

## **Recreation Facilities and programming:**

### **Buhr Park:**

- Buhr Ice Area opened for the season on November 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Mack:**

- Mack has sold out of our private lesson offerings with nearly 300 lessons scheduled thus far.

### **Veterans:**

- Vets has 373 people signed up for skating lessons this session.

### **Senior Center:**

- Staff hosted its first (of hopefully many) Friendsgiving Event on Nov. 13. F
  - Food was donated by Olive Garden, Texas Roadhouse, and Bushe's, and Kerrytown Markets and Shops donated a \$100 gift card for a drawing.
- NAP's newest staff member Eleva Potter is hosting a series: Introduction to Nature Journaling at the center that many members are excited about.
- On Dec. 19 a blood drive through Versiti is open to the public.
- Two new weekly programs were added to the schedule, one is an open artist studio for members to come and work on art projects in a social environment. The other is a weekly scrabble game.
- To end the year off, we have several fun pop-up activities that include: Multigenerational Creature Crafts: DIY Cat and Dog Toys with the HVHS, Snow Social Drive-Through Event, Winter Wonderland Painting Workshop with Atria Senior Living and Arbor Hospice, Travelogues with George: Iberia and Viking Saga, as well as additional Zoom activities that include six extra holiday break trivia games, a peace rock painting workshop, and a focaccia bread making workshop.

### **Golf:**

- The nice October weather meant that the golf courses remained busy with 2,738 rounds at Leslie and 2,118 rounds at Huron Hills.

### **Ann Arbor Farmers Market**

- On October 18 we hosted our last monthly Food Truck Rally at the market, with 13 food trucks and carts attending. We had good weather and a pretty good turnout with a thousand attendees.
- Our Saturday Markets have been packed with vendors, food trucks, and live music for most of the summer! In October, we averaged 80-85 vendors each market day, with market stalls spilling into the parking lot area with vendors, prepared food, and food trucks. We continue to have very large customer turnouts on Saturdays, with thousands of visitors attending each week.
- Wednesday Market is our 'Community Day', where we host local educational organizations, non-profits, and City departments to provide information about their programs and get the public involved. This season we have hosted: Ann Arbor Greenbelt, Ann Arbor Senior Center, Ann Arbor Meals on Wheels, Ann Arbor Water, Clear Computing, Ecology Center, Fresh Start Clubhouse, Growing Hope, Judson Center, Michigan Farmlink/Washtenaw County Conservation District, MSU Extension, Samaritas, Supportive Connections, Washtenaw Community College, UM Dietetics & Public Health, UM Social Minds Lab, UM Wolverine Street Medicine, Washtenaw

County Health Department, Washtenaw ISD Head Start, APIAVote, & ZeroWaste.Org. We have also had a lot of school field trips visit us in the month of October.

#### **Liveries:**

- The Liveries are closed for the season.
- The Trick or Treat paddle went great. The cooler weather made for the perfect participant turnout. We got nothing but compliments about how great the event was, Erika and the GIVE staff do such a great job. The lawn was full of patrons playing yard games and all the trick or treat stations in and along the river had amazing volunteers handing out candy. Gallup had just over 500 people (531) come boating. We had a manageable line through the whole event. Lots of great costumes and happy families.

#### **GIVE/AAP**

- [November GIVE Gazette](#)
- Adopt-A-Park is saying goodbye to Melissa Schacht who has been the AAP coordinator since 2016. Her last day is on December 8<sup>th</sup> and she will be pursuing new adventures in Austin, Texas. Staff and adopters are really going to miss Melissa. See the flyer below.

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

- Approximately 34 park locations were used 1930 times by 153,375 people between April 1 2023 – October 31 2023
- Parks will host the Holiday Gift Market at Liberty Plaza for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year on Friday December 1 2023, 5-9pm. We have partnered with the Kerrytown District Association to offer two holiday shopping events – Holiday Gift Market and Kindlefest – during Moonlight Madness downtown Ann Arbor.
- Solar panel installation at Cobblestone Farm began Tuesday November 14 and is expected to finish by Thursday November 30.

#### **Conservation Ops**

#### **NAP:**

- NAP held public strategic planning sessions on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. While the public feedback has not been fully synthesized into recommendations for the strategic plan at this point, there is clear and ardent support for NAP's mission and programming by the attendees. Attendees challenge NAP's current form and context, and expressed an array of thoughts on potential program improvements and expansions to consider for the future.
- NAP has welcomed two new staff in the past few months: Eleva Potter, NAP's first-ever Environmental Education & Engagement Coordinator, and Rachel Maranto, NAP's newest Stewardship Supervisor. Eleva joined NAP in late August and has hit the ground running making connections to develop an expanded portfolio of environmental education opportunities in our community, and she comes to the City with an extensive environmental education background. Rachel (re)joined the City last month, and after spending over a decade leading stewardship efforts across Michigan and beyond. We're thrilled Rachel's career boomeranged and she's landed in the City parks once more.

#### **Greenbelt:**

- The Greenbelt has successfully submitted four (4) USDA NRCS ACEP-ALE grants applications totaling \$1.2M in financial assistance for City conservation easement acquisitions. The Greenbelt averages two (2) ACEP-ALE applications annually, so this is an exceptional year for the City's Greenbelt grant submissions.
- The Greenbelt Advisory Commission has recommended to City Council the selection of two purchasers of the City's first-ever buy-protect-sell property. The purchases will advance to City Council for consideration in late December. This recommendations comes after extensive staff review, scoring and ranking, and represent a key milestone in the buildout of the Greenbelt's innovative buy-protect-sell acquisition framework.

# Adopt-a-Park End of Year Celebration & Farewell to Melissa

**Friday, December 8, 4-7pm (Drop in any time)  
Leslie Park Golf Course Clubhouse (2120 Traver Road)**



We'll have a brief program at 6pm to highlight the season and share a tribute to Melissa. Enjoy light refreshments with a cash bar option. We hope to see you there!

Kindly RSVP by December 6 to [adopt-a-park@a2gov.org](mailto:adopt-a-park@a2gov.org) or [esmith@a2gov.org](mailto:esmith@a2gov.org)

