

## 1990 – 1999 CONTINUED GROWTH

### 1990

- Park continues to grow with acreage totaling 1,352.5, owned and managed, 125 miles of bike routes, and 20 mile Heritage Trail.
- 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of HPD is celebrated with Earth Day and Jack Hanna Zoo visit.
- Voters approve 0.3-mills for 6-years. An additional Parks Improvements Levy for permanent improvements.
- New parking lot area and entry area opened at Oakwoods
- First trail opens at Litzenberg.

### 1991

- Renovations begin at Riverside Park as a joint city – park district effort.
- Pedestrian bridge is installed over Blanchard River between Citivan and Anchor Parks, thanks to state grant funds, Riverwalks are now linked together.

### 1992

- Improvements completed at Riverside Park with new concession stand and installation of Ft. Findlay playground.
- Facility maintenance improvements at River Landings and Riverbend.

### 1993

- Site development at began at Litzenberg Memorial Woods with new water system, barn rising and restroom construction.
- Oakwoods Nature Preserve “Doc” Phillips Discovery Center is under construction, thanks to private gifts and grants.
- Park Budget tops \$1,000,000 in income and expenditures.

### 1994

- Richard S. “Doc” Phillips Discovery Center opens at Oakwoods Nature Preserve.
- \$100,000 in Village Grant Improvement Funds provided to county villages and cities.
- Hancock Friends of the Parks organization is formed to provide support to HPD. First co-chairmen and organizers are Rex Brinkman and Frank Guglielmi, with Stephen Betts as Treasurer.

### 1995

- HPD celebrates 25 year anniversary.
- Litzenberg Memorial Woods Historic Farmpark is dedicated in October.
- Park Rangers begin patrolling on bicycles.
- \$50,000 Natureworks grant received to begin Riverbend Meadows development.

### 1996

- “G.O Hancock Parks”, 10 year Outdoor Recreation Plan for Hancock County completed.
- March, voters defeat a proposed 10 year, 1 mill levy.
- November, voters approve a 0.8 mill, 4 year levy as two previous levies expire.
- Riverbend Recreation Area Meadows Area development begins with new roadway, parking lot, and earthwork.

### 1997

- Spring flooding brings devastation to floodplain areas in the parks.
- HPD moves into the “internet age”.
- \$125,000 is distributed to community parks throughout Hancock County.
- McKinnis House at Litzenberg Memorial Woods renovations begin.
- New Scenic Byway through Putnam and Hancock County is proposed.

### 1998

- McKinnis House opens in the spring to the public for the first time.
- Phase 2 of renovations at Riverside Park begin.
- Approximately \$80,000 in Natureworks funding is received by four community parks.

### 1999

- Hancock Wetlands Partnership established for natural resources conservation.
- Blanchard River Greenway Trail project begins along Findlay riverfront.