

Fall / Winter 2023

Nan Norcross & Gretchen Small: Co-Editors

artifacts

Artifacts is a publication of Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House

Numbers Help Tell Our Story

Are you a numbers person? I've always enjoyed a good statistic, and before coming to work at Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House, my career involved helping families prepare for college. Dealing with tuition costs and financial options are numbers that I know well. Likewise, you probably have numbers that are familiar to you, such as the phone number of your childhood best friend, your house number, and let's face it, the cost of your average water bill.

In this issue of Artifacts, we'll be sharing some of the numbers associated with our organization, which we use to measure our impact on those who use our site to carry out their own charitable work, on those who attend our variety of programs, and on those who visit our homes to learn more about Deere family history.

Would you believe that in the Quad Cities there are close to 4,000 nonprofit organizations serving the community? Our board members often say how

much they love learning about all the community groups who use our spaces to support their nonprofit's work. Whether they come for a board meeting, a retreat, a volunteer appreciation event, or to carry out their group's mission, we are grateful to support their efforts with our resources.

So, even though I appreciate the big numbers associated with our operations, I really appreciate the number ONE because it represents the individual relationships we form with every person who comes our way. Whether visitor, board member, or staff member, it takes all the "ones" to make up the whole of the tradition of hospitality we offer the community. As you enjoy reading this edition of Artifacts, please know that you, too, are invited to join us at a coming event, historic tour, or educational opportunity.

Learn more about us at
www.butterworthcenter.com.



Heather Calvert
Executive Director



How Much Does It Cost?

Director of Operations, Jan Stoffer, is often asked, “Just how much does it cost to heat, cool, light, and run our properties?” She usually answers, “A lot...for us to keep the lights on and the rooms comfortable in our four buildings.”

We’ve just come through budget season when we try to anticipate expenses for the coming year. Although it’s impossible to predict with complete accuracy what costs will be in 2024, we know that in a typical year, we’ll spend at least \$57,000 on natural gas and electricity and another \$63,000 for security services. Another \$8,000 is needed for water—we do a lot of watering on our 11 acres during the growing season. Around \$3,000 is spent on trash removal and pest control services. Roughly \$23,000 goes toward communication services, including cell phone service and landlines.

What’s the grand total for just the utility side of our budget? \$154,000! Still, we firmly believe every dollar is a good investment in keeping our properties safe, comfortable, and inviting for everyone who comes our way.

In the past several years, we’ve made several improvements to lower utility bills. These “before” and “after” pictures tell the story of our quest for efficiency and cost savings.



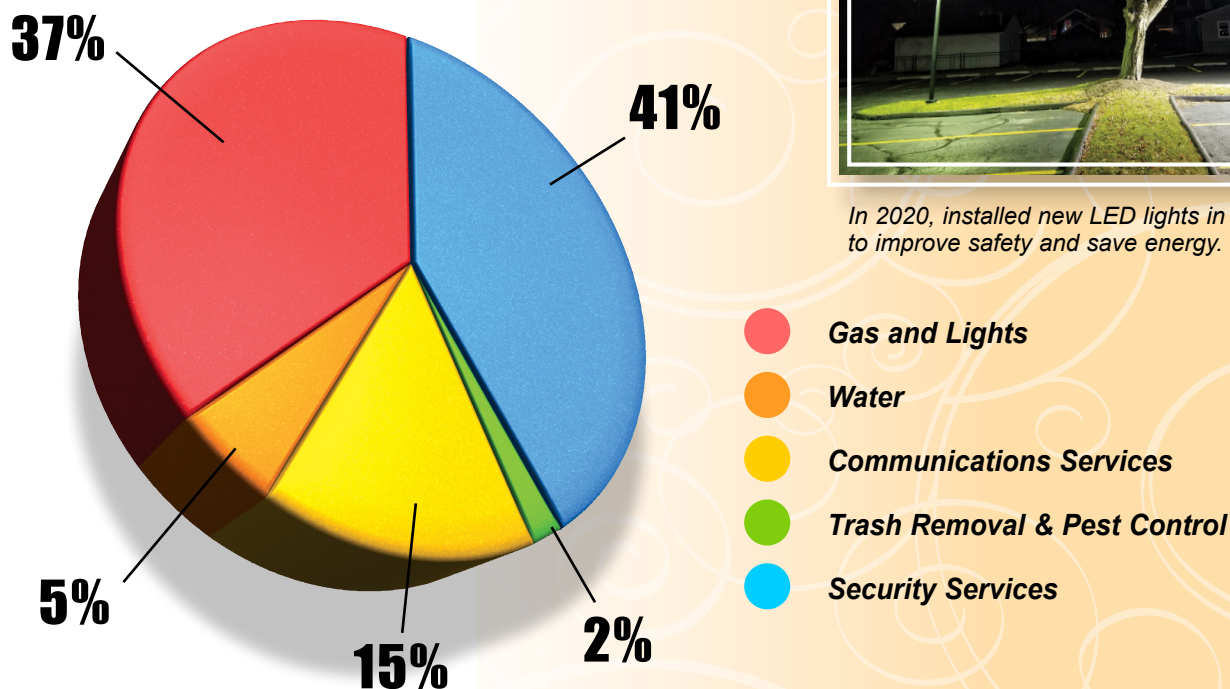
Replaced over-sized water heater (left) with smaller, energy-efficient model (right)



In 2017, replaced a 40-year-old boiler (right) with the energy-efficient model on the left. Now raising funds to replace another old boiler.



In 2020, installed new LED lights in our parking lots to improve safety and save energy.



Five...Four... Three...Two... One – Countdown to Restoration!

We are in the middle of our first ever capital campaign — Honoring Our Heritage—the Campaign to Restore Deere-Wiman House. Since launching this effort, we've been privileged to partner with 121 first-time donors, representing individuals and organizations who support service, culture, and education throughout the Quad Cities.

Of our original \$3.2 million goal, we designated up to \$50,000 to accomplish two major projects at Deere-Wiman House; and because of the early generosity of donors, these projects have been addressed.

The first was tackling the Deere-Wiman music room windows, which were originally built by an innovative (at the time) technique of fusing metal to glass. Unfortunately, that meant the windows could not be restored, but specialists from Glass Heritage, Davenport, could apply new protective storm windows over them to preserve their beauty far into the future.

The second project, now underway, is analyzing the historic paint and finishes in the Deere-Wiman House north vestibule. Conservator Anthony Kartsonas from Historic Surfaces created an “exposure window” to determine which cleaner works best to safely remove dirt, mold, and old adhesive residue from that area. Hopefully, this project will be finished and available for inspection at our annual 19th Century Christmas on December 3rd.

We're happy to announce that the “budget gods” were with us on these first two projects. The combined cost of \$30,975 came in well below budget, helping us stretch donated dollars even further for more projects to preserve local history.

Thanks in advance for making a gift of any size to restore Deere-Wiman House by calling 309-743-2720. We'd love to talk with you about what inspired you to give, listen to stories about a time you visited that grand old home, or learn how we can better support the community. Or, you can give online at <https://www.butterworthcenter.com/DWHcampaign>.



Glass Heritage Installing New Storm Windows at Deere-Wiman House



Exposure Window to Test Cleaning Products in the Deere-Wiman House Vestibule

19th Century

Christmas

December 3 – Noon to 5p

This community favorite tradition continues when the Deere family homes are decked out for Christmas on December 3, noon until 5p. All four historic buildings will be open to visitors and feature live music, fun family crafts, Santa Claus (with a free book for children present), and delicious refreshments. Leave the hustle and bustle behind for an afternoon and make holiday memories with family and friends. Find a full schedule of activities at www.butterworthcenter.com.



Save the Dates for Musical Artists from Around the World, Coming to Butterworth Center in 2024

January 26 at 3:00p

Jaerv + The OK Factor, a Minneapolis-based combination of Swedish folk quintet and American strings duo, blend their intricate rhythms, inspiring melodic ornamentation, fascinating instrumentals, and musical traditions in a joyful mashup unlike any other group. Learn more about their history and stylings at <https://www.theokfactor.com/traditions>

March 20 at 7:00p

Grosse Isle, a traditional music trio born out of a magical collaboration of three exceptional musicians from Quebec and Ireland. Together, Sophie Lavoie du Lac-St-Jean (fiddle, piano, vocal), André Marchand (guitar, vocal), and Fiachra O'Regan (uilleann pipes, whistle, banjo) shine with their rich and enveloping music. Hear more at <https://grosse-isle.com/>

May 14 at 7:00p

Daniel Pak is a singer, songwriter, and producer originally from the island of Oahu, now residing in Seattle, Washington. Pak is also the co-founder and executive director of Totem Star, a nonprofit youth record label that has supported the artistic development and mentorship of nearly 5,000 aspiring young recording artists in the greater Seattle area over the past 12 years. Daniel Pak's uplifting, heartfelt music appeals to all ages. Learn more at <https://pak.rocks>



Numbers Equal Year-round Hospitality

The Community Relations Department, directed by Susan Anderson, coordinates the people side of our work, sharing over \$271,000 of free meeting space and resources with the community in 2022. Other stats reveal a lot about what we offer:

- The William Butterworth Foundation operates **four historic buildings** in the Hilltop Neighborhood of Moline. Each previously belonged to a John Deere descendant, and all serve as centers where not-for-profit organizations meet to do community service.
- Within these buildings are **11 unique gathering spaces**, which not-for-profit organizations may reserve without charge for meetings and other events.
- Because the size of the meeting spaces varies, they can accommodate from **2 to 80 individuals** for an event.
- Last year, not-for-profit groups held **1,026 separate meetings** on our properties.
- In total, **11,640 individuals** came for a variety of artistic, cultural, and educational pursuits—including visual arts, literature, writing, performing arts, storytelling, quilting, history, preservation, religion, science, cooking, gardening, and building trades.

Numbers help us keep accurate records about our operations, but they also remind us of thousands of faces beyond those number who have been touched by Butterworth hospitality since we opened as a community center in 1956.



Telling the Human Storywith Numbers

Director of Programs & Collections, Gretchen Small, likes numbers—but she really likes the people behind those numbers! When she joined our staff in 1986, she began keeping annual attendance records, not just to track numbers of people but also to document which programs were thriving and to delve into those that weren't making the greatest impact on attendees. In the past 37 years, we've been so thankful to serve our community through the large variety of programs created by Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House. To date, just under 400,000 participants have taken advantage of all our educational offerings and major annual events. Some highlights since 1986 include...



- A total of **32,656 kids** and families have attended our popular summer Music on the Lawn concerts. Many youngsters experienced their first live concert on the lawn of Deere-Wiman House!
- School tours have brought **21,974 students** from kindergarten through college to tour our historic sites to learn about local history.
- Bus tours have attracted **45,975 visitors** to our homes. NOTE: Visitor counts for 2023 will increase greatly since Viking Cruises now arrange for guests to tour our homes when their ships dock in the Quad Cities.
- More than **22,000 adults** have attended special educational and cultural events because of our mission to promote life-long learning.

We like to think that every number we track represents a life touched by a unique experience that only we can offer by keeping Deere family history alive for us all. To arrange a tour or to attend an event, please go to www.butterworthcenter.com.

19th Century

Christmas

Dec. 3, Noon to 5p



Butterworth Center & Deere-Wiman House
8th Street and 11th Avenue, Moline



artiFacts

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Non-profit organizations may reserve
free meeting space at Butterworth
Center or Deere-Wiman House by
calling 309-743-2700 or emailing
meetings@butterworthcenter.com

www.butterworthcenter.com