



Recreation Department Annual Report 2009

General Overview

The Recreation Department found its way through yet another re-organization in 2009. In order to save tax dollars we decided first to scrutinize every aspect of each program in order to reduce costs but continue to deliver great programs and opportunities for the members of our community.

We re-identified and re-evaluated all full-time and seasonal employees and emphasized their strengths to better align all staff members with the programs we offer. It was determined to implement a combination of furlough days and reduced working schedules, along with other cost-cutting measures to reduce overall spending for all areas of Recreation.

Also, instead of hiring a pool manager for 2009, our inventory and registration controller, Kristine Greer stepped up to the plate to fill that vacancy.

Due to our local economy, we lost two full-time employees the first week of November 2009.

2009 Recreation Full Time Staff:

Lu Draper, Superintendent Recreation/Community and Facilities
Pat Wright, Recreation Administrative Supervisor
Mike Gallaher, Facility Operation Manager
Kristine Greer, Inventory & Registration Controller
Cody Wright, Ice and Maintenance Technician

2009 Recreation Part Time Staff:

Dee Yoxtheimer, Clerk

2009 Seasonal Staff:

Nicole Flugga, Marketing and Special Events
Jay Simko, Programs
Jeremy Horne, Asst. Facility Supervisor
Jay A. Simko, Concessions Supervisor

**RECREATION DEPARTMENT
2009 ANNUAL REPORT**

Summer Day Camp:

119 students attended the 2009, 8-week session of Camp Hi-Ho O-H-I-O at Riverside Park. Camp Hi-Ho-O-H-I-O received a grant that provided bus transportation (Findlay City School bus) from camp to Glenwood Middle School for free lunches. The buses would then return campers to Riverside Park, where participants enjoyed theme weeks, games, speakers, and swimming at Riverside Pool.

Camp Hi-HO-O-H-I-O also, experienced a reduction in costs due to shortened camp week and assigning Nicole Flugga, Marketing and Special Events, to oversee day to day operations of camp.

2009 Day Camp Employees:

Grade	# Reg	Week #1	Week #2	Week #3	Week #4	Week #5	Week #6	Week #7	Week #8	Total	Week Avg
1st	17	60	51	49	47	53	48	48	41	397	50
2nd	16	33	42	38	43	43	38	35	42	314	39
3rd	33	90	101	77	79	88	79	79	83	676	85
4th	23	70	76	60	66	79	56	64	75	546	68
5th & 6th	30	91	78	73	77	79	78	71	74	621	78
Total	119	344	348	297	312	342	299	297	315	2554	319

Riverside Pool and Concessions

Even with our local economy Riverside Pool opened in 2009, with both a shortened week and reduced daily operating hours. It has been noted that 2009 was one of the coolest summers on record. 2009 was our third year to provide a concession area at the pool.

Returning in 2009 at the pool/park, we hosted the following special events:

- Time Warner Pool Patrol
- Time Warner Dive in – Drive in Theatre
- Time Warner Buglight Theatre at the Band Shell
- City-wide Swim Meet

Annual Events at the Pool continued:

- Red Cross Swim Lesson
- Findlay Area Swim Team – Flag City Swim Meet

In 2009 we were unable to offer city employee discounts or to sell season memberships, however we continued the use of the admission bracelets. They have become a useful tool for monitoring admissions.

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Thanks to the generosity of the Hancock Park District, the pool/park was awarded a grant to cover the cost of police security. As in past years, this has proven to be a much needed and welcomed addition to Recreation's daily operations. Loitering and horseplay were kept to a minimum, with our zero tolerance policy in place.

The Recreation Department staff continued total operations of the pool in 2009. The Parks Department prepared the pool for opening and assisted in closing the pool in the fall.

A safety – evacuation plan was implemented for Riverside Pool and Park.

2009 Seasonal Employees:

2009 Riverside Pool		Actual
Riverside Seasonal employees	Revenue	\$56,184
Consisted of Life Guards Frontline Staff	Expense	\$121,291
And Pool Manager	General Fund Subsidy	\$65,107

2009 Riverside Pool

Season Totals:

Average Temperature: 78.1 degrees
Total Yearly Attendance: 11,740 paid admissions
Total Day Care Attendance: 3,952 day care children
Total 3 under Attendance: 631 free admissions
Total Regular Attendance: 7,111 paid and unpaid
Average Daily Attendance : 205 patrons
Open: 55 days Closed : 12 days due to weather or FAST Swim Meet
Riverside Pool was closed every Monday

PROGRAMS, SERVICES AND FACILITIES Department Programs -- directly administered by the Recreation Department

Adult Slow Pitch Softball: After reviewing the Adult softball program from previous years, we audited the program and made some much needed changes, which proved to be beneficial to the program and to the Recreation Department. In 2009, we found that due to a ditch project that ran through the outfield of Riverside Park ball field it would be unusable for the season. Normally, it is a very busy field, used by Findlay City Women's' Softball, Young Miss Softball, Findlay Church Softball League and Findlay Men's' Fall Fast pitch Softball League, as well as other events.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Riverside Park Softball field also, has lights, so **games** had to be **moved to** the Marathon Diamonds – National Lime and Stone Field **to be played**. Also, City Women’s Softball used both Cooper and Rawson for their league and tournament games.

Continued Fall Softball Leagues in 2009: Proved to be very popular and well received. Both Men’s and Co-ed Leagues were formed for play during September, October, and the beginning of November.

Tri County Umpire Association – We contract for umpiring services with the Association versus independent contracts with individual umpires. We agreed upon new rates under this contract:

Men Softball	2 umpires	1 scorekeeper	\$ 44 per game
Women Softball	2 umpires	1 scorekeeper	\$ 44 per game
Co-Ed Softball	1 umpire	N/A	\$ 23 per game

2009 Adult Softball Structure

SPRING/SUMMER SEASON		FALL SEASON	
Division	# Of Teams	Division	# Of Teams
Men’s B	9		
Men’s C	14	Men’s	13
Men’s C-2	7	Co-Ed	9
Men’s A	6		
Co-Ed A	7		
Co-Ed B	12		
Co-Ed C	16		
Women	7		
Total	78	Total	22

- **Shuffle Board League** - Shuffleboard continued throughout the spring, summer and fall months at the shuffleboard courts at Riverside Park. During inclement weather and/or the winter months – portable shuffleboard courts were purchased by the Recreation Department for play at the CUBE on Tuesday mornings. This Senior Citizen program is a service to our community and does not have a fee structure.

“Peep Drop” The annual Easter event took on a new look in 2009. Children and parents were excited to see peeps, each outfitted with their own parachute “jumping” from a helicopter hovering over The Marathon Diamond Fields. This event was co-sponsored by Lifepoint Church and other area sponsors. Doughnuts, juice, cotton candy, popcorn and sno-cones were provided.

- The event was free to the public and is considered a service to the Community. Optimist financial contribution of \$300 helped offset the cost of the event.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

- **Skate with Santa Claus** – The third annual holiday event at the Huntington Bank Arena morphed somewhat this year as Santa joined everyone during the afternoon public skate at the CUBE, Over 200 attended and were pleasantly surprised to learn that Santa could skate.
- **First Night Out Celebration** – The CUBE was the location of ringing in the New Year, including a balloon drop in the lobby and a giant size lighted CUBE in the Huntington Bank Arena at midnight. The New Years Eve celebration began at 7pm and ended at 12:15am. The fee to attend this event was \$10 per person, which included, skating, skate rental; noise makers and snacks. The event was attended by over 400 paid admissions. This is a new one-day record.
- **Birthday Parties at the CUBE** – In 2009, 52 birthday party packages were sold at the CUBE, which included private party room, pizza, soda, skate rental and ice skating.
- **Meeting Room Rentals** – 182 rooms were rented by community groups at the CUBE in 2009, Recreation Partners pay \$75.00 for the year to use the meeting rooms for monthly meetings and special events. This fee also covers our administrative fee and processing of field permits.
- **Shelter House Rentals** – The Recreation Department continued with the duties of securing shelter house reservations and fee collections in 2009. The renovations on Shelter House #15 continue to make it one of the more popular shelters at Riverside Park. Shelter house #15 rents for \$75 each day, all other shelter houses rent for \$40 per day. Total number of rentals was 232. Additional shelter house usage by no-charge and Camp Hi-HO-O-H-I-O was 85.

The CUBE:

2009 was the second year **Findlay Grrrowl** has been a part of the Cube rolls — a Junior A Hockey Team. We are in the second year of a three year contract between The Mayor of the City of Findlay and Findlay Grrrowl. The agreement with the organization is to practice and skate their home schedule in Huntington Bank Arena at the CUBE.

Findlay High School Hockey In 2008 it was agreed upon that the Findlay Recreation Department would receive 4% of the gate at home games. A new agreement with Findlay High School was successfully negotiated and agreed upon for the 2009 – 2010 season to pay for a portion of their ice usage.

Public Skating at the CUBE has taken a leap in attendance at both evening and afternoon sessions. Average attendance during the evening sessions is 330 and the afternoon sessions 150. Admission prices were reviewed by the recreation staff and adjusted in accordance with the trends.

Evening Skate Sessions Admission rates in 2008 for evening skate is \$5, music is always playing. The demographics for evening skates are mainly junior high and high school teenagers. Skate Rental remained the same at \$2.

Afternoon Skate Sessions the demographics consist of younger children and families; in 2008 the fee structure was \$4 admission and \$1skate rental fee. 2009 saw a slight change whereas afternoon skates fee is \$5.00 per person with skate rental included.

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Wee Skate Learn to Skate We remain consistent with the Ice Skating Institute, which we joined in 2008. The new “Wee Skate”, learn to skate program now follows the ISI teaching and testing guidelines. In 2009 we decided to revamp the “Wee Skate Program”, which was downsized in both price and time commitment.

Off Season Ice brought in a few new dry floor events to compliment our anchor events of:

WFIN/WKXA Leisure Living Home Show and ***Hancock Wood Electric Co-Op Annual Meeting***: The events include a 3-year agreement with the ***Hancock Handlebars – Hancock 100*** the event includes registration and an ice cream social for the bicyclists. ***“Rockin’ the Rink”***, we also offered ***“Rockin’ the Rink”*** for area music enthusiasts. This new venture included local “garage bands” that entertained show goes for several hours. ***Alpaca and Suri Show***; This event is a “National” Alpaca and Suri Sweepstakes event. It brought animals and their owners from many areas throughout the United States. The event is open to the public and they welcomed many of our community members to observe these fascinating animals.

<i>Classification</i>	Prime Hours M-F 4p-10p, Sat-Sun 8a-10p Hol&W/E	Non – Prime Hours (M-F 10p-12a)
Ice Partners (300 plus rental hrs.)	\$190	\$170
Ice User Groups (225-299h)	\$210	\$190
Ice Renters (Less than 225)	\$230	\$210
Findlay Growl (per contract)	\$100 per hour practice ice	\$200 per hour game ice
User Groups Public Skate	10 or more \$ 5.00	
<i>Ice Partners</i>	# of Contracted Hours	
Findlay Amateur Hockey Assoc.	136.75	
Silver Blades Figure Skating Club	331.5	
Findlay Men’s Hockey League	327	
Findlay Growl Junior A Hockey	210	
Perrysburg High School	20	
Other *	25	
<i>Total</i>	1,050.25 hours	

*Other includes – Just Say No – City and County Schools – Special Groups

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

<i>Special Event Vendors</i>	Date of Event
WFIN/WKXA Leisure Living Show	Apr 3 - 5
Hancock Handlebars	Sep 12 - 13
Hancock Wood Electric Annual Meeting	Sep 12
Regional 8 Gymnastics Meet	April 25 - 26
National Alpaca & Suri Sweepstakes	Sep 18 - 20
Total	

The Marathon Diamonds: Many strikes, foul balls, and home runs were enjoyed by the numerous fans visiting the Marathon Diamonds in 2009. League play, tournaments, and The University of Findlay’s spring and fall seasons of baseball and softball games rounded out the schedule for the first full season at Marathon Diamonds.

Tournament games	300
League games	300
University Games/Events	62

Volunteer Organizations: These groups operate independently under the direction of private volunteer boards. The Recreation Department issues facility permits, use of meeting rooms, offers coaches’ training, parent education, and provides scheduling assistance if requested. The Recreation Office serves as a convenient central location for registration forms and phone inquiries for all volunteer organizations listed.

2009 Annual Recreation Summit: (2nd year) was held at Comfort Suites where along with our Recreation Partners we concentrated on our many volunteers and also recognition of all recreation volunteers everywhere. 2009 was our first year to honor one of our many volunteers with a newly established “Sportsmanship Award” The award was presented and named in consideration of Larry DeVelvis. This award will be presented each year to an individual or group who has shown outstanding sportsmanship in our community.

Volunteer Organizations

Hancock Soccer Association	Young Miss Softball	Adult Flag Football
Findlay Youth Baseball	Girls’ Fast-Pitch Softball	City Church Softball League
Findlay Area Swim Team	Northwest Ohio Football League	Co-Ed Volleyball
Silver Blades Figure Skating Club	Findlay Amateur Hockey Association	Women’s Volleyball
Findlay Men’s Hockey League	Gliding Stars	Shuffle Board Club

RECREATION DEPARTMENT

2009 ANNUAL REPORT

Other Recreation/Community Partners

Hancock Park District	Fifth Third Bank	Time Warner Cablevision	The University of Findlay Men's Baseball
Findlay Noon Rotary Club	WFIN/WKXA	Ice Skating Institute	The University of Findlay Soccer Camp
American Red Cross – Findlay Division	Craig and Mary Lou Anderson	Huntington Bank	The University of Findlay Women's Softball
Hancock County Convention & Visitors Bureau	Marathon Oil Company	Gus Macker Basketball	Findlay City Schools
Findlay Optimist Club	Rettig Brothers Enterprise	Cincinnati Reds Baseball Camp	Ohio High School Athletic Association
Hancock Youth and Adult Leadership Program	National Lime & Stone Company	Phantom Sports Mixed Martial Arts	Findlay Growl Junior Hockey Team
The Arts Partnership of Hancock County	Huntington Bank	National Alpaca & Suri Association	Y.M.C.A

The Recreation Department experienced another very busy year in 2009, with our additional facilities and the loss of two full-time employees. We continue however, to offer excellent customer service while maintaining a full schedule of programs and special events.

Respectively submitted:

Lu Draper

Recreation, Facility & Community Superintendent