

# A CITY in A PARK



## Director's Message

A new race course. A new medal. Even a new phone app.

The 14<sup>th</sup> annual Little Rock Marathon is here! The month of March is always a special time for Little Rock Parks and Recreation. In addition to flowers starting to peek out and our spring sports launching, the first weekend of March is also time when our city comes alive with a huge event: the Little Rock Marathon. 2016 marks the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Little Rock Marathon and no doubt it will be just as thrilling as years before.

The theme of this year's race is "Game On" and I hear there will be a few must-see surprises in store for you! Not to spoil any surprises, but don't be too shocked if you shake hands with the Monopoly Man wearing his top hat!

The marathon is a unique and amazing project; it requires great leaders, dedicated staff, sensational sponsors and incredible volunteers to pull off each year. I give kudos to EVERYONE who makes the Little Rock Marathon what it has grown to be—an award-winning, community-building, news-making, FUN event known worldwide. With runners coming from more than 15 different countries, elite athletes staying in our city, families and fans coming to cheer on their favorite athletes...it's an exhilarating experience you can't miss.

If you're running, good luck! If you're watching along the sidelines, cheer loudly! Game on!



Truman Tolefree



Students in our Latchkey Program at Stephens Community Center enjoyed a field trip to see the film "Freedom Flyers of the Tuskegee Airmen" at MacArthur Museum of Arkansas Military History last month.

# Table Tennis Tournament

The Little Rock Table Tennis Club held their State Closed Tournament at Jim Dailey Fitness and Aquatic Center on Saturday, February 27. More than 40 participants from around the state gathered to compete.

Mayor Mark Stodola and Little Rock Parks and Recreation Commission Chairman Walden Cash played an exhibition match as part of the day's events. Thanks to all who came out to play or watch!



Happy March Birthdays to these Little Rock Parks & Recreation staff members:

Anita Bunche	Michael Mitchell
Gina Pharis	Gil Standridge
Eddie Combs	Danny Sanford
Kerry Evans	James Bowens
Linda Bealer	

## Mardi Gras at East Little Rock Community Center



Join Bobby's Bike Hike for a Fun Ride on April 17th as they celebrate **Earth Day** by exploring the natural world while riding the Arkansas River Trail! Learn about the varieties of plant and animal life with our Parks & Recreation Horticulturalist Ernie Moix and Habitat Steward Michael King.

Tickets are a suggested donation of \$10 and include bicycle rental! All proceeds will go to benefit the Little Rock Park Rangers program.



# Mark Your Calendar!

**March** —National Women’s History Month  
National Nutrition Month

Register NOW for LRPR Youth Spring Sports! Soccer, softball and more!

**4-6** Little Rock Marathon **GAME ON!**

**12**—City Wide Cleanup & National Plant a Flower Day!

**17**—St. Patrick’s Day

**27**—Easter

**30**—Take A Walk In The Park Day

**31**—Little Rock Sustainability Summit

## Mardi Gras Parade!

Our Volunteer Park Rangers and Junior Park Rangers showed their Mardi Gras spirit in the Annual SoMA Mardi Gras parade with their float featuring a live park scene. The float featured trees, a park bench, birds, fishing, biking, running, live animals and of course LOTS OF BEADS AND FUN! Check the video of our float and the rangers and the parade on our youtube channel!



## Contact Us

Give us a call, send an email or visit our offices at City Hall. We welcome your comments!

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