

# NOTES

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members  
FROM: Ann E. Wall, City Manager  
DATE: October 23, 2019  
SUBJECT: Materials for Your Information

Please find attached the following materials for your information:

1. A memo from Gary Fenton, Recreation and Parks Director, regarding a beach volleyball update
2. A memo from Gary Fenton, Recreation and Parks Director, Veterans Day Ceremony on November 11, 2019 at 11:00 a.m. at the Town Common
3. A memo from Gary Fenton, Recreation and Parks Director, regarding the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Arts Festival
4. A memo from Gary Fenton, Recreation and Parks Director, regarding a community outreach update

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Attachments

# Memo

**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks *GF*  
**Date:** October 23, 2019  
**Re:** Beach Volleyball Project Update

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Recreation and Parks staff continue to work with citizens of Greenville on a proposed tournament level beach volleyball facility. The project continues to move forward and staff are now accepting construction bids, as well as considering programming plans for the anticipated facility.

The sport of beach volleyball is increasing in popularity across the country. This includes the Greenville community, where we have three young participants who are nationally ranked. Today there are more youth and adults playing the game than ever before.

This new facility would allow the hosting of beach volleyball tournaments, provide a positive economic impact, decrease the necessity for travel for local families, and provide additional recreational opportunities for the youth and adults in our community.

For the last several months, Recreation and Parks staff have worked with citizens on fundraising efforts. To date, \$26,276 has been raised. With additional donated funds of \$23,588, the grand total comes to \$49,864. Supporters will continue fundraising efforts while staff receive completed bid packages from contractors.

The bid package for the new beach volleyball facility can be found on the City's website at the link below:

<https://www.greenvillenc.gov/government/financial-services/current-bid-opportunities>


Bids are due Friday, November 1<sup>st</sup> at 10 am. At that time, staff will review the bids received and determine the next phase of the project.

We will continue to meet regularly with supporters to provide updates as needed.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Michael Cowin, Assistant City Manager

# Memo

**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks   
**Date:** October 23, 2019  
**Re:** Veterans Day plans for Town Common

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Recreation and Parks staff have been working with members of the Pitt County Veterans Council to coordinate a ceremony at the Town Common to honor veterans. Historically, the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month signaled the end of WWI, and that date is now observed as Veterans Day, in honor of the service of all U.S. military veterans, living and deceased.

Locally, this year's ceremony will be held at 11:00 am on Monday, November 11<sup>th</sup> at Town Common, honoring all area veterans. The event will take place near the Veterans Memorial, and Council members and the public are invited to attend the ceremony.

Members of the Pitt County Veterans Council plan to meet this Thursday at 6:00 pm to finalize all details for this year's event. Recreation and Parks staff intend to meet with members of the Veterans Council next week to help coordinate event planning and provide support wherever possible. Staff will provide updates as they become available.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Michael Cowin, Assistant City Manager



**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks   
**CC:** Michael Cowin, Assistant City Manager  
**Date:** October 23, 2019  
**Re:** Youth Arts Festival

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The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Youth Arts Festival brought together art, cultural learning and great young talent for a vibrant, beautiful day at Town Common on Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. The event is a collaboration between the City of Greenville Recreation and Parks Department (GRPD), the Pitt County Arts Council at Emerge and East Carolina University School of Art and Design.

Last year, the Community Youth Arts Festival, previously held at ECU, merged with the *Celebration of Youth Expressions Performing and Visual Arts* talent show, managed by Recreation and Parks, to create a single festival. 2019 is the second year the event has been hosted at Town Common.

Recreation and Parks special events staff serve on the planning committee and have attended meetings throughout the summer to help organize the event. Responsibilities included recruiting vendors, sponsors and volunteers, and organizing performers for the Youth Expressions Talent Show.

More than 2,500 youth and adults visited the event on Saturday there at Town Common, participating in various arts and crafts projects and exhibits organized by over 40 local organizations. The staff at the *Jaycee Park Center for Arts and Crafts* participated as one of the 40 vendors. The GRPD tent was visited by hundreds of families throughout the day, providing a great opportunity for staff to share the creative programs offered at the center.

During the festival, multi-cultural acts performed at the amphitheater stage, including the *Magic of African Rhythm* from Durham, *Elissa Carmona and the Morrisania Band Project* and the *Twisted Knot*, an Irish folk band.

The event concluded with the Youth Expressions Talent Show on the amphitheater stage from 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm. The show was initially developed some years ago by Lillian and Freddie Outterbridge with support from GRPD staff, and was designed to identify and support young people wanting to develop their performance skills. This year featured 19 acts, including soloists, instrumentalists and dancers.

GRPD staff look forward to planning the next Youth Arts Festival, scheduled for the fall 2020. The images that follow provide a glimpse into the activities and performances of the day.

Please let me know if you have any questions.



# Memo

**To:** Ann Wall, City Manager  
**From:** Gary Fenton, Director of Recreation and Parks   
**Date:** October 23, 2019  
**Re:** Community Outreach Update

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Recreation Staff at both South Greenville Recreation Center (**SGRC**) and Eppes Recreation Center (**ERC**) have been working diligently to connect with the community through teen programming, public health awareness, and special events. Over the past few months both centers have teamed up with local non-profits to host several community events. Staff at both facilities take pride in serving the public and being a place where the community can flourish.

A few highlights: **SGRC** has become a hub for adolescents to gather and thrive. With the recent implementation of the teen lounge and computer lab, youth now have a place where they can socialize, play video games, and work on homework. Before the school year began, SGRC teamed up with Faith Church for the ‘*Back2School*’ community event that provided the young participants with book bags and supplies for the upcoming school year. In partnership with Faith and Freedom Church, South Greenville will host a *Harvest Night* on October 31<sup>st</sup> for area families. There will be games, candy, and food for all ages.

Also at SGRC, on December 14<sup>th</sup>, will be the annual “*GiveBack*” event. The evening, hosted in partnership with Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, will provide a safe environment for families to socialize, receive free gifts and enjoy games and food.

**ERC** continues to actively work with non-profits to engage the West Greenville Community. In June ERC hosted the West Greenville Health Council’s annual block party that brings public health awareness to the community. On October 31<sup>st</sup> ERC will host a Halloween event with Reimage Church that will give families a safe place to celebrate in their costumes. In November, Eppes will host a food giveaway in association with Faith Church, for community members needing a hot meal.

Recreation and Parks staff will continue to engage the community through outreach by providing an environment for programming and special events. In 2020 we look forward to sharing those opportunities and encourage Council Members and the public to participate whenever possible.

Please let me know if there are any questions.

cc: Michael Cowin, Assistant City Manager