

MEMORANDUM

Parks and Recreation Department

To: Parks and Recreation Commission and City Manager

From: Ambyr Severson, Recreation Coordinator

Date: 4/5/2024

Subject: April Reports



Parks: Staff has been hard at work preparing the parks for the upcoming season. They added concrete sidewalks to the pavilion and restroom facility at Turtle Creek Park. They inventoried lighting fixtures in pavilions and restrooms in all parks. Approximately 18 of 58 lights were not working. Staff is working on reducing lights from 8 metal halides to 3 LEDs in each of the pavilions. This will brighten the facilities and reduce electrical costs overall. Overall, the project cost is approximately \$2,500. Staff trimmed and removed dead trees in the parks. Seasonal staff starts April 15th. Tennis and volleyball nets were put up on March 20th.

Community Center: CertaPro Painters painted the Community Center room, kitchen and bathroom vestibule the week of April 1st, just in time for graduation season!

Program Happenings!

Tree giveaway: In an effort to replace trees lost in the 2020 derecho, Hiawatha has partnered with Monarch Research Project to provide residents with up to three free trees. 18 homes collectively adopted 47 trees. They plan to distribute trees on April 17th.

Farmers State Bank: On March 18th, Ambyr Severson accepted a check from Farmers State Bank to support the Family Formal this September. We are thankful for their continued support.

IPRA Spring Conference: Ambyr attended the Iowa Parks and Recreation Spring Conference in Des Moines March 26 - 28. She attended sessions over recreation programming, inclusive playgrounds, women in parks and recreation, workplace ecosystems and more. She is grateful for the opportunity to step away from the day-to-day responsibilities and learn from respected colleagues in the field.

Snapology: We're excited to partner with Snapology of Hiawatha to offer STEM programming on Monday, April 22nd, a no-school day for Cedar Rapids Community School District students. They offer classes for ages 5-12 and they start at \$36. Find more information at <https://embed.snapology.com/licensee/147/events/location>

Bike Helmet Giveaway: One month from today is the first farmers market of the season and the Friends of Hiawatha Parks and Recreation Foundation's annual Bike Helmet Giveaway. Join us on Sunday, May 5th at 10am in Guthridge Park to receive a free bicycle helmet, while supplies last.

Soccer: Registrations are flying in! Deadline to register is May 5th.

The numbers are as follows:

29 registered for MW (3-4-year-olds)

23 registered for TTH (3-4-year-olds)

24 registered for Rec United Soccer (5-9-year-olds)

Garage Sales: Garage Sales are scheduled for Saturday, May 4th! Registration is open through April 29th. Pick up your garage sale map at Hiawatha City Hall starting Wednesday, May 1st!

Yoga with Cynthia: Register for Session 2: Yoga with Cynthia at www.bit.ly/Hi-Yoga today! Mondays from April 29th - May 20th, 8:30am - 9:30am. \$50. We have one registration thus far.

Ukulele Classes: Two beginners and three somewhat experienced ukulele players are taking lessons from Music on the Move's, Lisa Klostermann. Classes were \$105/person/session.

Easter Egg Hunt: An estimated 300 people attended the annual Hiawatha Easter Egg Hunt. Several commission members and their families helped distribute over 5,000 eggs throughout Guthridge Park on Saturday, March 30th. Century21 Real Estate Team sponsored the event and registered participants for a chance to win a easter basket!

Egg my Yard: 36 yards were egged on Easter morning! The foundation collected approximately \$733 after eventbrite fees and covering the cost of eggs.

Farmers Market: Hiawatha Farmers Market begins Sunday, May 5th from 10am - 1pm in Guthridge Park. There's 42 vendors and a variety of products. Planned events include the helmet giveaway on opening day, New Horizons Band concert on July 7th and Fall Festival on the final day of the market.

Red Cross Babysitter's Training: Babysitter's Training Class is full! 12 students are registered to learn the basics of babysitting on Saturday, April 20th at 8:30am in the Hiawatha Community Center. Cost was \$130/student. An additional class is scheduled for Saturday, September 21st.

River Lunch Cruise: 18 registrants are signed up to ride a chartered bus from Hiawatha to Dubuque to cruise the Mississippi River while listening to some live classic music. Tickets are \$105. Date is September 11th.

Blastball: 36 signed up for 3-4 year old blastball and 16 are signed up for 5-6 year old blastball! Ambyr is planning on attending the Hiawatha Kids League Coaches Meeting for hands-on training on April 5th.

Summer Camp: Participants will have opportunities to listen and learn from exciting speakers, make new friends, go on field trips and engage in additional fun activities outdoors. This program encourages developing friendships and group participation. Children will meet at the Green Pavilion in Guthridge Park and are required to bring sack lunches and a snack each day. A schedule of activities will be available to participants one week before each session begins. T-shirt included. Limited to 24 registrants. 3 are signed up for session 1 and 3 are signed up for session 2.

March Analytics Snapshot: <https://bit.ly/3TA8Zc4>