

Parks Commission - Recreation Division - Report 4/12/2023

No COVID-19 cases in Recreation at this time!

Recreation Division - Position status/Vacancy –

- Asst. Facility Supervisor - Tennis – seeking qualified applicant
- Asst. Recreation Supervisor - on hold
- Recreation Programmer (Stephens)- re-advertising
- Recreation Programmer (Southwest) finalizing interviews
- JFDAC Fitness Specialist- Equity review

Community Centers:

Stephens Community Center:

- We have been in touch with Parents and Community for the Advisory Board so far 6 has committed. The After School Program at Stephens Community Center is growing. The Youth Basketball Program has ended. Registration for the other Youth Sports are ongoing. (Baseball, T-Ball, Softball, Soccer, & Rally Cats). The Men's League has started and things are going well. We are in need of A Programmer (Interviewed), 3 Activity Assistants and a Part-Time Custodian.

Dunbar Community Center:

- The after school program at Dunbar Community Center includes our homework and activity program and basketball. Our programs have remained steady in attendance and revenue.
- This month we had the championship game for K-1st grade and the awards ceremony for our players. We also continued registration with our Junior Hoops basketball program which will start in April. The program has three divisions. The Junior Division features boys in Middle School, grades 6th – 8th play at SWCC. Our Senior Division play at Dunbar and features high school players in grades 9th – 12th. Girl's middle school division will play at WCCC. Games times will be 6pm, 7pm and 8pm.
- Spring programs include soccer, t-ball and baseball. Dunbar trying to make sure we have enough for all teams in all sports.
- We took youth on field trips over spring break. Monday was on sight activities. Tuesday trip to the movies. Wednesday we went on a trip to the Old Statehouse Museum followed by lunch at Wendy's. Thursday was a trip to Larry's pizza on Bowman Rd and Main Event of Friday.

West Central Community Center:

- This month we are taking registration for both baseball and soccer. Baseball has 50 participants. Soccer is slow but we are doing more advertisement.
- The Karate program had 15 participants for the month. They took a small break for spring break.
- The Dance program has 10 participants for the month. There was a small break for spring break.
- We prepared for as a warming center for residents in the surrounding neighborhood due to the cold weather over the month. We provided water and snack, no participants showed up.
- The center had a total of 5 rentals for the month.
- We have had all maintenance request and work orders fulfilled for the month.

Southwest Community Center: SWCC Youth Choir & Dance – Wednesday 7pm-9pm, Saturday 11:30am- 1pm, Youth Basketball Practice: Times Varies (6pm-9pm) Monday – Wednesday, Youth Basketball Games: Saturday 10am-12pm (3 and 4 years old), Start basketball practices at ELR SWCC Latchkey Afterschool Program- Registrations Open

ELR Community Center:

- Hosted the a.m. morning LR Police line-up for the LR Marathon on Marathon morning.
- East Little Rock Neighborhood Association held their monthly meeting this month and were given St. Patrick Day treats. Will continue meeting monthly.
- Carver Elementary used the multi-purpose field this month for their physical education classes, except during Spring Break.
- The community groups are still using the outdoor basketball/tennis courts and other areas to do exercises and fitness. They are there 5 to 6 days per week, with about 7-9 participants. Weather permitting.
- There is still some use of the field/park...daily/weekends, celebrations, family gatherings, tennis court (hopefully to be refurbished as multi-use courts) for walking and playing matches, and other activities. Weather permitting (lots of rain). Multi-purpose field Lights are working.

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 St. Patrick Day Celebration consisted of A Word Search Fun Sheet and refreshments, East Little Rock Seniors had a March Madness Day which consisted of Most Green Worn by participant, the winner was Mrs. Shirley Graves (head to toes) along with green snacks, and Southwest had a combination of St. Patrick Day and Birthday Celebrations.
- West Central Seniors hosted Sherwood Center and Jacksonville Center in a Bean Bag Baseball Competition. They also have been going to Hayes Center for chair volleyball, and have begun spring league bean bag baseball competition. Pickleball is a big hit!!! CPR Class was held for the participants.(no certifications)
- Dunbar Seniors played Pin The Tail On The Donkey and had a Red Hat Day!!! And A Book Walk.
- East Little Rock Seniors had Popcorn Day along with their Funtastic Friday and a Step Up To Health Day. Making all kinds of necklaces and bracelets for their families and each other.
- Southwest Seniors brought out their bowling game and had a striking good time.

The Center at University Park:

- The Centre had 19 Internal CLR bookings for the month of January of which 5 cancelled 2 of which due to closing per inclement weather on January 31.
- Total attendance **492**.

Therapeutic – The Therapeutic Recreation Division is in the final stages of planning the ***21st Annual Therapeutic Recreation Arts Festival***. This event is for children with disabilities to enjoy an event designed especially for them and includes make it-take it crafts, hands on experiences and games, a magician, a dance contest and much more. ***This year's event will take place on Friday, May 5 and will be housed at the Hall of Industry at the Arkansas State Fairgrounds.*** All booths are provided by agencies, businesses and organizations in the community that support or work with the disability population so it provides a wonderful opportunity for teachers, parents and students to network and learn about services available in their area.

The Branch Out group, adult day program, volunteered with the Riverfront Maintenance crew to help with the flowerbeds in front of city hall. They also once again volunteered with the Little Rock Marathon to unwrap medals. This is a long standing volunteer venture for this group and they look forward to it each year.

Youth Summer Day Camp registration opens on April 10th. TR Summer Day Camp dates are June 12- July 21st and will be located at War Memorial Clubhouse.

MacArthur Military Museum –

- Museum attendance for March was 3,680. This total includes: (1) After School programming to students at Dunbar and Stephens Community Centers and 21st Century Program outreach at West Central Community Center, (2) Off-Site programming at the Bald Knob High School History Fair and the Little Rock Marathon Expo, (3) On-site visitation, and (4) Virtual Programming through the Reading Brigade children's program and the museum's virtual mini-documentaries and interviews.
- 2. The museum continued its 2023 "Movies at MacArthur" film program in March with the documentary *The Hello Girls*. The film examined efforts by the U.S. Army Signal Corps in 1918 to send 223 women to France as telephone operators to help win World War I. By war's end, they had connected over 26 million calls and were recognized by General John J. Pershing for their service. The April "Movies at MacArthur" film, *Unsettled History: America, China and the Doolittle Tokyo Raid*, is scheduled for April 18, which is the 81st anniversary of the raid. In conjunction with the movie, the museum will debut a new exhibit on the raiders, *From Shangri-La to Tokyo: the Story of the Doolittle Raiders*. Special guest at the movie will be Jeff Thatcher, whose father David was one of the original Doolittle Raiders. Movies are shown the third Tuesday of each month through November with free admission, popcorn, and beverages for all screenings.
- The museum is preparing to host two traveling exhibits in the next few months. *Manufacturing Victory: The Arsenal of Democracy* will be on loan from the National World War II Museum from May 19 - September 4. Presenting sponsor for the exhibit is Stephens Inc. *The Color of Freedom: Honoring the Diversity of America's Servicewomen* will come from the Military Women's Memorial in Arlington, VA and will be on display from June 17 through August 26. Presenting sponsor for *The Color of Freedom* exhibit is AARP Arkansas.
- Museum staff has been working with Parks design and construction teams to install additional lighting in MacArthur Park, replace banners on light poles throughout the park, and on relocation of benches from the north lawn. Staff is also working with the MacArthur Park Group on planning for the MacArthur Park 5K race on May 5.

Athletics

- Field Rental reservation has picked up as usual because of the warm weather but also because of the tornado teams are looking for space to practice from North Little Rock to Jacksonville.
- Registration reopened for the open adult softball league due to low numbers. The professional softball league which usually play at Reservoir will be moved to Interstate Park which has 23 teams.
- Planning has begun for the summer playground program registration will start May 1, 2023. Program will start June 12, 2023 and end July 27, 2023. Sites have been selected as follows JA Fair, Baseline Academy, Washington Elementary, Dunbar CC, Stephens CC, and East Little Rock CC. Field trips are planned and locked down. We will be closed on June 19th, July 3, and July 4th, 2023
- New Program coming back to Interstate Park in 2023

Rebsamen Tennis:

- Burns Park is closed until the end of April, it's been extra busy at Rebsamen.
- Janan and Raul's junior and adult groups continue as usual.
- USTA Team Tennis completely full (close to full anyway Monday-Thursday)
- Working on bid process with Ron Ross trying to get courts 5, 6, 9, 10 repaired ASAP.
- Pat Malone (a new pro working with us) working with AR Tennis Patrons Foundation on NJTL Tennis Chapter at Boys Club, first session was Tuesday with over 50 kids

- Will be hosting more Mixer Tennis events with Pat on board starting April 15 with a “Triples” Tournament
- Will be hiring new Assistant Facility Supervisor soon
- Jr. Tournament is scheduled for April 22-24, 2023

JDFAC –

- Jim Dailey Ultimate Warrior Fitness Challenge- It is a challenge that test one ability to do certain exercises in a set time. It is broken in 3 challenges dates: 2/18/23/, 3/18/23, and 4/15/23. We had 38 people signed up for the event.
- Baptist Health started doing blood pressure checks in March. They will do blood pressure checks the first Monday of each month from 10:00 am – Noon.
- Baptist Health is also doing a National Diabetes Prevention Program at Jim Dailey. It is a 16 weekly session and six monthly follow-up sessions. It is on Wednesdays at Noon.
- **Pre-Qualification Lifeguard Course-**The purpose of the Lifeguard Pre-Qualification Course is to get students prepared for taking the Lifeguard Prerequisite Test. The Lifeguard Prerequisite Test is a mandatory entrance exam that must be successfully completed in order for students to be eligible for admittance into an American Red Cross Lifeguarding Course. We had 4 participants signed up in the month of March.

Pre-Qualification Course Dates:

Session 1 Dates: March 26th - 31st

Session 2 Dates: April 2nd - 7th

Session 3 Dates: April 9th - 14th

Cost: \$25.00

Lifeguard Certification Course Dates:

Session 1 Dates: April 17th - 23rd

Session 2 Dates: April 24th - 30th

Session 3 Dates: May 1st - 7th

Rebsamen Golf:

- The month of April we had the central Arkansas Pro-Am that had 45 players generated over \$1500 with a Revenue April 8 and ninth we had the Bruce Jenkins junior golf tournament which we had 52 kids per day April 10.
- We had the Buzz 103.7 all day tournament, there was over 120 players revenue was over \$5,000.00 April 18 and 19th. We have a two day event Catholic High School outing, there was over 120 players revenue was over \$5,000.00 April 18 and 19th. We have a two day event Catholic High School outing. We charge them \$5,000.00 per day.
- April 28, 2023 we have the NUSA outing April 28, 2023 we have the Nusa outing. May 18,19th, we have a two day May 18, 19th 2023 we have a two day ladies golf tournament, maintenance, working on San bunkers that were washed away during the heavy storms concession regular operations golf tournament, maintenance, working on San bunkers that were washed away during the heavy storms concession regular operations

First Tee:

- A lot has been going on here at First Tee to start the year. We have implemented a new POS system that brings more data and can implement loyalty points to the customers. This also allows us to have online paid reservations. Along with the new POS system, we hosted the U.S. Kids tournament with kids from all over the state. A total of 75 players attended this event. We also just had the event here last Saturday, April 8th called ‘A Day at The Masters’, where we have about 50 junior golfers

along with a parent or guardian who played with them on our Honors Course. This great event was themed around being at the Masters Tournament along with having the actual food from the Masters.

- We have been prepping the course for the golf season by looking at removing some trees on areas of the course around tee boxes and greens where we need sunlight. This is important for us to be able to grow grass on these areas of the course for golfers to hit from. The maintenance have been hard at work clearing drains, spraying pre-emergent on grounds, and prepping the equipment for cutting season.
- We look to start soon on having a redemption program set up for the loyalty points that customers are accruing.