



Parks & Recreation

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Little Rock, AR 72201
501.371.4770

City In A Park Newsletter

November, 2013

www.lrpr.org



Truman Tolefree – Director,
Little Rock Parks & Recreation

Director's Message

As the fall turns to winter, the leaves have turned colors and there is a nip in the air. This is still a great time to get out into your Little Rock Parks. With 59 parks covering nearly 6,100 acres, there is still plenty to do. Our parks have more than 70 miles of trails, which are

perfect for riding a bike or just taking a leisurely walk. For those who don't want to brave the elements, visit the Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatic Center. With a variety of dance and fitness classes daily, as well as brand-new exercise equipment and an indoor heated pool, there are many choices for you to stay active.



The newly opened "Centre at University Park" will also be providing dance and fitness classes, as well as various arts, crafts and computer classes.

The tennis leagues at the Rebsamen Tennis Center are growing in popularity, as the center continues to move back to the forefront for the tennis enthusiasts in Central Arkansas.

Training for the 12th annual Little Rock Marathon continues, as does registration. The marathon promises to be truly "EPIC" this time around.



So, as you can see, even though the warmer weather is winding down, there is still a lot of activity taking place in and around your



parks. Get out and take advantage of the great system that you have at your disposal here in Central Arkansas. Let's truly make Little Rock a "City in a Park."

Stay In Touch With LRPR

Main Office.....	371-4770
Parks Administration.....	371-4470
Public Relations.....	371-4470
Park Operations.....	371-6851
Little Rock Marathon.....	918-5321
Therapeutic Recreation.....	570-1131
Youth Athletics.....	371-6855
Adult Athletics.....	371-6859
Senior Programs.....	371-6854
Summer Playground Program.....	371-6858
Dunbar Community Center.....	376-1084
Stephens Community Center.....	603-9974
Southwest Community Center.....	918-3975
Jim Dailey Fitness & Aquatic Center.....	664-6976
MacArthur Museum.....	376-4602
Hindman Golf Course.....	565-6450
War Memorial Golf Course.....	663-0854
Rebsamen Golf Course.....	666-7965
Rebsamen Tennis Center.....	664-0736
Pavilion Reservations.....	371-4770
Ballpark Reservations.....	372-3285

For other information, please visit www.lrpr.org

Grand Opening for Centre at University Park

The grand-opening celebration for the Centre at University Park took place on Saturday, September 28 at 11:00 a.m. Originally known as the Adult Leisure Center; the Centre is a 15,000-square foot state-of-the-art facility. "This is a great day for the City of Little Rock," said Truman Tolefree, Director of Little Rock Parks & Recreation. "The Centre at University Park is back as a much needed community resource."



The Centre at University Park offers daily and monthly memberships to adults, while providing several activities, including: National Senior Health and Fitness Day, seminars, Fall Festival and Holiday Affair to name a few. In addition, a number of fitness classes will be offered. The facility is available for rental for meetings, family gatherings or special events. There is the spacious Ballroom that can accommodate 230 persons, or can be divided for smaller groups. There are also a multi-purpose room, ceramics and arts and crafts rooms, meeting rooms, conference room, and a computer training room.

Hindman Golf Course Re-Opens

Hindman Golf Course re-opened on Thursday, September 12 at 7:00 a.m., following improvements to the greens, as well as the clubhouse and grounds. The course closed in May so that the greens on the course could be converted from Tif-Dwarf Bermuda to Champion Dwarf Bermuda.



"It has been more than 30 years since the greens at Hindman have been resurfaced," explained Truman Tolefree, Director of Little Rock Parks & Recreation. "Golfers will experience a significant improvement in the putting quality and appearance with the new Champion Dwarf greens."

The Hindman clubhouse, clubhouse grounds and parking lot also received a number of improvements and repairs.

"We believe that these improvements will contribute to the overall enjoyment of our golf patrons," Tolefree continued. "We would like to thank the public for their patience and understanding while these much needed improvements at Hindman Golf Course were completed."

Registration for 12th Little Rock Marathon Open

Registration for the 2014 Little Rock Marathon is now open. The Little Rock Marathon weekend, presented by the Arkansas Democrat Gazette, and benefitting Little Rock Parks & Recreation is in its 12th year. Weekend events include the Little Rock Marathon, the Little Rock Half Marathon, the Little



Rock 10K, the Little Rock 5K Fun Run/Walk, the Little Rockers Kids Marathon and the Little Rock Health & Fitness Expo. The

Little Rock Marathon offers a training program to individual participating in the 2014 race. Official training begins in mid-September. The Little Rock Marathon Training Program, presented by Bill Torrey's Rock City Running and KARK Channel 4, is FREE of charge, but registration is required.

Interstate Park & Western Hills Host Back-To-Back Cyclocross Events In October

The sport of cyclocross is growing, and it was on display in a pair of LRPR parks at the end of October. On Saturday, Oct. 26, nearly 60 competitors battled at Interstate Park, while the race on Sunday, Oct. 27 at Western Hills attracted nearly 50 racers. The race consists of many laps of a short (1.5–2 mile) course featuring pavement, wooded trails, grass, steep hills and obstacles requiring the rider to quickly dismount,



carry the bike while navigating the obstruction and remount. Organizers hope to continue to use the Western Hills site as a regular venue for the Arkansas Super-Prestige Cyclocross Series, because "the perfect battlefield can be hard to come by, but we found one here."

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T.R. Takes Part In Race For The Cure

For the fifth consecutive year, the LRPR Therapeutic Recreation Division took part in the 2013 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Eight ladies from the program joined the staff of the T.R. Division, which was the biggest group yet. Once again, the group completed the entire five-kilometer walk. This was a very proud achievement for the ladies as well as the staff.



Community Center Halloween Bash A Huge Hit

The 2013 Halloween Bash for participants from all community centers was a complete success. Special thank you to Karen Johnson, East Little Rock Facility Manager for ensuring our special event was great and in case you missed she changed into five different costumes. Our Recreation Manager made an



appearance in costume showing his support. Staff from each facility worked hard to make sure all participants had a great time. We had

parental support, family and friends supporting event and most importantly the support of each other. The Halloween Bash featured Blind Alley Basketball, Bowling, Football Toss, Pin the Face on the Pumpkin, Ring Toss and the Cake Walk. Our hit of the night was the Haunted House. Parents and kids also received hot dogs, drinks, chips, candy and gift bags for attending. Funds from ticket sales were used to purchase food, prizes and candy.

Terica Richardson Retires After 24 Years

“With an infectious smile and a warm and caring personality, Terica has always been a calming influence within the department. She has truly become a friend to all those who work with her,” said Truman Tolefree, LRPR



Director at a meeting of the Little Rock Board of Directors in which Ms. Terica Richardson was honored. “I know that in my time here, she has made sure that I never missed a paycheck, so for that alone, she is my favorite employee in Little Rock Parks & Recreation”.

Terica, or “Ms. T” as she is known, plans to spend her time traveling, volunteering with her church and spending a lot of quality time with her family, in particular her grandchildren.

“I told my family to just give me the first couple of months for myself,” Terica explained. “After that, I am all theirs.”

Terica is, and always will be, a valuable member of the Little Rock Parks & Recreation family. In 2007, she was named the “Employee of the Year” for the department and represented Little Rock Parks & Recreation in the running for the city employee of the year. In 2009 she was recognized for 20 years of service to the department and the city.

Prior to coming to work for the department in a full-time capacity, Terica worked for a number of years, on a part-time basis, within our community centers. “I have really enjoyed the people I worked with for the past 24 years,” Terica said in response to a question about her favorite memory of working for the city. “My co-workers made my work experience an enjoyable one. We really do make a great team.”

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“A City In A Park”