



Presented June 4, 2012

## **Town Council Report: May, 2012 Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:**

### *Zionsville Parks Golf Course*

- Weather was great in May with only the Memorial Day weekend getting perhaps a bit too hot, our gross operating profit for May 2012, was ~\$41,586. This is over \$12,500 more than the same figure for last month. The 2011 gross operating profit for May was ~\$34,344. Of course last year was a generally a poor year weather-wise. However this year's May numbers is also higher than then both the May figures in 2009 and 2010. In both cases the golf-round fees for this past month beat those two earlier years' numbers by more than \$4,000.
- The new golf carts have all been delivered and are very well received by the patrons. Many are quite proud that they have "paid their own way" since the carts were funded entirely from the golf course proceeds. Golf course staff report the new fee structure has generated few comments.

### *Events/Activities in the Parks*

- The Park Department's Zion Nature Center will be starting up their Day Camp programs this June. These sold-out sessions will help many children enjoy and learn about the environment.
- The 10th Annual running of the Zionsville Anti Mini-Marathon went very well. 150 participants started with at least 5 or 6 doing some distance shorter than 13.1 miles down the Rail Trail and through Starkey Park. We have a core group of dedicated volunteers who continue this tongue-in-cheek tradition originally started by local running enthusiast Budd Glassberg.
- The 2nd Annual, Bicycle Rodeo and Family Fun Ride was held May 19th at Elm Street Green. The Rodeo provided children with instruction about bicycle safety and allowed practice of their riding skills on the uncrowded, paved trails at Elm Street Green. This portion was better attended than last year with a few families bringing multiple siblings in for this portion. Immediately following the Rodeo was the 7-mile Family Fun Ride. This course was run predominately on Zionsville trails, with a couple short sections on calmer subdivision roads. We had about 10 less riders than last year's ride. This may be due to the fact it was the same time as the Brick Street Market event and the opening of the Farmer's Market, and also an all-day end-of-the year tourney for baseball at Lions Park. Special thanks to Nebo Ridge Bicycles for assisting us with this event!
- The nonprofit group, Maplelawn Farmstead Inc, had about 35-40 people at the May 6th open house. This celebrated the inclusion of farmstead buildings and grounds on the National Historic Register. While not directly part of the Park Department, the organization and the department are certainly "Park Partners" in the provision of such historically based programs and events. The Park Board/Department provides the space and the Maplelawn group programs it.

### *Other Highlighted Matters*

- Just a short note that we have gotten several complements these past few weeks about the upkeep of the park system. While it is always a challenge and everyone can always strive to excel, it's nice our citizenry are noticing our efforts and complementing the results. Many who have commented seem to understand what a constant challenge it can be given the variety of issues we can face on a day to day basis.