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Winter Picnic to raise funds for playground

BY JIMMY HANCOCK
jhancock@journalnet.com

POCATELLO — Brooklyn's Winter Picnic for the Park is your chance to help fund the Gate City's first all inclusive playground while also having a lot of fun and learning a bit about the project, one volunteer said.

Vicky Mainzer, who is helping with the Brooklyn's Playground project, said Saturday's indoor picnic at Don Aslett's Museum of Clean, located at 711 S. Second Ave., won't be short of things to do.

"We have just about every entity in town making an appearance," she said. "There is going to be a lot for the children to do."

Some of those entities, she said, include the Pocatello and Chubbuck police and fire departments, some entertainment groups from the local high schools, the Pocatello Zoo, and "lots of princes and princesses."

The Brooklyn's Playground project is a movement to fund and construct an all inclusive playground currently planned for O.K. Ward Park in Pocatello. The playground's construction makes it entirely accessible to all children, even those bound to a wheelchair.

The project is the brain

ENTER TO WIN

For your chance to win one of 20 family tickets to Brooklyn's Winter Picnic for the Park event this Saturday, go to www.pocatelloparents.com and click "Winter Picnic" tickets. Entries will be accepted through Wednesday night and winners' names will be drawn Thursday morning.

of ability.

To date, about \$52,000 has been raised, roughly 13 percent of the \$400,000 needed to fund the project. Fundraising is ongoing. In fact, those who just want to donate outright can do so at the project's website, www.brooklynsplayground.org.

The site also includes more information about the project, including the process to develop the playground and pictures of similar playgrounds from around the country.

Saturday's Winter Picnic for the Park starts at 10 a.m. and runs through 4 p.m. Cost for the event is \$5 per adult, \$2 per child, or \$15 for the family. For more information on the event can be found at the project's website.

Mainzer said all the

The project is the brain child of Jonny and Melissa Fisher, whose daughter, Brooklyn, was born with spina bifida. Their hope is to create a place not just for use by those with physical disabilities, but for use by all children regardless of ability. Manizer said all the entertainment, and even drinks and cookies, are provided with the cost of entry.

“The only extra costs anyone will have is if they want to buy a taco or hot dog,” she said.