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### Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Recreation District

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## **Town of Elizabeth Pursues Development of Senior Activity Center**

The Town of Elizabeth has been working with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) and the University of Colorado – Denver, University Technical Assistance Program to begin designing a Town facility to be used as a community and senior activity center. The graduate students with the College of Architecture and Planning have prepared different designs of a potential building for community comment.

Two meetings have been scheduled for the students and Town representatives to gather public comments:

**Saturday, February 18, 10:00 a.m.**  
**Elizabeth Town Hall, 151 S. Banner St.**  
**Wednesday, February 22, 6:00 p.m.**  
**Elizabeth Town Hall, 151 S. Banner St.**

Residents of Elizabeth and the surrounding area are encouraged to come, listen to the presentations, and provide input on the process. Please call the Elizabeth Town Hall at (303) 646-4166, ext. 2 for more information.

## **Board to Review Pickleball Court Designs and Project Costs at February Meeting**

At its' upcoming meeting this February 21<sup>st</sup>, the Board of Directors will review proposed designs and cost projections for a new 4-court pickleball complex. After hearing from a large number of resident pickleball enthusiasts last year, the Board agreed to pursue the design and construction of a pickleball complex to meet current and future community demand for the rapidly growing sport. The proposed designs are being prepared by the landscape architecture firm, MIG, which also developed the recently completed Casey Jones Park Master Plan. The design team assessed each of the District's current properties (Evans Park, Casey Jones Park, Cimarron Park), and will present a site plan and cost estimate for each location to the Board. The Board will then assess the advantages and disadvantages of each site, along with the cost of construction for each site before reaching a decision as to where the courts will be built.

Prior to the design process, the Board assembled a Pickleball Committee made up of residents interested in the project. The Board then worked with this committee to identify what amenities should be included within a court complex, as well as the preferred design elements such as fencing, court construction, surfacing, and seating. Once the vision for the complex was created by the committee, it was handed over to the design team to bring to reality.

The new pickleball complex will include a post tension concrete slab with 4 courts. The courts will be fenced around the perimeter and potentially between courts to minimize interruption of play from an adjacent court. The courts will be surfaced and painted specifically for pickleball. The selected site will also feature access to a restroom facility, adequate parking, seating / social space(s), and an improved access to the courts.

# Program Registrations – NOW OPEN

*Please note that most programs have a limited capacity and may fill, causing an end to registration prior to the closing date listed. To ensure participation, please register early. Once a program is full, individuals may register for the waiting list and will only be contacted should a spot become available. While we do all we can to avoid turning a potential participant away, it did happen for the first time this past basketball season. Program capacities are determined by the community resources available to support a program, and we are dependent upon what the schools could provide us. Thanks for your understanding.*

## T-Ball

**Ages: 4-6**      **Fee: \$50**      **Dates: 4/24 – 6/24**

This is an introduction to baseball for youth ages 4-6. Focus is on teaching basic hitting, catching, throwing, and base running skills on the individual level, not team competition. Practices begin week of April 24<sup>th</sup>, with games played on Saturdays from 5/6 through 6/24. Fee is \$50/player. All activities take place in Elizabeth. Volunteer coaches are needed and receive a program refund after the season. Guidance and support is available for new coaches as desired. Register online at [www.elizabethpr.com](http://www.elizabethpr.com) or call park office at 303.646.3599.

## Rookies Baseball

**Ages: 7-9**      **Fee: \$60**      **Dates: 4/24 – 6/24**

This is a machine / coach pitch league for players between the ages of 7-9. Practices begin week of April 24 with games on Saturdays on 5/6 through 6/25. All activity takes place in Elizabeth. Fee is \$60/player. Volunteer coaches are needed and receive a program refund after the season. Guidance and support is available for new coaches as desired. Register online at [www.elizabethpr.com](http://www.elizabethpr.com) or call 303.646.3599.

## Majors / Minors Baseball

**Ages: 9-12**      **Fee: \$115**      **Dates: April - June**

This program serves youth ages 9-12. Youth are assigned division / team based on pre-season skill assessment. Season includes home games in Elizabeth and travel to other rural communities such as Ellicott, Peyton, Kiowa, Elbert, and Rush. Fee is \$115. Pre-season tournaments on 4/15. League play begins 4/25. End of season tournament played 6/19-6/25.

Volunteer coaches needed. Register online at [www.elizabethpr.com](http://www.elizabethpr.com) or call park office at 303.646.3599.

## Spring Soccer

**Ages: 4-12**      **Fee: \$60**      **Dates: 3/25 – 5/13**

This is a recreational league for players of all levels. Games played on Saturdays at Evans Park with practices during the week. Practices begin week of 3/13 with games played 3/25-5/13. Volunteer coaches needed and receive program refund.

**Registration ends February 20<sup>th</sup> – Please Don't Miss It!**

## Adult Co-Ed Kickball League

**Friday Evenings 4/7 – 5/5**

Gather your friends, co-workers, or anyone else with a playful spirit and get signed up for this fun Friday evening kickball league. All teams must field 5 male and 5 female players. Top teams receive awards, and all teams receive weekly fun and laughs. Cost is \$250 per team. Space is limited, so sign up early to ensure a spot.



**Janet Turbett**  
**(1/6/53 – 1/6/23)**

It was with immense sadness that we learned of the passing of our good friend and former co-worker Janet Turbett in early January. Janet worked with the District from 2016 through November of 2022, and was a warm and kind spirit that loved sharing her joy of life with others.

She brightened the office for our residents and her co-workers and will be dearly missed by all of us who had the privilege to know her.

## 10 Ways to be a Great Sports Parent

### - basketball season seems to require an annual reminder -

1. Unless you're coaching your child's team, you need to remember that you're the parent. Shout words of encouragement, not directions, from the sidelines (there is a difference!).
2. If you are your kid's coach, don't expect too much out of your own child. Don't be harder on him or her than on anyone else on the team, but don't play favorites either.
3. Keep your comments positive. Don't bad-mouth coaches, players, or game officials. If you have a serious concern about the way that games or practices are being conducted, or if you're upset about other parents' behavior, discuss it privately with the coach or with a league official.
4. After a competition, it's important not to dwell on who won or lost. Instead, try asking, "How did you feel you did during the game?" If your child feels weak at a particular skill, like throwing or catching, offer to work on it together before the next game.
5. Applaud good plays no matter who makes them.
6. Set a good example with your courteous behavior toward the parents of kids on the other team. Congratulate them when their kids win.
7. Remember that it's your kids, not you, who are playing. Don't push them into a sport because it's what you enjoyed. As kids get older, let them choose what sports they want to play and decide the level of commitment they want to make.
8. Keep your perspective. It's just a game. Even if the team loses every game of the season, it's unlikely to ruin your child's life or chances of success.
9. Look for examples of good sportsmanship in professional athletes and point them out to your kids. Talk about the bad examples, too, and why they upset you.
10. Finally, don't forget to have fun. Even if your child isn't the star, enjoy the game while you're thinking of all the benefits your child is gaining — new skills, new friends, and attitudes that can help all through life.

- Courtesy of YMCA -