

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Craig A. Stough 8/10/2023

“BURNHAM PARK 2023”

Recent improvements to Burnham Park are close to completion. Plummer Pool will get needed upgrades next year. Both projects are being led by SAJRD (Sylvania Area Joint Recreation District) and are primarily funded by grants from the State of Ohio that the City of Sylvania and SAJRD received after submitting applications for consideration.

Burnham Park has been in use for many years. Many improvements were made during the Prohibition era in the 1920's, funded with fines collected by the Sylvania Court handling many cases from around the region for alcohol related charges. The fine money was used to pave streets throughout Sylvania, install street lights, and also construct a pool and bandstand in Burnham Park.

The pool was replaced years ago with Plummer Pool and the bandstand was renovated into a gazebo that was built over the bandstand in the late 1970's. Sylvania Area Chamber of Commerce helped fund the renovation. A time capsule was placed at the west point of the park in 1976.

Plummer Pool was updated in 1996 with an extension that provided ADA inclined walk-in access at the northeast corner of the pool. The “mushroom” and water bucket toys were also added to provide spraying water in the pool. A shading structure was also added.

A Peace Cairn, which is a stone monument of peace, was placed at the park in conjunction with our Sister City around the year 2000.

I have many memories of Burnham Park over the years. It has always served as a center of activity for the community. Sunday summertime afternoon concerts were held at the gazebo. Early Fall Festivals used the park for children's activities and many of us have childhood memories of using the play equipment and pool.

Playground equipment has again been updated and replaced. Older picnic shelters that were deteriorating were removed and replaced with new open-air fabric shelters, and new sidewalks were installed.

The former bandstand, now gazebo, needed to be updated. Upon inspection it was found to be structurally sound and has been restored. All deteriorated wood was replaced, the stairs rebuilt, benches added, new electrical service and outlets added. The gazebo was repainted and new roofing installed.

This has been a great improvement for our community and the Burnham Park neighborhood. Please take time and visit the park; a place that remains a gem for the City of Sylvania.

