

Steve McDaniel – Director

- ◆ The Department hosted a delegation from our Sister City of Gera Germany at the beginning of the month. We were able to share our success story of Promenade Park with them along with a tour of our rivers on the Sweet Breeze.
- ◆ We held a few press conferences this past month. The first was held at the Wells Street Bridge to dedicate the work done on the bridge from a grant from the State. The second was a press photo op with the Sweet Breeze Canal Boat.
- ◆ The RAC or Mayor’s Riverfront Advisory Commission met to discuss the progress of Riverfront development. This also gave updates on the construction and design work for phase 2. Construction is underway for phase 2A while plans are being finalized for phase 2B. We also discussed the property that was once the rail corridor just north of Promenade Park.
- ◆ The design team working on Foster Park’s Golf Master Plan is continuing to work through design elements as they refine their design. We are hoping to have something from them in a couple of months.
- ◆ In June and part of July, we have seen several concerts held at the Foellinger Theater. It has been a good start to the concert series. This year the team has taken on the concessions as well as the bar service. The team has done a great job of this.
- ◆ Rob and I met with Ed Kominowski from the Foellinger Foundation. We had a great discussion about fundraising, and potential collaborations, and shared updates on both facilities with the Foellinger name. Rob and I will continue to keep lines of communication open with the foundation.
- ◆ I also met with the Park Foundation’s board and gave them an update on the programs and facilities we manage. The foundation asked several questions including wanting more information about the Master and Comprehensive Plans funding sources.
- ◆ Several of us attended a Zoom meeting regarding the READI funds coming out of the IEDC. We will be putting together an application to include the Franke Park project.
- ◆ A few of the staff and I attended different presentations of the All In Allen plan from Community Development. Parks and Recreational spaces are one chapter of this plan. Team members gave feedback to the consultants and CD on the draft plan.
- ◆ I attended an Arts Campus Resident Organization quarterly meeting. This gives those of us who are on the arts campus an opportunity to collaborate and network every few months. This month we discussed Land Acknowledgements and what that means to each organization.
- ◆ Tim and I recorded the latest podcast on the Foellinger Theater’s concert series this month. April spliced it all together into one cohesive listening experience. It is available to download.
- ◆ The team is still cleaning up from a few storm events that happened this summer. Several trees/limbs came down during the high winds. This will continue for the next few weeks. There was also flooding at several parks due to the rain from those storms. Most of the water has receded and cleanup has begun.

Chuck Reddinger – Deputy Director, Salomon Farm Park,

Community Centers (Youth/Downtown/McMillen Park), Riverfront, Athletics, Aquatics, Golf, Outdoor Recreation, Special Events, Headwaters Park, and Travel Service

- ◆ General
 - Recreation staff have been working on finalizing fall programs for their release in early August
 - The travel program had 26 people sign up for the Sedona Arizona trip scheduled for September 18th -26th.

- Long-time campground host Stan Senters passed away suddenly on May 20th. Remembrances will be held at a later date.
- Several programs and facilities needed to close due to storms the week of July 4th. These storms caused power outages and flooding that made many areas not safe to operate. Most were back open within a few days. Affected facilities included golf courses, Lifetime Sports Academy, pools, and Sweet Breeze Canal Boat.

◆ **Sweet Breeze**

- The canal boat operations have added more tours on Thursday evenings and extra tours during Three Rivers Festival.
- Acoustic musical tours and a comedy tour have been added to the schedule. Unfortunately, the musical tours scheduled for July 7th were canceled due to high water, but we are looking to reschedule those if possible.
- The crew size has more than tripled as compared to last year (5 last year to more than 15 in 2022) which will help with the current and future growth of the operation.

◆ **Community Youth Centers**

- The first month of summer programs has come and gone, it moved quickly! The sites have been “full” based on their capacity and Staff assigned to each building and making sure we are not over crowded in the facilities. Each site currently has a waiting list with a minimum of 10+ youth on it.
- We held our first carnival since 2019 at The Jennings Center on June 22nd. It was a great turnout with over 160 people attending. The youth enjoyed bounce houses, popsicles (it was a hot day), inflatable obstacle courses, carnival games, and prizes as well as a small meal with included hotdog, chips, cookies, and juice. Face painting was available also. We had ladies from the Jennings Center adult fitness program volunteer to help serve food and clean up. We received donations of cookies from Ellison Bakery for the carnival.
- We started the summer off short-staffed, but full of energy and excited to have the youth back at almost “normal”.

◆ **Riverfront**

- The new River Rangers program has been going well and has been full for most sessions. The formerly titled Young Naturalist Series (YNS) has incorporated STEM into the programming and renamed River Rangers. Rangers (ages 5-12) are invited to an hour of fascinating outdoor learning of STEM on the 1st & 3rd Thursdays and Nature on the 2nd & 4th Thursdays limited to 25 participants.
- Chess on the Riverfront started on June 26th and had about 50 participants at its first session. Additional sessions are scheduled for July 10th, 31st, and August 28th.

Sandra Odisho, CPA – Manager, Finance

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation The Parks and Recreation Department paid 387 employees (126 full-time, 261 regular part-time, and seasonal) for the payroll ending June 18, 2022, and paid on June 24, 2022.
- ◆ We currently have the following permanent full-time positions open, posted, or in the process of being filled:
 - Forestry Division (Fund 121) – Five positions
 - Grounds Equipment Operator (Fund 121)
 - Maintenance Tech II (Fund 121)
 - Program Facility Coordinator - Engagement (Fund 439)

○ Security (Fund 451)

- ◆ All seasonal jobs have been posted, but we still are short of employees in several areas.
- ◆ June was a busy month for the front office! The Summer Fun Times registration began May 4th; so, summer registration is in full swing. June through August programs is covered in this brochure.
- ◆ Registration has been very heavy this month with people trying to get their kids enrolled in summer activities.
- ◆ Pavilion reservations were strong and almost all of our 21 pavilions were reserved every Friday, Saturday, and Sunday in June.
- ◆ All of the pavilions are now on keyless entry so customers no longer have to come into the office to pick up a key and return it after their event. Customers have been very pleased with this change. We are still required to obtain COVID waiver forms signed from all rentals. Those waiver forms are emailed out and when the customer emails the form back we then email them their pavilion code. This system has worked very well.
- ◆ We completed the update to the registration/reservation side of our website. It is now much more vibrant with updated graphics and updated navigation making it more like what people are used to seeing on other web e-commerce sites. The Marketing Department was a huge help in getting the updated graphics.
- ◆ Sweet Breeze ticket sales began in the middle of May, but have really picked up in June and more tours have been added as well. We are currently selling tickets for tours through the 2nd weekend of October.
- ◆ Foellinger Theatre ticket sales have increased in the last few months with the announcement of the new concerts and events.
- ◆ We set up the concession/alcohol sales for the Foellinger Theatre and developed daily reports for their 2022 season in RecTrac. We were able to customize the reports for each event and each location at the Theatre with the use of the 10 new portable credit card devices we purchased and programmed last month. This should make for a quicker customer service experience when making concession and alcohol purchases.
- ◆ We are performing preliminary work on the 2023 Budget preparation with the various Deputy Directors. The Controller announced a 2023 Budget Kickoff Memo in mid-June with various instructions and due dates. The completed 2023 Budget is due in mid-July. The City Controller will meet with Departments to discuss their Budgets on an “as needed” basis by the end of July; this may involve some recommended budget changes. The 2023 Budget will be introduced to City Council in September with Council Departmental Budget meetings and Budget passage occurring in October.

Steve Schuhmacher – Deputy Director, Facilities, Grounds,

Projects Administration, Safety Compliance, Storeroom, Fleet & Mechanical Operations

◆ Facilities Management

- Pavilion rentals totaled: **407** for June. This is up from **342** in April.
- Summer programs are taking place at Hamilton Park and the Franke Park Day camp. Programs are also rotating between the Northside Park Psi-Ote lower pavilion, and Franke Park Pavilion #1.
- A fishing derby at Reservoir Park on the 4th required extensive clean-up the following day.
- The farmers market is now being held at McCulloch park every Wednesday and Saturday
- Graffiti was painted over both Packard Park’s and Hamilton Park’s shelters.
- Due to a derecho that blew through the Southwest part of the city on the 13th, Waynedale Park was closed for a week and all pavilion rentals were canceled. The park is still in need of limb removal but all dangerous situations had been remedied and the park has re-opened without further pavilion rental cancellations.

- Several restrooms were vandalized due to an apparent viral challenge to destroy public restrooms. The bulk of the damages was to paper and soap dispensers with several locations tagged with graffiti. The toilet tanks at Lawton Park Kids Crossing and Psi-Ote Park were destroyed which required replacing.
- The parking lot lights at Memorial Park were upgraded to LED.
- Playground repairs are still underway from the springtime inspections. Several parks had new pieces of equipment ordered and will be installed once they are delivered.
- The annual butterfly showcase at the Botanical Conservatory wrapped up the week of the 27th. The hatching lab was disassembled and taken back to storage and props for the summer showcase were delivered and installed.

◆ Grounds Maintenance

- The large fields behind the Diehm building were mowed with a brush cutter.
- Athletic fields are being watered every day.
- We are currently maintaining 3 soccer fields and 1 rugby field, and 2 football fields.
- All soccer fields at Kreager are being maintained daily.
- Ball diamonds are being prepped daily for league use.
- Lawton #2 and Tillman #2 ball diamonds had loads of dirt delivered.
- The second herbicide application was finished up.
- Seasonal employees are spin-trimming areas that don't get sprayed for weeds.
- Playgrounds at Kreager and Jehl were mulched.
- Temporary speed bumps were added to Foster to slow drivers down.
- Tree mulch was delivered to Frank from Tillman for the day camp to use.
- The garbage truck is running every day and Sundays for the summer.
- Crews are still assisting with city garbage routes until July 8th.
- The greenway flooded under Jefferson but was back open within a few days.
- The river greenway is being mowed daily with a complete rotation taking around a week.

◆ Project Administration

- Buckner Park LWCF Grant Project – Awaiting City Council approval. Work planned for late summer and fall.
- Downtown Community Center Entry Doors – Installation in progress.
- Foster Park Pavilion #3 Construction – Project in progress. Masonry work in progress.
- Foster Park Golf Course – Architects preparing 90% master plan for staff review.
- Foster Park 2-5-Year-Old Playground Equipment Replacement – Project completed.
- Franke Park Playground 5-12-Year-Old Equipment – The playground has been installed. Final punch list items in progress.
- Jennings Center Playground Equipment Replacement – Project completed.
- Johnny Appleseed Campground Electrical Engineer Services – Project in progress.
- Kreager Park Tennis Backboard and Fence – Project is out to bid.
- Lakeside Park Trail Replacement – Project completed.
- McMillen Golf Course Chemical Building – Project completed.
- McMillen Golf Course Pavilion Improvements – Project out to bid.
- Memorial Park Survey – Work in progress for the area near the softball field.
- Memorial Park Olen J. Pond Monument – Project completed.
- Northside Park 2-5-Year-Old Play Equipment Replacement – Project completed.
- Reservoir Park Cooper Center Kitchen Exhaust System – Project completed.
- Salomon Farm Rental Barn – Construction is planned for July and August 2022.
- Various Parks Pickleball Conversion – Foster Park courts completed. Lakeside courts are in progress.

◆ Storeroom, Garage, and Safety

- A multitude of signs was fabricated for Salomon Farm, park closings, and storm response.
- \$3900 worth of de-chlorination fluid was ordered and received for Buckner Park splashpad.

- The Ford chassis and van body purchase for the Conservatory have been deferred to next year, depending on electric chassis availability. Funding will be redirected for the purchase of two cargo vans to replace existing vehicles.
- Biohazard Spill kits and first aid kits were rebuilt for the various summer recreation programs.

- Garage Operations Highlights:
 - 150 work orders were scheduled this month, 17 of which were services.
 - Work continued on Sweet Breeze modifications and hopefully is now complete.
 - The diesel fuel transfer tank originally procured for Grounds Maintenance large area mower refueling was transferred to Truck 8, for Salomon Farm equipment refueling.
 - Mower 454, a Toro 5910, finally got A/C parts in and installed.
 - Mower 432, a new Toro 7500 mower was processed and delivered to Kreager Park.
 - Finally, the brake controller ordered last August for Car 119 came in!

- The Safety Committee met on June 28, with three members and a guest in attendance.
 - There were five treatable personal injuries during this period, for a total of 13 for the year. OSHA recordable incidents total 12 for the year. 20 restricted days this period for current injuries, and the annual total stands at 274 for ten incidents. 43 lost days to date for one broken leg incident. Recorded worker compensation costs to date are \$13,987
 - There was no property damage incident during this period, the yearly total is six. Total damages for the year are \$23,426.
 - Four employees were certified in CPR/First Aid
 - A class on detailed operation and maintenance of chainsaws for storm response volunteers will be rescheduled in mid-July, due to employee shortages.

Alec Johnson – Deputy Director, Planning & Development, Forestry, Landscape, & Riparian



- ◆ Design Development drawings were completed by the design team for Frank Park Renaissance: Phase I. Project estimates were then prepared and reviewed by the team and Parks staff. The team continues to coordinate with various agencies and fine-tune the design, remaining on schedule for design completion.
- ◆ Construction slowly continues for Riverfront Development: Phase IIA. Conflicts between contractors at the adjacent private development and park contractors continue, as site access and staging are limited. The retaining wall and associated footings are largely being replaced, as existing conditions were found to be unfavorable as excavations began.
- ◆ Riverfront Development: Phase IIB design continues. Details regarding dock elevations and esplanade features have been presented and discussed; the team continues to refine the permit drawing set and move into construction drawings. Staff reviewed the tree canopy and wetland boardwalk trail alignments on-site with project consultants.
- ◆ The Staff has coordinated with local artist Andre Portee on the painting of the basketball courts at Reservoir Park. Completion is slated for July, with a grand opening being scheduled.
- ◆ Budgets and staffing needs for 2023 were discussed and proposed for Landscape/Horticulture and the Botanical Conservatory.
- ◆ Staff completed a walk-through at Headwaters Park, noting necessary landscape improvements in

- anticipation of Parks taking over maintenance and management duties in 2023.
- ◆ The Bloomingdale Neighborhood Association was awarded an AARP grant to make improvements at Wells St. Park; the staff has coordinated design and maintenance improvements at the park with the Association president. This work is underway and will be completed throughout the summer.
- ◆ The Foster Park Golf Course Master Plan concept was reviewed; our consultant will take comments from the Department and incorporate them into the final conceptual plan.
- ◆ Staff attended a meeting with local law enforcement and fire officials to review and discuss river/trail emergency communications. We will continue to coordinate with these groups as necessary.
- ◆ Chad completed a tour of sustainable landscape elements at Promenade Park with Science Central's Girl Scout Camp, while Alec provided a tour to Friends of the Parks at their annual meeting.
- ◆ The restoration of the Olen J. Pond Memorial at Memorial Park was completed. The sculpture was cleaned and a new head was cast and fixed to the existing figure, while the adjacent urns were cleaned, repaired, and re-glazed. Landscape improvements around the memorial are forthcoming.
- ◆ Staff spent time checking on the status of fallen trees and limbs following the Derecho storm. Numerous reports were taken over several days; these reports required a ground review to assess for damage and safety concerns.
- ◆ Staff prepared documentation for City Council for the St. Marys Streambank Stabilization Project, East Central Marina Design/Engineering, and Franke Park Renaissance; these projects will be presented and voted upon in early July.
- ◆ Staff met regularly with Conservatory management to discuss various agreements, staff training, marketing, showcase, and facility operations.
- ◆ **Horticulture and Landscape Report- June 2022**
 - Landscape staff installed annual displays at Foster, Lakeside, Freimann, Community Center, Courthouse, Swinney Letter Bed, and Bluffton Rd. Letterboxed.
 - Gardeners assisted in removing the spring Butterfly Show and installing the "Paris: City of Light & Love" exhibit during show change at the Botanical Conservatory this month.
 - Landscape staff continued clean-ups throughout the parks. Clean-ups include debris and litter removal, pruning/deadheading, pre-emergent application, bed edging, and mulching.
 - Staff maintenance continued with post-emergent herbicide treatments.
 - Following the derecho storm, Landscape staff has been assisting the Forestry street crew with equipment and manpower on an almost daily basis to help remove debris. Landscape supervisory staff assisted by driving assigned areas of the city to help prioritize cleanup areas. Landscape staff has also spent time in the parks picking up limbs.
 - Landscape staff loaded, hauled, and dumped approximately 100 yards of mulch in specified beds in Rockhill Park. They joined 6th through 8th-grade volunteers from the Canterbury school to help spread it.
 - Irrigation repairs were made at Meyers Park, Lakeside, Promenade, Freimann, Courthouse, Community Center, Foellinger Theatre, and the Northside Main Office and Pool.
 - Lawnscape continued mowing all contracted maintenance areas.
 - Lawnganics continued with turf fertilization and weed control on all park locations under contract.
 - Approximately 80 geese were removed and relocated by Wildlife Wranglers LLC from Lakeside, Swinney, and Reservoir Parks.
 - Concrete pads were poured this month in anticipation of memorial bench installations once the benches are shipped. Two pads were poured in Foster Park, while one other was poured at the Foster Park baseball diamond.
- ◆ **Riparian Management Report- June 2022**
 - Guldin boat ramp was cleared and maintained. Continued to wash silt build-up within the gangway trench after each rise of the river. Riprap was washed and maintained. Bloomingdale river access points

were washed after each rise of the river. Planters along St Joe River were watered by boat.

- Improved docking for boaters by washing massive silt buildup on both the North and South side of Promenade dock. Removed discarded metal furniture and stanchions from Promenade dock along the dock.
- Woody debris was removed several times from Guldlin, Headwaters, Shoaff, and Promenade docks, along with litter.
- Successfully removed logjams from the following bridges: Main, Van Buren, Tecumseh, Old Fort pedestrian, MLK. Also removed numerous deadheads and fallen trees along the St Marys River. Approximately 50 tons of woody debris were removed from the St Marys River.
- Headwaters dock strong arms improved by welding reinforcing brackets on the dock.
- Worked with three organizations for riparian clean-ups along Spy Run Creek in Brookview neighborhood and Lawton Park: Canterbury School, Powerhouse Youth, and Boys & Girls Club. Volunteers totaled 184 people and 1,472 volunteer hours.
- Coordinated with Wildlife Wranglers for this season's geese relocation.
- Began preliminary planning for floating docks and fire pits for this season's River, Set, Go!
- Continued support for the operation of Sweet Breeze and coordinated departments for maintenance, minor repairs, and pump outs. Sweet Breeze was successfully hauled briefly and relaunched on June 29th to inspect for bow thruster and prop damage.

◆ **Forestry Report- June 2022**

- The forestry division continues working toward changes intended to attract and retain qualified forestry staff. Mays Compensation Committee meeting resulted in a positive step forward. The support of the FWPR leadership team is much appreciated.
- Mudrack Tree Service continues working to remove street tree stumps throughout the City. Mudracks efficiency has offered much-needed improvement from our previous contractor.
- The WORX Company and Mitchell's Tree Service continue working to complete the removal of 198 street trees. Completion of this work is expected by early September.
- Davey Resource Group will be treating ½ of our remaining ash trees for Emerald Ash Borers during the week of June 6th – 10th. This year's treatment includes the ash trees located in and around Headwaters Park.
- Forestry staff began the process of visually inspecting city-owned trees throughout the City. This inspection is expected to take most of the summer and includes all trees located within the right-of-way along 1,300 miles of roadway and within our 87 parks. In total, roughly 70,000 trees will be inspected.
- The Citizen match Tree Planting Program will be accepting applications through July 1st. So far, 53 applications have been submitted, requesting 89 street trees.
- Forestry Staff completed 6 tree-related property damage appraisals totaling \$14,452.00 in damages. The vast majority of these are the result of vehicles losing control and striking City-owned trees.
- Forestry staff installed 127 tree guards. These guards are intended to protect recently planted trees from damage caused by lawnmowers. Moving forward, the installation of these guards will be incorporated into the tree planting process.
- Crews pruned 0 street trees this month, bringing our total to 0 for the year. Our goal is to re-establish an 8-year pruning cycle.
- In May, Forestry crews completed 22 out-of-cycle tree maintenance requests. Examples of these requests include tree limb elevation to facilitate buses, removal of limbs touching homes, clearing street lighting and signage, and removal of dead limbs. We expect these to become more common as the routine maintenance cycle timeframe extends.

- 66 total trees were removed this month. (48 street tree removals, 4 park tree removals, 9 removals resulting from damage caused by storms, 4 vehicles damaged tree removals, and 5 privately owned trees that had failed and were obstructing traffic.).
- Forestry crews responded to 36 storm-related fallen/hanging limbs.
- Forestry staff responded to 11 after-hours calls concerning tree failures that resulted in blocked roadways.
- Forestry staff responded to and resolved (97) 311 call center tickets this month.

◆ **Botanical Conservatory Report – June 2022**

- Emergence: Live Butterfly Exhibit at the Botanical Conservatory continued to delight visitors and welcomed the return of field trips until its end on June 26.
- Showchange installation for ‘Paris: City of Light & Love’ took place June 26 – July 1 and would not have been possible without the hard work of our Parks Department gardeners and the leadership in the Landscape & Horticulture division.
- The inaugural Father’s Day in the Garden took place June 18 – 19 and was well received by visitors. Visitors also enjoyed National Pollinator Week (June 21 – 25) by experiencing both the live butterfly and bee installations at the Botanical Conservatory.
- Staff is gearing up for the Daylily Show (July 9), Jazzworks! (July 16) featuring local performers Ty Causey, Lisa McDavid & Los Galaxy, and the Iris Show (July 24).

- ◆ Two Seasonal Gardeners, Ashley Mitchell and Sarah Allen have cleared the hiring process and are on-boarded to complete the horticulture team. A Seasonal Maintenance candidate has been offered a position. After many years of excellent service, Missy A’Hearn has resigned from the Program Facility Coordinator – Engagement position in pursuit of other professional endeavors. Open positions include Program Facility Coordinator – Engagement (1), with the hope being to begin interviews in mid-July.

- ◆ **Conservatory KPIs** - The ‘Emergence: Live Butterfly Exhibit’ certainly drove traffic among enthusiastic members and visitors. Conservatory Shop revenue continues to increase year-over-year due to a more compelling strategy for obtaining and displaying merchandise. Rental & Catering revenue continues to increase as the special event industry rebounds from the impacts of COVID-19.

◆ **Attendance**

June 2021: 8,773 visitors
June 2022: 10,052 visitors

An increase of 1,279 or +14.58% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2021 Attendance: 38,028 visitors
2022 Attendance: 46,884 visitors

An increase of 8,856 or +23.29% to 2021

Admissions Revenue

June Admissions 2021: \$28,080.00
June Admissions 2022: \$34,019.00

An increase of \$5,939.00 or +21.15% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2021 Admissions Revenue: \$117,570.00
2022 Admissions Revenue: \$178,771.00

An increase of \$61,201.00 or +52.05% to 2021

◆ **Membership Revenue**

June 2021: \$3,695.00

June 2022: \$7,042.00

An increase of \$3,347.00 or +90.58% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2021 Membership Revenue: \$35,077.00

2022 Membership Revenue: \$42,574.00

An increase of \$7,497.00 or +21.37% to 2021

◆ **Conservatory Shop Revenue**

June 2021: \$22,772.02

June 2022: \$24,427.97

An increase of \$1,655.95 or +7.27% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2021 Gift Shop Revenue: \$105,031.20

2022 Gift Shop Revenue: \$131,984.19

An increase of \$26,352.99 or +25.09% to 2021

◆ **Rental & Catering Fee Revenue**

June 2021: \$9,240.00

June 2022: \$9,267.00

An increase of \$27.00 or +0.29% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2021 Rental Revenue: \$27,247.50

2022 Rental Revenue: \$41,227.88

An increase of \$13,980.38 or +51.31% to 2021

◆ **Other Revenue (includes Activity Enrollments, Donations, Plant Sale, etc.)**

June 2021: \$28,204.93

June 2022: \$1,290.47

YTD Comparisons

2021 Other Revenue: \$288,753.10

2022 Other Revenue: \$363,784.55

◆ **Conservatory Total Revenue**

June 2021: \$91,991.95

June 2022: \$76,046.44

A decrease of \$15,945.51 or -17.33% to 2021

◆ **YTD Comparisons**

2021 Total Revenue: \$573,678.80

2022 Total Revenue: \$758,341.62

An increase of \$184,662.82 or +32.19% to 2021

◆ **Conservatory Business Development**

- Staff submitted a grant application to the Spencer Foundation for \$4,000 support for the 2022 Happy Small-days exhibit. \$1,500 sponsorship proposals were submitted to Fort Wayne Metals and ProFed for sponsorship of the 2022 Botanical Brew event. Fort Wayne Metals has agreed to a \$1,500 sponsorship; ProFed is pending. Fort Wayne Metals and ProFed were informed about the cancellation of the 2022 Botanical Roots concert series; initial overtures were made to both companies about potential sponsorship of the 2024 ROOTS Music Fest.
- Media sponsorship proposals were sent to WANE 15 and 89.1 WBOI for support of the 2022 Botanical Brew event. Both stations have agreed to sponsor the event. Media spots and promotions were approved for Jazzworks and the Paris exhibit. The wrap-up promotional report for the 2022 “Under the Big Top” exhibit

was sent to WANE 15 and Adams Radio Group for their media sponsorship.

- Conservatory donations in June 2022 totaled \$500.00 for a trust donation (QCD charitable distribution) by Joann Wyatt.

◆ Conservatory Public Programs - Events

- Father's Day in the Garden (June 18-19):
- It was the first year for this event where Dads and Granddads were granted free admission on Father's Day weekend! This celebratory approach was modeled after and inspired by prior Mother's in the Garden events. Basil plants were also available as a free plant giveaway.

◆ Education

- Bee the Change- Model Pollinators (June 2):
 - This drop-in program had 107 people (77 adults, 30 children) in attendance. All were invited to learn about the positive influence of pollinators. Due to an unavailability of volunteers, it ended up being an unstaffed program with themed activities for the taking.
 - Spring Plant Swap (June 4):
 - A total of 38 people pre-registered for this repeat, free program with only 25 people in attendance. Volunteer Denise Lock took the lead on labeling plants and calling out numbers for participants to pick from the assortment. The overall feedback is to continue this program that will remain scheduled on the first Saturdays of both June and September.
 - Yoga in the Garden (June 11):
 - This pre-registered program was canceled having not met a minimum registration requirement.
 - Kokedama Workshop (June 16):
 - This pre-registered program was canceled having not met a minimum registration requirement.
 - National Pollinator Week (June 21-25):
 - In celebration of local pollinators, the live butterfly exhibit was promoted along with the return of the observation bee hive. There was an addition of educational, friendly facts on display at the location of the hive. These aspects were available for visitors to enjoy during public hours.
 - Breakfast with Butterflies (June 25):
 - This new pre-registered program was a hit with a maxed-out total of 48 participants. Participants not only had VIP access to the butterfly tent but included were 2 small gifts, a butterfly kit, and a butterfly magnet. Breakfast was served and provided by Classic Café. Volunteers helped staff the butterfly tent and butterfly-themed craft. Overall, the staff looks forward to maintaining this as a treasured program inspired by the popular, repeat Breakfast with Santa!
 - Youth Field Trips:
 - In total, there were 22 groups with 884 students and 355 adults for a total of 1,239 guests in June 2022. There were 13 youth field trips totaling 152 guests in June 2021. There were no groups in 2020 during the COVID-19 closure of the facility. In 2019, 19 groups brought 1,959 students. In 2018, 39 groups brought 1,709 students.
- #### ◆ Camp ACTIVenture:
- Weeks 1-4 of this exciting, new day camp was fulfilled in June with a max of 12 campers per week.
 - Camp ACTIVenture runs through July 22 alternating between 3 soaring and 3 reaching weeks; the primary difference being ziplining or bouldering. Throughout the week, campers participate in adventure activities programmed around the elements of earth, air, water, and fire.
 - The final challenge day reflects over-learned values for individual accomplishment and character

development of children 9-13 years of age.

◆ **Exhibits & Displays**

- Naturescapes (April 14-June 23):
- This art display featured work by the artist, Madeline Phuong who exhibited in the Jaenicke Room through the end of the spring showcase exhibit.
- Emergence (Apr 23-June 26):
- The spring showcase exhibit is an all-time favorite when butterflies return to the Botanical Conservatory. It was our 19th year of live butterflies! This year's design included sharp elements with a variety of structures for climbing and vining plants along with an emphasis on the act of emerging.

◆ **Volunteers/Staff**

- Toward the end of the butterfly exhibit, the volunteer schedule continued to be a challenge with butterfly attendants covering weekend shifts in particular. There are certainly recruitment opportunities come 2023! As of recently, program staff have observed an increase in volunteer applications and are in the process of reviewing those areas of interest.
- Engagement Coordinator, Missy A'Hearn resigned from her role after having served the Botanical Conservatory for 6 years. Her last day was June 15th. While looking forward to future opportunities within the program unit, members of the Conservatory team miss her impact as a "social butterfly."

◆ **Upcoming**

- July 7: Bee the Change \$1 Night drop-in program
- July 9: Daylily Show included with regular admission
- July 11-15: Camp ACTIVenture week #5
- July 16: Jazzworks! outdoor concert event
- July 18-22: Camp ACTIVenture week #6
- July 24: Iris Sale included with regular admission

◆ **Conservatory Facility Maintenance Landscape and Horticulture**

- A Seasonal Maintenance candidate has been interviewed and is in the screening process. Ashley Mitchell and Sarah Allen have been hired as Seasonal Gardeners and crossed trained in facility maintenance.
- 'Emergence: Live Butterfly Exhibit' was dismantled and the materials have been stored for next year. Maintenance staff assisted in the readying and construction of elements and props for the 'Paris: City of Light & Love' exhibit.
- S&E Construction will install a steel roof on a storage barn in the Conservatory Exploration Garden before the end of July.
- Aggressive cleaning and precautionary sanitation have been implemented to ensure the safety of Camp ACTIVenture participants.
- Installation for the Conservatory front landscape has been completed.
- Annual planting at the Conservatory has been completed.



A look at Camp ACTIVenture



The Plantings for 'Emergence'

Kathryn Pargmann – Manager Lead of Marketing

- ◆ The Parks Promenade link has received over 5,476 hits and www.RiverfrontFW.org has 9,205 hits to the site this month. The Rental link continues to be a popular source of information and has received over 1,634 hits in June.
- ◆ The Marketing Team staffed a booth at Middle Waves Festival (June 17/18).
- ◆ Customer Service Training provided to the following staff: Salomon (June 1), Pre-school Youth/PODS/Athletics (June 2), LSA (June 3), McMillen (June 3), Youth Centers (June 3), and Hurshtown (June 6).
- ◆ 31 Design projects completed (sponsor tickets, billboards, displays, e-receipt flyers, brochures, flyers, yard signs, banners, programs, placemats, recipe book, e-news ads, t-shirt designs, and more)

- ◆ Lead photographer at Senior Games events.
- ◆ Edited Fall Fun Times copy.
- ◆ Met with Foellinger Foundation about possible partnership opportunities.
- ◆ Met with AWS about possibly working with us for some future aquatic improvements.
- ◆ Assembled a PA announcement and video for the upcoming Tin Caps game in July.
- ◆ Three E-newsletters were produced (Botanical Conservatory Member, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation, and Riverfront).
- ◆ Held a couple of successful PR events: a Photo Op and VIP Tour for Sweet Breeze (June 1) and the Senior Games Opening Ceremony (June 6)

◆ **April Media Mentions: 72 May Media Mentions: 82 June Media Mentions 76**

Web Statistics:	<u>Users:</u>	<u>Hits:</u>	<u>Month:</u>
	43,103	126,298	April
	58,258	167,663	May
	62,617	183,268	June

Social Media Totals for the months of:

	April	May	June
FB Followers	70,440	71,692	72,552
FB Reach	117,626	277,670	218,426
 Twitter Followers	13,253	13,377	13,405
 Instagram Follower	20,275	20,548	20,611

Gary Whitacre – Manager, Golf Operations

- ◆ Weather continues to be a story in 2022, but all of the news is not bad. On June 13, a derecho went thru the Fort Wayne area with heavy rains and high winds. Fortunately, the Parks courses were spared much of the damage that was inflicted on other area courses. Foster Park lost a handful of big trees, while Shoaff and McMillen were affected to a lesser extent. None of the downed foliage affected play, and clean-up continues.
- ◆ Other than this extreme weather event, conditions have been good and golf course activity continues to be extremely strong. Even with the unusually cold and wet spring that played havoc with total revenue numbers, the golf courses have nearly caught up with the 2021 numbers, and the month to month figures show strong gains year over year:

<u>JUNE</u>	<u>FOSTER</u>	<u>MCMILLEN</u>	<u>SHOAF</u>
2021 REVENUE	51,517.25	30,472	68,862
2022 REVENUE	62,253.25	40,921.50	90,587.25

YTD 2021	149,694.50	84,703	191,435
YTD 2022	140,367.75	88,631	192,548.50

- ◆ The golf cart fleet continues to be a major concern. At one point in June, over 30% of the Shoaff Park cart fleet was unavailable due to mechanical issues. It is estimated that at peak times, the unavailability of carts is costing the course \$700 or more per day in lost revenue.
- ◆ A meeting was held with the Club Car agent, and numbers are being produced with options for acquiring new carts. The supply chain issues in the golf cart industry are still there, but they are catching up.
- ◆ Two incidents involved contacting law enforcement to come to McMillen Park. On June 28, two men snuck whiskey onto the golf course and in an inebriated state damaged a cart to the point it would not operate. The police banned the men from the park. Fortunately, damage to the cart was minor and it is back in service. There were no injuries.
- ◆ On July 1, a vehicle traveling down McKinnie crashed thru the fence and came to rest beside the 8th hole. There were no injuries and no damage to the play areas of the golf course. There is a section of fence that is down.
- ◆ Golf activity continues to be extremely strong. By the end of July, I would anticipate that revenue numbers for YTD will have surpassed last year, which is amazing considering the poor weather we had for a significant portion of the spring.



FW PUBLIC WORKS
**Greenways
& Trails**
In Your Neighborhood

Dawn Ritchie – Greenway & Trails Manager

- ◆ We opened bids on June 30th for the Hanna Street Trail between Pettit and Decatur Road. We had two bidders. Malott was the low bidder. City Council will approve on July 26th. Construction could begin in August.
- ◆ We will be submitting a Regional Economic Acceleration & Development Initiative (READI) grant to the Regional Development Authority in September for a pedestrian bridge over Coliseum Boulevard for the Pufferbelly Trail to be constructed in 2026.
- ◆ We are spending much of our time preparing for the Open Streets event on August 7th from Noon – 4 p.m.
- ◆ The Pufferbelly 5K/10K walk and run will be held on July 16th at the Parkview Y and Salomon Farm.
- ◆ We are slowly handling trees and limbs down on the trails on the north and east sides of town. We’ve moved trees/limbs off the trails on the south and southwest sides, but a great deal of cleanup is needed

eventually.

- ◆ We'll make a presentation to City Council on August 16th in support of joining the Poka-Bache Coalition through an interlocal agreement with four counties and seven towns/cities to oversee the development and promotion of the 81-mile Poka-Bache Connector Trail from Pokagon State Park to Ouabache State Park.

Division News and Media Coverage:



◆ COVID Safety

Mayor Tom Henry today announced that masks will no longer be required at the City of Fort Wayne- owned facilities effective March 1. Masks will continue to be recommended.

City-owned locations include Citizens Square, the Fort Wayne Metropolitan Human Relations Commission office, Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department office, Parks and Recreation pavilions, community centers, youth centers, the Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, and Fort Wayne Animal Care and Control's facility.

Additionally, the Indiana State Department of Health has rescinded much of the contact tracing and quarantine requirements. If employees test positive for COVID-19, they are still to notify their supervisor, stay home 5 days and follow the latest isolation guidelines. Risk Management no longer needs to be notified, as the City will cease contact tracing immediately. This is moving toward a more traditional model of how the flu and other diseases are handled.

Mayor Henry cited a reduction in local COVID-19 cases and fewer hospitalizations than in previous weeks and months. However, Mayor Henry continues to stress caution and vigilance and encourages residents to get vaccinated and use good judgment in public settings.

The Mayor Tom Henry Podcast, Guest is Councilman Arp

<https://soundcloud.com/user-202170298/episode-82-city-councilman-jason-arp>

WPTA, First phase of new southeast side neighborhood approved

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/07/12/first-phase-new-southeast-side-neighborhood-approved/>

WFFT, City Council on Red River

https://www.wfft.com/news/red-river-fines-resolution-passes-at-fort-wayne-city-council/article_536bd334-0257-11ed-87e0-c34f6cb180ed.html

WFFT, Village Premier update

https://www.wfft.com/community/20-acre-subsidized-housing-development-coming-to-southeast-fort-wayne/article_85b5261c-024b-11ed-8cbc-27658776cb88.html

Adams Radio Group, Residents asked to call 311 for July 5th storm debris collection

<https://1039waynefm.com/residents-asked-to-call-311-for-july-5th-storm-debris-collection/>

Input FW, How is Fort Wayne fostering a creative economy

<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/creativeeconomygrowth.aspx>

Input FW, Deepening a neighborhood's cultural memory: This Fort Wayne audio tour shares resident stories
<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/FairfieldCorridorSoundWalk.aspx>

Input FW, How Fort Wayne is expanding and connecting services for people with disabilities
<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/disabilityfriendly.aspx>

Wednesday, June 1 – August 31, 10:00 am – 10:30 am

Park Foundation Pavilion Patio, Promenade Park, 202 West Superior Street

Join the Allen County Public Library and Riverfront Fort Wayne for fresh air, sunshine, and children's literature at Promenade Park. Most dates will be held under the awning of the Park Foundation Pavilion. Drop in, it's **FREE!**

WPTA, Parks, and Recreation respond to storm damage

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/07/06/fw-parks-rec-responds-storm-damage-closes-golf-courses/>

Adams Radio Group, City welcoming delegations from our sister city in Poland

<https://1039waynefm.com/city-welcoming-delegations-from-sister-city-in-poland/>

Adams Radio Group, Fee waived for tree debris at Biosolids Facility

<https://1039waynefm.com/city-fee-waived-for-tree-debris-at-biosolids-facility/>

WFFT, City Utilities asking residents to clear storm debris from drains

https://www.wfft.com/news/city-utilities-asking-residents-to-clear-storm-debris-from-drains/article_f39b79f2-fd90-11ec-b92b-6bda2980a616.html

WOWO, Sandbags are available for residents concerned over flooding

<https://www.wowo.com/sandbags-available-to-fort-wayne-residents-concerned-over-flooding/>



City TV, Mayor Henry's 'City Beat' program

<https://acpl.viebit.com/player.php?hash=UtLImqwrfGb6>

Adams Radio Group, Fort Wayne named the 3rd best run city in the U.S.

<https://1039waynefm.com/study-fort-wayne-in-the-top-five-for-best-managed-american-cities/>

Adams Radio Group, Open Streets Fort Wayne set to return in August

<https://1039waynefm.com/open-streets-fort-wayne-set-to-return-in-august/>

Adams Radio Group, Public meeting to be held on Leesburg Road extension project

<https://1039waynefm.com/public-meeting-to-be-held-on-leesburg-road-extension-project/>

Adams Radio Group, FWACC on how to keep pets safe during the holiday

<https://1039waynefm.com/fwacc-keep-pets-safe-this-fourth-of-july-2/>

WOWO, GFL to start trash and recycling collection Friday

<https://www.wowo.com/gfl-to-start-trash-and-recycling-collection-friday/>

WOWO, GFL's Jacob Diliberto on Pat Miller Program

<https://www.wowo.com/say-hello-to-your-new-trash-collector-green-for-life/>

WPTA, GFL to take over trash collection on Friday

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/06/28/gfl-take-over-trash-collection-fort-wayne-friday/>

WPTA, City crews picking up storm debris

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/06/28/city-crews-begin-picking-up-tree-debris/>

WANE, Confusion at City Council meeting as technology foils communication

<https://www.wne.com/news/local-news/confusion-on-council-tech-foils-clear-communication/>

WANE, FWPD: Meth use up, drug overdoses steady

<https://www.wane.com/news/crime/fwpd-meth-use-up-drug-overdoses-steady/>

WANE, Debris cleanup is expected to be done in mid-July

<https://www.wane.com/news/debris-cleanup-is-expected-to-be-done-in-mid-july/>

WFFT, City Council on Red River

https://www.wfft.com/news/council-members-weigh-in-on-red-river-next-steps-as-contract-comes-to-a-close/article_c25b3bea-f753-11ec-b42d-674a2f90be77.html

FW's NBC, Summer safety camps

<https://www.fortwaynesnbc.com/2022/06/29/summer-safety-camps-back-y/>

City Pools Public Swim Hours

Northside Aquatic Center, Tuesday to Sunday, 12:30 -5:00 p.m.

Parnell Avenue and East State Blvd.

McMillen Aquatic Center, Monday to Saturday, 12:30-5:00 p.m. *Oxford Street, East of Anthony Blvd.*

A free swim for youth with disabilities will be held weekly on Saturday from 5:15 –6:15 p.m. at Northside Pool. For more information about special swim programs, lessons, season passes and pool/pavilion rentals, visit www.FortWayneParks.org.

Storytime at the Park

Wednesday June 22, and each Wednesday until August 31, 10:00-10:30 a.m.

Park Foundation Pavilion Patio, Promenade Park, 202 West Superior Street

Join the Allen County Public Library and Riverfront Fort Wayne for fresh air, sunshine and children's literature at Promenade Park. Most dates will be held under the awning of the Park Foundation Pavilion. Drop in, it's free!

WOWO, Mayor Henry on Fort Wayne's Morning News discussing 2023 mayor's race

<https://www.wowo.com/mayor-tom-henry-running-for-5th-term/>

Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department Staff Reports as reported on **July 14, 2022**

WOWO, Councilman Didier on Fort Wayne's Morning News discussing 2023 mayor's race
<https://www.wowo.com/gop-mayoral-candidate-tom-didier-joins-fwmn/>

WANE, June 15, City plans 4th of July fireworks event
<https://www.wane.com/news/local-news/fort-wayne-plans-4th-of-july-fireworks-event/>

Input FW, June 15, Pillars of Hope and Justice monument
<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/placesofnei-pillarsofhopeandjusticemonument.aspx>

FW's NBC, June 14, City update on weather response
<https://www.fortwaynesbc.com/2022/06/14/city-update-weather-response/>

WPTA, June 14, Terra Brantley to host program on ABC 21
<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/06/14/terra-brantley-host-spotlight-abc21/>

WPTA, June 14, City announces tree debris drop-off sites and gives traffic signal update
<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/06/14/city-announces-tree-debris-drop-off-sites-gives-traffic-signal-update/>

City TV, June 2022, 'News Around Town' program with features on restoration work on Wells Street Bridge; Senior Games; and Riverfront Phase II public space
<https://acpl.viebit.com/player.php?hash=xmbDWWsoE016>

WANE, June 13, Real estate firm set to rehab Edsall House apartments downtown
<https://www.wane.com/news/local-news/real-estate-firm-set-to-rehab-edsall-house-apartments-downtown/>

Summer Fun Times Program Guide is now available [Summer 22 web.pdf](#)

Be prepared for summer fun in the Parks when you pick up a copy of this extensive listing of Parks programming for all ages. Print versions are available at Parks facilities including the Administration Offices at 705 East State Blvd. and the main Allen County Public Library and branches. It is also accessible online at www.FortWayneParks.org.

Masks are recommended inside city and park facilities but are no longer required as of March 1, 2022.

Adams Radio Group, Riverfront Phase II moves forward
<https://1039waynefm.com/riverfront-phase-ii-moves-forward/>

WBOI, Fort Wayne's first cat café opens its doors in partnership with Animal Care and Control
<https://www.wboi.org/news/2022-06-10/fort-waynes-first-cat-cafe-opens-its-doors>

WBCL, Senior Games through Parks and Recreation
<https://www.wbcl.org/news/senior-games-for-fun-over-fifty-audio>



Salomon Farmers' Market
Wednesdays, 4-7 pm
June 1 - September 7, 2022
Salomon Farm Park, 817 W. Dupont Rd.
Fresh Produce • Baked Goods • Honey
Homemade Pies • Artisan Goods
Tractor Rides
June 15, July 13, Aug 17, Sept 7
(\$5/person, age 2 & under FREE)

