



Foster Park  
Neighborhood  
Association



## SUMMER'S NOT OVER BLOCK PARTY

ROOT  
BEER  
FLOATS

GAMES  
FOR ALL  
AGES

SNACKS

WATER  
BALLOONS

**Saturday, August 2nd**  
**3pm - 5pm | Kimmel Drive**

to a call, we are also planning to have a crew from FWFD stop by with one of their firetrucks for an opportunity for residents to see it up close.

## Summer's Not Over Block Party

The FPNA Social Committee invites you to attend our first ever 'Summer's Not Over' Block Party, an opportunity to bring together neighbors and enjoy the fact that we still have plenty of summer left, even if back-to-school season is nearly upon us.

This event will feature root beer floats, snacks, an assortment of yard games, and water balloons (with rules) for the kids. Assuming they do not have to respond



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## Save the Dates

Make sure to save the dates for these other upcoming events!

Sunday  
**Oct.  
12<sup>th</sup>**

### Cider & Donuts | 3pm – 5pm

**Kimmel Drive** | It's Our annual fall block party, featuring cider (hot and cold), donuts, games, and a great chance to catch up with neighbors.

Thursday  
**Nov.  
27<sup>th</sup>**

### Thanksgiving Walk | 9am

**Foster Park** | Join your neighbors for a new tradition of walking the Foster Park loop on Thanksgiving morning. Join for the full loop, or just a part. **Meet at the pickleball courts.**

Thursday  
**Jan.  
15<sup>th</sup>**

### Chili Cook-Off | 6pm

**Sears Pavilion** | The first Chili Cook-Off was such a success we are doing it again! Join us for chili, kids' activities, and great conversation with friends and neighbors.

## HAVE YOU HEARD

■ City Utilities is requesting a rate increase for long-term improvements to water, sewer, and storm infrastructure. Keep an eye out for more details about this proposed change and why it matters.

■ The Lutheran Foundation recently donated Lutheran Park (on Fairfield just north of Bravas) to the Boys and Girls Club of Fort Wayne. Area neighborhoods are in talks with the Boys and Girls Club leaders to learn more about their future plans for this space.

# community news

## The Refuge

The Refuge (3901 South Wayne Avenue) is now open and operational following the official sale of the property to the new owners. Various exterior beautification and landscaping projects have already taken place, giving the building enhanced curb appeal. Programs and events have been happening and thus far it does not appear that any of these are posing challenges to the neighborhoods or residents nearby.



For those interested in what's happening at The Refuge, you can sign up for their email list and receive regular updates in your inbox. Visit [www.therefugefw.com](http://www.therefugefw.com) to learn more.

## Packard Park Progress

If you have driven down Fairfield recently, you may have noticed changes happening at Packard Park. Since the groundbreaking ceremony this past winter, crews have been working to transform this nearby neighborhood park into a revamped community asset. Once complete, amenities will include new accessible playgrounds, walking paths, new lighting, benches, event plaza space, flexible open space, and enhanced landscaping and trees throughout.

The Packard Area Planning Alliance (PAPA) was recently awarded a neighborhood engagement grant and will be hosting a special event later this year to celebrate the reopening of the revamped Packard Park. Stay tuned for details!

## Staying Informed Via Email

Though we send three printed newsletters each year, there are sometimes updates that make more sense for email communication due to their timeliness or importance. If you would like to stay up-to-date via email, please send your name, address, and preferred email address to [fosterparkneighborhood@gmail.com](mailto:fosterparkneighborhood@gmail.com) so we can add you to the list.

Following the association Facebook page is also a great way to stay informed, though we do not share information about resident-only events or programs to social media.

## BOARD MEETINGS

The Board of Directors will meet on the following dates:

Tuesday, **July 22, 2025**

Tuesday, **October 28, 2025**

Tuesday, **January 27, 2026**

Tuesday, **April 28, 2026**

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

## 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.

## STREET TREES

Over the past few years, our neighborhood streets have gained over 70 new street trees. To ensure they grow to full maturity, please take a few steps to support the health of these young trees.



■ **Water** | This is the most important element of caring for newer trees, especially during the summer. Water at least once a week in the hot, dry months to promote good tree health.

■ **Mulch** | Spread a 2-inch layer of natural mulch under the drip line of the tree. This helps maintain soil moisture, prevent weeds, and prevent possible damage from lawn equipment. Avoid piling excessive mulch around the base of the trunk.

# around the neighborhood

## Project Updates

Check out the updates below on some of the nearby projects. Visit [www.engage.cityoffortwayne.org](http://www.engage.cityoffortwayne.org) to learn more.

### Foster Park Restoration

In August or September, Parks and Recreation is planning to release the final plans for the revamped Foster Park. The new plan is being developed following multiple public input opportunities. Based on the most recent round of input regarding a north or south entrance, we can confirm that any plans for a roundabout have been scrapped. Other details are yet to be announced. Stay tuned for more updates in the coming months. In the meantime, crews have been steadily restoring the construction site and hauling away equipment and materials, a welcome sign that the end of this long project is coming.

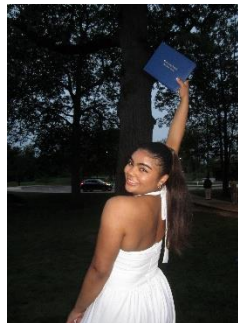
### Bluffton Road Bridge

While inconvenient, the bridge project is making progress and is expected to continue through the spring or summer of 2026. The new southern half of the bridge deck is complete and now serving as the designated route for through traffic, though with major traffic flow modifications that cause congestion (through at least October). Motorists are encouraged to find alternate routes.

## Congrats to Recent Graduates

Join us in celebrating a few recent graduates from our neighborhood!

Simone Dikeolakos, daughter of Diane and Quincy, is a member of the graduating class of 2025 from Canterbury High School. This fall she will be attending Indiana University where she plans to study social justice on the pre-law track. When asked to give some advice to next year's seniors she said "to step out of your comfort zone and be open to new experiences and opportunities."



Preston Reeves is also a graduate of Canterbury High School. He plans to attend Loyola University Chicago where he will be studying Biology Pre-Med. Preston is the son of Patricia and Derek Reeves. When asked to give one piece of advice to seniors Preston said "school creates opportunities—even if you're still figuring out your path. However, don't become so focused on the grind that you forget to enjoy life. Make sure to spend time with your family and true friends—the ones who are always there for you."

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

July 2025 – June 2026

### Amy Kelly | *President*

1305 Sheridan Ct.  
amy.kelly01@icloud.com

### Oscar Matter | *Vice President*

1302 W. Branning Ave.  
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### Ken Sorg | *Treasurer*

1231 W. Branning Ave.  
kennethesorg@gmail.com

### Becky Allegrini | *Secretary*

1147 Sheridan Ct.  
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### Cory Allen

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### Caroline Britt

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### Emily Ewing

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### Connie Hazelrigg

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chazelrigg@comcast.net

### Leaira Houghton

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leairahoughton@gmail.com

## 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.

## 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 our lights on!



# good to know

## Warm Weather Season Reminders

As we all enjoy the warmer months, here are a few helpful reminders to ensure we all have a safe and enjoyable season.

**Safe Driving** | Please drive carefully and watch for pedestrians, especially when backing out of driveways.

**Tall Grass** | Please keep your lawn mowed below 9 inches to ensure compliance with Fort Wayne's tall grass ordinance.

**Fireworks** | Per local and state laws, fireworks may only be discharged on certain dates and times (see City website for details). Please be courteous to neighbors who may have pets or family members who do not react well to the sounds and lights from fireworks.

**Pet Cleanup** | Please make sure to clean up after your dog(s) when taking them on walks throughout the neighborhood.

**Firepits** | The use of firepits is permitted but subject to various safety conditions listed on the Fire Department's website. Please reference those conditions to ensure compliance and take common sense steps to keep your backyard fires safe and controlled.

**Security** | We encourage all residents to take basic steps to reduce your likelihood of being targeted by a criminal. Plenty of helpful resources are available on the Fort Wayne Police Department's website.

## When In Doubt, Throw It Out



The City of Fort Wayne is continuing its campaign to educate residents about the right and wrong ways to recycle.

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.

For example, greasy pizza boxes, plastic bags, and plastic straws are items that should NOT be placed in the recycling bins.

When in doubt, throw it out is a smart approach if you are unsure whether an item can be properly recycled in your curbside bin.

For more guidance about proper recycling protocols, where to safely dispose of toxic chemicals, how to compost yard waste, and much more, visit [www.acwastewatcher.org](http://www.acwastewatcher.org).

## COMMUNITY CONTACTS

### FPNA Board President

**Amy Kelly**

fosterparkneighborhood@gmail.com  
260.414.8554

### Fort Wayne Police Department Non-Emergency Desk

260.427.1222

### City Government Services

311

### 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

## NEWS & UPDATES

We strive to keep our residents informed on a range of topics and updates from in and around our neighborhood. Be sure to check us out online to stay informed!

**Website** | [www.fosterpark.org](http://www.fosterpark.org)

### Facebook

@FosterParkNeighborhoodAssociation

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