's Carillon Festival. "We are grateful for the generous support of BlueCross BlueShield of Illinois, which enables us to continue the artistic excellence and community tradition of our prestigious Carillon Festival," notes Park District Executive Director Derek Harms. The gift will be used to underwrite fees for visiting professional carillonneurs and the Festival's special Lincoln-theme concert as well as various program and audio/visual needs."

The Festival is presented by the Springfield Park District—with additional financial and volunteer support from the Rees Carillon Society, The Carillon Belles, and the Washington Park Botanical Gardens. The Carillon Festival features the world's leading carillonneurs and is considered among the most important carillon event of its kind.

Concerts are free-of-charge and take place rain or shine. Individuals and families are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and picnics. There will be a large viewing screen at the base of the tower to observe the performers. Enjoy the beauty of Washington Park and the adjacent [Botanical Garden](#) with the unique accompaniment of carillon music.

**GENERAL OFFICE**

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Robin Schmidt  
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This year's featured food vendor is [Dew Chili Parlor](#) on Friday and Saturday evenings. Carillon merchandise will be available for purchase in the Rees Carillon Society tent.

**Festival highlights include:**

**Lincoln and the Music He Loved** - To kick off the 53rd International Carillon Festival, Park District carillonneur Robin Austin is joined by soprano Gailyn Draper and tenor Jerry Hicks in a special program, **Lincoln and the Music He Loved**. The program will be narrated by Christian McWhirter, author of the new book, [Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music of the Civil War](#). Christian serves as assistant editor of The Papers of Abraham Lincoln at the Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Thanks to the support of the [Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition](#), there will be a special appearance by Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln from [History Comes Alive](#). This marks the first of a weekly Lincoln-themed Carillon concert (June 11 - September 24) with living history presenters, in period costume, again thanks to the Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition. Free concerts at 7:00 pm with carillon tours available at 6:30 pm. Tour cost is \$3.50 for adults and \$2.75 for children.

**Featured Professional Carillonneurs:** (see attached schedule on pages 3-4 for dates and times)

- **Robin Austin** was appointed Park District Carillonneur September 2010. He is the third individual to hold the position since the Rees Carillon's completion in 1962. Prior to his appointment, Robin served as Princeton University's Carillonneur for 20 years. This is Robin's fourth Festival appearance. Prior Festivals were 1983, 1994, and 2013. Robin's Friday performance will feature the world premiere of his own composition, "Inquiet, mais tranquille," written especially for 2014 Carillon Festival.
- **Cast in Bronze** features a four-ton traveling carillon and Carillonneur Frank DellaPenna. Dressed as the "Spirit of the Bells," DellaPenna has captivated audiences (including Epcot and "America's Got Talent") with his unique and electrifying blend of solo carillon with recorded musical tracks. Cast in Bronze is making its first appearance at the Carillon Festival.
- **Geert D'hollander**, originally from Antwerp, Belgium, is Carillonneur of the Bok Tower Gardens and its famous Singing Tower. A highly respected performer and composer, this is Geert's second Festival. He was last here in 1999.
- **Frans Haagen** is Municipal Carillonneur for the cities of Kampen, Almelo and Rijssen in the Netherlands. He also serves as director and professor of carillon at the Netherlands Carillon School, Utrecht School of the Arts. This is Frans' third appearance at the International Carillon Festival. He was here in 2005 and 2010.
- **Claire Halpert** lives in Minnesota and plays the carillon at the House of Hope Presbyterian Church in St. Paul. This is Claire's first Festival. She is Assistant Professor of Linguistics at the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, where her research focuses on the grammatical structure of Zulu and other African languages.
- **Eddy Mariën**, faculty member of the Royal Carillon School 'Jef Denyn', is carillonneur of St. Rombouts Cathedral in Mechelen, Belgium -- one of the world's most famous carillons. This is Eddy's second Festival. He was last here in 1995.
- **Caleb Melamed**, from Springfield, studied with Karel Keldermans. This will be Caleb's fourth Festival. He performed in 1999, 2004, and 2011.

- **James Rogers** has served as Associate Carillonneur of the Rees Carillon for 38 years, performing in dozens of Carillon Festivals. An accomplished church musician and hymnologist, Jim spent 44 years in full-time church Music Ministry, the Springfield Park District, Rees Carillon Society and The Carillon Belles gratefully acknowledge his many years of extraordinary service to the Carillon and community as he prepares for retirement.

**Featured Student Carillonneurs:** (see attached schedule for dates and times)

- Advanced carillon students **Patrick Knox** and **Annie Gregurich**, both from Springfield, will perform solo concerts. Annie will be a junior at Springfield High School. Patrick recently joined the Park District as the Carillon summer guide and is working towards a performance certificate with the [North American Carillon School](#). (Robin Austin is an affiliate instructor with the NACS, which is a branch of the Royal Carillon School 'Jef Denyn' in Mechelen, Belgium.)
- There will be a special **Student Concert** on Sunday at 3:00pm, featuring six students studying with Park District Carillonneur Robin Austin. Student performers include Carolyn Berning, Annie Gregurich, Patrick Knox, Angie Pryer, Marie Thomas, and Elaine Walch.

**Festival Luncheon:** Saturday, June 7, 11:30am, Illini Country Club.

Hosted by the Rees Carillon Society, all are welcome. For tickets and additional information, contact Barb Walker at (217) 787-3532 or [dandbwalker58@gmail.com](mailto:dandbwalker58@gmail.com)

**Festival Fireworks:** Friday, June 6, 9:15pm (rain date: Saturday, June 7)

Thanks to the support of the **Rees Carillon Society**, the **Springfield Parks Foundation**, **White Oaks West Animal Hospital**, and several individual donors, the Festival Fireworks, will be a part of this year's Carillon Festival. A much anticipated and beloved highlight of Springfield Park District's many summer programs and activities, the Fireworks have been part of the Festival since 1980.

The **Thomas Rees Memorial Carillon** is the gift of Senator Thomas Rees, publisher of Illinois State Register from 1881 until his death in 1933. The 67 cast-bronze bells range in weight from 22 pounds to 7½ tons. The carillon was cast by the 300-year-old bell foundry of Petit & Fritsen, Ltd., in Aarle-Rixtel, The Netherlands. All of the bells are played manually from a keyboard located in the carillonneur's cabin on level 8 of the 12-story tower.

**[53<sup>rd</sup> INTERNATIONAL CARILLON FESTIVAL SCHEDULE](#)**

Wednesday, June 4

7:00pm- Frans Haagen, The Netherlands

7:45pm - **LINCOLN AND THE MUSIC HE LOVED**-To kick off this year's 53rd International Carillon Festival, Park District carillonneur Robin Austin is joined by soprano Gailyn Draper and tenor Jerry Hicks in a special program of music that Lincoln loved. The program will be narrated by Christian McWhirter, author of the new book, Battle Hymns: The Power and Popularity of Music of the Civil War. With special thanks to the [Looking for Lincoln Heritage Coalition](#).

Thursday, June 5

6:30pm - Jim Rogers, USA  
7:00pm - Claire Halpert, USA  
7:45pm - Frans Haagen, The Netherlands

Friday, June 6

6:30pm - Caleb Melamed, USA  
7:00pm - Robin Austin, USA  
7:45pm - Claire Halpert, USA  
9:15pm – Festival Fireworks (Rain date: Saturday, June 7)

Saturday, June 7

Noon - Festival Luncheon (For information contact Barb Walker at (217) 787-3532 or [dandbwalker58@gmail.com](mailto:dandbwalker58@gmail.com))  
6:30pm - Patrick Knox (student concert), USA  
7:00pm - Eddy Marien, Belgium  
7:45pm - Geert D'hollander, USA and Belgium  
8:30 pm – [CAST IN BRONZE](#) – Frank DellaPenna (USA)

Sunday, June 8

3:00pm - Student Concert  
6:30pm - Annie Gregurich (student concert), USA  
7:00pm - Geert D'hollander, USA and Belgium  
7:45pm - Eddy Marien, Belgium

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For information about other programs of the Springfield Park District, please visit [www.springfieldparks.org](http://www.springfieldparks.org)