

Sir Leisure A’Lot Quarterly Review

October—December 2015

Volume 2, Issue 2

Resolutions!

New Year’s Eve / New Year’s Day has come and gone; however, the abundance of resolutions set for the upcoming year have just begun. Like each of us personally, Parks and Recreation staff are getting together their list of goals for 2016 to review and set in place. Check our website in February for the list of the Department’s 2016 goals.

In addition to the proposed Department goals, staff is looking forward to sharing ideas and working with, not only the new Board of Supervisor members and some new faces on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee, but also with all involved on oppor-

tunities that will benefit the community.

Regardless of any goals that will be set, two goals remain constant every year: one is our interest to better serve the public whether it is in office operations, programs or facilities.

The second of those yearly goals is providing opportunities for a healthier community. We hope you will find that our activities and facilities will meet your health needs in the upcoming year and in the future.

This year does look to be a year of closing several open projects. Anticipated is completing some internal

documents that will aid in providing a direction that will continue to move parks and recreation forward and that benefits the community as a whole.

We hope that your 2016 will be a year filled with good spirit, great opportunities and good health. Please feel free to call, email, write or visit us to provide ideas, suggestions or input on our operations, programs or facilities. Staff welcomes constructive dialogue.

Finally, Take a Day to Play!

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par_xks and r_xecreation, your personal prescription to better health

Over the course of the next several months, P&R staff and local Eagle Scout, Mr. Daniel Thompson will be working with local doctors and health-related agencies/organizations requesting their assistance in prescribing recreational activities (in addition to any oth-

er prescriptions needed) to help improve on one’s personal well-being. In addition to requesting assistance from doctors and health-related agencies/organizations, we will be putting together a brochure of places to recreate, community re-

sources, and available healthy activities to engage in.

We are also looking into the possible aspects of integrating personal health/well-being data and education with technology while recreating.

Athletics — F. Lorenzo Smith

KGPR continued its legacy of traditional athletic programs in the fall quarter and ending the quarter with record-breaking winter athletic program registrations. **Fall soccer concluded with 352 youth** enjoying the season. Fall soccer keeps staff busy between scheduling changes and preparation of fields.

In October, registrations began for Basketball, Indoor Soccer, Gymnastics, Wrestling and Karate. **Youth Basketball (ages 6—16) registration concluded with a record-breaking 248 participants.** 30 teams in seven divisions will play 8 games each. Several divisions will be playing teams from Caroline, Fredericksburg and Beaverdam starting in January. Ronnie Evans has assumed the Basketball Program Supervisor duties and is doing a

great job. He brings with him great insight and understanding having coached with KGPR for several years.

Indoor Soccer too had record-breaking registration with 139 participants (ages 6-15). 17 teams in three age divisions will play 8 games each. Devin LaMoy is the Program Supervisor. He too brings his experience as a participant, coach and Fall Soccer Program Supervisor to the table.

Karate began in December at old King George Middle School with **12 youth and 9 adults participating.**

In December, **Gymnastics** started a new session with an astounding 124 participants en-

rolled. **Tumbling and Cheer Tumbling** program have **21 participants.**

Wrestling has 44 youth participating. 27 are competing in the Northern Virginia Wrestling Federation. 17 are learning the sport through the practice only program. Thanks to coach Jeff Kraisser and his dedicated volunteers.

The aforementioned programs take considerable time planning, coordinating, scheduling and communicating between parents, volunteer coaches, instructors, school administrators, school maintenance, General Properties and KGPR staff. Thanks to all who make it happen!

Recreation — Janine Paulsen

As noted in last quarter's issue, special events fill this quarter. Though started in September with the Back-to-School Dance October—November were even busier thanks to the overwhelming community support and partnerships.

On October 10, the community celebrated its annual Fall Festival. KGPR plays an integral part assisting in logistics, handling all aspects associated with entertainment and children's games and serving on the committee. The beautiful day contributed to the well attended event.

On Friday, October 23 **400+ participants** scrambled in the **Great Pumpkin Race** for over \$2000 in prizes at Barnesfield Park. This is a great event for the family as they enjoy hunting for the prize winning pumpkin, prizes, toys and goodies.

On Thursday, October 29, the annual **Halloween FunFest** was held at the Citizens Cen-

ter. The **95 youth** (ages 12 and under) and their parents enjoyed the games, crafts, activities and races

Saturday, November 7 at the Citizens Center was the site of **InFirst Federal Credit Union's Annual Community Family Fun Day.** With the support of KGPR **400+** enjoyed themselves playing games, petting zoo, great entertainment and food. This event was FREE to the community.

KGPR's annual **Craft Fair / Holiday Bazaar** was held on Saturday and Sunday, November 21 and 22. **35 crafters** spent two days selling their wares to an estimated **800** holiday shoppers.

In December, KGPR supported the **King George Historical Society's 2nd Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.** Staff was on hand to provide logistical support and games for this event. Throughout the event, approximately **200 persons** enjoyed the holi-

day festivities, visiting with Santa and Mrs. Claus and lighting of the tree.

On December 8 and 10, the **Santa Calling** program reached approximately **100 + youth.** The excitement and joy the kids echo cannot be duplicated.

Tours4 Fun— This quarter **17 adults** thoroughly enjoyed their trip to **Cape May, N.J.** Cape May provided the majestic background to kick-off the holiday season and travel back to the Victorian era and their traditions.

Play It Smart Before and After School Recreation Program. Located in all three elementary schools' **160 registered youth** participating in homework time, crafts, games and activities. This program is in its 12th year.

I am proud to report the growth and wonderful response to the special events and community partnered sponsored activities. KGPR continues to offer cost effective and affordable alternatives. J.Paulsen

Facilities

As a part of the Fund 204 Capital Outlay 2015/16 funds budgeted, staff (administration, General Properties and parks and recreation), began soliciting quotes for work to be conducted at and on the Quonset Hut located behind the School Board building. Work included, but has not been limited to, installation of handicap accessible sidewalk (work

Performed in October; solicitation of contractors for the installation of HVAC units (quotes have been solicited and contract has been awarded). The installation is anticipated done in the latter part of January, early part of February. Interior fix-ups, lighting and minor roof patching are being considered based on available remaining funds. General Properties began

working on cleaning up the area around Shiloh Park's maintenance garage; and fixing up the existing garage.

Parks and recreation will be participating in the Rappahannock United Way's Day of Action event to be held in April.

By the Numbers

As you may recall, last FY 2014/15, an estimated 35,000+ persons were served through KGPR programs or County facilities (parks, schools—fields and gyms) scheduled through Parks and Recreation. To date an estimated (conservatively): 1200 persons have been served through athletic programs; 5500 persons have been served in recreation programs/special events (Janine has estimated that recreation programs have provided over 3200 hours of entertainment, enjoyment, fellowship, family time, photo opportunities to create “moment in time” and just plain good old-fashioned time for the community). 6200 persons have been served by the Citizens Center. At this time, it is unknown how many folks have utilized the parks. There were 303 uses between fields, gyms and other areas at school facilities during this quarter.

Citizens Center Use

	2014/15	July—Dec 14	July—Dec 15	Qtr.% Chg +/-
Rentals total:	102	56	52	-8%
Whole Hall:	54	30	34	+12%
Half Hall:	48	26	18	-31%
Kitchen:	85	49	43	-13%
Attendees:	10,885	5,745	6,200	+8%
Hours Rented:	641	346	367	+6%
ABC Permitted:	17	10	13	+24%
Non-residents:	20	9	11	+19%

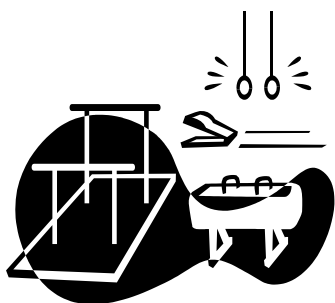
Partnerships and Volunteers

KGPR is again working with the KGHS National Honor Society and is a co-sponsor for the Octagon Club (High School Optimist Club program) to provide support for various special events and programs. This past year, a new partnership was formed with the KGHS Cheerleaders enlisting their volunteer support with the Santa Breakfast. Additionally, and in its third year, KGPR provides high school students an opportunity to earn a Green Cord at graduation by providing 100 hours of community service. High school students completing 50 or more hours of community service with P&R and remaining hours with non-profits elsewhere will be honored.

We would be remiss if we did not thank all of our volunteers who coach or assist the Department in one way or another. Without the volunteers support, several programs would be non-existent; in many cases, not offered for FREE, or would be more costly.

Staff is always looking for partnership opportunities with non-profit civic organizations and with our business community. If interested, please talk to a staff member about how partnering can be a win-win situation.

Interested in volunteering? Ask us about our PaRAtrouper Volunteer Program. As Parks and Recreation Ambassadors, you help fill out important roles that make our facilities and programs better.



Old King George Elementary School Gym Rentals

July 2014—June 2015 Rentals: 154

July 15' - December 15' Rentals: 59

July 14 - December 14' Rentals: 65

To date, the Citizens Center has 48 rentals scheduled for 2016. This represents slightly less than 50% of the total rentals we had in 2014/15.

Upcoming Events - Pen in our activities on your calendar!

Day, times and locations are subject to change. **Please call Parks and Recreation at 540-775-4386 to verify special event information or visit <https://kinggeorge.recdesk.com> for updated information on classes and events.**

Friday, Feb. 5 from 6:30—9:30p.m @ the Citizens Center — **Mother / Son Sweetheart**

Dance.

Saturday, Feb. 6 from 6:30—9:00p.m @ the Citizens Center — **Father / Daughter Sweetheart Dance.**

Saturday, Feb. 27 from 5:30-8:00p.m @ the Citizens Center — **Princess Ball.**

Saturday, March 19 from 11:00a/m—1:00p.m @ Potomac Elementary — **EggStraVaGanza.**

Saturday, March 26 beginning at 9:00a.m — **Community Egg Hunt.**

Saturday, April 9 from 1:00-3:00p.m — **Kite Fly. Location to be determined.**

Saturday, April 23 from 1:00—3:00p.m @ the Citizens Center — **Mother / Daughter Princess Afternoon Tea Party**

Saturday, May 7 from 10:00a.m—12:00p.m — **Fishing Derby. Location to be determined.**

King George County Parks and Recreation

8076 Kings Highway
P.O. Box 71 (mailing address)
King George, Virginia 22485

Office phone: 540-775-4386

FAX: 540-775-5255

We're on the Web at

<https://kinggeorge.recdesk.com>

"We Create Community through People, Parks
and Programs"

"Enhancing the Quality of Life for Our Community"

"Take a Day to Play"

Our Vision: to become Virginia's premier County in bringing people together and enriching lives through recreation, parks and community activities.

Our Mission: is to effectively deliver services by providing diverse and balanced recreation programs and facilities that incorporate the needs, interests and desires of our citizens. With citizens' support and involvement and interactive utilization of facility, community and natural resources, we contribute to maintaining community character, enhancing community spirit, developing partnerships between private enterprises, civic organizations and individuals; hence, reaching out enhancing lives and contributing to the community livability.

Spotlight

Brings to light an activity/event, volunteer, donor/donation, facility, parks/recreation service provider or employee that contributes to the vision/mission of the Department.

Recognizing Commitment! *"Love what you do and do what you love"* Ray Bradbury. As instructors for King George County Parks and Recreation it is an honor to recognize individuals who have shared their passion and contributed countless hours to educating and providing safe and healthy exercise to the public. With over 15 + years each, Lee and Linda Hafer; Heather (Withrow) Lee; and Kevin Kline and Frank Harvey exemplify their dedication to their craft and to the Department.

Lee and Linda Hafer share their passion in Line Dancing every Monday night at the Citizens Center and have done so for the past 17 years. Though they spend several months in Florida each year, Line Dancing does not miss a beat as they have groomed Dave Jones to assist during their hiatus. This year-round program not only attracts locals, but several of the 20+ regular attendees come from outside the County to get their dancin' instructions from Lee. It is great to be here on a Monday evening to hear Lee's boisterous voice calling Line Dancing. Other noise is the laughter and joy that all participants share in this program. When asked why they have remained, Lee responded that this program has provided a great service to the community; staff has been good to them; and he wanted folks to know that this is a fun healthy exercise, both mentally and physically.

This year marks the 17th year that Heather (Withrow) Lee has taught gymnastics for the County. Following the footsteps of her mother, Heather, a certified USGA instructor, has worked with thousands of thousands of youths through her classes. When questioned about her continued interest with Parks and Recreation she responded with loving to work with the kids and watching them learn and grow; and the flexibility to work around her own childrens' schedule.

Last, but not least, is Kevin Kline and Franik Harvey, gentlemen who have taught Isshinru Karate for Parks and Recreation for 17 years. During their tenure, they have led hundreds of students towards greater self-esteem, discipline and physical/mental well-being. When inquired about their long-term service, Kevin replied the joy of giving back to the community; love of teaching the participants and sharing their (instructors) knowledge; and no headaches associated with the business side.

I would be remiss if I did not mention long-term part-time employees Judy Smith(1998), Gil Marders (1996), Eric Davis (1987), Corine Johnson (1997), Shirley Jones (1999), Irving Taylor (2000) and Jeff Smith (1997) who have given much of their time to serve the public. Each has provided over 15 years of service to the Department helping out whenever and wherever needed. **Thank you!**

