

# City of Greer Parks & Recreation Department

## Monthly Report for October 2014



*The City of Greer Parks and Recreation Department is committed to fulfilling our mission of providing quality recreational experiences while administering the values of community image, human development, preservation of environmental resources, health and wellness, economic development and cultural unity.*

### Department Projects

- ◆ On October 8, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with Shirley Carlson from the Azalea Garden Club regarding a project to repaint the marker and install landscaping at the Blue Star Memorial Highway Marker at Century Park.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Bruce Viehman participated in a final walkthrough, on October 20, for the Trade Street landscape project.

### Department Trainings

- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson and Justin Miller attended the National Recreation Parks Association (NRPA) National Conference in Charlotte, NC October 13-17.
- ◆ Staff members in the Parks and Recreation Department completed quarterly MASC Online Training. The courses completed were Stress and Your Health and Volunteers Working with Children and Adolescents.

### Department Participation

- ◆ On October 21, members of the Parks and Recreation Department met with other City Departments and Greer Relief in preparation for the Greer Christmas Parade to be held on December 7.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the City of Greer Staff Retreat on October 23-24 at Greer City Hall.
- ◆ Staff members attended the Human Resources Department and the Safety Committee's annual Safety Breakfast at City Hall on October 10.
- ◆ The Recreation Division participated in the Friends of Lake Robinson Day event on October 12. The department provided games and information on recreational activities.
- ◆ On October 20, Ann Cunningham and Red Watson met with Amy Blinson of South Carolina Parks, Recreation and Tourism (SCPRT) to discuss grant guidelines and information for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) grant to construct a new concession, restrooms and press box at Century Park.
- ◆ Staff members of the Parks & Recreation Department participated in the Wellness Committee's Dinner and Discussion on communication featuring speaker Dr. Paul Gunter, LMFT, LPC on October 21 at City Hall on October 21.

- ◆ Justin Miller attended the Leadership Development Council meeting at the Greater Greer Chamber of Commerce, on October 21, to discuss the upcoming sessions of Leadership Greer and Jr. Leadership Greer. Justin is currently planning 2 upcoming sessions for the programs.
- ◆ Greer Recreation Association Board meeting was held on October 23 at the Operations Center Conference Room.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham attended the Greer Development Corporation's annual meeting on October 30.
- ◆ On October 31, the annual Employee Halloween Costume Contest as well as the new United Way Employee Carnival was held at Greer City Hall and City Park. Julia Harrill and Ashlyn Stone entered the Annual Halloween Costume Contest as fellow Parks and Recreation Grounds Keepers and won the Duo Division award. Ann Cunningham joined Mr. Driggers, Mike Sell and many department heads for the first ever pie throwing contest to benefit the United Way Campaign.
- ◆ New park benches were installed at Springwood Park and Greentown Park. The restrooms and concession building were winterized at Stevens Field. Winter annuals were installed at Greer City Park.
- ◆ Trees and shrubs were pruned at the Police and Fire Department's parking lot.

## Department Highlights

- ◆ Ann Cunningham, Red Watson, Reno Deaton and Mark Owens met with Bob Brookover, on October 2 and 28, regarding an Economic Impact Study for the City of Greer.
- ◆ The annual George Crossland Memorial Tennis tournament was held on October 4-5 at the Tryon Recreation Center Tennis Courts. The tournament was well attended and a \$400 donation was given to the Greer Tennis Fund.
- ◆ Ann Cunningham met with Jennifer Plourde, A Oak Farms, on October 8 to review the status of the Christmas decorations to be hung throughout the City of Greer facilities.
- ◆ The Special Olympics Fall Games Disc Golf competition was held at Century Park on October 11. This year was the first time Special Olympics held a disc golf event. The Grounds Division spent a great deal of time preparing the course for this event.
- ◆ The Athletic Division facilitated practices and games at Country Club Road Park, City Stadium, Turner Park, Century Park, Victor Park, J. Harley Bonds, Riverside Middle School and South Suber Road Park.

- ◆ Foothills Soccer Club of Greer (FSCG) season concluded with their annual playoffs at South Suber Road Park. All FSCG academy divisions are currently in season and will conclude with their annual Fall Challenge. South Carolina Youth Soccer Association games were hosted during October at South Suber Road Park and included teams from throughout the state. FSCG board met to discuss the upcoming spring season.



- ◆ Greer Baseball Club (GBC) concluded their fall season with GBC academy teams still playing. Their season will conclude in early November. The GBC Board met to discuss the upcoming spring season. Girls' softball practices and games continue at Victor Park on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.
- ◆ The men's 10 week fall slow pitch softball league regular season concluded at Century Park. The playoffs will begin the first week of November.
- ◆ Youth wrestling and adult basketball registration began the first week of October with play starting after Thanksgiving. Both programs will utilize Victor Gym on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

- ◆ The Upstate Jackets youth football and cheerleading were facilitated at City Stadium with 8U, 10U and 12U teams competing in league play on Mondays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Teams practiced on average 3 days per week at J. Harley Bonds, Riverside Middle, Little Turner and City Stadium. The season will conclude in November with the annual Greer City Playoffs at City Stadium. Youth night at Dooley Field was held on October 10. All youth football and cheerleading participants were invited on the field for pregame warmups and met the high school Yellow Jackets coaches and players. All volunteers and players were recognized at halftime.



- ◆ Justin Miller established a monthly city wide inspection of each Alternative External Defibrillators (AED) unit to be completed by designated employees. The units were installed in 8 facilities (Operations Center, Police Department Lobby, Courts Department Lobby, Cannon Centre, City Hall, Victor Gym, Needmore Community Center and Tryon Recreation Center) and 5 are mobile units to be utilized by the Grounds, Events and Athletic Divisions.
- ◆ On October 1, Justin Miller attended the Greenville Elks Lodge meeting on Pelham Road to receive a sponsorship check in the amount of \$500 for the Athletic and Recreation Divisions programs.
- ◆ The Recreation Division hosted 3 days of Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) training for the Fire Department at the Victor Gym on October 9, 16 and 17.
- ◆ Seniors Out and ARound (SOAR) participated in a lunch bunch meeting at Bucky's BBQ in Greenville. They traveled to the Skytop Orchard in Hendersonville. The SOAR and Senior Action groups held a Pumpkin Painting Craft Day and a Line Dancing Day at the Needmore Community Center. SOAR continued to hold their monthly potluck lunch, movies and bingo days. Average attendance during October was 18.
- ◆ The Greer Children's Theater performed 6 shows of *Shrek the Musical* on October 16-19 and 24-26 at the J. Harley Bonds Career Center. Greer Cultural Arts sold 1,736 seats and received great reviews.



- ◆ The Events Division hosted 53 events, at which over 8,800 guests visited the City of Greer Events Center.
- ◆ Susana Rivera, Events Assistant, gave birth to beautiful twin girls, Mia and Lia, on Octboer 10! Mother and twins are doing great!



- ◆ The Events Division hosted the South Carolina Quarterly Fire Marshal Training in Greer City Hall on October 14. A total of 120 fire marshals from around the state attended the training.

- ◆ On October 21, the Events Division hosted the Greer Community Master Plan Workshop at the Cannon Centre. The event afforded the Greater Greer community the opportunity to express their visions for the future of Greer. Ann Cunningham and Red Watson attended the workshop.
- ◆ Halloween Hoopla presented by Freedom Fellowship Church returned to Greer City Park on October 25. An estimated 3,000 people came to the park for free crafts, inflatables and of course candy at Candy Lane.
- ◆ The Parks & Recreation Department partnered with Greer Station Association for Halloween in Greer Station on October 28. The department provided the inflatable movie screen and hosted free showings of *Hotel Transylvania* and *Night of the Living Dead*.
- ◆ Community events, hosted by several politicians, were held at Greer City Hall including Senator Tim Scott's discussion on Veterans, Election Poll Worker Training Class, and a town meeting for Representative Phyllis Henderson.
- ◆ The Parks and Recreation Department staff continued planning 2014 events such as: Thanksgiving Art Show and Christmas at the City of Greer.



***"Creating Community through People, Parks and Programs"***