

MEMORANDUM



TO: PARKS, RECREATION & FORESTRY COMMISSION
FROM: TRACIE RINGLE, COMMUNICATIONS & RESOURCE
DEVELOPMENT SUPERVISOR
SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 2008 CONNECTING REPORT
DATE: MARCH 5, 2008



At each month's Commission meeting, the Parks, Recreation and Forestry staff provides the Commission with a staff report on items of interest. These items reflect the mission of Novi Parks to:

- Promoting a Healthy, Active Lifestyle
- Enhancing Economic Development
- Stewards of the Environment
- Creating Safer Neighborhoods
- Instilling a Sense of Community

Promoting Healthy, Active Lifestyles

The International Girls on the Run Program is being offered by the department (the only location in Oakland County) for 10 weeks beginning in March. The program combines training for a 5k run with enhancing self-esteem and uplifting workouts. Volunteers from the community including several from the Police Department will coach and encourage the girls. New Balance of Farmington Hills will provide a discount on shoes for the athletes. The program has been included in the Novi News and the Detroit Free Press.

Enhancing Economic Development

The Parks Department received a large sponsorship from Dick's Sporting Goods. The agreement includes the donations of softball team packets, soccer team packets, 20 baseball coach kits, \$750 in gift cards to supplement equipment purchases and event needs and \$500 in cash for a grand total of over \$5000. This contribution making the Novi Parks the largest recipient of Dick's support in the region.

The Novi Parks Performing Arts division applied for a grant through the Michigan Humanities Council Touring Grant program to supplement expenses of the new circus camp. If received, the grant will cover 35% of the expenses of the camp. The remainder of the expenses will be covered by registration revenue.

The annual Daddy Daughter event received over \$2000 of sponsorship support, mostly in-kind. This allowed us to further enhance the event without creating additional expenses. The event was a success, receiving a 4.7 rating on a 5 point scale.

Stewards of the Environment

The maintenance division has made the transition to environmentally friendly cleaning products for all park restrooms and facilities. Additionally, the products come from a centralized dispenser, allowing us to purchase in bulk and eliminate waste.

Creating Safer Neighborhoods

Ten Novi school district students were active during their mid-winter break by participating in the Mid-Winter Break Theatre Escape Camp. During the camp, students learned about theatre and presenting a play. At the end of the camp, a performance was held for over 60 friends and family.

The LEGO engineering classes are combining fun, science and math for 25 local elementary students. The class meets Monday evenings and is providing the opportunity for construction of vehicles, buildings and other various structures.

Instilling a Sense of Community

The department will be offering transportation to Novi seniors to the upcoming production of Father Bingo. This will provide an opportunity for this population to enjoy the show and socialize with others in the community.

The Senior Center hosted its Tropical Day and Valentine Concert complete with food, decorations and plenty of excitement. The events were extremely well received, scoring a 4.98 and 4.97 rating on a 5-point scale respectively.

The AARP has partnered with the senior center to offer free tax returns. All of the available time slots have been reserved, showcasing the value of this type of program for our senior population.

March 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6 Old Fashioned Pancake Supper 5:30-7:30pm Senior Center (Rachel)	7 Father Bingo (FB) 7:30pm Middle School (Debbie)	8 FB 2 & 7:30pm
9 FB 2pm	10 Japanese Shiga Ceramic Artist Reception 6-8pm (Tracie)	11	12	13	14 FB 2 & 7:30pm St. Paddy's Day Party 12-2pm Senior Center (Rachel)	15 Easter Mutt Strut 1-3pm Lakeshore Park (Derek)
16 Novi Concert Band 2pm Civic Center (Debbie) St. Paddy's Skate 3-4:50 Ice Arena	17	18	19 Flashlight Easter Egg Hunt 8-9pm Civic Center (Mallery)	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 Spaghetti Dinner 4-6pm Senior Center (Rachel)
30	31					

April 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5 Mother Son Tiger Baseball Day 3:30-6:30pm Civic Center (Derek)
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 Registration begins for summer programs	15	16	17	18	19 Soccer Opening Day ITC CSP (Wendy) USFFPA Tourney Power Park (Derek)
20	21	22	23	24	25	26 Arbor Day 10-noon Lakeshore Park (Steve)
27	28	29	30			

May 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Camp Masters Club 12-3pm Civic Center ASA Tourney Power Park (both Derek)
4	5	6	7	8 Kokonut Kapers (KK) Opening Night 7:30pm Civic Center (Debbie)	9 KK 7:30pm Mother's Day 1:30-2:30 Senior Center (Rachel) Jaguar Tourney ITC CSP (Wendy)	10 KK 2pm USSA Tourney Power Park (Derek) Jaguar Tourney ITC CSP
11 KK 2pm Jaguar Tourney ITC CSP	12	13	14	15	16 KK 7:30pm	17 KK 2 & 7:30pm
18 KK 2pm	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31 Memorial Day Parade and Ceremony 10am (Derek)