

Guests at Anderson Parks find more amenities this fall

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(Photo: Sheila Vilvens/The Community Press)

The summer efforts of the Anderson Park District to provide new and improved activities for residents might be summed up in two words – pickleball and playgrounds.

The new pickleball courts in Clear Creek Park, 6200 Batavia Road (Ohio 32), opened for use earlier this fall. There are six courts that will remain open year-round for public use, parks Executive Director Ken Kushner said.

Pickleball is a sport that combines tennis, badminton and Ping-Pong, and it has been growing in popularity around the country. It's especially popular in Florida. The Park District said the pickleball courts in Anderson Township are the first for Hamilton County. The total project cost is about \$100,000 with nearly \$67,000 being covered by a matching grant from the Ohio Department of Natural Resources.

Playgrounds are the next big news. Kellogg Park, 6701 Kellogg Ave., got its first ever playground this year. It was open and ready for use in early October. The play set includes climbers, stepping stones, rings, and slides. Like the pickleball courts, grant dollars covered a significant portion of the cost.

Kushner said that the park district received a \$25,000 Land and Water Conservation Fund grant for the new play set. The whole project was about \$61,000.

Kellogg Park was started in 1988. Eighteen years later, it's being finished, Park Board President Nadine Gelter said during a recent meeting.

According to the park district's website, Kellogg Park has 13.4 acres which were donated by the Anderson Township Trustees. It was opened as a park in 1989. The funding for the initial development of the park was due in part to a Land and Water Conservation grant. In 1998 additional construction brought to the park a permanent restroom and concession building, a scoreboard, associated utility upgrades and drainage renovations to the upper level fields.

At Riverside Park, 3969 Round Bottom Road, a new play set will replace the old one that's about 26 years old. The new play set should be in and ready for use no later than early November.

The cost of the new play set is about \$50,000 and is being paid for out of the park district's budget, Kushner said.

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