



**PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD
MONTHLY UPDATE REPORT
APRIL 2021**

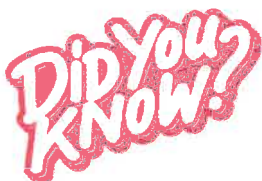


The Vandalia-Butler Chamber of Commerce will be hosting
A Taste at the Crossroads
on Tuesday, June 22, 2021 from 5:00 PM - 9:00 PM
at the Vandalia Sports Complex
Presale Tickets are \$15.00 and Gate Admission, the day of Event, are \$20.00
We look forward to seeing you there!

A Taste at the Crossroads is the northern Miami Valley's largest outdoor food and beverage tasting event! Dozens of regional restaurants, caterers, and breweries offer samples of their best menu items. A family fun event, safe for all ages to enjoy!

Advisory Board Members

- Tara Landis, Chairperson
- Lydia Baker, Vice Chairperson
- Rick Scherer, Secretary
- Lenny Maenza
- Larry Taylor
- Rodney Washburn
- Corey Follick, City Council Representative
- Bob Costello (Emeritus Status)



Per the National Recreation & Parks Association, 92% of US adults say it is very important for youth and young adults to have access to employment opportunities. Parks and Recreation Departments are the leading providers of first-time employment opportunities for youth and young adults. The City of Vandalia Parks and Recreation Department does a fabulous job hiring local students and residents!

NEW MEETING FORMAT!

With the new meeting format, the next in-person meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 19, 2021, at 6:30 PM at the Vandalia Senior Center.

A monthly Update Report will be distributed to keep Members up-to-date on the Department. We welcome any comments, concerns, or questions, and invite Members to call or email anytime.



PARKS



Matthew Roberts
Facility Maintenance Technician

Matthew Roberts has been hired as the new Facility Maintenance Technician. Matt is a lifelong Vandalia resident and a graduate of Butler High School. Matt and his wife, Stacy, have two children, Kailyx and Colton. He will be an asset to the Team and we look forward to his contributions to the City!

Capital Projects Update:

- Garage Fuel Tanks - The fuel tanks have been approved for replacement.
- Court Maintenance - Helke Pickleball and Tennis Courts - Quotes have been received and are being reviewed.
- Sports Complex Asphalt Maintenance - The RFP information is being developed.

Field Preparations:

- Providing routine Baseball and Soccer field maintenance and game day preparations.
- The Soccer field lines at the Sports Complex have been painted for a 3rd time.

Cassel Hills Pool:

- The draining of Cassel Hills Pool is complete.
- The sand blasting of the shallow well is complete.
- Repairs to the shallow well and the painting of the pool floor will be completed once we have appropriate weather and temperatures.

Garden:

- 17 of the 22 garden plots are currently reserved.

Miscellaneous:

- Staff has been working on an office remodel in the City Manager's Office.
- Improvements were made to the surface rainwater drainage at Victory Park after a Park neighbor expressed concern about the Park land restricting surface rainwater drainage from their property.
- 2 Part-Time Seasonal Staff have returned to help with maintaining, turf, park restrooms, trash, etc.



Members are invited to attend the Arbor Day Celebration on Friday, April 30, at 1:00 PM at Helke Park! A Chicagoland Hackberry has been selected to plant for Arbor Day due to it being a shade tree suitable for this location, it's native, and it's an improved variety with good endurance characteristics. 350 White Flowering Dogwood seedlings have been ordered. These will be distributed to the school children that attend the Arbor Day Celebration.

Maintenance:

- Turf and landscape maintenance, including applications of pre-emergent and ongoing post-emergent weed control as needed throughout City properties.
- Manganese chlorosis affects the health of Red Maple trees. Due to this, manganese fertilizer was applied to all 17 Red Maple trees at the Sports Complex and Helke Park.
- Select landscape plants received a fertilizer application, including the Dixie Drive median.
- An arrow board was borrowed from the Public Works Department, and approximately 65 of the street trees along National Road were structurally pruned as needed.
- Contractors mulched and provided spring clean up of the Dixie Drive medians. They also replaced an Ivory Silk Tree Lilac that was destroyed in a car accident.

RECREATION



Successful Programs

- Tiny Tikes Easter Egg Hunt
- VRC Reading Month Book Swap
- Underwater Easter Egg Hunt
- Adult Cooking Class
- Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt
- Lil Planters Party
- Kids Cooking Class

CORPORATE CHALLENGE



After a 1-year Covid hiatus, plans are underway to host the 32nd Annual Corporate Challenge June 6 - 11!

10 teams will be participating:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------------|
| - GE Aviation | - Inteva Products |
| - GE TDI | - VB Schools |
| - Crossroads Rehab | - Waibel Energy Systems |
| - Kentner Sellers | - Johnson Electric |
| - City of Vandalia | - PSA Airlines |

CampREC

Spring Break - CampREC during Spring Break, Mar 29 - Apr 2, was a success! The week was sold-out with 25 weekly campers and 5 daily campers each day. The Camp Counselors were new, but they did a great job following Covid guidelines, providing a positive environment, leading activities, and supervising the campers. Congratulations to Aaron and his Staff for an outstanding week!

Summer Camp - Registration for Summer CampREC began on Wed, April 14. In less than a week, 7 weeks of camp are completely full, with 2 more weeks being almost full. For daily registrations, 24 out of the 54 days are full.

5K

The Ohio River Road Runners Club will host a 5K on Wed, May 12, at 6:30 PM, that will begin and end at the VRC.



Helke's Pickleball courts are back in full swing! Canopies, benches, chairs, equipment containers, and court dividers have all been reinstalled. The courts have been receiving a lot of play!

ATHLETICS

SOFTBALL

Adult Softball registrations are underway. Currently 8 teams are registered for the Monday Men's League and 7 teams are registered for the Friday Coed League.

Field Rentals

John is receiving many reservation requests for the baseball/softball fields. He does a great job managing these calls, and ensuring our programming takes priority. After our team schedules, he then fits in as many other requests as possible.



Plans for the Star Spangled Celebration are under way! The event is scheduled for Sat, July 3, from 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM at the Sports Complex. For entertainment, the Blue Leaf's will take the stage at 7:00 PM, and play a variety of classic rock music. They will play until the fireworks begin at 10:00 PM.

Drone Fun!

Check out drone video footage of the VRC and Sports Complex at: <https://youtu.be/DE3oQQw0p9A>



A total of 442 kids are registered for Baseball/Softball. This tops the total participation numbers for 2019 (439) and 2020 (395). Coaches' background checks are complete, teams finalized, and practices began. Pictures were held Sat, April 17. Opening Day is Sat, April 24.

Middle School Tennis

17 students are participating in Middle School Tennis.



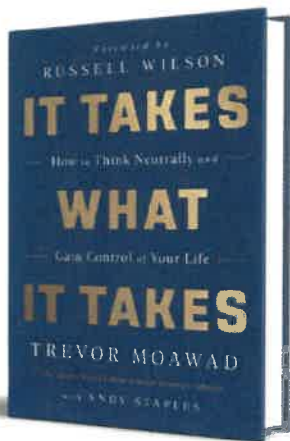
RECREATION CENTER



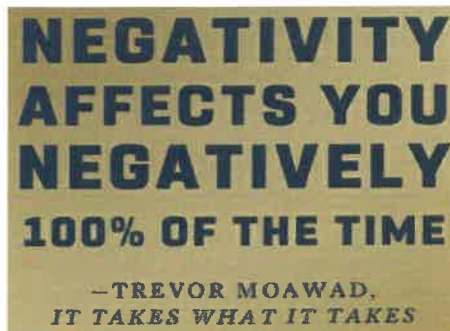
Alicia is researching the possibility of streaming music throughout the VRC in lieu of playing Mix 107.7 at all times.



The VRC's 20 Year Anniversary celebration on April 8 was a success! Thank you to all that participated. 67 Anniversary t-shirts were sold, which means approximately \$700 will be donated to the Youth Recreation Scholarship Fund!



8 members of the Recreation Center Staff are taking part in a Book Club. They are reading *It Takes What It Takes* by Trevor Moawad. Every 2 weeks they are reading 2 Chapters, and meeting to discuss. *It Takes What It Takes* shows you how to deal with even the most challenging circumstances, and thrive. The author reveals how top performers hone their competitive edge by effectively managing both negativity and failure, as well as positivity and success. The key is neutral thinking.



Preferred Trainers

Preferred Trainer March revenue is showing great signs of rebounding from Covid. The 5-year average revenue in March is \$804. In March 2021, Trainer revenue was \$895.

Covid-19 Update

Due to changes in the State of Ohio's Covid-19 mandate, as of Wednesday, April 7, the Recreation Center is open to members, residents, and non-residents for daily admissions, along with reopening of the lobby. Also, the Men's, Women's, and Family Locker rooms are now open for restrooms, changing, and showering.

May Group Fitness Class Spotlight

The May free classes will be early morning:
Tue/Thu 6:00 AM Total Body with Bob
Sat 7:00 AM Cardio Physique with Sue

March Senior Incentive Winners - \$25 Kroger Gift Card

Frank Bauer - 20	Jeannie Roundtree - 17
James Zeller - 19	Sue Wigginton - 13



Climbing Wall

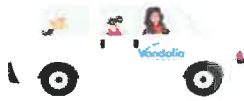
The VRC Climbing Wall is reopening on May 1! Beginning on May 1, the Climbing Wall will be open on Tuesday's from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM, and Saturday's from 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM.

Member/Resident - \$2.50/Climber
Non-Resident - \$3.50/Climber

MediGold

MediGold Representative, Linda Ankney, will have a table set up during Silver Sneakers class times to share information and provide handouts. This will be setup 8:00 AM - 10:30 AM on 4/27, 5/25, and 6/29.

SENIOR CENTER



Van Tran

- Doug Good resigned from driving for the Van Tran program on March 18. He had been with the program since 2008. Thank you to Doug for the 13 years of donated time and energy he's given to the program. He will be missed!

- Many thanks to the 4 new Van Tran Drivers! Rides will now be offered 5 days a week!

- Tom Hertlein
- Diana Hertlein

- Art Barnes
- Rob Bradley, Jr.



Bruce and Vevia Enix have decided to resume teaching their Golden Qi (seated Tia Chi) exercise class in May.

Covid-19 Update

Toni continues to get tested for Covid-19 every two weeks.



The Annual Bazaar was not held last year, and it was decided to not have it this year as well. Because of this, the Senior Center had more puzzles and books than they could store. On April 7, a volunteer with Project READ came and got 50% of the puzzles and 85% of the books. Project READ collects books for adults and children to help them read, and also gives books to Food Pantries to be given away.

CASSEL HILLS POOL

Survey Update

13 Cassel Hills Pool survey postcards have been redeemed for a family to receive one day free admission to the VRC.



Pool passes went on sale Thursday, April 15. Social media comments about CHP opening have been very positive! 350 individual memberships have been purchased so far.

Survey Results

The Wright State University Capstone students will present their Cassel Hills Pool survey findings to City Council on Monday, May 3. The following are some of the results:

- Students and Staff would have been pleased with 50-100 responses. They were blown away to receive 839!
- Of the 839 respondents, 84% were Vandalia residents, 10% Butler Township, and 6% other.
- 87% of respondents feel the pool is valuable or extremely valuable to the City of Vandalia.
- 60% of respondents want the pool to stay at its current location. Many comments were written in to indicate respondents want to keep an amenity on the East side of town.
- 21% of respondents want the pool moved to the Sports Complex.
- The biggest competition for Cassel Hills Pool is the Vandalia Rec Center Pool, followed by Tipp City Aquatic Center, and then the Kroger Aquatic Center in Huber Heights.

Discussion Topics for May Meeting

If you have any discussion topics for the May 19 meeting, please let Steve know!