

Sir Leisure A’Lot Quarterly Review

July—September 2015

Volume 2, Issue 1

Challenges We Face

Like many, we all face challenges in our work. As a department who is considered “frontline” in many localities, we respond to many inquiries and requests; offer a well-rounded balance of recreational activities to all persons; as best as possible plan and/or construct facilities that meet the current demand, future needs and full potential dreams of what could be; maintain facilities as best as possible; and operate within budget limitations, just to mention a few.

As in the past, and in the foreseeable future, several challenges will continue. While it appears our economy is moving forward, cautiously, budgets remain tight. As reported in ASCE Report Card (January –March 2015 edition) maintained levels of grounds maintenance funding does not afford the opportunity to provide the needed care and up-keep for quality fields; but rather, enables us to maintain fields. As we have been finding, our number of users has not declined over this same period time; but rather, have in-

creased. We are pleased that more persons are using our parks.

Another challenge staff is facing deals with participants and parents. In a changing society, we are seeing more of a “its about me” and/or “entitlement.” Having been in this field for over 37 years, what a change in attitude this has been! In encountering this change, staff is spending additional time developing tighter written rules, policies, roles/ expectations and procedures. We also are dealing a more vocal constituent as well. Unfortunately, and often hard to understand, is that the request/demand and assertion one makes on staff/ department can have a tremendous impact on several persons.

As our society changes, the challenge we face is how do we keep up. Technology alone over the past twenty years has changed our lives dramatically. How do we compete and get citizens involved when entertainment is in the palms of their hands. Also, this

increase in technology has spilled over into the flurry of extreme activities. This need for extreme activities often cannot be met due to the inherent liability they present; therefore, making “normal” activity provisions seem boring and mundane.

None of these are meant to be complaints; but rather, observations. In considering the amount of persons served over the course of a year (last year’s estimates are found on page 3) and the challenges we encounter staff will continue to explore efficient and effective ways and means to best serve our citizens. Meanwhile, we appreciate those who understand our role in the community’s quality of life, who support our efforts and who share their praise not only with staff, but also, to our administration and Board of Supervisors.

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Fall is special!

Fall is an active time of the year not only with schools opening, sports leagues underway and leaves changing color; but also, special events being conducted. In addition to the Fall Festival (see pg.4), KGPR itself offers or is involved with several special events through December (see pg.3).

During the summer, Janine

Paulsen, Recreation Programs Supervisor, is spending time scheduling and preparing for many of these events. This includes forming partnerships, soliciting funds to support activities, serving on committees and co-sponsoring the KGHS Octagon Club, securing volunteers, scheduling staff, purchasing needed event items, event logistics, and marketing.

Unfortunately, participants and spectators do not realize the number of hours spent in the preparation of a two, three or four hour event. However, they are fortunate to see the final outcome of the hours and efforts put in!

Athletics — F. Lorenzo Smith

The summer quarter was busy with several outstanding camps, clinics and programs.

Over the years' we have offered **Challenger British Soccer, Future Foxes Basketball Skills Camp, Middle and High School Football Camp, Tennis Camps, Girls Volleyball Camps, Track Camp, Tumbling Camp and Gymnastics Camps** with great success. This year was no different! Approximately **170 youth participated** in drills and activities that enhanced their skills. In Girl's Volleyball, Coach Wine recently remarked his appreciation to the Department as for the first time the H.S Girl's Varsity Volleyball team best Courtland H.S.

As for next year, we are planning to offer extended or second sessions for a few of these popular programs. In volleyball, we are ex-

panding the program by offering it to boys.

This quarter we also expanded our offerings adding 2 new programs: a **Girls Volleyball League** and two Lego camps. Our Volleyball program had **27 participate** over the course of several weeks. In our **Pre-engineering Lego Camp 6 youth participated** while our **Lego Engineering Fundamental Camp attracted 23 youth**.

Our popular **youth and adult Isshinryu Karate** program continued over the summer (June 23 –September 3) with **13 participants**. Currently, we have **26 enrolled** for the September – November session. This program is led by two seasoned instructor, Kevin Cline and Frank Harvey.

Seasoned instructor, Heather Withrow has **132 participants engaged** in one of **13 gymnas-tic programs** offered; plus an additional **6 (1—5 year olds) participating in Action Gyms**.

Fall Soccer registration ended with 352 youth participating. 33 teams have been formed and each will play a minimum of 8 games. Games are being played at Sealston Sports Complex, Shiloh Park, King George High School and several locations in Stafford. Special thanks to Devin LaMoy who has taken the lead as Soccer Program Supervisor.

Check out additional numbers concerning facility usage on page 3.

Recreation — Janine Paulsen

Summer Sunations / Teen Breakout (KGPR summer camps) again provided 71 youths a safe and fun environment. During the 460 hours of camp time, there were activities, crafts, guest speakers, entertainment, character building skills, STEM programs, science activities, water games and fun. The Extension Service and Caledon State Park provided outreach programs as well. Campers also enjoyed their weekly trips to Liberty Lanes and Kings Dominion. Additional trips included Goldvein, the Aviation Museum, the National Zoo, the Virginia Science Museum and a Nationals game. Camp concluded with its annual Backyard Carnival for campers; later hours opening to the public. Again this year, our price for the camps' were \$125 per week.

In addition to our camps, this summer quarter is busy preparing for Fall programs and special events. Upon settling on programs, places and dates we begin preparation of our program guide, Sir Leisure A'Lot. This guide is prepared for distribution in September, January and

May each year.

For the past 10 + years **Play It Smart before and after-school care** has been offered at each of the elementary schools. To date, over **160 youth are registered** in his program. Working closely with the schools' and a seasoned staff this program provides a safe and enjoyable environment and easy transition for the children to and from their school.

In preparation for the Fall, two new faces that will be seen at the Citizens Center and in the community are Amanda McLoughlin and Alona Walker. While they are new to us, they are seasoned staff in their areas. Amanda has taken the reigns of our popular **Tots/Toddlers** programs. She plans activities for our weekly Tot Time, Tot Trips and Hot Shot Tots. Alona brings years' of experience in **theatre, dance and voice**. Several programs are planned in these areas to help develop and enhance those interested in the arts.

In September, we offered a **Back to School Dance**. This new program was offered to the the students and their parents/guardians. In it's first year, **125 participants** enjoyed an evening of dinner, bingo and dancing. Many attendees were asking when the next one was going to be!

Line Dancing on Monday evening's continues to be a popular program where 20—30 participants learn new moves and keep physically active. On Thursday evenings, we have noticed an increase in numbers of those participating in **Beginner Line Dancing** instruction. Again, we are blessed to have seasoned instructors, Lee and Linda Hafer providing instruction and good times on Monday's; and Dave Jones enthusiastically offering beginning instruction on Thursday evenings.

See the articles on page 1 and page 4 concerning special events; and a listing of special events on page 3.

Facilities

In August, the Board of Supervisors discussed Capital Improvement Projects. While Parks and Recreation requests are in excess of 3 million dollars, the Board of Supervisors did approve approximately \$89,000 for improvements to the Quonset Hut (old King George Elementary School

Gym) and monies to conduct a facility study.

The improvements include new HVAC system, electrical upgrades, sidewalk work and beam reinforcement. Currently, the beam reinforcement has been completed, quotes are being solicited for concrete and electrical work upgrades, and

bid packages are being prepared for the HVAC system.

The proposed facility study will look that the Department's indoor needs and prepare a report to determine the best course of action to meet the needs and demands.

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 visitor numbers 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 offered throughout the year; 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

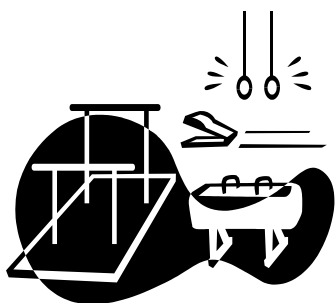
	2014/15	July—Sept 14	July—Sept 15	Qtr.% Chg +/-
Rentals total:	102	30	28	- 7%
Whole Hall:	54	16	19	+16%
Half Hall:	48	14	9	-36%
Kitchen:	85	26	22	-16%
Attendees:	10,885	2790	3,060	+9%
Hours Rented:	641	198	205	+4%
ABC Permitted:	17	6	7	+15%
Non-residents:	20	4	6	+34%

People and Places

Summer Sensations / Teen Breakout had 299 participants that totaled 17,193 recreational hours.

19 athletic fields and 7 schools are used weekly for KGPR activities and 9 other organizations. A total of 534 uses/rentals were held on school properties alone.

3 tournaments were held during this quarter—two softball and one basketball. The softball tournament was a fundraiser for the Some Gave All Foundation. The basketball tournament held was conducted in four gyms over a 10 hour period in each.



Old King George Elementary School Gym Rentals

July 2014—June 2015 Rentals:	154
July 15' - Sept 15' Rentals:	20
July 14 - Sept 14 Rentals:	19

Picnic Shelter Use

Barnesfield Park: 36 reservations serving 1,192 picnickers over 245 hours
Sealston Sports Complex: 16 reservations serving 1,068 picnickers over 126 hours

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.

Oct. 10— Fall Festival @King George High School

Oct. 23— the "Great Pumpkin" Race@ Barnesfield Park beginning at 6:00p.m

Oct. 29— Halloween FunFest @ the Citizens Center; 6—8:00p.m.

Nov. 7— King George Family Fun Day @ the Citizens Center. Fun begins at 11:00a.m.

Nov. 11—Veterans Day Program @ King

George High School Auditorium at 6:00p.m.

Nov. 21 and 22— KGPR Annual Craft Show @ the Citizens Center

Dec. 12— Santa Breakfast @ the Citizens Center. Program begins at 9:00a.m

Santa Calling— TBA.

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.

It's time for the FALL FESTIVAL!!! This year marks the 57th Annual King George Fall Festival. Held on the second Saturday of October this annual activity is a staple of the King George community. Established in 1959, a committee of dedicated volunteers magically produces this yearly day-long event (a couple of Fall Festival activities occur outside of the scheduled day's event) for thousands to enjoy. From its beginning, there has been an association with King George Fire and Rescue with the proceeds from program ad sales, registration fees and the auction being donated to King George Fire and Rescue, Inc. Monies raised help supplement the costs for training, equipment/supplies and day to day operation costs of fire and rescue volunteers/personnel.

While activity is swirling in the morning at the High School parking lot, gym and cafeteria in preparation for the day's activities another portion is lining up, doing last minute decorating and getting their folks ready for the annual parade. Around 10:00a.m Rt. 3 will close from Ridge Rd. (Rt. 205) to Dahlgren Rd. (Rt. 206). In between, this area will be full of on-lookers awaiting the cars, trucks, fire and rescue vehicles, dignitaries, floats, marching units and other parade participants. Beginning at 11:00a.m and for the next 1 to 1.5 hours, parade watchers will wave, cheer and clap.

Meanwhile, back at the high school, crafters, vendors and the food court operations will begin opening up. At 11:00a.m activities, inflatables/rides and entertainment will crank up. Slowly, the day will pick up as the parade ends. The smell of food, the sound of music and the jubilation and comradery from the crowd will remind all that attend what community is about.

For years', KGPR has played a role in this event. Janine Paulsen, Recreation Programs Supervisor, is not only a member of the Fall Festival Committee; but also, is involved with assisting in the logistics and planning the on-site youth games, inflatable/rides and entertainment. In addition to the monies provided by the Board of Supervisors, additional funds are needed to help offset costs associated with the Fall Festival games, inflatable/rides, and entertainment. This year Janine has solicited an additional \$2,100 in support from Birchwood Power Facility, Exit Realty/Footie Title, Metrocast and Carroll's Automotive as well as citizens and businesses to assist with the day's events.

