

## **Parks Commission - Recreation Division - Report 6/14/2023**

**No COVID-19 cases in Recreation at this time!**

### **Recreation Division - Position status/Vacancy –**

- Asst. Facility Supervisor - Tennis – reviewing applicants and setting up interviews for after tournaments end
- Asst. Recreation Supervisor - on hold
- Recreation Programmer (Stephens)- re-advertising position
- Recreation Programmer (Southwest) position filled
- JFDAC Fitness Specialist- select an applicant; awaiting approval
- JDFAC - Park Maintenance Worker II - position filled

### **Community Centers:**

**Stephens Community Center:** We have been in touch with Parents and Community for the Advisory Board. We have nine parents committed to be onboard. (Planning a meeting)  
The school installed Automatic Fill Bottle Stations and one for the Community Center too.

### **After School Programs**

The After School Program at Stephens Community Center topped out with 44 participants. The Kindergarten and 5<sup>th</sup> Graders Graduates celebrated by going out to eat. The Latchkey end of the School Year Celebration was lot of eating and fun.

### **Youth Sports Program**

Registration for Youth Sports are ongoing and moving slow. (Baseball, softball, & Soccer), we have (1) 3 & 4 year old T-Ball Team. Rally Cats has ended the kids had lots of fun.

### **Adult Sports Activities:**

The Men's League is coming to an end.

**Staffing:** We are in need of a Recreation Programmer, Activity Assistants, and Part-Time Custodian.

### **Maintenance:**

1. We are still waiting for work to be done on the Gym Floor and the Bleachers.
2. Work orders have been turned in to have wires under the TV and a shelf mounted.
3. The floors need to be stripped and waxed and the building sanitized. (waiting)
4. Columns at the front of the building are in desperate need of repair.

### **Dunbar Community Center:**

- The after school program at Dunbar Community Center includes our homework and activity program. Our program has remained steady in attendance. Participants in our program have the opportunity to receive homework assistance and learn the value of recreational program.
- Our outdoor youth programs have not started but we are practicing and still taken youth in the various sports.
- Our youth volleyball training program meets every Sunday for 1.5 hours. It is an opportunity for boys and girls grades 4<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> to enhance their skills or learn the game of volleyball. We have 2 males and several females enrolled and attend regularly each Sunday. The program is open every month for enrollment and has been going strong since it started last year.

### **West Central Community Center:**

- **Youth Sports Program:** This month we are taking registration for both baseball and soccer. Baseball has 273 participants. Soccer has 25 participants
- **Karate:** The Karate program had 15 participants for the month. They will resume their classes at Dunbar Community Center due to the state of emergency.
- **FEMA Center:** Has been occupying our building since April 10<sup>th</sup> due to the state of emergency from the March 31<sup>st</sup> tornado disaster
- **Rentals:** The center had a total of 0 rentals for the month.
- **Maintenance:** We have had all maintenance request and work orders fulfilled for the month. We are preparing fields for the upcoming baseball season.

### **Southwest Community Center:**

- **After School Programs:** The Southwest Community Center Latchkey program is in effect we have several students that participate daily. The numbers are growing and we are continuing to search for afterschool transportation from the schools to the site. We have had parent's inquiry about after school pick up from the schools, we are still accepting applications and offering scholarships.
- **Youth Athletics:** Southwest Community Center Youth Soccer, Baseball, Tee-ball Football have been gearing up for the season with practices being held daily. The games will played at the Southwest Community Center and West Central Community Center. Our rosters filled up quickly ending with four soccer teams all different age groups, One Tee-ball, and one slow pitch team. Parents and coaches meeting will be held one week before the season begin. The meeting will outline the expectations of the players, parents and coaches during the season. Everyone seem to be excited and eager for the season to start.
- **Special Events:** Southwest Community Center is in the process of cross training all staff to assure customer service, programs and special events are offered to the highest standards. Southwest Community Center will be scheduling weekly pickle ball trainings on Thursday mornings for anyone that's interested in learning the game of pickle ball. The goal will be to register at least 10 participants in advance to teach the basic fundamentals of the game and educate the importance of healthy living and cardio. Southwest Community Center has also engaged in advertising and communicating all events, programs, meetings etc. Through social media Facebook (SWCC Southwest Community Center) and Instagram ( \_southwestcommnuitycenter\_ )

### **ELR Community Center:**

- Preparing to host a Summer Playground Program site starting June 12- July 27, from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- MacArthur Museum is using a room for storage for several display cases.
- The Neighborhood Association will have their meeting next week, and will continue monthly unless cancelled by their president.
- There is still use of the park areas (day, evenings and weekend), mostly avid joggers and there were family gatherings,
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**Senior Programs:** The Aging and Active Groups from Dunbar Seniors, East Little Rock Seniors, Southwest Seniors and West Central are back in the swing of things. Each site offers various arts and craft projects, exercise programs, play various games such as dominoes, five up, phase 10, bingo, skip-bo, bean bag baseball, chair volleyball, pickleball, jewelry making ,etc.. Baptist Health offer Free Screening for Blood Pressure, Blood Sugar and Pulse once a month for Dunbar Seniors and Southwest Seniors.

- Dunbar Seniors Having fun making jewelry, Easter Celebration was enjoyed by the participants, Baptist Health administered their monthly health screening and the seniors are working on a puzzle.

- East Little Rock Seniors are also enjoying making jewelry for each other and their families, planted tomatoes in their garden, had a great Easter Celebration, has a sing-along day where they sung hymns and oldies but goodie songs, the seniors were gifted with bags from Africa from Mrs. Gia (went home for visit and thought about our seniors) and Step Dancing on Thursdays, doing a good job!!!
- Southwest Seniors are getting ready to make some capes for the fall, had their Easter and Birthday Celebrations, Baptist Health did their monthly checkup and everyone did well, adjusting to sharing the facility with West Central Senior due to FEMA utilizing West Central Community Center.
- West Central Seniors are relocated to Southwest Community Center due to FEMA being housed at West Central Community Center after a tornado hit parts of Little Rock, adjusting well, they visit Hayes Center to play chair volleyball, practice bean bag baseball and compete in a Spring League, went bowling at Professor Bowling Alley and had a striking good time,
- We were closed one day due to bad weather prediction and Little Rock School District cancelled classes for a day.

### **The Center at University Park:**

- The Centre had 14 Internal CLR bookings for the month of May of which 2 cancelled.
- May total revenue for the month **\$0**
- Total attendance **631**.
- **Meetings:** LR City Agenda/Board, Human Resources C.S hearings, Planning Dept., Parks Commission, Parks Work Order, Age Friendly Little Rock Commission, Parks Pioneers Interviews, Director Joan Adcock

**Therapeutic –** The Therapeutic Recreation Youth Summer Day Camp will begin on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. We have a full enrollment at 20 campers. Camp will be located at the War Memorial Pro Shop. Activities for this program include swimming, bowling, community outings, sports instruction, fitness, arts and crafts and much more. This is a six week program for children ages 8-18 with intellectual/developmental disabilities. Each camper receives an Individual Recreation Plan which contains goals that are worked on throughout to program to either gain new skills or create continuity of skill sets being addressed during the school year. The TR staff uses recreation and leisure as a treatment modality to work on various skills to include, but not limited to social skills, interpersonal skills, fine and gross motor skills and leisure learning.

The Therapeutic Recreation Adult program will also begin on Monday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. This program is located at the Ottenheimer Therapeutic Recreation Center. This is also a six week program. Activities for this program include swimming, fitness, arts and crafts, group games and cooking classes. This program is also at capacity.

### **MacArthur Military Museum –**

- Museum attendance for May was 2741, which was a 129% increase over last year's attendance for the month. This total includes: (1) Off-Site programming at the Therapeutic Recreation Arts Festival on May 5 and the "Rose Leigh: Rosie the Riveter" program at the Clinton Presidential Center on May 19, (2) On-site visitation, and (3) Virtual Programming through the museum's virtual mini-documentaries and interviews. The museum hosted tours for Bald Knob High School, North Little Rock's Calvary Academy, Pulaski Tec, and STEAM for the Next Generation home school cooperative in May.

- The museum hosted the MacArthur Park “History on the Run” 5K race on May 5. Approximately 125 racers participated in the annual race, which is used by the Mac Park Group to raise money for MacArthur Park. This year’s race raised just under \$4,700 for improvements to Foster Pond.
- The museum continued its 2023 "Movies at MacArthur" film program with the documentary *Top Secret Rosies: The Female Computers of World War II* on May 30. Movies are averaging 47 persons each month in 2023, which is the highest number since the program began in 2015. The June movie, *The Six Triple Eight*, will be shown on June 20 in conjunction with the opening of a new traveling exhibit *The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen*. The film chronicles the 6888<sup>th</sup> Central Postal Directory Battalion which was sent to England and France in February 1945 to clear the backlog of mail in the European Theater of Operations. Known as the Six Triple Eight, it was the only all-black female battalion to serve in Europe during WWII. By war’s end, the battalion had cleared over 17 million pieces of backlogged mail ensuring the troops stayed in touch with their loved ones back home. The last of the women returned home in March 1946. Movies are shown the third Tuesday of each month through November with free admission, popcorn, and beverages for all screenings.
- The museum opened the traveling exhibit *Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy* at a preview reception on May 18 for 125 sponsors and guests. Presenting sponsor for the exhibit, which is on loan from the National World War II Museum in New Orleans through September 4, is Stephens Inc. In conjunction with the exhibit’s opening, the museum partnered with Kentucky Humanities and the Clinton Presidential Center to host a living history program “Rose Leigh: Rosie the Riveter.” The program featured Kelly O’Connell Brengelman portraying Rose Leigh who was working as a riveter on B-24 bombers in Ypsilanti, Michigan in 1942 when she met actor Walter Pidgeon and appeared on the big screen as “Rosie the Riveter.” Her portrayal of the iconic Rosie inspired many during World War II. Approximately 190 persons attended the free presentation in the Great Hall of the Clinton Presidential Center.
- *The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen*, a traveling exhibit from the Military Women’s Memorial in Arlington, VA, will be on display at the MacArthur Museum from June 17 through August 26. Presenting sponsor for *The Color of Freedom* exhibit is AARP Arkansas. This exhibit tells the story of women of color who have faced barriers of gender, race and traditional cultural values in their pursuit of opportunity for service in the armed forces. From a time of segregation until now the achievements and history of these incredible women are chronicled in their fight to gain equality. Their efforts have led to a more diverse military with equal opportunities for all who now serve.
- Museum staff is partnering with educators from the Clinton Presidential Center to present off-site programming once again this year at the Summer Playground Program sites as well as offering on-site field trips to both museums. Staff is also planning to participate in the Little Rock School District’s pilot Summer Enrichment Program in June offering off-site programming to 150 rising 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and 150 rising 4<sup>th</sup> grade students at three elementary sites – Martin Luther King, Wakefield, and Fulbright schools.

#### **Upcoming Museum Events in June:**

- June 10 - Congressman French Hill's "Send Off to the Cadets" for Arkansas students who have been accepted into the various service academies and their parents.
- June 11 - 26th Annual Flag Day Concert with Little Rock Winds. This free outdoor concert will occur behind the museum on the parade grounds.
- June 17 - Opening reception for *The Color of Freedom* traveling exhibit.
- June 20 - "Movies at MacArthur" film *The Six Triple Eight*.

#### **Athletics**

- Field Rental reservation or going well. Corporate Softball league started June 5, 2023 and will end August 24, 2023.

- Registration closed for spring softball and because of low sign up we canceled the spring league but will open up registration for fall ball July 1, 2023. League will start in September.
- Summer Playground Program will start June 12 - July 27, 2023 from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- SPP location count as of today: Dunbar- 207; Stephens- 120; Baseline - 51; J.A. Fair - 27; Washington - 19; ELR – 26; SW Laureate - 100

### **Rebsamen Tennis:**

- Janan and Raul's junior and adult groups continue as usual, summer camps coming soon
- USTA Team Tennis still going strong, about 3 weeks to go for that season to finish before state tournaments
- Working on bid process with Ron Ross trying to get courts 5,6,9,10 done ASAP
- Pat Malone working with AR Tennis Patrons Foundation on NJTL Tennis Chapter at Boys Club
- UAMS - Little Rock Open getting close and will start on May 28 – June 4, 2023 admission will be free and was very successful. A lot of compliments about the tournament, players love the trees, southern hospitality and the major spoke at the open ceremony, 75 players for various countries and states participated. Result: Mark Lajal from Estonia -1<sup>st</sup>, 20 years old not seed player big upset among the players.
- The Southern Sixteens in the Rock started June 8 - 13, 2023, 225 player's boys/girls from the 9 Southern states, this is the most important Southern championship for the season.

### **JDFAC –**

- The outdoor Pool open swim schedule started on May 27<sup>th</sup>. The hours for open swim is Monday-Friday 12:00 p.m. – 4:45 p.m., Saturdays 12:00 p.m. – 5:45 p.m., and Sundays 1:00 p.m. - 4:45 p.m.
- Registration for swim lessons started on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. There are 6 sessions scheduled throughout the summer. Group Lessons are \$40 per session and Private Lessons are \$80 per session. The lessons are divided in to the following groups: Pre School (Ages: 3-5), Youth / Teen (Ages: 6-17), and Adults (18+).
- Upcoming Events:
  - World's Largest Swim Lesson June 22, 2023 10:00 a.m.- 11:00 a.m. Cost-Free
  - Late Night Open Play Basketball June 14- August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023 Cost: 16-17 \$3.00; 18 & up \$5.00
  - Summer Movie at the Pool June 17<sup>th</sup> - Minions; July 15<sup>th</sup> – Puss in Boots; August 19<sup>th</sup> – Top Gun; Cost \$5.00 per person, gates open at 7:30 movies starts at sunset

### **Rebsamen Golf:**

- On 06/05 Greens were verticut and top dressed to ensure a higher quality of putting surface.
- On 06/13 maintenance on pump house will begin.
- On 06/16 we will be hosting the Ashrae Tournament which will produce approximately \$2,500 in revenue and will have up to 72 golfers in attendance.  
On 6/19 we will be hosting the Coach Harper Memorial outing that will produce approximately \$500 in revenue and will have up to 20 golfers in attendance.
- On 06/23 we will be hosting the Wesco outing that will produce approximately \$500 in revenue and will have up to 20 golfer in attendance.
- On 06/26-06/27 we will be hosting the Tyler Williams Memorial Junior Championship that will 50-80 junior golfers participating each day.

### **First Tee:**

- As we continue to move forward with the new POS System, we have been paying close attention to what people are purchasing along with what time of day they are visiting our facility. This data is

very helpful in planning for future specials we might run on days or time of day that it could be slower to help gain revenue.

- We recently had our Urban Forestry division out on the course removing unnecessary trees that impact the health of the green turf and will continue to have them out here to help with removing some trees along some of the tee complexes.
- The ASGA Monk Wade Junior Classic was a huge success. This was a two day event that brought junior golfers and their families from all over the state. This year was the biggest turn out we have seen in years past with 112 participants.
- We are defiantly looking forward to continue to grow our golf rounds and revenue here at First Tee along with a possible name change for the golf course in the future.