

January

Farm Wagon	95,107,87,88
Nerf Wars	54
Wells Winter 100 Challenge	221
Crochet Lessons	10
Indoor Yoga	18
Tot Time	8
Open Gym	117
Special Tot Play Day	13
Theater Thursday	10
Weekday Walkers	55
Hue Can Paint	5
January Pavilion Rentals	8
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class

Our department won the Indiana Parks and Recreation Photo Contest!

February



Farm Wagon	120, 110, 111, 117
Chilly Chili	104
Crochet Lessons	10
Snowman Contest	18 882 votes
Theater Thursday	15
Mother Son Nerf War	199
Daddy Daughter Dance	256
Indoor Yoga	32
Tot Time February	10
Open Gym February	112
Weekday Walkers	44
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
February Pavilion Rentals	6
Gym Rental	1

News Channel 15 came to the Mother-Son Nerf War!

March

Farm Wagon	113, 120, 131,126,130
Indoor Yoga	32
Tot Time March	13
Open Gym	100
Special Tot Gold Hunt	24 15 kids/9 adults
Lucky the Leprechaun Hunt	6 winners
Theater Thursday	15
Weekday Walkers March	52
March Pavilion Rentals	8
Cake Decorating Contest	17
Spring Coloring Contest	83
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Gym Rentals	1

Received a \$10,000 grant for Kehoe Concerts

Received a \$9,078 grant for ADA swings & tables



April

Farm Wagon	130,139,133,140	Senior Snippets Movie/Book	26
Bark in the Park Contests	9	Senior Snippets STEAM	18
2 Princess Tea Parties	133	Senior Snippets Games Galore	19
Paint Night in the Park	11	Senior Snippets History	17
Easter Egg Hunt	422	Senior Snippets Foreign Countries	23
Dog Bone Hunt	27 pets	Senior Snippets Crochet	9
Sensory Sensitive Egg Hunt	17	Senior Snippets Healthy Living	8
Theater Thursday	9		
April Pavilion Rentals	13		
Indoor Yoga	26		
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class		
Theater Thursday (Dolittle -PG)	9		

Awarded Next Level Trails Grant \$404,035 for the Interurban trail

Published article in the Profile Magazine (Holiday Spirit Contest)





May

Farm Wagon	137, 141, 139, 152, 134
Indoor Yoga	24
Swim Lesson Registration	118
Brunch & Bubbles	15
Power Wheels in the Park	23
Kid's Bike Rodeo	14
Firefly Ballet Tour	200
Hue Can Paint	9
Nerf Wars	23
May Pavilion Rentals	16
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Gym Rentals	2
Movie/Book Club	13, 13,13
Senior STEAM	10, 10,10
Games Galore	8, 8,7
Healthy Living	7,5
History Class	8, 10
Foreign Countries	14, 12
Crochet	4,5,4
Yarn bombs	56
Theater Thursday	12

June

Farm Wagon	145,137,155,161
Intro to Pickleball	14-16 each week
Gaga Ball	65 kids 26 adults
Craft Club	56,41, 29, 43
Crafting for a Cause	38, 41, 25, 28
5K in 5 weeks	48,54,47
Bowling	34
Tot time	19, 8, 5, 5
Perfect Pet Intro basics	10,10,10
Egg Drop Challenge	30
Tot time Lego day	15
Lego Play Day	24
Art in the Park	53, 55,37
Wabash River Paddle	33 kayaks
Indoor Yoga	42
Theater Thursday	9
Candle Making	10
June Pavilion Rentals	31
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Light up the Night Bike Ride	42
Community Worship Concert	297

June

Continued...

Chicks Run	98
Bubble Dash	10
Foam Party	178
Rock Painting	66
Matchbox Car play day	40
Animal Explorers	93
Fuse bead magnet	14
Loom Hot Pad	14
Dance Class ages 3-6	20
Shaving Cream Fight	87
Last Child Kehoe Concert	900
Fastest Kid in Town	67
Dino Dig	53
Dance Class ages 7+	5
Tot time Play Day	6
Paper Skyscraper	7
Stuff and Fluff	82
Gym Rentals	4



July

Farm Wagon	172,171,159
Art in the Park	55
5 in 5 K race 4 & 5	48,58
Fleetwood Gold Concert	445 (at rain site)
Superhero Race	57
Classic Car Cruise	29 cars/ 67 people
OK Boomer Band	235
Crafting for a Cause	28
Jr. Veterinarian Day	27
Drawing Class	15,17,18
Bucket Drumming	38
Beyblade Spin-Off	15
Thursday Group Runs	4-6 each week
Tumbling Class	25, 16
Theater Thursday	14
Hue Can Paint	7
July Pavilion Rentals	26
Yoga in the Park	5-8 each night
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Gym Rentals	3
Tennis Lessons	59 students/ 521 lessons
Nerf Wars	21
Simply Elton Concert	758

Awarded LARE Grant of \$33,600 for Greenway Study



August

Farm Wagon	167,147,167,164, 151
Theater Thursday	13
August Pavilion Rentals	19
Indoor Yoga	25
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Gym Rentals	1
Sail On Beach Boys Tribute	876
Jeep Cruise-In	61 Jeeps, 133 people
Sugar Shot Concert	282
Magical Park	130 games
Kiddo Cupcake Decorating	55
Touch a Truck	871+
Noon Swim attendance	119
Pool/Pavilion rentals	41
Pool report	11,111
	May/June 6,323;
	July/Aug 4,788
	(1,215 more than in 2021)

2022 Readers' Choice Awards

River greenway 2nd Place "Best Place to Take Visitors"
Kehoe Concerts 2nd Place "Best Community Event"
Washington Park 3rd "Place Best Park/Playground"
Bluffton City Gym 3rd Place "Best Fitness Facility"



September

Parlor City Trot	176
Farm Wagon	119,125, 130, 160
Nerf Gun Wars	23
Theater Thursday	6
Indoor Yoga	15
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 12-20 per class
Walk Steady for Rocksteady	130 raised \$14,000
Hue Can Paint	10
Senior Snippets Movie Club	15
Senior Snippets Jewelry Class	11
Empower me to be clutter-free	14
Wells County History	12
Senior Estate Planning	15
Crochet lessons	9
Outdoor Pickleball	69
Pavilion Rentals	14

Awarded \$608,270 LWCF Grant for Lancaster Park!

Awarded Walmart Grant for Lion's Park \$1,000



October

Farm Wagon	160,145,127, 135
Vaccination Clinic	31
Weekday Walking	8
Tot Time	13
5 in 5	47, 45, 45
Charcuterie Bites & Flights	40
Tot Fire Department Visit	33
Theater Thursday	12
Senior Movie Club	16, 14, 14
Jewelry Club	12, 12, 12
Empower me to be clutter-free	14, 8
Senior History Class	9, 8, 7
Senior Treat Trade	9
Crochet	9, 5, 6
Medicare Class	4, 4
Fall Coloring Contest	84
Pavilion Rentals	11
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 15-22 per class
Gym Rentals	1
Virtual Costume Contest	28 entries, 1,447 votes!
Autumn Adventure	1980

November



Farm Wagon	149, 144,142,135
Weekday Walking	45
Open Gym	180
Tot Time	13
5 in 5	115
WOOF Trail Run	120
Tot Police Department Visit	9
Beyblade Spin-Off	19
Crochet	6,6,5
Theater Thursday	17
Programmers Summit	38
Start to Finish Presentation	37
Wobble Before You Gobble	42
Pavilion Rentals	12
Hue Can Paint	6
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 15-22 per class
Gym Rentals	1

Awarded IPRA Innovative Award at State Conference
for Power Wheels in the Park Event.





December

Farm Wagon	141,130,129, 78
Weekday Walking	52
Open Gym	131
Hue Can Paint	5
Santa's Mailbox	130
Gingerbread Contest	7 entries, 653 votes
Paws & Claus	65 people 29 pets
Cookies with Mrs. Claus	32
Special Needs Visit	16
Winter Wonderland	229
Santa Drive-By in Firetruck	124, 203, 144
Search for Santa's Helper	14 winners
Tot Time	12
Theater Thursday	11
Pavilion Rentals	8
Rock Steady Boxing	avg 15-22 per class
Gym Rentals	1
Positivi-tree	33
2022 City Gym Memberships	374
2022 Dog Park Memberships	81

Awarded a \$3,734 grant from Wells County
Foundation for Jefferson Park Scoreboard

Serve with the following committees

Bluffton Free Street Fair

Bluffton NOW!

IPRA Conference Planning Committee

Kehoe Concert Committee

Parlor City Christmas

Parlor City Market

Wells County Tourism

Wells County Trails

Wellness Matters

Total Event Participants: 23,915

Estimated Volunteer Hours: 2,329.5hrs

Facebook Followers: 9,074

Twitter Followers: 655

Instagram Followers: 647

Volunteer of the year 2022: Jeani Klaus

2022 Park Improvements \$73,304.37

LIONS PARK

ADA parking at Lions, sidewalk & BB court redone
Removed Pea Gravel at Lion's and replaced with mulch
Installed Sit N Spin toy and added 3 slide wear mats
New ADA swing at Lion's Playground
New ADA picnic table
Added gravel to parking area and dugout entrances

BLUFFTON CITY GYM

New LED lights in Racquetball Court
Repair ceiling in Racquetball Court
New showers in Men's Restroom at City Gym
New Metal door with ADA closure at City Gym
Installed handrail in City Gym
Sauna element maintenance (clean and paint floor etc.)
Repaired/repainted city gym/ new window blinds

RIVER GREENWAY / INTERURBAN TRAIL

Added stone and mulch to Wabash River Park
Repainted River Greenway and Rotary Park signs
Painted guardrail on River Greenway
Planted 9 trees
Trash can at Reeds car wash
2 new trail counters
New ADA picnic table

JEFFERSON PARK

Jefferson Park Scoreboard
Added power to pitching mound on the big diamond
New ADA picnic table
New ADA toilets and grab bars
New hand dryers

WELLS COMMUNITY POOL

20 new Adirondack chairs for the pool
Added shade umbrellas and basketball goal to pool
18 new pool lounge chairs
Painted Pavilion at Wells Community Pool

WASHINGTON PARK

New Merry-go-round at Washington park
Installed handrail at Washington Park
New ADA swing in the Playground
New ADA picnic table
2 New benches
Planted 3 trees

ROUSH PARK

New Ice Machine Roush Park
Added outlet to outside of Girls' Restroom at Roush
Painted Roush Press box & repaired Press Box trim
Poured two new pads to install benches
New ADA swing in Roush Playground
Sealed and repainted cement elephant and ape
New ADA picnic table
Added Playground mulch
Added gravel to the parking area and dugout entrances
Planted a tree
Repainted inside of Roush 1 Concession stand
New ADA toilets and grab bars
New hand dryers

VETERAN'S PARK

New gazebo roof
Landscaping and planted new grass

KEHOE PARK

Pressure Wash all concrete steps and stage
New ADA toilet and grab bars
New hand dryers

PICKETT'S RUN

Replacement splash Pad Censor
New bench

K-9 Kommons

New stick holder at Dog Park

All fields have new diamond dirt
52 New trash cans with lids

GRANTS **\$1,070,728.00**

Lancaster Park (LWCF)	\$608,270.00
Interurban Trail (DNR)	\$404,035.00
River Greenway Study (LARE)	\$33,600.00
Kehoe Concerts (WCF)	\$10,000.00
ADA Improvements (WCF)	\$9,078.00
Jefferson Park Scoreboard (WCF)	\$3,745.00
Playground Improvements (Walmart)	\$2,000.00

DONATIONS **\$512,832.00**

Trail/Lancaster Park Donors	\$462,700.00
Rock Steady Boxing and Fitness Events	\$24,422.00
Kehoe Concert Donors	\$16,450.00
Unrestricted Park Donations	\$9,260.00

INCOME **\$116,847.59**

Pool Admissions	\$32,855.95
Swim Lessons	\$5,216.00
Pool Rentals	\$10,248.15
Pool Concessions	\$18,706.02
Roush Concessions	\$13,041.47
Pavilion Rentals	\$19,455.00
Gym Memberships	\$16,110.00
Dog Park Memberships	\$1,215.00

Total: \$1,700,407.59

Compliments

Deborah - "We moved to Bluffton one year ago, and we love it here! One of our favorite things is all of our beautiful parks! We plan our walks around the parks! We love taking our granddaughter to the parks. Bluffton Park service does a great job!"

Melissa – "Bluffton Parks, you rock! I wish all the other small towns would try to compete with you and your awesomeness! It makes me want to live in Bluffton!"

Mandy – "Hi! I just wanted to say thank you for providing the sled shed with sleds at Lancaster Park. We have a sled, but today my kids wanted to try and make their own, which did work, but when the excitement of their own sled wore off, they were really excited to be able to utilize the sleds you guys had provided. Great idea!"

Debby – "Hey Laurie, just wanted to send you a quick note to say thanks for hosting the Chilly Chili. It is sort of a road trip for our group from Fort Wayne, and we had a blast. Loved the trails, the cozy indoor space to wait for stragglers, and your accommodating and welcoming attitude toward everyone from the beginning of the pack to the end. It's great to find races where you can feel safe encouraging all your run buddies, from the go-getters to the less experienced, to attend and know they'll have a good experience. The Chilly Chili is one of them. And I know it's hard work to pull it off. Thank you!!"

American Mortgage - Mother/Son Nerf Wars event: "This looks like so much fun! What a great way to provide for this community!"

Concerning Tot Time: "We are from Warren, and I home-school my kids." "We come to Bluffton because your Parks Department has so many fun activities for the kids."

Susan- "You have added more neat toys. My grandkids always enjoyed these days. I'm happy/sad that they are in 1st and 3rd grade now. You have an excellent program. We now enjoy the special events and all the summer programs. Thank you for all you do." – Tot Time

Tori – "I've said it before, and I'll say it again: Our parks department is the best! Thanks for another great event, Karla (and everyone else who helped!)" – Power Wheels in the Park

Christen - Very well put together race! I loved the medals and door prizes and all the goodies at the end 😊 thanks for everything! – Chicks Run

Robyn – Worth the drive. Went there for the 1st time yesterday. Regret not going more!
-Wells Community Pool

Jenny – Yes! It is my favorite pool for miles around! We have a water park here in our town, but I absolutely love Wells County Pool and have been coming up there for almost 20 years now. You sure can't beat those cinnamon pretzels that they sell at the snack bar. Kids love the big slide, and I appreciate the two-foot section and the fact that you can have life jackets, floaties, and inner tubes or swim rings. – Wells Community Pool

Martha – "I love this so much! It's a picnic table with an extended top that allows people in wheelchairs to pull right up to the table and enjoy time with friends in the great outdoors. Thanks to @Blufftonparks for making this available." – New ADA Picnic Tables

Mindy – "Tennis lessons this week for this guy. Both boys are bowling now! So thankful for our Bluffton Parks Dept. So many fun/free activities thru the summer. Our calendar is full." – Summer Recreation

Liz – I'm so pleased with all the great music coming through our town of Bluffton. Thanks to all who participated in these events. God Bless us. – Kehoe Concert Series

Tammy – winner of the Cake Wars online event: "Thank you so much. This contest is as certainly fun, and I never expected the voting to turn out the way it did."

Trish – "Thank you so much for hosting this event! Lorelei had so much fun planning and creating her first gingerbread house. And a big thank you to everyone who voted as well. She has been doing a happy dance all morning!" – Gingerbread Contest

Andrew – "Thank you, Santa, for taking the time; you don't know how much I appreciate everyone that takes the time to do this for our kids; my son was there today, and I feel so much joy as a parent; thank you All!!!!!!!!!!!!!!" – Special Needs Santa Visit.

Heather - "I love this so much!!! Thank you for doing this for our community!" - Santa Claus is Coming to Town on a Fire Truck Event

April - "This was so much fun! The kids loved it, and their reactions to Santa were the best" - Santa Claus is Coming to Town on a Fire Truck Event

Berlin – "Thank you, Santa and BFD, for coming through Bluffton woods. I enjoyed watching the neighborhood children's happiness at seeing you!!"

Dear Parks Department, Thank you for all the activities that our school can do, and I was the winner of the snowman competition. Thank you for all the activities to do. – **Derek**

Julia – "We are SO blessed to have such a great team putting together fun activities for our city!!" Innovative Award Announcement

Susan - Congratulations. The parks department does an excellent job. Thanks for all you do. - Innovative Award Announcement