

in this issue >>>

- *New Trail Open in Casey Jones Park*
- *New Half-Pipe Installed in Skatepark*
- *Program and Special Event Updates*
- *Message from the Director*
- *Quote of the Month*

May - 2020



Monthly Insight into the Elizabeth Park & Rec District

EPR connections

www.elizabethpr.com

info@elizabethpr.com

303.646.3599

PO Box 434 – Elizabeth, CO 80107



New Half-Pipe in Skatepark

Construction of a new half-pipe has been mostly completed in Evans Park. Though some railings still need to be attached and the whole ramp needs to be caulked and painted, it is open for use. The mini-ramp was purchased from Orange County Ramps and came as a kit which staff then assembled in a few days. The half-pipe offers a 5 foot drop-in as well as an elevated 7 foot drop-in, and is 30 feet long by 16 feet wide. Two layers of plywood were topped off with a layer of Skatelite Pro to create a high quality skating surface. Thanks to the Park Board for approving the project, and we hope the skaters enjoy this exciting new park feature.



Message from the Director

Uncertain Times

As we all continue to try and manage life during these times of pandemic, social distancing, record unemployment, and a challenged economy, I truly hope you and your family are as well as possible. Life as we know it has certainly changed for all of us, and I can only hope that a return to normalcy is somewhere on the horizon. I also recognize the possibility however, that normal as we knew it, may never return. Even if that is the case, and we can no longer gather 20 youth on a soccer field for a game, or we can't gather in a confined space for an art class or yoga session, we will find new ways to recreate. The human desire for play and joy is just too strong to be completely stifled. With gyms being closed, I have observed a few groups that have taken to using the parks as their gym. These folks have necessarily taken their fitness routines outside and do not seem to be missing a beat. The open space within the park allows for social distancing while they pursue their fitness goals collectively. Another activity that I have seen a lot more of recently is kite flying. We all know the wind is frequent in Elizabeth, so I guess I shouldn't be too surprised at that one as many folks have more time on their hands, so why not go fly a kite. Or drop a line in Dragonfly Pond for that matter. 200 trout were added to the pond a few weeks back. We will continue to assess how we can best serve the community during these uncertain and trying times, and we are here for you. If there is anything we can do, just give us a call and let us know.

New Trail in Casey Jones Park



Upon acquiring 91+ acres surrounding Casey Jones Park in late March, the Park Board directed staff to develop a multi-use trail in the northern section of the property. As the community looks for local opportunities to get out into nature for a walk or ride and escape shut-in, this new trail is a great option. The loop trail can be accessed at the northwest corner of the ballfields, or near the northeast corner of the campground. The trail meanders for over a mile through open prairie and ponderosa pine forest and offers subtle elevation changes to view various aspects of this newly acquired community resource. Please limit direction to clockwise travel to assist with social distancing and avoid having to pass by others. The trail is open to walkers, bicycles, and horses. Dogs must be leashed to protect wildlife and all dog waste must be picked up. No motorized vehicles permitted.



Trail Riding

Quote of the Month

Between every two pine trees there is a door leading to a new way of life

John Muir

Program & Special Event Updates

Covid-19 continues to have a significant impact on the District's programs and special events. Both the Elizabeth Stampede and the Celtic Festival have now been cancelled for 2020. Youth baseball and softball leagues have also now been cancelled for this summer, though we will be offering small group baseball clinics for Rookies and T-Ball players beginning June 1st. These clinics will be limited to 6 participants and will focus on individual skill development in the areas of catching, throwing, hitting, and base running. Social distancing guidelines will be followed. We are also assessing similar program opportunities for older youth and will provide updates as we are able. All families that registered for baseball or softball will receive a full credit on their account for future use. If your situation requires a refund rather than an account credit, please call the office or send us an email and we can happily assist you. It is unlikely that we will be able to offer Adult Softball this summer, and fall sport programs may also likely be cancelled unfortunately. Staff will continue to assess program opportunities that allow us to meet recommended pandemic guidelines over coming weeks and will provide updates as we are able. It's hard imagining a summer without baseball and maybe a fall without football / soccer, though that's where things stand for now folks. Check our website at www.elizabethpr.com for latest program info and registration details.