

## **Recreation Facilities and programming:**

### **Parks**

- Parks is participating in a pilot program with [Throne Labs](#). Throne Labs provide a smart, sparkling clean bathroom that can be placed anywhere. These will be placed at the following parks to replace traditional port-a-potties.
  - Liberty Plaza
  - West Park
  - Riverside Park (Border to Border)
  - Farmers Market
  - Veterans Memorial Park
  - Skate Park at Veterans Memorial Park

### **Liveries:**

- The liveries are open for rentals for the season.
- We have begun our River instruction and programming.
- The liveries are working with the contractors of the Gallup bridge project to keep river traffic open during the construction.
- The solar array on the Gallup building is completed

### **GIVE/AAP:**

- [May Gazette](#)
- Erika Smith, Recreation Supervisor at GIVE365 is leaving on May 17<sup>th</sup>

### **Cobblestone Farm, Field Rentals and Park Rentals**

- Rentals of park shelters, spaces and athletic fields began April 15<sup>th</sup> and are very busy.
- Cobblestone Farm has begun wedding season at the barn.

### **Golf:**

- All of our Junior Golf Camps for the season are at full capacity.
- All of our Adult Golf Classes for the spring/summer are at full capacity.
- NAP conducted an approximately 7-acre controlled burn in the Huron Hills Golf Course Woods, supporting the long-term management goals of those higher-quality woodlands.
- The solar panel installations at both golf courses are complete:
  - Leslie Park has panels on the Maintenance Barn roof, the field near the irrigation pump house and near the cart pen and clubhouse.
  - Huron Hills has panels near the irrigation pump house and the clubhouse.

### **Farmers Market:**

- The Wednesday Market began for the season on May 1. Saturday Market shifted to regular season hours from winter hours on May 4.
- The market office building closed after market on May 1 and staff has transitioned to a temporary construction trailer on site. The demolition schedule is pending the bidding process.
- A2 Community Keys, a project of the Ann Arbor Summer Festival placed 3 pianos at locations around town, including the Market, Michigan Theater, and Undergrad Library. Their grand opening concert was at Wednesday Market on May 1. They hosted another concert during

Saturday Market on May 11. They have 4 more concerts scheduled during market hours before the projects draws to a close on June 21.

- Flower Day, our annual celebration of flowers and plants returns on May 26. A partnership with the Sunday Artisan Market, it features our flower and plant growers, artisan vendors, live music, kids' activities, prepared food, and more.
- We are already averaging above 75 vendors each Saturday market in May. These numbers are higher than the last two years, hinting at us having a very full market for the duration of the market season. We have 125 vendors on our roster starting the regular season.
- We have been selected to participate in a USDA Farmers Market Promotion Project led by Michigan State University and the University of Wisconsin-Madison. This will entail four visits by researchers throughout the season to help expand our reach throughout the area.

#### **Buhr Park:**

- The pool is filled and in the process of getting ready for the summer season
- Roller derby has started another season in the rink for the summer

#### **Mack:**

- Mack closed on May 10 and finished the season strong. We gave over 1300 private lessons this year and had nearly 500 total swim team participants between our fall, winter and spring sessions.

#### **Veterans:**

- The ice rink is officially closed for the season. We are looking to growing our hockey programming this offseason for next year
- The pool is getting cleaned and filled starting May 4<sup>th</sup> and we are looking forward to opening on May 25<sup>th</sup>

#### **Senior Center:**

- The Ann Arbor Senior Center has started the 2024 Senior Park Walk season.
  - Eleva Potter (NAP) has been leading our walks and providing wonderful insight on all things nature: wildflowers, water fowl, and spring blooms.
- Eleva Potter also offered a course on the Art and Science of Invasive Species where participants made meals, paper and an earth loom out of common invasive plants.
- We are hosting a new Creative Writing Workshop lead by a local professional editor and writing coach, Emily Buckler.
- We also have several new tech workshops, a senior caregiver support group, and new Lunch & Learn topics: Fall Risk Reduction, Choosing the Best Type of Community for Your Loved One, and 10 Essential Questions to Ask Your Doctor.
- Early May our spring semester of Senior Focus Classes start.
  - These classes are provided in partnership with WCC: Tai Chi, Adventures in Watercolor, Line Dancing, Yoga, Italian Language, and Strength and Conditioning.
- Mark your calendars for June 14<sup>th</sup>, we're hosting our spring blood drive with Versiti from 10 a.m.- 2:30 p.m., sign up [here](#)!

#### **Conservation Ops**

#### **NAP:**

- In collaboration with The Applied Earth Observations Innovation Partnership's annual workshop, NAP hosted a nature walk and demonstration burn for experts in remote sensing from NASA and USGS to give them a first-hand perspective of land management and prescribed fire.
- NAP hosted our annual spring invasive pull with Community High School. Over 300 students pitched in to remove nearly 6000 pounds of invasive weeds from our natural areas.
- In April and May NAP continued to provide bi-weekly Environmental Education programming at the Byrant Community Center for after school care. NAP offered two programs at the Ann Arbor District Library: Nature Inspired Block printing for Teens and Adults, and Nature Journaling for K-5 students and an adult, each program had about 30 participants. NAP created two public Nature Craft Programs for K-5 students and an adult: Build a Turtle and Build a Butterfly.
- NAP hosted two community science kickoffs: Turtle Stewards Training and Breeding Bird Survey Training. These programs attracted 39 and 16 volunteers, respectively.

**Greenbelt:**

- Greenbelt staff will be developing the operational structure of the "Bluebelt" over the next six months. Have already met with several stakeholders.