


THE OGLEBAY FOUNDATION'S
**AMERICAN
IDEAL**

SUMMER 2023





Community involvement has been the chief factor in the development of Oglebay as a self-sustaining enterprise and is one of the finest examples of what can result if we put the ***American Ideals*** to work.

– Courtney Burton, Jr.

Grandson of Earl & Sallie Oglebay

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*The Oglebay Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation devoted to inspiring donors to invest in Oglebay and Wheeling Park. The foundation raises strategic support through donations from private individuals, corporations and foundation giving. In 2022, the Foundation received record support for ongoing improvements in the parks. **For more information, visit www.oglebayfoundation.org.***



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*Board Members who
established the Oglebay
Foundation in 1996

Dear Friends,

Summer sure goes by quickly.

When I was young, summer seemed to last forever. Nowadays, the school year starts in mid-August. Regardless of this crime against humanity, there's still plenty of opportunity to enjoy the parks you love — maybe even more so with the kids back in school.

Outdoor live music continues through Labor Day, the fullness of lush gardens continues to beckon, and the coolness of wooded hiking trails await exploration.

If you haven't yet, make time to visit Wheeling Park and experience the transformation at the White Palace. Our team shares customer feedback as we celebrate this first completed project of Forever Yours: The Campaign for an Enduring Oglebay.

The campaign is aligned with the centennials happening for both Oglebay and Wheeling parks, and investments and improvements continue to happen everywhere. In this issue, you'll read about the power of continuous philanthropic support as it pertains to our golf courses and the impact that support has on the quality of play.

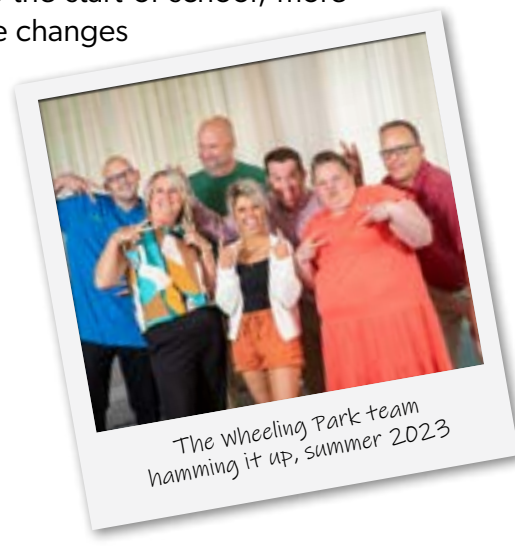
Les DeFelice shares his memories of working in the park during his college days and remembers with great fondness how the park gave him hope for the future.

Incredible investments at the Good Zoo, thanks to the generosity of the Helen J. Prince Foundation, are improving animal care, enhancing guest experiences as well as funding important conservation projects.

As the season wraps up, work will begin on a new entrance to Wilson Lodge later in the fall. We're sharing a sneak peek of the coming improvements.

Until then, stay tuned. Just like the start of school, more impressive growth and positive changes are right around the corner.

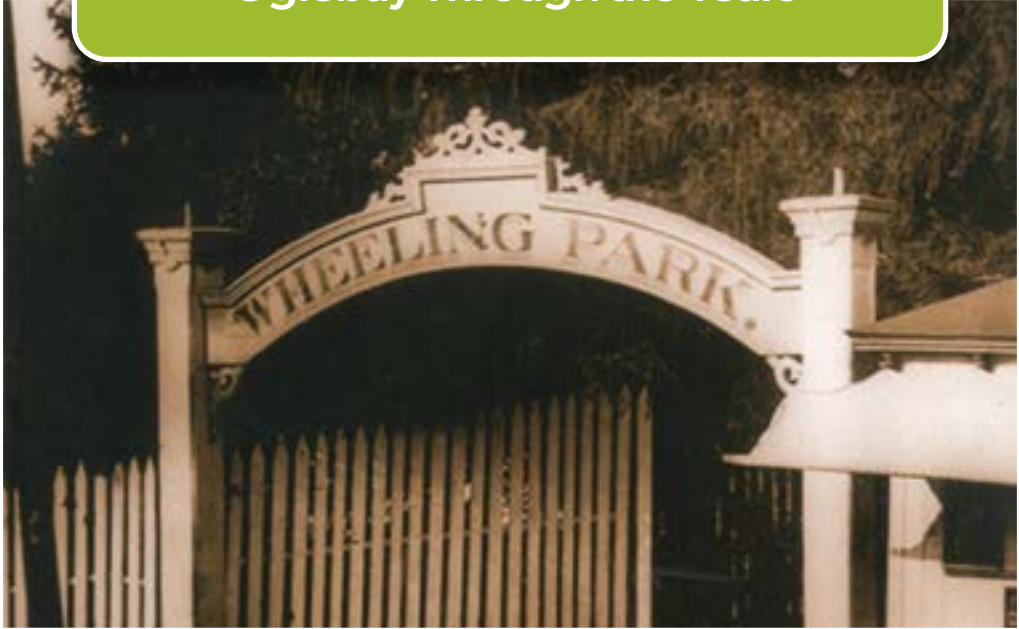
See you in the parks,



The Wheeling Park team
hamming it up, summer 2023

Then & NOW

Oglebay Through the Years



A Grand Welcome to Wheeling Park!

The entrance gates to Wheeling Park may have changed over the years, but a drive through the Sonneborn Gates is no less impressive.



“

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

”



Because of you, BIG things happen!

Strengthen your connection by making a donation of support.



Make Your 2023 Gift Today!

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera.

Join us on social media.



LIKE • SHARE • POST



Wheeling Park's TIME TO SHINE

First Major Campaign Project Completion

On May 24, 2023, the community gathered in Wheeling Park to rededicate the White Palace after undergoing its first major renovations in over 50 years. Wheeling Park Commission (WPC) President and CEO Bob Peckenpaugh, along with city officials Wheeling Mayor Glenn Elliott and City Manager Bob Herron, made wonderful speeches about the White Palace as a gathering place, as the heart of the community, including the importance of the ongoing collaboration between the city and the park commission.

One of the remarkable aspects of the ribbon cutting was the number of people who attended. We knew the building had significance within the community, and we anticipated interest from neighbors and friends, but we were more than pleasantly surprised by the crowd that came to celebrate the renovated space.

Eriks Janelins, Oglebay Foundation president and CEO, closed his remarks with, "... the story of the White Palace captures the story of our parks. Built by the people for the people, the facility has been renovated and improved by each generation in the hopes of leaving it better for our children and grandchildren — for everyone, forever.'"

The White Palace's \$3.2-million update is impressive. With its new grand entrance and renovated ballroom, refreshed bathrooms and meeting spaces, not to mention the new indoor/outdoor Café 1925, it feels more like a transformation than a renovation. Design elements, like the glass wall separating the veranda pre-function space from the ballroom, play perfectly into the way the space is being used today with the flexibility to easily adapt for future uses.

THE WHEELING PARK TEAM

In addition to the improvements to the facilities, the WPC is investing in its people. With the growing team, long-term employees are being promoted, and staff are being trained so the level of service matches the newly renovated space.

Director of Wheeling Park (WP) Nat Goudy started working for the Wheeling Park Commission when he was 14 years old. Now 50, he has seen his share of changes over his tenure. It's safe to say, if it happens in WP, Nat's in charge. Everything from roads and grounds to soccer fields,



Pictured: Wheeling Park Team. Front: Michelle Witzberger, Tiersa Michniak, Rachel Pattison. Back: Travis Purr, Doug Leech, Dan Willming, Nat Goudy.

catering, refreshment stands, special events, day camps, tennis, and the pool and slide fall under his purview.

When asked about current and future improvements, Nat shared, “Everyone who’s come through the building is very impressed. It feels like we’re starting a new chapter. It’s exciting to be at the forefront of all these changes. It feels like we’re creating a whole new ballgame for Wheeling Park and the community.”



Nat Goudy

Nat sees the community coming back as the business continues to grow. Funfest Friday is in its third year, this year sponsored by Belmont Savings Bank. On June 9, the popular local band Eli and the Mojo Kings performed in the amphitheater with great weather creating the perfect storm — a record crowd closing in on 3,500 people was in the park that evening. Cars were backed up on National Road and had to be parked on the field next to the ice rink close to the golf course. Now, “parking the field,” is Nat’s threshold for success.

Nat may be the leader of the WP team and its champion for change, but everyone’s enthusiasm for the improvements is palpable.



Michelle Witzberger

Michelle Witzberger, WP sales manager and event planner, is an Oglebay veteran of 30 years. She joined the Wheeling Park team in 2020. “The White Palace changes and renovations are a huge selling point, and I’m so proud to show the space off. Our customers’ feedback is beyond excitement — they can’t wait to have their events here. In fact, parents who were married in the White Palace are bringing their adult children in to plan their weddings, and they’re blown away by the changes.”



Dan Willming

Dan Willming, WP banquet manager, has a 33-year history with the parks. “The changes here and the menu upgrades are putting Wheeling Park on par with Oglebay. It’s an exciting time as we train staff and develop service standards that match the renovated space. The upgrades across the board are awesome, especially the new technology. We now offer state-of-the-art video and sound for meetings and events. It’s really special.”



Rachel Pattison

Rachel Pattison, WP office crew leader, joined the team in 1996. “People come in and are so happy to look around and see all the updates. The staircase up to the ballroom is fantastic — everyone loves the wallpaper. My only problem is I’m now addicted to Starbucks.”



Doug Leech

Doug Leech, WP roads, grounds and maintenance manager, has been with the park since June 28, 1986. “I’m ecstatic. To be honest, at first, I was hesitant because I’m not big on change, but these changes are a great improvement. The overall transformation is amazing and much more than I thought possible.”



Travis Purr

Travis Purr joined the WPC six years ago as assistant banquet chef. He’s now the WP kitchen manager and oversees all food preparation at Wheeling Park. “We have this beautiful, newly renovated building, and I want our food to match. I’m working closely with Michelle and Dan on ways we can impress our guests with solid execution, upgraded presentation and plating. My job is to elevate the food to match our guests’ expectations.”



Tiersa Michniak

Tiersa “T” Michniak, who brings seven years of Starbucks experience and is the newest member of the WP team, was hired in March of 2023 as the new Café 1925 manager. “The teachers and students that we’re seeing now say, ‘get ready for the new school year, you’re going to be slammed.’” T made a point of wanting to, “thank everyone who put so much time and effort into making Café 1925 what it is today. It’s so important to acknowledge all the people who got us ready. I’m really proud of my staff — many of whom are in their first job — everyone’s really motivated for this to be a success.”

The team’s contagious excitement pours over into little extras like offering “pup cups,” small cups of whipped cream, for the dogs being walked in the park. Everyone’s focused on connecting with the community, being present for all the events, understanding and sharing the upgrades happening in the near future — including updates to the Schwertfeger Shelter and Stifel Playground, a new splashpad at the pool and themed paddleboats shaped as ducks and pirate ships on Good Lake, to name a few.

It’s incredible to think about the generosity of donors, of families, some now in their third, fourth and fifth generations, people who continue to support the park. We’re so fortunate to have long-term partnerships with hockey, tennis and golf groups, local foundations and corporate support. We are also lucky to have the City of Wheeling’s American Rescue Plan Act funds that jumpstarted these renovations, and everyone who has come together to make the Wheeling Park we experience today possible.

Café 1925 was so named as a reference to the Wheeling Park’s opening. In anticipation of the park’s 100th anniversary, with plenty to celebrate come 2025, it’s Wheeling Park’s time to shine. 🌱





Updated White Palace grand entrance



White Palace Café 1925 staff is waiting to serve you!



White Palace Café 1925 sign greets customers

Wheeling Park

WHITE PALACE
RIBBON CUTTING & RECEPTION





PLANS

Making a Difference IN THE PARKS



For Les DeFelice, CEO of Wheeling, W.Va. – based DeFelice Group, Inc. (doing business as Visiting Angels), his diverse career started at Oglebay Park.

Reflecting on his path and how he got here, Les gets a bit emotional. “In May 1971, I was fresh out of Wheeling High living near downtown with my single mother and two younger siblings. Friendships I made in high school included some of the golfers who encouraged me to apply at Oglebay. I still clearly remember sitting across from Randy Worls, then Wheeling Park Commission president and CEO, for an interview. I was clean cut, polite and respectful, which worked in my favor, and I was hired to work on the Spiedel Course, then 50 percent completed.”

Les’ fond memories of Oglebay began with the interview with Randy’s measured, friendly tone. He worked for Director of Golf Ed Murphy, a driven, exacting perfectionist when it came to the golf courses.

“Coach Murphy could be terrifying to us young guys. I owe Coach Murphy a debt of gratitude as I developed zero fear, which has benefited me time and time again in business. There were six of us future college freshmen living in a primitive cabin at Caddy Camp, Cabin 5. We would get up at the crack of dawn to cut grass and the greens. At noon, we would be driven back to Caddy Camp where we would have an incredible hot lunch made by Mrs. Ed Murphy with ice-cold milk in tin cups that looked like they were used in the Civil War. Then it was back to work on the course for the rest of the day,” Les remembers with a laugh. “Years later, Coach Murphy said he was proud of what I was beginning to accomplish. With no father in my life, that meant the world to me.”

In the winter months, the crew spent their hours at the modest ski slope located at the Par 3 working the ski lift during the day or making snow all night. The golf/ski-season job introduced Les to a world entirely different from what he knew growing up, enabling him to attend West Liberty. “Working at Oglebay opened so many doors, introducing me to so many opportunities. I went from not having many prospects to having hope for a future, thanks to Randy Worls.”

From a very early age, Les wanted to know how to be successful. Three people at different times in his life shared the following words of wisdom:

- “You have to get along with people.”
- “Be yourself.”
- “We’ll love you like baby Jesus, but you’ve got to produce.”

Les continues to leverage these mantras to build his second successful business, which has consistently received honors and awards at a national level for its innovative leadership and hiring best practices. With a career that took him to Chicago, Dallas, Houston and New York City before moving back to Wheeling, the father of two sons says his success is due to “surrounding myself with people smarter than me and always putting everyone on the team ahead of myself. Those are the key factors in currently having 500 coworkers and probably 1,000 by the end of the decade.”

“Generosity is something that I experienced from an early age, exemplified especially by my incredible mother. As I think about giving back, naming the Oglebay Foundation as the beneficiary of a whole life insurance policy is the beginning of how I plan to return the investment Oglebay made in me.”

Talk about making a difference in the parks. 

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 parks you love are 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.



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.

the **West Spa** *at Oglebay*

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS
with 15% off retail products!



the
West Spa
at Oglebay

15% OFF

CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

with 15% off retail products with a
minimum purchase of \$100 now through
Friday, Nov. 24, 2023.

Must present coupon at time of purchase. Cannot be combined with any other offer, coupon, discount or prior sale. Applicable only at the West Spa Boutique with minimum retail product purchase of \$100 pre tax. Does not apply to spa services. Restrictions may apply. Subject to availability. Offer ends 11/24/2023.

The West Spa at Oglebay's retail store sells professional spa products focused on environmental sustainability, ensuring that the products are safe and as natural as possible. The spa sources products through countless hours of research, testing and by attending professional conferences like ISPA. Looking and feeling great never felt so good!

Eminence

- Through their Forests for the Future initiative, a tree is planted for every retail product sold. Purchases of Eminence Organics at the West Spa equal nearly 7,000 trees planted.
- Eminence Kids Foundation purchases an organic, locally sourced meal for sick children around the world.

FarmHouse Fresh

- Skincare that Saves devotes 10 percent of company profits directly to saving animals, including transporting dogs on euthanasia lists to communities where they are adopted.

Cedar Valley Farms (Wayne County, Ohio)

- Locally sourced, family grown hemp products are being introduced in summer 2023, including CBD oil used in the Blissful Balance Massage.

Coola Sunscreen and Skincare

- Over 70 percent organically sourced ingredients and responsibly sourced packaging
- Hawaii Reef Compliant



A serene park scene with a pond, trees, and a swan boat. The image is a vertical composition. The top half features a white rectangular box with rounded corners and a thin green border. Inside this box, the quote "It's always summer somewhere" is written in a black serif font, with the attribution "Lilly Pulitzer" below it. Above the quote is a large green double quote symbol, and below the attribution is a horizontal line followed by three green leaf icons. The background of the entire image is a lush park. In the foreground, there's a body of water with ripples. A large, leafy tree branch hangs down from the top left. In the middle ground, a green lawn and more trees are visible. In the background, a small white swan boat with people inside is on the water. The sky is overcast.

“
It's always summer
somewhere

Lilly Pulitzer







FO FOCUSED 'FORE' THE FUTURE

Philanthropic community support has been instrumental in the parks' development, maintenance and ongoing enhancements from the beginning. Beyond financial investment, our founders had incredible vision and imagination in turning a blank canvas into the parks we love — and the game of golf has always played a major role.

Our original golf courses in Wheeling Park and Oglebay's Crispin are closing in on centennial celebrations in 2026 and 2030. Over the past 10 years, major investments have been made to ensure that their second centuries continue to provide lovers of the "game of a lifetime" with a second lifetime of play.

Danny Ackerman, director of golf, was introduced to golf at Wheeling Park as a preteen. He remembers the course conditions being quite a bit different then. In the '80s, '90s and early '00s, the Wheeling Park golf course was maintained by a gang mower that was pulled behind a tractor, cutting the tees, fairways and greens at the same height, creating interesting challenges to the game.

"My dad was a good player and instrumental to my introduction to the game of golf. He provided some clubs and some pointers. When I was growing up, my mom would drop me and a bunch of buddies off at Wheeling Park with packed lunches. We'd play all day," Ackerman remembers.



MORE!

Maintaining & Improving Our Original Golf Courses

The game took hold, and Ackerman played through his school years along with childhood friend Bob Riser, Jr. The two competed in high school playing for rivals Wheeling Central (Riser) and Wheeling Park (Ackerman). They went on to be teammates and college roommates at West Virginia University. Returning to the area as an adult, Ackerman was overwhelmed by the tremendous improvements to the Wheeling Park Course.

The improvements are the result of the Bloch family who made a significant contribution to help improve and maintain the Wheeling Park Golf Course in 2013. Now named the **Bloch Memorial Golf Course**, it is dedicated to “Six Generations of Bloch Family Golfers.” The gift, combined with the intervening 10 years, have made a positive and important impact on the course’s quality of play.

The Bloch family’s gift had two components. First, the Bloch family’s transformative investment funded updated equipment to improve and maintain the fairways on an annual basis, and second, to provide an ongoing source of revenue for future equipment needs. With this gift, the quality of the Bloch Course will provide everyone from novice to pro with the opportunity to have a quality game.

At our second oldest course, the trees on and around **Crispin at Oglebay** have had their share of problems. The emerald ash borer beetle started to appear in 2014. A *Rhizosphaera* fungus has damaged many pines, and severe weather events — especially ice and windstorms over the last 18 months — have downed hundreds of mature trees. Cleanup and removal of trees have been ongoing.

Thanks to the generosity of Tom Miller, significant tree work on the Crispin Course began this summer. Tackling the tree problem, as always, began with addressing the most critically damaged trees with the potential to harm people and property. Once the safety concerns are removed, damaged trees that come into the area of play — meaning trees that are highly visible on the greens and fairways — will be next. The third level will address trees that affect the park’s overall aesthetics, especially those damaged trees on W.Va. 88 entering the Crispin Course area.



Director of Horticulture Ryan Wilson, along with Ackerman, has brought in professional arborists from Davey Trees. They started the work on July 10. Fortunately, Speidel's Jones and Palmer courses and the Par 3 area haven't seen the same level of damage, largely because these courses and their ornamental plantings are much newer.

Ultimately, more than 120 trees will come down. Tree planting will be done strategically, obviously where there's been significant loss, but in other key areas as well. Specifically, trees will be planted to extend the bank of pine trees at the 18th hole. This extension will attempt to mitigate the possibility of golf balls going into the tennis area below.

Tom Miller's connection to the Crispin Course goes back to a longtime friendship with Randy Worls. Tom came to Oglebay as a child, and he continued this tradition by bringing his wife and children to stay in cottages. These visits allowed the two friends to play the Bernhardt's Golf Classic (now the Bordas & Bordas Amateur Golf Classic) — the tri-state's oldest amateur golf tournament for 15 years. Tom would rank twice, and he shot a hole-in-one on Crispin's 13th hole. Tom endowed the hole to commemorate the shot.

The investments to improve, repair and enhance the Crispin Course in preparation for its 100th anniversary include: significant work on the greens and cart paths in the spring of 2022; 64 new golf carts this year; and a new verticutter and top dresser to improve the health and quality of the course's putting greens and services. The Oglebay Men's Golf Club raised half of the money needed to fund the verticutter and top dresser.

"I'm excited by the continued progress at Crispin and am looking forward to more enhancements in the coming years. There is tremendous commitment from our volunteer groups and the community of donors who are focused on and believe in the future of golf at this course," Ackerman shared.

Ackerman knows firsthand the power of consistent philanthropy over time. He sees the positive impact the donor community continues to have in support of not just golf but the entire park system. For him, the investments in golf are clearly paying off.

Survey responses from golfers who book online tee times on sites like GolfNow ranked their Oglebay Golf experience in 2023 as follows:

2023 Golfer's Choice — Arnold Palmer Signature Course

- No. 1 Golf Course Layout
- No. 2 Best Golf Course in West Virginia
- Top 25 Best Value for Money Golf Course
- Top 50 U.S. Golf Course 🌿



Salute to Patriotism



Monday, July 3, 2023





Thanks to the generosity of the Helen J. Prince Foundation, important upgrades at the Good Zoo happened over the winter, including improving animal care, enhancing guest experiences, as well as funding important work with the species survival program and conservation projects.

**THE GOOD ZOO CONTINUES TO
THRIVE**

Growing Family of Animals

With 68 species of animals in our care, 20 of which are rare or endangered, the Good Zoo offers an incredible opportunity for families and friends to get up close and personal with more than 370 individual cool characters.

IMPROVING ANIMAL CARE

In 2022, the zoo staff knew our red river hog couple was expecting, but the new arrival’s exact timing was a little bit up in the air. Our new hoglet was welcomed on Aug. 8, 2022.

Our new addition set off an interesting ripple effect. Suddenly, there was a whole zoo neighborhood expecting. Spring 2023 brought seven more animals to the Good Zoo:

- Two wallaby joeys — Feb. 23
- One southern three-banded armadillo pup — March 22
- Two cotton-top tamarin infants — April 16
- Two red wolf pups — May 19

There’s always excitement around any newborn, and the halo effect of growing families is hard to quantify. The irony here is, late last fall, the Good Zoo was awarded funding to expand the commissary at the Good Zoo from the Helen J. Prince Foundation. The funding addresses long-term needs to increase the zoo’s storage and meal preparation spaces, improving staff efficiencies and allowing for bulk purchases to keep meal costs low.

Given our expanding tribe, Helen J. Prince Foundation’s funding was right on the money and just in the nick of time!

Construction of the commissary space took place over this past winter and spring, increasing the refrigerator and freezer capacity to store food supplies for the more than 330 different meals prepared every day. Each animal species — and within that group, individuals based on age, health or specific needs — requires separate meals. The increased preparation space helps with better student instruction in animal dietetics as well. The additional space also facilitates the zoo team’s efforts to reduce single-use plastic bags by switching to all reusable preparation and transport containers for animal food — a reduction of nearly 164,250 plastic bags annually!

Susan Greathouse, Good Zoo curator of animal welfare, explains, “For the team, it’s more than just math and economy of scale. Our job is centered on providing the best care and nutrition available to all the animals in our care. The Helen J. Prince Foundation’s gift not only allows for better training and supervision on meal prep and planning, but also it enables us to offer more dietary variety that echoes how the animals would survive in their natural habitats.”

The expanded commissary was completed in July.



Enlarged walk-in refrigerator



Red wolf pups, May 2023

ENHANCING GUEST EXPERIENCES

Helen J. Prince Foundation also provided funding for the Good Zoo’s new Low Ropes Adventure Course (LRAC), an important enhancement to engage our guests while encouraging them to stay longer.

Completed in June, the adventure course will give everyone over 50 inches in height (up to 275 pounds) the opportunity to swing, climb, hang, run and jump like some of the animals in our care. The LRAC is available à la carte for an additional fee. It’s also included in the Patron Zoo Membership and Curators Club packages.

Looking at the zoo’s admission pricing, memberships offer real value. Membership at the Patron and Curators Club levels include admission to the zoo, special events including Boo at the Zoo and the Easter Treasure Hunt, and unlimited use of the LRAC, trackless train and the jumbo jumper.

With all the activities, discounts in the gift shop, free guest passes as well as reduced or free admission at reciprocal zoos, membership is the way to go. The different membership levels and their corresponding perks are available online, oglebay.com/good-zoo/membership.

“Increasing the length of stay for our guests and members gives us more opportunities to educate, inform and engage our audience. Whatever we can do to spark the imagination of someone, young and old alike, allows us to create real change in people’s attitudes toward protecting animals in the wild as well as their natural habitats,” Dr. Joe Greathouse, director of the Good Zoo, shared.





SPECIES SURVIVAL PROGRAM & CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Our red wolves are part of several managed breeding programs happening at the Good Zoo. Because red wolves are managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and have actionable conservation occurring in the wild conducted by USFWS as well as zoo employees, they are managed with a SAFE (Saving Animals From Extinction) designation. Other breeding programs that are operated by Association of Zoos and Aquariums members are designated as Species Survival Plans (SSP). Some of the SSP animals that the zoo cares for include golden lion tamarin, Grevy's zebra, cheetah, mongoose lemur and red panda.

Previously, the Good Zoo participated very successfully in the red wolf breeding program, managing an amazing 23 pups between 1990 and 2007. During this earlier effort, newborn pups were placed in the wild if determined to be the best candidates for reintroduction by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Researchers have since discovered that keeping the pups in human care longer allows them to learn critical parenting skills. The longer care window gives the red wolf pups the opportunity to directly observe other pups being reared, which increases their likelihood of successfully breeding and rearing their own pups after release.

The red wolf is a critically endangered species with an estimated two dozen wild individuals remaining in the Outer Banks region of North Carolina. Historically, the red wolf's habitat ranged from New York south to Texas, but in the 1970s, populations declined to 14 wild individuals remaining in southeast Texas and southwest Louisiana due to habitat loss and human persecution.



The remaining wolves were brought into human care by the USFWS to develop the breeding program. Today, there are approximately 240 red wolves managed at 49 Red Wolf SAFE facilities across the U.S., with a goal of increasing the population in human care to 330 individuals to facilitate reintroductions and growing the wild population.

The pups at the Good Zoo emerged from their den in mid-June. "Every red wolf birth in human care is incredibly important to the preservation of this species. Our team is thrilled to be able to play a part in the conservation of native species. Participation in the Red Wolf SAFE program enables us to support conservation of wildlife that once occurred in our own region," said Mindi White, animal curator.

Thanks to the generous support of the Helen J. Prince Foundation, two red wolf habitats were created in 2022 to support this exciting breeding program. Additional support was provided by the Conservation Centers for Species Survival Red Wolf Recovery Program grant supported by the USFWS, and from Williams, a clean energy infrastructure company.

Exciting conservation efforts are happening in tandem with the SSP work at the Good Zoo. The Helen J. Prince Foundation also funded the rebuilding of our raptor mews. The mews, located behind the Red Barn, houses injured migratory birds of prey.

The Good Zoo's bald eagle, Amelia, is a prominent member of the zoo family, but she will never be released into the wild because she doesn't have enough of one of her wings to sustain flight. Amelia, however, proudly acts as an ambassador to the important role that birds of prey play in our ecosystem.

The Good Zoo cares for 25-50 ill or injured hawks, owls and falcons in our raptor rehabilitation program annually. They are cared for by our team of zoo professionals and veterinarians who provide critical care, physical therapy and flight reintroduction.

"The new and expanded raptor mews



uses vinyl-coated galvanized panels and aluminum frames that are much easier to clean and will last much longer than the previous wooden structure,” Good Zoo Curator of Education Courtney Snyder said. “Having the additional space improves the raptors’ daily care, making therapies much easier to administer as well as providing better training opportunities for our West Liberty University Zoo Science Program students.”

These are just some of the incredible projects, programs and improvements that are happening at the Good Zoo. These investments ensure that the zoo remains at the forefront of best practices in animal care and conservation. Thanks to the Good Zoo, Oglebay is unique among its competitors. It is one of 235 accredited Association of Zoos and Aquariums (AZA) world-wide and the only AZA zoo in West Virginia.

As we approach the 50th anniversary of the Good Zoo, it’s incredible to consider its

growth and development over the years. The Helen J. Prince Foundation, together with the larger community of donors, make the important work of the Good Zoo possible.

The Good Zoo is named for the Laurance F. Good family who pledged a substantial gift in memory of their oldest son, Philip Mayer Good, who died too soon at the age of 7 in 1971. Philip’s spirit inspired the zoo’s creation and the thousands of initial contributions that poured in, some in the form of pennies collected by area school children at the time.

If you haven't been to the zoo in a while, there are lots of opportunities to get up close and personal with these incredible animals, such as Animal Encounters, Behind the Scenes Tours, programs, camps and the occasional visit. The staff are friendly and knowledgeable — they’ll go out of their way to ensure that you and your loved ones have the best zoo experience possible. 🌱



WILSON LODGE RENOVATION

Oglebay's Wilson Lodge will welcome guests and visitors with a NEW entrance come spring 2024. The addition of a port cochere will protect visitors from inclement weather and the curbless entrance will go directly into the lobby, making access for everyone much easier. Work will begin this fall.

Naming opportunities to support gardens, fountains and patios are available. For more information call: 304-243-4166. 🌱





F O R E V E R
Y O U R S

The Campaign for an Enduring Oglebay



255 MANSION DRIVE – WHEELING, WV 26003

