

CENTRAL BLAIR RECREATION & PARK COMMISSION  
MONTHLY REPORT  
MAY 2024

**PROGRAMMING:**

- 1. SPRAY PARK:** Spray Park will open for the season June 1st. The preparation work has started. Over the next 3 ½ weeks, staff will be working hard to prepare the facility for the summer months. Management is interviewing and hiring staff to create a friendly, family environment.
- 2. SPRING VOLLEYBALL:** The Spring season will be ending on May 8<sup>th</sup>. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> season of Volleyball for the 2023/2024 school year. Numbers continue to be strong, and participants continue to fall in love with the sport. This is definitely the fastest growing sport here at CBRC.
- 3. MAX'S SUMMER DAY CAMP:** The Commission's 26<sup>th</sup> season will begin on Monday, June 3<sup>rd</sup>. Again, we will be offering two different locations (Booker T Washington Community Center and East Juniata Community Center). This camp is open to girls and boys ages 5 through 12. This is a safe, structured, indoor program held in an air-conditioned building with access to an outdoor playground. Hours of operation are 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, program runs until August 16<sup>th</sup>.
- 4. CBRC SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAMS:** This year we will be hosting multiple playground programs: A four (4) week program at Valley View from June 10<sup>th</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup>. A four (4) week playground program at Leopold from July 8<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will also have two (2) four (4) week sessions and a two (2) week session at Juniata Memorial Playground and Spray Park. Session 1 is June 10<sup>th</sup> to July 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 2<sup>nd</sup> session is July 8<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup>, Session 3 is August 5<sup>th</sup> to August 16<sup>th</sup>. We are working with management at Evergreen to offer a playground program to their kids within the housing development. This camp will be six (6) weeks starting June 11<sup>th</sup> through July 25<sup>th</sup> and will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Thursdays. All the participants will get a chance to attend weekly field trips to add excitement to the program and we have planned many on-site special visits for the kids to enjoy.
- 5. CHEERLEADING:** Cheerleading just concluded on May 9<sup>th</sup>. This year we had 76 girls sign-up for the instructional clinic given by the BGHS Cheerleaders. The girls were broken down into two sessions to avoid an overcrowded gym and allow for more personalized instruction. This is a nice fund raiser for the Bishop Guilfoyle Cheerleading program. The program was held at 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Center.
- 6. GOLF TOURNAMENT:** The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual CBRC/Encompass Health Golf Classic will be held on Monday, July 29<sup>th</sup> at Sinking Valley Country Club. Check-in begins at 8:00 a.m. with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start. We are currently working on obtaining sponsorships and donations to continue its reputation as a memorable special event. This event is projected to have 75 sponsored tee signs, 30 teams with 4 players per team, and we hope to raise \$15,000.

- 7. FUNDAMENTALS OF BASKETBALL CLINIC:** We have partnered with Joe Landolfi to conduct a basketball clinic for the Commission for grades K-2 and grades 3-5. The K-2 clinic runs on Saturdays from April 20<sup>th</sup> to May 11<sup>th</sup>. Grades 3-5 clinic will run on Saturdays May 18<sup>th</sup> to June 8<sup>th</sup>.
- 8. CHRIS DRENNING BASKETBALL CAMP:** Coach Chris Drenning is offering a Basketball Camp on Sundays starting May 5<sup>th</sup> and running to June 9<sup>th</sup>. Grades 3-4<sup>th</sup> will be here from 1PM to 2:15PM and Grades 5<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> will be here 2:30PM – 3:45PM. The camp is held at the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward Community Center. Also, Chris is offering a week-long basketball camp for boys and girls in grade 3, 4 & 5 with 12 hours of instruction beginning June 10<sup>th</sup>.
- 9. YOUTH BASEBALL:** Our T-Ball program returns to the Altoona Area Baseball Association's Field this year for boys and girls ages 4 & 5. Practices will be held at Garfield Park Ballfield on Tuesday evenings and games will be played at the AABA Ballfields on Saturday mornings. This program begins on May 7<sup>th</sup>. All participants are decked out in MLB hats and Shirts representing the Pirates, Reds, Yankees & Athletics.
- 10. LAKEMONT PARK SUMMER BASKETBALL LEAGUES:** Again, this year, we will partner with Lakemont Park to hold our summer basketball leagues on their courts. We will offer leagues for Men, High School Boys and Jr. High Boys. Game play starts June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- 11. SUMMER ART CLASSES:** Jae Bennett will be offering Street Art, Intro to Art, Painting and Intermediate Art at the Sixth Ward Center beginning June 5<sup>th</sup> and ending with an art show on August 14<sup>th</sup>.
- 12. ELEMENTARY FLAG FOOTBALL:** We will be taking registrations all summer for the NFL Flag Football program for boys and girls in K to 4<sup>th</sup> grade. We are excited to partner again with the NFL to offer this flag football program. We are also offering an NFL Flag Registration Event that will include a Punt, Pass & Kick Competition on Saturday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m. at Vets Field. Last year we had 300 participants in this program.
- 13. LEARN TO SKATE:** We have partnered with Galactic Ice to offer three (3) sessions of Learn to Skate during the summer months for beginners and advanced skaters. The first session started May 7, second session starts June 25, third session starts August 6.
- 14. AMUSEMENT TICKETS:** Again, this year we will be selling discounted park tickets to DelGrosso, Idlewild, Kennywood and Sandcastle. Delgrosso is a \$9.00 per ticket savings, Idlewild is \$26, Kennywood is \$34 and Sandcastle is \$28. Our share of the profits from last year was \$2,452. We are also offering some web deals through Pennsylvania Recreation & Park Society for our customers. Pittsburgh Zoo has opted not to participate in the discounted ticket program again this year.

**MAINTENANCE:**

- 15. COMMUNITY CENTERS:** Staff has been cleaning and maintaining centers daily to ensure a clean and safe environment for the programs and for the public to use for private events. East Juniata is ready to be set-up for daycamp and BTW will be set-up as soon as Volleyball has completed their season.
- 16. PARKS:** Park inspections are being done to ensure they are safe and clean for the public to enjoy. Which includes checking hardware, mulch depth, and removing graffiti. We are also trying to keep up with the grass cutting and keeping the parks clean.
- 17. SPRAY PARK:** We are working on getting the Spray Park ready for the families to have fun and cool down on the hot summer days. Within the next couple of weeks, we will work on completing the list of what is required to reopen the facility. The system will be turned on and tests will be performed to ensure everything is working properly. Once all tests have been completed, chemicals will be added and balanced.
- 18. BASEBALL FIELDS:** Staff have been challenged to prepare fields for games and practices with all the rain that we have had. These fields include Vets, Garfield, Geesey, Kustaborder, Fairview, Prospect, Westfall, Hamilton and Greenwood.
- 19. STAFF:** We are currently interviewing for a full-time maintenance position, as we are currently down one employee in the maintenance department.