



2017

Annual Report





Staff

Administration

Claudine Laufman.....Superintendent
 Jon Miner.....Director of Operations
 Angie Schultz.....Accounting Manager
 Carlynn Smith.....Marketing and Support Services Assistant
 Lindsey Huffman.....Marketing Assistant

Facilities and Grounds

Mike Perry.....Director of Facilities and Grounds
 Ben Taylor.....Assistant Director of Facilities and Grounds
 Don Staley.....Natural Resources and Recreation Planner
 Chip Gutwein.....Building Construction Supervisor
 Jason Spencer.....Aquatics and Equipment Supervisor
 Brian Gregory.....Grounds and Snow Supervisor
 Quinten Smith.....Landscape Supervisor
 John Rhodes.....Maintenance Tech - Building Construction
 Josh Daugherty.....Maintenance Tech - Building Construction
 Todd Daugherty.....Maintenance Tech - Ride Mechanic
 Ryan Frankowski.....General Maintenance
 Ebony Shackelford.....General Maintenance
 Fabienne Doyle.....General Maintenance
 Shannon Kirk.....General Maintenance
 Michael Heinz.....General Maintenance
 Kaelin Kolb.....General Maintenance
 Joey Donnoe.....General Maintenance
 Michael Hudhall.....General Maintenance

Safety and Security

Tom Rankin.....Safety and Security Coordinator
 Skylar Viray.....Assistant Safety and Security Coordinator
 Quintin Oller.....Security Officer
 Haleigh Simpson.....Security Officer

McAllister Recreation Center

Chad Aldridge.....Manager
 Emily Butler.....Assistant Manager
 Tyler Wade.....Program Coordinator
 John Rodenbeck.....Maintenance
 Pat Crumley.....Administrative Assistant
 Cameron Laufman.....Part-time Maintenance

Columbian Park Zoo

Dana Rhodes.....Director
 Noah Shields.....Assistant Director
 Amber Frederick.....Education Director
 Courtney Nave.....Assistant Education Director
 Christopher Pullins.....Marketing Manager
 Heather Woody.....Head Zookeeper
 Kaci Schmidt.....Senior Zookeeper
 Jill Livengood.....Senior Zookeeper
 Lindsay Garagiola.....Senior Zookeeper
 Lisa VanderHoff.....Relief Zookeeper/Accounting Assistant
 Megan Isenbarger.....Relief Zookeeper
 Victoria Roach.....Relief Zookeeper
 Jen Zak.....Registrar
 Bethany Vanfossen.....Accounting and Administrative Assistant
 Jennifer Spence.....Volunteer Coordinator
 Jasmine Peele.....Zoo Educator

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Mayor and City Council

Tony Roswarski.....Mayor
Cindy Murray.....City Clerk
Lauren Ahlersmeyer.....Council Member
Perry Brown.....Council Member
Ronald Campbell.....Council Member
Bob Downing.....Council Member
Lon Heide.....Council Member
Kevin Klinker.....Council Member
Nancy Nargi.....Council Member
Jerry Reynolds.....Council Member
Melissa Williamson.....Council Member

Parks Board

John Ragan.....President
Victor Klinker.....Vice President
Maurie Denney.....Member
Dave Mecklenburg.....Member

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Park Board

The Lafayette Board of Parks and Recreation is the policy making authority for the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department. The Board is composed of four bipartisan members who are appointed by the Mayor to serve staggered four-year terms without compensation.

The 2017 Parks and Recreation Board consisted of John Ragan, President; Victor Klinker, Vice-President; Dave Mecklenburg, Secretary; and Maurie Denney. Staff member Carlynn Smith served as the Board's Recording Secretary. Jacque Chosnek served as Board Attorney for the year.

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department and its Board operate under the provision of the "Indiana Parks and Recreation Law" IC 36-10-3, in accordance with City ordinance.

Minutes from each of the 2017 meetings of the Lafayette Board of Parks and Recreation can be found in the Parks Administrative offices or on the City of Lafayette's web-site.



The 2017 Lafayette Park Board (pictured with IU Health staff member Lynn Nelson - photo taken in October 2016 - and Parks Superintendent Claudine Laufman) - from left - Maurie Denney, Lynn Nelson, Victor Klinker, John Ragan, Dave Mecklenburg, and Claudine Laufman



In April of 2017, the Park Board approved McAllister Park as the new home for Lafayette Jefferson High School's cross country program. Pictured from left - Grant Fisher, LJHS Cross Country Coach, Lafayette Mayor Tony Roswarski, and LJHS Athletic Director Peyton Stovall

Vision

In February 2014, the Board of Parks and Recreation updated and adopted a 5-year comprehensive master plan for the City's park system. Cornerstone Planning and Design coordinated development of the master plan. Citizens of Lafayette were actively involved throughout the planning process. Issues were determined through community-wide citizen input and research and comparison with national standards. The mission statement, vision, and goals for long-term excellence were revalidated. New five-year goals and an action plan were adopted through this dynamic process. The plan will guide the implementation of activities until 2018.

GOALS FOR EXCELLENCE

Human Resources

- A Park Board that provides strong leadership and which fosters cooperation among itself, the Superintendent, the Mayor, and the City Council.
- A qualified, committed Park Staff that is motivated and customer-oriented, whose skills are competitively compensated, and whose achievements are recognized.

Administration and Operations

- An administration that provides good management and that follows adopted plans.
- A consistent set of policies regarding patron use of park property and a price structure that supports maintenance of facilities and programs without denying access to any citizen.

- A Safety and Security program that provides safe facilities to attract and impress the public, gives patrons a sense of security, and reduces vandalism.
- A park system whose appearance is a source of pride, whose facilities are clean, and whose maintenance is guided by a financially sound preventative maintenance program.

Funding and Financial Management

- A long-term financial plan that enables careful financial management; accountability for revenue, spending and public funds; and a capital improvements program.
- Adequate long-term funding that includes a consistent level of tax support, creative new funding sources, and partnerships with businesses and private donors, all supported by the effort of an active Parks Foundation.

Organizational Relationships

- A park system that develops community pride, is user friendly, provides prompt and courteous customer service, and is supported by citizens through public-private partnerships.
- Beneficial government relations through coordination and collaboration with other parks departments, other local government agencies, school corporations, and Purdue University in order to reduce duplication of facilities and programs, better coordinate the provision of infrastructure, and

to share resources, including staff expertise.

Physical Resources and Services

- System-wide improvements that create an inviting family atmosphere at all parks.
- A well-maintained Columbian Park whose facilities and services are responsive to citizen needs and interests.
- An improved zoo that makes adequate provision for the health and safety of all animals.
- Fully-developed river corridor parks that maximize their potential and their location next to the Wabash River.
- A system of neighborhood parks that provides age-appropriate recreation and which are maintained in cooperation with neighborhood associations and residents.
- An improved McAllister Recreation Center staffed to provide high-quality customer service.
- Interesting programs and classes for all ages (with the greatest emphasis on children and teens) that are priced to be self-supporting.

Planning and Growth

- A strong commitment to planning that responds to community desires and results in multi-year plans that can be realistically implemented and funded.
- A park system that provides for growth and new facilities to commensurate with the growth of the city.

Community Needs/Issues

The issues and community needs identified as a result of the planning process are the basis for the Action Plan through 2018:

- Fixing and upgrading Loeb Stadium
- Increase programming for youth and teenagers
- More bike and walking trails
- Continue renovations at the zoo
- Maintain existing facilities

Action and Priority Plan

2017

1. Columbian Park Memorial Island and lagoon renovation
2. Finish Zoo expansion
3. Add 2nd slide at Tropicane Cove
4. Loeb Stadium construction major renovation, new turf
5. Establish maintenance fund for Loeb Stadium
6. ADA compliance improvements
7. Update equipment and facility maintenance plans
8. Staff training and development

9. New trails in conjunction with DPW

2018

1. Five Year Comprehensive Master Plan
2. Review equipment and facility maintenance plans
3. Establish Zoo maintenance fund
4. Staff training and development
5. New trails in conjunction with DPW
6. ADA compliance improvements



Art in the Park



Loeb Stadium Rendering

Facilities

AQUATIC FACILITIES

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department manages nearly 700 acres of park land within the City of Lafayette. Providing and preserving parks and open green space enhances the desirability of the community and contributes to the health and wellness of all Lafayette residents.

The Department also operates many unique facilities, including an award-winning family aquatic center, innovative playground, dog park, premier baseball stadium, zoo, amusement rides, recreation center, a linear trail system, and portions of the Wabash Heritage Trail. These facilities serve as an investment in the future well-being of Lafayette residents, contributing to the overall quality of life and viability of the city.

Vinton Pool Prairie Lane

The renovated Vinton Pool serves north-side neighborhoods. Vinton Pool is configured in a Z-shape and features a beach-like entrance with playful water geysers. The pool also has a double splashdown slide and water basketball hoop. Two large 12-foot umbrellas provide shade to visitors on the deck. Structure improvements include a renovated pool basin and new gutter, filtration, and sanitation systems. The bathhouse was upgraded for accessibility and cosmetic purposes.

The Department manages three family aquatic centers. These outdoor facilities are open during the summer season to serve the aquatic needs of the community.

Tropicane Cove Family Aquatic Center Columbian Park along Main Street

Tropicane Cove helps preserve the aquatic tradition in Columbian Park while meeting the leisure needs of today's families. Features include a large leisure pool with zero-depth entrance, lazy river, water slides, water and sand playgrounds, sand volleyball court, bathhouse, and concession building. The multiple pools are serviced by a state-of-the-art water quality system.



Tropicane Cove

Castaway Bay Armstrong Park along Beck Lane

Opened in July of 2003, Castaway Bay features include a beach-like entry, spray and play areas, geysers, bubble bench, an exuberant play area that can be used for games or exercise, grass area for sunning, open green play space, concessions deck area, and a modern bathhouse.

COLUMBIAN PARK

1915 Scott Street

The “crown jewel” of the Lafayette Park System, Colombian Park, has served the community for over a century. Within Colombian Park, guests can find the Colombian Park Zoo, Loeb Stadium, SIA Playground, Tropicane Cove Aquatic Facility, amusement rides, Colombian Park Express train ride, and various facilities for use to all persons in the community.

Colombian Park Zoo was opened in 1908 and currently houses nearly 190 animals, representing over 90 species. The Zoo was closed from 2004-2007 for renovations and reopened after the completion of several new exhibits. The zoo is still undergoing the implementation of its master plan.

Loeb Stadium, a 3,500-seat baseball stadium, was built in 1940 and is home field to Lafayette Jefferson High School, the American Legion Post-11 League, and 13-and-older Colt League. The stadium annually hosts the Colt World Series and IHSAA tournaments. The stadium is also home to the Prospect League’s Lafayette Aviators. In June of 2017,

the Department announced plans to raze the current Loeb Stadium at the end of the 2019 playing season to make way for a new stadium. The new stadium will be built on the existing site, and the field orientation will be rotated 180 degrees so that home plate will be near the intersection of Main Street and Wallace Avenue. Construction is expected to conclude in 2020.

The SIA Playground provides Lafayette kids and families an exciting and adventurous place to play. The innovative playground is fully accessible and includes distinct areas specifically designed for all ages ranging from tots to adults.

Tropicane Cove Family Aquatic Center continues the long aquatic tradition in the Park while meeting the leisure needs of today’s families. The Cove’s features include a large leisure pool with zero-depth entrance, lazy river, water slides, water and sand playgrounds, sand volleyball court, bathhouse, and concession building.

Colombian Park also features amusement rides with a restored

miniature train and other rides enjoyed by smaller children. These rides have been in the park for decades. A train depot was constructed across from the Zoo’s main entrance to serve as a location to load and unload passengers of the Colombian Park Express. A miniature train display with painted backdrops was added on the interior, and the depot was completed in April of 2014.

Facilities in Colombian Park include the Rush Pavilion, Jenks’ Rest and picnic shelters. Rush Pavilion, which was restored in 1990, was originally built in 1890 and is on the National Register of Historic Places. Jenks’ Rest is adjacent to the lagoon and houses The Center@Jenks’ Rest and the Tippecanoe County Council on Aging. There are 18 picnic shelters throughout the park which patrons enjoy throughout the season. Also within the park is Memorial Island (veterans memorial and amphitheater) and the Boathouse, restored in 1999, which serves as the Parks Administrative Office.

A master plan for Memorial Island was developed in 2015, with Phase I of renovations being completed that year. Phase II of renovations began in 2017. This project included new pedestrian walkways stretching from the parking lot to the middle of the island, new landscaping, and the Rotary Memorial Plaza. Construction on this phase will be completed in early 2018. The rest of the plan will be implemented over the next few years.



Loeb Stadium Rendering

COMMUNITY PARKS

The Department manages eight community parks, one community recreation center, and a linear park trail system. Comprising over 200 acres, these facilities are larger than neighborhood parks to better serve all city residents.

Armstrong Park

9th Street & Beck Lane, 26 acres

The park features three lighted youth baseball fields, five lighted tennis courts, lighted basketball courts, restrooms and concession building, multi-age playground, stocked pond, picnic shelter, and 2/3 mile paved trail. Wildflower prairie areas and a reforested wood lot will continue to mature and enhance the park setting. Armstrong Park is also home to Castaway Bay.

Berlovitz Woods

McCarty Lane & Veterans Memorial Parkway, 20 acres

Berlovitz Woods is currently undeveloped. The site is made up of woods and quality wetland. Future development plans include trails, natural interpretive areas, small playground, picnic areas, and parking. Volunteers regularly work at the site to remove invasive plant and tree species.

CAT Park and Soccer Fields

McCarty Lane, 32 acres

CAT Park and Soccer Fields was developed through a lease between the Department and Caterpillar for use of land south of the facility. CAT Park includes eight irrigated soccer fields of varying sizes, parking, restroom/concession building, and attractive landscaping. Future plans include trails, a playground, and a basketball court.



New playground at McCaw Park

Crosser Sports Complex

2200 Breckenridge Street, 15 acres

In August, the department announced plans for a new softball complex on the south side of Lafayette. Construction began in fall of 2017. The park will include four lighted softball fields, press box/concessions building, restrooms, and parking. Construction will be completed in spring/summer 2018.

McAllister Recreation Center

2351 N. 20th Street, 7 acres

The center is housed in the former Longlois Elementary School and features a gymnasium, community meeting areas, game rooms, weight and fitness areas, open green space, basketball court, picnic shelter, grill, and multi-age playground. The interior of the building was renovated in 2002, and a new gym floor was installed in 2008. In 2016, two new treadmills were purchased and rubber flooring was installed in the mezzanine.

McCaw Park

Union St & Creasy Lane, 26 acres

This park was created through a redevelopment project that included a new fire station. The park is partially wooded and has three lighted youth baseball fields, tot and multi-age playgrounds, lighted pickleball courts, basketball courts, parking, naturalized areas, and two small shelters with grills. A new state-of-the-art playground with poured-in-place rubber surfacing was installed in 2017. Future plans include surfaced trails and woodland restoration.

Munger Park

Greenbush St, between US 52 & Creasy Lane, 32 acres

The park has a double shelter and grills, two public restroom facilities, playground, 1-mile paved trail, acres of wildflowers, dry detention basin, stocked pond, and fishing pier. Future plans include a new shelter, additional trees, and interpretive



Sledding at Murdock Park

signs. Munger Park is an excellent example of sustainable design; mowed turf has been turned into wildflower prairie areas which filter and clean the water run-off. The park and its development were made possible by significant contributions from Cinergy PSI and Thomas and Alice Munger.

Murdock Park

18th Street & Ferry Street, 30 acres
The largest and most forested park within the central city, this park has two shelters, grills, one lighted youth softball field, concession building, restrooms, 0.9-mile interpretive trail, 18-hole disc golf course, multi-age playground, sledding hill (with snow machine), and a lighted basketball court. It is also home to

the new Katy's Cabin, which was completed in 2017. The cabin holds a concession stand for sledders, as well as tube rentals. Future plans include a new master plan for park and amenity enhancements.

Shamrock Park

Wabash Avenue, 11 acres
Redeveloped with Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds, this park has a boat launch ramp, shelter, grill, multi-age and tot playgrounds, lighted half-court basketball courts, lighted roller hockey rink, and open play space. The park is also home to the Shamrock Dog Park, which features three fenced areas for large dogs, an area for smaller dogs, water fountains, and gated entry.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS

The Department manages ten smaller parks that serve smaller neighborhood parks totaling over 15 acres.

Arlington Park

1700 Arlington Road, 1 acre
Located just north of Greenbush Street, this park includes a multi-age playground, picnic shelter, resurfaced and color-coated tennis and basketball court, and open green space and landscaping.

Centennial Park

6th Street & Brown Street, 0.5 acre
Site of a historic marker commemorating its downtown neighborhood, this park features a basic multi-age and tot playground, basketball court, and picnic shelter. Centennial Park serves youth programs sponsored by the YWCA and Lafayette Urban Ministries. The basketball court was resurfaced in 2015.

Hanna Park

18th Street & Hanna Street, 2.2 acres
Located next to the Hanna Community Center, this park includes unique playground equipment for 2-5 and 5-12 year old children, musical chimes, tricycle path, resurfaced basketball court, picnic shelter, and grill. This park has been adopted by the Hanna Neighborhood Association. It serves youth programs sponsored by Hanna Center and Dennis Burton Child Care Center.

Hedgewood Park

Hedgewood Drive & Beverly Lane, 1 acre
Adopted by the Hedgewood Neighborhood Association, this small park is home to a multi-age playground, adult swing, picnic table, park bench, signage, and landscaping. Also, the neighborhood association has

established a neighborhood watch program for Hedgewood Park to ensure that the park is a safe place to play.

Kennedy Park

Sequoia Drive & Beck Lane, 12 acres
The largest of the Department's neighborhood parks is adjacent to Miami Elementary School. It has a basic multi-age playground and soccer field. A master plan is in the future for Kennedy Park.

Linnwood Park

15th Street & Greenbush Street, 0.5 acres
In 2003, Linnwood Park saw many improvements made possible by CDBG funds, LUEA, and the Community Foundation. Linnwood amenities include a multi-age playground, basketball court, shelter and picnic area, attractive trees and landscaping, and a historic looking fence.

North Darby Park

Darby Lane, 0.8 acres

North Darby Park contains a multi-age playground, basketball court, sidewalks and landscaping, and new fencing.

South Tipp Park

3rd Street & Fountain Streets, 0.8 acres

Located next to Bauer Family Resources, this park was completely renovated and dedicated in 2014. This park features a multi-age playground and tot playground, basketball court, rubber surfacing,

and a picnic shelter. The park serves youth programs sponsored by Bauer Family Resources. South Tipp Park has been adopted by the Ellsworth-Romig Neighborhood Association and Bauer Family Resources.

Sterling Heights Park

610 Harrington Drive, 1.8 acres

Located in the Sterling Heights neighborhood on the city's south side, construction was completed in spring 2016. This park features a multi-age playground, swings, and a picnic shelter.

Stockton Park

Erie & Ferry Street, 0.5 acre

Located at the intersection of Erie and Ferry Streets within the Stockton Crossing Neighborhood, this pocket park was inspired and planned with the help of the invested neighborhoods. The park includes green space, shelter with picnic tables, adult swing, spring-rider for small children, drinking fountain and landscaping.



RIVERFRONT PARKS

The Department manages a complex of parks along the Wabash River comprising over 450 acres.

Wabash Heritage Trail

Cooperatively maintained by Lafayette, West Lafayette, and Tippecanoe County Parks Departments, the 13-mile trail travels along the Wabash River and Burnett's Creek. Over two miles of the trail cross the Lafayette Riverfront Parks listed below.

Trailhead Park

North 9th Street
350 acres

This park provides a trailhead for the North 9th Street trail and loop, as well as the Wabash Heritage Corridor. There are 10 parking spaces,

three sheltered picnic tables, kiosk, and drinking fountain. The Trailhead Park features a five-acre native prairie.

Lyboult Sports Park

Canal Road
52 acres

This park is a favorite destination for sporting enthusiasts. Amenities include three lighted adult softball fields, sheltered horseshoe courts, basketball courts, sand volleyball courts, picnic areas, and a public restroom facility.

McAllister Park

North 9th Street
350 acres

This park, which was built in 1971 and is the former home to the La-

fayette Golf Course, is adjacent to the Wabash Heritage Trail and has wildlife and natural viewing areas. The site lies within the flood plain and floods periodically. Flood control improvements were finished in 1999. A pump was installed in 2006 to aid in removing water in the event of a flood. McAllister Park is no longer being mowed, resulting in a natural trail system.

Environmental Interpretive Area

North 9th Street & US 52
44 acres

Located north of US 52 along the Wabash Heritage Trail, this wooded site is undeveloped and consists largely of high quality wetland.

Administration

Since December of 2013, Claudine Laufman has served as Superintendent of Parks and Recreation. Jon Miner has served as the Director of Operations for Lafayette Parks and Recreation since December of 2013. Under their leadership, the Parks administration and staff team have worked together to best serve the leisure needs of Lafayette citizens in accordance with the Department's Mission.

ORGANIZATION

The Department is comprised of the following divisions: Administrative Services, Park Operations, Aquatics, Columbian Park Zoo, and McAllister Recreation Center. During 2017, there were 35 full-time positions, 11 part-time and temporary, and approximately 200 seasonal employees.

COORDINATION WITH OTHER CITY DEPARTMENTS

Strong inter-departmental working relations have been established, especially with Human Resources, Street, Fleet Maintenance, Water and Sewer, Engineering, Legal Services, Purchasing, Controller's Office, Community and Redevelopment, Police, Fire, and Information Technology. The Engineering Staff reviews all development plans. Purchasing is coordinated with the City's department. Financial accounting is through the City's system.

Park Operations

This division is responsible for park and facility maintenance, trails, urban forestry, natural resources, city beautification, capital development and improvement, risk management, and safety and security.

Park Operations in 2017	
Managers	Jon Miner (Director of Operations) Mike Perry (Director of Facilities and Grounds) Thomas Rankin (Safety and Security Coordinator)
Key Personnel Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quintin Oller was hired as Security Officer in January Haleigh Simpson was hired as Security Officer in January Valerie Berry resigned as Assistant Security Coordinator in March Skylar Viray was promoted to Assistant Security Coordinator in March Brad Hudspeth left Maintenance in July Joey Donnoe was hired for Maintenance in December

Administrative Services

This division is responsible for financial accounting, fiscal planning, purchasing, data and record management, clerical and office services, marketing, public information, and customer service.

Administrative Services in 2017	
Managers	Angie Schultz (Accounting Manager)
Key Personnel Changes	• None

McAllister Recreation Center

This division is responsible for operating McAllister and providing and overseeing a variety of recreational activities for the citizens of Lafayette.

McAllister Recreation Center in 2017	
Managers	Chad Aldridge (Manager)
Key Personnel Changes	• None

Columbian Park Zoo

This division is responsible for operating the Zoo, providing educational programming, operating amusement rides and raising funds for the renovation process.

Columbian Park Zoo in 2017	
Managers	Dana Rhodes (Director)
Key Personnel Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lindsay Garagiola was hired as a Senior Zookeeper in January.• Christopher Pullins was hired full-time as Zoo Marketing Manager in June in cooperation with Friends of Columbian Park Zoo.

Aquatics

This division is responsible for aquatics and concessions. Continuing with seasonal employment trends, the aquatics area hired:

- 20 Management staff (for various areas)
- 73 Pool lifeguards
- 13 Cash Office personnel
- 26 Concessions workers

STAFF

The recent accomplishments of the Department could not have been achieved without the tremendous reservoir of talent within the staff. The organization's philosophy and commitment to training have been instrumental in developing a staff that is dedicated to the Mission and empowered to help achieve it.

Twenty-three staff members hold undergraduate degrees. Several staff members have been certified in many specialties. We have six certified playground inspectors, three certified aquatics facility operators, nine certified pool operators, two certified pesticide applicators, and fifteen certified pesticide technicians. One staff member serves on the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation Board.



COLLABORATION

The Department continued to work collaboratively with governmental agencies, local organizations, and area businesses to better serve the citizens of Lafayette.

Organizations that the Department worked closely with in 2017 include:

- American Red Cross
- Community Appearance Task Force
- Community and Family Resource Center
- Downtown Business Center
- Friends of Columbian Park Zoo
- Friends of Downtown
- Greater Lafayette Commerce
- Dog Park Association of Greater Lafayette
- Greater Lafayette Convention and Visitors Bureau
- Hanna Community Center
- Indiana Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division and Outdoor Recreation Division
- Indiana Urban Forest Council
- Lafayette Adult Resource Academy
- Lafayette Colt Tournaments
- Lafayette School Corporation
- Tree Lafayette
- Lafayette Parks Foundation
- Lafayette Urban Enterprise Association
- Lafayette Volunteer Bureau
- Leadership Lafayette
- Lyn Treece Boys and Girls Club
- Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners
- Purdue University
- Tippecanoe County Health Department
- Tippecanoe County Historical Association
- Tippecanoe County Parks and Recreation
- Tippecanoe County Public Library
- Wabash Center
- Wabash River Enhancement Corporation
- West Lafayette Parks and Recreation

The Department has developed a positive relationship with Purdue University and frequently works with the following:

- Veterinary School
- Health and Kinesiology
- Restaurant, Hotel, Institutional, and Tourism Management
- Forestry
- Cooperative Extension
- Agronomy
- Landscape Architecture
- Communication
- College of Engineering EPICS Program
- Career Services

The Department maintains reciprocal agreements with Lafayette School Corporation and Lafayette Catholic Schools for use of sports and educational facilities. Other sports-related agreements are held with the following:

- Lafayette Youth Baseball
- Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance
- Greater Lafayette Girls Softball League
- Wabash Disc Golf Club
- Greater Lafayette Tennis Association
- Lafayette Area Softball Association
- Lafayette Horseshoe Club
- Lafayette, IN Pickleball Association

Collaborative efforts with the Parks and Recreation Departments from West Lafayette and Tippecanoe County and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources have allowed the four departments to better serve the recreational needs of all residents in the Greater Lafayette community. All four agencies continue to work together to develop a system of parks and recreation spaces along the Wabash River stretching from Prophetstown State Park to Fort Ouiatenon.



FIVE YEAR MASTER PLAN

The City of Lafayette Parks and Recreation Board's 2014-2018 Five-Year Comprehensive Master Plan was created by utilizing the Lafayette community's input and involvement. Community involvement occurred in several different facets including public meetings, on-line surveys, meetings with community leaders, meetings with staff, mail-in comments from the local newspaper, e-mail comments, and review of other community planning documents.

The 2014-2018 Master Plan was created by reevaluating the goals which were identified in the 2009-2013 and assessing the priorities of the Lafayette citizens, as well as reviewing how the Lafayette community has changed in the last five years and how it is expected to change in the next ten years. The 2014-2018 Master Plan includes an assessment of the current state of the Board and Department and a review of the history of the past five years. It also includes an evaluation of the actions and accomplishments since the last five year plan was adopted. The 2014-2018 Master Plan was adopted by the Park Board on February 10, 2014.

Finance and Funding

A goal of the Department has been to create a self-sustaining system. This can be achieved through a combination of efficient operation, improved revenue generating activities, and public-private partnerships. The basic elements for attaining an efficient operation include an excellent preventative

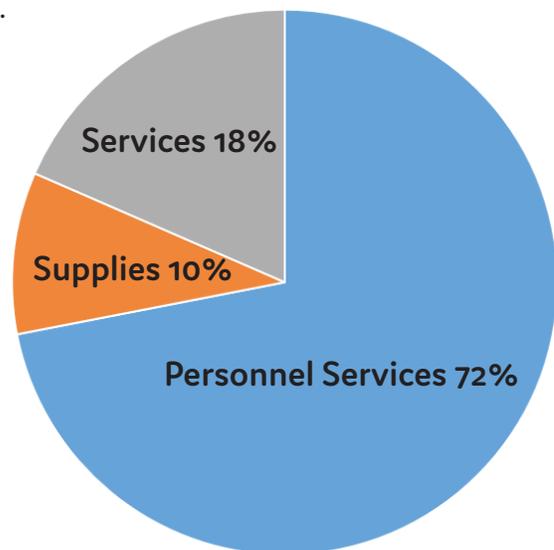
maintenance program and the ability to monitor and track all expenses and revenue. An annual budget is developed for the Department's general fund, which is supported by property taxes. The non-reverting operating and the non-reverting capital funds are for self-supported services. The general fund provides

tax support for basic, fundamental services. The non-reverting operating fund enables the Department to offer a variety of self-supporting programs such as Zoo education, day camps, and Tropicanoe Cove. The non-reverting capital fund also provides the Department with the ability to plan for the future.

GENERAL FUND BUDGET

The 2017 annual general fund appropriation was \$3,811,356.65.

Category	Amount
Personnel Services	\$2,741,825.80
Supplies	\$365,983.64
Services	\$703,547.21
TOTAL	\$3,811,356.65

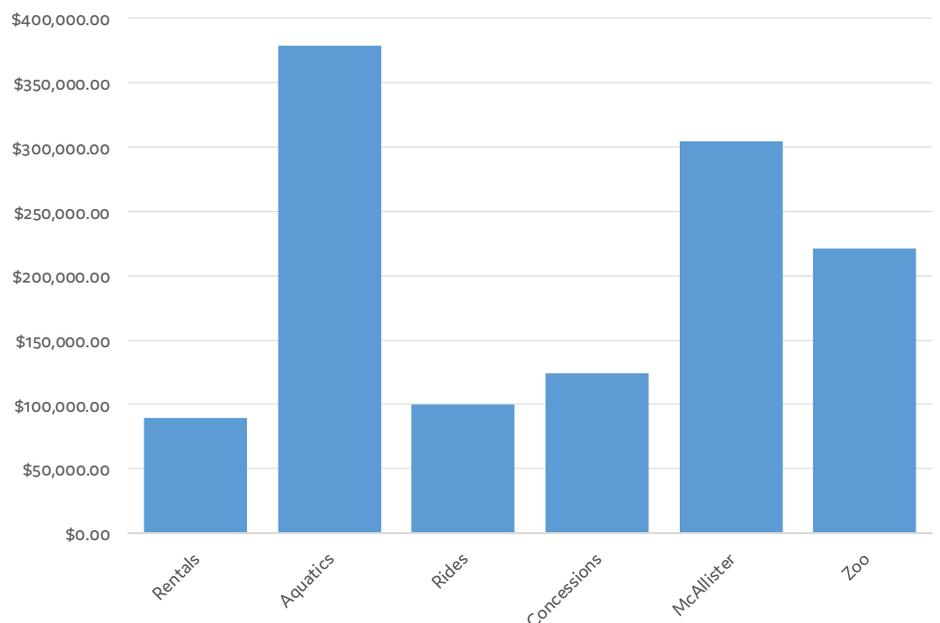


PROGRAM REVENUE

Following is an itemization of total revenue generated by the Department in 2016 for programs and services:

Aquatics	\$378,585.60
Rides	\$99,549.49
Concessions	\$123,880.32
Rentals	\$89,364.00
Zoo	\$221,104.12
McAllister	\$304,235.47
TOTAL	\$1,209,434.37

2017 Program Revenue



SPONSORSHIPS AND CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

Sponsorships and corporate partnership opportunities in 2017 through the Lafayette Parks Foundation provided the Department with added funding. The impact of these programs is highly visible. The Kids Can Scholarship Fund, sponsored by donations from area organizations and individuals, enabled

area youth to participate in Parks and Recreation activities at little or no cost.

The Workreation program, linked closely to the Kids Can Scholarship Fund, entered its nineteenth summer in 2017. The program provides an opportunity for youth to per-

form various volunteer functions in a supervised setting at a park facility. Each participant is rewarded with a Kids Can Pass for each hour of work. A Kids Can Pass can be used for admission to any of the aquatic facilities, amusement rides, or registration fees for McAllister Center or Columbian Park Zoo programs.



McALLISTER RECREATION CENTER PARTNERSHIPS

The McAllister Recreation Center has developed partnerships with several area organizations and individuals who assist with the Departments' quality programs.

- The Lafayette School Corporation/Jefferson H.S.
- Jamie West and West Active Dance
- Greater Lafayette Tennis Association Inc.
- The United Way of Greater Lafayette
- Lafayette Kiwanis Foundation
- Lafayette Fire Department
- Indiana Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR)
- Purdue University Engineering Education
- Mid-North Chapter of Fishing Has No Boundaries
- City Bus
- St. Lawrence/McAllister Neighborhood Association
- Dave and Jill Howell
- Payless Supermarkets
- Market Square Lanes
- McAllister Foundation
- Star Lanes
- Mike Alby's Arrowhead Bowl
- Hoosier Academies
- I.U. Health
- Duke Energy
- Voiture 40/8
- Harrison College
- Meijer
- Hammer Donuts
- Safe Choices
- Daybreak Rotary
- Tippecanoe Tornadoes
- Lausch Photography
- Visit Lafayette/West Lafayette-Visitors Bureau
- Velocity Sound
- Fresh City Market
- L Kora
- VCA Animal Hospital
- Kona Ice
- MedExpress Urgent Care
- Wabash Landing 9
- All Fired Up
- Big Bounce Company
- Arni's
- Landmark Lanes



Improvements

The following improvements were made in the Lafayette Park system during 2017:

ARMSTRONG PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Cleared invasive species from woods along the south side of the Park
- Removed invasive species along Linear Trail
- Pruned dormant trees and shrubs
- Installed (3) new LED scoreboards on baseball fields
- Installed new drinking fountain with hydration station bottle filler
- Repaired chain link fence around all baseball fields
- Added new limestone around dugouts and bleachers of baseball fields
- Painted dugouts (completed by volunteer group and park maintenance)
- Painted parking lot closure gate and trash can posts
- Installed replacement slide on playground (after first was damaged by vandalism)
- Overseeded all three baseball fields

CASTAWAY BAY

- Installed air conditioning unit in First Aid room
- Painted splash pad
- Painted interior of bathrooms, first aid room and ticket office
- Painted doors and trim on building
- Stained new deck built in 2016
- Installed signage for designated eating area on deck
- Overseeded sun bathing hillside



Armstrong Park Trail

CAT PARK

- Painted entrance gates and trash can posts
- Installed LED security lights on concession building
- Painted exterior doors on concession building

CENTENNIAL PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Replaced drinking fountain damaged by vandalism
- Added new landscape plants
- Power washed all concrete sidewalks

COLUMBIAN PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Replaced 2 grill around shelters
- Installed new decorative urns on Rush Pavilion porch
- Stained Rush deck
- Painted fountain in triangle outside zoo entrance
- Painted street closure gate at

corner of Park Avenue and Wallace Avenue

- Relocated a memorial bench onto paver pad outside zoo entrance
- Converted annual flower bed to roses and crabapple tree
- Installed Little Library near SIA Playground
- Removed aging playground equipment in pre-school section of SIA Playground
- Purchased (4) new playground pieces for SIA Playground
- Memorial Island Phase II project
- Installed (1) Tree of Life Memorial tree
- Removed (3) dead Ash trees
- Installed (1) tree in Jenks Rest parking lot damaged by accident
- Replaced 300' of train track
- Rebuilt trim and fascia on purple shelter
- Installed new grinder pump in Boathouse
- Overseeded Loeb Stadium base-

ball field

- Installed WiFi station at zoo train depot
- Installed new wood blinds in Boat-house

COLUMBIAN PARK ZOO

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Seeded wallaby exhibit
- Repaired monkey holding area
- Created new plastic ventilation doors for Animal House
- Installed new storage shelves in gift shop mechanical room

CROSSER SPORTS COMPLEX

- Started construction on new (4) field softball complex

HEDGEWOOD PARK

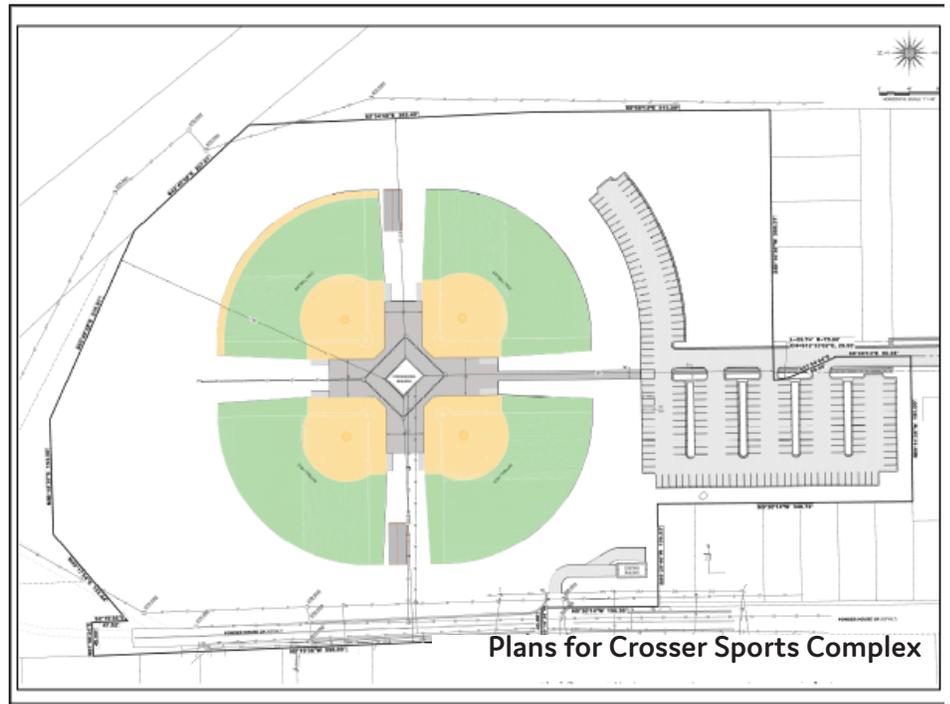
- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Continued invasive plant species control

HANNA PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Installed Little Library

LINNWOOD PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Replaced play piece damaged by vandalism



- Replaced (1) tree damaged by vandalism

LYBOULT SPORTS PARK

- Installed new field identification signs and field distance signs
- Installed gates at all field access points
- Repaired all chain link fences around softball fields
- Removed tree and pruned along foul line and home run fences

McALLISTER RECREATION CENTER

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Pruned dormant trees and shrubs
- Installed new trees and landscape in front of building
- Installed washer and dryer
- Installed new back boards in gym

McALLISTER PARK

- Removed invasive species removal at entrance and along Wabash Heritage Trail (completed by volunteer group)
- Widened mowing paths around all trails and exposed more usable green space
- Painted entrance gates

McCAW PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Removed invasive species from retention basin
- Installed arborvitae trees to screen dumpster location
- Rebuilt fascia on baseball dugouts
- Installed new 11,200 sq. ft. playground with Pour-in-Place rubber surfacing
- Installed new sidewalks to shelter and playground



- Installed (2) new drinking fountains with hydration station bottle filler
- Installed new building for Pickleball equipment storage

MUNGER PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Removed invasive species from native prairies and retention basin
- Installed new push/pull locks on bathroom doors
- Pruned dormant trees and shrubs
- Rebuilt pond fountain
- Installed new drinking fountain with hydration station bottle filler

MURDOCK PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Removed invasive species from park
- Repaired broken split rail fence
- Installed (6) new concrete disc golf tee pads
- Installed new pedestrian boardwalk (completed by Eagle Scout)
- Completed construction of Katy's Cabin
- Pruned dormant trees and shrubs
- Painted and numbered all disc golf

- tee pad posts
- Painted parking lot swing gates
- Removed (2) dead ash trees

SHAMROCK PARK

- Added Playground Safety Mulch
- Repaired stadium lights around roller hockey court
- Reseeded (1) section of dog park
- Replaced basketball backboard damaged by vandalism
- Planted new trees along parking lot fence

SOUTH TIPP PARK

- Installed Little Library
- Repaired water mister

STERLING HEIGHTS

- Added Playground Safety Mulch

TROPICANOE COVE

- Painted lazy river
- Installed new Virginia Graeme Baker drain covers
- Installed insulation in concession building
- Installed air conditioning unit in concession building
- Painted pumps and water feature

- Painted outside decorative columns of building
- Replaced broken section of white vinyl fence outside locker rooms
- Repaired irrigation system

VINTON NEIGHBORHOOD POOL

- Painted entire pool floor and sides
- Installed new water slide
- Repaired concrete on pool deck
- Painted bathroom walls and ceilings
- Installed new pedestrian sidewalks along Prairie Lane

PROJECTS WITHIN THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE (with assistance from the Parks Department)

- Delivered tables to various events throughout the year
- Removed stumps and filled them with soil throughout the City of Lafayette
- Celebrated Arbor Day with tree plantings along Linear Trail with Tree Lafayette
- Removed invasive species from and seeded Riverfront Promenade with Street Department



Safety and Security

The primary objective of the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department's Safety and Security Program is to maintain an environment throughout our many recreational and natural areas that ensures all of our guests are able to enjoy their experience. To promote safety throughout the many facilities, security staff members patrol all parks, enforce park rules, inspect areas for unsafe conditions and/or behaviors, monitor special events and reservations, and secure all buildings and restrooms. The security staff works closely with the Lafayette Police Department when special circumstances arise.

Park Security staff members participate in many hours of training to gain the necessary skills to perform their jobs effectively. This training addresses a variety of situations and the appropriate actions to take in response to them. Some of the training topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- severe weather alerts
- working with the emotionally disturbed and de-escalation techniques
- CPR
- patrol techniques
- public safety and public health rules of the Lafayette Parks Department
- numerous Lafayette Municipal Codes and Ordinances
- responding to emergency medical situations; EMS radio procedures; first responder check list
- operation and care of city vehicles
- accident investigation
- dealing with criminal disturbance

- situations
- sex offenders
- Amber Alert procedures
- gang recognition
- active shooter training
- investigating and locating lost children

The Department's Safety and Security Program is responsible for several procedures that are performed throughout the year. Some of these tasks include the following:

- Update Material Safety Data Sheets with all of the latest regulations to keep the department in compliance
- Walk through all park property to ensure that OSHA regulations are in compliance
- Update key inventory to stay current with new employees and those who leave
- Update a Confined Space program for Park maintenance employees, including Rescue and Emergency Service Agreement, Hazard Assessment and Identification, and Training and Entry permits
- Inspect fire extinguishers every month and annually
- Clean smoke detectors in each facility twice a year to ensure proper working condition
- Test and clean alarm systems
- Instruct all pool employees on security issues and their responsibilities
- Maintain and update OSHA compliant medical cabinets at Columbian Park, Central Maintenance, McAllister Center, and the former Municipal Golf Course on a monthly basis.
- Inspect and maintain all AED's on a

- monthly basis
- Maintain park security throughout the Colt World Series with assistance of uniformed Lafayette Police Officers and Indiana State Excise Police

The Department's Safety and Security Team filed 182 Incident Reports in 2017 including graffiti/vandalism, medical calls, missing children, and unsecure property. The Security Team also issued 56 trespass warnings with the assistance of Lafayette Police Department and detected 11 trespass warning violations who were then arrested.

Our Safety and Security Team has also begun implementation of a new record keeping system which will allow us to track throughout the year many different safety and security related activities including the number of missing children, medical calls, and arrests happening in each park throughout the City of Lafayette. The goal of this system is to track which parks have the largest volume of calls and reports in order to direct our patrols to ensure efficiency. This system will also allow us to illustrate the issues at each particular park and when the issues are taking place over time.



Maintenance

Maintenance services are provided to all parks and facilities utilizing park staff and contracted services. Lafayette Parks maintains 615 acres (not including the golf course), comprised of:

- 31 acres of sports turf
- 208 acres of general turf
- 73.50 acres of landscape beds, wildflowers, wetlands, and no mow areas
- 12.70 acres of retention ponds

The Park system has:

- 71 structures (including 25 buildings, 12 restroom buildings, 1 barn, 1 amphitheater, 1 stadium, and 30 shelters)
- 42 acres of pavement (including 27 sports courts)
- 26 miles of paved trails
- 18 parking lots
- 15 playgrounds
- nearly 1 mile of fence

Services include turf management, sports field maintenance, playground maintenance, custodial services and trash collection, tree maintenance, snow removal, trail maintenance, landscape and plant bed maintenance, pond maintenance, small equipment and ride maintenance, and custodial services. These services also include routine maintenance and repairs such as electrical, light construction, plumbing, and management of pool water quality.

Certifications include Certified Playground Inspectors, Aquatic Facility Operators, Certified Pool Operators, and Certified Pesticide Applicators. Maintenance also has

members in the following organizations:

- Midwest Regional Turf Foundation
- Professional Grounds Management Association
- Indiana Professional Lawn and Landscape Association
- Sports Field Managers Association

The Maintenance Division cooperates with many civic and community groups, including Lafayette Summer Baseball, Lafayette Aviators, Downtown Business Center, Greater Lafayette Recreational Soccer Alliance, Lafayette Adult

Softball, Greater Lafayette Tennis Association, Lafayette Cloud Jockeys, YWCA, Friends of Downtown, Lafayette Tree Fund, Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners, Dog Park Association of Greater Lafayette, Community Corrections, Lafayette School Corporation, Lafayette Indiana Pickleball Association, Wabash disc golf club and Greater Lafayette Chamber of Commerce.

In 2017, the maintenance area added new equipment including:

- Two John Deere mowers
- Two Scag mowers received replacement engines



Tropicane Cove

Natural Resources

The Natural Resources and Recreation Planning Division is responsible for the following:

- Planning, managing, and supervising park landscape projects
- Hiring and managing Park Landscaping Crews (full-time and seasonal)
- Managing the Adopt-a-Spot and Adopt-a-Median programs
- Managing maintenance contracts for ponds and native prairie plantings on Park & City Land
- Managing maintenance contracts for City Land
- Planning and coordinating volunteer groups, special community events, and projects related to natural resources

Park Landscaping

The Natural Resources Division is responsible for planning and managing park tree planting and landscape projects, city beautification, City Land maintenance, trail maintenance, and park landscape updates and improvements. The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner position falls under the supervision of the Director of Facilities and Grounds and the Assistant Director of Facilities and Grounds. The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner provided oversight of the Landscape Supervisor, Landscape Crews, and Landscape Seasonals on all park maintenance through June, and then managed their efforts on the Memorial Island Phase Two Renovation at Columbian Park.

In January due to security concerns, invasive honeysuckle shrubs were removed to open views into Murdock Park woods from Howarth Center. A significant amount of honeysuckle was also removed from the riverbank along the Wabash Heritage Trail opening up views of the river that had been blocked for many years.

In April, the landscape crew thinned and transplanted perennials to fill empty beds around Loeb Stadium, a cost-effective way to maintain the stadium's appearance until its upcoming reconstruction. Transplanting was also performed to fill in several gaps in plantings at Centennial Park.

On Earth Day April 22nd, the landscape crew managed 60 Comcast volunteers as they installed new landscape plantings at the McAllister Recreation Center entrance, and mulched beds around the facility. Planting beds at the N. 20th Street steps, around the flagpole, and at the front entrance were prepared in advance. Over 350 shrubs, grasses, perennials, and annual flowers were installed by volunteers and the landscape crew.

Tree Lafayette selected Linear Trail as the location for their annual Arbor Day tree planting event on April 29th. This also marked the 25th year that Lafayette was designated a Tree City USA by the National Arbor Day Foundation. Parks Department facilities staff augured all planting holes prior

Adopt-A-Spot and Adopt-A-Median

The Adopt-A-Spot Program is for local businesses, groups and/or organizations that want to maintain already designed and landscaped areas around the City of Lafayette. Many of these Adopt-a-Spots were created through the Railroad Relocation project. In 2017, 11 of the 19 Adopt-a-Spots were maintained by the spots' adoptees and their volunteers. The eight un-adopted Adopt-a-Spots were maintained by the Parks Department's Landscape Crew. The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner conducted monthly inspections of each Adopt-a-Spot site. The Adopt-a-Median Program is a corporate sponsorship program. Most of the Adopt-a-Median sites underwent modification on Sagamore Parkway this year. The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner completed a proposal for both programs identifying three sites for potential inclusion in the Adopt-a-Spot program and 39 landscaped medians that could be added to the Adopt-a-Median program.

to the event and provided tools, tents, tables, chairs, water truck, and trash pickup during the event. Dozens of people worked to plant 71 trees that will shade and beautify Linear Trail between S. 9th and S. 18th Streets.

Eleven replacement trees were also planted by the landscape crew at Centennial Park, Linwood Park,

McAllister Recreation Center, Jenks Rest parking lot, Kennedy Park, and Shamrock Park.

The landscape crew prepared planting beds for the Master Gardeners' annual Mother's Day planting on May 2nd at Columbian Park. The landscape crew installed annual flowers in over 70 planters and beds at Columbian Park, and assisted Tippecanoe County Veterans Council President Tim Hilton planting annual flowers on Memorial Island. In total, over 3,800 annual flowers were installed and maintained throughout the entire summer to provide a beautiful "wow factor" for park visitors. The landscape crew prepared 25 planters at the John T. Myers Pedestrian Bridge where Master Gardeners installed 104 annual flowers. The division also provided 600 annual flowers that lifeguards planted in pots at Tropicanoe Cove, Castaway Bay, and Vinton Pool.

In April, the landscape crew repaired and relocated a memorial bench to the west end of the Columbian Park triangle. In a con-



New landscaping at McCaw Park

tinued effort to beautify that area of Columbian Park, a decorative concrete paver base was created beneath the bench, 60 rose shrubs and a flowering crabapple tree were installed.

Under the direction of the Natural Resources and Recreation Planner, the landscape crew mechanically edged mulch beds at Armstrong, Columbian, and Munger parks in order to make the park landscapes

more attractive and to consolidate adjacent beds for more efficient mowing. With the aid of summer seasonal employees, the landscape crew spread 1,000 cubic yards (14 semi loads) of mulch throughout the parks and along trails. Their efforts reduced weed growth and minimized mowing damage to trees and shrubs.

A new playground at McCaw Park gave the landscape crew a perfect opportunity to add additional landscape beds around the playground and shelter area. The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner's design created four separate planting beds and utilized shrubs, grasses, perennials, and boulders to create year-round seasonal interest. Specific plants were selected to tolerate the poorly drained soils and potential errant foot traffic from kids.

The landscape crew also added five evergreen trees and a number of grasses and perennials to screen the dumpster enclosure near the McCaw Park baseball diamonds.



Memorial Bench at Columbian Park

City Land

In 2017, Brightview was awarded the maintenance contract for city land. One of the biggest tasks they completed was mulching all city land plant beds in the early spring. Mowing, weeding, spraying, pruning, and trash removal were also performed throughout the year.

The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner managed the acquisition and installation of landscape plants for the Memorial Island Phase Two renovation at Columbian Park in the fall. The landscape and mowing crews along with several volunteer groups planted and mulched over 3,000 trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials, and

FUN FACT

Over 13,000 flowers were planted in downtown Lafayette in 2017!

installed 8,500 square feet of sod. The effort was coordinated with the construction of new decorative walks, utility relocations, benches, flagpoles, and lighting.

The Natural Resources and Recreation Planner completed a design for a Pollinator Garden at McAllister Recreation Center. The design included 350 trees, shrubs, grasses, and perennials, and will support the City's commitment to the Mayor's Monarch Challenge by incorporating a number of plants essential for the survival of the Monarch Butterfly.

Throughout the year, the Natural Resources and Recreation Planner consulted with the Executive Director of the Wabash River Enhancement Corporation on riverbank plant management for

To continue the beautification of city-owned land, Brightview installed 50 new street trees in medians on N 9th Street and Fannon Drive. Rug junipers were removed from landscape beds along Main St. and relocated to a steep slope at Lafayette Police Department Training Center to aid in reducing erosion on the hillside.

the Promenade currently under construction immediately south of Riehle Plaza. In October, the Natural Resources and Recreation Planner worked with Lafayette Street Department and Parks Department staff during the removal of invasive trees and shrubs along the riverbank. During the following months, preparations were made for seeding the riverbank with low stature native grasses and forbs and installing erosion preventative for the winter months.

Downtown Streetscape

The Director of Facilities and the Natural Resources and Recreation Planner assisted the Economic Development Department reviewing the installation of plant material at the new downtown streetscape improvements on Main Street between 5th and 8th streets. After the project was substantially complete, pansies were added at street corners followed by recommended plant modifications that were installed by the City Land Maintenance Contractor.

Volunteer Groups

Volunteer groups provide a vital service in helping complete projects in the City of Lafayette. Dr. Bill Hoover provided countless hours of work clearing invasive plants and performing timber stand improvement at Berlovitz Woods. He also advised Purdue

Downtown Planters and Municipal Buildings

The Department is responsible for maintaining 79 downtown planters, 170 hanging baskets, and plantings at City Hall and the City Parking Garage. To enhance the downtown experience and celebrate the seasons with a pop of color, the downtown planters underwent a plant change four



Downtown Planter

times during the year. Planting began in early spring with multi-colored pansies, and then transitioned to canna-topped compositions of summer flowers designed by the Natural Resources and Recreation Planner. The summer also brought the addition of 170 hanging baskets of multi-colored petunias to downtown streetlight poles. In the fall, summer flowers were replaced with cooler temperature fall compositions of ornamental kale and pansies. For the winter months, the planters were adorned with evergreen cuttings, colorful berries and twigs, and festive decorative inserts. Over 13,000 annual flowers were planted in the downtown planters, at City Hall, and at the City Parking Garage in 2017.



Brightview volunteers with our landscaping crew

Forestry students who assessed the site and made recommendations for its management. Ron Overton and Dave Banes continued volunteering to clear invasive plants from North Ninth Street Trailhead Park and the Wabash Heritage Trail. The Lafayette Cloud Jockeys continued their support of the Lafayette Parks Department by mowing and clearing invasive plants around their airstrip at McAllister Park. Wabash Disc Golf Club continued their years of volunteer support by assisting with mowing of the disc golf course located at McAllister Park, and providing maintenance recommendations for the course at Murdock Park woods.

The McCutcheon boys swim team spent a cold January day helping remove invasive plants at North Ninth Street Trailhead Park. LDS Church volunteers performed spring cleanup activities at Armstrong Park in March. In April, volunteers from Circle K International spread mulch at the triangle and train depot at Columbian Park,

Comcast volunteers helped plant and mulch at McAllister Recreation Center, and volunteers from Dassault Systems helped clear trash from the Wabash Heritage Trail. In May, the Tippecanoe County Master Gardeners and the Tippecanoe County Veteran's Council planted flowers at Columbian Park, and Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority members spread Fibar mulch at SIA Playground. Second Presbyterian Church Ministries cleaned up trash along the Wabash Heritage Trail in June. At the end of September, Alpha Phi Omega students kicked off planting and mulching for the Memorial Island Phase Two Renovation at Columbian Park. At the end of October, Purdue Day of Service volunteers removed invasive plants along Linear Trail. In November, Alpha Phi Omega returned to mulch at the Memorial Island Phase Two project, and BrightView employees volunteered to install plants on two occasions. These 278 volunteers contributed over 900 man-hours of labor to the parks department in 2017.

Tree of Life Program

Three shade trees were donated to the parks in 2017 through the Tree of Life Memorial Program. Through the generosity of donors, a Ginkgo tree was planted near the train depot at Columbian Park and two Swamp White Oak trees were planted near the new McCaw Park playground. Honorees were recognized by having their names engraved on individual leaves on the Tree of Life memorial located at the Parks Department administrative office in Columbian Park.

Pond and Native Prairie Plantings

Lafayette Parks Department oversaw the annual maintenance of the native prairie plantings within the Lafayette Parks. They routinely sprayed, removed invasive species, collected trash, and maintained the general appearance of these areas. ASAP Aquatics oversaw the annual maintenance of the three ponds located within Lafayette Parks: Columbian Park, Munger Park and Armstrong Park.



Alpha Phi Omega volunteers

Aquatics

The Aquatics Division includes all the aquatic facilities and concessions in the parks department. The aquatics division consists of seasonal employees.

The department has three primary goals for the Aquatics Division. These goals are impeccable customer service, improved staff training and improvements to appearance at all three aquatic facilities. The driving factor in all three goals is to improve the overall experience for our aquatic patrons and to increase employee retention for future years.

Over 185 interviews were conducted in February, and season employee paperwork for the hired 142 employees was completed in April. All Aquatics Division employees went through extensive training prior to the beginning of the season. These training sessions focused on all aspects of our aquatic facilities. To better prepare our lifeguard staff, the Department had three certified Lifeguard Instructors (LGIs) on staff for the 2017 season. These LGI's can train and certify prospective lifeguards. The department held its second annual Lifeguard Certification Course at Lafayette Jefferson High School in April. The LGIs also implemented a recertification course for the department's lifeguards. During the course of the season, the LGIs certified or recertified 19 lifeguards. In addition, the LGIs helped plan and lead our continuing education in-service training sessions throughout the season to ensure that our lifeguards are



McAllister campers enjoying Tropicanoe Cove

the best equipped and trained lifeguards possible.

The LGIs also assisted the McAllister Recreation Center in training and certifying the camp counseling staff in CPR/First Aid/AED prior to summer camp. In 2017 over 20 counselors were trained and certified by the LGI staff.

The guest relations and food and beverage staff were provided with extensive customer service and food preparation training to make sure that the needs of our aquatic patrons were met in a timely and friendly fashion. As a result of the renewed focus on customer service and training, the Aquatics Division staff performed at a high level throughout the summer, and our lifeguard staff was the best trained and equipped staff possible.

Improvements to all three aquatic facilities continued in 2017. All

three facilities received fresh paint, both in the buildings and in the actual pools. At Tropicanoe Cove, the maintenance staff installed new insulation and an air conditioning unit in the Cove Cafe. At Castaway Bay, Parks maintenance staff installed an air conditioning unit in the First Aid Room. A new water slide was installed at Vinton Pool.



Ready for the Lazy River

Tropicanoe Cove

Tropicanoe Cove was in operation for 79 days during the 2017 season. The pools were closed for seven days due to weather. Attendance for the 2017 season was 60,501, with an average daily attendance of 765.8 persons (a 0.01% decrease over 2016). The highest day attendance for Tropicanoe Cove was 2,220 on August 12.

Temperatures for the 2017 season were slightly lower than historical averages for the Lafayette area. The historical average temperature for the summer months in Lafayette is

84 degrees; the average temperature in 2017 was 81.8 degrees. There were only two days with a temperature over 90 degrees.

Season Passes continued to be a popular item with 429 passes sold during the 2017 season. The Cove hosted 30 Birthday Parties during the 2017 season.

Tropicanoe Cove remained dedicated to serving the leisure needs of the community. Non-profit groups took advantage of reduced admission prices available to them at the facility. Thanks to the Kids Can Scholarship Fund administered by

the Lafayette Parks Foundation, 377 passes were handed out to Workreation participants.

The water walking program continued in 2017 with two classes being offered in the morning and two classes in the evening. 45 water walking season passes were sold in 2017, and a total of 2,647 people participated in the program.

Tropicanoe Cove continued special events including: Father's Day Fun, Grandparent's Day, Military Appreciation, Mom's Day, and BFF Day (Best Friends Forever).



Concessions

Swimming brings on a hearty appetite, but you won't go hungry at the Cove Cafe. The 2017 Cove Cafe menu included Arni's Pizza 7" and 14", breadsticks, salads, hot dogs, nachos, pretzels, popcorn, cookies, walking tacos, ICEE products, a variety of ice cream novelties, fruit smoothies, French fries, and chicken strips. IttyBitz ice cream (five flavor choices were available) was the top seller at the Cove Cafe in 2017, followed by hot pretzels, hot dogs, and fruit smoothies.

Castaway Bay and Vinton Pool

Total attendance at Castaway Bay was 12,272 for 65 operational days with an average daily attendance of 188.8 people (a 13% decrease from 2016). Season Passes continued to be a big hit with 240 passes being sold during the 2017 season.

Swimming lessons through the Swim America program continued in 2017 with four sessions being offered in the morning and three sessions being offered in the evening.

The aquatics department intro-

duced a new aquatic fitness class this season. 143 people participated in Aqua Zumba classes with instructor Janey Vanliew at Castaway Bay and Tropicanoe Cove during June and July of 2017. The class will continue to be offered in upcoming seasons.

Total attendance at Vinton Pool was 8,215 for 63 operational days with an average daily attendance of 130.4 people, a 0.001% increase over 2016. Only 22 Vinton season passes were sold during the 2017 season.

- Hot Pretzels 3,029 sold
- Hot Dogs 1,802 sold
- Chicken Strips 664 sold
- Smoothies 1,911 sold
- Arni's Pizza 1,470 sold
- Itty Bittz 6,184 sold
- Bottled Water 2,748 sold

Lafayette Parks Department was in the first year of a three year agreement with PepsiCo to be the exclusive beverage provider for the Lafayette Parks Department. Pepsi continued to be a popular beverage choice among patrons for 2017.

Columbian Park Zoo

The Columbian Park Zoo's operating season in 2017 was from April 22nd through October 14th. Estimated attendance based on numbers of people visiting our three walk-through exhibit continues to grow overall:

- The Wallaby Walkabout: 133,910 visitors, up 5% from 127,515 in 2016.
- The Family Farm: 124,981 visitors, up over 4% from 120,021 in 2016.
- The Butterfly Garden Party Exhibit: 75,539 visitors, up over 9% from 68,887 in 2016.

Volunteers/Interns

The Zoo Teen program continued to thrive in its second year of being restructured with a total of 31 participants ages 14-17. Participants are set up in a tiered system and gain additional skills and opportunities as they progress through the program. Teens learn valuable skills interacting with the public, engaging in public speaking, working one-on-one with animal care and education staff, and getting hands-on experience with many of the Zoo's animals. Our Zoo Teens contributed over 2924 hours of time serving as Zoo Ambassadors during the summer season. Our adult volunteer and intern programs also continue to thrive. Volunteers gained valuable experience and knowledge about how the Zoo works, and what a career in the Zoo field entails. The contribution that volunteers and interns make on an annual basis by helping out Zoo staff is tremendous and an invaluable resource.

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Awards and Recognition

- The Columbian Park Zoo was invited to participate in The Wildlife Society's North Central Student Conclave hosted by Purdue University on March 25th. The conclave consisted of aspiring wildlife students from 14 different schools across 7 Midwestern states. Assistant Director, Noah Shields, presented the topic of "Wildlife Conservation at Zoos" at Camp Tecumseh in Brookston.
- On April 11th, the Columbian Park Zoo was featured on the



Big Ten Network Campus Eats

Columbian Park Zoo as part of the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Conference. Teachers and professors from all over the country were represented, and the Zoo's focus was to spotlight how your local zoo or aquarium can serve as a resource in agriculture education.



Big Ten Network Campus Eats

"Campus Eats" TV series on the Big Ten Network. A crew from Victory Pictures came on-site to film footage around the Zoo to give viewers ideas for a fun date location. The series was aired on the network over the summer.

- In June, the Education Department provided a tour of the

- As part of the hellbender partnership with Purdue University, the Columbian Park Zoo's contribution to the hellbender conservation project was included in the following publications in the fall:

- Purdue Agriculture newsletter on hellbender conservation August 16th
- Purdue Extension department's brochure entitled, "How Our Zoos Help Hellbenders"

FUN FACTS: The total number of volunteer hours contributed by Zoo Teens, Interns, Adult Volunteers, Volunteer Groups, Community Service and Special Event Volunteers in 2017 was over 13,590 hours carried out by 1,545 people!

Boo at the Zoo alone had a total of 1,231 volunteers working 3,577 hours helping set-up, run the event and clean-up.

Staff Professional Development

Several Zoo staff members had the opportunity to attend a variety of professional development seminars and classes over the course of the year.

The Zoo's San Diego Zoo Global Academy training program subscription was renewed for five full-time employees. This program is a specialized online system of seminars and courses for individuals working in the Zoo field. Online topics range from animal care, education, interpretation, customer service, safety, management, communication, marketing, and much more.

During the Zoo's off-season, several staff members took trips to visit neighboring zoos for behind-the-scenes sneak peeks at their operations. These types of excursions are great ways to make professional connections, gain insights and problem-solve future exhibit designs. Different staff members were able to travel to the Potter Park Zoo and Children's Zoo at Celebration Square in Michigan, the Cincinnati Zoo and the Newport Aquarium in Ohio, and the Scovill Zoo in Illinois.

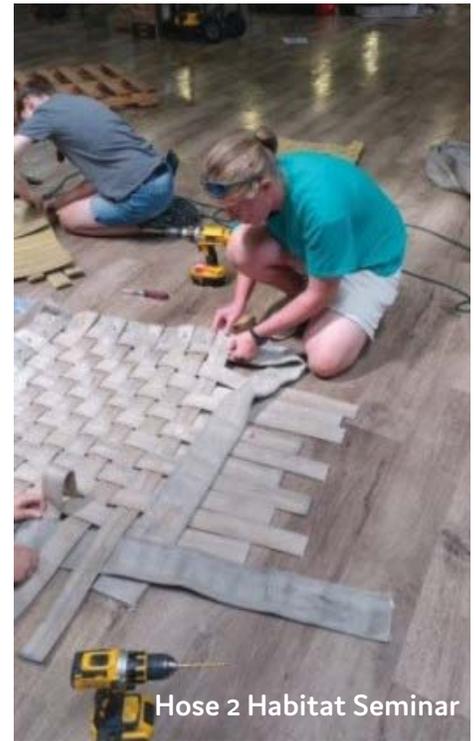
In March, two of the Zoo's educators, Jennifer Spence and Jasmine Peele attended a two-day "Reflecting on Practices" workshop at the Indianapolis Zoo. This professional development seminar focused on the topics of informal science and public engagement in a Zoo environment.

In August, two Zoo staff members attended a workshop at the Mesker Park Zoo. Senior Zookeep-

ers Kaci Schmidt and Jill Livengood participated in the Hose 2 Habitat seminar to learn more skills in building animal enrichments out of used fire hoses. These enrichment items, such as foraging feeders and hammocks, are designed to stimulate natural behaviors in captive animals similar to what their counterparts may exhibit in the wild.

In September, four of our full-time staff members were able to attend the annual Association of Zoos & Aquariums (AZA) conference held at the Indianapolis Zoo. Noah Shields, Amber Frederick, Heather Woody, and Courtney Nave each had the opportunity to attend a day at this national conference and participate in classes on a variety of animal-related topics. This conference provides attendees with an invaluable opportunity to learn of current zoo trends and to network with other like members within the zoo field.

Also in September, Head Zookeeper Heather Woody and Zoo Registrar Jen Zak participated in a kayaking trip down the Blue River in Southern Indiana as part of the AZA conference. This river is the native home to Eastern hellbenders, a giant salamander species endangered in Indiana. The Columbian Park Zoo continues to partner with Purdue University in housing some of these hellbenders to prepare for future release into the wild. As part of this conservation project, staff members were able to go into the field to view native habitat and learn more about the ongoing efforts to conserve this species and its environment.



Gift Shop & Rides

The Zoo Gift Shop and Columbian Park Express train operated daily during the Zoo's open season from April 22 through October 14. Wild Tykes Kiddie Rides were in operation from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day.

Overall sales in the Gift Shop for the 2017 season were a total of \$195,269. This was an over 12% increase in sales over 2016. The total revenue for just the train and kiddie rides was \$85,106, a nearly 13% increase from 2016. Gift Shop staff sold a total of 36,520 train tickets and 4,654 group train tickets, adding up to a total of 41,174 train rides given. There were also a total of 3,390 riders in the Wild Tykes Kiddie rides area, consisting of the Helicopter ride, Horse & Buggy Ride and the Boat ride. Overall, 44,564 riders rode the train and kiddie rides in 2017, a 13% increase over 2016.

Zoo Education Department

On January 29, the Education Department set up a mini-zoo presentation at Purdue's Loeb Playhouse in collaboration with the "Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live" show put on by Erth Visual and Physical, Inc. Approximately 450 people attended this family-friendly show and were able to engage with several of the Zoo's reptilian Animal Ambassadors and the staff.

The Education Department participated in the March for Science held at Riehle Plaza on April 22 to

New for 2017

Education Director, Amber Frederick and the Zoo Education Department completely revamped the on-site camps and classes, including everything from new titles, themes, logos and fees. This extensive overhaul not only put a fresh spin on beloved past programs, but also introduced new program opportunities.

Wild Beginnings Series (preschool programs):

- Two at the Zoo is a brand new monthly drop-in program for 2-year olds and an adult. This introductory program is set up for exploratory play with crafts, Zoo artifacts, sensory bins, and an animal encounter.
- Zoo Sprouts is a classroom program for 3-4 year olds that

celebrate the accomplishments and contributions of scientists and science. This locally-held march joined over 500 other marches planned around the world.

On November 12, the Education Department again joined Purdue Convocations and did a pre-show set-up for the "My Father's Dragon" theater presentation. About 120 people participated in the mini-zoo before viewing the Enchantment Theatre Company's adaptation of a classic children's series.

is developed specifically with early childhood learning foundations in mind. Children get to know nature through play, art, song, stories, science explorations, and animals. The 2017 themes were "Alphabet Zoo" and "Nature's Rainbow".

Learning Adventures Series (school-age programs):

- Critter Classes for 5-7 year olds focus on a different animal group and incorporate games, crafts and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) activities.
- Wildlife Workshops for 8-11 year olds explore various wildlife and nature topics including STEM activities, model-making and behind-the-scenes excursions.

EDUCATION FUN FACTS

- The Education Department gross revenue was \$109,425.20 for all programs, including birthday parties, classes, camps, off-site presentations, tours, and more - a nearly 6% increase over 2016.
- The number of people served by the Columbian Park Zoo's Education programs for 2017 was 53,672, an increase of over 10, 300 individuals or nearly 24% from the previous year!
- The number of education programs performed in 2017 was 2,526, (318 more than 2016) - 14% increase from 2016.
- The Education Department served over 20,000 individuals with the on-grounds interpretation opportunities that are free to Zoo visitors such as animal encounters, stage shows, conservation events, and keeper demonstrations.

- Discovery Workshops are perfect for the 12-14 age group and delve into issues related to zookeeping and wildlife conservation. Participants learn through hands-on explorations and discover information about zoo careers.

Summer Camps:

- The 2017 Summer Camp program was designed in tandem with the class categories and



age groups.

- A total of 23 summer camp themes were offered in the Zoo Sprout and Learning Adventure age groups. Additionally, a new Grandparent camp was added to the lineup in the 5-7 age range and was very well received.

Family Fun Series:

- A brand new series especially designed for families of any shape and size was started in 2017. Three new themed programs and one "blast from the past" program were offered. These programs were quite popular, and this series will be offered again in 2018 with all new themes.
- Family Fun Friday: Movie Night on April 28 included an animal-themed movie, popcorn, fun activities and a surprise animal encounter. Two families with 8 attendees participated in this inaugural Family Fun Day.
- Family Fun Day Sunday: Ice Cream Safari on July 30 offered



7 registered families consisting of 28 participants an ice cream or frozen treat, a family fun scavenger hunt and a complimentary train ride on the Columbian Park Express.

- Family Fun Friday: Zoo Snooze was brought back by popular demand on September 22-23. Five families, totaling 23 people, camped out at the Zoo and participated in evening activities, a

flashlight tour, encounters with nocturnal Zoo residents, dinner and breakfast.

- Family Fun Day Sunday: Zoo Year's Eve was held on December 31. Six families consisting of 22 members, helped the Zoo ring in the new year at noon with party favors, crafts, sparkling juice and a visit from some "party animals".

Zoo Improvements

Several new additions and improvements were made at the Zoo in 2017:

- Three new metal doors were replaced on the Animal House building by Haley's Lock, Safe & Key throughout the course of the year.
- A new hexagonal tree bench was built and installed by local Eagle Scout Ryan Joyce in early May. The bench was positioned around a large ash tree outside the Wallaby Walkabout entrance and has been a nice shady spot for visitors to view the wallabies.

- A new farm animal-themed sign designed by Madmen Graphics, Inc. was installed in May for Zoo visitors to use as an additional fun photo opportunity.
- The metal covers for the bubblers in the front entry fountain plaza were fabricated and replaced by The Kelly Group due to wear and tear.
- The Butterfly Garden Party Exhibit received a complete facelift in November with a total canvas mesh replacement installed by Twin Lakes Canvas.
- The sidewalk joints in pathways

from the Zoo's front gate to the Family Farm and Education Center were all re-caulked in December by Mills-Fahnestock, Inc.

- A new ICP gas furnace was installed for the back area of the Animal House Building in December by Advance Tech.



Conservation Initiatives

Each year, the Zoo's Conservation Committee selects local and global "hot topics" in which to educate the public. These messages are woven into education programs and themed events throughout the year to make it a fun, interactive way to learn and discover how to make an impact. The hot topics for 2017 were Pollinator Appreciation (continued from 2016) and Wildlife Trafficking.

Conservation Events

Free events took place throughout the Zoo's open season to provide visitors opportunities to learn about the hot topics and engage in fun, exploratory activities and games highlighting conservation messaging.

- April 22 Earth Day: The Zoo celebrated Earth Day on the opening day of the season for 2017. Some activities for Zoo visitors included a habitat matching game, animal encounters, a recycling sorting game, and a craft for participants to pledge to follow a conservation initiative at home.
- May 27 Pollinator Palooza: This was the second year for this popular event, and the focus



Lizard Appreciation Day



Pollinator Palooza

was on celebrating the importance of pollinators such as bees, bats and butterflies. The Zoo partnered with Purdue University and utilized their pollinator travelling exhibit to emphasize conservation messaging. Approximately 1000 people participated in a variety of activities such as honey tasting, planting butterfly-friendly seeds, meeting Zoo pollinator residents, and many more.

- June 11 World Oceans Day: This annual event is a visitor favorite, and had an estimated 200 people in attendance. Educators set up stations around the Zoo to illustrate the importance of our oceans and ways we can help at home to keep them healthy.
- August 14, Lizard Appreciation Day: Approximately 250 visitors attended this special event to celebrate lizards of all shapes and sizes. Activities included a reptile stage show, scavenger hunt, encounters with Zoo animal reptilian residents, and a

"mock" pet store to teach participants about proper reptile care. Messaging to increase awareness on the topic of wildlife trafficking was incorporated into event presentations and activities.

Zoo Conservation Contributions

The Zoo was able to contribute to both local and global conservation in 2017. Making a direct impact locally, several Zoo staff members travelled to Prophetstown State Park on February 13th to assist the Indiana Department of Natural Resources with planting native wildflowers and grasses. These plantings were used to enhance areas around various state parks later in the spring.



Prophetstown planting event

The Zoo also collected conservation donations for the second year in the Zoo Gift Shop on behalf of a not-for-profit organization called the "Pollinator Partnership", dedicated exclusively to the protection and promotion of pollinators and their habitat. The generous donations of the public allowed us to contribute a total amount of \$5,742.13 towards this global conservation effort.

Animal Collection

A variety of new animals joined the Zoo's collection in 2017. Eighteen baby Nigerian dwarf goats were born in May and June. Many of these babies were then placed with appropriate owners locally in the fall. Eleven baby emperor scorpions were born in July. Most of these babies were placed with other zoos in Indiana once they were old enough to be transferred.

A pair of two-toed sloths named "Harvey" and "Irma" were acquired as a joint purchase between Friends of Columbian Park Zoo and the City of Lafayette in September. Several reptiles and amphibians came to live at the zoo in the fall of 2017: one fox snake, one woma python, one legless lizard, one Brazilian rainbow boa, one ball python, and one pacman frog. We also ac-

quired a juvenile guinea pig named "Gidget" and a young orphaned opossum named, "Moe". Four little chicks were hatched by our resident chickens out on Zoo grounds, and they provided great entertainment for the Zoo patrons over the summer.

The Zoo lost several residents in 2017 due to health issues or placement elsewhere: one savannah monitor, two Virginia opossums, one rabbit, one corn snake, one ball python, one woma python, one prehensile-tailed skink, five Bennett's wallabies, and one hedgehog. In December, one of the Zoo's long-time beloved residents, "Madison" the spider monkey, succumbed to kidney failure. He was 34 years old and was a staff favorite.

FUN FACT: The Zoo purchased a total of 1850 butterfly chrysalides to keep the Butterfly Garden Party Exhibit stocked for the season! The average cost per chrysalis is \$3.53 each, totaling \$6,529.62 spent on butterflies for the 2017 season.



Madison the Spider Monkey

Partnerships

In April, a group of approximately 100 volunteers from Circle K donated their time to help out with a variety of tasks at Columbian Park and the Zoo to prepare for spring opening and post-winter clean-up.



Holiday Enrichment Drive

On September 23, the Zoo kicked off a partnership with the Art Museum of Greater Lafayette to highlight a temporary exhibit created by artist Justin LaDoux. The exhibit, entitled, "Caged: the Illegal Pet Trade" consisted of many cleverly designed animal forms made from found objects. The Zoo played a role in setting up a mini-zoo to celebrate the opening of the exhibit and assisted with promotions.

On November 17, the One Size Fits All Improv troupe performed a "Give Back" fundraiser at the Lafayette Brewing Company on behalf of the Columbian Park Zoo. A portion of the proceeds from the improv troupe and the restaurant was graciously donated to the Zoo.

The Zoo entered into a partnership with a local business, Buckles Feed Depot & Pet Supply to host a holiday enrichment drive benefitting the Zoo's animal residents. A tree and drop-box were set-up at the store for customers to purchase items and donate them to the Zoo. The Zoo received a variety of items such as toys, treats, bedding and other pet supplies to enrich the animals' lives.

The Columbian Park Zoo continued to participate in the Hellbender Conservation project in partnership with Purdue University, the Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Fort Wayne Children's Zoo, and Mesker Park Zoo. A new partner joining the team in 2017 was the Indianapolis Zoo.

McAllister Recreation Center



The McAllister Recreation Center provides a broad spectrum of leisure opportunities to meet the needs of all segments of the greater Lafayette community. This includes group and individual programming to promote a high quality of life and ensure that all patrons receive personal, social, environmental, and economic benefits. The McAllister Staff is committed to creating new and exciting recreation opportunities for the community to enjoy at our recreation center.

The McAllister center offers a number of diverse programs for all ages. Youth and adults are afforded the opportunity to participate in programs such as: basketball, volleyball, flag football, day camp programs, Sporties for Shorties series, yoga, Zumba, weight and fitness, and youth dance. These programs continue to be improved upon and expanded on a continual basis.

The Center also continues to provide opportunities for city employees and their families to improve their wellness by utilizing the weights and fitness area and participating in city sponsored wellness activities such as the annual City Wellness Fair, Yoga, Zumba, and Insanity classes.

Fitness On Demand

Fitness on Demand, a group fitness room, was added to the Center in late 2016 to be open for the general public in 2017. Fitness on Demand is a smart fitness kiosk that provides world-class fitness programming by schedule or on-demand. Browse hundreds of fitness classes – sorted by type, difficulty level, or length to find the perfect class to

fit your schedule or goals. Classes include Boot Camp, Insanity, Pilates, P90X, Step Aerobics, Yoga, and so much more! This program is free to all city employees and dependents on the City insurance plan (ages 16 and older). For non-city employees the cost is \$2 per session.



Fitness Mezzanine at McAllister

Fitness Programming

McAllister's free weights, machine weights and cardio equipment were used in abundance. In 2017, one new Matrix T3 treadmill was purchased, all mezzanine equipment padding was reupholstered, a washer and dryer was installed, green fitness towels were added for patrons to use for sweat and cleaning purposes (which we then wash and dry ourselves), and kettle bells were added to the free weight area. There were 2,707 daily fitness passes, 35 monthly passes (increase of 25 passes from 2016), 1 six month pass and 2 yearly passes sold in

2017. A total of 23 youth passes were sold in 2017. In all, \$7,026.00 was generated through weight and fitness revenue, an increase of \$337.00. In addition to the paid fitness passes, the Center provides the opportunity for city employees and their families to use the fitness areas at no cost. In 2017 a total of 3,072 employees and their families took advantage of the fitness areas. This was 328 more people than last year. The McAllister Center also played host to the City sponsored Wellness fair which included flu shots.

Camps

Children who attend any one of the four camps at McAllister Recreation Center are given opportunities to improve their self-esteem, as well as their social and motor skills. They are given a unique opportunity to have an enjoyable and rewarding experience in a fun and safe environment. Participants

Summer Camp

Summertime is a very busy time for the McAllister Recreation Center. The Center holds one of the largest day camps in Tippecanoe County. In order to maximize enrollment potential, a participant limit was set at 40 per week for each age group. Keeping accurate and current record of weekly enrollment allowed us to enroll 327 kids throughout various weeks this summer, which was 17 less than last year. This small change in strategy allowed us to keep our numbers consistent throughout the summer which helped us surpass revenue goal. Due to the increase last year in registrations, 35 counselors were hired. We also added a position to help with maintenance and landscaping.

Once again, the Purdue Women in Engineering held exciting and educational programming for the summer camp. Some of the field trips

Junior Counselor Program

2017 was the eighth year the McAllister Center has offered a Junior Counselor Program for ages 13-15. There are two main objectives to the program. The first objective is for the Junior Counselors to gain experience applying, gathering references and interviewing for a real job. The second is to teach the participants the processes and responsibilities of being a camp counselor.

enjoy a wide range of activities including games, crafts, enrichment activities, field trips, swimming, social interaction, guest speakers and demonstrations, and song and dance, just to name a few. In total, camps grossed \$223,590.00 in revenue in 2017.

enjoyed by campers in 2017 included community park visits, a trip to "All Fired Up", two movie theater trips, a trip to Arni's where the kids could create their own pizzas, and bowling. The campers went swimming twice a week. Another camp highlight was carnival day, at which the campers got to enjoy 3 different bounce obstacles, Kona Ice, and pizza from Arni's.

The center has been fortunate to have a high rate of retention in both staff and campers. We had 15 returning counselors from 2016 and hired 35 total counselors, including 5 who were previous Junior Counselors. This familiarity allows staff, parents and campers a smooth transition from summer to summer. There were 58 operational day of Summer Camp, with an average daily attendance of 165.4 children and 76,768 total participation hours. This year McAllister Recreation Center was able to grant 144

These youth worked with our summer counseling staff assisting in all aspects of the summer camp and were required to work at least 8 of the 12 weeks of camp. Each Junior Counselors had to develop and administer an activity of their choice for a specific age group. They could choose their own activity and the age group they wanted to administer the activity for. This gives them

Spring Break Camp

Spring Break Camp was held from March 21-25 and had 48 registrations. An average of 47.4 kids per day at camp attended, which is an increase of nearly 10 participants from last year. The campers went on one field trip to the movies. Throughout the other days, the kids played outside, gym games, played board games, read and had arts and crafts.

weeks of camp assistance to families in need for a total of \$6,665.00.



Summer Campers at McAllister

Holiday Camp

Holiday Camp was held December 22-January 8 for a total of 9 days. There were a total of 80 registrations and with an average of 35 campers per day. Campers went on two major excursions, one trip to the movies and the other to go bowling. Due to the cold weather, campers stayed inside for all of camp as temperatures were negatives most days.

experience in the major role a camp counselor performs, leading and directing a group. Twenty-one (21) teens participated in 2017 (12 girls, 9 boys). At the end of each summer, the Junior Counselors are rewarded with a field trip. In 2017, they took a trip to Indianapolis where they played laser tag, Dave and Busters, to the Castleton Mall and finally to an Indians Baseball game to end the night.

Programs

Youth Basketball

Winter - January-March 2017

The youth basketball program goals are to provide all participants with the basic fundamental of the sport and a sense of what it means to be part of a team. This program is offered for boys and girls age 6-11 years old. The winter youth basketball program had a total of 177 participants split into 18 teams, which was our program capacity. There are two age groups (6-8 year olds and 9-11 year olds). Teams are coached by parent volunteers. We had over 60 volunteers who contributed 648 hours of their time. McAllister staff members officiated all of the games.

Youth Basketball

Fall - October-December 2017

The fall youth basketball program had a slight decline in numbers with a total of 149 participants, totaling 15 teams. There were two age groups (6-8 year olds and 9-11 year olds). Teams were coached by parent volunteers who held practice once a week and played their games on Saturdays. We had 35 volunteers (coaches or score-board operators) who contributed 456 volunteer hours. McAllister staff members officiated all of the games.



Adult Volleyball

Winter - January-March 2017

This session saw a slight increase in numbers with seven teams participating, out of a possible eight, in a seven week schedule culminating in a 2-week tournament at the end. The winning team received a championship T-shirt with their team name on it in the color of their choice. The "Court Jesters" won the winter championship.

Fall - October-December 2017

The fall session also saw an increase in registrations as the league filled up with 8 teams, competing in a seven week schedule culminating in a 2-week tournament at the end. We actually had to turn teams away for this league after we filled up all 8 spots. The winning team received a championship T-shirt with their team name on it in the color of their choice. "Sets on the Beach" were our fall champions.

Youth Flag Football

This program is offered in partnership with Lafayette Jefferson High School. Participants learn basic fundamentals of football during a one hour practice, and put those skills to use during the game on Sunday each week. Children were split into two leagues, a 6-7 year old league, and an 8-9 year old league. (Due to low turn-out, the 10-11 year old players who were signed up played in the 8-9 year old league.) In 2017 we had 14 parent volunteer coaches. Thirty-six different Jefferson High School football players served as volunteer officials at the games. In all, volunteers contributed 276 hours for the youth flag football program. There were 85 Participants in the flag football program. This year the games were held at Edgelea Elementary School due to construction at Jeff.

Sporties for Shorties

Flag Football

This program was designed to introduce the basic fundamentals of football to children ages 4-5 years old through fun and exciting drills. The program ends with the participants receiving their first team jersey and participating in their first live game! There were 14 participants in 2017.

T-Ball

This program was designed to patiently introduce the basic fundamentals of baseball to children ages 4-5 years old through fun and exciting drills. The program ends with the participants receiving their first team jersey and participating in their first live game. There were 24 participants in 2017.

Basketball

The McAllister Center offered children ages 4 and 5 an opportunity to familiarize themselves with sports through the Sporties for Shorties program. The program was designed to patiently introduce the basic fundamentals of basketball to them through fun and exciting drills. The program ends with the participants receiving their first team jersey and participating in their first live game. There were 25 total participants in 2017.

Soccer

This program was designed to introduce the basic fundamentals of soccer to children ages 4-5 years old through fun and exciting drills. The program ends with the participants receiving their first team jersey and participating in their first live game. There were 16 participants in 2017.

Special Events

The McAllister Spring Celebration was held on Saturday, April 15, 2017. After many successful years of hosting a neighborhood egg hunt, McAllister decided to expand upon the existing event creating the "Spring Celebration." We hosted over 500 people for egg hunts, face painting, balloon animals, blow-up obstacle course, games and prizes! They also got to say hello to Lafayette's Mayor Tony Roswarski and Dare Officer John Townsend. L Kora and Kona Ice were on site to sell food to participants. A DJ from Velocity Sounds was on site to play music, make announcements and give out prizes!



The McAllister Center developed a partnership with the DNR to promote their GoFishIN in the City program in 2015. Go FishIN in the City is Indiana DNR's urban fishing program. This program provides opportunities for the public that live in heavily populated urban areas to go fishing. The Indiana DNR will intensively stock catchable size channel catfish and rainbow trout throughout the year in small city lakes and ponds for people to go fish. Anyone 17 and under can fish at the designated site (Munger Park in 2017) without a license on this day. In addition to the free fishing day, McAllister, along with the DNR, held a Family Fishing Workshop at the Center again on

May 20, 2017. Twenty-four people signed up and were ready for the event, however thunderstorms rolled in and the event was eventually cancelled.

In June, the McAllister Center again partnered with volunteers from the Mid-North Chapter of Fishing Has No Boundaries and the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to host the Kid's Fishing Day at Munger Park. Children of all ages were able to go to Munger Park and test their angler skills. This year approximately 24 kids and adults participated in the event, which is significantly lower than last year's numbers. Since this program was a "catch and release" program, a hot-dog lunch was provided for all who showed up. The McAllister Center even threw in some free popcorn!

The 20th annual Summer Community Bowling was held during the months of June and July from noon to 3 at Market Square Lanes, Landmark Lanes and Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl. In all, over 600 games were played and approximately 250 children bowled during the 6 days the program was held. McAllister held an annual drop and shop program on Friday, December 15. The program allows for parents to drop the children off to finish the rest of their holiday shopping or let their kids blow off some pent up energy. The program ran from 5:30 to 9:00 p.m. The children played games, did a special holiday craft, watched a movie and ate some pizza. Ten children attended the program in 2017.

Donuts with Santa was a new event in 2017. This family-friendly

event was hosted on Saturday, December 16 from 9-11AM for children to come and eat donuts, make crafts, play games and get a picture with Santa. There was a fee of \$5 per family. A total of 59 families attended the event, with 54 pre-registered participants and 154 drop-in participants. Hammer Donuts provided 250 donuts at 40% off. Dave and Tammy Mecklenberg were generous enough to play the part of Santa and Mrs Claus and Ed Lausch, of Lausch photography, took photos at the event and provided one free photo per family. Daybreak Rotary sent 7 volunteers to help with the event as well.

Grants and Partnerships

In 2017 the McAllister Recreation Center was fortunate to receive several grants for the Parks Department Kid's Can Fund. These grants, a total of \$10,000.00 dollars, were granted to the McAllister Center from a number of organizations to help assist customer offset the cost of camps and programs. Community leaders such as the Lafayette Kiwanis Foundation and the McAllister Foundation graciously gave. These grants assisted several children in attending camps and programs at a reduced cost to their families. A total of 144 weeks for summer camp were provided with these funds for a total amount of \$6,835. The Lafayette Voiture 40&8 gave \$600 for youth programs assistance in 2017. Duke Energy generously gave a \$3,000 grant to support our Youth Programs. This money allowed us to purchase youth flag football and youth basketball jerseys for the 2017-2018 year of programs, which covers nearly 500 participants.

Rentals

This year, the McAllister Recreation Center added three ongoing rentals:

- Safe Choices is an Alcohol and Drug Education Course in Lafayette. Since January 2016 Safe Choices has been renting Rooms 103 & 104 from us for an entire weekend once a month and will continue to do so into 2018.
- Hoosier Academy is a tuition-free, statewide public charter school that uses the K-12 online curriculum. Hoosier Academies offers two types of programs: blended learning and virtual. In February 2016, Hoosier Academy began renting rooms to administer ISTEP testing. They rent anywhere from 2-5 rooms per session and have around 4 sessions per year at McAllister. In 2017, they rented 2-5 room for 4 sessions. They have already secured more rental space for 2018.
- The Tippecanoe Tornados, is a non-profit, homeschool high school volleyball program, under the Home-school United Sports Teams of Lafayette. They used gym space for practice and to host 1 home game throughout August and September. They held practice every Tuesday and Thursday night from 5:00-7:00 p.m. and hosted 1 home game with other homeschool teams in the area. The team consisted of about 12 girls and was coached by parents.

Other regular rentals included:

- Tippecanoe Lacrosse Association is the local lacrosse group that used our field out back from April-May for practices from 5:30-7:30 p.m. They plan to rent the same space for the 2018 spring as well.
- West Active is a local dance company that has been renting rooms from McAllister for years. Jamie West continued to do so in 2017, renting from January-May and August-December on Monday and Tuesday evenings from 4-7pm. She will continue to rent in 2018 on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday evenings during the same months.
- Amalgamated Transit Union (City Bus) rented a room the first Tuesday of every month during 2017.

Volunteers

Every year the McAllister Center is fortunate to have a number of volunteers to help with its many programs. Without the selfless contributions of parents and community volunteers, the Center would not be able to offer the variety of programs and special events held each year. In 2017, approximately 238 individuals volunteered as coaches, referees, scoreboard operators, guest speaker, program facilitators, and educators. In total, 1,826 volunteer hours were gifted to the McAllister Recreation Center and its programs. The Staff at the McAllister Recreation Center appreciates each of the volunteer's dedication and contribution.

Comcast Cares Day – “Commitment to community runs deep at Comcast NBCUniversal, going back

to founder Ralph Roberts. Comcast Cares Day, created in 2001, is a celebration of Comcast NBCUniversal's year-round commitment to volunteerism – and is the nation's largest single-day corporate volunteer event. We mobilize our employees, along with their families and friends, to work shoulder-to-shoulder with our local and national nonprofit partners and community leaders in our shared communities across the country, and overseas around the world.” – Comcast chose McAllister to volunteer their time in the Lafayette Community. On Saturday, April 22 Comcast sent over 100 employees and their family members to assist with different projects at McAllister totaling over 400 hours of volunteer work. In total, we were able to install 183 plants, ranging in size from quart

size to 2.5 gallon, installed around 40 yards of mulch, and bed edged 500 lineal feet among other cleaning tasks inside of the recreation center.



Marketing

November 2017 marked three years since the creation of the Communications Department for the City of Lafayette. The Communications Department develops and cultivates a communications and marketing component for the City that not only supports the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department's communications needs, but also provides comprehensive awareness, education and transparency for our residents and visitors. The Communications Department underwent some staffing changes in 2017, with Patty Payne taking over as Marketing and Communications Director for the City of Lafayette, and Sean O'Reilly was hired as the Marketing Coordinator.

The City Communications Department provides the following support for the Parks Department:

- Covered Lafayette Parks and Recreation events as well as awareness support for local business announcements
- Media notices and press releases
- Supported and developed communications and marketing strategies
- Media outreach and public relations
- Presentation design/development and event planning
- Graphic design and photography
- Coordinated press conferences, ribbon cuttings/dedication ceremonies
- Economic, workforce and talent development outreach
- Industry support initiatives
- Helped secure sponsorships for special events
- Organized special events, secured entertainment, vendors, and logistics

Social Media

The Department has developed a comprehensive social media strategy for Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter to help cultivate a positive/supportive environment for Parks initiatives. Posts follow a strategic audience profiling and analytics data strategy.

- Facebook posts reach an average of 500-2,500 people depending on content
- Our post announcing Crosser Sports Complex was our highest reaching post on Facebook in 2017, reaching 8,136 people
- If you combine all of the La-

fayette Parks and Recreation social media platforms we reached over 40,000 this past year

- Posts consistently reach more than 500 people on Facebook every day
- Facebook posts reach a total of 44 cities other than Lafayette, Indiana
- 85% of our fans on Facebook are women, with most of them falling between the ages of 35-44
- Tweets average 20,000 impressions on Twitter each month



Facebook Fans as of 12/31/17:

- Art in the Park 2,275 fans (increase of 227 since January 2017)
- Columbian Park Zoo 11,423 fans (increase of 1,269 since January 2017)
- Parks and Recreation 4,872 fans (increase of 808 since January 2017)



Twitter Followers as of 12/31/17

- Art in the Park 544 followers (increase of 113 since January 2017)
- Columbian Park Zoo 1,235 followers (increase of 227 since January 2017)
- Parks and Recreation 3,471 followers (increase of 421 since January 2017)



Instagram Followers as of 12/31/17

- Art in the Park 596 followers (increase of 226 since January 2017)
- Columbian Park Zoo 1,222 followers (increase of 152 since January 2017)
- McAllister Recreation Center 242 followers (increase of 154 since January 2017)
- Parks and Recreation 556 followers (increase of 154 since January 2017)

Art in the Park

For the fourth year in a row, the Department held the Art in the Park summer festival series. Art in the Park took place on the following dates: June 6, June 27, and August 6. The June dates were held from 6:00-9:00 pm in Columbian Park on Memorial Island and the August event was held from 1:00-4:00 pm at Armstrong Park. There were fewer dates than in years past due to construction on Memorial Island. A family movie night was also planned for July, but that event was

canceled due to rain. These family-friendly events were free and open to the public.

Art in the Park showcased a variety of local and regional fine arts and crafts vendors, as well as live entertainment, food vendors and creative art engagement. Each event had a different theme.



Sales and Rentals

In 2017, over 870 groups rented park facilities for events such as picnics, weddings, receptions and family reunions.

The breakdown for rentals in 2016 is as follows:

- 639 shelter reservations
- 105 five-hour Rush Pavilion rentals
- 4 full-day Rush Pavilion rentals
- 100 five-hour Jenks' Rest rentals
- 10 full-day Jenks' Rest rentals
- 5 five-hour Clubhouse rentals
- 2 full-day Clubhouse rentals
- 5 Memorial Island rentals

In addition, there were numerous uses for City Wellness and park events such as Art in the Park (not documented in the above numbers).

Ongoing customer awareness and training for all park support staff provides citizens with the utmost in services each time they visit a park facility.

The themes featured included the following:

- June 6: Celebration Night (featured popular, high energy, local band The Mixtapes)
- June 27: Country Night (featured local country artist Scott Greeson)
- August 6: Carnival Day (featured A-League Entertainment dance troupe and the Cincinnati Circus Company)

We averaged over 700 people per event.

Public Information

The annual "Fun Guide" was printed by Instant Copy and distributed beginning in February.

The City's website was continuously updated during the course of the year to ensure that correct information was always available to our citizens.



Media Coverage

WFLI News Channel 18 continued to be a strong supporter of the Lafayette Parks Department. TV-18 hosted Zoo staff in-studio on multiple occasions to cover special events as well as visited Parks Department ribbon cuttings, construction projects and Parks Board meetings. Star City Broadcasting was present at many Parks events as well.

The Department continued its relationship with Neuhoff Media/B102.9 FM, which broadcasted live from Tropicanoe Cove each Wednesday during Family Nights in the summer. The B102.9 Morning Show also continued featuring the Zoo Education Department each month for "Zoo Day." Neuhoff also served as radio sponsor for both the Zoo Run and Boo at the Zoo in 2017. The Department also partnered with Artistic Media Radio in 2017, as BOB-FM was a presenting sponsor of the Art in the Park series. WBAA was present at several Department events and ceremonies in 2017. Staff members also did numerous interviews with stations for the announcement of news items.

Friends of Columbian Park Zoo (FOCPZ) is an independent, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Indiana. FOCPZ is comprised of local citizens committed to securing sufficient funding in order to ensure the quality of life of Zoo animals through education and conservation and to create, promote and maintain awareness of the Zoo for all in the Greater Lafayette area. In addition to promoting FOCPZ memberships and selling engraved

Special Events

A new event for 2017 was the Zoo Brew & Wine Too event held on May 6 in downtown Lafayette.

This event was a hybrid pub crawl that included a full mini-zoo set-up, appetizers, live entertainment by The Mixtapes, photo opportunities with some of the Zoo's Animal Ambassadors, door prizes, and Zoo-themed drinks. Staff and volunteers running the event also sold t-shirts and pub glasses with the Zoo Brew logo. FOCPZ partnered with the Knickerbocker Saloon, Digby's Pub & Patio, Professor Joe's Pizzeria and Pub, and Sovereign Catering, and the outcome was a very successful inaugural event. Total attendance was 215 people, and net profit was \$8,408.13.

The 15th annual Zoo Run Run 5K Run/Walk held on July 15 was again a success with 659 runners registered and 576 actual participants. Net profit for this event was \$10,332.29. Bison Financial reprised their annual partnership by providing their traditional pan-

brick pavers, the board coordinates fundraising events on an annual basis. Proceeds from these events support new and expanded Zoo exhibits, the purchase of new Zoo animals, and other projects and improvements for the Zoo's education department and animal care. In 2017, FOCPZ supported the Zoo by funding the following items:

- A portable ultrasound machine for the Zoo's veterinarian to perform needed diagnostics
- A Linne's two-toed sloth that

cake breakfast to race participants, volunteers, and supporters.

FOCPZ teamed up with Talbots to host a shopping party at the West Lafayette store on June 15. Talbots allowed Zoo staff to promote upcoming Zoo events and activities, and FOCPZ received a portion of the store's proceeds for that day. The amount raised was \$65.20.

On June 16, Friends of Columbian Park Zoo joined up with the Lafayette Aviators to host a FOCPZ Aviators Night fundraiser. A portion of each advanced game ticket purchased online with the code "Zoo" was donated back to the Friends. Zoo Educators also set-up a mini-zoo outside for attendees to enjoy prior to the game. Despite rainy weather, the fundraiser made \$454 on behalf of the Zoo and provided a fun addition to the game for attendees.

In September, Purdue University's ACACIA Fraternity hosted a corn-

will join the Education Department's Animal Ambassadors Program

- Two table-top and two floor pop-up banners for marketing the Zoo and recruiting employees and volunteers
- The salary for a Zoo Marketing Manager from June 4-December 31. This position was added to maintain membership and brick paver programs as well as market the Zoo and assist with special events.

hole tournament on campus to benefit Friends of Columbian Park Zoo. The result of their philanthropic efforts was \$367 raised on the Zoo's behalf.

Boo at the Zoo 2017 took place on October 25-27 from 6:30-9:00 pm. Many families enjoyed the multitude of games, activities, rides and live entertainment. The Navy Club Ship 12 sponsored the pumpkin patch where attendees could pick out a pumpkin to take home. Some of the entertainment included the Purdue's Drumlines, Big Bass Drum and Auxiliaries, magicians, balloon artists and face painters. New for 2017 were some additional live performers including a stilt walker and mobile jugglers from the Cincinnati Circus company and members of the One Size Fits All Improv troupe. A new Halloween light display synchronized to music was sponsored by Tipmont REMC. There were nearly 4500 attendees participating, with a net profit of \$27,239.94.

Contributions

The Friends of Columbian Park Zoo received the following monetary contributions through either general donations or event sponsorships, totaling \$27,840.49, a 42% increase over 2016:

- \$5000: Anonymous donor
- \$3000: Tipmont REMC
- \$2000: Navy Club Ship 12
- \$1250: Walmart Foundation
- \$1000: NeoVision, Shirley Scott
- \$750: Kettelhut Construction, Mecko's Heating and Cooling, Southridge Commons
- \$500+: 11 donors
- \$200+: 28 donors
- Under \$200: 16 donors

Many In-kind donations and services were also provided to as-

sist with special events, totaling \$31,920:

- \$1000+: Albanese Candy, Bison Financial, Digby's Pub & Patio, HotBox Pizza, Journal & Courier, The Knickerbocker Saloon, Monster Mini Golf, the National Group, Professor Joe's Pizzeria and Pub, Sovereign Catering, TeraGraphics Ink, Till Vodka, WASK Radio Group, and Zachary Confections
- \$750: Texas Roadhouse, University Spirit
- \$500: Fleet Feet Sports, Frito Lay, Hampton Inn/Homewood Suites
- \$200+: 11 contributors
- Under \$200: 3 contributors



Zoo Run Run Kids' Run

Dissolvement

The decision was made in November by the City of Lafayette to bring its support organization in-house and create a committee that falls under the guidance and control of the Parks Foundation Board moving into the future. FOCPZ subsequently officially voted

to dissolve as a separate non-profit organization effective December 30, 2017. We are very grateful for their combined years of service, support and dedication to the Columbian Park Zoo and Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department.

Board Members

The following people served on the Friends of Columbian Park Zoo Board of Directors in 2017:

- Jaime Williams, Lafayette Bank & Trust: President
- Emily Blue, Purdue University, Brand Advertising & Sponsorships: Vice-President
- Eric Lin, Wabash Center: Treasurer
- Alex DeWitt, City of Lafayette Water Pollution: Secretary
- Kara Bishop, IU Health Arnett
- Lisa Bromer, Lafayette Bank & Trust
- Tara Daniel, 1st Source Bank
- Christopher Deckard, Velvet Lotus Photography
- Tanya Foster, Purdue University, Athletic Academic Services
- Cassie Gilliland, WLFI-TV 18
- Anna Iacobazzi, RoundTable Wellness & Nutrition
- Steven Knecht, Vonderheide & Knecht
- Dan Komarchuk, Lafayette Community Bank
- Alissa Morlan, Southridge Commons
- Yvone Renz, TeraGraphics Ink, LLC
- Matt Swisher, Retired Business Owner
- Andy Switzer, ARKOR Architects & Engineers



PARKS FOUNDATION

The Lafayette Parks Foundation is an independent, not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of Indiana. The purpose of the Foundation is to establish and maintain an endowment fund for the benefit of the Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department, encourage individuals and organizations to make financial contributions to support the Department, and in other ways support the Department.

The Parks Foundation received the following major contributions during 2017:

- \$75,000 from Crosser Family Foundation for Crosser Sports Complex
- \$1,000 from Duke Energy for Art in the Park
- \$107,000 from The McAllister Foundation for McCaw Park Playground Phases 2 and 3
- \$200 from Subaru of Indiana Automotive for Art in the Park
- \$500 from Old National Bank for Art in the Park
- \$9,000 from The McAllister Foundation for McAllister Recreation Center scholarships
- \$4,500 from Lafayette Life Foundation for Art in the Park
- \$200,000 from the Stein family for Columbian Park Zoo Penguin Exhibit
- \$600 from Jane Phillips for the Memorial Tree Program
- \$500 from Isch Insurance for Art in the Park
- \$3,750 from Tippecanoe Arts Federation (Grant) for Art in the Park
- \$9,000 from James and Mary Risk Family Foundation for a new Gator
- \$25,000 from Kirby Risk Corporation for a future project
- \$50,000 from Scheumann Foundation, Inc. for Crosser Sports Complex
- \$200,000 from Westport Homes, Inc. for Crosser Sports Complex

