



AGENDA

City of Richland Parks and Recreation Commission #3-2013
Richland City Hall ~ 505 Swift Boulevard ~ City Council Chambers
Thursday, March 14, 2013, 7:00 PM

Commission Chair Gutierrez, Vice Chair Jones
Members: Commissioners Doran, Valentino, Maya, Katipamula, Bern, Beck, Richards
Liaisons: Council Liaison Kent, Alternate Council Liaison Anderson

Welcome

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Approval of March 14, 2013 Agenda

Approval of February 13, 2013 Minutes

Council Liaison

Public Comments

Recreation Report

Presentations

1. Tri-City Kart Club - Mike Zomora
2. Columbia Basin BMX – Ken Buechler

Unfinished Business:

New Business:

1. Master Plan Approval for Unnamed Park at corner of Westcliffe and Gala Way
2. Barth Park Community Gardens
3. Discussion of Parks and Recreation Commission Position #7

Commission Comments

Adjournment

The Next Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting is Thursday, April 11, 2013

THIS MEETING IS BROADCAST LIVE ON CITYVIEW CHANNEL 13 AND ON WWW.CI.RICHLAND.WA.US/CITYVIEW

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MINUTES

Richland Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting #2-2013

Richland City Hall – 505 Swift Boulevard – Council Chambers

Thursday, February 13, 2013, ~ 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Gutierrez called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

ATTENDANCE:

Chair Gutierrez, Vice Chair Jones, Commissioners Doran, Katipamula, Beck and Richards were present. Commissioner Bern was excused. Commissioner Maya was absent. Also in attendance were Council Liaison Kent, Parks and Recreation Director Schiessl, and Parks and Recreation Managers Pinard and Strand.

APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2013, AGENDA:

Chair Gutierrez amended the agenda to include an update on Claybell Park from Parks and Recreation Manager Phil Pinard. Nancy Doran **moved** to approve the amended February 13, 2013, agenda. Vice Chair Greg Jones **seconded** the motion. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF THE JANUARY 10, 2013, MINUTES:

Vice Chair Jones **moved** to approve the January 10, 2013, minutes as presented. Nancy Doran **seconded** the motion. Motion carried.

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT:

Council member Kent welcomed the public. Ms. Kent reported that the Regional Public Facilities District voted to place the proposed aquatic center on the ballot this fall and that their next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 20.

RECREATION REPORT:

Parks and Recreation Manager Laurel Strand reported that the annual Richland Senior Association's Mardi Gras ball is Friday, March 1. Ms. Strand also noted that the annual Community College pre-season baseball tournament will be held on March 2 and 3 at Columbia Playfield.

PRESENTATIONS:

Dori Luzzo, Arts Commissioner, presented the Trash Can Art Contest and explained the details and noted that all entries needed to be turned in by Friday, February 15. Ms. Luzzo further explained how the winning artwork would be displayed on certain trash containers in Howard Amon Park.

PUBLIC HEARING:

None

COMMENTS:

PUBLIS COMMENTS:

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Keene Road Trail Master Plan Amendment for Queensgate Village

Parks and Recreation Manager Phil Pinard presented the Keene Road Trail Master Plan amendment for consideration. Mr. Pinard explained that two additional lots have been created in the Queensgate Village Shopping Center which requires additional parking stalls. In addition, the use of the Keene Road trail use continues to increase including the need for additional parking. To meet the parking demands for both trail use and the expansion of Queensgate Village the property owner Andy Kafentzis and City are negotiating a joint parking agreement which will provide reciprocal use of all City and private parking stalls and there will not be any costs associated with the construction of the parking lot.

Vice Chair Jones **moved** to approve the Keene Road Trail Corridor Landscaping Master Plan Amendment for Queensgate Village. Nancy Doran **seconded** the motion. Motion carried.

2. Barth Park Community Gardens

Parks and Recreation Manager Phil Pinard introduced the local Home Depot Manager Isaac Hall. Mr. Hall had expressed an interest in becoming involved in a community project and from a list of several projects is interested in creating a community garden at Barth Park. Commissioners expressed appreciation to The Home Depot.

Mr. Pinard noted that this item will be discussed at the February workshop; a neighborhood meeting will be held in late February or early March, and then presented to the Commission for a recommendation.

3. Claybell Park

Parks and Recreation Manager Phil Pinard indicated that bids were opened on Claybell Park and the low bidder was Culvert Construction. Once bid is awarded, then construction should start in early March and be completed in August or September. Commissioner Nancy

Doran inquired as to whether safeguards are in place and Mr. Pinard indicated that a construction fence would be installed and a damage clause has been identified.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION COMMENTS:

- Jackie Valentino – Good to be back.
- Shanta Katipamula – Subcommittee met with other City department employees to discuss the City's walkability vision.
- Nancy Doran – Also met with Walkability subcommittee to discuss how to encourage people to want to walk.
- Maria Gutierrez – Reminder of presentation of 2012 accomplishments and 2013 goals to City Council on Tuesday, February 19.
- Greg Jones – Suggested staff to provide park tour options at next workshop.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Reviewed by: Joe Schiessl, Parks and Recreation Director

Approved by: _____
Chair Gutierrez, Richland Parks and Recreation

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Phil Pinard, Parks and Recreation Manager

DATE: March 14, 2013

**SUBJECT: NEIGHBORHOOD PARK ON THE CORNER OF WESTCLIFFE BLVD
AND GALA WAY**

RECOMMENDATION

The Parks and Recreation Commission forward a recommendation to City Council to approve the Neighborhood Park Master Plan.

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION

I move that the Parks and Recreation Commission recommend City Council approve the Master Plan for the neighborhood Park on Westcliffe Blvd. and Gala Way identified in Attachment 1.

FISCAL IMPACT

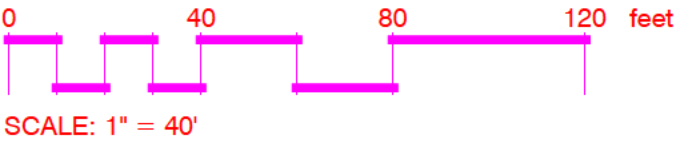
There is no fiscal impact associated with the approval of the master plan. Park District 5 funds have been set aside to implement irrigation installation, hydroseeding, installing trees and purchasing and installing the playground structure.

BACKGROUND

Staff has held two neighborhood meetings, September 19, 2012 and February 13, 2013 and invited representatives from the three adjacent subdivisions, Applewood Estates, Brantingham Greens and Badger Mountain Village. Staff has also met with the Richland School District as they are planning on locating an elementary school south of the park. The plan before the Commission represents the input from the residents, school district and staff and staff.

NEIGHBORHOOD PARK

DRAFT MASTER PLAN



TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Phil Pinard, Parks and Recreation Manager

DATE: February 13, 2013

SUBJECT: Barth Park Community Gardens

MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION

Discussion item only and to receive public input.

BACKGROUND

In September of 2009, staff presented to the Commission suggestions on repurposing parks in south central Richland (Attachment 1) to increase use of the parks. In October of 2009, a public meeting was held to gather residents input on park repurposing ideas. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting and their comments are contained in Attachment 2.

Since 2009, the nature playground has been created at Goethals Park and the lineal arboretum has begun in Gillespie Parkway with the planting a variety of tree species.

In January of 2013, the City was contacted by Isaac Hall the local store manager of The Richland Home Depot. They expressed an interest in becoming involved in a community project. From a list of several projects they are very interested in creating a community garden at Barth Park.

Staff's goal has been to establish community gardens in north, central, south central and south Richland. Currently gardens are provided in central (McMurray Park) and south Richland (Venus Dr.). A draft plan for community gardens at Barth Park is Attachment 3.

In late February staff handed out 180 flyers to residents in the vicinity of Barth Park providing information on the community garden proposal. The responses are attached to the staff report.

It is recommended that the Parks and Recreation Commission consider public testimony and discuss the proposal. Staff will initiate formal design work on the project and continue working with The Home Depot. The item will come back to the Parks and Recreation Commission for formal consideration at the April meeting.

Pinard, Phil

From: Maxine Miner <minermaxine@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 6:08 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth playlot:

Dear Phil:

I have lived here across from the park since 1948! I feel if you make the Barth Playlot into a community Garden instead of the park where the neighbor children play we may have more trouble in this neighborhood! I am not in favor of the entire park being used for the garden, how about a portion instead? Our neighborhood children and adults use the park everynight to play basketball and need somewhere to go! There is nowhere else close by for them to go. Once again I am not in favor of the entire park to be used as a garden.

Pinard, Phil

From: Maxine Miner <minermaxine@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 6:19 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth Playlot: another neighbor 605 Comstock

Phil:

As another neighbor I have a concern that putting a garden will bring more drugs into our neighborhood! This "Garden" would be a place for them to hide their drugs and plants!!! Neighborhood families take their kids to this park and play on the swings and basketball court. Taking this park away will cause the kids to find other activities not so welcome. We dont want anymore drugs or dealers in this neighborhood! Please keep the park as it is! Neighbor at 605 Comstock (you may reach me at this email also I have no computer) thank you Daniel Naugle

Pinard, Phil

From: Maxine Miner <minermaxine@hotmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 6:26 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth Playlot: another neighbor 605 Comstock

Phil:
As another neighbor I have a concern that putting a garden will bring more drugs into our neighborhood! This "Garden" would be a place for them to hide their drugs and plants!!!

Pinard, Phil

From: Michelle Rankin <risingmoonmassage@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, March 07, 2013 9:51 AM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth park

Hello Phil,

We live at 208 Atkins ave and have an 18 month old toddler. We utilize the swing set in the park on a weekly basis and drive by many times a day and never see anyone else there. I have thought for years that it would make a perfect community garden and I'm thrilled you are considering that! Count us in as neighbors in support.

Sincerely,
Michelle, Kyle, and Liam Rankin

Pinard, Phil

From: Karissa Acton <karissa_acton@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 1:14 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Community gardens in central Richland

I would like to let you know I fully support having community garden plots in Barth Park! I know we have a high rental percentage here, and some who may like to have a garden may not have permission to put one in. Thank you for supporting healthy communities!

Karissa Acton

-When you go to bed at night
Dream of stars and feyrie light.

Pinard, Phil

From: Wendy Nelson <Wendy.Nelson@rsd.edu>
Sent: Wednesday, March 06, 2013 9:22 AM
To: Pinard, Phil
Cc: nls3@live.com
Subject: barth playlot

I have lived in this neighborhood most of my life! My children (ages 24, 22, 20 and 10) have all used the playlot and currently still do! All the neighborhood kids use it to play basketball! I live practically next door to barth park. The barth park is always being used after school and during weekends by kids. If you take this away, then where will they play? There is no longer one at Goethals and never was one craighill or howard amon! I say keep the basketball court and concrete and park bench and keep the existing fence and use a portion of the sides of lot for the gardens! PLEASE KEEP THE BASKETBALL COURT FOR OUR KIDS! This is a lower income neighborhood most kids have nowhere else to go!

Pinard, Phil

From: Nancy Skinner <nls3@live.com>
Sent: Monday, March 04, 2013 8:12 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Cc: Kent, Sandra
Subject: Barth Playlot re: Community Garden Concept

Importance: High

Barth Playlot is needed and used. There are no parks in our neighborhood that have a basketball hoop other than Barth Playlot. It is used by children of all ages and adults.

I am not in favor of turning the whole park into a community garden. How about using a portion of it for a community garden and leaving the basketball hoop with concrete slab and swings and picnic table.

Is it an assured guarantee that the community garden concept is going to be a success? Is there a list of people in the community who are already assigned to the garden plots? Before you turn this park into a community garden how about seeing if the proposed community garden plots on Gribble will be a success.

With the plans and draft I have seen of turning the Barth Playlot into a community garden it looks like it is a done deal with a lot of money being spent. How about keeping the current metal fence which requires no maintenance versus a picket fence.

If the Community Garden Concept replaces the park at Barth Playlot then please place a basketball hoop and a slab of concrete in Craighill Park with a picnic table near it for our basketball playing children and adults of our neighborhood.

Your consideration is appreciated.

Nancy Skinner
94 Barth Avenue
28 year Richland Neighbor

Pinard, Phil

From: Jillyn Allred <jillinebinny@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, February 28, 2013 2:34 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth community garden

Good Afternoon Phil,

My friend just mentioned to me that the city is considering putting in community garden plots at the Barth park. I wanted to write to say that I LOVE this idea! When my husband and I lived in Pullman we were renting an apartment and couldn't garden. There was a community garden where we could rent a plot for \$20 and garden whatever we liked (as long as it was organic gardening). They had a shed full of tools with a lock and each person got the combo to access it. It was AMAZING to be able to have our own garden even while renting. I loved meeting the other people there and talking and sharing. They had different events and classes too which were fun! I would fully support a community garden in our neighborhood and I know several other people who would be excited to have a community garden in our area.

Thank you for your consideration and time,

Jillyn Allred

Pinard, Phil

From: Lou Meigs <loumeigs1@frontier.com>
Sent: Wednesday, February 27, 2013 4:30 PM
To: Pinard, Phil
Subject: Barth Park

PLEASE DON'T!!! Please, please, please put in a full basketball court for all of our mid-youth in this area! With the removal of the one in the Goethal's park; the one at Barth is the only basketball like spot for our children who are too old for play toys but too young for leaving the neighborhoods and ridiculous gardens!!!

I love gardens. My yard has been converted to a vegetable/fruit garden with almost all plants being edible. But, our children in these sensitive pre-teen to young teen years need activities that are not as structured as the YMCA or Parks and Rec.. They need open play and the taking of these spaces by the City of Richland has been vicious. My daughter and son have nothing to do on weekends except walk the neighborhoods unless we organize it and our children leave to places where they have a park nearby with basketball facilities. We have a basketball hoop that has stood defunct in our driveway for the last 3 years because of the danger of a ball rolling into the street and traffic going to or from G-Way (one house away) flying down our street at our children! The school yard is not safe. It is too far from homes with families that keep their eyes on it and bullying and attacks from older children are common. The availability of it is low during the school year. With bombs being set off in the school yard and playground equipment being set on fire; it's not what I consider a safe place for my children, at any age.

I don't know who did the "survey" of the Goethal's park to see how often the B-Ball court was used and decided it wasn't used enough was but they were SO WRONG!! I rarely had a chance to go by without seeing people from 4; playing with their dads or older siblings to 54 playing basketball. The scene there now of very few visitors to that end of the park, the look of dying desert and a play structure placed too far back to be in view from the other structures make it appear deserted most days. The bee nests in the "fence" made of felled trees are dangerous; not to mention the jutting angles of the fence itself. It looks like a log pile.

I am from Portland. I recycle. I reuse. I repurpose. We have not a single piece of new furniture in our home. Our clothing is used. Our bed linens are even vintage. We drive vehicles until they won't any longer. We raise chickens and have gardens everywhere you look in our yard. I understand what you are trying to do but it is hitting way off the mark! This neighborhood is full of working families that need places for their children to play nearby. We don't visit cutesy little gardens unless we are on vacations. We are too busy for that. Please stop!!!

When my children played catch in the street years ago, a police officer came by and told us that the street is not a playground and that they were to get in the yard or go to a park. Now that the parks are being stolen from them; I ask you, where are they supposed to go? I have an idea and a look at any inner city neighborhood without a basketball hoop is going to tell you what this neighborhood will be like in 10 years if this continues. This neighborhood has been in a kind of limbo for years and I have had hope for it lately. I suppose I can start investing in bars for my windows now that I know what is coming.

Thanks for the ear.

Lou Meigs
(509)946-0999

2013 SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

March-Aug

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
March 9	High School Softball Jamboree	Columbia Playfield
March 16	St Patty's Day Run	Columbia Park West
March 16	High School Softball Tourney	Columbia Playfield
March 16-17	NSA Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex
March 23	March for Respect	John Dam Plaza
March 23	Heart Chase	Community Center, Various Parks
March 23	Pooch and Pal Fun Run	Columbia Point Marina Park
March 30	Badger Mountain Challenge Run	Trailhead Park
March 30	Morning with Mr. Bunny	Community Center
March 30	TCGFSA Softball Skills Clinic	Columbia Playfield
April 6	NSA One Day Softball Tourney	Horn Rapids Complex
April 6	Walkathon - Tentative	Howard Amon Park
April 6-7	Umpire Blue Softball Tournament	Columbia Playfield
April 7	Kite Festival	Columbia Point Marina Park
April 12-14	NSA Icebreaker Softball Tournament	CP and HR
April 13-14	Table Tennis Tournament	Community Center
April 13	Spring into Summer Fun Run	North Howard Amon REVISED
April 14	Spring Fever 5K Fun Run	North Howard Amon Park 9am
April 16	Clot Trot Fun Run	Howard Amon Park 6:00pm
April 17-21	PS Media Boat Show	Columbia Point Marina Park
April 17-18	TCGFSA 8U &10U Softball Jamboree	Columbia Playfield
April 18	City of Richland Volunteer Appreciation	Community Center
April 20	Liz Duncan Memorial Fun Run	Howard Amon Park 9:30am
April 20	March of Dimes Walkathon	John Dam Plaza 9:00am
April 20-21	TCGFSA 3-Rivers Rally Softball Tourney	Columbia Playfield
April 27	Tri-City Cancer Center Fun Run	Howard Amon Park
April 27	Fund the Future 5K Fun Run	WSU Tri-Cities 10:00am
April 27-28	NSA Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex
May 6	RHSA Men's League Begins	Horn Rapids Complex 5:30pm
May 11	Inland Empire Century Ride	Howard Amon Park
May 18	High School Regional Softball	Columbia Playfield
May 18-19	NSA Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex
May 24-25	1A State Softball Tournament	Columbia Playfield
May 25	Teal and Toe for Ovarian Cancer Walk	Howard Amon Park
May 26	Pacific Northwest Mustang Club Car Show	Howard Amon Park
May 30	Live @ 5 Concert "Flash Mob"	John Dam Plaza
June 1	Safe Harbor Crisis Pancake Breakfast	Jefferson Park 7:00am
June 1-2	TCGFSA 3-Rivers Rally Softball Tourney	Columbia Playfield TBA
June 1-2	Jokers Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex TBA
June 6	Live @ 5 Concert "Foolish Fortune"	John Dam Plaza
June 8-9	NSA Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex TBA
June 13	Live @ 5 Concert "Primitive Circus"	John Dam Plaza
June 15	Northwest Run/Walk for Epilepsy	Jefferson Park 9:00am
June 15	Subplot Trot No4	I-182 Path/Chamna 11:00am
June 22-23	NSA Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex TBA
June 20	Live @ 5 Concert "Groove Principal"	John Dam Plaza
June 20-22	Cool Desert Nights	Uptown Richland Thu 6:00pm

June 29-30	Ye Merrie Greenwood Faire	Howard Amon Park 10am
June 29	Righteous Richland Triathlon	Howard Amon Park 8:30am
June 28-30	NSA State Fastpitch Softball Tournament	Columbia Playfield TBA
July 3	Live @ 5 Concert "Fall Out"	John Dam Plaza
July 5-7	ASA 14U A&B State Softball Tournament	Pasco & Columbia Playfield TBA
July 11	Live @ 5 Concert "Colorblind"	John Dam Plaza
July 18	Live @ 5 Concert "Voodoo Alley"	John Dam Plaza
July 20-21	Jokers Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex TBA
July 20	Shoreline Run	Howard Amon Park 7:00am
July 25	Live @ 5 Concert "Dance Hall Days"	John Dam Plaza
July 26-27	Allied Arts Art in the Park	Howard Amon Park 9:00am
July 26	Country Nesters Antique in the Park	John Dam Plaza 9:00am
Aug 16	Aquaman Duathlon	Howard Amon Park 6:00pm
Aug 16-17	TEM Adult Softball Tournament	Horn Rapids Athletic Complex TBD
Aug 17	Titanium Man Jr. Triathlon	Howard Amon Park 9:00am
Aug 30	Titanium Man Triathlon	Columbia Park West 9:00am
Aug 30-Sept1	Tumbleweed Music Festival	Howard Amon Park 10:00am

Parks and Recreation Department March 2013

Planning and Construction Division

Claybell Park

Staff worked with local experts to identify native plants in the Claybell Park expansion area to be relocated to previously disturbed areas. The City's tree space was used to move the plants to an area designated as natural open space in the Claybell Park Master Plan. Local native plant enthusiasts were given access to the site to harvest additional plantings March 2 - 5. Colbert Construction is beginning work this week starting with the installation of construction and silt fences prior to clearing and grading activity.



Service projects

Brian Standard, Tyler Emel, Young Marines, and their friends Riley Phillips and Audrey Standard picked up litter around the shops

Mark Hayden, for his Eagle Scout project spread 120 yards of landscaping rock along the Keene Road trail in front of Cherry Wood estates

Daniel Elliot, for his Eagle Scout project built and with the help of the Parks and Facilities crew installed a bike rack at Trailhead Park.



Recreation Division

KVEW Television – Dog Training

Dog trainer Krystal Ellingson was a guest on the Good Morning Northwest show on KVEW television Tuesday, February 19, 2013. Krystal runs her own business called Speak Dog Tri Cities and she teaches a variety of dog training classes at the Richland Community Center for the Richland Parks and Recreation Department.

Pictured are Dog trainer Krystal Ellingson, Good Morning Northwest hostess Emily Jaceks and a pair of puppies belonging to Seahawks QB Russell Wilson and GM John Schneider.



Middle School Night Out

The annual *Middle School Night Out* event was held at the Richland Community Center on Friday, February 8th. Ninety-three teens from all over the Tri-Cities enjoyed a wide variety of exciting activities. The teens were kept busy as they enjoyed dodgeball, karaoke, geocaching, picture booth, dancing (hosted by Riverside DJs), Wii, and new games this year, “Shoe Fly Shoe” and “Sharpshooter.” Oh, and of course, lots and lots of pizza.



Town Hall Meeting

Representative Larry Haler held a town hall meeting Saturday, February 16th at the Richland Community Center. The event coordinator indicated that this was the largest turnout ever, and they appreciated the use of the building for this purpose.



Community Garden Workshop

Park Ranger Jen gave a presentation at the Community Garden Workshop at the Kennewick Senior Center on Wednesday, February 13th. The workshop was conducted by WSU Extension and the Master Gardeners of Benton and Franklin Counties. There were a total of 52 participants. About a third were Master Gardeners, many of whom are, or will be mentors for community gardeners. Eleven different community gardens were represented. Ranger Jen shared with the participants the effort it took to get Richland Community Gardens started, and how the gardens are sustained and improved.



Fun, Fit & Over Fifty

The Fun, Fit and Over Fifty Club celebrated its 10th Anniversary at their annual meeting on Thursday, Feb 21 at the Shilo Inn. Recreation Coordinator Stan Johnson was asked to speak at the function to present to current members how the club started. Richland Parks and Recreation partnered with Jim Watkins to create a Wednesday Hike program that targeted active older adults in 2002-2003. The hikes quickly grew in popularity with as many as 50 people participating in some hikes. Jim Watkins was able to use the popularity of the hikes to create the Fun, Fit and Over Fifty Club. The club now has more than 300 members and offers a large number of different activities.



Mystery Trip for February

The February 27th Mystery Trip began with a visit to the Powerhouse Theater in Walla Walla. The docent presented an interesting history of this grand old building that had provided electricity to the area for so many years. As a theater, it provides an unusual and creative venue. Many in the group plan to come back for a performance in the spring. A delicious lunch was provided by Mill Creek Brewpub, which had been strongly suggested by the staff at the theater. The recommendation was appreciated, as the food was outstanding. The Kirkman Mansion was next on the agenda. This historic Victorian mansion put a sparkle in the eyes of the visitors who recognized many artifacts similar to those used by their own parents, or grandparents. The Whitman Mission was the last stop, and the favorite of many who had not visited the area since childhood. Several purchased cookbooks and were anxious to get home to experiment. The trip was quite a success.



Collegiate Softball Tournament at Columbia Playfield

The annual Community College Woman's Fastpitch Softball Pre-Season Tournament was held at Columbia Playfield on March 2-3. Seventeen teams from throughout the Northwest participated in the tournament, providing an economic impact of \$61,380. The tournament was hosted by the Tri-City Tournament Committee and Walla Walla Community College. It was the first tournament of the 2013 softball season.



Parks and Facilities

Recent and On-Going Projects

Eagle Scouts pouring concrete to install a bike rack that they built. Two Parks and Facilities staff members are assisting with the project.



The crew continues clean up from the wind storm that took place in December, 2012. More than 50 tree stumps have been removed to date. The stump in the photo was removed from Goethals Park.



A total of seven step and washes were installed in two facilities, three at the Library and four at the Community Center. This equipment promotes hygiene, as the steps allow children to reach the sink by themselves.



Upcoming Events/Activities

March for Respect

The City of Richland has partnered with ARC of Tri-Cities and other agencies to host *March for Respect*, in honor of Developmental Disabilities Month. The event takes place March 23 at 12:00 pm and begins in John Dam Plaza. State and City dignitaries will lead the “march.” Free hotdogs and drinks will be available, along with t-shirts, which may be purchased.

Morning with Mr. Bunny... and Pancakes too!

Saturday, March 30 will find children eating pancakes, enjoying arts and crafts and searching for colorful eggs at the Richland Community Center and Howard Amon Park. Festivities begin at 9:30am with the breakfast, which runs concurrently with the arts and crafts activities. The egg hunt begins at 10:30am. There are four age groups to ensure that each child has an opportunity to gather their share of eggs. New this year is a coloring contest. The coloring page can be found on line at richlandparksandrec.com, or may be picked up at the Community Center. \$5.50 (R) / \$6.75 (N) Includes breakfast and activities for those 10 and under \$3.75 for breakfast only

Kite Festival

Richland Parks and Recreation is partnering with the Ben Franklin Kite Society to produce the Annual Kite Festival Sunday, April 7 from 11:00am to 4:00pm at Columbia Point Marina Park. This no-fee event is meant to bring parents, grandparents and kids together to fly kites the way it was done in the old days!

HeartChase Tri-Cities

Parks and Recreation, in partnership with Kadlec Hospital is hosting the 2nd Annual HeartChase Tri-Cities on Saturday March 23rd to benefit the American Heart Association. HeartChase involves teams of two to five people walking to 10 different checkpoints. Each checkpoint has a task that must be completed for the team to earn points. These tasks involve health related challenges, trivia and education. The event headquarters is the Richland Community Center with checkpoints spread to a variety of different parks and facilities in Richland. The Tri-Cities event is the only HeartChase in the state of Washington. Last year's HeartChase attracted the largest participation and achieved the 2nd most donations of any other of the 70 different HeartChase events held across the nation.