

December 16, 2018  
Friends for the Preservation of  
Historic Landa Park  
Rosemarie L. Gregory  
Arlene K. Seales

LP12.16.13

Art Work: Jane's Das Rec Art  
Caption: A Das Rec  
view... Created by and  
courtesy of Jane Felts  
Mauldin

### Das Rec The Perfect Gift to the Community

The Christmas Season is the most joyous time of the year. In celebration it's a time of gift giving and also of appreciation and recognition of the many gifts given to each of us.

Among the gifts given the citizens of New Braunfels this past year was the completion and opening of Das Rec, our community's recreation center. If you have not been there, give yourself a treat and go for a visit. Das Rec is located at 345 Landa Street between Fredericksburg Road and Walnut Avenue.

Das Rec became a reality thanks to the passage of 2013 bond followed by five years of dedicated hard work and cooperation by the city and other members of our community.

The official opening of Das Rec to eagerly awaiting patrons was Saturday, July 21. The previous Saturday the Das Rec doors opened for an evening event appropriately titled the 'Black Tie and Tennes Scholarship Gala. The 350 attendees raised \$85,000 for a scholarship fund. The fund's purpose is for fee assistance providing 20, 50, or even 75 per cent discounts on membership for residents who fall within an income bracket and household size.

One of the many contributors to the Scholarship Fund was Robert Holt of Rush Enterprises. His high bid won him the excitement of being the first to ride down the water slide for the test run. Definitely a defining feature of Das Rec, the slide wraps around an outside corner of the building. This structure promises the best in thrilling rides.

The evening of Tuesday, September 18 brought another first to the site. Das Rec is the New Braunfels High School Unicorn's swim team's new home pool. The Unicorns held their initial swim meet there. It was an exciting event and the Unicorns won.

Das Rec is under the supervision of Parks Director Stacey Dicke and the outstanding Parks and Recreation Department. Kelsey Heiden is Recreation Center Manager. Many of you already know Kelsey. She was raised in New Braunfels, the daughter of Julie Henke and Scott Heiden and a 2005 graduate of New Braunfels High. Kelsey received her Bachelors in Recreation Administration from Texas State. She currently is working on her MBA through Southern New Hampshire University. Kelsey and her husband Snowy Martinez, also a New Braunfels native, are the parents of three sons- Briseis, 11, Athan, 8, and Nixon, 2.

Working her way through the ranks of the New Braunfels Parks and Recreation Department. Kelsey has over 12 years of Parks and Recreation experience. She is a certified Parks and Recreation Professional. Active in her professional association, Kelsey participates on several committees and task forces. Her commitment to customer service, community engagement, and a sincere desire to serve her hometown makes her ideal for her demanding and exciting management position. The further proof

regarding Kelsey's dedication to recreation and fitness is her demonstration through her performance as an avid Spartan racer.

Kelsey has received numerous awards in her field. In 2015 she was named the Texas Parks and Recreation Society Central Region Young Professional of the year. In 2018 Kelsey received the Jerry Garrett Young Professional Award and was named Employee of the Year in Parks in both 2011 and 2014.

The following is information Kelsey shared about New Braunfels' new Recreation Center:

Das Rec has 77,000 sq.ft. of options for all ages and fitness levels that includes a fitness floor, indoor walking track, group exercise room, double gymnasium, and two indoor pools.

The group exercise class catalog offers more than 20 different classes including aquatic options such as aqua aerobics. There is also yoga, pilates, zumba, and the choices continue.

When child care is needed due to an exercise class or other Das Rec activity, Das Rec's Kinder Care is available for mini-members ages 6 months to 10 years of age.

In addition, Das Rec offers monthly social programs for members 60 or over that includes a nutritious lunch and learning programs. There is even bingo.

Those wishing to improve their fitness level will find the fitness floor and indoor walking track excellent help. Cardio equipment, selectorized weight machines, and free weights are available to allow everyone to work at the pace and strength level of individual need to achieve the desired goals. There are one-on-one and group personal training with a personal trainer who can help build a fitness plan tailored specifically to individual needs and goals.

Das Rec also offers adult and youth sports leagues, gym time dedicated to a favorite sport like pickleball, volleyball, and basketball. In addition, Das Rec has partnered with Swing Junction to offer dance lessons including the two-step, western swing, and jitterbug lessons.

For a complete listing of program opportunities and membership information visit the Das Rec website at [www.dasrec.com](http://www.dasrec.com).

Now Das Rec is ours to enjoy and receive great value. To those who have made it possible, and those professionals like Stacey and Kelsey and the staff who keep it functioning and those like Jane Mauldin who capture it in art and all others in our beautiful community, we wish you a "Merry, Merry Christmas."