

- Courtney Burton, Jr.

Grandson of Earl & Sallie Oglebay





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Dear Friends,

It's spring, and Oglebay and Wheeling Park are in full swing. With warmer weather, more guests and friends visit. While parks may be comprised of trees, flowers, fountains, paths and buildings, it's the people who make the park come to life.

The birds and bees aren't the only busy ones around here. Both parks are being transformed thanks to generous donors and an incredible list of projects – big and small. If you haven't been in a while, you're in for some pleasant surprises.



Little, but important, things – like replacing the oilcan trashcans with receptacles that make recycling easier – have happened. Another fun tweak, we're finding creative ways to eliminate or reduce single-use plastics. The parks have installed new water bottle filling stations, many of which serve our four-legged friends as well.

Bigger projects are in the works for both parks. In this issue, you'll read about important partners, like EQT, which is removing invasive species and planting trees to help improve the parks' ecosystem while lowering their carbon footprint.

Stewarding our natural resources and being at the forefront of sustainability efforts has been an ongoing, long-term effort. We're also exploring solar opportunities with IMC Solar.

We launched Forever Yours: The Campaign for an Enduring Oglebay to ensure our beloved parks remain strong. Over the next five years, we'll prepare to celebrate the 100th anniversary of both parks and the 50th anniversary of the Good Zoo. The Campaign is designed to secure the parks' second 100 years, ensuring they continue as incredible destinations of family fun for everyone, forever.

Contemplating the future, having a vision for the parks and the immense changes that the next generation will experience is both humbling and thrilling. Knowing that, whatever the future brings, our parks will endure and continue to thrive is a great comfort.

That comfort is only possible because of people like you. People who bring the parks to life year after year with gifts of support. Every gift matters. Every gift makes a difference. Every gift has an impact. Thank you for your ongoing commitment and support.

See you in the parks,







**Oglebay Through The Years** 



### Recycling TODAY makes a world of difference TOMORROW.

Park trash receptacles throughout the park have been updated. The new receptacles are made from recycled materials and make it easy for guests and visitors to do the right thing!



66

We know our donation is an investment in the park we love. That's why we make an annual gift every year.

99





Make Your 2023 Gift Today!

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera.

Information about specific support options is available at

oglebayfoundation.org • 304-243-4166



In April, an exciting new partnership between the Wheeling Park Commission (WPC) and EQT Corporation was announced that will further the parks' environmental sustainability initiatives.

Leveraging technological advances in the energy sector, EQT will help the parks with these environmental strategies that, a few years ago, were financially untenable or logistically impossible - sometimes both.

EQT, the nation's largest producer of natural gas, has much of its operations here in our region. They are making a major investment as part of their first naturebased carbon offset initiative - a forest management project that spans more than 1,000 acres of natural, wooded area on the perimeters of Oglebay and Wheeling Park.

The partnership includes Teralytic, a soil analytics company, and Climate **Smart Environmental** Consulting, which will implement the project and generate carbon offsets.

"We are excited to take this first step in a partnership with EQT as the center of knowledge for forest improvements and soil health," said WPC President and CEO Bob Peckenpaugh. "We have served our community for nearly 100 years, and for Oglebay and Wheeling Park to thrive for the next 100 years, we have a responsibility to clean up, maintain and improve our natural

resources for the people of our community and the more than 2,000 acres we call home."

These efforts are driven by a desire to improve the quality of life in our communities, making the case that it is possible to do good while doing well.

"EQT has a longstanding commitment to reducing operational emissions. Our operations already have some of the lowest

> greenhouse gas emissions intensities in the world," said Rob Wingo, an executive vice president for EQT. "Nature-based projects like this, which are supported by cutting-edge technology that ensures accuracy and transparency, will help offset EQT's remaining emissions and advance our mission to deliver cheaper, more reliable, cleaner energy to the world."

To supplement those reduction efforts, this initiative will reduce or remove emissions of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere to offset other operational emissions

and advance EQT's efforts to reach net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by or before 2025 a remarkable achievement.

The partnership is implementing Conservation Practice Standards (CPS) outlined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) and will align to Verra guidelines to ensure the effectiveness of emissions reductions and removals.

(continued on page 6)



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Bob Peckenpaugh WPC President & CEO







#### **SOIL SENSORS**

temperature, humidity

and light.

6", 18", 36"

Measures soil moisture, EC (salinity), soil temperature, pH, nitrate, phosphate and potassium metrics.

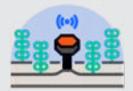
#### **GAS SENSORS**

6", 18"

Measures active aeration (O2) and respiration (CO2).

The advanced soil probe technology owned by Teralytic empirically measures the project's impact on soil health. Teralytic probes make possible automatic and real-time measurement of soil carbon, soil moisture – and other vital soil nutrients, which eliminates the need for costly manual soil sampling to quantify carbon offsets generated. This will allow EQT to generate higher-quality carbon offsets at a lower cost than traditional methods.

In conjunction with this project, EQT also has partnered with Wheeling Country Day School to pilot an educational learning program to allow students to learn about soil health by monitoring real-time changes in the health of the soil, 24 hours a day.



#### **COLLECT**

Collect data from the sensors located throughout the parks



#### **AGGREGATE**

Pool all the data into one source and prepare it for processing



#### **PROCESS**

Process all the data to formulate actionable metrics



#### REPORT

Use the reported data to maintain or make changes to sustain the parks EQT is removing invasive species including autumn olive, privet and oriental bittersweet. Once the land is cleared, EQT is replanting the area with a variety of native species including American chestnut, black walnut, sycamore, aspen, red oak, white oak, black locust, yellow poplar, red maple,

sugar maple, serviceberry and hawthorn trees. This incredible biodiversity will reestablish acres of hardwood trees that will attract songbirds and other wildlife leading to a win for our region through better forest management and improved soil health.









## ACCESS TO THE PARKS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM





Subaru of America; David Weaver, owner of Wheeling Subaru; Michael Mazure, general manager Wheeling Subaru

#### **LEADERSHIP DONOR**

Wheeling Subaru has donated more than \$60,000 over five years to support Access to the Parks Scholarships. Every November and December, Subaru holds its annual Share the Love Event where a portion of every transaction — from sales, leases and service — provides scholarship support to Ohio County residents. Scholarships are based on financial need, providing access to 18 activities and their associated equipment rental fees at Oglebay and Wheeling Park. Talk about Sharing the Love!











































Brilliant, Ohio, native Denise Pentino was determined to graduate from college early. To achieve this goal, the then 20-year-old Wheeling Jesuit University student needed to attend summer night classes while earning money during the day, so she applied to be a lifeguard at Oglebay.

"They didn't hire me to lifeguard; those are coveted jobs that got filled long before I applied. But they took a chance and hired me to paint park signs," Denise shares. She spent the summer of 1989 lugging a ladder all over the park painting the brown signs with the yellow lettering that still dominate the park. "It was a typical eight-hour day that started at 7 a.m. – not a fun start-time for a young college student.

"One day, my supervisor, Dennis Jones, tells me, 'You're painting yourself out of a job. Slow down.' I didn't understand until I literally painted myself out of a job."

Dennis took pity on the college student who still needed to earn money and introduced her to the director of horticulture and grounds. "Chris Schenkel thankfully hired me for the rest of the summer. Now I'm lugging heavy hoses and bags of mulch all over the park. It was hard work, and I'm working with a bunch of hardline old-timers who had a very precise and specific way of doing things. I loved every minute of it," Denise remembers with a warm smile.

It comes as no surprise that Denise achieved her goal and graduated in December 1990 with a degree in political science with a criminal justice minor. Law school at West Virginia University didn't start until August 1991, so Denise went back to Oglebay and asked if she could work in the greenhouses again.

She spent that winter and spring learning everything she could from the experts – from seed germination to planting flower beds all around the Hilltop. At the end of her first year of law school, other law students were applying for clerking jobs at law firms. However, Denise wanted to go back to Oglebay. Dave Holloway, the then vice president of human resources,



#### **IRA ROLLOVER BENEFITS**

An IRA rollover allows people age 70½ and older to reduce their taxable income by making a gift directly from their IRA.

#### Benefits of an IRA charitable rollover

- Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to the Oglebay Foundation.
- Make a gift that is not subject to the deduction limits on charitable gifts.
- Support an area of Oglebay or Wheeling Park that you love.

#### How an IRA charitable rollover gift works

- Contact your IRA plan administrator to make a gift from your IRA to support the Oglebay Foundation.
- Your IRA funds will be directly transferred to the Oglebay Foundation (FEIN: 55-0750128) to ensure the park you love is here for generations.
- Please note that IRA charitable rollover gifts do not qualify for a charitable deduction.
- Please contact us if you wish for your gift to be used for a specific purpose.

hired Denise to help the Wheeling Park Commission comply with the newly enacted Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Denise's new job had her meeting with and interviewing all the department heads throughout the park system and rewriting or creating new job descriptions that made appropriate accommodations to ensure the park's hiring practices complied with the new law.

"I would come to work all dressed up for my interviews and meetings, but I ate every lunch with my friends on the horticulture and grounds team."

Today, Denise is the managing partner of Dinsmore & Shohl's Wheeling office, one of the firm's offices around the country, focusing her practice on commercial litigation law. "I've had a wonderfully symbiotic relationship with Oglebay. The park took chances with me and

gave me so many opportunities to break out of my comfort zone. I was blessed to be able to accept these opportunities and, as a result, the park and its people taught me so much. I know it's said all the time, but Oglebay is truly a gem; it gives so much to the community in very tangible ways."

As a true lover and user of the park, Denise's favorite spot in the park is a bench below the Garden Bistro. She walks the arboretum trails regularly "following the red brick path, past Bambi and down to Schenk Lake" bragging to anyone who will listen, "I used to plant these flower beds."

Denise has named the Oglebay Foundation as a beneficiary of her estate to give back to the park that helped her get her start and that continues to give her so much.



For more information on ways your estate can shape the parks you love, go to oglebaygiving.org or contact the Foundation at 304-243-4166.

#### **NEW**

#### **PET FRIENDLY** AMENITY

Oglebay and Wheeling Park are replacing existing water fountains, some with a feature to benefit our four-legged friends. Beginning in late spring, the parks started installing water bottle filling stations that also include petfriendly water bowls. The project immediately drew the attention of regular park users, Becky and Josh Jefferson.

For Josh, Regional Economic Development Partnership president and CEO, and Becky, a physical therapist and aerobics instructor at the Howard Long Wellness Center, life at Oglebay as a couple really started when Josh proposed in Wilson Lodge back in 2000. The couple married in 2001, and Pomeranians Bailey (from a New York breeder) and Emma (a rescue from the Marshall County Animal Shelter) soon joined the family.

At the age of 4, Emma suffered a severe back injury while playing in their back yard paralyzing her hind legs. After numerous surgeries, the foursome was back at Oglebay. Emma loved the park so much that, in the beginning, they would just carry her while walking Bailey. She eventually built up to using a harness. One fateful day, her excitement for the park was so overwhelming, she began to move her legs without assistance. The couple put her down on the path by the Pergola, and she chased Bailey on her own for the first time! "Oglebay was a key to Emma's healing and recovery," Becky shared.

Sophie, a terrier and rescue from Martins Ferry, joined the family next, and Oglebay continued to be the place where the growing family went to enjoy nature and everything the park offers.

In 2015, Becky and Josh's daughter Adalen was born. The then six-member strong family used the red brick paths and Susan Wheeler Walking Trails radiating out from Schenk Lake as their way to connect to the park. "Oglebay is such a big part of our lives. We love going to the park – we spend so much time at Oglebay as a family, making great memories together," Josh said.

Sadly, Sophie developed cancer and passed away, with Bailey and Emma following in 2020,

after living long lives. To honor the memory of their dogs and support the park, the Jefferson family has sponsored one of the new water stations.

"We wanted to make a gift to the park because it's been such a gift to us," Josh explains.

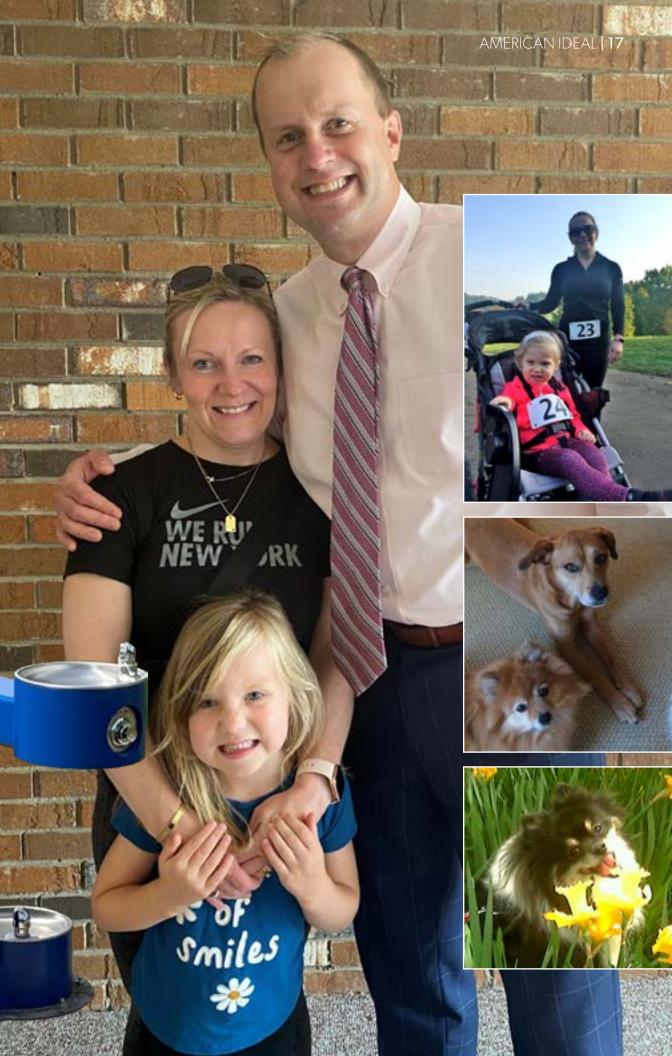
"Oglebay is such an important part of the great quality of life everyone enjoys throughout our entire region. We love all the facilities, the people, we just can't say enough about how great the park is."

The dog bowl feature of the water bottle filling stations has been a game changer for the park. "With the Foundation office in the historic guest house between the Mansion and the Palm Room, we've had many guests ask if we could provide water for their pet(s). Adding the petfriendly water bowl to these fountains makes so much sense," Oglebay Foundation President and CEO Eriks Janelsins said.

In all, more than 20 water bottle filling stations will be placed around the parks, 10 of them outside along trails, within the Good Zoo, and at Wheeling Park. Seven of the exterior fountains will include the new pet-friendly feature.

As we encourage guests and visitors to bring reusable bottles and discourage single-use plastics, going that extra step for our four-legged friends is a great bonus.







Sam Dunn's story is unique. Not because he spent his entire career at Oglebay — but because of his hands-on, direct involvement in the parks' growth and development.

Dunn, 64, a Wheeling native, recently retired from the Wheeling Park Commission after 48 years of faithful service.

"I can't think of an area of the parks that I haven't touched. I spent my first 20 years working on the grounds crew and the last 28 working maintenance," he says.

From landscaping the grounds around the Mansion and the Lodge to pouring the concrete walls on the Hilltop below the formal gardens and the Garden Bistro to helping to build and landscape parts of the Good Zoo, the list of accomplishments goes on. "I've been witness to so much change," he says.

Sam recalls his first day on the job with a laugh. "I was mowing grass all day with a push mower. The guys today have it a lot easier," he says. "My next endeavor was splitting wood for six months. We split wood and cut kindling first behind the Facilities, Maintenance and Construction (FMC) building, then out at Camp Russel. This was long before they had fire sticks."

While he enjoyed the variety his job offered on a daily basis, Sam's favorite part of the job was "every day at 4 p.m."

(What happened at 4 p.m.? QUITTIN' TIME, of course!)

"I'm not a plumber or an electrician or a roofer, but I've worked with them all," he says. He's too modest to emphasize the incredible skills he developed over a lifetime of hard work — including running the Bobcat front-end loader on the crew since 1977 with amazing proficiency.

"Sam is one of the best you'll ever see on the Bobcat. He was a very dependable





employee and someone whose opinion I valued," says Curt Byrum of his friend and coworker. "He was always in the moment on the job, understanding what was going on and contributing his institutional knowledge to accomplish the task at hand. He's truly irreplaceable and will be missed," adds Byrum, who is assistant director of capital projects at the park.

As part of the crew that laid the red brick pathway on the hilltop, Sam explains that the project was divided into four phases. "The brick paths were one of our biggest jobs. There was asphalt that had to be dug out. We poured the concrete curbs and had to hand-screen all the slag, creating a level area for the brick to be placed on top," he says.

Sam recalls another big project. During the building of the waterslide at Wheeling Park, the sod for the hillside was delivered in a thunderstorm. "We had teams of two guys working together. After tying a rope to the front of a wheelbarrow, the guy in front would pull while the guy in the back pushed. It was a hard, long day."

After sharing several stories, Sam humbly volunteers, "I was friends with Courtney Burton (Earl and Sallie Oglebay's grandson). He pulled up in front of the Mansion and asks

me, 'Have you seen the Western art we've added to the house?' I told him I hadn't, and the next thing I know, I'm on an hour tour of the Mansion with Courtney explaining how the family used each room." Sam's boss had no choice but to wait patiently to drive Sam back to the FMC building.

After their initial meeting, Courtney would ask for Sam during every visit. Courtney gave Sam the nickname "Cochise" for the great Apache chief and warrior upon learning of Sam's Native American heritage.

Sam's wife Diane (also a former Oglebay employee), two children, six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren are all part of his retirement plans "to take it easy and see if I'm capable of not working."

There's something to be said for a man who can measure his time in the parks by the growth of the thousands of trees he planted "all along Speidel Drive and around the water tower to hide it from view," Sam says. "Those trees were donated by Ernie Pandelos of Ernie's Esquire. We dug them up on his property and transplanted them here in the park."

It's been an incredible run of service for a lovely man who clearly loves Oglebay. Thanks, Sam, for everything.

# FRIDAYS

#### EVERY FRIDAY | MAY 26 - SEPT 1 | 6-9 PM

#### Get ready for FunFest Fridays at Wheeling Park all summer long!

Enjoy live music, food trucks, a beer garden, an inflatable fun zone, face painting and more every Friday night.

This event is hosted rain or shine. In case of inclement weather, activities will be moved inside Wheeling Park's J.B. Chambers Memorial Ice Rink.

#### SPONSORED BY



#### **Concert Lineup**

May 26 The Rumors

June 2 Jukebox

June 9 Eli & The Mojo Kings

June 16 Haley Bundy

June 23 MSM

June 30 Gage Joseph

July 7 Full Circle

July 14 Steel Casa

July 21 Crandall Creek

July 28 Pocket Change

August 4 Crazy Horse

August 11 1985

August 18 Twice as Nice

August 25 Bucket of Puppies

September 1 Easy Street

<sup>\*</sup>Lineup subject to change



# **NOTHING BUT** Our Commitment to a Sustainable Future

Clear skies and sunny days are in the forecast thanks to Oglebay's partnership with IMC Solar LLC. This important collaboration is yet another example of the Wheeling Park Commission's commitment to a sustainable future using the best environmental stewardship practices available. The project will reduce the parks' carbon footprint and lower its energy costs, while maintaining the level of service and high-quality guest experience our visitors expect.

Being careful not to mar the beautiful park vistas and scenery, IMC Solar and park leadership strategically considered all the areas for solar panel installation. When placed, the panels will be on existing

rooftop areas that have low street-level visibility. Future plans include covered parking areas with electric vehicle charging stations.

"It's inspiring to see Oglebay taking the lead in sustainable energy solutions and setting an example for other parks and businesses to follow," says Beth Whitehouse, senior director of strategic planning.

The investment tax credits will go to investors secured by IMC Solar in return for funding the installation and ongoing maintenance of the solar panels. "Our partnership with Oglebay underscores our commitment to providing clean, renewable energy solutions while



"Our team grew up at Oglebay, attending camps, golfing, skiing, swimming and visiting the zoo. To create value for a place

we love so dearly, is very special to us," said Jen Hull, IMC Solar vice president of project management.



# SUNDAY FUNDAY

**Presented By** 





**Every Sunday**June 4 - Sept 3 | 7:00 pm
Anne Kuchinka Amphitheater

Join us at Oglebay's Anne Kuchinka Amphitheater for an evening of family fun and live entertainment every Sunday evening through Labor Day! This **FREE** Sunday Funday Summer Concert Series features performances from across the musical spectrum ranging from national Beatles tribute band, Hard Day's Night, to the bluegrass sounds of Grammy-winning Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper.

The fun kicks off at 6 p.m. with concessions, food trucks, an ice cream sundae bar and kids' activities in the Formal Gardens. Entertainment begins at 7 p.m.

In the event of inclement weather, the concert will be relocated to the Pine Room.



#### **2023 Concert Lineup**

June 4 Taylor Jo & The Copper Creek Band (Country/Rock)

June 11 Tongue 'N Cheek (80s Rock)

June 18 Hoard & Jones (Classic Rock)

June 25 Matt Barranti Band (Blues)

July 2 Hotel California (Eagles Tribute)

July 9 Hard Day's Night (Beatles Tribute)

July 16 The Delaneys (Country)

July 23 Shades of Time (Oldies)

July 30 7 South (Variety)

August 6 Billy The Kid & The Regulators (Blues)

August 13 Michael Cleveland & Flamekeeper (Bluegrass)

August 20 Steel Town (Classic Rock)

August 27 ELO (Tribute)

September 3 Wheeling Symphony Orchestra

<sup>\*</sup>Lineup subject to change



The Campaign for an Enduring Oglebay





































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Strengthen your connection by making a donation of support.



**Make Your 2023 Gift Today!** 

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera.

