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April /May 2024



Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Recreation District

EPR connections

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Park Project Updates

The District has been busy facilitating and planning a number of park projects this Spring and looks forward to increasing visitation and activity levels as Summer approaches. The construction of the new pickleball courts and artificial turf ballfield is moving along well, and the contractor has reported that things are on schedule at this time. We have also recently completed some great improvements near the disc-golf course first tee, including a renovation of the pathway down to the pond. A trail connection was also added to the main parking lot. Though some parking was eliminated in Evans Park as a result, we intend for parking to soon be available near the pickleball courts in Casey Jones Park to relieve some pressure from the Evans Park parking lot, particularly on Saturdays. We will be sealing and painting the Evans Park parking lot in May to define parking spots and direct traffic flow. Please note that traffic will soon flow one way through the parking area as parking spots will be diagonal. This new layout should improve safety, better accommodate larger vehicles, and decrease lot congestion.

Recognizing Our Volunteers

We encourage the community to send a big thanks to local resident Doug Foster for constructing and installing new bluebird houses within Evans Park. These habitats are well designed and built and are already attracting these beautiful birds to Evans Park. They were installed along Running Creek and offer viewing opportunities from the town trail coming into the park. Please enjoy the viewing, but respect these new additions to the park and keep your distance to help the birds enjoy their new homes. Thank you, Doug, for your interest, time, and effort to help support local wildlife!



A Few Thoughts on Park Etiquette

As the temperatures increase, the days get longer, and more people spend more time in the parks, we thought it worthwhile to mention a few thoughts for you to consider. The parks are common public spaces, and in order to ensure everyone has the opportunity for a safe enjoyable visit, we all need to adhere to some basic rules and show respect for others. In regards to dogs, keep 'em leashed and pick up their waste. Along similar lines, be sure not to litter, and maybe even pick up a piece of trash that someone else left behind. Remember that park sidewalks and trails are for non-motorized vehicles only (accessibility devices are of course fine). If you do not have to pedal, push, or scoot the device on your own, keep it in the parking lots and on designated park roadways. Keep all wheeled devices off the splashpad, it's just not safe. Remind children, and maybe some adults, to respect trees and avoid breaking off branches or damaging tree bark. Keep cars on designated park roadways and in designated parking areas. Just because it is not manicured turf does not mean it is OK to drive on, particularly within Casey Jones Park. Lastly, please be kind and show others the respect that you hope to receive. By respecting and following these few requests, we'll all have a great summer.

Program and Special Event Updates

YOGA

Registration is now open for YOGA classes held in the Casey Jones Pavilion on Wednesday mornings. Classes will start on 5/1 and continue through 6/19 and are held from 9am-10am. Fee is \$60. These sessions are for participants of all abilities and Kelly, our instructor is skilled in suggesting modifications that help you achieve success. Register today at www.elizabethpr.com

Youth Soccer Summer Camp July 8 - 12

Can't get enough soccer? Register now for the Challenger Summer Soccer Camp. Camps are held at Evans Park and are open to youth ages 3-14. This program is a partnership with Challenger Sports, and all participants must register through their website at www.challengersports.com and entering the Elizabeth zip code, or by using the link on our website under the program description. Prices vary based on age and session selected.

Zumba Adult Fitness Classes

Join instructor Danielle Gregory for these fun and high intensity fitness classes which combine 4 types of dance. All classes are held in the Casey Jones Pavilion on Thursday evenings from 7-8pm through 5/26. Fee is \$10 at the door.

Missoula Children's Theatre Camp July 15-20

The District is excited to bring back the MCT Summer Camp for 2024 and offer local youth a unique theatre experience. Youth between the ages of 6-18 are invited to register and be a part of a local production this summer. Participants will work with professional actors from MCT throughout the week and hone their craft before giving two live performances of *Peter and Wendy* on Saturday July 20th for the Elizabeth Community. Camp is held at Elizabeth Middle School. Register today at www.elizabethpr.com

Intro to Pickleball Mini-Camp - New Session Starts May 20th -

Interested in checking out the pickleball craze but don't know where to start? Sign-up for this friendly introduction to the sport and join EPR Instructor Lynn Watts for on court skills, drills, and camaraderie. Lessons held at Evans Park with a morning offering from 8:30-10:30am and an evening session from 5:30 - 7:30pm. Sessions meet daily 5/20 through 5/22. Registration fee is \$50. Lessons are open to individuals 16 and up and no experience is needed. Space is limited and these classes fill quickly, so register today at www.elizabethpr.com or call us at 303.646.3599.

Full-Day Summer Day Camp

EPR District has partnered with Singing Hills Elementary to offer full-day summer camp opportunities for all local youth. Camps will run for 10 weeks this summer beginning 6/3. Youth can sign up for individual weeks they wish to attend. Camp will run from 8am-5pm daily with 7:30am early drop-off option and 5:30pm late pick-up option. Each camp will have a unique theme, creative set of activities and experiences, and an exciting regional field trip. Local trips will also be a part of regular camp activities. Cost is \$225 per week and includes all field trip fees. This is a state licensed childcare program and as such, families may apply for and potentially receive CCAP funding to assist with fees. Make plans now for your child to join us this summer and ensure they have a summer to remember! Have questions? That is certainly understandable. Give us a call at 303.646.3599 and we can assist. Register at www.elizabethpr.com – space is limited.

Elizabeth Stampede June 6-9 – Casey Jones Park

Order your tickets now for the most exciting community event of the year. The fun starts with a concert by headliner Randy Houser on Thursday night, and then continues with four rodeo performances over the next three days. Go to www.elizabethstampede.com to learn more and to purchase your tickets. Do not purchase tickets from third party sellers as prices are marked up.