

in this issue >>>

- *Casey Jones Park Master Plan & Rec Center Open House*
- *Message from the Director*
- *Youth Soccer & Baseball Registration Now Open*
- *Evans Park Maintenance and Improvements*
- *Words to Play By*



Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Rec District

EPR connections

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Evans Park Maintenance and Improvements

As the District's Maintenance Team works to clear snow, mitigate fire risks on park property, repair and service equipment, and upgrade indoor facilities over the winter months, they are also busy planning a number of Spring projects to improve the parks and enhance the visitor experience.

One of the most significant improvements they are planning is an expansion of the playground area in Evans Park. In response to residents and park visitors requesting that swings be added to the park, the District will be removing some irrigated turf, installing swings, and adding safety surfacing. We may be able to squeeze a couple other playground features in the space as well if budget allows.

On the north baseball field in Evans Park, the crew will be replacing ripped and torn windscreen and replacing it as was recently done on the south ball field.

The crew will also be removing old fencing throughout the park, and plans to again close Prickly Pines Disc-Golf Course this Spring to allow for re-seeding and plant growth in the area.

Casey Jones Park Master Plan & Rec Center Open House Events

After almost two full years of planning and working with the community and design / engineer consultants, the Board of Directors will be accepting the final Casey Jones Park Master Plan report this month. The report details the planning process that was undertaken and presents the vision for the development of a 103-acre recreational campus that will serve the community and residents for decades to come. The master plan calls for a community recreation center, a renovated rodeo / event arena, a fieldhouse / ag-building, the development of a Homestead Education Center in collaboration with the Elbert County Agricultural Alliance, a new artificial turf ballfield, a dog park, a campground expansion, and other improvements.

The Board of Directors has expressed their desire to ask residents of the District to fund improvements within the master plan this May, and presentations will include information about the proposed increase in the mill levy that the Board is seeking. The goal of these presentations is simply to share the plans and ensure residents have all the information they desire.

The District will be hosting a number of open houses over the next couple months and we invite you to attend one at your convenience to learn more about the master plan and proposed improvements. **The open houses are being held at the Casey Jones Pavilion and start at 7pm on the following dates: 2/22, 3/11, 3/17, & 3/29.** Additional dates in April may be added and announced later if requested.

Program Registrations – NOW OPEN

Spring Soccer

Ages: 4-12

Fee: \$60

Dates: 3/26 – 5/14

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 3/14 with games played 3/26-5/14. Volunteer coaches needed and receive program refund.



Majors / Minors Baseball

Ages: 9-12

Fee: \$115

Dates: 4/25 – 6/25

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 communities such as Ellicott, Peyton, Kiowa, Elbert, and Rush. All games played on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, or Saturdays. Fee is \$115. Volunteer coaches needed. Register online at www.elizabethpr.com or call park office at 303.646.3599.

T-Ball

Ages: 4-6

Fee: \$50

Dates: 5/7 – 6/25

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 25th, with games played on Saturdays from 5/7 through 6/25. 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 or call park office at 303.646.3599.

Parker Baseball

Ages: 10-12

Fee: \$96

Dates: 5/23 – 7/30

Our Parker Baseball program serves ages 10-12 and plays in the Parker League, with games held at O'Brien or Salisbury Park in Parker on Saturdays. Practices held during the week in Elizabeth. Fee is \$96. Register online at www.elizabethpr.com or call park office at 303.646.3599

Rookies Baseball

Ages: 7-9

Fee: \$60

Dates: 5/7 – 6/25

This is a machine pitch league for players between the ages of 7-9. Practices begin week of April 25 with games on Saturdays on 5/7 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



Message from the Director

Getting to a Point of Decision for the Community

As you have likely heard, EPR District will be asking residents if they want to fund improvements, including a community recreation center, to Casey Jones Park as described in the recently completed master plan. As the Executive Director for the District, my job is certainly not to try and persuade you to vote in one way or the other. In fact, as a representative of the District, I am appropriately prohibited from lobbying for your vote. My role is rather to do all I can to ensure the District is being transparent in our planning and to provide residents with all the information they want and need to make an informed decision based on their unique view point and financial situation. I am simply facilitating the decision making process.

The decision to support an additional tax expense is a personal one, and each of us has to weigh the impact of such an increase versus the benefit we will receive. I ask that each of you take the time to learn about our plans, understand the facts, and participate in the process. If the community decides they want a recreation center, we will get it built. If the community decides they do not want to fund a recreation center at this time, the District will continue to use its existing resources effectively, be responsible with your tax dollars, and develop parks, facilities, and programs as opportunities and resources allow. The choice is yours.

Words to Play By

We don't stop playing because we grow old; we grow old because we stop playing.

G. Bernard Shaw