

Steve McDaniel – Director

- ◆ I participated in our Community Center’s Veteran’s Day Breakfast. We had a good attendance of over 100 veterans from all branches of the military.
- ◆ I met with Patti Hays of the AWS Foundation. Our discussion included Promenade Park, Riverfront development phase 2, Franke Park, and future park development as well as creating better accessibility and inclusion in our community.
- ◆ We hosted a public meeting to show the latest version of the Master Plan for Foster Park Golf Course. That night and the following few weeks, we heard from several of the trail users of Foster that they did not like the proposed realignment of the trail as shown in the plan. The team and I met with a core group to listen to their comments and concerns. We will revisit the design of the master plan concerning the trails within the park.
- ◆ The team is continuing to develop the transition plan for taking over the day-to-day operations of Headwaters Park. This starts in January with future festival planning and rentals. The full transition will be on April 1st when the ice-skating season is completed and the rink has been dismantled.
- ◆ I participated in a bond rating call about our proposed sale of bonds. This rating call establishes our credit profile which leads to the associated interest rate on the bonds. The rating report was just issued and the City received its highest rating to date of an Aa1. This is the second-highest rating on their scale. Bonds are scheduled to be sold on December 6th.
- ◆ Several staff members attended the Indiana Parks and Recreation Association (IPRA) annual conference held in Indianapolis in the middle of the month. The curriculum was established in several areas to allow individuals to attend classes depending on what area of Parks and Recreation they dealt with.
- ◆ Our own Eden Lamb won the award of Young Professional of the Year from the IPRA. The team nominated Eden because of her accomplishments as well as how she manages her area of operation. We are very proud of Eden.
- ◆ The team convened a meeting of the Golf Committee to discuss a review of 2022, proposed changes for 2023 and recommended fee changes for next year.
- ◆ We postpone the press conference for Foster Pavilion #3. On the day of the event, weather conditions were not conducive to being outside for some time. The team will likely reschedule in spring before the seasonal pavilion rental schedule.
- ◆ We had a great turnout for Night of Lights at both the Community Center and the Botanical Conservatory. Coming up we continue to have Happy Smallidays at the Conservatory, Christmas on the Farm at Salomon, A Christmas Carol 1-11th at Salomon’s Barn, Wassail at Jennings Center on Sunday, Fantasy of Lights at Franke, with Winterval in late January throughout the downtown.

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](#)

- ◆ **McMillen Park Community Center**
 - In November, the number of youth participants in programming has remained studied. We averaged 32 youths a day. We are continuing to offer youth a variety of program options. In November, we offered Jump for Life, Youth Basketball, Arts & Crafts activities, Dance lessons, Movie Nights, Organized board games, homework assistance, and STEAM. Our STEAM program is focused on E-Sports. We partnered with Saint Francis and Snider High School to allow 15 youths the opportunity

to utilize their E-Sports labs. The youth not only were able to experience the labs they were also exposed to future career fields and the opportunity to interact with college students.

- Our youth program has also developed a collaboration with Fort Wayne Dance Collective. The Dance Collective instructor comes to MPCC every Monday from 4:00 pm-4:45 pm to introduce our youth to different dance styles and dance appreciation. Kids Korner continues to be the main attraction.
- We have partnered with 3 Rivers Yoga Studio to offer youth yoga lessons on Wednesdays at 4:30 pm. The instructors are working with youth to use yoga to relieve stress and manage anxiety.
- Adult programming for November remains consistent with participation last month. We are averaging approximately 150 adults a day. Essential Steps and Cardio Fit continue to be offered to improve the physical and mental health of the community. These programs are averaging 30 participants a session. They continue to offer Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. The new Yoga program offered to adults and Seniors on Wednesdays continues to grow. This program saw 100 participants in November. It's continuing to catch on in the community. Open Gym participation has increased. The open Gym is averaging 27 participants a day. Pickleball averages 41 participants daily. The increase in participation has led to us increasing the hours from 9 am-noon to 9 am-2 pm. The Pickleballers were extremely happy with the increase in hours and community members who are participating.
- There were 6 rentals in the facility in November. There were 158 rental participants. One of these rentals was for the Annual Tech Fest. Tech Fest is a STEAM competition that includes all the city and county high schools. This year Snider took home the championship.
- The MPCC Annual Turkey Give-A-Way was once again a huge success. MPCC was able to collaborate with the Steve Harvey Morning Show, Trek Bicycles, Hideout 125 Steak House, Sweet Water Sound, Spiece Gym Rats, and the Fort Wayne Commission on African American Males to give away 400 turkeys to the community. Turkeys were given out to Davita Dialysis, Senior Independent Living homes, and at MPCC. The MPCC is extremely grateful to these organizations for stepping up to help families facing food insecurities this holiday.

◆ **Community Youth Centers**

- On Nov. 3rd and 4th, Jennings Recreation Center transferred youth walkers from Jennings to Weisser (car riders were dropped off /picked up by parents for a combined program session, due to a shortage of staff. The youth loved being able to “collaborate with the other center.
- Due to low staffing levels, as of Nov. 21st, Jennings and Weisser will have daily combined programming at Weisser. This will take place until Jan.9, 2023, which is the last day of the holiday break (FWCS).
- Parkview Healthy Seeds worked with youth on November 1st. The staff discussed with the youth about *Gratitude*. Youth played the Grateful Game in which they rolled a die and if they rolled a 1 they had to share with the group a person, 2 a place, 3 a skill, 4 experience, 5 a tradition, and 6 their choice for which they are grateful. After which, the youth were split into two groups and enjoyed a relay race in which they had to tell the facilitators something they were grateful for before they could proceed to tap the next person in line.

- On November 8, the youth received information about banking and saving money from 1st Source Bank. They played a game of Monopoly. The youth were placed in groups of 4 or 5 to represent a family and their goal was to make purchase decisions with the idea of saving money. The youth was shocked at how fast money can dwindle when purchasing essential items, making nonessential item purchases an even harder decision while also trying to save money.
- Chantell was able to secure a donation of hygiene products for the youth. The items consist of small deodorants, mouthwash, and toothpaste. We are still making connections in hopes to see about toothbrushes being donated.

◆ **Food Service**

- Joel Bowerman resigned from his position as Food Service Supervisor to take an opportunity outside of the City.

◆ **Community Center**

- Veterans' Breakfast and Bingo was held Friday, November 4, 2022. As always it is held the Friday before Veterans' Day each year so that we are not competing with other events on Veteran's Day. All 100 people attended including 70 participants, 3 from American Legion. There were 19 sponsors of the event and were assisted by 8 volunteers. American Senior Communities provided gift baskets and a caller for the Bingo held right after breakfast for the approximately 40 people that stayed to play.
- Community Center staff along with the help of Lawton has the Center decorated for another Holiday season and ready for Santa's Workshop. We offered a window for window decorating contest through DID. K105 was assigned our window and has been working on completion by Tuesday, November 22.
- Santa's Workshop Sponsors include Park Place Senior Living providing 800 cookies and ASC providing 800 cartons of milk. Kevin Pio's- Parks and Recreation Electrician- children will be lighting the display this year. The full Report will be next month
- The Holiday Dinner and Light Tour to be held on December 12th at 5:30 pm are full with 100 participants.

◆ **Salomon Farm Park**

- Voting was held in the Learning Center for the 2022 General Election and wrapped up on Saturday, November 5, 2022, at 5:00 pm. Voting machines were picked up and the Learning Center was open again for rentals.
- One Learning Center Rentals were successfully booked in November compared to two in November 2021.
- Staff at Salomon Farm Park started decorating and preparing for Christmas on the Farm. This event will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2022, from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Larry Hicks and Eden Lamb have been meeting with Gavin Drew, Director of "A Christmas Carol", to make sure the transition from Christmas on the Farm to A Christmas Carol will run smoothly. Coordinating decorations have also been discussed to assist with a smoother transition.
- Ticket sales have been going extremely well for Summit City Music Theatre's A Christmas Carol at Salomon Farm Park. As of Thursday, November 17th three shows were sold out at 110 total tickets.
- Buckskin Tree Farm will return for Christmas on the Farm and additional dates to sell Christmas trees. This vendor has been providing Christmas tree sales during Christmas on the Farm since

2020. We believe this additional service provides another opportunity to bring patrons to Salomon Farm Park around the Holiday season.

- Annual Christmas on the Farm will be held on Saturday, December 3 from 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm. Admission to this event is \$5 per car and activities include a letter to Santa Clause, children's craft, Holiday vendors, live Holiday music, Christmas tree sales, and horse-drawn wagon rides.
- Allison Wheaton from Summit City Equestrian will be boarding our larger animals again this year. The animals were moved from the farm on Saturday, November 5, 2022, this included the two donkeys, a mini horse, and three sheep. Our pigs, goats, and chickens will remain at the farm for the winter months.

◆ **Sweet Breeze**

- Lawton and Riparian Maintenance have been working on winterizing Sweet Breeze. Work will be completed in November and the boat will be wrapped the week of November 28, 2022.
- Sweet Breeze seasonal staff have been separated from payroll.

◆ **Johnny Appleseed Campground**

- Johnny Appleseed Campground closed after the Fort Cluster Dog Show on Monday, November 7, 2022. All 45 sites were booked for the week and weekend of the dog show.
- The water supply to the sites was shut off on Tuesday, November 8, 2022.
- The usage for the 2022 season was summarized as the following for the 45 sites:
 - 292 daily visit fee transactions
 - 53 monthly fee transaction
 - 69 weekly fee transactions

◆ **Golf**

- A public open house was held at Foster Park Golf Course to discuss the proposed upgrades and renovations of the golf course. Steve McDaniel, Kathy Pargmann, Dave Weadock, Bryan Keister, Gary Whitacre, and Jason Smith were on hand to answer any questions that those in attendance had. A lot of input was given and will be considered before final approval.
- Gary Whitacre and Bryan Keister stated that all three (3) of the Parks and Recreation Department golf courses were officially closed for the season on November 12, 2022.
- Bryan Keister, Tom Mizzell, Gary Whitacre, and Jason Smith ensured that all of the golf cart batteries were cleaned, sealed, and filled before putting them away for the season. This is a vital process to keep the batteries in peak shape over the winter.

◆ **Skate Park**

- Sgt. Griffith with the Fort Wayne Police Department reported that due to the steady drop in temperatures, Friday, November 11, 2022, would be their last day to perform security for the skate park. Due to the facility being an unsupervised area Sgt. Griffith and the other officers ensure that the skate park is used as intended and keep it safe for all patrons.
- Jason Smith reported that Parkview Sports Medicine has agreed to continue sponsorship of the Junior and Pee Wee Golf Tour for 2023.

◆ **Riverfront**

- Programs kicked off in November at Promenade Park with Riverfronts Confluence Kitchen:

Culture of Mexico on November 4th. The night kicked off with traditional Mexican food and beverages provided by Paleteria La Michoacana Movil's food truck. Along with food being served local Hispanic artist Emily Guerra had arts and crafts for Kids attending this included making a marigold flower out of paper. For this event, we partnered with the Hispanic Leadership Coalition of Northeast Indiana Inc. (HLCNI). HLCNI provided us with the knowledge to put on this culture-focused event in the correct way. Their board attended the event to answer cultural questions that attendees might have and also volunteered to help with the arts and crafts at the event. This partnership was valuable to put on this great Hispanic culture-based event.

- The Sunday Heritage Concert Series Veteran day concert with the American Legion band on November 13th was one of the largest since the spring with almost 100 people in attendance.
- November rentals slowed down as only two weddings and 3 other rental programs were scheduled in the pavilion during this month.

Sandra Odisho, CPA – Manager, Finance

- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department paid 224 employees (127 full-time and 97 regular part-time and seasonal) for the payroll ending November 19th, 2022, and paid on November 25th, 2022.
- ◆ We currently have the following permanent full-time positions either open, posted, interview process or in the process of being hired, as of November 30th, 2022:
 - Forestry Division (Fund 121) – Two positions
 - Supervisor IV – Community Center Outreach Services (Fund 121)
 - Supervisor V – Grounds Maintenance (Fund 121)
 - Gardener (Fund 121)
 - Project Management Technician (Fund 121)
 - Recreation Center Coordinator – Jennings (Fund 121)
 - Working Leader – Heavy Equipment (Fund 121)
 - Supervisor IV – Food Service – Community Youth Center (Fund 121)
- ◆ Beginning November 1st, we went from managing 21 pavilions down to the following eight:
 - Sears, Franke #1, Pond, Lakeside #1, Hefner, Riverlodge, and Psi Ote Lower and Upper are available year-round as they are enclosed and heated.
- ◆ The eight pavilions that we reserve in the winter are completely booked up through December 31, 2022, on Saturdays and Sundays.
- ◆ Pavilion fee and policy changes approved in the October Board meeting were updated in RecTrac and on the Web effective November 1st, 2022.
- ◆ The Winter Fun Times registration began on November 2nd. December through February programs are covered in this brochure.
- ◆ Additional Appropriations for the 2022 Budget were submitted to the Controller's office for \$975,676. This was due to three Emergency Purchase Orders (EPOs) for tree-related storm cleanup from storms dated 6/13/22 and 7/5/22. This request represents the actual costs incurred in the storm cleanup. Final Approval by City Council will occur in December 2022.

- ◆ Budget Transfers for the 2022 Budget were submitted to the Controller's office for \$400,000. We requested a budget transfer from 5100's for \$400,000 to be transferred to 5200's for \$190,000 and to 5300's for \$210,000. This was due to excess amounts being available in the 5100s, due to seasonal employment being down. The need identified in the 5200s and 5300s was due to the increased cost of materials and supplies and contracted services we have experienced this year. Final Approval by City Council will occur in December 2022.
- ◆ **Year-End 2022 Highlights**
 - Processed over 3600 payment vouchers.
 - Processed over 200 purchase orders and numerous change orders.
 - Processed 27 payrolls – each for up to 135 full-time employees and up to 270 part-time and seasonal employees.
 - Installed a new credit card processor which included updating the Vermont Systems Software, installing 29 credit card devices with chip readers, and staff training. This enables us to process credit cards with chips.
 - The web registration site was updated to give it a more up-to-date look.
 - A first full year of the new key code pavilion access system. This new system is a great customer service tool as customers no longer have to come into the office to pick up a key and then come back to the office after their rental to return the key. Key codes are issued through email along with detailed instructions now how to use them.
 - In November the pavilion refund policy was updated to give customers more flexibility to change their rental date. Processing fees were also reduced for customers requesting cancellations.
 - Started a new, automated, pavilion survey request. Pavilion renters are automatically emailed a survey the day after their rental that they can conveniently fill out online and submit.
 - Front office staff built 1,350 classes for registration in the registration software.
 - Front office staff built 181 Sweet Breeze tours for ticket sales.
 - As of the end of November, there were 2,351 pavilion dates used or scheduled to be used in 2022.
 - Purchased 10 portable credit card devices for concession/alcohol sales at Foellinger Theatre. Then built the items for sale in both the credit card devices and Vermont Systems Software. These items were fluid so if a product was not being sold at a particular concert it would be removed from the POS system to make it simpler for the sales staff.

Steve Schuhmacher – Deputy Director, Facilities, Grounds, Projects Administration, Safety Compliance, Storeroom, Fleet & Mechanical Operations

◆ Facilities Management

- Pavilion rentals totaled: **147** for November. This is down from **277** in October.
- Relief workers cleaned out gutters in the following locations; Foster Park Pavilion #1 and #2, Memorial Park Pavilion, Northside Park Administrative Office, Northside Park Pavilion #1, Lawton Park office building, greenhouse, and garage as well as the Shoaff Park River lodge.
- Pressure washing was completed at the Promenade Park pavilion, Lafayette Park shelter, and Foster Park's pavilion #3.
- Graffiti was removed underneath the Wells street bridge at Bloomingdale Park, Lakeside Park Pavilion #1 restrooms, and the Packard Park shelter.
- Annual cleans have begun in the year-round rental facilities and will continue throughout the winter months.
- Winterization of all non-heated facilities and amenities has been completed.
- All Christmas light display installations were completed and officially turned on for the annual lighting ceremony on the 23rd.
- Temporary panels were installed on the 4th street pedestrian bridge at Lawton Park to prohibit crossing as the reconstruction project is set to begin.
- Window blinds were installed in the office at the Weisser Park Youth Center.
- New shelves, coat racks, and two TVs were hung at the Jennings Youth Center in preparation for the 75th anniversary.

- The lights at the Foster Park tennis court were updated to LED.
- Lighting controls throughout the park system were adjusted for daylight savings time.
- Paper towel dispensers and a urinal screen were replaced at the Promenade Park pavilion outside the restrooms due to vandalism.
- There were 23 after-hours calls: 2 lock issues, 1 plumbing issue, 5 code calls, 2 early entry calls, 3 door issues, 3 alarm calls, 1 tree problem, 1 vandalism call, 1 electrical issue, 1 appliance issue, 1 janitorial, 1 miscellaneous issue, and 1 call from the zoo.
- VFP was hired to fix a leak in the sprinkler system at McMillen Community Center.
- VFP was hired to fix the fire alarm system at Lawton with the Communications Department.
- Arrow fence made repairs to the fence at Foster volleyball court.
- Arrow fence was hired to install a new gate in the fence at Lawton park to the AEP lot.
- Receiving quotes for the repairs to the fence at McMillen golf course due to tree damage.
- Infinity glass was hired to repair a window at the North Side main office.
- Jack Laurie was hired to do the annual cleaning of the floors at the Community center.
- Codes were entered and removed for the voting at Sears Pavilion.
- High Tech Electric was hired and replaced a bad service panel at the Foster golf cart barn.
- Bill Odier is done for the year as a night utility person.
- A job posting went up for a new working leader of Heavy Equipment.
- Interviews continue for the ground supervisor.
- The Maintenance Technicians completed the following:

7 Alarms calls	8 HVAC maintenance issues	20 Playground maintenance replacement or repairs
6 Paint projects	7 Key core maintenance repairs	20 Plumbing maintenance issues
6 Building maintenance repairs	15 Light Maintenance	4 Sign replacements
17 Carpentry repairs	4 Lock maintenance issues	15 Vandalism issues
20 Electrical repairs		

Grounds Maintenance

- Heavy Equipment started to report to Lawton on November 28, 2022.
- Heavy equipment completed the fybar installation at McCormick Park playground.
- The team has continued to move Zoo poo to Lake avenue.
- The team came in on November 25th to help the Zoo take care of the giraffe issue.
- They are also working on gravel lots as well as doing work for Fantasy of lights.
- Foster Pavilion 3 was cleaned up and made ready for a press conference.
- Turf repair was made at Foster West after contractors removed logs from around the bridge.
- Plows, and salt boxes were installed on trucks to get ready for the snow season.
- Summer equipment was cleaned and winterized and stored for the season.
- A tree at Waynedale was split and placed in the back of a plow truck for extra weight.
- Snow plow routes were reworked to be more efficient.
- Crews were trained on how to batwing brush.
- Limbs and fence lines were picked up at the following parks: Johnny Appleseed, Spy run extended, Bloomingdale park, Roosevelt Park, Camp Allen, Guilden, Bluffton road, The old fort, Zeis, Griswald, Lindenwood, and Study Park.
- Leaves were removed from the River Greenway almost daily.
- The Heavy equipment crew moved to Lawton Park.
- Snow plow routes were marked in preparation for the snow season.
- Equipment was hauled to and from Kreager Park and the city golf courses.

Project Administration

- Botanical Conservatory Window Glass Replacement – 2023 Project planning in progress.
- Bowser Park Pavilion – Concrete flatwork has been completed. Exterior and interior building improvements are ongoing.

- Buckner Park Trail Construction – Project has begun. Awaiting culvert materials and installation.
 - Casselwood Park Playground Replacement – Planning in progress.
 - Downtown Community Center Roof Project Phase 2 – Work is in progress.
 - Downtown Community Center Carpet Replacement – Project has been awarded. Work has been coordinated with staff to begin in mid-February.
 - Foster Park Pavilion #3 Construction – Project completed.
 - Foster Park Golf Course Master Plan – Plans completed. Parks staff determining next steps.
 - Foster Park Golf Maintenance Barn Restroom – Renovation plans in progress.
 - Franke Park Zoo Parking Lot Lighting – Planning is in progress for additional lighting in the main parking lot.
 - Headwaters Park Fountain – Project planning in progress.
 - Jennings Center Improvements – Project completed.
 - Jennings Center Kitchen Cabinets & Countertops – Initial planning in progress.
 - Kreager Park Tennis Backboard and Fence – Awaiting final painting.
 - Lakeside Park Courts Lighting – Work is set to begin the week of December 5th.
 - McMillen Golf Course Cart Paths Phase 2 – Project completed.
 - McMillen Park Community Center Reception Area – Workspace improvements planning in progress.
 - McMillen Park Tennis Courts Resurfacing – Plans completed for resurfacing. Bidding in early 2023.
 - Mechanic St. Bridge Engineering – Drawings nearing completion. Permitting is in progress, and may be finished in February 2023. Bidding is planned for late 2023.
 - Memorial Park Fort Wayne Daisies Monument – Final planning in progress.
 - Parks System Comprehensive Plan – Proposals received. Review in progress.
 - Rea Building Overhead Door – Project in progress.
 - Salomon Farm Rental Barn – Painting completed. Additional work is ongoing at Heritage Barn.
 - Salomon Farm Entrance – Plans in progress for improvements. Bidding is to occur in early 2023.
 - Salomon Farm Garden Fence – Fence construction completed. Awaiting installation of gates.
 - Salomon Farm North Garden Fence – Plans and coordination with staff in progress.
 - Sheldon Drive Playground – The playground is scheduled for installation in January.
 - Shoaff Park Golf Pro Shop Flooring – Framing and electrical work completed. Awaiting painting and flooring installation.
 - Various Parks 2023 Paving Projects – Planning in progress.
 - Various Parks 2023 Sidewalk Improvements – Planning in progress for bidding. The project includes the repair and leveling of existing sidewalks.
 - Various Parks Pavement Repair, Sealing, and Striping – Planning in progress.
 - Various Parks Building Caulking & Sealing - Planning in progress for bidding. The project includes the sealing of existing building openings.
 - Various Parks Site Furnishings – Acquisition and installations in progress.
 - Various Parks On-Call Engineering Services – The consultant has submitted a report for the pedestrian bridge at Foster/Foster West over St. Marys River.
 - Various Parks Pickleball Conversion – Project completed.
 - Weisser Park Youth Center Interior Signage – Planning in progress for a project in 2023.
- **Other work:** Various Parks: assessed potential and necessary future projects, updating park site plan bases and building plans, underground utility locates were scheduled and performed, cost estimates for various projects are being prepared upon request, playground inspections being completed, and
 - Various Parks: park assessments are being completed.

Storeroom, Property, & Safety

- Storeroom staff helped with logistics and materials for the annual downtown Christmas lighting events.

- Materials and support were also provided for the Botanical Conservatory showcase change for the Christmas season.
- The winter garage/storeroom seasonal worker has been able to assist with parts pickups, equipment pressure washing, and various storeroom organizational tasks.
- Storeroom staff provided tools and materials for various crews to perform their daily leaf cleanup and snow removal.
- Storeroom staff has begun the long overdue process of going through all of the old stock of supplies and clearing out unneeded materials and transferring usable items to the various work crews.

- Property Transactions:

22 Country Way 3 Point Tiller	R530, Salomon
John Deere 317 Garden Tractor	R530, Salomon
Dake 50H 50 Ton Press	P252, Garage
Logan M1917 Bench Lathe	P252, Garage
Delta Shopmaster Grinders (2)	P210, Storeroom
22 Toro 6000 Mower	P530, Salomon
22 Makita Jigsaws (2)	P250, Trades
22 Stihl BR600 Blowers (3)	P260, Forestry
22 Karcher HDS Pressure Washer	P290, Kreager

- 2022 Vehicle Lease Purchase Update:

Club Car Carry All (2)	22121100
John Deere Gator	At Kenn Feld
John Deere Hydro 1200 Bunker Rake	Received
2- Lely Towed Spreaders	Received
Toro Polartrac	22121156
Toro 7210 Zero Turn Mower (3)	22121156
Toro Groundsmaster 4000 Mower	22121156
Ford Ranger 4x4 Pick-up	22121105
Ford F350 Chassis	22121105
Steel Flatbed for above	22121097
Ford F750 Chassis	22121101
Chip Body for Above	21121154
Ford F150 Pickup	22121105
Heavy Equipment Trailer	22121140
Wide Equipment Trailer (2)	22121202
Toro 4000 Mower	Received
Ford Transit 250 Van	22121165
Ford Transit Connect Van	22121165
Karcher Pressure Washer	Received

- Garage Operations Highlights:

- 130 work orders were scheduled this month, 22 of which were services.
- Toro unit 519 had multiple O-rings and seals replaced to repair an issue with the high-range motion.
- A long persisting coolant leak was located on dump truck 154 and repaired.
- The leaking fuel tank on truck 92 was repaired and resealed since replacement tanks are not readily available.
- Mechanics have started the process of converting Toro 7210 mowers to Polar Trac snow machines.
- A new snow plow blade was delivered for the Salomon Gator from Kenn Feld John Deere.
- 2 new trailers and a pressure washer for Kreager park were quoted and now have purchase orders. The pressure washer was delivered on the 29th. The trailers have been ordered and will have a delivery date available soon.

- New plow blade edges and curb guards were installed on truck 159 with another set going to truck 149 to prepare the large trucks for the snow plowing season. The spinner motor and disc were replaced on the salt spreader for 159 and the old motor was sent out for a rebuild allowing us to have a spare in stock.
- C&C Distributors dropped off a stand-on debris blower (Scag Windstorm) for the grounds crews to demo while doing leaf cleanup.
- 2022 Ford and Toro lease purchases do not have a delivery date. The large trailer from Bridge Manufacturing will be delivered in December and the new golf carts in April of 2023.
- The gasoline engine in the ball picker cart #1149 has been rebuilt once and is still having top-end issues. Mechanics replaced the head gasket to get us through to the spring and a vendor has been located that can supply a remanufactured engine.
- Heavy Equipment got a quote to replace the dump controls in truck 147 and this will be performed by H&H once the correct parts arrive.
- Shipping delays caused one of the John Deere backhoes to be held up for repairs at Westside tractor sales. The parts have been delivered and the unit should be back up and running by the end of the month.

◆ **Safety:** The Parks & Recreation Safety Committee met on Nov. 29, 2022.

Six Parks employees and one guest were present.

- There were 2 vehicle crashes since the last meeting for a total of 16 for the year.
- 2 injuries (both non-treatable) occurred since the last meeting for a total of 30 for the year.
- lost days and 465 restricted days YTD
- A CPR/FA class is held on 11/15 and another is scheduled for 11/30
- At least one CPR/FA class will be scheduled for December
- Any additional training that is discovered to be necessary will be scheduled as needed.
- Work continues on the transition to the PSA training center.
- Began inventory of all FWPRD AEDs

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



◆ **Planning Report – November 2022**

- Franke Park Renaissance: Phase I planning continues, with the team working through various value engineering scenarios. A few design revisions may be necessary to fit the project into the current budget; these changes will be made throughout December, with construction document reviews to follow before bidding.
- Floodway permitting approvals have been received for the design changes made for Riverfront Development: Phase IIA. Construction continues with ongoing flatwork and retaining wall progress.
- Riverfront Development: Phase IIB planning and design continues, albeit with several ongoing challenges for the design team. Utility coordination, private development needs and requests, funding, interpretive signage, and permitting are at the forefront of discussions.
- Proposals from four firms were received following an RFP for a Parks 10-year comprehensive plan. Steering committee reviews have been completed, with a recommendation for the successful proposal anticipated in early December. Following approvals, planning should begin in early 2023.
- Staff met with representatives from various City departments to begin discussing the potential for green infrastructure standards to be implemented in the Riverfront/Downtown areas.

- Alec and Chad attended the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) annual meeting in San Francisco. The conference was very informative; the staff was able to digest a lot of great information and was able to visit some great parks and public spaces in the city.
- Progress continues on the design and permitting of a new bridge to replace the Fourth Street Trestle Bridge. It was determined that the current bridge is unsafe for pedestrian use, and was subsequently closed until its replacement is constructed in late 2023.
- The staff has begun working in earnest with the landscape/horticulture division in planning for 2023. Staffing, contracted maintenance, and project prioritization have been the focus of discussions.
- Staff met regularly with Conservatory management to discuss various agreements, staff training, marketing, showcase, and facility operations. Progress continues to be made on the various capital projects within the facility that were discovered through the facility assessment and internal discussions.

◆ Horticulture and Landscape Report- November 2022

- Landscape staff finished planting bulbs at Freimann, Courthouse Green, Lakeside, and Foster this month.
- Landscape staff moved stone artifacts from heavy equipment to the REA building for permanent storage. They also delivered the stone that they stacked last month for the conservatory to storage as well.
- Landscape staff cleaned up all the plant material for the winter along Main Street Medians with the help of Community Corrections.
- Memorial Park was cleaned up before Veterans Day.
- Landscape staff assisted in the pickup and delivery of 19 conifers from St. Joe tree farm purchased for the holiday show change at the Botanical Conservatory. Four large spruces were donated by private donors and were cut and delivered by the Forestry crew.
- Landscape staff installed the "Happy Smallidays" exhibit from November 14th through the 18th at the Botanical Conservatory.
- Landscape staff began cutting perennials and ornamental grasses back in landscape beds. Leaf cleanup continued as necessary, followed by mulching in some locations such as Bloomingdale West, Foster Park, and Lakeside Park.
- Leaf cleanup has been ongoing at Promenade Park.
- Irrigation system winterizations were scheduled and completed.
- The Landscape staff at Lakeside completed hilling of all the roses for winter protection.
- Herbicide treatments ended. All spray equipment was winterized and stored for the winter.
- Watering ended. The water truck was winterized and stored for the winter.
- The Landscape staff installed greens in the Downtown Community Center's pots, as well as Lakeside's Urns, and continued with their maintenance contract consisting of mowing and leaf cleanup.
-
- Harlow Industries replaced 2 dying Locust trees in the beer garden at Promenade Park.
- Park tree plantings were located, mapped, and installed this month. Shade Trees Nursery planted 36 trees in total over 13 different parks. Thirteen of these trees were Memorial Trees.
- Two large stone outcroppings were installed on the edge of the pond at the Thomas Nature Sanctuary to provide access. This is part of a larger ongoing project that includes the installation of a native plant buffer around the pond that will attract pollinator species and improve aesthetics.
- Five Memorial Benches were installed in various parks.
- Lawnganics continued with their final turf fertilization and weed control applications.
- Seeding for 2023 began in November – 5,000 Asparagus sprengeri for the School Children's Flower and Vegetable Association, Grasses, hanging basket Petunias, and Cannas for the Mother's Day Plant Sale, and Cannas for the parks.

◆ **Riparian Management Report- November 2022**

- Headwaters and Guldlin docks were successfully removed for the season and stored at Lawton.
- Shifted landscape boulders at Guldlin were successfully lifted and replaced in the original location around the dock.
- Began scouting hidden navigational hazards in rivers after the lowering of the rivers on November 14th.
- Completed winterization of Sweet Breeze including the final tarp covering. Began moving all Sweet Breeze equipment from other warehouse locations to the store at REA.
- Completed Operations Meetings for Sweet Breeze for 2022.
- Recruitment and coordination of organizations for volunteer clean-ups continue.

◆ **Forestry Report- November 2022**

- We began working to compile and update forestry information in preparation for the submittal of this year's Tree City USA and Growth Award application. If awarded, this will mark the 33rd consecutive year of being recognized as a Tree City by the International Society of Arboriculture.
- Forestry requested and received bids for the removal of 179 street trees located throughout the City. These trees were identified by staff as candidates for removal due to declining health and/or structural integrity.
- Five qualified applicants were interviewed by the forestry team as we worked toward filling two remaining vacant positions. We anticipate offering one of the applicants a position in the coming days and will be conducting 2nd interviews very soon.
- Shade Trees Unlimited completed the planting of nearly 400 trees during November. 62 additional trees will be planted in the spring due to their fall planting vulnerability. The tree species slated for spring planting include oak, dogwood, and bald cypress.
- In-house crew efforts were focused on high-priority service requests. At present, there are 8 outstanding priority-1 service requests, 49 priority-2 service requests, and 74 priority-3 service requests.
- Forestry received 92, 311 Call Center service requests during October. Each of these reports is inspected and necessary work is prioritized based on the related risk.
- During November, 37 tree removals were completed and crews resolved tree-related concerns at 74 locations.
- Four tree damage appraisals were completed this month resulting in \$3,690.00 in total damages.

◆ **Botanical Conservatory Report – November 2022**

‘Happy Smallidays’ at the Botanical Conservatory celebrated its opening on November 19 and tells the story of Little Mouse learning to take in the magic of the holiday season. ‘Happy Smallidays’ was produced by the Botanical Conservatory in collaboration with local author/illustrator Talitha Shipman as a children’s storybook brought to life in this exciting twist on the Botanical Conservatory holiday exhibit. ‘Paris: City of Light & Love’ at the Botanical Conservatory wrapped up on November 13 as a successful Summer/Fall exhibit that delighted visitors to make way for ‘Happy Smallidays’. The Botanical Conservatory hosted several well-received events in November 2022 including the first of two Book Signings with Talitha Shipman (November 19) and \$1 Night of Lights (November 23), which welcomed over 1,100 in the evening. Staff is gearing up for Member-Volunteer Holi-Day (December 7), Santa & Reindeer Saturdays (December 3, 10, 17), and Book Singing with Talitha Shipman (December 17). \$1 Night Light Display will run Thursdays and Fridays from 5p – 8p through December 23.

◆ **Conservatory KPIs**

Conservatory Shop revenue continues to increase year-over-year due to a more compelling strategy for obtaining and displaying merchandise. Rental & Catering revenue has dramatically increased with the rebound of the special event industry from the impacts of COVID-19 and is trending up to 2019. November 2022 also charted a significant attendance increase to 2021 attributable to the expanded \$1

Night programs, including \$1 Night of Lights. Also contributing to the attendance increase are enhanced exhibit marketing and compelling exhibit themes. During the year, overall attendance is marked at a post-COVID-19 high. While overall attendance is down to 2019 YTD, paid attendance figures are up 4.3% to 2019 YTD, indicating that more people are paying their way into the door during public hours. The increase in paid attendance to 2019 YTD indicates that free attendance is down, observed broadly in smaller rental events (down over 3,500 guests, or -58%) and a change in attendance-logging practices that omits facility attendance tracking at off-site events (over 9,000 visitors were recorded for off-site participation in Botanical Conservatory outreach in 2019).

Attendance

November 2019:	6,225 visitors
November 2020:	2,448 visitors
November 2021:	4,740 visitors
November 2022:	6,568 visitors

An increase of 343 or +5.51% to 2019

An increase of 4,120 or +168.30% to 2020

An increase of 1,828 or +38.57% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Attendance:	87,073 visitors
2020 Attendance:	34,174 visitors
2021 Attendance:	59,568 visitors
2022 Attendance:	74,663 visitors

A decrease of 12,410 or -14.25% to 2019

An increase of 40,489 or +118.48% to 2020

An increase of 15,095 or +25.34% to 2021

Admissions Revenue

November 2019:	\$19,556.00
November 2020:	\$7,875.00
November 2021:	\$16,006.00
November 2022:	\$24,470.00

An increase of \$4,914.00 or +25.13% to 2019

An increase of \$16,595.00 or +210.73% to 2020

An increase of 8,464 or +52.88% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Admissions Revenue:	\$194,933.01
2020 Admissions Revenue:	\$81,353.00
2021 Admissions Revenue:	\$186,443.00
2022 Admissions Revenue:	\$286,469.70

An increase of \$91,539.69 or +46.96% to 2019

An increase of \$205,116.70 or +252.13% to 2020

An increase of 100,026.70 or +53.65% to 2021

Membership Revenue

November 2019:	\$3,810.00
November 2020:	\$2,035.00

November 2021: \$4,627.00
 November 2022: \$5,570.00
 An increase of \$1,760.00 or +46.19% to 2019
 An increase of \$3,535.00 or +173.71% to 2020
 An increase of \$943.00 or +20.38% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Membership Revenue: \$47,205.00
 2020 Membership Revenue: \$25,724.70
 2021 Membership Revenue: \$50,118.00
 2022 Membership Revenue: \$60,083.00
 An increase of \$12,878.00 or +27.28% to 2019
 An increase of \$34,358.30 or +133.56% to 2020
 An increase of \$9,965.00 or +19.88% to 2021

Conservatory Shop Revenue

November 2019: \$8,930.52
 November 2020: \$7,745.91
 November 2021: \$14,548.16
 November 2022: \$17,982.08
 An increase of \$9,051.56 or +101.36% to 2019
 An increase of \$10,236.17 or +132.15% to 2020
 An increase of \$3,433.92 or +23.60% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Gift Shop Revenue: \$103,107.89
 2020 Gift Shop Revenue: \$70,768.34
 2021 Gift Shop Revenue: \$172,122.07
 2022 Gift Shop Revenue: \$211,973.81
 An increase of \$108,865.92 or +105.58% to 2019
 An increase of \$141,205.47 or +199.53% to 2020
 An increase of \$39,851.74 or +23.15% to 2021

Rental & Catering Fee Revenue

November 2019: \$6,290.00
 November 2020: \$2,572.50
 November 2021: \$1,822.50
 November 2022: \$3,847.50
 A decrease of \$2,442.50 or -38.83% to 2019
 An increase of \$1,272.00 or +49.39% to 2020
 An increase of \$2,025.00 or +111.11% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Rental Revenue: \$83,175.00
 2020 Rental Revenue: \$43,122.00
 2021 Rental Revenue: \$55,452.17
 2022 Rental Revenue: \$93,842.38
 An increase of \$10,667.38 or +12.83% to 2019

An increase of \$50,720.38 or +117.62% to 2020

An increase of \$38,390.21 or +69.23% to 2021

Other Revenue (includes Activity Enrollments, Donations, Plant Sales, etc.)

November 2019:	\$6,715.00
November 2020:	\$1,609.01
November 2021:	\$11,968.14
November 2022:	\$3,572.28

YTD Comparisons

2019 Other Revenue:	\$356,639.53
2020 Other Revenue:	\$322,491.96
2021 Other Revenue:	\$327,322.35
2022 Other Revenue:	\$405,539.41

Conservatory Total Revenue

November 2019:	\$45,301.52
November 2020:	\$21,837.42
November 2021:	\$48,971.80
November 2022:	\$55,441.86

An increase of \$10,140.34 or +22.38% to 2019

An increase of \$33,604.44 or +153.88% to 2020

An increase of \$6,470.06 or +13.21% to 2021

YTD Comparisons

2019 Total Revenue:	\$785,060.43
2020 Total Revenue:	\$543,460.00
2021 Total Revenue:	\$791,457.59
2022 Total Revenue:	\$1,057,908.30

An increase of \$272,847.87 or +34.76% to 2019

An increase of \$514,448.30 or +94.66% to 2020

An increase of \$266,450.71 or +33.67% to 2021

◆ Conservatory Business Development

- Staff submitted wrap-up promotional reports to the media for sponsorships of the following 2022 events: 89.1 WBOI for Botanical Brew; ALT 99.5 and 102.3 for Rocky Horror Picture Show; Fox55 and Majic 95.1 for Garden Trick-or-Treat; Majic 95.1 and Classic Hits 101.7 for Pumpkin Path; and WANE 15 for Botanical Brew. A promotional wrap-up report was sent to Fort Wayne Metals for their corporate sponsorship of the 2022 Botanical Brew. Promotional tickets were sent to PBS39 and Majic 95.1 for the Happy Smallidays Exhibit. Promotional spots for Happy Smallidays by PBS39 and Majic 95.1 were approved. On-air interviews with WANE 15 and WPTA were completed for Happy Smallidays, including a feature on Positively Fort Wayne and Living Local 15. Print interviews have been completed with the Journal Gazette and KPC Media.
- Staff completed research on potential grant applications to area foundations for support of 2023 Showcase Garden Exhibits; identified 13 potential asks to area foundations.
- Researched possible 2023 funding of the IMLS (Institute of Museum and Library Services) in the current

2022 grant cycle for a butterfly pollinator/children's garden. The current grant deadlines do not match up with the information now available/approved for the project. Staff will aim towards a 2023 application for 2024 funding.

- Created the verbiage for a #GivingTuesday pitch on the Conservatory's Facebook page. It was posted on November 28th to our followers. The #GivingTuesday pitch was accompanied by the Fall 2022 Annual Appeal – which began hitting mailboxes on November 29. The appeal was sent to Botanical Conservatory members and volunteers. The two-sided color piece included information on the Member/Volunteer Holi-day and the value of donations to the Conservatory.
- Staff compiled and sent a list of potential Conservatory funding projects as memorials to volunteer Jo Ann Wyatt and Dr. Michael Mastrangelo from their perspective families. Both families are considering their options.

◆ Conservatory Public Programs: Events - Education

- T'ai Chi Tuesdays (October 4-November 15)
- Continuing T'ai Chi sessions concluded with 17 participants during its morning sessions. Instructor Sandy Gebhard will return in the spring of 2023 to offer another 6-week Continuing T'ai Chi course.
- Bee the Change- Do Plants Have Feelings? (November 3)
- This drop-in program on the first \$1-nights had 27 children in attendance in November. It focused on emotional intelligence using plants to express and name emotions.
- Cornucopia Centerpiece (November 10)
- A total of 13 paid participants created festive fall centerpieces complimented by faux greenery, harvest imagery, and real dried-color corn. Just in time for the Thanksgiving holiday, this workshop was facilitated by guest instructor Dennis Bowman.
- Youth Field Trips
- There were 5 on-site youth group visits totaling 119 children in November. There were no educational group visits during November 2021. In 2019, there were two (2) on-site visits totaling 19 students. In 2018, there were five (5) on-site youth field trips with 94 students total.

◆ Exhibits & Displays

- Presence (November 19-January 5):
- Meghan Wilhelm, an employee of the Botanical Conservatory, is the latest featured artist. Her work showing animals in their natural habitats is on display through the end of the year. This collection served as Wilhelm's senior thesis project when graduating college in 2020; due to COVID-19, it is finally being displayed for the first time!
- Happy Smallidays (November 19-January 8):
- This year's holiday exhibit at the Botanical Conservatory is accompanied by a book come to life. With a tiny bit of magic, become mouse-sized and "just tall enough to finally notice all the little things!" All are invited to journey with Little Mouse through the Winter Woods as he discovers the value of slowing down to take in the wonder and warmth of the holiday season. May all who visit be inspired by this endearing story and heartfelt reminder to find joy in the little things.
- \$1 Night Light Display (November 25-December 23)
- Between downtown's Night of Lights and the Friday leading up to Christmas, the Botanical

Conservatory remains open until 8:00 pm every Thursday and Friday. Admission is only \$1 from 5:00-8:00 pm on both days! It is the perfect occasion to visit the gardens in light when they are best seen at night this holiday season.

◆ **Volunteers/Staff**

In addition to regularly scheduled volunteers at the Front Desk (10) and Gift Shop/Plant Groomer (10), volunteers assisted with the following:

Showchange & Holiday Decorating (16)

Magical Reindeer Food Preparation and Packaging (5)

\$1 Night of Lights (3)

S.W.A.T. Garden Team (4 from Anthis with a combined 23 hours of volunteer service)

◆ **Upcoming**

November 19-January 8: Happy Smallidays holiday exhibit

November 25-December 23: \$1 Night Light Display

November 26-December 17: Days of Holly Shopping

December 1: Joyful Carolers Singing \$1 Night drop-in program

December 3: Breakfast with Santa pre-registered program

December 3, 10 & 17: Santa & Reindeer Saturdays

December 4: Succulent Christmas Tree pre-registered program

December 7: Volunteer Greens Cutting for centerpiece workshop

December 7: Member & Volunteer Holi-Day

December 8 & 10: Evergreen Centerpiece pre-registered program

December 11: Suzuki Strings Performance

December 15: String Jams Holiday Concert

December 17: Book Signing- Talitha Shipman, [Happy Smallidays](#)

December 18: Meghan Wilhelm "Presence" public reception

December 24 & 25: Closed Christmas Eve & Christmas Day

December 31: Open New Year's Eve

January 1: Closed New Year's Day

◆ **Conservatory Facility and Maintenance**

- New benches and skylight shade were installed by staff in the Discovery Corner, marking the Discovery Corner as officially reopened after a two-month closure for renovation.
- BZW Materpainters painted 6 doors within the Botanical Conservatory and will continue work into 2023 to make the appearance more uniform throughout the facility.
- Allied Mechanical completed repairs on the boilers to return them to full function. They will continue to work with Conserv to complete the HVAC upgrades. The replacement of the cooling pipes that are rusted and leaking will begin by the new year.
- Priority 1 Safety installed upgrades to the existing camera system and will be making repairs to a faulty

smoke sensor head. Priority 1 Safety has been contracted to install a new video door entry system to be installed late 2022/early 2023.

◆ Conservatory Landscape and Horticulture

- Paris: City of Light and Love concluded in November. A final shift of florist mums was installed with Conservatory gardeners and the assistance of students from Anthis Career Center.
- Anthis students also assisted with other projects throughout the Conservatory during November. Anthis students made considerable progress in removing Algerian ivy from the south section of the Tropical House to make space for new additions to the plant collection. Anthis students assisted with placing greens in large decorative pots outdoors and thoroughly sweeping and cleaning paths throughout the Conservatory houses. Work performed by Anthis students at the Conservatory provides them with a sense of pride, accomplishment, and connectedness while also teaching positive work ethic and teamwork.
- Parks Department teams including Forestry, Heavy Equipment, Facilities/Trades, Lawton, and Conservatory worked seamlessly together in completing holiday showchange. Happy Smallidays installation could not have been executed without each team's crucial contribution. Forestry harvested three large trees donated by area residents to install and display in the Happy Smallidays exhibit. Due to the immense size of the trees, Staff required the assistance of the Parks Department Heavy Equipment team to safely hoist and set the five largest trees in the show. Facilities/Trades assisted with utility locates and prop disassembly. Lawton and Conservatory teams loaded up 19 cut trees from St. Joe Tree Farm to install in the Showcase House for the Happy Smallidays exhibit and completed the planting/design for the overall show.
- Outdoor fall cleanup concluded in November and will enable the Conservatory to start spring with a fresh and clean start. Outdoor irrigation systems have also been winterized by Pfister.
- Conservatory gardeners began planting tulips and daffodil bulbs throughout the outdoor beds which will bring welcome brightness for visitors in spring. The bulb planting should be complete by early December.



Gardeners Evan Firestone and Eddie Palmer assembling poinsettia tree



Gardeners Meghan Wilhelm and Sarah Allen installing poinsettias on tree



Forestry using a crane to unload harvested donated tree



Lawton and Heavy Equipment staff hoisting a large evergreen tree in Showcase House



Author & Illustrator, Talitha Shipman signing Happy Smallidays

Anthis student planting florist mums for Paris show



Participants assembling cornucopia centerpieces

Loading Showcase House evergreen trees at St. Joe Tree Farm



The Poinsettia Tree on display during \$1 Night of Lights



Little Mouse & Wren skating together in Happy Smallidays Holiday Exhibit



Volunteer, Julia Smith & Programmer, Kelsey Gerig preparing holiday décor



Kathryn Pargmann – Manager Lead of Marketing

- ◆ The Parks Promenade link has received over 2,026 hits and www.RiverfrontFW.org has 3,072 hits to the site this month. The Rental link continues to be a popular source of information and received over 835 hits in November.

- ◆ Complaint Reports were completed for October & November.
- ◆ Completed 58 Design projects.
- ◆ Smallidays promo (newspaper ad, display poster, 2 billboards, e-news flyer, web slide, Fun Times, printed flyer, Smallidays invite, appeal letter with Smallidays on it, holiday e-news, electronic sign slides, Santa/Reindeer, book signing).
- ◆ Donation campaign (print brochure, e-mail piece, follow-up piece).
- ◆ Santa’s Workshop promo/props (flyer, social post, bags, activity book, signs).
- ◆ Donation campaign for Giving Tuesday started.
- ◆ Completed Tree City application.
- ◆ Set meetings to begin sponsorship discussions for 2023 events.
- ◆ Social media promotions for Foster Park Golf Course Master Plan Viewings, Winter Fun Times edition, Giving Tuesday, A Christmas Carol at Salomon Farm Park, Christmas on the Farm, and others too.
- ◆ Media Mentions: **September 76 October 69 November 55**
- ◆ Social Media Totals for **September, October, and November**

Web Statistics:	Users:	Hits:	Month:
	33,452	102,665	September
	30,996	85,743	October
	27,217	74,797	November

Social Media Totals for the months of:

	September	October	November
FB Followers	74,610	75,171	75,577
FB Reach	86,579	278,039	82,617
 Twitter Followers	13,562	13,556	13,528
 Instagram Follower	21,026	21,044	21,144

Gary Whitacre – Manager, Golf Operations

- ◆ 2022 showed solid gains from a revenue and play standpoint. Golf continues to grow in popularity, continuing an uptick that started during the COVID pandemic. Here are the year-over-year figures for golf revenue:

FOSTER PARK

MCMILLEN PARK

SHOAFF PARK

2021	\$316,222.75		\$186,175.00		\$398,119.00
2022	\$355,303.50		\$217,088.50		\$448,137.50
RANGE REVENUE		2021	\$11,406		\$78,581
		2022	\$13,078		\$86,777
ALCOHOL REVENUE* (a first full year of alcohol sales)					
\$16,053			\$7,710.50		\$12,526.50
<u>TOTAL ALCOHOL REVENUE:</u>			\$36,290.00		
ALCOHOL COGS			\$11,279.50		

- ◆ The total revenue shown at the top includes the range and alcohol revenue, it is broken down by course below the total figures.
- ◆ The golf courses opened for the year on Wednesday, March 16. Weather was very suspect for several weeks, with unusually cold and wet conditions compared to average. When the weather did cooperate, play and activity levels were strong. The worry at the time was that so many days (and weeks) were being lost to weather that revenue would not catch up to previous year levels.
- ◆ Once the weather broke, those fears proved unfounded. Overall, the weather was good for the season and stayed warm until early November. By the end of June, the courses had caught up and surpassed 2021 revenue levels. Activity levels stayed high, allowing for a gain in revenues.
- ◆ On June 13, a major weather event known as a derecho hit the area with extremely strong winds and rain. The Parks courses were very lucky compared to several area courses and received comparatively minor damage.
- ◆ As the season went along, golf cart failures began to be a recurring problem. It became apparent that batteries purchased in 2019 were failing at a rate far ahead of their life expectancy. A Purchase Order to acquire new batteries eventually got this situation under control, but the number of carts and their reliability continues to be a concern.
- ◆ The number and condition of carts are becoming an issue. At Shoaff Park, in particular, not having functional carts is leading to a loss of revenue. It was suggested multiple times this summer during peak times that \$700-1,000 dollars a day was walking out the door due to the lack of available carts.
- ◆ A purchase order was requested and granted for 15 new carts to continue updating and expanding the fleet. These carts will arrive in 2023.
- ◆ Shoaff Park closed for the season on November 4, and Foster and McMillen closed on November 11. 2022 was a successful year, and the indications for the future are positive.

Dawn Ritchie – Greenway & Trails Manager



FW PUBLIC WORKS
Greenways & Trails
In Your Neighborhood

- ◆ City of Fort Wayne Greenways & Trails Department, Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation, and Fort Wayne Trails, Inc will host our fourth annual Winter Solstice Walk and Bike Ride on 12/21 at Salomon Farm and the Pufferbelly Trail at 4:30 p.m. We'll have food, a bonfire and entertainment afterward.

- ◆ The Trine Engineering students have completed their mid-block crossing study for trails in Fort Wayne and will give a presentation on their findings at Trine on 12/9 at 10 a.m. Our working group will meet on 12/12 to discuss the Trine findings and make a decision on which treatment we will use consistently on our trail mid-block crossings of roads.
- ◆ We continue to acquire the right of way for the Covington Road: Hadley to Getz and Liberty Mills Rd: Middle Grove to Falls Drive/Coventry Lane trail projects. Both projects will be bid out in early 2023.
- ◆ We have begun the appraisal process on the Pufferbelly Trail from Ley Road to Lima/Ice Way. We anticipate the acquisition of the 12 parcels to be completed in the fall of 2023, then we will bid on the project (Washington Center Rd to the intersection of Lima Rd and Ice Way).
- ◆ Hanna Street Trail from Rudisill to Pettit is complete. We just need to check the trail before accepting the contractor's work. Hanna from Pettit to Decatur Rd is under construction. The concrete trail from Pettit to Humane Fort Wayne has been poured. The rest of the trail from Humane FW to Decatur Rd will be asphalt and will be paved in the spring.



DIVISION NEWS AND MEDICA COVERAGE:

Summit City Music Theatre presents: *A Christmas Carol*
December 1-11, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, 7:30 p.m. Sunday, 2:00 p.m.
***Two performances added: Dec. 10 at 2:00 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 7:30 p.m.**

Salomon Farm Park, 817 West Dupont Road

Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* captivates, entertains, and changes hearts. In December, Gavin Thomas Drew and Chapman Shields bring a new adaptation of this classic tale to the Old Barn at Salomon Farm Park along with a cast of talented local artists and musicians. This show is rated G and is family-friendly. Tickets are \$25 per person and seating is general admission. The historic venue is not heated, so guests are encouraged to bring blankets to stay cozy and warm. Purchase tickets online at www.fortwayneparks.org or by phone at 260-427-6000

WELT Radio, 'Investing in the City of Fort Wayne' program with Deputy Mayor Karl Bandemer as a guest.
<https://soundcloud.com/mayorfw/deputy-mayor-karl-bandemer>

City TV, Neighborhood Presidents Meeting
<https://acpl.viebit.com/player.php?hash=606gn2E2tyHw>

Input FW, How a new community resting park came to life in southeast Fort Wayne
<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/dc-southeastpark.aspx>

Input FW, How are ARPA funds being spent in Fort Wayne
<https://www.inputfortwayne.com/features/ARP-AARP.aspx>

WANE, Chambers wants better affordable housing across Fort Wayne
<https://www.wane.com/top-stories/chambers-wants-better-affordable-housing-across-fort-wayne/>
 WANE, Planners eye rezoned Pontiac Street
<https://www.wane.com/news/local-news/planners-eye-rezoned-pontiac-street-facelift-would-add-multi-family->

[housing-landscaped-areas/](#)

WANE, Bulk collection update

<https://www.wane.com/top-stories/heres-how-to-make-sure-those-large-trash-items-get-picked-up-in-fort-wayne/>

WANE, All In Allen gets boost from City Council

<https://www.wane.com/news/local-news/all-in-allen-gets-a-boost-from-city-council/>

WPTA, City announces updated bulk collection rules

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/06/city-fort-wayne-announces-updated-bulk-collection-rules/>

WPTA, Number of shootings in 2022

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/06/digging-deeper-looking-number-shootings-2022/>

Days of Holly Shopping continues

Saturday, December 10, and 17, public hours

Foellinger-Freimann Botanical Conservatory, 1100 South Calhoun Street

Be inspired and find holiday gifts in the Conservatory Shop! Days of Holly Shopping is an exciting way to support locally-owned and operated shops throughout downtown Fort Wayne, the West Main Shops, and the Wells Street Corridor on Small Business Saturday! Presented in conjunction with the Downtown Improvement District, Days of Holly Shopping continues on the first three Saturdays in December.

WANE, Do it Best moves into Electric Works

<https://www.wane.com/news/local-news/do-it-best-moves-into-electric-works/>

WPTA, Neighbors upset about potential new jail location

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/05/new-location-same-problem-neighbors-upset-about-potential-new-allen-county-jail-location/>

WPTA, City adds new traffic light at Coldwater/Ludwig area

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/05/city-fort-wayne-adds-new-traffic-light-coldwater-road/>

Book Signing with Author, Talitha Shipman

Saturday, December 17, 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

The Conservatory is proud to present “Happy Smallidays” by Talitha Shipman. Don’t miss out on this chance to visit during the holidays and meet the author and illustrator herself!

Through her various picture books, Talitha wishes to encourage curiosity and creativity in children of all ages. Her latest book, “Happy Smallidays” inspires Conservatory visitors to find joy in the little things. All are invited to journey with Little Mouse through the Magical Winter Woods as he discovers the value of slowing down to take in the wonder and warmth of the holiday season. Included with regular Conservatory admission. Books are available for purchase in the Conservatory Shop

WANE, GFL to take over trash and recycling in Huntington beginning in January

<https://www.wane.com/top-stories/gfl-to-take-over-trash-and-recycling-in-huntington/>

WPTA, Community Development names new PIO

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/01/city-fort-wayne-announces-new-public-information-officer/>

WPTA, GFL to provide garbage and recycling services in Huntington beginning in 2023

<https://www.wpta21.com/2022/12/01/gfl-replace-city-huntington-trash-recycling-services-2023/>

Suzuki Strings Performance

Sunday, December 11, 2:00-2:45 p.m.

Botanical Conservatory, 1100 South Calhoun Street

Listen for children of Fort Wayne Suzuki playing holiday favorites on the violin and cello as you enjoy the “Happy Smallidays” garden exhibit. This concert is included with regular admission.

WANE, Organization partners with Animal Care and Control to offer reduced adoption fees

<https://www.wane.com/top-stories/organization-partners-with-fort-wayne-animal-care-control-to-offer-reduced-adoption-fees/>

Fort Wayne Business Weekly, TRAA factors confirmed the need for a dispatch policy
https://www.fwbusiness.com/article_20d5f235-7418-5e19-905d-ddc94fb2c092.html

City TV, Mayor Henry's 'City Beat' program for Nov. 2022

<https://acpl.viebit.com/player.php?hash=I9YrKzGdw0jl>

WFFT, Christmas tree shortage/inflation – Salomon Farm Park included in the story

https://www.wfft.com/video/fort-wayne-farm-faces-christmas-tree-shortage-inflation-spikes-tree-prices/video_d44bf941-4898-572d-a72e-febd68cff3bc.html

\$1 Night Light Display

Thursdays and Fridays, until December 23, 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Conservatory gardens in light are best seen at night! Brighten your holiday plans with a visit to the Conservatory where lush gardens are embellished in the spirit of the season. Find yourself surrounded by charming displays with stunning poinsettias, illuminated photo ops, and more. Cross-gift buying off your list when stopping into the Conservatory Shop and delighting in the selection of trendy and thoughtful gifts. Until Christmas, be sure to take advantage of \$1 admission on Thursday and Friday nights after five. Members are invited to bring a guest or two for free admission on Thursday and Friday Nights (5:00-8:00 p.m.) by showing their member card to the admission desk.

Art Display and Reception

Meghan Wilhelm: "Presence" Until January 5

Public Reception: Sunday, December 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Meghan Wilhelm is an artist and illustrator from Fort Wayne, IN. While she participates in various local art initiatives, her artwork has also been exhibited at a national level. Wilhelm's display "Presence" at the Botanical Conservatory collects the body of work created as her senior thesis project. Since her graduation from the Herron School of Art and Design, these animal-themed pieces are exhibited together for the first time! The sole concept behind the collection is to explore the impact and the presence that animals invoke on the environments in which they live. Each piece melds an interest in the natural and fantastical and brings light to the importance of several notable endangered species.

Holiday Window Displays at Promenade Park

Now until January 3

Park Foundation Pavilion, Promenade Park, 202 West Superior Street

Make the most of winter light at Promenade Park with a showcase of handmade paper-cut lightboxes. These delightful creations are believed to have originated in China after the paper was first invented. Many countries picked up the skill, but Switzerland remains the enduring leader referring to the art form as Scherenschnitt. Riverfront's light boxes were designed and hand-cut by staff using ideas of common winter scenes at Promenade Park such as the swings, the Historic Wells St. Bridge, and the Convergence Sculpture. The light boxes have multiple layers of paper with lighting from behind to show more detail in perspective, texture, and dimension. The display can be seen in the windows of the Park Foundation Pavilion at Promenade Park from now until January 3 and can be best viewed at dusk.

Happy Smallidays Showcase Garden Exhibit

Until January 8, 2023, public hours

Little Mouse sneaks into the Conservatory looking to cozy up for the smallidays. However, there is so much commotion that he keeps getting nudged to the side by the hurry and scurry of holiday decorating. He wants nothing more than for everyone to slow down and find joy in the little things. Follow Little Mouse in this endearing holiday story and be inspired by the heartfelt lesson he has to share. Sponsored by the English Bontter Mitchell Foundation, Waterfield Foundation, PBS Fort Wayne, and Majic 95.1.