

**For Immediate Release**

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**Subject: After Combined 60 Years of Service, Two Park District Managers Retire**

CENTERVILLE, OH: The Centerville-Washington Park District said farewell to two valuable long-term employees today, Friday, October 31. Bob Feldmann, Development Manager, and Barbara Smith, Business Manager, both retired after a combined total of nearly 60 years of service to the Park District.



When Bob Feldmann began work at the Centerville-Washington Park District in May 1974, there were 17 parks encompassing 228 acres--now there are 49 parks and 997 acres. Grant Park was just over 57 acres (now 187), and Bill Yeck Park was not quite ten acres (now 194). The largest community park was Iron Horse Park at 25 acres, but it had not yet been developed. After 40 years of hard work and dedication, developing 32 new parks and many recreation facilities in all 49 parks, Bob is hanging up his park uniform in favor of retirement. He started as a park maintenance worker, but from his first year at the district, had a hand in developing the parks for the benefit of our community.

As Bob reflected on his career at CWPDP, he said, "It's been a true honor to serve this community while working all these years for the Park District. I've been fortunate to work with many outstanding commissioners, fellow employees and members of the community. I've also been very fortunate to have a job I thoroughly enjoyed over the past 40 years."

Barbara Smith first became involved with the Park District when she registered her two children, then preschoolers, for park programs in the late 1980s. A short time later, she was hired as a part-time Administrative Assistant and was promoted to full-time Business Manager in 2005. After nearly 20 years, she has retired. Barbara's contributions to the Park District were behind the scenes, but had a great impact on the success of the district through oversight of finances and financial reporting, developing and managing the website, and making sure the office always ran smoothly. During Barbara's tenure as Business Manager, every audit was given an unqualified opinion by the State Auditor.

"I've enjoyed working with others who shared a vision to provide activities at parks close to home. I am grateful I had the opportunity to be part of an organization with such dedicated individuals," said Smith.

Replacement Development and Business Managers have been hired and have had the opportunity to train with Bob and Barbara for the last few weeks.



The Centerville-Washington Park District currently operates eight community parks, eight nature parks, and 33 neighborhood parks in Centerville and Washington Township. For more information about the Centerville-Washington Park District, please call (937) 433-5155 or visit [www.cwpd.org](http://www.cwpd.org).