

Neighborhood Newsletter Spring 2025

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Save the Dates

Make sure to save the dates for these upcoming events!

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MAY 3rd

Mulch Day | 9am

Sheridan Court Center Park Strip | It's time to freshen up the Sheridan Court garden bed for the season and we would love your help pulling weeds and laying new mulch. Gloves are recommended.

Wednesday

MAY 21st

Annual Meeting | 6:00pm

Foster Park Pavilion 1 | Annual membership meeting, including board elections, annual budget approval, and various updates. All are encouraged to attend.

JUNE Th

Dumpster Day | 8am – 12pm

Kimmel Drive (where Sheridan & Foster meet)Dumpster will be located on Kimmel Drive. Please see page 4 of this newsletter for detailed information about the types of trash that can be placed in the dumpster for this event.

Consider Joining the Board...

Have you considered getting more involved with the neighborhood? Joining the board is a fun way to give back, stay informed, and meet new neighbors. The officers and board of directors are up for election at our annual meeting in May. We are on the lookout for someone willing to take the lead as our next board president.

Contact Amy Kelly if you would like to learn more about serving on the board and what it entails. Most find it to be a highly rewarding experience.

Or Perhaps a Committee

Not ready to commit yet to a seat on the board? The social committee and beautification committee are always accepting new neighbors. This is a great way to dip your toe into neighborhood association involvement in specific areas of interest. Both committees are fun and impactful. Reach out to Amy Kelly to get looped in.



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HAVE YOU HEARD

- The Foster Park Golf Course is now open for the season! Don't let the nearby construction keep you from enjoying a nice round of golf just minutes from our neighborhood.
- Each spring as the weather warms, many of the front yards throughout our neighborhood come alive with ground bees. These small flying insects pose no danger to humans or pets and typically only stick around for a few weeks. Consider the sign that spring is here.

around the neighborhood

New Chili Cook-Off Event a Hit

We had a great time this past January at the first ever Foster Park Neighborhood Chili Cook-Off event!

Ten unique (and all delicious) chili options were brought from residents throughout the neighborhood. Congratulations Gene and Krista Koch for winning our chili competition and leaving with a trophy and bragging rights.



A cookie decorating activity for the kids (and some adults) was also a big hit. With over 50 people in attendance, we are calling this event a

success and are thinking we may do it again next year!



Thanks to the members of the social committee for planning and implementing this event to bring neighbors together during the dark winter months. And thanks to the

volunteers who shared their culinary

creations with their neighbors.

If you would like to be part of these types of events or activities in the future, please reach out to the board!



Connected Neighborhoods Initiative

Mayor Tucker recently announced the new Connected Neighborhoods Initiative, which will provide a total of \$2 million in funding for two neighborhood proposals in 2025 and the same amount in 2027. The main source of funding is the land sale proceeds from the Google data center. The program is designed to encourage collaboration between neighborhoods, community organizations, and businesses.

The Packard Area Planning Alliance (PAPA), of which our neighborhood is a member, will be pursuing funding through this program. Should PAPA be selected for one of the grants, stay tuned for public input opportunities regarding how to most effectively invest the funds into the Packard area.

GARAGE SALE UPDATE

In the past, our association has advertised a neighborhood garage sale in early June via social media and signage up to and on the day of the sale.

Based on minimal interest within our neighborhood in recent years, the board has opted to no longer formally advertise a sale for our neighborhood, as it often just generates more traffic and sale seekers leave disappointed.

Individual residents are still able to host their own sales any dates they wish, including on the same date as surrounding neighborhoods, which is typically the first or second Saturday of June.

NEWS & UPDATES

We strive to keep our residents informed on a range of topics and updates from in and around our area. We typically send out three mailed newsletters each year but also have an online presence.

Website | www.fosterpark.org

Facebook

@FosterParkNeighborhoodAssociation

Email | Make sure we have your current email on file so you can stay up to date

BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors will meet on the following date:

Tuesday, April 22, 2025

Meetings begin at 6:00pm and are held at the home of Becky Allegrini, 1147 Sheridan Court.

Keep an eye out for future board meeting dates. Board meetings are typically held on the fourth Tuesday of January, April, July, and October.

staying informed

Project Updates

Check out the updates below on some of the nearby projects. Visit **www.engage.cityoffortwayne.org** to learn more about these and many other projects happening around the community.

Foster Park Restoration

In late January, Parks and Recreation hosted a public meeting to solicit feedback on two entrance options for the redesigned Foster Park. Additionally, input was requested via the Engage Fort Wayne page. As of the printing of this newsletter, we have not yet received any updates regarding which entrance option will be incorporated into the final plan. Thanks to everyone who provided input as part of this process!

Bluffton Road Bridge

The bridge project is underway and is expected to continue through the spring or summer of 2026. This project includes a variety of updates, including a new superstructure for the bridge,



intersection improvements, ornamental lighting, new trail under bridge with lighting, and improved and ADA compliant crosswalks.

Still Time to Pay Your Annual Dues

We are collecting dues for 2025 fiscal year (July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025). The modest \$50 per household dues support a range of investments into the neighborhood, including landscaping maintenance, newsletter, social events, and more.

You can easily submit your membership dues online at **www.fosterpark.org/dues** or by scanning the QR code to the right. Payment by check (made payable to FPNA) can be mailed to:

Ken Sorg | FPNA Treasurer 1231 W. Branning Ave. Fort Wayne, IN 46807



Not sure if you are current on dues? Contact Treasurer Ken Sorg at kennethesorg@gmail.com. Thanks for your support!

BOARD OF DIRECTORS July 2024 - June 2025

Amy Kelly | *President* 1305 Sheridan Ct. amy.kelly01@icloud.com

Oscar Matter | Vice President 1302 W. Branning Ave. o.w.matter@protonmail.com

Ken Sorg | *Treasurer* 1231 W. Branning Ave. kennethesorg@gmail.com

Becky Allegrini | Secretary 1147 Sheridan Ct. rebeccaj.allegrini@gmail.com

Cory Allen

1310 W. Foster Pkwy allencory@hotmail.com

Caroline Britt 3929 Old Mill Rd.

acbritt16@gmail.com

Emily Ewing

1230 W. Lexington Ave. emilyewing0318@gmail.com

Connie Hazelrigg

1322 W. Foster Pkwy chazelrigg@comcast.net

Andrea Thomas

4001 Old Mill Rd. dortchthomas@gmail.com

FEEDBACK

Have an idea? A question? A concern? Feel free to contact the association board to share your thoughts and feedback. We are eager to hear from residents about any and all topics regarding the neighborhood or surrounding areas.

RENTAL RESTRICTION

Renting is prohibited within the Foster Park Neighborhood Association boundaries without board approval (per our Restrictive Covenants, as amended in 2005). If you are renting or have questions, please contact the board president to initiate the review process.

good to know

Dumpster Day

Thanks to a City of Fort Wayne program, residents will have the opportunity to dispose of unwanted solid waste at no cost to homeowners or the association.

When | Saturday, June 7th 8am-12pm

Where | The dumpster will be placed on Kimmel Drive, the small street connecting West Foster and Sheridan.

How It Works | Simply gather any unwanted trash (see list below for unacceptable materials) and drop it in the dumpster during the hours noted above.

Please **do not overfill** the dumpster. It will not be picked up if improperly filled. Container space will be available on a first come, first served basis so plan accordingly if you have items to dispose.

Unacceptable Materials

The following materials **CAN NOT** be placed in the dumpster:

Anti-freeze Fire Extinguishers Radioactive Materials
Auto Parts Oil Based Paint Pesticides

Concrete Tires Appliances with Freon Freon Refrigerant Liquids Closed Containers Lead Acid Batteries Fertilizers Chemicals

Used Oil Auto Fluids Hazardous Waste Explosives Compressed Gas Special Waste

Asphalt Fluorescent Bulbs Leaves

Electronics Herbicides Items Containing Mercury *Latex paint cans need to be dried out before placing in the dumpster. They cannot accept paint in liquid form because it may leak onto the ground or street.

For more information about disposing of items and materials not permitted in the dumpster, <u>www.acwastewatcher.org</u>.

When In Doubt, Throw It Out

The City of Fort Wayne is asking residents to help keep our recycling program viable by adhering to recycling rules and standards. For example, greasy pizza boxes cannot be recycled, but dry, clean carboard can. When non-recyclable items or dirty recyclables enter the waste stream, they cause problems for processing and minimize the resale value of the bulk



materials. When in doubt, throw it out (in the regular trash). Thanks for doing your part! For more guidance, visit www.acwastewatcher.org.

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

FPNA Board President Amy Kelly

fostrparkneighborhood@gmail.com 260.414.8554

Fort Wayne Police Department Non-Emergency Desk 260.427.1222

City Government Services

Essential Community Services 211

Graffiti Hotline 260.449.4747

ELECTED OFFICIALS

Geoff Paddock

District 5 City Council geoffreypaddock@aol.com

Marty Bender

At-Large City Council martin.bender@cityoffortwayne.org

Michelle Chambers

At-Large City Council michelle.chambers@cityoffortwayne.org

Tom Freistroffer

At-Large City Council freistrofferatlarge@gmail.com

Phil GiaQuinta

District 80 State Representative h80@iga.in.gov

Travis Holdman

District 19 State Senator senator.holdman@iga.in.gov

STREET LIGHTS

If you see a street light out in our neighborhood, please report it to the city via 311 (via phone or online).

It is helpful to write down the pole number, which starts with a 'K' and is listed on yellow tags on the pole itself.

Thanks for doing your part to keep the lights on around our neighborhood!