



2021 Annual Report

Washington Township



Welcome To More

Washington Township in southern Montgomery County, Ohio, offers the best of all worlds - award winning schools, vibrant and affordable neighborhoods, abundant activities, and a strong sense of

place. Our mission is to provide for and promote the general health, safety and welfare of Township residents and employees as we create an environment focused on building for the future.



Established In
1796

27,000
Households

31 Square
Miles

61,684
Residents

A Message from the Board of Trustees



Scott Paulson
Trustee President

As we reflect back on the past year, we remain incredibly grateful for the strength of our community as we optimistically began hosting events and returning to business as usual this year. The return of beloved events and traditions felt particularly special as we were eager to be together again. We thank you, the residents, for your continued support and for joining together to build the community that we all enjoy.

We offer this annual report as a way to share progress and provide highlights on projects and initiatives that happened in our community throughout 2021. As Washington Township continues to grow, it remains important to us to provide transparency, engagement, and a high level of customer service to our residents. It is our honor to serve you - thank you for making Washington Township the best place to live, work and play!

Scott Paulson
Trustee President

Sharon Lowry
Trustee Vice President

Dale Berry
Trustee

Gary Smiga
Fiscal Officer

Jesse Lightle
Township Administrator



Development Services

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Leo Brown Group was approved for a First Stage Planned Development Residential plan to construct a detached multi-family residential development off of Sheehan Rd.



- Daniel Tryon, immediate past president of Washington Township Kettering Health, spoke at the annual Business Breakfast about future plans for the medical center.
- Final construction plans were completed at the Ohio's Hospice build out and development off of Paragon Rd.

Overview

The Zoning and Development Services department works directly with residents and businesses to approve permits, proactively identify zoning violations and work with potential developers on residential and commercial site plans. Zoning inspectors can often be found driving through the Township and visiting homes and businesses, offering assistance, enforcing Washington Township's zoning resolution and answering questions.

9%
increase in
population size
in Washington
Township

678
Zoning
Permits
Issued

187
New Single-Family
Permits
Issued

2021 Summary

This year proved to be an incredibly busy year for the Development Services department as home improvement projects remained incredibly popular with 678 total zoning certificates issued for fences, decks, home additions and more. Washington Township continued to be a leader in Montgomery County with 187 new single-family home permits issued. 2020 Census data was released this year and Washington Township saw a population increase of 9%, reinforcing what we have been seeing over the past ten years, which is steady residential growth as more families and individuals call Washington Township home. The Business Breakfast was held in October and multiple ribbon cuttings took place for new businesses throughout the Township.

In early 2021, Kettering Health announced plans to re-brand their medical centers with updated names and a fresh look. What was formally known as Southview Medical Center is now Kettering Health Washington Township. Kettering Health has been an integral part of our community for decades and we look forward to this new and exciting chapter in their organization.



Multiple ribbon cuttings took place throughout the year as we warmly welcomed new businesses to the Township family. These included Nutmeg Cafe, Ivy, Berkshire Hathaway, DMC Boxing, Safer Solutions, Panera, and more. It is always an honor to celebrate alongside our local businesses as they open their doors to the public and embark on this journey.

2022 Plans

Multiple developments and improvements continue to take place along Far Hills Ave. The Dayton Dental Collaborative will be investing in additional parking and future commercial expansion, Hanson Audio and Video has submitted development plans for a new retail space, and UDF has submitted final plans for their fueling station at the corner of Far Hills and Whipp Rd.



The Development Services department continues to overhaul their comprehensive plan and will work on finalizing the updated plan in 2022. Additionally, the Township continues to rewrite the current zoning codes to create a more customer-oriented approach.

Finance Department

Overview

The Washington Township Finance Department falls under the direction of the Fiscal Officer and Township Administrator and covers a variety of responsibilities including record retention, payroll processing, the annual budget and more.

2021 Summary

The management of taxpayer funds continued to be uppermost in our minds this year. Departments took advantage of multiple grant opportunities to offset the cost to residents and remain strong stewards of taxpayer funds. For instance, the recreation department has been awarded over \$400,000 in grants to preserve the natural and historic community resources owned and operated by Washington Township.

MESSAGE FROM THE FISCAL OFFICER

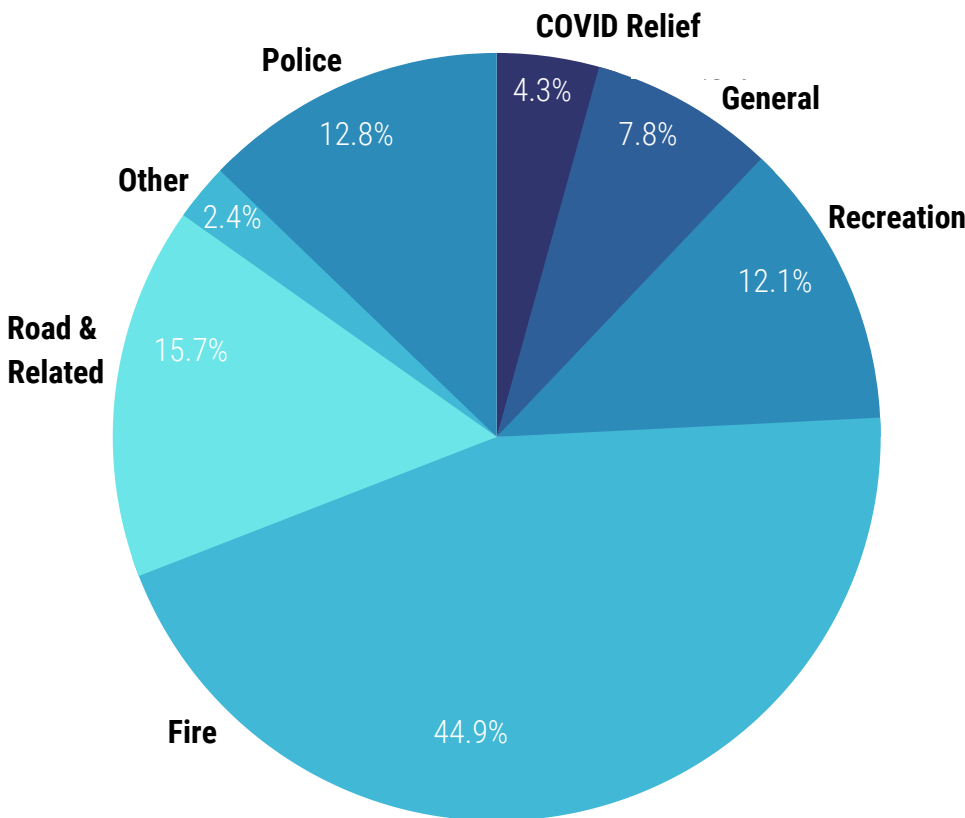
A foundation of trust is built on transparency, particularly as it relates to finances. This is a value that our staff takes very seriously as our budget, meeting minutes, and online checkbook are always available for residents to review.

The finance team maintains a five year budget that acts as a roadmap and ensures accountability, financial forecasting and helps to control costs.

2021 marked more than 30 consecutive years that the Township has received the highest rating available from the State Auditor's Office. This means there were no material problems found in the Township's 2020 financial statements and accounting practices. It takes a long time to build trust with taxpayers and Washington Township works hard every day to maintain that trust.



Gary Smiga | Fiscal Officer



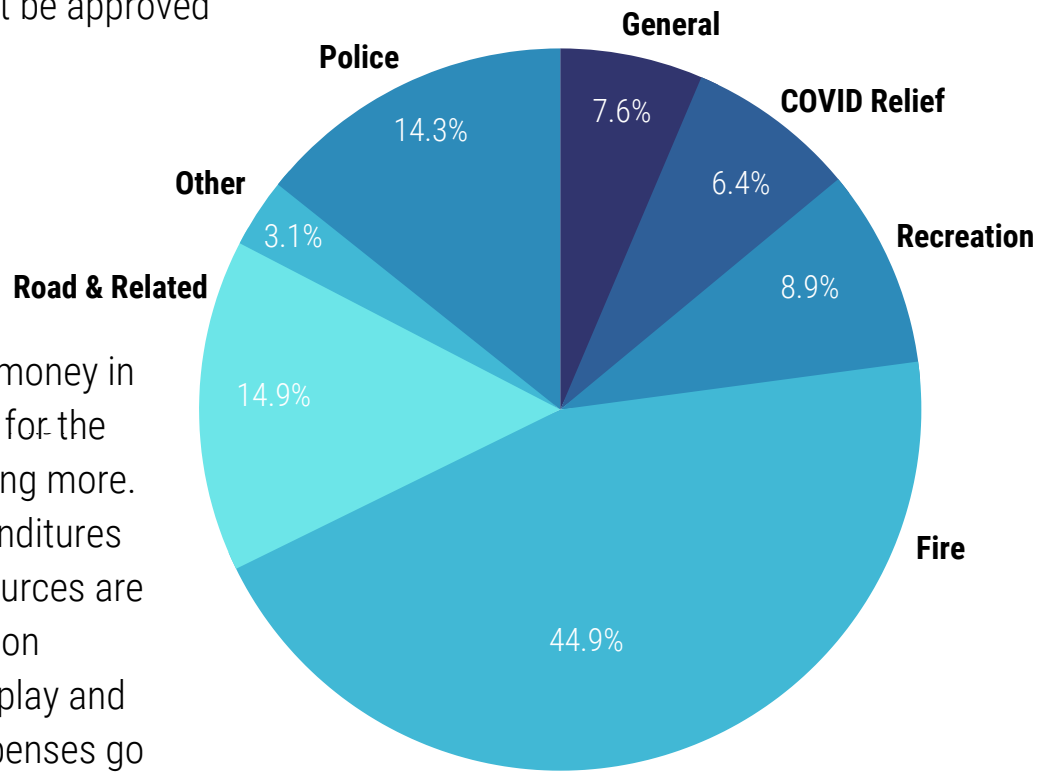
2021 Total Revenue: \$40,265,977

Revenue

The main source of revenue in Washington Township comes through property taxes. In 2021, the largest portion of revenue increase came from new millage for fire department services that voters approved in 2019. This revenue will be used to fund new full-time positions and build a new fire station to replace Station 41. The Township form of government continues to be highly responsive to residents because most revenue comes from property tax levies, which must be approved by voters.

Expenses

Aside from the General Fund, Washington Township's budget operates using restricted funds, meaning the money in that account can only be used for the designated purpose, and nothing more. This graph depicts those expenditures for 2021. The Township's resources are dedicated to making Washington Township a safe place to live, play and work. Almost two-thirds of expenses go toward police, fire, and EMS, followed by road and infrastructure.



2021 Total Expenses: \$33,297,042

Where do your property taxes go?

Many public entities are funded by property tax. The graph below shows how Washington Township's property tax factors in to the overall tax bill paid by residents in the unincorporated portion of Washington Township. The residential effective rate for unincorporated Washington Township residents is 86.16. Property tax is based on the value of a tax payer's property and the amount of millage voters have approved.

A mill means 1/1,000. Therefore, each mill generates \$1 of taxes for every \$1,000 of a property's assessed value. Of the ten mills assigned by the state, Washington Township has been allocated 3.05 mills from residents



- 53% School District**
- 19% Washington Township**
- 18% Montgomery County**
- 4% Sinclair College**
- 3% Library**
- 3% Park District**

of the unincorporated area and .7 mills from the incorporated area. The rest is voter approved.

Sam Braun | Finance Director

Fire Department

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Awarded the 2021 Ohio Fire Department of the Year from the Ohio Department of Commerce.
- Worked with internal & external stakeholders to finalize the 2021-2026 strategic plan.
- Remains the only accredited fire department in the Miami Valley.

Overview

The Washington Township Fire Department provides exceptional emergency and non-emergency services to enhance the safety and well-being of Washington Township and City of Centerville residents, businesses and visitors. These services include fire suppression, emergency medical services, technical rescue, operations-level hazardous materials mitigation, and other community risk reduction services. Our fire department prides themselves on utilizing the best industry practices to ensure the highest quality, most effective, safe, and compassionate emergency services are provided to our community.

2021 Summary

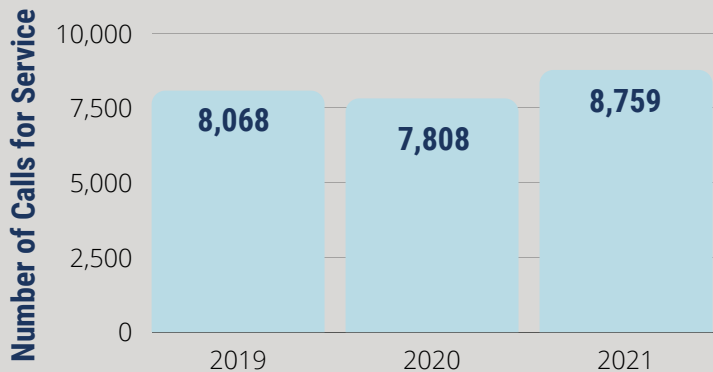
2021 marked the 75th anniversary of the Washington Township Fire Department. What started as a small volunteer department in the 1940s has now grown into an internationally accredited agency with more credentialed staff than any department in Ohio. The department was also recognized at the Americana Festival for the critical and compassionate services they continued to provide to the community throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. 2021 marked the busiest year on record for the department as calls for service increased by 8.5 percent from the previous highest year.



98%
Satisfaction
of
Services
Provided

3,990
Fire
Inspections
Conducted





Fire Station 41

In 2021, the department began the process of designing the new fire station 41. This will replace the current station located on Maple Ave and will be located on Franklin St next to Centerville High School. The anticipated completion date is May of 2023.



Community Engagement

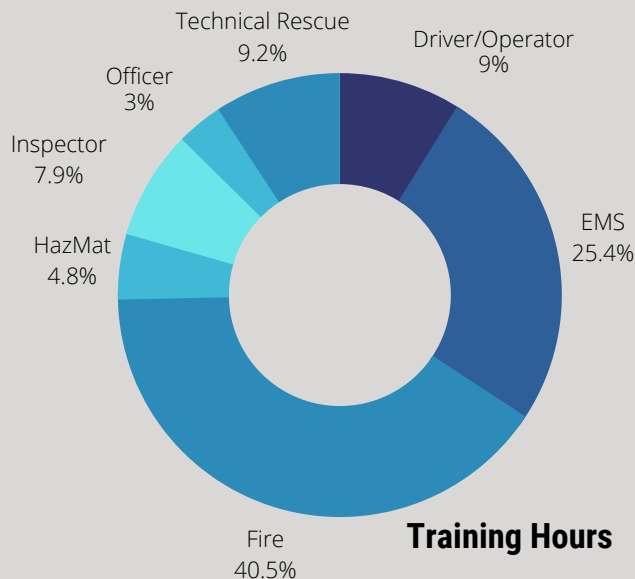
2021 saw a welcome resurgence of community engagement including student tours, events, and more. The Cruise-In to the Ice Cream Social proved to be one of the most popular events the department has ever hosted, in partnership with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. Additionally, students were welcomed back into the fire station to learn about fire safety, check out the apparatus, and visit with firefighters.

Training

Our training division is assigned to a battalion chief who oversees all training and education for the department. The division utilizes three training lieutenants, the department's 35 fire instructors, 17 EMS instructors, and two fire safety inspector instructors to provide training to approximately 100 firefighters, EMTs, paramedics, and fire safety inspectors. In 2021, the department provided 89 external training opportunities ranging from the Ohio Fire Academy, National Fire Academy, Fire Department Training Network, and more. Currently, every fire officer has at least an associate degree and in 2021, nine individuals took advantage of the tuition reimbursement program.



Scott Kujawa | Fire Chief



Training Hours

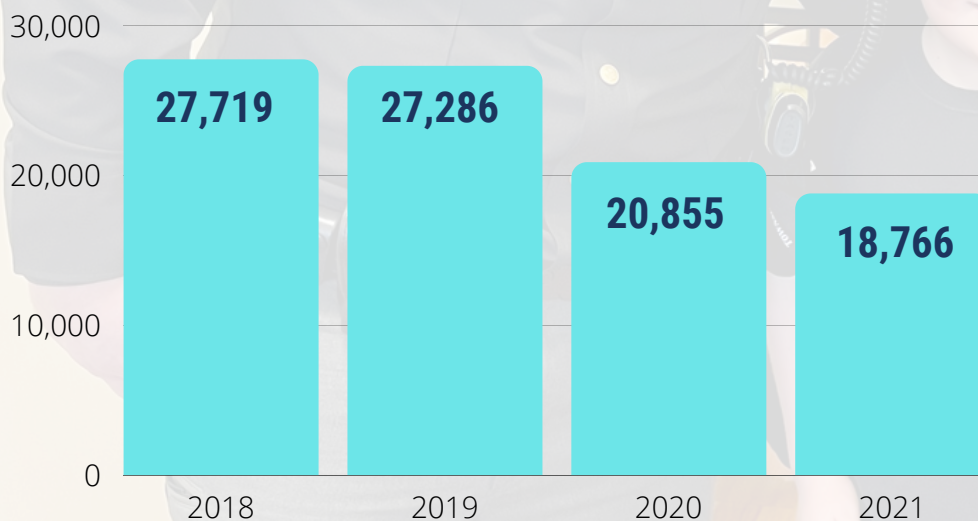
MONTGOMERY COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Washington Township Substation

Overview

The Montgomery County Sheriff's Office provides full police services to Washington Township residents through a cost effective contract with the Board of Trustees. This enables residents to benefit from the service and expertise provided by a large department and to negotiate the level of police services appropriate for the community. Washington Township continues to rank among the lowest in per capita expenditures for police services among south Dayton communities.

Number of Calls Per Year



2021 Summary

Throughout 2021, MCSO maintained their partnership with Eastway Behavioral Healthcare for the Crisis Intervention Team. This collaboration pairs a CIT trained deputy and a qualified mental health specialist to provide services to residents experiencing a mental health crisis. In 2021, 253 Washington Township residents were serviced by this program. In June 2021, a second School Resource Officer from MCSO was added by Centerville City Schools. Additionally, Deputy Mike Arnett was assigned to Washington Township in 2021 as a canine handler and K9 Max was paired with Deputy Arnett in the spring. Since deployment, K9 Max has been used 93 times and also assists neighboring police departments. MCSO continued to build an effective partnership with residents through the Community-Oriented Policing philosophy by identifying and solving problems that affect the quality of life in neighborhoods. This approach means deputies are more efficient in solving crime and prosecuting criminals.

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Montgomery County Sheriff's Office was recognized by the Americana Festival during the 2021 event as the festival committee honored first responders.
- MCSO was the first in Ohio to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies - an accreditation that has been maintained for an impressive 34 years.
- The Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence recognized the positive outcomes associated with MCSO's CIT program and published a program brief as an example and reference for other agencies.



Community Engagement

In addition to numerous events and community outreach activities, MCSO continued to maintain a robust presence on social media and with neighborhood watch groups to monitor current events in the Township and relay vital information to residents in an efficient manner. Deputies also collected unwanted prescription medication at the Township's three Super Saturday events, co-hosted the first Cruise-In to the Ice Cream Social with the Fire Department at the RecPlex, and conducted multiple residential and business security assessments throughout the year.

34

Deputy Sheriffs

90%

Satisfaction of Services Provided

253

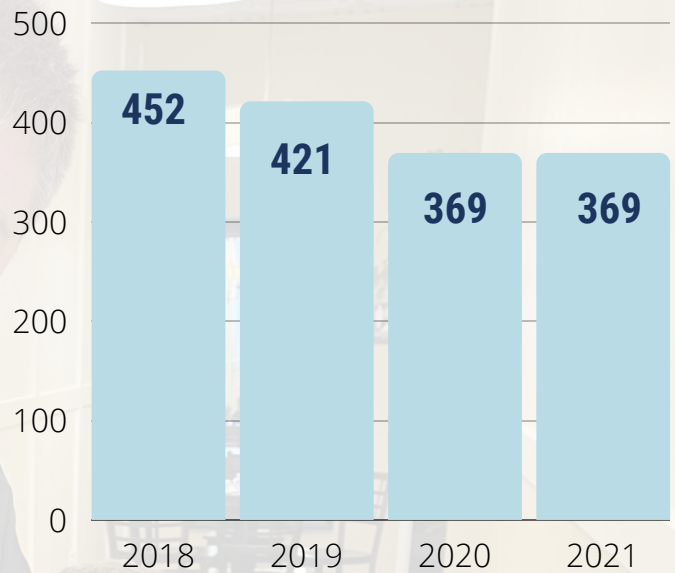
Residents Assisted Through CIT Program



School Education

Two School Resource Officers are responsible for overseeing nine schools within the Township, serving over 4,800 students. Both deputies work as a team and perform a large variety of tasks and duties together including holding classes on topics such as opioid awareness, cellphone/social media safety, alcohol awareness, bullying, and more. Additionally, they assist school staff with counseling students and safety drills. They also attend school assemblies, after school/weekend events, and advisory board meetings to provide guidance on safety protocols and building upgrades. Both deputies maintain a consistent and constant presence within the schools by interacting with students and staff.

Mike Brem | Police Captain



Traffic Crashes



Public Works

2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Improvements were made along Congress Park Drive with the installation of 875 feet of sidewalk. Additional improvements are in the works for 2022 with funding offset by a grant from ODOT.



- Over 2,000 miles of roadway cleaned by the street sweeper.
- A relatively busy winter brought 26 inches of snowfall and crews either plowed or salted for 12 days during the season.
- 28 burials & 15 cremations performed and 3 veterans plaque were placed.

Overview

The Washington Township Public Works Department oversees the construction, improvement and maintenance of Township roads, sidewalks, traffic signs and signals, curbs, gutters and storm sewer system. The department also leads the Township's Super Saturday events, leaf pickup, snow removal, beautification efforts and maintenance of six cemeteries. Crews maintain public flower beds and landscaping while also clearing snow from parking lots at the RecPlex, fire stations and administrative buildings.

2021 Summary

The essential duties and services provided by the department continued throughout 2021. Three Super Saturday events were held with an average of 775 cars attending each event. Implementation of the Township's streetscape project continued with updated branding and logos in the downtown corridor and on signage throughout the Township. Finally, the Street Improvement Program resurfaced approximately 5 miles of public roadway and replaced more than 21,000 feet of deteriorating curb.

619
Loads of Leaves

50,000
Pounds of Documents Shredded

21,000
Feet of Curb Replaced





Crews welcomed the return of school visits to the Township's Public Works building as students had the opportunity to return in person for a tour and to learn about the various vehicles and equipment that are used to keep the Township running smoothly. Crews also participated in multiple "touch-a-truck" events throughout the year. Holiday lighting was installed along the State Route 725 downtown corridor and Austin Blvd. Once again, Township staff came together for a day filled with flower planting as new landscape designs for roadway medians were designed and new locations for roadside planters were identified. With the assistance of the Montgomery County Master Gardeners, residents can once again expect to see the beautiful plants and flowers throughout the Township in 2022.

2022 Plans

The Public Works department will be resurfacing 32 streets in 2022 for the Township's Street Improvement Program. This program focuses primarily on residential streets and includes curb rehabilitation, road resurfacing and sidewalk repair. Also, the continued implementation of the Township's Streetscape Enhancement project will remain a priority for the department throughout 2022 and residents can expect to see updated street signs along the downtown corridor with the Township's new branding..

Partnerships

Some roads and bridges in the Township are maintained by either the county or the state. When repairs are needed, the Township works collaboratively with our partners to notify residents, provide updates and participate in hearings. In 2022, the county is currently planning to begin construction on a roundabout at the intersection of Mad River Rd. and Alex Bell Rd. to help improve traffic flow and enhance safety. The project is anticipated to begin in May with an expected completion date of October 2022. The Township will continue to post updates on the website as they are received from the county.



Recreation

Overview

The Washington Township RecPlex serves the residents of Washington Township and Centerville with a mission to build a shared sense of community for all by providing diverse programs in a safe and engaging environment. The 32-acre campus includes 115,000 square feet of indoor recreation space, 21-acres of outdoor space in Countryside Park and 3,000 square feet in the historic Town Hall. Nine full time employees and nearly 100 part time employees deliver aquatics, sports, fitness, theatre, youth and adult enrichment programs to thousands of visitors each year. Additionally, multiple community events are held annually for families to enjoy.

64,588

Annual Visits

1,011

**Passes
Purchased**

902

**Silver Sneakers
Participants**

2021 Summary

The story of 2021 was one of recovery and growth as moving out of the pandemic shutdown remained a top priority. Staff continued to strengthen existing programs while also developing new offerings. Additionally, a study is currently underway to determine the feasibility of permanently converting a former gym into a dedicated fitness equipment space, making the fitness room three times larger than before.



2021 HIGHLIGHTS

- Two employees selected as Employees of the Year by the Montgomery County Township Association for exemplary performance and work.
- Awarded the \$10,000 Impact Grant from the Centerville-Washington Foundation for Countryside Park revitalizations.
- Hired a full time recreation supervisor to oversee programming, marketing, and staffing.
- Operated a 12-week, full capacity, on site summer camp for 108 weekly participants.



Community Events

Family Pajama Party, Doggie Ice Cream Social, and Lantern Fest were all popular new community events held in 2021. The RecPlex welcomed the Noon Optimist's Haunted Trail to Countryside Park this year, as well.



Woodland Lights returned with bigger and brighter displays and two new trackless trains to greet the almost 18,000 visitors during the month-long holiday event. 39 sponsors contributed almost \$29,000 in cash and in-kind donations, making it one of the most beloved and community funded holiday events in the Miami Valley. The event simply wouldn't be possible without the support of local businesses.

Programming

As staff worked to resume events and classes, new programs and activities were created throughout the year. In aquatics, open swim nights, summer camp swim events, kayaking classes, and themed swim programs were among the new favorites. To encourage social connections, a temporary gathering space was created outside the fitness center until permanent renovations are completed in 2022. New equipment was added along with classes including Krav Maga, Senior Fit, Drums Alive, and Archery Tag. October 22 welcomed the reopening of Town Hall after an 18 month shutdown due to the pandemic. Live theatre was ushered back in with open arms as over 1,000 ticketholders returned for the holiday performance in December. Additionally, an Adopt-a-Seat campaign began to help raise funds for the major renovations scheduled in 2022.



Grant Funding

The RecPlex was awarded over \$400,000 in local, state, and federal grants for projects scheduled in 2021 and 2022. This includes sustaining and creating new theatre programming; revitalization work in Countryside Park; upgrading kitchen appliances and equipment in the Enrichment Center; renovating Town Hall; resurfacing park playgrounds and adding new equipment; and installing an electric vehicle charging station in the RecPlex East parking lot. Securing grant funding for these projects is one of the ways the RecPlex remains a good steward of taxpayer funds.



\$400,000
Awarded in Grant
Funding

Mark Metzger | Recreation Director

Community Engagement

Community events flourished in 2021 as Township elected officials, staff and volunteers were eager to engage with the residents they serve.



Top: Cruise-In to the Ice Cream Social

Bottom: SICSA Lift Your Leg 5k race



Elected officials & staff volunteered at SICSA's Giving Tuesday fundraiser.

