



## Parks Commission Recreation - Report 10/8/2025

### **Awards**

Little Rock Parks & Recreation received the following awards from The Arkansas Recreation & Parks Association during the Annual ARPA Conference held October 1 – 3, 2025 in Fort Smith , AR:

**1) Festival/Event of the Year 5-10 Years – Star Student After-School & Banquet, 2) Outdoor Facility of the Year \$200,000-\$500,000- Rebsamen Tennis Center, & 3) Young Professional of the Year- Cristian Robles.**

### **Special Events:**

- 1) Mobile City Hall on September 8, 2025, held at Grace Church
- 2) Second Annual AARP Senior Summitt September 11, 2025, held at West Central Community Center
- 3) Oktober Fest September 28, 2025, from 2:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. at the Southwest Community Center playground, in collaboration with the Dee Brown Library
- 4) The museum hosted a book signing on September 28 for Dr. Curt Fields, whose book *Unconditional Surrender: Ulysses S. Grant in the Civil War*, has just been released.

### **Upcoming Special Events:**

- 1) **Breast Cancer Awareness Week (Pink Week) at Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatics October 13–17, 2025**
- 2) "Kickin' it at Kanis" 3 on 3 basketball tournament (9am until completed) and Ward 6 Block Party Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9am-1pm.
- 3) Second Annual "Squatch Till You Drop" Trail Run at Kanis Park November 15, 2025

### **Southwest Community Center**

Our Low-Impact Senior Workout remains a valued offering for our community. Delivered via video format, this class consistently engages around 15 participants aged 50 and over, providing a safe and enjoyable way to stay active.

### **Therapeutic Recreation**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Logan's Run took place at Murray Park on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. We showed a 61% increase in registration this year with 29 registered runners. We had good media coverage from the Arkansas Democrat Gazette as well as KATV Ch. 7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual aRT Gallery was held on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History.

### **Museum of Military History**

The museum hosted the Korean American Federation of Arkansas's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Inchon Landing on September 15. The event was supported by the Korean American community and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Houston. Ceremonies included a program inside the museum followed by a wreath laying at the Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial. Among the attendees were Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott, former head of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs Nate Todd, as well as 93-year-old Korean War veteran Alfred DeCicco, who participated in the Inchon Landing. The event was featured in the Arkansas section of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* on September 16.



## Parks Commission – Recreation Report

### **Dunbar Community Center**

#### **After School Programs**

The after-school program at Dunbar Community Center includes our star student afterschool program, cheerleading, flag football and volleyball. Our programs have remained steady in attendance and revenue. Participants in each program can receive instruction from our on-hand instructors and learn the value of each recreational program.

#### **Youth Sports Program**

This month we started playing volleyball and continued with cheer and flag football. Some divisions are finished playing in flag and others enter tournament play next week. Volleyball games are played Monday and Wednesday at Dunbar Community Center. Game times each night is 6:15 pm, 7:00pm and 7:45pm. We have a total of 28 youth signed up giving us three teams in 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade division and one in 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup> grade division.

### **Southwest Community Center**

**Youth Programs:** We are excited to announce that enrollment is now open for our Afterschool Star Student Program! This fall, we're enhancing our services with a new Afterschool Transportation Pilot Program, launching August 11, 2025, and running through November 3, 2025. During this time, we will assess the program's success to determine if it will become a permanent offering.

In addition to convenient transportation, we're expanding our program options through a growing partnership with The Home Teen Youth Center, bringing students opportunities to explore: Dance, Photography, Arts & Crafts, Skilled Trades and more!

**\*\* Urgent: We Need Your Help!**

Currently, we only have two students enrolled in our afterschool program. To keep these valuable programs running, we need more youth participation.

**How You Can Help:** Promotion & Collaboration Ideas Needed: We are actively looking for ideas to promote our afterschool programs and collaborate with community partners.

**Now Enrolling:** Youth Dance Program, Our Youth Dance Program is also open for registration! Practices: Tuesdays & Thursdays, Time: 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

#### **Leadership Program in Development**

We are also exploring opportunities to host Boys Scouts of America at our facility as part of a youth leadership initiative. Stay tuned!

**Youth Athletics:** Flag Football tournaments were held the week of September 23, 2025, These young athletes have been playing hard and had an exciting time. Let's wish them congratulations! Our dedicated cheerleaders have also been practicing daily and bring energy and spirit wherever they go. They continue to shine throughout the community, proudly representing the Panthers at local events, block parties, competitions, and social gatherings. Volleyball season has begun, with games started on September 3, 2025. The Southwest Panthers volleyball team is geared up to face strong competition and is putting in the work with intense daily practices.

**Adult Athletics:** Dance Workout – Southwest Steppers are currently seeking a volunteer instructor to help lead this energetic and community-driven class. Our dedicated instructor will be retired as of August 21, 2025, and we are eager to find a passionate individual to carry the momentum forward. The classes are being held with Southwest Community Center Staff leading the classes every Tuesday and Thursday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM. In addition, our Low-Impact Senior Workout remains a valued offering for our community. Delivered via video format, this class consistently engages around 15 participants aged 50 and over, providing a safe and enjoyable way to stay active. Looking ahead, we are exploring opportunities to expand our fitness programming by launching a new Adult Pickleball Program aimed at individuals aged 25 and up. We are currently researching ideas and welcome any suggestions or expressions of interest from those who'd like to be involved in shaping this exciting new addition.

**Special Events:**

\*\*Oaktober Fest September 28, 2025, from 2:00p.m. - 4:00p.m. at the Southwest Community Center playground, in collaboration with the Dee Brown Library

\*\*Free Food and Concert, October 4<sup>th</sup> 10: 00a.m. - 3: 00p.m. Southwest CC Soccer Field (Sponsored by Christian Fellowship)

**Stephens Community Center**

**Star Student Afterschool Program**

The After-school Program is going well thus far. (66%)

**Youth Sports Program**

Programs for Youth Sports are Flag Football (100%), Cheerleading (100%), and Volleyball (100%). Stephens took a trip to UALR to the Volleyball game against the Razorbacks and an LRSD Football game.

**Adult Activities:**

The Men's 40 & Over League. We are still waiting for the center to open.

**Facility Vacancies:**

2-Programmer, 3-Activity Assistants, 1-Part-Time Custodian and 1-Full Time Custodian. We have help from the CUP while they are under Renovation.

**Maintenance:**

We are on the Reno stage which is an ongoing process. Baseboard Trim needs to be done. Work Orders placed for Service on the Alarm (**Done**), Security Panel (**Done**), Phones Lines (**Are Working**), Computers, Air in the Gym is out (waiting on a part). Water heater (was installed but still no hot water). Cabinets are being installed behind front counter. Smoke detectors in gym need to be replaced.

**West Central Community Center**

**Youth Sports Program:**

Flag football ends September 30<sup>th</sup> and we are beginning to recruit basketball participants and coaches.

**Karate/Dance:** The Karate program is back and has 15 participants. Dance has 10 participants.

**West Central CC:**

West Central hosted the annual AARP Summitt September 11, 2025. On September 29-Oct 2 West Central hosted basketball skills and drills for 60 participants aged 6-15 years old. Eastern Seals basketball team comes weekly to practice and have physical education. Sunshine Homeschool comes on Tuesdays at 1pm to do physical education. Both Men's and Women's teams of Parkview High School practice at West Central from 2pm-6pm Monday-Thursday.

**Rentals:**

The center had a total of 15 rentals for the month. These rentals include meetings with human resources and neighborhood association meetings.

**Employment:**

We have a concessionaire, activity assistant (2) and evening front desk receptionist to hire. Currently looking at applications. Recreation programmer position and Line dancing instructors will be starting soon.

**ELR Community Center**

Met with Matt Gardner and Shawn Cullins (Sonitrol) on the installation of new alarm system for the NWHC Complex. (9/22/25) The neighborhood Meeting was on Monday September 8, 2025, there were 11 in attendance next meeting is scheduled for October 13, 2025. The LRPR department held their work order meeting on September 2 and 30, there were about 42 in total for both meetings. I am still attending various meetings/activities/events as scheduled. Continuing to assist supervisors, help with Aging & Active program as needed and attend various meetings and training courses as scheduled. Individuals are still utilizing the tennis court area for skateboarding (not looking the best). The AAU football team practices 3 days per week. Maintenance continues to mow, weed eat, and pick up around the entire grounds. Little Rock Police Department continue to use the back area/field for their dog training. The community groups are still using the outdoor basketball/tennis courts/area and other areas to do exercises, meet, and fitness as the weather permits. They are there 5 to 6 days per week, with about 10 - 12 people. There is still use of the field/park...daily/weekends, family gatherings, tennis court (hopefully to be refurbished as multi-use courts) for walking and playing matches, and other activities.

**Senior Programs: Active and Aging**

Mary Rogers Activity Supervisor at East Little Rock Senior Site resigned effective September 19, 2025. Dunbar had a Medicare Presentation by Gina Rouse on September 30. Baptist Health held their monthly fruit & vegetable outreach at Southwest, East Little Rock, and Dunbar. West Central visited Presbyterian & Briarwood Nursing homes and played bean bag/chair volleyball with them. They also played a chair volleyball game in Lonoke on September 24 and had a lunch outing at Nicks. Thanks to West Central Senior Staff for helping East LR Seniors, due to staff resignation. Continued Shout outs to ALL the Senior Staff for their hard work, dedication, and for the care. Baptist Health Presentation on Alzheimer on September 11, 2025. Southwest had a speaker from Care link on each Wednesday during this month. West Central took a trolley ride and a lunch outing at Cache on September 4, 2025. Sites attended the Second Annual Age Friendly Summit at West Central Community Center on September 11, 2025. All sites are preparing for their upcoming activities for the month of October which will include some pampering, dancing, crafts, field trips, and more. East Little Rock, Dunbar, Southwest, and West Central celebrated September Birthdays in various ways. They are all also continuing their outings, sports competitions, activities such as painting, jewelry, quilting, decorating caps/hats, puzzles, t-shirts, and coloring. Dunbar Seniors: Music, Thursday field trips, Coloring, String Jewelry, Bingo, Senior Circle, Walking, Connect Four, Dominoes and Line Dancing Class, Bean Bag Baseball, Chair Exercise Class, and Baptist Health Outreach Monthly Screenings, Go Fish, Painting, and FUNDAY. East Little Rock Seniors: Step Up to Health, Senior Fitness, Care Link workshop, Mind Bending, Silver Foxes Line Dance Class, Crafts, quilting, Puzzles, Adult Coloring, Uno Card Game, Jewelry Making, Nutrition Class and Funday Friday. Southwest Seniors: Bowling, movies, Skip-Bo, Pool Competition, Card Games, Bingo, Bible Study, Chair Exercise, Walking Club, Baptist Health Speaker, Monthly Screenings and Healthy Food Outreach, Arts & Crafts, Table Games, Ring Toss, Pool, Cooking Class, Funday Friday. West Central Seniors: Nursing Facility Outreach, Quilting, iPad class, table games, Pickleball, Chair Volleyball and Bean Bag Baseball games vs. Various Centers (both teams), Bean Bag Baseball Practice (both teams), Bible Study, Birthday Shout Out.

### **Therapeutic Recreation**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Logan's Run took place at Murray Park on Saturday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. We showed a 61% increase in registration this year with 29 registered runners. We had good media coverage from the Arkansas Democrat Gazette as well as KATV Ch. 7. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual aRT Gallery was held on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 6pm at the MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History. This is a public event and features art projects from multiple mediums created by the participants of the Branch Out program. Artists had 7 art installments on display at the gallery. With approximately 50 guests in attendance, the event was a great opportunity to share the hard work of these participants with their family and friends.

The TR staff is preparing for the annual TR Parks Appreciation Chili lunch scheduled for October 9<sup>th</sup>. This event offers an opportunity for parks staff to interact and mingle with our participants with disabilities as well as offering our participants an opportunity to serve and feel a bigger part of their community.

Registration is open for the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual TR ReTreat Camping Program. This program is for adults with disabilities and offers overnight camping experience with a variety of outdoor recreation activities scheduled each day. This program is held at Camp Aldersgate and is scheduled for Oct. 22-24.

Members of the TR staff will be attending the Arkansas Recreation and Parks Association Conference in Fort Smith scheduled for October 1-3.

Other programs coming up include Branch Out outings to the pumpkin farm, the Arkansas State Fair and our annual Kostume Karoake party scheduled on Friday, Oct. 17<sup>th</sup>. We also have a workday at the Little Rock Zoo scheduled on Tuesday, Oct. 21st.

### **Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatics**

#### **MEMBERSHIPS**

The Jim Dailey Fitness and Aquatic Center experienced a significant increase in memberships during September 2025, with **2,085 new memberships sold**, compared to **1,499 in September 2024**. This growth highlights the facility's expanding appeal and strong community engagement.

#### **ATTENDANCE**

Attendance trends continued to rise, driven by increased membership sales and diverse programming.

**Total Facility Visits:** Over **15,000** in September 2025, a substantial increase from just over **5,000** in September 2024.

**Outdoor Pool Daily Passes:** **133 visitors** in September 2025, compared to **89 visitors** in September 2024.

*(Note: These figures exclude monthly membership visits.)*

#### **REVENUE**

Revenue collections reflected strong performance, totaling **\$45,616.50** in September 2025, an increase from **\$31,022.50** collected during the same month in 2024.

#### **FITNESS PROGRAMS**

The facility continues to offer **19 group fitness classes**, all of which maintain high participation rates and positive feedback from members.

#### **AQUATICS PROGRAMS**

The aquatics program currently offers **6 classes**, which continue to show steady attendance and positive participant feedback. Satisfaction and engagement remain consistently high.

#### **SPECIAL ACTIVITIES**

- **Baptist Health Community Outreach**  
Monthly blood pressure screenings were provided in September, with **23 participants** benefiting from this free service.
- **Tai Chi Event Recap (September 20<sup>th</sup>)**  
Attendance & Registration, 3 Tai Chi instructors led the sessions, 2 staff assisted with set-up, registration, and event support, 17 pre-registered through ActiveNet, 32 pre-registered through the sign-up sheet (2 duplicates from ActiveNet), 49 total pre-registered, 18 drop-ins on event day, 29 Total attended, 29 registrants did not attend, 23 attendees were new to the event

- **Event Highlights:** Despite traffic challenges and a change in location, set-up and registration were completed quickly, and the event began only 10 minutes late. The **hot tea service with custom cups (spent \$372.00)** was very well received and created a special touch. Attendees who were new this year especially appreciated the **event T-shirts (Spent \$132.00)**.
- **Feedback & Challenges:** Several registrants cited **traffic issues** and the **change in location** as reasons for not attending. Overall, attendees responded positively to the program and special touches.
- **Suggestions for Next Year:** Host the event **inside the gym on the basketball court** to avoid weather concerns and conflicts with other events. Consider adding a **brunch afterwards**, similar to the popular Yoga Night format

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Breast Cancer Awareness Week (Pink Week)**  
*October 13–17, 2025*

#### The Centre at University Park (Currently Under Renovation)

##### Youth Athletics

Arkansas Recreation & Parks Association awarded **Young Professional of the Year** to Cristian Robles. **CONGRATULATIONS!!!! It was presented at the Annual Conference held in Fort Smith October 1 – 3, 2025.**

##### Volleyball

We have volleyball teams at all facilities, and we started games on September 15. The last game of that season was October 1. We had the post season tournament the following week.

##### Flag Football

The 2025 flag football season began on September 2; games were played Monday through Thursday at Interstate Park. Each center has teams, and we will have a league of 15 teams. Rules were sent out on Sept 4. Flag football season ended September 30. The winning teams have received their trophies. We are currently working on getting basketball together to open for registration.

##### Cheerleading

The 2025 cheer season began on Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will cheer at football and volleyball games and other community functions as scheduled. Registration will remain open till teams are filled.

#### Adult Athletics

##### Interstate Park Program

LRKA kickball club started using fields 1,2 and 3 on Sundays from 11:00am until 10:00pm for the next 6 weeks.

##### Adult Softball Program

The fall coed softball league did not have enough teams so I have started the 40 and over basketball league that will take place at Dunbar community center starting on October 11,2025

##### Parks Summer Day Camp

Planning has already begun for the summer of 2026 parks summer day camp

##### Allsop Park

Field uses for Allsop park are steady in October.

##### Kanis Park

Arkansas Baptist college will be utilizing Kanis baseball field everyday Tuesday through Saturday starting on September 24, 2025, until November 15,2025. For their college baseball team.

### **Rebsamen and First Tee Golf**

Continuing to show a rise in play at both courses due to great course conditions and good weather. New Baroness equipment has arrived for both courses. Continuing to show a rise in play at both courses due to great course conditions and good weather. Dinah Stewart was chosen as the employee of the month for Rebsamen Golf Course. We are collaborating with the Director and Deputy Directors on the bond funding allocated for golf. Flower beds and rock beds have been redone to add a better curb appeal. Repainting of interior will be put to bid during the fall and plan for painting to be underway during late fall or early winter at Rebsamen. We are exploring a new booking system that will streamline reservations for golfers at our two facilities. This system will fully integrate with Square, which we currently use for our POS system. Additionally, we have started the process of training staff members on the new system.

### **Rebsamen Tennis**

#### **Rebsamen Tennis is honored to have won the best Outdoor Facility 200K-500K award from the ARPA!**

It was presented at the Annual Conference held in Fort Smith October 1-3, 2025.

USTA Team Tennis (Tri-level and mixed seasons) is going strong with over 15 tri-level teams and 60 mixed doubles teams. Good and bad news regarding next year's tournaments – we lost the Southern 16's Championships but gained a different tournament in return which actually brings more players into the city. The geography of the southern section ended up being the culprit for losing the 16's. We still had the best bid, but the STA decided to put it in a more central location for the southern region. ATA used Rebsamen as an alternate site for its Tri-level state championships Sept. 6/7, 2025, weekend (Saturday was a rainout but they still used us on Sunday for half a day). USTA combo season started in late August. Over 50 teams are playing at Rebsamen. Season lasts until mid-October. High school season has begun. They use most of the courts Mon-Fri from 3-6 pm. Very busy time as courts are booked every day through the end of September for that season. Pro pickleball tournament decided not to use Rebsamen due to not having any pickleball courts.

Putting together a grant proposal through the USTA to help with court resurfacing. The Southern 16's Championships were successful, but we did have less numbers for the girls' division, which is mostly because we are at the far end of the southern section, and some people don't want to travel that far (ridiculous I know). Working on bids for the 2026 junior Tournament schedule. Creating Red ball lessons and leagues for beginners, the first scheduled tournament was 7/30 (starting small but growing).

Looking at increasing security with upgrades to gates on west side parking lot – we've been having major problems with loitering and marijuana use in our parking lots over the past few months and it's getting worse. Update – There has been a basic gate with a bollard put up at the entrance of the west side parking lot to help things. This is a good start to getting up a more permanent gating system on that side of the facility.

### **Museum of Arkansas Military History**

Museum attendance for September was 4,504. This number included: (1) on-site visitation, (2) special events, (3) virtual programming through the museum's mini-documentaries and interviews, and (4) off-site programming and outreach. On-site visitation included 593 walk-in guests and 361 visitors to special events, meetings, tours, etc. In addition to Arkansas, visitors have come from 28 states, including Alabama, California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Nevada, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Wisconsin as well as Australia, Brazil, Germany and Guatemala. The museum's virtual documentaries/interviews received 327 new views through September 30. Thus far in 2025 virtual programming has received more than 4,986 views. Overall attendance for 2025 totals 26,622.

The museum raised \$3,830 in donations and sponsorships in September, bringing its total funding in 2025 to \$39,906. This amount exceeds the annual goal of raising \$30,000 by 33%. The museum anticipates another \$10,000 in sponsorships for the *Thomas Hart Benton* exhibit and \$4,000 in revenue from the Arkansas Paranormal Expo. Gift shop sales for September were \$1,350.00 for a total of \$9,320.11 so far this year, representing an 8% increase over last year.

Approximately 56 persons attended the "Movies at MacArthur" September film. *Legion of Brothers* was shown to commemorate the 24th anniversary of 9/11. The documentary examined Special Forces units that went to northern Afghanistan in the days after the attack and worked with local warlords to overthrow the Taliban government. Attendance at the "Movies at MacArthur" film program for January through September totals 469. A flyer for the October movie, *Black Hawk Down: The Untold Story*, is attached. Staff has finalized the movie schedule for 2026 (the program's 12th year), which will be unveiled at the November movie.

Museum programmers Shane Lind and David Collins continue weekly Afterschool Programming at Stephens and Dunbar Community Centers. During September a total of 293 children were reached. Staff resumed monthly programming to 54 students in the 21st Century program at JA Fair Preparatory Academy in September.

A total of 41 persons participated in the museum's "On the Road with Mark Christ" bus tour of Arkansas Civil War sites on September 6. The tour included stops at Lakeport Plantation in Lake Village, the Taylor Log House and Site in Tillar, Arkansas Post National Memorial in Gillett, as well as battle sites in St. Charles and Pine Bluff. A summary of the trip was written by Museum Commissioner Angie Faller.

Museum programmers Shane Lind and David Collins participated in Tinker Fest at the Museum of Discovery on September 13. Their program, *World War II Foxhole Radios*, showed how soldiers made field radios using readily available materials like razors, pencils, wire wood, bits of metal and even toilet paper. More than 2,800 children and adults were part of this year's Tinker Fest.

The museum hosted the Korean American Federation of Arkansas's commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Inchon Landing on September 15. The event was supported by the Korean American community and the Consulate General of the Republic of Korea in Houston. Ceremonies included a program inside the museum followed by a wreath laying at the Arkansas Korean War Veterans Memorial. Among the attendees were Little Rock Mayor Frank Scott, former head of the Arkansas Department of Veterans Affairs Nate Todd, as well as 93-year-old Korean War veteran Alfred DeCicco, who participated in the Inchon Landing. The event was featured in the Arkansas section of the *Arkansas Democrat-Gazette* on September 16.

The museum partnered with the Arkansas Museum of Fine Arts to present a program "Dual Perspective on Art and Healing" on September 18 at AMFA. The panel discussion included Brian McCarty, the photographer who created the exhibit *War Toys: Ukraine*, which was on display through September 28. Approximately 60 people attended the event.

The museum hosted the Therapeutic Recreation's aRT Gallery on September 26. This is the second year that the museum has hosted this art show by participants in the program. Over 60 people attended the reception.

The museum hosted a book signing on September 28 for Dr. Curt Fields, whose book *Unconditional Surrender: Ulysses S. Grant in the Civil War*, has just been released. Fields is the nation's foremost U.S. Grant living historian and has held numerous programs at the museum. The book is currently available in the museum gift shop. Approximately 35 people attended the event.

#### **Programs and Special Events Coming Up October - December:**

October 11 – 12th Annual Vintage Military Vehicle Show, 9 am – 2 pm

October 14 – Aesthetic Club begins new year

October 21 – Movies at MacArthur, *Black Hawk Down: The Untold Story*, 6:30 – 8 pm

October 24 - 26 – 14th Annual Arkansas Paranormal Expo, 9 am – 5 pm  
October 30 – 30th Annual Big Boo!seum Bash Halloween Event, 5:30 – 8:30 pm  
November 6 – Exhibit Opening Reception, *Thomas Hart Benton*, 5 – 6:30 pm  
November 18 – Movies at MacArthur, *They Drew Fire* 6:30 – 8 pm  
December 6 – 106th Army Band Jazz Ensemble at the Arsenal, 2 pm (tentative)  
December 13 – Holiday Performance by Jacksonville High School Choir, 1 – 3 pm  
December 21 – Holiday Music at the Arsenal Recital, 2 pm

### **Outdoor Recreation**

Sunrise "Banana ride", bike rides on the Arkansas River Trail. Free program, 6am-7:30am. Attendance has been good. Before every ride I record a Facebook Live post for the Little Rock Outdoor Recreation Facebook page. Outdoor Recreation provided programming for the Therapeutic Rec program on 9/9/25. The group did archery at War Memorial Park. Outdoor Recreation took part in the Mobile City Hall on 9/8/25. Seal Solar, of North Little Rock has signed on as a sponsor for the Squatch Till You Drop trail run event. Initial site prep has begun on the War Memorial Disc Golf course project. Brush and dead trees have been cleared from the "Pine Island" area of the park (elevated area in the back of the park). The Trails crew and Urban Forestry have been of great help in their effort. A GPS map of the course area has been created. The map plots out proposed basket and tee placements as well as course boundaries. Baskets have been purchased. A Special Projects account has been established to be in place when we start the fund-raising campaign for the course. I will send you the account information once I receive it. A proposed logo for the course has been created. A collaboration between Director Lewis and Parks & Rec has been established to combine the 3v3 basketball tournament at Kanis Park and a Ward 6 block party. A meeting with members of the Parks staff, including myself, and Director Lewis happened on 9/25/25 to begin discussions about logistics for this event. The event, "Kickin' it at Kanis" is scheduled for Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 9am-1pm. A promotional plan for the November Squatch Till You Drop trail event has been developed in collaboration with the Parks PR team. The plan includes 5 videos, flyers, Social Media posts and radio spots. The first phase, a promotional photo shoot happened on 7/31/25. This Facebook post has received over 150,000 views. 4 videos were recorded on 8/27/25. 3 have been posted along with several stills and have received over 300,000 views. Custom cycling jerseys have been ordered to help promote Little Rock Parks & Recreation and Outdoor Recreation programs. Leland has been providing guidance on this endeavor. The jerseys arrived on 9/25/25. Citizens and Park staff will have the opportunity to earn a jersey by participating in bike rides. Pop-up disc golf events will take place every month through December. Parks that have been utilized for these events are Meriweather, Allsopp South, War Memorial, MacArthur and Conner. These are free events, usually from 9am-4pm and on a Saturday. To date, these events have drawn over 374 participants. The goal for 2025 is to exceed 600. Outdoor Recreation set up a pop-up disc golf course at the 14<sup>th</sup> annual downtown food truck festival on 9/22/25.