

J une 2023



We'll Celebrate on July 3, 2023!

Here is a brief itinerary of the day:

Food vendors will open for business at 4:00 and remain open until the bridge is illuminated.

Local bands will play sets starting at 4:00, playing until the rededication ceremony.

The Culver Academies Naval Band will play the National Anthem at 5:30, ushering in the youth baseball and softball games.

The rededication ceremony will begin at 7:30 and will include recognition of POW and Gold Star Families, a salute to veterans, and a patriotic medley by Culver's Naval Band.

How to dress? Wear 1920s period clothing, patriotic clothing, or just wear clothes! (Please, wear clothes!) Here are some 1920s styles.



Live local bands will begin again at 8:30.

At 9:45 we will gather for a ceremony that will precede the illumination of the bridge.

Come join us for a great afternoon and evening!



From the USO Website: No one wants to be a Gold Star Family member. The title, which is reserved for the immediate family of military members who have died in the line of duty, is meant to honor the service member's ultimate sacrifice while acknowledging their family's loss, grief and continued healing.

While "Gold Star Family" refers to immediate next of kin, the grief following the loss of a service member is immense and will be felt by other family members as well, for example, grandchildren, nieces, and nephews.

From the TAPS website regarding veterans who died in service: "We don't define their life by the moment or manner of death and we don't differentiate the care and support and the love ... we provide based on that. It's honoring a life that included service to this country."

The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project chooses to encourage every family member who grieves a veteran who died while serving in any branch of the military, whether in the line of duty or not, whether an "immediate" family member or not, to honor that veteran on July 3. If you want to participate, please call us at (574) 595-5474.

PHOTOS



This was a sunny day in May in which the west ramp to the bridge was resurfaced, replacing the asphalt with concrete. The east ramp will be treated the same. Once again the bridge was closed to pedestrian traffic, but for a very good cause!



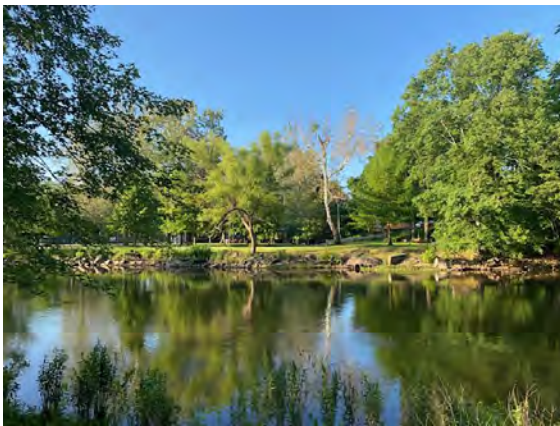
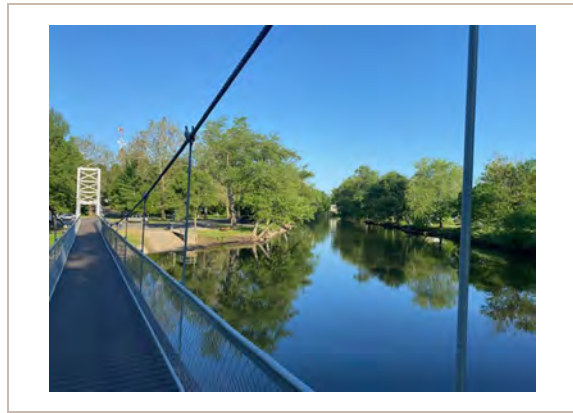
80 second grade students with 80 flags, honoring our veterans and learning about the history of the bridge.

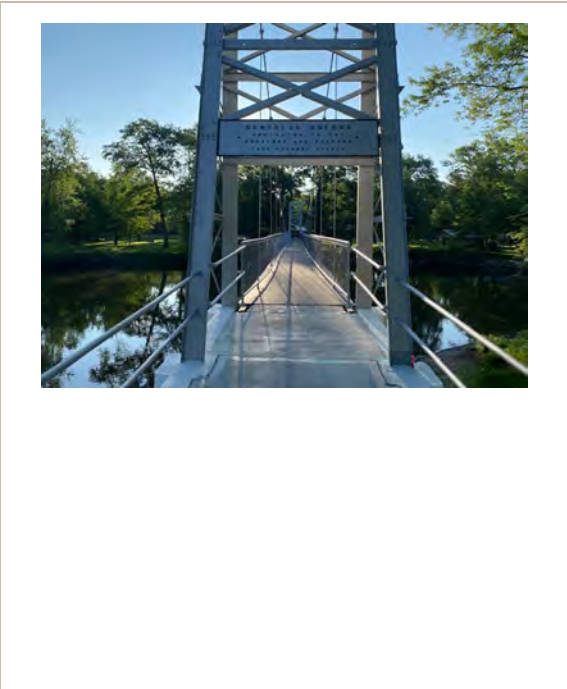
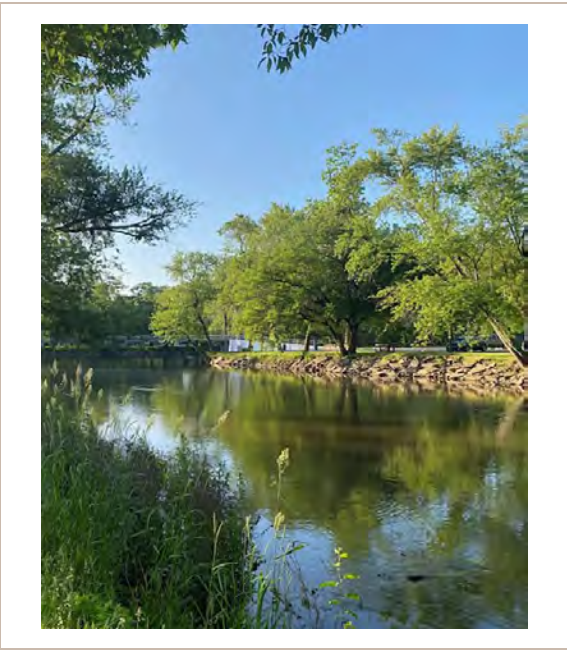
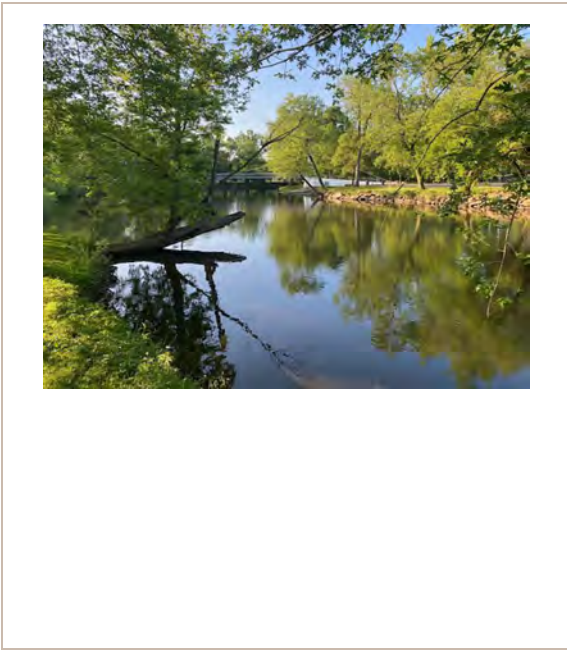


And then, the east side ramp was completed. Power cables have been buried on both the east and west sides. Moving right along!



Greg Henry took these photos of the park and the bridge on the last day of May.





Electrical work began Wednesday, June 7. Also, moving into the week, riprap was laid, and a deer came to watch the work.





On June 8, they began the installation of the lights!



The work continues! These photos are from the week of June 12. They have not halted the use of the bridge, as you can see youth crossing as work progresses.





OUR DONORS

Our donors are amazing! If you are interested in seeing who they are, check out these pages.

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The Memorial Swinging Bridge Project is sponsored by the VFW Post 1728 of Winamac IN, EIN 35-0827207, a 501(c)19 organization, and as such, any contribution is tax deductible. No goods or services are provided in exchange for contributions.

THIS PROJECT FUNDED IN PART BY GRANTS FROM THE FOLLOWING:

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ABOUT US

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