



Presented June 3, 2013

## **Town Council Report: May, 2013 Parks and Recreation Activity Highlights:**

### *Zionsville Parks Golf Course (ZGC)*

- We had a very decent Memorial Day weekend even though the threatening rain kept a few from committing to a few hours of golf. Our gross operating profits for the 4-day weekend were ~7,000 this year. Last year, our best ever, had that same 4-day holiday weekend figure at nearly \$7,500 in gross operating profit. The gross operating profits for the entire month of May were at ~\$37,398. This is down from our best May ever in 2012 at ~\$41,586 but higher than the month of May in 2011, which was ~\$34,344 (in a poor weather year). It is interesting to note that 2013's May's number fall within a few \$100's for the gross operating profits for each of the May figures in 2009 and 2010.
- Our fleet of green golf carts is back online and running well after the flood. The 20 rental carts we had while we were putting ours through the mechanical checklist goes back the first week of June. In other flood related news, the upper level of the pro-shop should be finished the week of the Town Council meeting and the reservations operation will be shifted to the upper level from the make-shift situation in place during refurbishment. The lower level should be finished within a week or so and that should complete the pro-shop's recovery from the April Flooding.

### *Events/Activities in the Parks*

- Our Garden Plot program is fully operational at both Elm Street Green (30 plots) and Heritage Trail Park (60 plots + two overflows). The gardener's interest filled all available plots and then some. The rainy conditions of the flood slowed down the farmer who tills our plots but we were up and running in early May.
- As a new offering this year, we also had a Gardening Program in early May. We utilized local gardening experts to present gardening tips and time saving tricks for gardeners of all levels. This Program was held in the main shelter at Elm Street Green and was very well received by the 25 participants.
- The 3rd Annual Family Fun Ride was held May 18th at Elm Street Green. The Rodeo provided riders with instruction about bicycle safety and allowed them to bring in their bikes for a quick safety check and tune-up by mechanics from our co-sponsor, Nebo Ridge Bike Shop. Immediately following was the 7-mile Family Fun Ride. This course is predominately on Zionsville trails, with a couple short sections on calmer subdivision roads. We had a record number of participants with 38-40 riding up the hill and out of the park. We planned the ride so that it finishes in the main street area so that participants could then go enjoy the opening day at the Farmers Market, the Brick Street Market, or just a visit to the Dairy Queen or other vendor.
- The Zion Nature Center will be starting up their Day Camp programs soon. These sold-out sessions will help many children enjoy and learn about the environment.
- The Lincoln Park Concert Series is again starting up for several dates in June and July. This year is a new cooperative venture between the Zionsville Cultural District and the Parks Department. We provide the venue and some logistical support and they book the talent and the program the site. These concerts are from a variety of artists and are on Wednesday nights at 7pm.

### *Heritage Trail Park (HTP)*

- Construction moves apace on various portions of the Heritage Trail Park project at 400S and 875E. Concrete work is being poured and the playground equipment for 2-5 years old has arrived. The picnic shelter is being fabricated and will be shipped when completed. The trail rough-grading is proceeding as well.
- A third party telecom provider will be shifting some utility service lines that impeded the flow line of our underground storm sewer on site. This is delaying matters a bit on that portion of the project immediately along 875E, but we are essentially at their mercy as far as timing of their utility crews. Our contractor is working on other portions of the site while this is underway.

### *Other Highlighted Matters*

- The "Pull for Parks" is completed for this year with several volunteer groups removing pounds and pounds of garlic mustard from several of our parks. The weather did hurt us with extremely delayed spring warm-up slowing the growth of plants. We only have a finite time window to get them pulled before they are too mature. Most volunteer groups' time fill up more fully as we come out of traditional April clean-up dates and are forced to schedule in May. We also had to cancel a whole Saturday's worth of volunteers due to the floodwaters. Some of these will be rescheduled but likely, others cannot be.
- The supplier for equipment at the Mulberry Fields Splashpad is shipping out some new in-ground spray fixtures as part of the process. These are supposed to arrive the week of the Town Council meeting. That fabrication/shipment delay coupled with the weather has slowed the contractor out there somewhat. Even so the project is still expected to be done by late June before the weather traditionally begins getting significantly hot in July.