



Pointing Westward

VOLUME 28—ISSUE 6

Like us on



June 2020

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Trails & Parks Important for Physical and Mental Health

by Lorie Van Hook

There has been an unprecedented increase in individuals using trails and parks daily, since the onset of the Corona virus pandemic and efforts to offset exposure during quarantine. Right now, more than ever, it has been made clear how important trails are to our community, and never before has trails advocacy been more serious, or significant.

Because of quarantine isolation from group and team activities, trails have kept us all active while practicing social distancing. More individuals and families are turning to trails as places to stay physically and mentally healthy. It has been a difficult time for all of us while we have adjusted to this new way of life—although many of us have struggled to find a sense of normalcy through it all, trails and parks have been in the forefront, providing a means of individual positive diversion, physical activity and recreation.

Health and medical experts continue to promote safe, physical activity during this time, for maintaining personal well-being. Trails and parks are here for us to enjoy, whether finding a sense of peace, or in our efforts to stay physically active. Let us continue to follow social distancing and safety protocol, but let us also remain positively focused on physical, mental, and emotional health as efforts to reopen begin. Visit a new trail, or a park you have not experienced before! To see the list of trails within our region, visit: <https://www.walkbikeevv.org/maps-and-plans> or visit the Evansville Department of Parks and Recreation: <http://evansvillegov.org/city/department/index.php?structureid=22>



Due to the COVID-19 safety measures, all paper printing services have been postponed until further notice. Electronic newsletters will be emailed and made available on the Westside Improvement Association website and all social media platforms. Thank you for your patience as we work through this time.

Helfrich Gateway Gardens Work Day Scheduled

We Need You!



We will be meeting Saturday, June 13th at 9:00am at the corner of St. Joe Ave. & Maryland St. to turn over the mulch that is there, trim back the tulips and weed, weed, and WEED!

Please bring gloves, garden tools and small rakes if you have them.

Social distancing will be recognized.



from the President —

I would like to start by congratulating all the 2020 graduates. All the college, high school, 8th grade and even the 5th graders who are moving on to bigger things. It has definitely been a different type of year to graduate. I commend all the teachers who changed their usual methods of teaching to make the school year

successful. But let us not forget the parents and students themselves who took on virtual learning.

Looking forward, summer is here and we get to en-

joy the fresh air and maybe a family vacation. We should make the best of the situation and visit the many parks in the city. Support a local business on the west side. Spend time with your family.

Westside Improvement Association has changed the way we operate as well. Our June general meeting will be a board meeting. We are looking forward to our September picnic and our booth at the fall festival this fall. Things may look different, but we are optimistic.

Please stay safe and enjoy your summer.

Melanie

Harwood Baseball Complex receives tune up

Summer baseball is something special. Kids get their uniform, glove, and bat and prepare for that first pitch. Now, Evansville youth players can get excited about playing at an improved field at the Harwood Baseball Complex.

The West Side Nut Club wrapped up their spring project for the Harwood Booster Club at Gaiser Field on Saturday. The Evansville group replaced the infield with fresh dirt, installed better lighting, and added new bleachers for the field, plus other additions.



Harwood Booster Club Treasurer, Carolyn Willis, says it was amazing to see it finished. "When I walked up there, I had tears because it looked so good. We are so thrilled and excited, they got the dirt going and we are so excited they got this whole field is up and running and it's just beautiful."

Harwood's Booster Club says the majority of the kids will be able to see the field for the first time on Tuesday.

- WEHT Tristate Homepage

WIA June Membership Picnic Postponed Until September

Due to social distancing and other advisories coming from our state and CDC, the WIA Board agreed that having a gathering at this time was unwise. It was decided to have our picnic for the September General Meeting. We are looking into having it on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon.

Our June General Meeting is canceled. The WIA Board will be meeting Wednesday, June 24 at 5:00pm.

Please be watching for the September General Meeting/Picnic date and time in our next newsletter.



DOC'S WORDS OF WISDOM

**Life is really simple,
but we insist on
making it complicated.**

- Confucius

Civic Center Opens Monday, June 15, 2020.

The public will be permitted to enter the Civic Center with health-screening restrictions. During this time, the City of Evansville will continue to consult the Vanderburgh County Health Department, local hospitals, and other state local officials in determining any further related COVID-19 steps moving forward. Please continue to practice COVID-19 safety precautions. You

See the Latest Trails & Parks COVID-19 Updates



The Evansville Trails Coalition has compiled the latest local and state COVID-19 trails and parks safety, updates and re-opening information. Visit their website to see information:

www.WalkBikeEvv.org/COVID19



**BAZAAR
OPENS
JULY 4,
9:00am -1:00pm**



Mesker Park Zoo will tentatively reopen with restrictions on June 14, 2020

Zoos are included in stage 4 of the Indiana "Back On Track Plan," which is tentatively June 14th. Please note, if you have a membership certificate that says "Redeem by May 1". We will, of course, honor that certificate once we reopen. Please do not worry about the date on those certificates at this time.

Due to updated guidelines issued by local and federal officials, Mesker Park Zoo & Botanic Garden will be closed to the public indefinitely as part of our ongoing efforts to protect our staff, visitors, and the animals in our care. We will continue to evaluate the situation and will open our gates as soon as it is safe to do so.

The Zoo relies heavily on membership and attendance for financial support, we thank you for your continued commitment of support during this time. Expiration dates for current zoo members will be extended to reflect the length of time during the closure. If you purchase a membership while the zoo is closed, they will send a receipt for your records, and will activate and mail your membership packet once the opening date is established. Visit the Mesker Park Zoo website for the latest news and information: www.meskerparkzoo.com/

THANK YOU CENTURY MEMBERS

For Your Positive Impact on Our Westside Community



Bill Schenk

Old Tyme Deli

MEAT SHOP PLATE LUNCHES

Jack Huffman

LiUNA!

LOCAL 561

Feel the Power

In Memory of
Paul Farmer

FRIENDS OF

MAYOR WINNECKE



Monie & Mark Freeman

Robinson
LAW OFFICE

David K. Robinson



**Gordon & Carol
Dingman**

PAUL'S PHARMACY
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When opportunity knocks, Answer!

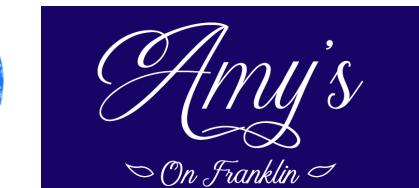
Lee K Jorgensen
Investor/Entrepreneur

**Rick & Karen
Reising**

Schaffstein
Truck Clean LLC

**Keith & Sharon
Hollander**

**Neighbors of
Steve Folz**



**JOHN E.
DILLINGHAM
INC.**

**Paul's
MENSWEAR**

HOWELL PAR 3



**Gene and Charlotte
Warren & Family**

North Park Shopping Center
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Diamond Valley
Federal Credit Union

Richard Mitchell ASLA Inc.
Landscape Architect