

Gateway to the Great Outdoors



Celebrating 50 Years
1970-2020

Inside: History of Growth, Park District benefactors, looking ahead and more.

This promises to be a big year for the Clermont Park District; it's our 50th anniversary.

For 50 years we've been intertwined in the fabric of the Clermont County, one of the institutions helping raise the quality of life for our residents and visitors. For 50 years we've provided places where individuals, families and friends can get outside, get active and create lasting memories.

For half a century – as our mission statement says - we've worked "to acquire, plan, develop, program and maintain park property in the county for residents and nonresidents alike. To secure the preservation of open space and places of scenic or historic value."

In 1970 – when the average gallon of gas cost 36 cents – the Park District existed only on paper. It took two years for the former Rotary Club Park in Batavia to be called Sycamore Park and open to the public.

Sycamore remains our biggest – and busiest – park. But we've grown to include the adjacent Wilson Nature Preserve, Pattison Park in Owensville, Hartman Log Cabin in Jackson Township, Chilo Lock 34 Park and Visitors Center (and the adjacent Crooked Run Nature Preserve), Kelley Nature Preserve in Miami Township, Shor Park in Union Township and the Williamsburg-Batavia Hike/Bike Trail.

We have partnerships with the Clermont Soil and Water Conservation District and the Office of Environmental Quality to protect county waterways and make permanent green spaces.

Clermont County voters overwhelmingly approved a .5-mil, 10-year tax levy in 2016. We are proud of the tangible results produced so far with our strategic stewardship of those funds. Highlights include new picnic shelters, restrooms and playgrounds at Shor, Sycamore and Pattison parks; restoration and painting of the iconic water tower at Chilo Lock 34 Park; upgrades to HVAC and lighting systems at Pattison Lodge, Hartman Log Cabin and the Chilo Lock 34 Park Visitors Center; and the acquisition of 134 acres and buildings on the former Stricker property next to Pattison Park, where we're making plans for a new Park District headquarters.

We look forward to creating new facilities and opportunities at 10-Mile Creek Preserve in Pierce Township and the Grailville Preserve in Loveland.

I invite you to attend a naturalist program, hike a trail, look for eagles, visit our river museum at Chilo, stop and smell the native wildflowers, launch your kayak, rent a picnic shelter for a family reunion and experience all the Park District has to offer.

Please keep an eye on our website at www.clermontparks.org and our social media channels for 50th anniversary celebration details. We're grateful for the first 50 years and hope to keep you coming to - and enjoying - the Park District for the next 50.

Sincerely,

Chris Clingman
Director





CLERMONT PARK DISTRICT

Board of Park Commissioners

William Stearns, *Chair*

Kenneth Stewart

David Anspach

Founding Board Members (Feb. 28, 1970)

Dorothy Brokamp

Louis Moore

William Notton

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50th anniversary celebrations

On the cover: The horse-farm-themed picnic shelter at Shor Park features restrooms and storage space. It was the centerpiece of a \$1.4 million improvement project - dedicated July 16, 2019 - that ushered in a new era of upgrades and opportunities across the Clermont Park District, which celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2020.

History

On February 5, 1970, Clermont County Probate Judge Charles Jackson signed the Clermont County Park District into existence. He appointed the first board members - Dorothy Brokamp, William Notton and Louis Moore - on Feb. 28.

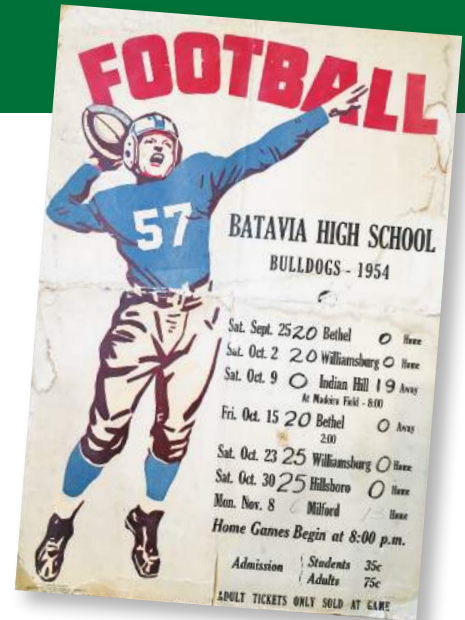
It took a year for the Park District to own property and two before any parks opened to the public. In the ensuing 50 years the Park District has grown from existing only on paper to managing nearly 1,000 acres of parks, nature preserves and green spaces.

Take a look at some of the highlights of how the Park District grew.

Sycamore Park

The first – and only – property in the newly formed Clermont County Park District was Sycamore Park in Batavia. Once the home field for the Batavia High School football team – current board member Ken Stewart played offensive line for the Bulldogs there in the 1950s – the Park District obtained 23 acres nestled between Ohio 132 and the East Fork of the Little Miami River from the Batavia Rotary Club in 1971, renovated and opened it in 1972. The Park District – with the help of a Clean Ohio Grant - purchased an additional 30 acres to expand the park to 53 acres in 2003. Sycamore Park features a paved walking path, picnic shelters, restrooms, playgrounds, tennis and basketball courts and river access.

Another Clean Ohio Grant and a donation from the Wilson family provided the Park District with the James L. and Frances Wilson Nature Preserve, 105 acres adjacent to Sycamore Park. A third grant, a donation from the Pattison Foundation and another gift from the Wilsons in 2013 procured 40 more acres and brought the preserve up to its current 145-acre size.



Sycamore Park – originally known as Kahle Field before it became Rotary Club Park – was home to the Batavia High School football team in the 1950s



Workers assemble the gazebo behind Pattison Lodge in 1992. The Lodge and gazebo are home to more than 100 weddings every year.

Pattison Park

Aletheia Pattison – daughter of John M. Pattison, Ohio's 43rd governor – donated land she inherited from his brother, Louis Pattison. The 24 acres south of U.S. Highway 50 near Owensville created Pattison Park in 1972.

In 1975, she donated 18 more acres north of U.S. 50, including a cabin and lodge. The cabin – currently the Park District business office – was Aletheia's summer residence. The lodge – valued at \$200,000 at the time of the donation – has become one of the most popular wedding sites in the county.

The Park District added a gazebo and patio to the lodge in 1992 and purchased five more acres to expand Pattison Lakeside in 1995.



The Clermont Sun reported on the new playground installed at Pattison Park Lakeside in 2005.

Crooked Run Nature Preserve

Owned by the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and managed by the Park District, the Robert J. Paul Memorial Crooked Run Sanctuary includes 77 acres adjacent to Chilo Lock 34 Park.

Mimi Ford Paul made a partial gift of this property - featuring both the Ohio River and Crooked Run Creek - to the ODNR in 1978 to honor her husband. The entire property opened after she passed in 1991; the Park District assumed management in 1992. Its trails and bird blinds make Crooked Run one of the best birding spots in the area with more than 200 species recorded.

Hartman Log Cabin

Built in 1838, the Hartman Log Cabin was home to John Kilby Hartman, grandson of Christopher Hartman, who fought in the American Revolution and settled in Clermont County in 1801.

The waste management company CECOS International restored the cabin in 1991 and donated it to the Park District.

Now a popular rental site for family reunions, birthday parties and holiday dinners, the Jackson Township property also includes a barn, picnic shelter and walking trails.



The historic Hartman Log Cabin in Jackson Township had to be tented in the mid-2000s to deal with a powder post beetle infestation.



Kelley Nature Preserve

Created with a 22-acre gift from Virginia Kelley to honor her late husband, Walter A. Kelley, the Park District opened Kelley Nature Preserve in Miami Township in 1993. In 1996, the Park District purchased the adjoining 20 acres from the Kelley estate with help from Little Miami Incorporated and a grant from the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

Now one of the busiest canoe and kayak launch points in Clermont County, Kelley also features more than a mile of hiking trails, views of the Little Miami River and a wildflower meadow.

Chilo Lock 34 Park

The Army Corps of Engineers opened Chilo Lock 34 in 1925, one of 54 wicket dams along the Ohio River to make it navigable for steamboat commerce all year. The Corps decommissioned Lock 34 when the new Meldahl Dam came online in 1964. The Park District acquired 14 acres at Chilo – including the powerhouse, water tower and other buildings – in 1985 and bought 25 more acres in 1997.

In 1995, the Park District added yurts to the property. In 2005, the former powerhouse opened as a museum and visitor center, featuring three floors of exhibits and displays focused on the history of the Ohio River. The boat ramp into the river built in 2008 serves hundreds annually.



People streamed off a river boat and up the esplanade to the new Chilo Lock 34 Powerhouse in 1925.



In 2005, a crane lifted a rowboat once used to deliver mail to the village for display on the third floor of the museum at Chilo Lock 34 Park.

Shor Park

In the 1950s, David Shor tried to break into the thoroughbred racing establishment in Kentucky. Unable to gain footing, he began breeding and training horses on a 56-acre farm in Union Township.

His widow – Sylvia Shor – donated the property to the Park District in 2003 and Shor Park was officially dedicated in 2010.

Shor received a major upgrade in 2019 – the Park District's first large construction project after a 2016 levy – adding two horse-farm-themed picnic shelters, restrooms, storage areas, a wind turbine and the first certified inclusive playground in the county.



Local dignitaries and family and friends of Sylvia Shor get ready to cut the ribbon to officially open the main picnic shelter at Shor Park July 16, 2019.



Park District benefactors

Probate Judge Charles Jackson signed the Clermont County Park District into existence Feb. 5, 1970. Becoming a separate political subdivision of the state of Ohio gave the fledgling district official status, but private donations played a critical role in its growth.

Meet some of the benefactors crucial to the evolution of the Park District.



Aletheia Pattison, pictured in 1922, not long before she moved to Greece, where she founded a school for refugees and worked on the American Farm School.



Nazis captured Aletheia Pattison in Greece in 1941 holding her prisoner for 10 days before releasing her.



In 1971 Aletheia Pattison sat by the fireplace in her cabin, which she later donated to the Park District. It now serves as the Park District business office.

Aletheia Pattison

John M. Pattison grew up outside Owensville, fought in the Civil War, won a seat in the Ohio legislature, received an appointment to the state senate and later served a term in the U.S. House of Representatives. He was elected Ohio's 43rd governor in 1905, the only Clermont County native to hold the office.

Born in 1881, Aletheia Pattison followed her father into a life of service.

Aletheia was one of a very few women trained in motor driving, mechanics, truck driving and first aid. During World War I, she served as a driver in France. After the war, she drove on the Polish front in 1920 during the Polish-Soviet Conflict.

By 1923 she moved to Greece, founded a school for refugees and began work with the American Farm School, which has a building named Pattison Hall on its campus.

During World War II, Nazis captured her and held her for 10 days in 1941 before she could return to Cincinnati, where she continued to raise money for Greece. She returned to Greece after the war and restarted her schools in 1945; she retired back to Cincinnati in 1947.

In 1972 Aletheia gave the Park District land she inherited from her uncle, Louis Pattison, near Owensville to establish Pattison Park. She gave 18 more acres – as well as a cabin and lodge still in use today - in 1975 to expand the park. She lived to the age of 97 before passing away in 1978.

The Pattison Foundation

The Pattison Foundation continued Aletheia's generosity to the Park District, providing annual grants totaling more than \$700,000 since 1978.

Projects Foundation money supported include:

- The Park District maintenance facility in Batavia;
- The Chilo Visitor Center and Museum;
- Land acquisition to expand Sycamore Park and Wilson Nature Preserve;
- Interpretative signage and playground equipment throughout the Park District.

Attorney Lewis Gatch, a personal friend of Aletheia and her sister Ernestine, serves as a trustee of the foundation with her niece – Suzanne Zech – and Fifth Third Bank.

"Not only the grants for projects over the years, but providing seed money to buy land has been an important tribute to Aletheia's legacy," he said.



Aletheia Pattison, who donated the land to found Pattison Park, stands on the front steps of the cabin that now serves as the Park District business office.



Mimi Ford Paul

Mimi Ford married Robert J. Paul, who served as chief prosecutor for the city of Cincinnati from 1937 to 1963.

But like Aletheia Pattison, Mrs. Paul had a fascinating history in her own right.

She spent the last 13 years of her life as the owner/operator of the *Bethel Journal*, which she purchased in 1978. One of her goals with the paper was to promote education, often slipping a big word into a story to force readers to pause and look it up.

According to her obituary in the Nov. 15, 1991 edition of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, "Mrs. Paul was a cryptographer, helping decipher codes for the State Department."

She also "owned and trained horses and kept a kennel of dogs. She formerly was associated with the Zoological Society of Cincinnati, and traveled with the group to Africa on safaris. She ... was an adjunct assistant professor of architecture in the former College of Design, Art and Architecture at the University of Cincinnati; ... she taught in the mid-1970s and resigned when she bought the paper."

For 55 years, Mimi lived on the property in Chilo that became Crooked Run Nature Preserve.



Crooked Run Nature Preserve in the winter.

James and Frances Wilson

Jim Wilson and his brother John flew jets in the U.S. Air Force during the Korean War. After their military service, they founded Wilson Brothers Realty in Batavia, eventually donating the land used to build Clermont Mercy Hospital.

Jim and his wife Frances had a 105-acre parcel in Batavia they allowed friends to hunt for years. They considered logging the land or selling the property, but longtime friend and Park District board member Ken Stewart – a frequent hunting guest – said they had a change of plans.

“I talked to him at length and he said he wanted to leave something behind, leave a legacy,” Stewart said. “Jim and Frances decided the best way to protect that land they loved was to give it to the Park District and make it into a nature preserve.”

They made a partial gift in 2008 and opened the James L. and Frances Wilson Nature Preserve in 2009. A partial donation of an additional 40 acres expanded the preserve in 2013. Jim Wilson passed away at the age of 86 in 2017; Frances still lives nearby in Batavia.



Frances and Jim Wilson celebrate the opening of the James L. And Frances Wilson Nature Preserve in 2009. Their partial gift of 105 acres adjacent to Sycamore Park made the preserve possible.

Virginia Kelley

The Park District has ties to high culture thanks to Virginia Kelley. She graduated from Hughes High School and studied at what is now the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music. She also studied at the National Ballet School in Toronto and the Ballroom Convention of Dance Masters of America in New York. During World War II she was a member of the Civil Air Patrol.

In 1958 - then known by her maiden name of Virginia Garrett – she partnered with fellow instructors Myrl Laurence and Nancy Bauer to charter the Cincinnati Civic Ballet.

According to the March 9, 1964 edition of the *Cincinnati Enquirer*, it took five years – and four more teachers joining the cause – before the CCB hosted its first audition, attracting more than 200 dancers and selecting 41 as founding members. Ms. Garrett was elected company president.

She married Walter A. Kelley and made a gift to the Park District of 22 acres along the Little Miami River to honor his memory. In addition to creating Kelley Nature Preserve, Virginia also was involved with the Cincinnati Zoo and Cincinnati Nature Center. She died in 1992 at the age of 78.

Sylvia Shor

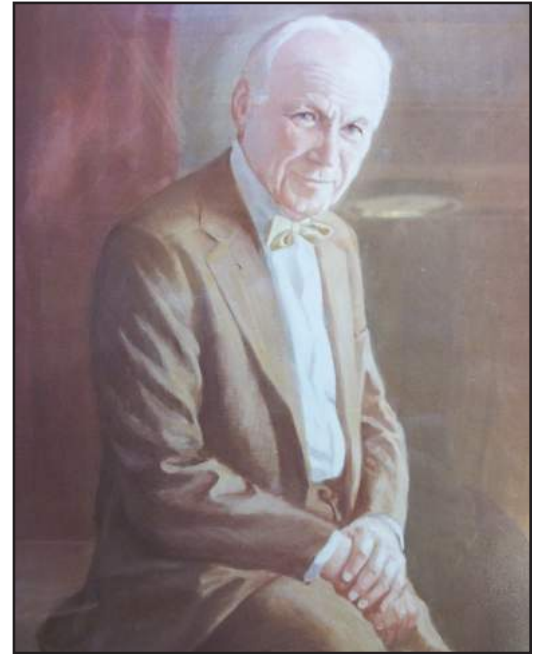
The newest fully operational park in the district was a gift from Sylvia Shor, whose late husband S. David Shor, used the 56-acre Union Township property to raise and train thoroughbred horses.

She donated the land in 2003; it was officially dedicated as a park in 2010.

Mrs. Shor attended groundbreaking ceremonies in 2018 to launch a construction project at Shor Park. She marveled at the finished product – two new shelters, restrooms, storage areas, a wind turbine and playground - during the 2019 ceremony to dedicate the new facilities.

“It’s more than I ever could have imagined,” she said. “I love it.”

“But look out there,” she said, pointing to children on the busy playground. “They like it and that’s what matters. I’ve always wanted this park to be something for the people, the common man. It’s for everybody to use and enjoy. We have to protect our natural resources.”



Sylvia Shor donated 56 acres in Union Township to honor the memory of her late husband, S. David Shor.



Sylvia Shor, center, posed with the architect’s drawing of the main Shor Park picnic shelter during groundbreaking ceremonies in 2018.



At the dedication ceremony a year later, Mrs. Shor posed with the Park District maintenance team in the new picnic shelter.

The Legacy

“We are grateful to all our benefactors over the last half century,” said Park District Director Chris Clingman. “We are also grateful for those people who believe in preserving our land and making plans to help the Park District provide a diversity of natural resources for everyone to explore and share and enjoy.

“These people are an especially important part of our history. They have helped us grow from one park to many, from just a few acres to hundreds. Their generosity and commitment has helped raise the quality of life for countless Clermont County residents and visitors. We salute all they’ve done – and continue to do - for so many people.”

New beginning

Not long after its 45th anniversary in 2015, the Clermont County Park District asked voters to pass a levy to support the parks. They responded generously, approving the November 2016 ballot measure by an overwhelming 63-37 percent margin. "That was a huge moment for the Park District," said Chris Clingman, Park District Director. "The people saw the value we brought to their quality of life and gave us a chance to do even more for them.

"We've worked hard to be good stewards of the money they voted for us and have made investments with it that will benefit our residents and visitors for generations. We will continue to use the taxpayers' investment in us to benefit them in many ways."

Construction

New facilities may be the most visible result of the levy. The Park District broke ground on a major upgrade at Shor Park in 2018, its first large construction project after passage.

"The project here includes two picnic shelters, restroom facilities, storage areas for our maintenance team, a wind turbine to help power the facility and – maybe what I'm most proud of – the county's first certified inclusive playground," said Park Board of Commissioners Chairman Bill Stearns a year later at the dedication ceremony.

"I am equally happy to tell you we had people literally climbing the fence to get into playground before we even laid sod around the park. Comments have been unanimously positive about how valuable this park is and will be to the community."

In 2019, the Park District undertook a dual construction project at Sycamore Park and Pattison Park Lakeside to remove and replace old shelters, restrooms and playground equipment. Work on the shelters and restrooms finished in early 2020; playground installation happens later in the year. Phase II of the Sycamore renovation will go out to bid in 2020. The second portion of the renovation will focus on reconfigured parking for better safety, demolition of the old, large shelter and replacing it with two smaller shelters and a new playground area.



A new restroom and picnic shelter replaced the old facilities at Pattison Park Lakeside between 2019 and 2020.



The old restroom at Sycamore Park in Batavia came down in 2019 and was replaced with a larger, more central facility in 2020.



The main shelter at Shor Park was part of an upgrade completed in 2019 with funds from the 2016 park levy.



The former Stricker property will become the new headquarters for the Park District, but the real highlight is its beautiful streams and the opportunity to create new hiking trails.

Land acquisition

Since the passage of the levy, the Park District made two significant land purchases. Both deals were in the works for more than a year before closing.

The Park District used a Clean Ohio Grant to assist with the 2019 purchase of what had been the Stricker family property adjacent to Pattison Park Lodgeside near Owensville.

The sale included buildings that will become a new Park District headquarters, but the 134-acre property features streams, wooded areas and rolling fields, all of which will be used to create hiking trails and other recreational and environmental education opportunities.

Also using Clean Ohio Funds, the Park District purchased 72 acres of the Grailville Farm in 2017 and another 40 acres in 2018. The Grail U.S. had owned the Loveland property since 1944. The group wanted to work with the Park District because – according to its website - one of its tenets is “taking care of the earth through education, activism and land use. ...Grail members encourage environmental sustainability.”

Plans for the Grailville property are not complete, but residents can anticipate new hiking trails through the gently rolling terrain.

Grant Program

One goal of the levy was to improve all parks in Clermont County, not just Park District properties. Enter the Community Parks Improvement Grant Program.

“These grants go a long way in places where parks don’t have many resources,” said Park District Director Chris Clingman. “This is our chance to help. These grants help enhance the quality of local parks and give people more reasons to get out and enjoy them.”

The Park District funded 13 projects in 2017, seven in 2018 and 10 in 2019, disbursing nearly \$300,000 to city, village and township parks throughout Clermont County.

Improvements

In addition to new properties and construction projects, the Park District has conducted a number of improvement projects in existing parks and facilities with levy funds.

They include:

- Restoration and painting of the iconic water tower at Chilo Lock 34 Park;
- Upgrades to HVAC, doors and lighting systems at Pattison Lodge;
- A security gate at Kelley Nature Preserve;
- Repairs to the Williamsburg/Batavia hike and bike trail;
- Painting, a new patio and new HVAC at Hartman Log Cabin.



The water tower at Chilo Lock 34 Park went under wraps in the spring of 2019 as workers stripped, repaired and repainted it. By July, it looked new again.

What's next

A half century down, infinity to go.

With the first 50 years in the rearview mirror, what do the next 50 years look like for the Park District?

Forecasting the future is always a dicey proposition, but the Park District mission statement – “To acquire, plan, develop, program and maintain park property in the county for residents and nonresidents alike. To secure the preservation of open space and places of scenic or historic value” – will continue to guide the process.



Plans are in place to improve access to the Little Miami River at Kelley Nature Preserve.

Coming soon

On the immediate horizon, work on improved access to the Little Miami River at Kelley Nature Preserve – a project done in partnership with Miami Township – begins when the weather breaks in early 2020. This will benefit not only our many canoe and kayak users, but also the area as a whole by providing a launch point for rescue boats in the event of an emergency on the river.

Phase II of renovations at Sycamore Park - including reconfigured parking, demolition of the remaining large shelter and replacing it with two smaller shelters, as well as installation of new play area – gets under way in the summer of 2020 with a fall completion goal.

Plans continue for the new Park District headquarters on the former Stricker property adjacent to Pattison Park. In addition to the headquarters facility, look for development of other amenities on the property including hiking trails, an education center and recreation opportunities.

Trail work also is scheduled to take place in 2020 at Shor Park, as well as Sycamore Park and the adjacent Wilson Nature Preserve, the Park District's most frequently used trail systems.

The Park District is working to update its 2015 master plan, as well as plans for each individual property. Doing so will establish a priority list of needs at each park and preserve, as well as help create a timeline to address them.



The house on the former Stricker property – 134 acres adjacent to Pattison Park Lodgeside – will become the new headquarters for the Clermont Park District.



Streams, wooded areas and rolling fields on the property will offer plenty of opportunities for outdoor exploration.



One of the future goals for the Park District is to create a fully functioning volunteer staff to assist with maintenance, programs, office support and more.



Down the road

The master plans will inform medium-range plans over the next five to 10 years.

Among the expected goals in that time frame are:

- The public opening of 112 acres at Grailville in Loveland;
- Trails at 10-Mile Creek Preserve in Pierce Township;
- Completing the ongoing upgrades facilitated by levy funds;
- Growing a full-fledged volunteer program to give residents more hands-on opportunities to engage with their Park District and help shape its future.

The Park District will continue exploring options to acquire new properties – whether through grant funding, business sponsorships or private donations – to create more recreational offerings for the people of Clermont County.



Way ahead

By the Park District's 75th anniversary in 2045 (and definitely by its centennial in 2070) most – if not all – of the names in this 50th anniversary commemorative publication will be a distant memory.

However, their contributions and the work they did to preserve and protect Clermont County's natural resources will continue. So will their efforts to have provided unique educational opportunities, active and passive recreation experiences and lasting family memories on sites unharmed by the march of time and progress.

Our guess is by 2070 we still won't have flying cars, but we will have a century's worth of collected spaces, shared experiences and appreciation for the natural world.

Which is a tremendous asset for Clermont County.

Letter from the Board



**We are proud
to celebrate
50 years
of the
Clermont
County
Park
District
in 2020.**



Like the Park District itself, the Park Board of Commissioners has evolved over the last half century. One thing has not changed; our goal and responsibility remains to serve the people of Clermont County and the visitors to our parks. We consider our resources – financial, physical, personnel – and work closely with our director on how best to deploy them for the benefit of all.

We serve as volunteers, appointed to three-year terms by the county probate judge (currently Hon. James A. Shriver). We have a tremendous belief in the value of this service. Together, as the Park District celebrates its past - 50 years is a significant milestone for any organization – we continue to look to the future.

We always encourage the public to be part of the process. We are thankful to the citizens for passing our levy and helping us accomplish our goals. Your ongoing support enables us to provide top-notch facilities, programs and experiences throughout the county. We want to hear your suggestions, answer your questions and find out what you want from your Park District. We invite you to attend our programs and events, make use of our rental facilities, enjoy the many forms of recreation we offer, whether organized by our staff or exploring on your own.

Beyond that, we encourage you to volunteer. Come to our monthly meetings. Get involved. I'm confident you will find – as I and my fellow board members have – an organization worthy of your time and talent. With your continued help, the Park District will remain one of the finest assets in Clermont County.

As I said, we are proud of the Park District for what it has accomplished so far. But we are even more excited to see what the future brings as we continue to grow, to improve and serve all of you.

Sincerely,

Williams Stearns, chair, Kenneth Stewart, David Anspach



“Our first park – and my favorite – is Sycamore Park in Batavia. It has been used so much that we have gone from three shelters to five. There are so many activities to do there, such as tennis, pickleball, hiking, fishing, walking and climbing the rock.”

Ken Stewart



“Given that when I was first appointed to the Clermont County Park Board we did not yet have any parks developed and open to the public, each successful park opening became my new favorite because we could use what we had learned from the last and apply it to the latest park development. With that said, Chilo Lock 34 Park - with its museum, picnic area and boat ramp - stands out as a showplace for Clermont County.”

Bill Stearns



“I think about my time on the board and Shor Park is one that has developed from the beginning in my tenure. I'm thankful we've been able to create a park with a certified inclusive playground and that tied in the history of the property as a horse farm. It's an excellent asset for the community and for the Park District.”

Dave Anspach



Members of the Lead Clermont class enjoy a picnic lunch at Chilo Lock 34 Park during their county tour in September, 2019.



Horseshoe Shelter at Shor Park is available for the public to rent, part of a 2019 upgrade that also included another shelter, restrooms, storage areas, a wind turbine and the county's first certified inclusive playground.



Riverview #1 is one of the two new picnic shelters – along with a new restroom facility – now open at Sycamore Park in Batavia.



The historic Hartman Log Cabin received a fresh coat of paint in September of 2019 and added a new patio space in October.



A new restroom and picnic shelter await guests at Pattison Park Lakeside.

Celebrate with us

The Clermont Park District will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2020 with a series of free Saturday afternoon picnics open to the public.

Each one will feature food, entertainment, history, nature and good fellowship.

Visit our website at

www.clermontparks.org/latest-news/

or our Facebook page at

www.facebook.com/ClermontCountyParkDistrict/

for specifics as we get closer

to each picnic.

Picnic time will be noon to 3 p.m. on the following dates at these locations:

May 16

Chilo Lock 34 Park

June 20

Shor Park (Horseshoe Shelter)

July 18

Sycamore Park (Riverview Shelter #1)

August 15

Hartman Log Cabin

September 26

Pattison Park (Lakeside)

Proudly Clermont

**Together, we share our story.
Together, we celebrate this milestone.
Together, we are Proudly Clermont.**

Part of our 50th anniversary involves sharing new branding for the Clermont Park District.

Our partnership with the Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Clermont Chamber of Commerce, Connect Clermont and Intrinsic Brand Collaborative led to our first print piece created with our new look.

With parks, nature preserves and greenspaces encompassing nearly 1,000 acres, Clermont County has such diversity in landscapes, making it the place

to be for all things outdoors. Whether you enjoy active recreation like hiking and kayaking or more peaceful pursuits like fishing or picnicking, there is so much to take advantage of and explore at your own pace. Conserving and preserving our natural resources is a true community effort, and we collaborate across all levels—state, county, township, city and village—to protect what is ours, the open spaces and places of scenic, recreational and historic value.

The land is both our foundation and our legacy, an asset that enhances the quality of life in Clermont County, and that we'll continue working together to grow, value, nurture and protect for generations to come.

