

Sir Leisure A'Lot Quarterly Review

April—June 2015

Volume 1, Issue 4

Parks and Recreation Month

It seems there is a month for everything, and parks and recreation is no different. For thirty years **July has been designated Parks and Recreation month** by the National Parks and Recreation Association (NRPA). During this month, in particular, NRPA has championed campaigns to help promote the need and importance of parks and recreation in, and to, our communities.

Last quarter's Sir Leisure A'Lot Quarterly Review covered the Relevance of Parks in Communities. This quarter our focus will highlight our typical summertime programs.

From the middle of June—August a week or two are often planned vacations; but, what do parents do for the rest of the summer break?

Each summer, Parks and Recreation offers a variety of camps to reach the varied interests. Many of the camps are multi-day or weeklong; some are offered during the day while others are of-

fered in the evening. And, the costs are reasonable for the amount of time, expertise and activities provided at each camp.

For ten years, our Summer Sun-sations (elementary age) and Teen Breakout (ages 11—15) Camps' provide our youth planned weekly themed activities. Activities and trips are planned in accordance with the theme of the week. Additionally, there are weekly trips to places such as the Washington Zoo, A Washington Nationals game, the Science Museum, Aviation Museum to name a few; and then weekly trips to go skating, bowling and/or swimming. During the remainder of the week, kids are doing crafts, playing games, listening to guest speakers and going outside to get some fresh air. New this year, our campers go to Kings Dominion weekly.

Summer Sun-sations and Teen Breakout are but a couple of the camps offered. Kids interested in theater may participate in a hands

-on camp learning vocal, staging and other theatrical parts involved in a production. P&R also offers a great cooking camp where the kids create their goodies and are provided a recipe book at the end.

Not interested in an enrichment camp? P&R offers a variety of sports camps. Everything from British Soccer (8 years running) to Foxes soccer and basketball to volleyball camps (varying degrees of skill levels) to Hook a Kid on Golf to tennis camp to the ever popular Middle School/High School Football camp to our newly offered Lego-Inspired Engineering camps are offered.

In addition to the summer camps, there are many alternatives. King George County is blessed to be bordered by the Rappahannock and Potomac Rivers; be home to Caledon State Park; have a YMCA; the Dahlgren Heritage Museum; local parks (Shiloh, Barnesfield, Sealston Sports Complex and Wayside.

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Volunteer Hours provide Great Opportunity for H.S. Students

Not all achievements are based on grades, sometimes it is found within the community. There are several places to volunteer, but where can you volunteer and be recognized for your achievement at your High School graduation?

In 2013/14, Janine Paulsen, Recreation Programs Supervisor, initiated through the High School the "Green Honor Cord" program. This program recognizes KGHS

seniors who have volunteered 100 hours — 50 hrs. through Parks and Recreation and 50 hrs. through non-KGPR community service. Upon completion of their registered and verified volunteer service hours by the designated date, students will receive their "green" cord (representing community service) at the KGHS recognition ceremony.

Since its inception, over 2 dozen

students have participated; but only 12 have fulfilled the requirements. Kudos to the kids!

Because of this program, not only has KGPR benefitted from the volunteer hours; but more importantly, the students are provided personal growth experience, a sense of community, skills in compassion, responsibility, leadership, work ethics and respect for others.

Athletics — F. Lorenzo Smith

Spring soccer began and concluded during this period with 415 youth taking to the fields. In total 39 teams were fielded, each playing a minimum of 8 games. Home games were played at Sealston Sports Complex, the KGHS Stadium and Shiloh Park.

During the Spring, 107 youth participated in one of 13 gymnastics classes offered. Due to inclement weather several classes were postponed. In addition to the gymnastic programs, Action Gyms was held with 9 and currently has 11 enrolled for the summer session; and our weekly Tot Time with varying numbers were conducted by Heather Lee and Rebecca Withrow. Both gymnastics

instructors recently attended the USA Gymnastics Conference to retain their certifications. Both are preparing for great classes in the Fall.

Isshinryu Karate conducted its Spring Session with 24 participants registered. Our lead instructor, Mr. Kevin Kline, also led the annual Karate Tournament at King George High School with approximately 170 participating and 350—400 spectators.

Several Camps were held during this quarter. In its 8th year, British Soccer returned with 32 participants; for 10 years running, Cameron Hills has hosted our Tee and Green Level Hook a Kid on Golf program

with 14 participating this year; Volleyball programs did well with 25 participating in the UMW coached camp, 32 campers in the middle school age program and currently, 29 girls are registered for the summer league; Empowerment Basketball Camp had 41 youths participating; Tennis Camp had 12 swinging their racquets.

Eighteen (18) athletic fields and seven (7) schools are used weekly for various KGPR programs. In addition to scheduling our own programs, KGPR staff facilitates 10 other organizations serving our citizens.

During this quarter, 7 tournaments were held.

Recreation — Janine Paulsen

Weather has played havoc with our big events this quarter. Of five special events offered this quarter, one of the four outdoor events had to be moved indoors and one was canceled.

KGPR/Community Partners Patriotic Palooza (replacement for SummerFest) was the latest outdoor event to move indoors due to threatening (tornado) inclement weather. Despite the weather, 260 residents enjoyed the live entertainment of the U.S Navy's "Country Current" band and Kenney Menks and the Rivertown Band; inflatables, games and activities for the kids; Critters (live reptiles and mammals); informational booths and food. For 5 years NSWC has been a major contributor towards the summer event. Additional continuous support has also come from Exit Realty Expertise and Carroll's Automotive. This year, Foote Title provided support. A special thanks to all sponsors and to the civic organizations who consistently offer support.

Our annual Kite Fly scheduled for April 10 was canceled due to weather. This event in the past has drawn about 100 participants and a couple of hundred spectators.

Our annual Community Egg Hunt held on April 4th had about 400 adults and youth looking for 50 large eggs hidden in 15 locations throughout the community. One special Golden egg contained a \$100 gift card donated by NSWC Federal Credit Union.

On Saturday, May 2 our annual Youth Fishing Derby was held. This year, our event honored Buddy Fines. The Department recognized Joyce Fine's (Buddy's wife) and presented her a plaque recognizing Buddy's contributions to the community.

This year, our Mother's Day Tea (co-sponsored by NARFE Premier FCU) was canceled due to lack of registrations. Last year's event was very successful.

Play It Smart Before/After school care provided 208 participants a place to crafts, games, entertainment, homework assistance and personal/social skills. This program is held at each of the elementary schools. Parents are able to enroll their child(ren) in morning or afternoon only, or both. 50 students were enrolled at Potomac, 82

were signed up at Sealston and 76 participated at King George.

To date, 58 elementary and teen age youth have enrolled in the Summer Sensations and Teen Breakout summer camps. It is anticipated that our camps will pick up after July 4th week.

Additionally, staff is preparing for Fall programs. Staff is looking for instructors. If you know of someone that has a particular talent or skill and that would be interested in sharing their skill with others, please contact Janine. This is a great way to earn extra spending money!

Check out our new Yoga program on Wednesdays at 5:00p.m at the Citizens Ctr.!

Facilities

Despite the winter kill on the Bermuda grass turf fields at Shiloh Park, the facility is seeing residents taking to the 0.5 mile walking path and playground. During the evenings when watering the newly planted fields, it has been great to see citizens

individuals and families come to the park; occasionally getting a welcomed sprinkle on the hot weather evenings while walking the path. The kids are enjoying the playground.

Barnesfield Park infield upgrades are certainly noticeable. Thanks to the Board

of Supervisors support to redo the infield, play is considerably safer, fields are draining better thus lessening the number of rainouts, and we should see an increase in tournament play come 2016.

By the Numbers

35,000 + — Represents the estimated reported number of Parks and Recreation users of the County's programs and facilities for FY 2014/15! Our numbers are based on actual counts, numbers provided by users, and estimates for special events. Unknown are visitors to the parks. The generalized breakdown is as follows: an estimated 27,000 came through County scheduled facility rentals; 586 participated in KGPR gymnastics; 361 engaged in sports camps; 208 registrations for Before/After-school care at the three elementary schools; 325 enrolled in Summer Sensations / Teen Breakout summer camps; 1,194 participated in KGPR sponsored youth individual and team sports leagues; 97 youth displayed the talent through art programs; of the 14 special events KGPR sponsored or was involved with an estimated 5000+ participated.

Citizens Center Use

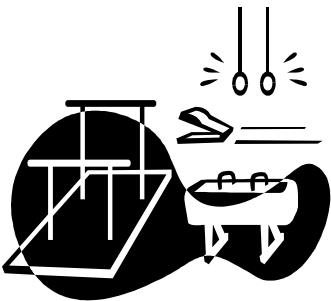
	In 2013/14:	July 14—June 15	Year.% Chg +/-
Rentals total:	72	102	+ 30%
Whole Hall:	47	54	+ 13%
Half Hall:	25	48	+ 48%
Kitchen:	70	85	+ 18%
Attendees:	9550	10,885	+ 13%
Hours Rented:	512	641	+ 21%
ABC Permitted:	21	17	- 20%
Non-residents:	19	20	+ 5%

Picnic Time!

Currently, the County has three shelters to offer to the community. Over the past fiscal year Barnesfield Park with its two shelters hosted **4,413 guests over 478 hours through 70 reservations.**

Sealston Sports Complex hosted **940 guests over 87 hours through 15 reservations.** This picnic shelter is starting to catch on and expected to continue to grow in popularity.

Parks and Recreation is in hope that Shiloh Park will be home to one or two mid-size picnic shelters in the near future.



Old King George Elementary School Gym Rentals

July 2013—June 2014 Rentals: 159

July 14' - June 15 Rentals: 154

Total number of visitors from rentals: 3,230

There is a newly established 0.34 connecting path between Shiloh Park and the King George YMCA. This natural path was cleared recently as an Eagle Scout project. This adds to the 1/2 mile inner loop gravel dust path already being used at Shiloh Park.

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.

Thursday, August 13—Backyard Car-

nival Fun at King George Elementary School.

Camps and Activities on-going.

Back to School Dance - on Friday, September 4th Bingo, Music and Dance will be offered to families to celebrate the start of the new school year. Program will be held at the Citi-

zens Center from 6:00p.m—9:00p.m.

King George County Parks and Recreation

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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.



Sir Leisure A'Lot – Recreational Guide for King George!

After a long time with just a name, we are now able to put a figure to it. As mentioned previously, we have been using the name Sir Leisure A'Lot for several years. Now as part of our market branding, we are able to use this figure to promote our departmental activities.

A special thanks goes to Ms. Adrienne Shelton who took a concept of what was visualized and put it on paper; and to Rocky Top Embroidery who digitalized and fine tuned the rendering.

It is our hope that we will add seasonal recreational equipment to our main character to display recreation's diverse array of activities.

Additional Quarterly Items of Interest

Staff attended Ralph Bunche Advisory Committee meetings in April, May and June. Attended the UMW Ralph Bunche School Presentation. Nearing completion of the business plan.

Met with Rappahannock United Way concerning Financial Stability and Day of Caring. Attended appreciation dinner at Rappahannock United Way for Tax Preparation program providers.

Wrote quarterly article for Economic Development e-newsletter. Go to www.yeskinggeorge.com

Staff serving on the Board of Directors for the King George Chamber of Commerce. Attended April, May and June meetings. Working on Car Show to be held at King George Gateway Shopping Center in Dahlgren on Saturday, August 8.

Attended the Meet in the Middle program at King George High School.

Participated in the YMCA Healthy Kids Day held April 25.

Met with VDOT concerning reimbursement for Recreational Road Access Fund used to construct Shiloh Park Road.

Presented Capital Improvement Projects to the Planning Commission.

Assisted Economic Development with the Business Appreciation program held in May.

Met with Social Services to discuss opportunities for financial assistance for participants.

Met with AMT engineering to discuss irrigation plan for fields at Shiloh Park.

Participated with 10 other staff in First Aid / CPR certification class.

Talked with two Dahlgren hotels about tourism opportunities.

Staff is preparing programs for Fall.