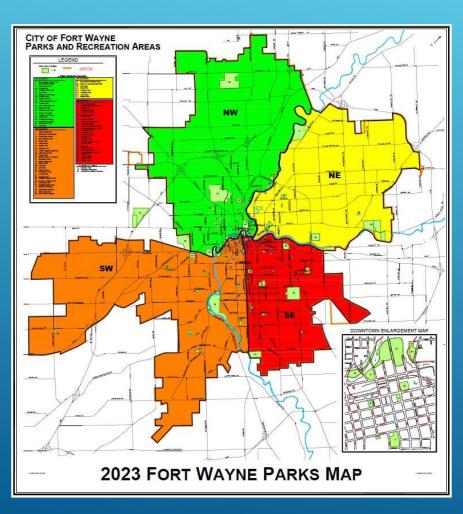
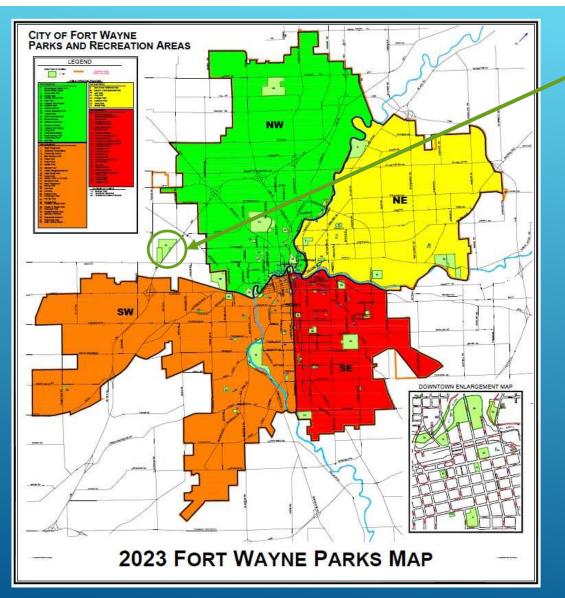
# FORT WAYNE BOARD OF PARK COMMISSIONERS



Parks History and Highlights:

- Buckner Park
- Kettler Park
- Tillman Park





## BUCKNER PARK

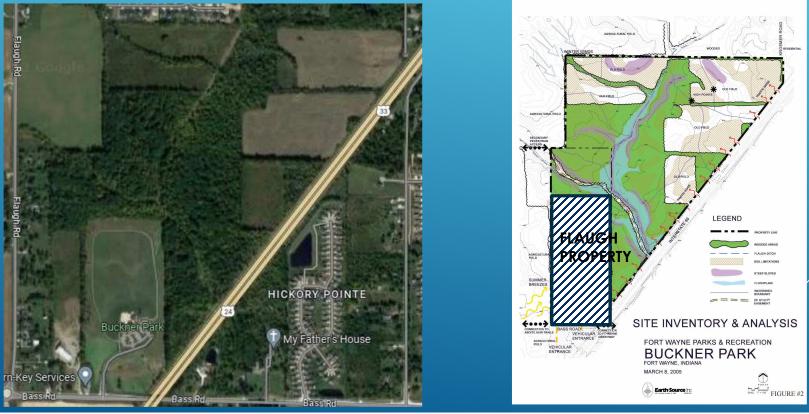
Located outside of the city limits at 6114 Bass Road

## BUCKNER PARK

Since 1969

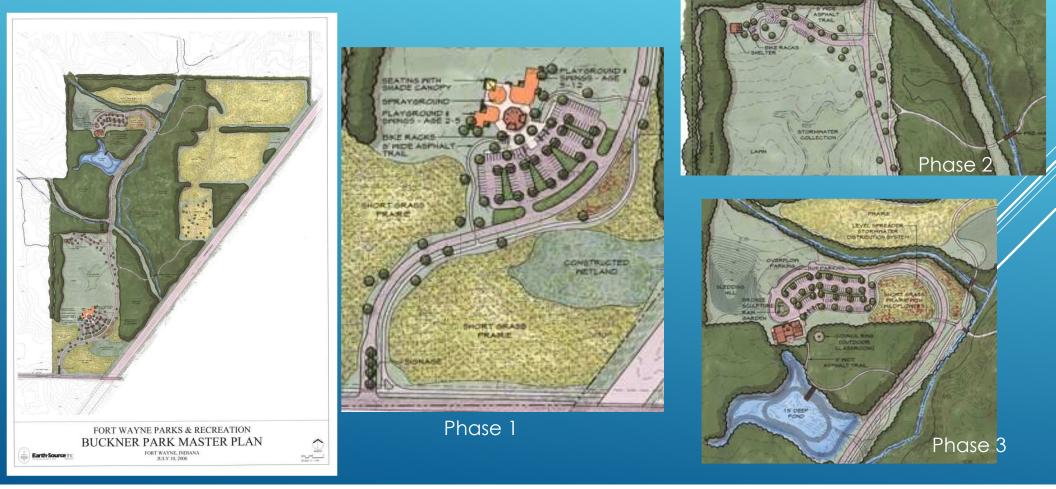
#### Size in Acres: 197.8

History: The initial 150 acres of land was purchased from Marie Buckner in 1969 by the Board of Park Commissioners. It consisted entirely of farm and forest land. For more than thirty years, the property remained in that state. In 2002, with help from a grant from Indiana Department of Natural Resources, another 48 acres was purchased from the Flaugh family, bringing the total to 197.8 acres. The purchase of this property also allowed for access to the site from Bass Road.



## BUCKNER PARK TODAY

In 2006, a master plan was created for the property to help provide guidance for future development of Buckner Park. The plan identified three phases of construction with phase 1, the southernmost portion of the park being completed in 2008.



#### **BUCKNER PARK PHASE 1**

Phase one consists of the construction of a new entry into the park from Bass Road, a constructed wetland, a large covered pavilion, two playgrounds, a splashpad, walking trails, and ample parking. All development within the park follows the direction of the master by trying to utilize and preserve the park's natural resources as much as possible. This is identified in areas such as the wetlands and rain gardens to handle stormwater runoff.



## BUCKNER PARK PHASE 2

Phase Two is a future phase just north of phase 1 that includes additional roadway through the park to the north, to a new rentable pavilion and additional parking. This phase also includes additional walking paths through the park.



#### **BUCKNER PARK PHASE 3**

Phase Three is a future phase that includes additional roadway through the park to the north, to a new nature center building and additional parking. This phase also includes additional walking paths, a sledding hill, and a fishing pond.



## BUCKNER PARK TODAY

The park is mostly nature land with wooded areas, open space, both stone and asphalt walking trails, two open shelter pavilions, restrooms, two playgrounds, and a splashpad. It is very popular with large groups.

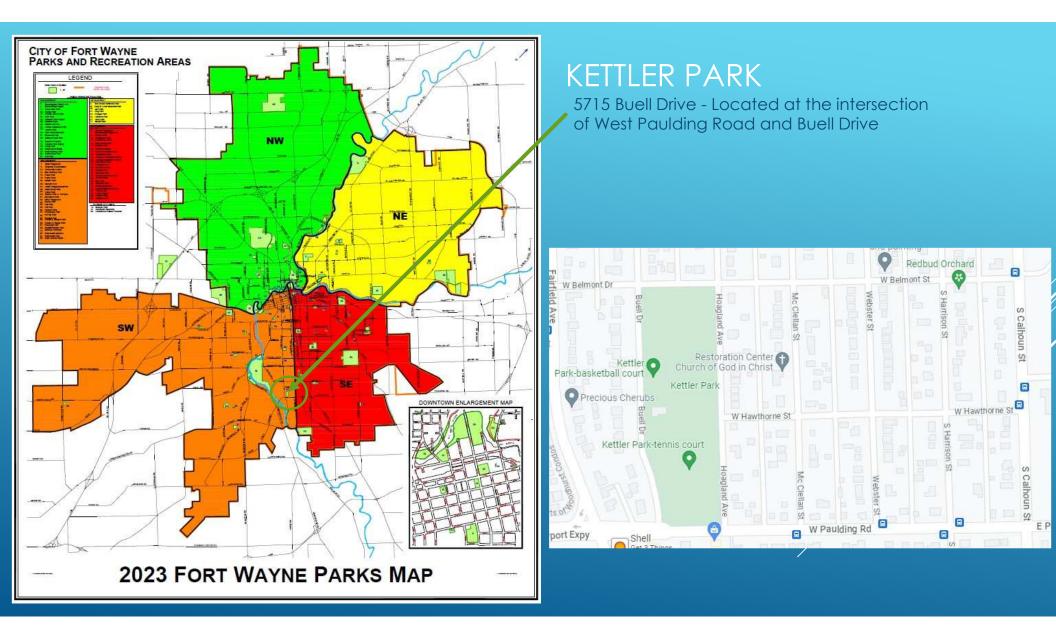


# DR. SUZANNE BUCKNER KNOEBEL

One final acknowledgement to the Buckner Family. In 2014, Dr. Suzanne Buckner Knoebel, a renowned cardiologist and the daughter of the farm's original owners, Marion and Stella Buckner passed away. In her death, she left a donation of \$500,000 to the Board of Park Commissioners for the purpose of maintenance and future programming at Buckner Park.







## KETTLER PARK

#### Since 1947

Size: 6.3 Acres

History: The land for Kettler Park was donated to the city in two parts; the first in 1947 and the second in 1957 by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred W. Kettler. Mr. Kettler was the president of The Indiana Construction Company and was inspirational in the acquisition of land and the development of the Indiana-Purdue Fort Wayne Campus. He served as incorporator and director of the Indiana-Purdue Foundation and member of the IPFW Board of Advisors. The university honored him by naming the first campus building, Kettler Hall after him.

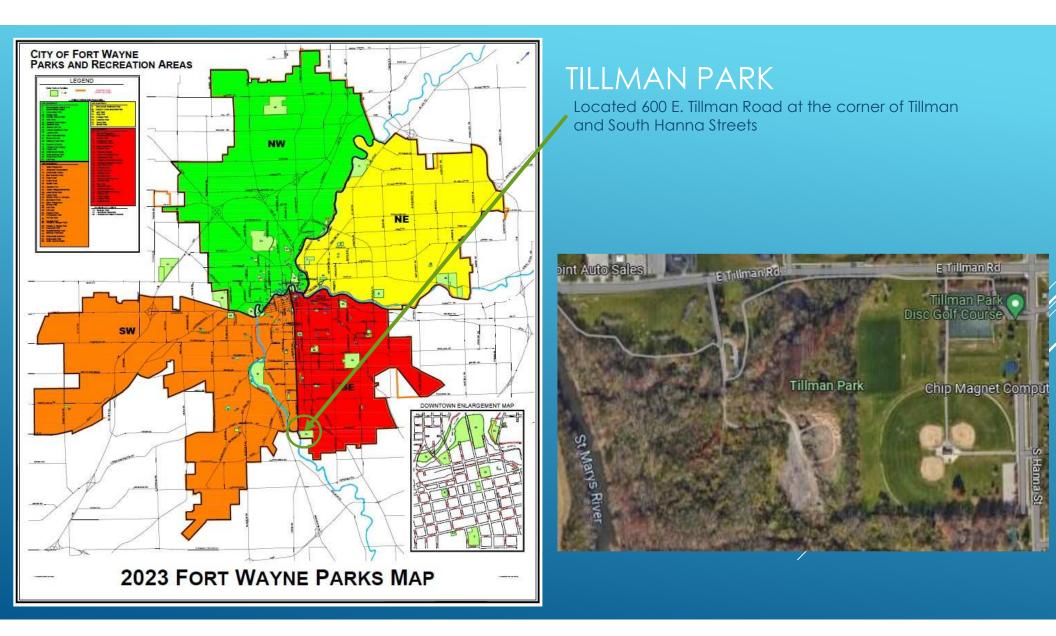




#### KETTLER PARK TODAY

Visitors to the park will find a beautiful historic log-cabin style rental pavilion, a playground, basketball court, a tennis court, four pickleball courts, and ample picnic areas.





#### TILLMAN PARK

The land currently known as Tillman Park was obtained through a land exchange between the City of Fort Wayne and the developer of the former Southtown Mall. The City traded the land just east of the park that the Southtown Mall was built on for the 70 acres of the Tillman property plus additional funds. In that trade, there was enough additional funds collected to purchase 110 acres of land from the Seyfert family, which later was developed into what is now Kreager Park.

Since 1966

Size in Acres: 70.0



#### TILLMAN PARK TODAY

The park is home to the Stewart-McMillen Tennis Center, a championship caliber disc golf course, three baseball diamonds, a children's playground, and connection to the Rivergreenway.





# MUCH MORE TO COME...