

## ***in this issue >>>***

- *Board of Directors Considers District Priorities for 2023*
- *Upcoming Special Events*
- *Winter Youth Basketball Program*
- *Increased Dog Waste Raising Concerns*



### **Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Rec District**

# ***EPR* connections**

[www.elizabethpr.com](http://www.elizabethpr.com)

[info@elizabethpr.com](mailto:info@elizabethpr.com)

303.646.3599

PO Box 434 – Elizabeth, CO 80107



## ***Winter Youth Basketball***



Although our Fall Soccer and Flag Football seasons are only half-way through, its now time to get your children registered for basketball season. Our youth basketball program is co-ed and open to youth between the ages of 6-12. Age divisions are 6-8, 8-10,10-12 (youth that bridge two disvisions should select the division appropriate for their individual skill level). Teams will begin practice the first week of January with games being played on Saturdays beginning January 14. Practices and games are held at Elizabeth schools. Cost is \$85 per player. Please contact us if cost may be a barrier to your child's participation, as every child that wants to play deserves to play, and we'll find a way to make that happen. Volunteer coaches are always needed, so please consider sharing your time to support local youth.

**REGISTRATION ENDS DECEMBER 4**

## **Board of Directors Considers District Priorities for 2023**

As we enter the fall season, the District's Board of Directors are engaged in the annual process of assessing community needs and determining the budget priorities for the District in 2023. With the failure of Ballot Issue 6A to fund construction of a recreation center this past May, the Board is assessing how best to understand what residents want, and how to plan for these future park and recreation system improvements. The Board has started with discussing improvements identified within the Casey Jones Park Master Plan that can be funded and/or financed within the District budget. Amongst the park features identified in the master plan, a proposed artificial turf ballfield has received some early support by Board Members as a project for 2023. The growth of youth sport programs continues to stress available fields, and additional high quality fields are needed to support these activities. The Board also recently met with the Elizabeth Rodeo Association (Elizabeth Stampede) to discuss the rodeo grounds and arena. Lighting upgrades were identified as the top priority, and grandstand expansion / improvements were also identified as a need worthy of pursuing. The growing popularity of pickleball and a direct request from local players to develop additional courts has also garnered the attention of the Board as a priority for 2023. There has also been some discussion by the Board about pursuing an outdoor pool, which can possibly be enclosed in the future as an element of a community recreation center. There will certainly be some interesting discussion about priorities at upcoming Board meetings as the Directors develop their plan. If you have thoughts or ideas on these or other priorities you believe the District should pursue, drop into a meeting, give us a call, or send us an email.

# Casey Jones' Haunted Halloween Haven

Friday, October 28, 6pm-8pm



Bring the kiddos by Casey Jones Park and join us for an evening of Halloween fun. The pavilion is being transformed into a spooky haunted maze and there will be plenty of tricks and treats for all. Hayrides through the forest will also be offered.

**This is a free event!**

## EPR Annual Adult Flag Football Tournament

Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>

Gather your team and get registered now for the opportunity to be crowned Elizabeth's Champs of the Gridiron for 2022. This competitive double-elimination tournament never fails to provide lots of fun, laughs, and excitement.

Format is no contact 5v5, all players eligible, and there are no rules regarding gender. Teams may roster up to 10 players and all players must be at least 16 years old. Flags are provided during play.

Cost is \$250/team, with 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place teams receiving awards. Space is limited and registration will close when tournament is full. Register at [www.elizabethpr.com](http://www.elizabethpr.com) or by calling us at 303.646.3599

## Navigation and Orienteering Event

November 26

Have an interest in map and compass or orienteering activities?

Please join Colorado Navigation Games in working off a little of that Thanksgiving turkey at Evans and Casey Jones Parks in Elizabeth on the morning of Saturday, Nov 26<sup>th</sup> (snow date: Sat 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec). At this event you'll use a specially-prepared map to find as many controls as you can in a limited amount of time. Everyone is welcome! Advance registration is required. More details at [www.meetup.com/conavgames](http://www.meetup.com/conavgames) under "Events." Please contact Galen Moore at [conavgames@gmail.com](mailto:conavgames@gmail.com) with any questions."



### Words to Play By

Everyone you  
admire was  
once a beginner.

Jack Butcher

## Increased Dog Waste Raising Concerns

District staff and some park visitors have been observing increasing amounts of dog waste being left throughout the parks, and its just got to stop folks. While we love seeing users of the parks bring their canine friends, this can only occur when pet owners act responsibly and pick up their dog's poop. It's really very simple and the rule greatly benefits everyone when followed, preventing illness and environmental contamination. We know that most dog owners are being responsible, though for those of you that are leaving your dog's bacteria laden waste on the fields, trails, and natural areas in which the community recreates, we ask that you begin following the rules or stop coming to the parks.

We have dog waste stations located throughout the parks and there are just no viable reasons to justify the selfishness of leaving your dog's waste lying in the park. Staff will be increasing enforcement of leash rules and watching for those that do not pick up your dog's waste. Violations will lead to expulsion from the park, and repeated violations may lead to individuals being trespassed from the park.