

## Business-Driven Philanthropy With A Side Of Adventurous Travel



Lunch in Zambia



On safari in Botswana

By Sue Bernstein (Deer Creek resident) and her daughter, Stephanie Denzer (former DC resident)

Spark Ventures is an innovative organization – a small but dedicated team that starts businesses (like a chicken farm in Zambia) to help support local nonprofit initiatives for children. Spark also leads trips to partner locations in Zambia and Nicaragua so people like you and me (or your kids or neighbors and friends) can experience the thrill of being immersed in another culture, and of having a positive impact.

Of our mother/daughter duo, Stephanie, who spent most of her young life in Deer Creek (from age 3-18), was the first to



Sue and her new friend, Jackson



Enjoying the Reading Program

get involved with Spark Ventures. She has now worked for the Chicago-based organization for over four years, currently serving as their Marketing Manager. She roped Sue in with an email back in mid-2012 that said something to the effect of “Hey, Mom, want to go to Zambia with me?” Sue jumped on the adventure and has since traveled three times to Zambia and once to Nicaragua with Spark Ventures on what is called “Impact Travel.”


On these trips, travelers have the opportunity to engage directly with Spark Ventures’ local partner organizations – volunteering with kids, learning from local leaders, getting a taste of cultural highlights, and seeing some of the top tourism destinations in each country. Because of Spark’s long-standing relationships, travelers are truly welcomed into the community and given a local’s perspective, one that is often out of reach on a more traditional vacation. On Sue’s subsequent trips, she has brought other friends from the KC-metro area, thanks in part to events she hosted in her Deer Creek living room to share about this powerful organization with her community and network.

On Thursday, Oct. 20, we are excited to be expanding Spark Ventures’ footprint in Kansas. We will be hosting visitors from Zambia along with Spark’s CEO, Rich Johnson, at an event at the Museum at Prairiefire. Open to anyone in the community, we’ll be sharing ways to support Spark Ventures’ work and more about opportunities to travel. We would welcome the chance to share this work with more of our Deer Creek neighbors, and it is a spectacular excuse to get to celebrate with good food and drinks at the beautiful Museum at Prairiefire!

Learn more about Impact Travel: [sparkventures.org/travel](http://sparkventures.org/travel)  
Join us on **Oct. 20** at Prairiefire: [sparkventures.org/ignitekc](http://sparkventures.org/ignitekc)




Do you know someone in Deer Creek who gives back to the community, serves a non-profit, or helps with other events that make a difference? Do you want the non-profit you serve to receive recognition in the community?  
Email: [rebecca.dunning@n2pub.com](mailto:rebecca.dunning@n2pub.com).




**ADVANCED SPORTS & FAMILY  
CHIROPRACTIC  
& ACUPUNCTURE**

**BOARD CERTIFIED**  
Chiropractic Physicians  
providing a holistic, team based  
approach to patient treatment

**FULL TREATMENT**  
Chiropractic Care  
Acupuncture  
Physical Therapy Services



Integrity Management Rated: “Top 5 Chiropractic Clinics in the US”



**Schedule an Appointment**  
at our **NEW Overland Park Location**  
**913-643-1771** | 6701 W. 121st St, #200  
Overland Park, KS 66209

Visit us online: [chiropractorinoverlandpark.com](http://chiropractorinoverlandpark.com)

